

## PATTERN SENTENCES

**Memorizing pattern sentences and learning to transform or expand them for new situations is a crucial element of your language study.** In Stage 1, you mostly memorize sentences and look for situations where you can say what you know. But in Stage 2, you move beyond rote memory to being able to generate slightly different sentences by adapting or combining what you have memorized. This paves the ways for more two-way communication.

You should know *social phrases* and know how to adjust them (when required) to a variety of social situations.

You should know *conversation-management phrases* that will help you participate in normal conversations. (e.g., “Excuse me?”; “I don’t understand.”; “Could you repeat that, please?”)

You should know *pattern sentences for each grammatical form* you encounter, whether you learn it from the textbook or “discover” it through one of your culture topics. You should know patterns for statements, questions and negative forms. Sometimes you will also want to know a negative question pattern.

You should know “*fill-in-the-blank*” sentences for specific functions of language. (e.g., I saw a ... yesterday.)

You should know pattern *phrases and words used to combine* phrases or sentences into a meaningful paragraph. (e.g., therefore; on the other hand; then)

You should know common *introductory or transitional phrases*. (e.g., “Well,...”; “In my opinion...”, “While I’m thinking about it,...”)

### How to Get and Learn Pattern Sentences

When you are working on a lesson in **Teach Yourself Turkish**, the pattern sentences are often identified for you. To find the pattern sentences in a dialog, look at the “bulleted” list of “things you will learn” just below the lesson title. **Find** the sentences in the dialog which enable you to do those things which are listed. From these examples, work up at least one pattern sentence for each item on the list.

The *Notlar, Dilbilgisi* and *Ali tirmalar* sections usually give you good pattern sentences. You may want to **rework** them a little to make them more useful for your daily conversation.

Once you have the pattern sentences, **memorize** and **experiment** with them so that you know how to use them when the opportunity arises. On the next page are examples of pattern sentences taken from *Teach Yourself Turkish*, chapter 1, to help you get started.

When you are working on a culture topic or on a language need from your notebook, you might normally learn 4-5 sentences and a new vocabulary of 10-15 words. Work with your

helper to **identify** 2-3 sentences that are the heart of what you are learning in that activity. If necessary, **rework** these sentences into a more general form that helps you clearly **understand** how the sentence works and how it can be changed to meet different situations.

**Memorize and practice** the pattern sentences. Then **experiment** to see how many ways you can use it in other situations you are familiar with. Learn how to **transform** sentences back and forth between question, statement or negative statement forms. Learn to **expand** pattern sentences by adding more detail or descriptive words. Learn to **combine** sentences with other sentences or phrases to build more complex sentences.

## Sample Pattern Sentences

Pattern sentences are different from standard phrases, whose appropriate usage needs to be learned, but whose form doesn't change.

### Pattern Sentences from TYT, Chapter 1

Simple Questions:

<u>Ekmek</u> var mı?	availability
<u>Salam</u> mı?	identification
<u>Güzel</u> mi?	description

Simple Statements:

Çok <u>güzel</u> .	degree of approval
<u>Salam</u> güzel.	describing, approving
<u>Salam</u> de il, <u>sucuk</u> .	correcting identification

Simple Requests:

<u>Bir ekmek</u> lütfen.	ordering
<u>Yüz gram sucuk</u> lütfen.	

*as compared to:*

### Standard Phrases from TYT, Chapter 1

Greetings:

yi günler.  
Merhaba.

Simple Questions and Answers:

Bu ne?  
Var; Yok

Other Responses:

Peki; Tabii.

Polite phrases:

Afiyet olsun.  
Elinize sa lık.

Kolay gelsin.