

1 | 1 | Lekcija 4: Kako ste?

| Formal communication

| TI or VI: Informal and Formal Forms of Addressing

Deciding which of these forms you need depends on context and the relationship of the people involved, and it may take you some time to get used to making this distinction. When talking to one person, which form to use: ti or Vi?

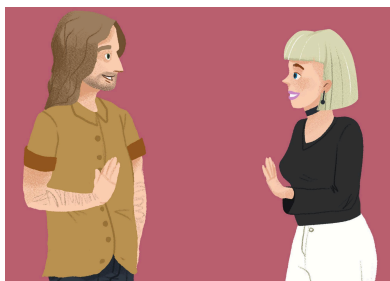
Generally, use **ti**

- 1 with a family member
- 2 with a close friend or peer (like another student)
- 3 with a child

Generally, use **Vi**

- 1 with a person in authority
- 2 with a stranger (adult)
- 3 with a person you don't know well
- 4 with the elderly

! *Note: as you can see, in writing, when referring to someone in a formal way, you need to use the pronoun [you all] with the capital "V" – Vi.



Kako se ti zoveš?



Kako se vi zovete?



Kako se Vi zovete?

What if you are addressing more than one person?

If you are talking with more than one person, always use *vi* (lowercase 'v'). In this instance 'vi' would be the equivalent of «you all» -- or «y'all» in parts of the US .

To summarize:

When addressing one person, you will need to choose between the formal *Vi* or informal *ti*. When speaking to an adult, it is better to start off with the formal *Vi*. Since you will not offend anyone by being overly polite, it is always better to start your conversation by using *Vi*. If formality seems unnecessary, the native speaker may suggest switching to *ti*. They may say, *Prijeđimo na ti*. This is one of the phrases that Croats will say when they want to switch to informal language with you.

1.1 Zadatak 12. Formalni i neformalni govor

Read the following set of short dialogues and indicate whether they are examples of formal, informal, or neutral speech (used in both informal and formal situations).

[h5p id="13"]

1.1 Zadatak 13. Pozdravi

Listen to the following dialogues and choose if they represent formal or informal communication.

[h5p id="677"]

1.1 Zadatak 14. Kako se zovu?



slika 1



slika 2



slika 3

[h5p id="176"]

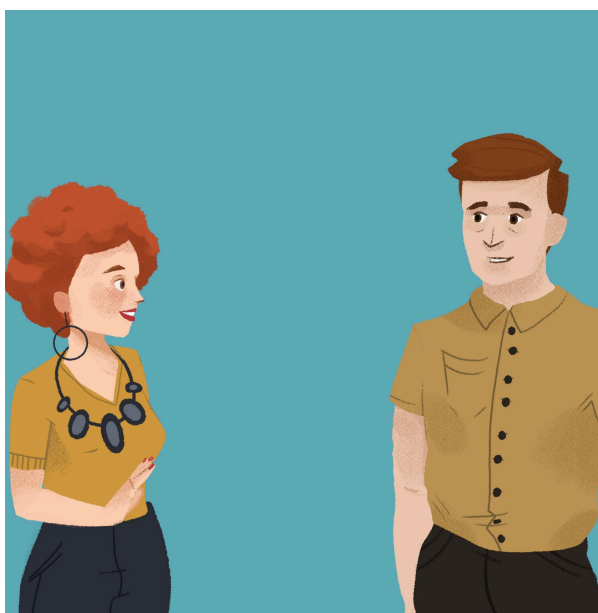
1.1 Zadatak 15. Upoznajmo se

Look at the following pictures and read the dialogue components carefully. Complete the dialogue with the most appropriate missing information.



[h5p id="177"]

[h5p id="178"]



[h5p id="179"]

[h5p id="180"]

Images used in this document are from [these sources](#).