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# **Basic words and phrases**

**For staff working with  
Slovakian Roma children and young  
people**

Thanks to David Gorol: Outreach Worker: Thornbury Centre  
Yaron Matras: Professor in Linguistics: University of Manchester

## Greetings:

|                          |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Hello</b>             | Serus <i>[se-rus]</i>                                                               |
| <b>Good Morning</b>      | Dobré ráno <i>[dob-reh raa-no]</i> ,<br>Dobrý deň <i>[dob-ree den]</i>              |
| <b>How are you?</b>      | Sar dzives? <i>[Sar gii-vis?]</i>                                                   |
| <b>I'm fine</b>          | Lačes <i>[Latches]</i>                                                              |
| <b>Good Bye</b>          | Čau <i>[ch-ow]</i>                                                                  |
| <b>Mr. ....</b>          | O raj <i>[oh rye]</i> .....                                                         |
| <b>Mrs. ....</b>         | E rajni <i>[eh ryenee]</i> .....                                                    |
| <b>What's your name?</b> | Sar tiro anav? <i>[sar teero annav?]</i>                                            |
| <b>My name is ....</b>   | Miro anav (name) <i>[meero annav (name)]</i>                                        |
| <b>I am ....</b>         | Me som..... <i>[meh som]</i> .....                                                  |
| <b>You are.....</b>      | Tu sal..... <i>[too sal]</i> .....                                                  |
| <b>Teacher</b>           | Učitelica. <i>[oo tchi-tel-itsa]</i> (female)<br>Učitel'. <i>[u-chi-tel]</i> (male) |

## Praising a child:

|                             |                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Good/Well done</b>       | Lačo. <i>[la-tcho]</i>                                                                                            |
| <b>Very nice</b>            | Šukar. <i>[shoo-car]</i>                                                                                          |
| <b>You are very clever.</b> | Tu san. <i>[too sar]</i><br>Sikovno. <i>[shee-co-noh]</i> (to a boy)<br>Sikovni. <i>[shee-co-nee]</i> (to a girl) |
| <b>Thank you</b>            | Palikerav. <i>[pali-kehr-av]</i>                                                                                  |
| <b>Thanks</b>               | Palikerav. <i>[pali-kehr-av]</i>                                                                                  |
| <b>You are welcome</b>      | mangav tut. <i>[man-gav toot]</i>                                                                                 |
| <b>Sorry</b>                | Prebačin. <i>[pre-ba-chin]</i>                                                                                    |
| <b>Yes</b>                  | Ha. <i>[Ha]</i>                                                                                                   |
| <b>No</b>                   | Naa. <i>[Nuh-a]</i>                                                                                               |

## Places in school:

|                          |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>School</b>            | Škola. <i>[shkow-la]</i>                                                            |
| <b>Toilet</b>            | Budaris. <i>[boo-dar-ris]</i>                                                       |
| <b>Classroom</b>         | Trieda. <i>[tree-eh-da]</i>                                                         |
| <b>Dining Hall</b>       | kuchja. <i>[koo-c-ya]</i>                                                           |
| <b>Office</b>            | Kancelarja. <i>[can-tse-la-ria]</i>                                                 |
| <b>PE</b>                | Te kerel sport. <i>[te ker-ehl sport]</i>                                           |
| <b>PE kit</b>            | Uboris. <i>[oo-bor-ris]</i>                                                         |
| <b>Dinner</b>            | Dilos. <i>[dee-los]</i>                                                             |
| <b>Break time</b>        | Prestavikica. <i>[pres-stavi-kitsa]</i>                                             |
| <b>Morning</b>           | Tosara. <i>[toh-sar-ah]</i>                                                         |
| <b>Afternoon</b>         | Protilos. <i>[pro-dee-los]</i>                                                      |
| <b>Home</b>              | Keire. <i>[Kay-reh]</i>                                                             |
| <b>Now</b>               | Kanake. <i>[Ca-nah-keh]</i>                                                         |
| <b>Later</b>             | Poznones. <i>[poz-noh-ness]</i>                                                     |
| <b>We are going out</b>  | Žaha avri. <i>[jawa av-ree]</i>                                                     |
| <b>We are going back</b> | Avaha pale. <i>[av-awa paw-leh]</i>                                                 |
| <b>Are you thirsty?</b>  | Smedno sal? <i>[s-med-noh sal?]</i> boy<br>Smedni sal? <i>[s-med-nee sal?]</i> girl |
| <b>Have a drink.</b>     | Le pi. <i>[leh pee]</i>                                                             |

## Short and simple orders:

|                    |                                                 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Wait               | Užar <b>[oo-jar]</b>                            |
| Stay here          | Ach Adaj <b>[ach a-dye]</b>                     |
| Go                 | Dža <b>[ja]</b>                                 |
| Right              | pre pravo <b>[preh pravo]</b>                   |
| Left               | pre lavo <b>[preh lavo]</b>                     |
| Straight on        | Rovnosnes <b>[Rov-nos-nes]</b>                  |
| Come               | Av <b>[awv]</b>                                 |
| Come here          | Av adaj <b>[awv a-dye]</b>                      |
| Sit down           | Beš tele <b>[besh tay-leh]</b>                  |
| Stand up           | Ušti <b>[ush-tee]</b>                           |
| Here is .....      | Aday hino..... <b>[a-dye hee-noh]</b>           |
| This is .....      | Ko hino..... <b>[coe hee-noh]</b>               |
| Show me            | Sikau Mange <b>[see-cow man-geh]</b>            |
| Repeat after me    | vaker pash mande <b>[vak-ayr pash man-deh]</b>  |
| Read               | Gin <b>[gheen]</b>                              |
| Read this for me   | Precen kada <b>[pre-chen ka-dah]</b>            |
| Can you read this? | Džanes te gines <b>[djan-ess te gheen-ess?]</b> |
| Copy this          | Pišin kada <b>[pee-shin ka-da]</b>              |
| Write this down    | Pišin kada <b>[pee-shin ka-da]</b>              |
| Write              | Pišin. <b>[pee-shin]</b>                        |
| Question           | Otkaska <b>[ot -taz-ka]</b>                     |
| Answer             | Odpen mange <b>[od-penn man-geh]</b>            |
| Sentence           | Gen <b>[gen]</b> (hard 'g' )                    |
| Full stop          | Badka. <b>[badka]</b>                           |
| Comma              | Čiarkisa <b>[tchi-ar-ki-sa]</b>                 |
| Capital letter     | Pismenos Baro <b>[pees-meh-noss ba-row]</b>     |

|                            |                     |                                               |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Small letter</b>        | Cikno pismenos      | <b><i>[tsik-now pees-meh-noss]</i></b>        |
| <b>Draw</b>                | Krešelin            | <b><i>[Kre-sheh-lin]</i></b>                  |
| <b>Picture</b>             | Obrazis             | <b><i>[oh-bra-zis]</i></b>                    |
| <b>Let's count</b>         | Počitin manca       | <b><i>[poh-tchi-tin man-tsa]</i></b>          |
| <b>Count forward</b>       | Gen angle           | <b><i>[gen an-gleh]</i></b> (hard g)          |
| <b>Count back from No.</b> | Prečitin palo čisli | <b><i>[pret-chi-tin paw-lo chees-lee]</i></b> |
| <b>More</b>                | Buter               | <b><i>[boo-tehr]</i></b>                      |
| <b>Less</b>                | cira                | <b><i>[tsee-raw]</i></b>                      |
| <b>Less than</b>           | Frima               | <b><i>[f-ree-ma]</i></b>                      |
| <b>Least</b>               | Sikrica             | <b><i>[see-kri-tza]</i></b>                   |
| <b>Colour this in</b>      | Malin kada          | <b><i>[Ma-leen kada]</i></b>                  |
| <b>Do you understand?</b>  | Rozumines           | <b><i>[row-zoo-mee-ness?]</i></b>             |
| <b>Don't do it!</b>        | Na ker kada         | <b><i>[Na kehr kada]</i></b>                  |
| <b>Leave it</b>            | Muk kada            | <b><i>[mook kada]</i></b>                     |
| <b>Put it back</b>         | De pale             | <b><i>[deh pal-eh]</i></b>                    |
| <b>I have .....</b>        | Man hin .....       | <b><i>[man hin.....]</i></b>                  |
| <b>Do you have.....?</b>   | Hin tut.....?       | <b><i>[hin-toot?]</i></b>                     |
| <b>Day</b>                 | Džives              | <b><i>[dje-vess]</i></b>                      |
| <b>Date</b>                | Datumos             | <b><i>[da-too-mos]</i></b>                    |
| <b>Today</b>               | Ada džives          | <b><i>[a-dah dj-ee-ves]</i></b>               |
| <b>Yesterday</b>           | ič                  | <b><i>[eech]</i></b>                          |
| <b>Tomorrow</b>            | Tajsa               | <b><i>[tye-sah]</i></b>                       |
| <b>Homework</b>            | Hin tut uloha       | <b><i>[hin-toot-oo-loh-ah]</i></b>            |
| <b>Learn this at home</b>  | Sihev kada khere    | <b><i>[see-kaiv kada kair-eh]</i></b>         |
| <b>Remember</b>            | Zapametin peske     | <b><i>[za-pa-meh-tin pes-keh]</i></b>         |

## When a child is not well:

Are you all right? Mišto tuke? *[mish-tow too-keh?]*

Are you feeling sick? Nasvalo Sal? *[nas-vaw-low sal?]*

We'll phone your mum. Vičinava La dake *[veetchee-na-va la daw-keh]*

## Making a phone-call in EMERGENCY to a Roma speaking parent:

Hello aven baxtale *[Aw-ven bahta-leh]*

This is the school calling. vičinav andar le škola  
*[Vee-chee-now an-dar- leh shcow-la]*

(name of child)

(name of child)

a) She is feeling very sick. nane lake mištes a) *[nan-eh  
law-keh mish-tess]*

b) He is feeling very sick. nane leske mištes b) *[nan-eh  
less-keh mish-tess]*

c) Can you come and pick her up? šaj aven pal late? c) *[shye aw-  
ven pal law-teh?]*

d) Can you come and pick him up? šaj aven pal leste? d) *[shye  
aw-ven pal less-teh?]*

Thank you palikerav *[pali-kair-ow]*

See you soon dikhava tut *[dee-kaw-va toot]*

## Colours

|               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Red</b>    | Lolo <b>[Loh-loh ]</b>          |
| <b>Blue</b>   | Belavo <b>[Beh-la-voh]</b>      |
| <b>Yellow</b> | Sargo <b>[sango]</b>            |
| <b>Orange</b> | Orandžovo <b>[oran-jow-voe]</b> |
| <b>Green</b>  | Zeleno <b>[zeh-leh-noh]</b>     |
| <b>Pink</b>   | Ruzovo <b>[roo-zoh-voh]</b>     |
| <b>Brown</b>  | Henedo <b>[hen-eh-do]</b>       |
| <b>Black</b>  | Kalo <b>[Kaw-loh]</b>           |
| <b>White</b>  | Parno <b>[parr-noh]</b>         |

## Numbers

|    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | Jek <b>[yeck]</b>                    |
| 2  | Duj <b>[dooy]</b>                    |
| 3  | Trin <b>[trin]</b>                   |
| 4  | Štar <b>[sht-ar]</b>                 |
| 5  | Pandž <b>[panj]</b>                  |
| 6  | Šo <b>[show]</b>                     |
| 7  | Efta <b>[eff-ta]</b>                 |
| 8  | Ohto <b>[oh-toh]</b>                 |
| 9  | Enya <b>[ehn-ya]</b>                 |
| 10 | Deš <b>[desh]</b>                    |
| 11 | Deš-u-jek <b>[desh-oo-yeck]</b>      |
| 12 | Deš-u-du <b>[desh-oo-doo]</b>        |
| 13 | Deš-u-trin <b>[desh -oo-trin]</b>    |
| 14 | Deš-u-štar <b>[desh-oo-shtar]</b>    |
| 15 | Deš-u-pandž <b>[desh-oo-sh-panj]</b> |
| 16 | Deš-u-show <b>[desh-oo-show]</b>     |
| 17 | Deš-u-efta <b>[desh-oo-efftah]</b>   |
| 18 | Deš-u-ohto <b>[desh-oo-oh-toh]</b>   |
| 19 | Deš-u-enja <b>[desh-oo eh-n-ya]</b>  |
| 20 | biš <b>[bish]</b>                    |

## Days

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Ponedelkos <i>[pone-del-cos]</i> |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Utorkos <i>[oot-tor-kos]</i>     |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Streda <i>[stred-da]</i>         |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Štratkos <i>[shtraht-kos]</i>    |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Piatok <i>[peer-ah-tok]</i>      |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | Sombac <i>[sombats]</i>          |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | Kurko <i>[coor-coh]</i>          |
| <b>Week</b>      | jek kurko <i>[yek coor-coh]</i>  |

## Months

|                  |                                             |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>January</b>   | Január <i>[ya-nu-aar]</i>                   |
| <b>February</b>  | Február <i>[feb-ru-aar]</i>                 |
| <b>March</b>     | Marec <i>[mar-ets]</i>                      |
| <b>April</b>     | Apríl <i>[ap-reel]</i>                      |
| <b>May</b>       | Máj <i>[maay]</i>                           |
| <b>June</b>      | Jún <i>[yoon]</i>                           |
| <b>July</b>      | Júl <i>[yool]</i>                           |
| <b>August</b>    | August <i>[au-gust]</i> (“au” as in “AUDI”) |
| <b>September</b> | September <i>[sep-tem-ber]</i>              |
| <b>October</b>   | Október <i>[octoh-ber]</i>                  |
| <b>November</b>  | November <i>[no-vem-ber]</i>                |
| <b>December</b>  | December <i>[de-tsem-ber]</i>               |