Chapter 1 : Greeting
บทที่หนึ่ง การทักทาย = Bò'd Têe~Nùeng : Gaan+Túk-taay

Section 1 : Formal greeting

Vocabulary Practice audio 1.1

Word	Transliteration	Meaning
สวัสดี	Sà-wùd-dee	[Exclamation] **Hello; Goodbye** (used to greet someone and to say goodbye formally)
ผม	Pǒ'm	[Pronoun] **I ; me** (polite word, used by males)
ฉัน	Chǔn	[Pronoun] **I ; me** (polite word, used by females)
คุณ	Koon	[Pronoun] **you** (used to address any gender)
สบาย	Sà-baay	[Feeling verb] **be in a good condition; be comfortable; be cozy; be relaxed**
ดี	Dee	[State modifier] **good; nice**
สบายดี	Sà-baay~Dee	[Feeling verb] **be well ; be fine** (a compound word of Sà-baay (to be in a good condition) and Dee (good)
ไหม	Mǎi?	[Question] **a question word, used at the end of a sentence when you want to know a 'positive' or 'negative' answer**. (used after a statement to change to a question) Mǎi? can be compared to 'Do...?, Would...?, Are...?, Is...?, Am...?' in English.
ครับ ค่ะ	Krúb (used by males) Kâ (used by females)	• [Particle] used when finishing a sentence to **show politeness** or speak politely. For example, Sà-wùd-dee means Hello but Sà-wùd-dee, Kâ is more polite. • [Exclamation word] **Yes.** (used in two situations; 1. used as a polite response to someone addressing you. 2. used to politely acknowledge or encourage someone to continue speaking.)
ขอบคุณ	Kòrb~Koon	[Noun] **Thank ; Thank you ; Thank for you kindness** (a compound word of Khòrb (thank) and Koon (kindness) which must be used together to express gratitude to someone)
แล้ว	Láew	[Tense] **already** (used at the end of a statement, which indicates past tense) [Time modifier] **and then ; then** (used at the beginning of a statement or a question sentence)
ล่ะ	Lâ	[Particle] used at the end of a sentence in two situations; 1. showing the **mood** of commanding, upsetting, disturbing, discomposing, bothering, flustering or entreaty. 2. ล่ะ **doesn't mean anything**. We just use it to refer to what we just talk about, usually used in the sentence that has 'แล้ว : Láew' at the beginning of a sentence.

The five tone pitch graph

The pitch of a tone in Thai words moves like a music tone. See the graph below.

Latin phonetic tone mark above the English transliteration letters

Medium tone	Low tone	Falling tone	High tone	Rising tone
no mark	`	^	´	˘

' Learn how to move and place your tongue to let the sounds come out naturally '

Dialogue

Practice audio 1.1

Speaker	Sentence				Meaning
Daa-raa:	Sà-wùd-dee Hello	Kâ polite particle (used by female)			Hello
Maa-nó'b:	Sà-wùd-dee Hello	Krúb polite particle (used by male)			Hello
Daa-raa:	(Koon) You	Sà-baay~Dee well/fine	Măi? ?/are you?	Ká polite particle (used by female)	Are you well? / Are you fine?
Maa-nó'b:	(Pŏ'm) I (used by male)	Sà-baay~Dee well/fine	Krúb polite particle (used by male)		I am well. / I am fine.
	Kòrb~Koon Thank	Krúb polite particle (used by male)			Thank you.
	Láew and	Koon you	Lâ? particle	Krúb polite particle (used by male)	And you? / How about you?
Daa-raa:	(Chŭn) I (used by female)	Sà-baay~Dee well/fine	Kâ polite particle (used by female)		I am well. / I am fine.
Maa-nó'b:	Kòrb~Koon Thank	Kâ polite particle (used by female)			Thank you.

'Forget English grammar when you speak Thai'

Grammar and language point

1. You do not need to add a **polite particle** at the end of every sentence. Usually, it's added with Sà-wùd-dee for first impression then you can use the polite particle sometimes to make the conversation flow, to be consistent and harmonized.
2. The **tone of polite particle used by woman** is changed to **high tone** when added at the end of a question sentence.
3. In Thai conversation, when the **subject** of the sentence is obvious, it can be **cut off**. See the the subject word in the brackets above.
4. **Subject word** of a sentence is what the speaker is talking about. For example, the sentence 'I am well.' is about the speaker and the subject word is ' I '. The sentence 'The pen is black.' is about 'The pen' so the subject word is 'pen'. The sentence 'How are you' is about the person the speaker is talking to so the subject word is 'You'.
5. In Thai, words used to show the **feeling of oneself** are verbs which is different to English. Feeling words in English are adjectives and need to have '*is, am* or *are*' in front of them. For example; I am well. (well = feeling word), I am glad. (glad = feeling word). In Thai, Chŭn Sà-baay~Dee = I well. (no 'am' in front of the word 'well').
6. **Verb** in Thai language is a word used to describe feeling, action, state, or occurrence, and always comes after the subject in a simple sentence, such as, ดีใจ : Dee~Jai = be happy (feeling of oneself), รัก : Rúk = to love (feeling toward another), เดิน : Dern = walk (action), ทำ : Tum = to do; to make; to create (action), เป็น ; คือ ; อยู่ : Bpe'n ; Kuee ; Yùu = to be ; is ; am ; are (state), เกิดขึ้น : Gèrd~Kûen = happen (occurrence).
7. Most **Thai question words** come after a statement to change a statement to a question sentence. e.g. 'Koon Sà-baay~Dee = You are well.' is a statement and if we add the word Măi? after to 'Koon Sà-baay~Dee Măi? = You are well, are you?' which immediately changes to a question sentence.
8. **To answer the question word 'ไหม : Măi?'**, you must answer with the main word that the speaker would like to know. **e.g. 'Koon Sà-baay~Dee Măi? = You are well, are you?'** which indicate that the speaker would like to know if you are '**well or not well**'. So, the answer must be '**Sà-baay~Dee = well** or Mâi Sà-baay~(Dee) = not well'

Customs, culture, characteristics and manners of Thais

- In Thai greeting, we normally use Sà-wùd-dee for every time of the day.
- Formal greeting is used with unfamiliar person/people, at work, official conversations, etc.
- (Kun) Sà-baay~Dee Măi? is a formal question asking about the condition of someone if he/she has been well.

Section 2 : Informal greeting

Vocabulary 🎞 **Practice audio 1.2**

Word	Transliteration	Meaning
หวัดดี	W**ù**d-d**ee**	[Exclamation] **Hi ; Bye** (used to greet someone and to say bye informally)
บายดี	B**aay~D**ee	[Feeling verb] **be well ; be fine** (a short and informal word of Sà-baay~Dee)
มั้ย	M**ǎi?**	[Question] **another pronunciation of the question word** **ไหม : Mǎi?**, used in informal conversations. This word is neither high tone or rising tone. *(your teacher can show you the pronunciation)*
เป็น	Bpe'n	[State verb] **be ; is ; am ; are** • **having the state (illness or condition of something)** e.g. P**ǒ**'m Bpe'n K**âi~W**ùd = I have a cold. **Note**: The word เป็น : Bpe'n can be used in many contexts. The context/meaning of the word เป็น : Bpe'n in this section is described above. Learn more uses, go to Chapter 11
อย่างไร	Y**àa**ng-rai? (proper pronunciation)	
ยังไง	Y**u**ng-ng**ai?** (common pronunciation)	[Question word] **How**
ไง	Ng**ai?** (short pronunciation)	
บ้าง	B**âa**ng	[Quantity modifier] **some; any; one or more** (used to indicate unspecified amount or number of someone/something.)
คับ จ้ะ	K**ú**b (used by male) J**â** (used by female)	[Particle] used when finishing a sentence to **show politeness** or speak politely in **informally** conversation.

The five tone pitch graph

The pitch of a tone in Thai words moves like a music tone. See the graph below.

Latin phonetic tone mark above the English transliteration letters

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no mark	`	^	´	˘

Dialogue 🎞 **Practice audio 1.2**

Speaker	Sentence	Meaning
J**ĕ**ab:	W**ù**d-d**ee** J**â** (N**ù**eng) Hi · informal polite particle (used by female)	Hi, N**ù**eng. / Hi.
	(N**ù**eng) B**aay~D**ee M**ǎi?** J**ǎ** You · well/fine · ?/are you? · informal polite particle (used by female)	Are you alright? / Alright?
N**ù**eng:	W**ù**d-d**ee** K**ú**b (J**ĕ**ab) Hello · informal polite particle (used by male)	Hi, J**ĕ**ab. / Hi.
	(N**ù**eng) B**aay~D**ee K**ú**b I · well/fine · informal polite particle (used by male)	Well. / Fine.
	(J**ĕ**ab) Bpe'n (Y**u**ng)-ng**ai?** (B**âa**ng) You · are · how? · some; any	How are you? / How are you doing?
J**ĕ**ab:	(J**ĕ**ab) B**aay~D**ee J**â** I · well/fine · informal polite particle (used by female)	

Grammar and language point

1. You do not need to add **informal polite particle** at the end of every sentence. Usually, it's added with W**ù**d-d**ee** for first impression then you can use the polite particle sometimes to make a conversation flow, to be consistent and harmonized.
2. In greeting, the **name** can be added after the polite particle to indicate who you are greeting.

3. In conversations, **names** are often used to address/call oneself or another person instead of personal pronouns, I, You, She, He, etc. especially in informal conversations.
4. The **tone of the informal polite particle used by woman** is changed to **rising tone** when added at the end of a question sentence.
5. Thai **sentence structure** is flexible and can be converted. For example, the sentence (..name..) Bpe'n (Y*u*ng)-ngai? (Bâang), any words in the bracket can be cut off. So, you can say Bpe'n ngai?, instead of a long/complete sentence.

<u>Customs, culture, characteristics and manners of Thais</u>
• Informal greeting is used with familiar person/people, friends, family, etc.
• Thais like to speak with short sentences in informal conversation.
• (..name..) Bpe'n (Y*u*ng)-ngai? (Bâang) is an informal question when meeting someone asking about things in general.

Section 3: Traditional and informal greeting

<u>Vocabulary</u>   **Practice audio 1.3**

Word	Transliteration	Meaning
กิน	Gin	[action verb] **to eat ; to consume**
ข้าว	Kâaw	[Noun] **rice** (this word also means '*food*' in some context as rice is a stable food in Thailand. We eat rice with cooked food 2-3 meals a day.)
ไม่	Mâi	[Negative modifier] **no ; not ; don't ; doesn't** (used in front of any word, except nouns, in order to change that word to a negative form. For example, add ไม่ : Mâi in front of ดี : Dee (good) becomes ไม่ดี : Mâi Dee meaning not good.)
หรือ	R*ǔ*ee (proper pronunciation)	• [Question] **R*ǔ*ee** is a question word equivalent to **ไหม : M*ǎ*i?.** (**R*ĕr*** is another version of pronunciation and **L*ĕr*** is the most common pronunciation in informal conversation. As Thais like to pronounce ล : L instead of ร : R.)
เหรอ	R*ĕr* / L*ĕr* (common and informal pronunciation)	• [Conjunction] **or** (used to connect words, clauses, or sentences. e.g. ผมหรือคุณ : P*ǒ*m R*ǔ*ee Koon = I or you)
ยัง	Y*u*ng	[Time modifier] **yet ; still** (up until the present or a specified or implied time) • *Positive:* used before a verb e.g. ฉันยังสบายดี : Ch*ǔ*n Y*u*ng Sà-baay~Dee = I am still well. • *Negative:* used before the word 'ไม่ : Mâi = no ; not ; don't ; doesn't' to indicate negative Ch*ǔ*n Y*u*ng Mâi Sà-baay~Dee = I am still unwell.
หรือยัง	R*ǔ*ee~Y*u*ng? (proper pronunciation)	[Question] **or not yet? ; or still not?** **R*ǔ*ee~Y*u*ng** is a question word equivalent to **ไหม : M*ǎ*i?** but has past tense or present perfect tense as in a question sentence that starts with the word 'Have........?' in English. **R*ĕr*~Y*u*ng** is another version of pronunciation and **L*ĕr*~Y*u*ng** is the most common pronunciation in informal conversations. (Thais like to pronounce ล : L instead of ร : R. R*ǔ*ee~Y*u*ng is a compound word of R*ǔ*ee (or) and Y*u*ng (yet))
เหรอยัง	R*ĕr*~Y*u*ng? / L*ĕr*~Y*u*ng? (common pronunciation)	

Original words are R*ǔ*ee Y*u*ng Mâi = or still not? which has been changed to R*ǔ*ee~Y*u*ng?

There are many compound words in Thai language. If you know some principle Thai words, you would understand many more words by using the context to help to clarify the meaning!

Dialogue 📼 **Practice audio 1.3**

Speaker	Sentence	Meaning
Wăan:	W*ù*d-dee Jâ (Chai) Hi — informal polite particle (used by female)	Hi, Chai. / Hi.
	(Chai) Gin Kâaw (L*ĕr*)~Y*u*ng? Jă name = you — eat — rice — or not yet — informal polite particle (used by female)	Have you eaten?
Chai:	W*ù*d-dee K*ú*b (Wăan) Hi — informal polite particle (used by male)	Hi, Jĕab. / Hi.
	(Chai) Gin L*áe*w name = I — eat — already	Yes, I have eaten.
	L*áe*w Wăan Lâ and — name = you — particle	How about you? / And you?
Wăan:	(Wăan) Y*u*ng (Mâi Gin Kâaw) Jâ name = I — yet — not — eat — rice — informal polite particle (used by female)	I haven't eaten. / not yet

'Thai people are lazy when we speak! Bad habit!' :)

Grammar and language point

1. **Thais do not like to pronounce the sound ร : R** and commonly change it ล : L or do not pronounce ร : R at all. For example, the particle ครับ : Kr*ú*b is the proper pronunciation but it is usually changed to คับ : K*ú*b.
2. แล้ว : L*áe*w in the sentence '(Chai) Gin L*áe*w' is a tense word meaning already showing past tense. (See Vocabulary in Section 1)
3. The sentence 'Wăan Y*u*ng Mâi Gin Kâaw' is a complete sentence but it's normally cut short to 'Y*u*ng' to answer informally and quickly.
4. Basic Thai sentence structure is **Subject + Verb + Explanation part. See the principles of Thai language page 6.**

Customs, culture, characteristics and manners of Thais

• The traditional style of greeting is informal, such as neighbour, acquaintances, friends, relatives, etc.
• It's a custom to ask if someone, esp. guests, have eaten yet to show care for that person. If they have not eaten we would offer something like a snack, quick meal, etc. It's the sharing attitude that Thais have.
• Nowadays, this greeting is still customary.

'Learn about the culture to understand how we speak'

Additional vocabulary and sentences 📼 **Practice audio 1.4**

Other questions and answers commonly used in greeting

Questions & Answers	Transliteration	Meaning
..... สบายดีหรือ	Sà-baay~Dee R*ŭ*ee? name (or) pronouns — well / fine — Question word *(proper pronunciation)*	Are you well? / Are you fine? / Is ...(name)... well? / Is ...(name)... fine?
..... สบายดีเหรอ	Sà-baay~Dee L*ĕr*? name (or) pronouns — well / fine — Question word *(common pronunciation)*	
..... บายดีเหรอ	Baay~Dee L*ĕr*? name (or) pronouns — well / fine *(short/informal)* — Question word *(common pronunciation)*	Are you alright? / Alright?

Questions & Answers	Transliteration	Meaning

..... สบายดีหรือเปล่า	Sà-baay~Dee Rǔee~Bplào name (or) well / fine or not pronouns *(Rǔee~Bplào is compound word, Bplào = nothing; plain)*	
..... บายดีหรือเปล่า	Baay~Dee Rǔee~Bplào name (or) well / fine or not pronouns *(short/informal)*	Are you well or not? / Are you fine or not? / Is ...(name)... well or not? / Is ...(name)... fine or not?
..... บายดีเปล่า	Baay~Dee Bplào name (or) well / fine or not pronouns *(short/informal)* *(short/informal)*	
..... บายดีปะ	Baay~Dee Bpà name (or) well / fine or not pronouns *(short/informal)* *(short/informal)*	

..... เป็นอย่างไรบ้าง	Bpe'n Yàang-rai? (Bâang) name (or) be; is/am/are how? some/any pronouns	
..... เป็นยังไงบ้าง	Bpe'n Yung-ngai? (Bâang) name (or) be; is/am/are how? some/any pronouns *(common)*	How are you? / How are you doing? / How is ...(name).. doing? / How is it going?
..... เป็นไงบ้าง	Bpe'n Ngai? (Bâang) name (or) be; is/am/are how? some/any pronouns *(short)*	

..... ไม่สบาย	Mâi Sà-baay~(Dee) name (or) no/not well / fine pronouns	I am not well. / I am not fine. / ...(name)... not well. /
..... ไม่บาย	Mâi Baay name (or) no/not well / fine pronouns *(short/informal)*	...(name)... not fine. / Not well. / Not fine.
..... ไม่ค่อยสบาย	Mâi~Kôry Sà-baay name (or) not quite well / fine pronouns *(compound word, Kôry = gently; lightly)*	I am not quite well. / ...(name)... not quite well.. / Not quite well.

ธรรมดา	Tum-má-daa normal/ordinary	I feel just ok. / Things are like normal. / Nothing special. / Nothing in particular.
เรื่อยๆ	Rûeay ~ Rûeay continuously continuously	
งั้นๆ	Ngún ~ Ngún or else or else	I feel so so. / Things are so so. / So so.
ดี	Dee good	Good.
ไม่ดี	Mâi Dee no/not good	Not good.
ไม่เลว	Mâi Le_w no/not bad	Not bad.

The five tone pitch graph

The pitch of a tone in Thai words moves like a music tone. See the graph below.

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no mark	ˇ	^	´	˘

Chapter 1 Homework : Gaan~Bâan Bò'd Têe~Nùeng

Section 1 : Formal greeting

Listening and pronunciation skills : Tick the box when you have completed the tasks.

- 📼 **Practice audio 1.1**
☐ Practise your pronunciation, listening skills and memorise the vocabulary in Chapter 1 Section 1
☐ Listen to the dialogue to practise your listening skills and practise to greet formally

- 📼 **The five tones audio**
☐ Listen and practise to pronounce the five tones correctly

> 'Your effort learning and practicing is the key to speaking fluently'

- 📼 **Homework audio 1.1**
Complete the tasks given below and check the correct answers with your teacher during your next lesson.

☐ *Task 1* : Listen to the Thai words and write them using transliterations and translate the meaning into English. See example Word 1

Word 1 = Sà-wùd-dee means Hello _____ Word 2 = _____

Word 3 = _____ Word 4 = _____

☐ *Task 2* : Listen to the words and write the tone of each word. See example Word 1

Word 1 = Pǒ'm = rising tone_ Word 2 = _____ Word 3 = _____

Word 4 = _____ Word 5 = _____ Word 6 = _____

Vocabulary and structure accuracy

1. Translate these words into English. See examples.

Word	Type of word	Meaning	How to use or when to use
Mǎi?	Question word	Do...?, Would...?, Is...?, Are..?, Am...? etc.	Used at the end of a statement to change to a question sentence.
Láew			
Krúb			
Kâ			
Sà-baay			
Sà-baay~Dee	Feeling verb	be well; be fine; be in a good condition	Used to indicate that someone/ animal is in a good condition
Khòrb~Kun			
Pǒ'm			
Chǔn			
Koon			

2. Construct a sentence with the words given.

Kúb   (Yung)-ngai?   (Jěab)   (Bâang)   Bpe'n

Sentence 1 : _____ = How are you (Jěab)?

Koon   Láew   Ká   Lâ

Sentence 2 : _____ = And you?

3. Translate English sentence into Thai (in transliterations).

Are you well? = _____

I'm fine? = _____

How about you? = _____

Function : Answer the questions below

Q1. What are 'Particles' in Thai language?

Answer : _____

Q2. How does the tone of the female polite particle change in a sentence?

Answer :_____

_____

Q3. In sentence structure, what does the 'Subject' mean?

Answer :_____

_____

Q4. When can we cut the 'Subject' of a sentence off?

Answer :_____

_____

Q5. How do you use 'Feeling verbs' in a sentence?

Answer :_____

_____

Q6. What is a 'Verb' and what does it do to the subject of a sentence?

Answer :_____

_____

Q7. Where do we add a 'Question word' in a sentence?

Answer :_____

Fluency : Answer the question below

Q. When do we use the word 'Sà-wùd-dee'?

Answer :_____

_____

Principles : Answer the question below

Q. Thai language is a member of which route language in Asia?

Answer :_____

Section 2 : Informal greeting

<u>Listening and pronunciation skills</u> : Tick the box when you have completed the tasks.

- 🔲 **Practice audio 1.2**
  ☐ Practise your pronunciation, listening skills and memorise the vocabulary in Chapter 1 Section 2
  ☐ Listen to the dialogue to practise your listening skills and practise to greet informally

- 🔲 **The five tones audio**
  ☐ Listen and practise to pronounce the five tones correctly

- 🔲 **Homework audio 1.2**
  Complete the tasks given below and check the correct answers with your teacher during your next lesson.
  ☐ *Task 1* : Listen to the Thai words and write them using transliterations and translate the meaning into English.

  Word 1 =_____ Word 2 =_____

  Word 3 =_____ Word 4 =_____

  ☐ *Task 2* : Listen to the words and write the tone of each word.

  Word 1 =_____ Word 2 =_____ Word 3 =_____

  Word 4 =_____ Word 5 =_____ Word 6 =_____

Vocabulary and structure accuracy

1. Translate these words into English

Word	Type of word	Meaning	How to use or when to use
Yung-ngai?			
Bpe'n			
Krúb			
Wùd-dee			

Mǎi?			
Baay~Dee			
ngai?			

2. Construct a sentence with the words given.

Mǎi?   Sà-baay~Dee   Koon   Kr*ú*b

Sentence 1 : _____ = Are you well?

Baay~Dee   (Nùeng)   Jǎ   Mǎi?

Sentence 2 : _____ = (Nùeng) are you well?

3. Translate these English sentences into Thai (in transliterations).

How are you doing? = _____

I'm fine? (informal) = _____

Are you well? (informal) = _____

Function : Answer the questions below

Q1.Can you use a person's name (including your own name) to address/call oneself or someone you are talking to?
Answer :_____

_____

Q2. Can we shorten a complete sentence when we speak? Please give an example.

Answer :_____

_____

Fluency : Answer the question below

Q. When do we greet informally?

Answer :_____

Principles : Answer the question below

Q. If you can speak Thai language fluently, would you be able to understand Laos as well? Why?

Answer :_____

Section 3 : Traditional greeting

Listening and pronunciation skills : Tick the box when you have completed the tasks.
- 📼 **Practice audio 1.3**
  ☐ Practise your pronunciation, listening skills and memorise the vocabulary in Chapter 1 Section 3
  ☐ Listen to the dialogue to practise your listening skills and practise to greet traditionally
- 📼 **The five tones audio**
  ☐ Listen and practise to pronounce the five tones correctly
- 📼 **Homework audio 1.3**
  Complete the tasks given below and check the correct answers with your teacher during your next lesson.
  ☐ *Task 1* : Listen to the Thai words and write them using transliterations and translate the meaning into English.
  Word 1 =_____   Word 2 =_____

  Word 3 =_____   Word 4 =_____

  ☐ *Task 2* : Listen to the words and write the tone of each word.

  Word 1 =_____   Word 2 =_____   Word 3 =_____

  Word 4 =_____   Word 5 =_____   Word 6 =_____

Vocabulary and structure accuracy

1. Translate these words into English

Word	Type of word	Meaning	How to use or when to use
Mâi			

Y*u*ng			
Kâaw			
Gin			
L*ĕr*~Y*u*ng?			

2. Construct a sentence with the words given.

Kâaw (Wăan)   Gin   Jâ   Y*u*ng   Mâi

Sentence 1 : _____ = I haven't eaten.

Jă   Kâaw   (Chai)   Gin   (L*ĕr*)~Y*u*ng?

Sentence 2 : _____ = Have you (Chai) eaten?

3. Translate these English sentences into Thai (in transliterations).

Have you eaten? = _____

I've eaten. = _____

I haven't eaten. = _____

Function : Answer the questions below

Q1. The sound ร : R in Thai can be changed to what sound when speaking?

Answer :_____

Q2. In sentence structure, what does the 'Explanation part' mean?

Answer :_____

_____

Fluency : Answer the question below

Q. How do Thais traditionally greet each other? What attitude does it show?

Answer :_____

Principles : Answer the question below

Q. How many main dialects are there in Thai language? What are they?

Answer :_____

_____