

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

# Absolute Beginner S1 #1

## Introducing Yourself in Romanian

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#1

## INTRODUCTION

Asia: Hi everyone, and welcome back to RomanianPod101.com. This is Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 1 - Introducing Yourself in Romanian. Asia Here.

Mihai: Bună. I'm Mihai.

Asia: In this lesson, you'll have a basic introduction to grammar. The conversation takes place at an airport.

Mihai: It's between Andreea and Masanobu.

Asia: The speakers are friends, therefore, they will speak informal Romanian. Okay, let's listen to the conversation.

## DIALOGUE

Masanobu: Bună, mă numesc Masanobu.

Andreea: Bună, eu sunt Andreea. Bine ai venit în România!

Masanobu: Mulțumesc. Sunt încântat să te cunosc în sfârșit.

Andreea: Și eu sunt încântată de cunoștință. Să mergem să vedem orașul!

Masanobu: Cu drag.

Asia: Listen to the conversation one time slowly.

Masanobu: Bună, mă numesc Masanobu.

Andreea: Bună, eu sunt Andreea. Bine ai venit în România!

Masanobu: Mulțumesc. Sunt încântat să te cunosc în sfârșit.

Andreea: Și eu sunt încântată de cunoștință. Să mergem să vedem orașul!

Masanobu: Cu drag.

Asia: Listen to the conversation with the English translation.

Masanobu: Hi, my name is Masanobu.

Andreea: Hi, I'm Andreea. Welcome to Romania!

Masanobu: Thank you. I'm glad to finally meet you.

Andreea: I'm pleased to meet you as well. Let's go see the city!

Masanobu: Gladly.

## POST CONVERSATION BANTER

Asia: First meetings are always awkward, but that seemed to go okay.

Mihai: It did, didn't it?

Asia: How should you act when you meet someone for the first time in Romania?

Mihai: It's best to use formal speech. But, if it's not a business situation and the person is the same age as you, then you can use informal speech.

Asia: Are there any kinds of physical greetings? Like a handshake?

Mihai: If it's guys greeting each other, there might be a firm handshake. In formal situations, men and women will shake hands too, although less firmly!

Asia: So, just handshakes?

Mihai: In the past, a man would lightly kiss a woman's hand, but this is uncommon now, so don't do it!

Asia: Guys, take notice!

Mihai: Eye contact is important too.

Asia: How much eye contact do Romanian people usually have?

Mihai: Around 3 to 4 seconds, maximum. If that's too long for you to feel comfortable with, then don't worry. You can do less and it's fine.

Asia: Okay, now onto the vocab.

## VOCAB LIST

Asia: Let's take a look at the vocabulary from this lesson. The first word is...

Mihai: bună [natural native speed]

Asia: hi

Mihai: bună[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: bună [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: a (se) numi [natural native speed]

Asia: to (be) call(ed)

Mihai: a (se) numi[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: a (se) numi [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: mulțumesc [natural native speed]

Asia: thank you

Mihai: mulțumesc[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: mulțumesc [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: încântat [natural native speed]

Asia: glad, delighted

Mihai: încântat [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: încântat [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: a fi [natural native speed]

Asia: to be

Mihai: a fi [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: a fi [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: a (se) cunoaște [natural native speed]

Asia: to meet (each other) (for the first time), to get acquainted

Mihai: a (se) cunoaște [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: a (se) cunoaște [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: a merge [natural native speed]

Asia: to go

Mihai: a merge [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: a merge [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: a vedea [natural native speed]

Asia: to see

Mihai: a vedea [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: a vedea [natural native speed]

Asia: Next we have...

Mihai: oraș [natural native speed]

Asia: city

Mihai: oraș[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: oraș [natural native speed]

Asia: And last...

Mihai: drag [natural native speed]

Asia: dear; pleasure

Mihai: drag[slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mihai: drag [natural native speed]

## KEY VOCAB AND PHRASES

Asia: Let's have a closer look at the usage of some of the words and phrases from this lesson. The first word is...

Mihai: Bună!

Asia: meaning "Hi!" What can you tell us about this word?

Mihai: This is a basic greeting. It literally means "good," but is used as "hi."

Asia: So it's a casual word to use with friends and in informal situations.

Mihai: That's right. In formal situations, you usually use the longer bună ziua.

Asia: Which literally means "good day," but is used as "hello."

Mihai: In some situations, you can use the informal bună with superiors too, if you have a good relationship with them.

Asia: Can you give us an example using this word?

Mihai: Sure. For example, you can say, Bună, sunt Masanobu.

Asia: ...which means "Hi, I'm Masanobu."

Asia: Okay, what's the next phrase?

Mihai: Încântat (ă) de cunoștință

Asia: meaning "Pleased to meet you." What can you tell us about this sentence?

Mihai: The word încântat is an adjective meaning "delighted" or "pleased." Cunoștință is a noun that means "acquaintance."

Asia: It can be used on any occasion when you meet someone for the first time.

Mihai: Încântat is used for male speakers and încântată for female speakers.

Asia: Can you give us an example using this phrase?

Mihai: Sure. For example, you can say, Încântat de cunoștință, Andreea.

Asia: ...which means "Pleased to meet you, Andreea."

Asia: Okay, what's the next word?

Mihai: Cu drag

Asia: meaning "Gladly." What can you tell us about this phrase?

Mihai: The word drag can be an adjective or a noun.

Asia: Does the meaning change?

Mihai: As an adjective, it means "dear." And as a noun, it means "pleasure."

Asia: So how does that translate "gladly?"

Mihai: Well cu means "with." So, cu drag is like saying "with pleasure."

Asia: Ah, that makes sense. Can you give us an example using this phrase?

Mihai: Sure. For example, you can say, Te ajut cu drag.

Asia: ...which means "I will gladly help you."

Asia: Okay, now onto the lesson focus.

## LESSON FOCUS

Asia: In this lesson, you'll be introduced to basic grammar.

Asia: Let's start at the beginning, by introducing ourselves.

Mihai: You can say "my name is" in Romanian by saying mă numesc.

Asia: Can you break that down for us?

Mihai: Ok. First, in Romanian we usually omit the pronoun, so there is no "I" in there. Mă means "myself" and is a reflexive pronoun. Numesc is the singular first person for "name."

Asia: So it's literally more like "I name myself."

Mihai: Right. Other reflexive pronouns include te for "yourself" and se for "himself" and "herself."

Asia: You mentioned that "name" was conjugated into singular first person. So that will change, depending on who the subject is.

Mihai: Yes. A numi is the verb "to name." If we wanted to use it with tu, which is "you," we would use numești.

Asia: There are tables with more examples of these conjugations in the lesson notes, so be sure to check them out!

Mihai: Yes, please do! In Romanian, one of the most important verbs is a fi.

Asia: This is "to be," and it's a pretty important verb in many languages, including English. Like in English, it can be used for "to exist" or "to be something."

Mihai: Again, it conjugates depending on the subject. For example, "I am" is eu sunt.

Asia: What is "you are?"

Mihai: tu ești.

Asia: In both of these examples, the second word is the "to be" part. And again, there are more examples in the lesson notes. Let's hear a sentence example.

Mihai: Eu sunt american.

Asia: "I am American." Let's finish this lesson by looking at...well, "let's!"

Mihai: Yes, let's! In Romanian, we express "let's" with the conjunction să. This usually means "to," but in these sentences it means "let's."

Asia: How do we make a sentence using this conjunction? How do we say "let's do something?"

Mihai: You attach the conjunctive particle să before the present tense of the verb.

Asia: Let's hear that in action. We'll use the example "Let's go to Romania!"

Mihai: Să mergem în România!

Asia: Or how about "Let's write in Romanian!"

Mihai: Să scriem în română!

Asia: I hope you can do both of those, listeners!

## OUTRO

Asia: Okay, that's all for this lesson. Thank you for listening everyone, and we'll see you next time! Bye!

Mihai: La revedere.