

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Beginner S1 #1

Talking About School in Persian

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#1

INTRODUCTION

John: Hi everyone, and welcome to PersianPod101.com. This is Beginner Season 1, Lesson 1 - Talking About School in Persian. John here.

Mehrnaz: سلام (salaam), I'm Mehrnaz.

John: In this lesson, you'll learn about past tense verbs and "must." The conversation takes place at a university campus.

Mehrnaz: It's between Farhad and Fariba.

John: The speakers are classmates; therefore, they'll speak informal Persian. Okay, let's listen to the conversation.

DIALOGUE

فریبا: کلاس دیروزت چطور بود؟

فرهاد: بد نبود ولی فکر کنم حذفش کنم.

فریبا: چرا؟ من می‌تونم (می‌توانم) به تو کمک کنم.

فرهاد: نمی‌تونم (نمی‌توانم) سر وقت به کلاس برسم چون کلاس خیلی زود شروع می‌شه (می‌شود).

فریبا: می‌تونم (می‌توانم) با ماشین خودت بری (بروی) تا زودتر برسی.

فرهاد: نه، یه (یک) ساعت زمان می‌بره (می‌برد) جای پارک پیدا کنم.

فریبا: و نیم ساعت باقیمونده رو (باقیمانده را) هم باید چرت بزنی.

John: Listen to the conversation one time slowly.

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فریبا: چرا؟ من می‌تونم (می‌توانم) به تو کمک کنم.

فرهاد: نمی‌تونم (نمی‌توانم) سر وقت به کلاس برسم چون کلاس خیلی زود شروع می‌شه (می‌شود).

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John: Listen to the conversation with the English translation.

Fariba: How was your class yesterday?

Farhad: Not bad, but I think I'll drop it.

Fariba: Why? I can help you.

Farhad: I can't get to the class on time because class starts too early.

Fariba: You can go with your car to get there earlier.

Farhad: No, it takes me an hour to find a parking space.

Fariba: And you must doze off the remaining half an hour too.

POST CONVERSATION BANTER

John: From the dialogue, it sounds like Persian cities are pretty congested with traffic.

Mehrnaz: Yes, that's right. Especially Tehran, which has around 8 million inhabitants and around 2 million visitors every day.

John: I've heard it's one of the busiest and most polluted cities in the Middle East.

Mehrnaz: Yes, in order to get to work, people must wake up as early as they can.

John: However, I've also heard that Tehran has an effective traffic control plan.

Mehrnaz: Right, there's a traffic plan, or in Persian طرح ترافیک (tarh-e teraafic). It was introduced in the late 80s, and it, as well as new metro lines, has done a lot to improve Tehran's traffic problem.

John: Are there any measures aimed to improve the situation?

Mehrnaz: Yes, sometimes people receive free metro tickets to encourage them to ride buses or metro trains. There are free bicycles for those who prefer to ride a bicycle to work. The government also provides intensive and lower taxes on hybrid cars.

John: What about air pollution?

Mehrnaz: Billboard ads and TV programs inform people of the danger of air pollution in the city. Statistics on the quality of air is provided on a daily basis.

John: Okay, now onto the vocab.

VOCAB LIST

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

Mehrnaz: حذف کردن [natural native speed]

John: to drop

Mehrnaz: حذف کردن [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: حذف کردن [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: شلوغ [natural native speed]

John: crowded

Mehrnaz: شلوغ [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: شلوغ [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: دانشگاه [natural native speed]

John: university

Mehrnaz: دانشگاه [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: دانشگاه [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: جای پارک [natural native speed]

John: parking space

Mehrnaz: جای پارک [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: جای پارک [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: چرت زدن [natural native speed]

John: to take a nap, to doze off

Mehrnaz: چرت زدن [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: چرت زدن [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: دیروز [natural native speed]

John: yesterday

Mehrnaz: دیروز [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: دیروز [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: سخت [natural native speed]

John: hard, difficult

Mehrnaz: سخت [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: سخت [natural native speed]

John: Next we have...

Mehrnaz: زمان بردن [natural native speed]

John: to take time

Mehrnaz: زمان بردن [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: زمان بردن [natural native speed]

John: And lastly...

Mehrnaz: باقیمانده [natural native speed]

John: remaining

Mehrnaz: باقیمانده [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mehrnaz: باقیمانده [natural native speed]

KEY VOCAB AND PHRASES

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

Mehrnaz: سخته

John: Meaning "It is hard."

Mehrnaz: Sakhteh, سخته is the short form of سخت است, sakht ast. Sakht means "hard," and ast means "is."

John: When do you use it?

Mehrnaz: We use this sentence when something is hard, either physically or mentally. For example, you can say این امتحان سخت بود

John: Meaning "This exam was difficult."

Mehrnaz: But, you can also say این چوب سخت است

John: Which means "This wood is hard."

Mehrnaz: Keep in mind that you can't use this word when talking about non-solid objects. Instead, you should use the word سفت, seft. For example, کباب سفت بود

John: "The Kebab was hard."

Mehrnaz: You should use seft also for fruits, candies, muscles, and so on.

John: Okay, what's the next word?

Mehrnaz: چرت زدن

John: Meaning "to take a nap, to doze off."

Mehrnaz: Chort means "nap," and zadan means "to hit," "to take," or "to do."

John: This is a colloquial form, and it can also mean "to doze off" when you're not actually taking a nap.

Mehrnaz: Remember that چرتی, chorti is a synonym for "an opium addict." That's because opium addicts always look like they're dozing off.

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

Mehrnaz: Sure. For example, you can say, پدر بعد از ناهار نیم ساعت چرت زد.

John: ...which means "Father took a nap after lunch for half an hour."

John: Okay, what's the next phrase?

Mehrnaz: زمان بردن

John: Meaning "to take time."

Mehrnaz: zaman means "time," and bordan means "to carry" or "to take."

John: We can use this phrase on two occasions: first, when something takes a long time to achieve or make, and second, when we want to indicate how long it takes to do, make, or build something.

Mehrnaz: In the second case, it doesn't have to be a long time.

John: Can you give us some examples?

Mehrnaz: Sure. For example, you can say saakhtan-e in pol dah saal zaman bord

John: "Building this bridge took ten years."

Mehrnaz: You can also say pokhtan-e berenj faghat bist daghighah zaman mibarad

John: Meaning "Cooking rice just takes 20 minutes."

Mehrnaz: Here's another example بدنسازی زمان می برد.

John: Which means "Bodybuilding takes time."

John: Okay, now onto the lesson focus.

LESSON FOCUS

John: In this lesson, you'll learn about past tense verbs and the pattern for "must." Let's start with the past tense. First of all, there's good news. There are no regular or irregular verbs in Persian, unlike English. How do we form the past tense?

Mehrnaz: In Persian, all the infinitives end in -tan(تن) or -dan(دن). In order to form the past tense, we have to remove -an (ن) from the infinitive and add the personal endings.

John: What are the personal endings? Let's list them and show how they apply to a verb.

Mehrnaz: We'll use the verb رفتن, raftan, meaning "to go."

John: What's the Persian for "I went?"

Mehrnaz: It's رفتم, raftam. The ending is م, m.

John: How about "you went?"

Mehrnaz: It's رفتی, rafti. The ending is ی, i.

John: "He or she went?"

Mehrnaz: The third person singular doesn't have any ending, so it's simply رفت, raft.

John: "We went?"

Mehrnaz: رفتیم raftim. Here the ending is یم, eim.

John: "You went," plural?

Mehrnaz: رفتید, raftid. Here the ending is ید, eid.

John: "They went?"

Mehrnaz: رفتند, raftand. Here the ending is ند, and.

John: So all we have to do is to remember these endings.

Mehrnaz: Right.

John: Listeners, in the lesson notes you can find more conjugated verbs, so be sure to check them out! Mehrnaz, could you give us a sample sentence with the past tense?

Mehrnaz: مادر بعد از خرید به خانه برگشت.

John: Which means "Mother got back home after shopping."

Mehrnaz: And, we already saw other examples with the past tense. For example, این امتحان سخت بود.

John: Which means "This exam was difficult." Ok, now let's have a look at the verb "must."

Mehrnaz: In Persian, that's باید (baayad).

John: This can be considered an adverb or an auxiliary verb. Do we need to conjugate it?

Mehrnaz: There's no conjugation for the verb باید, baayad. The most common sentence pattern is subject, followed by baayad, plus the object and the main verb.

John: In Persian, sometimes you can drop the subject because the suffix at the end of the verb represents the subject. Mehrnaz, could you give us an example?

Mehrnaz: باید هر روز تو را ببینم.

John: Meaning "I must see you every day."

Mehrnaz: I didn't state the subject من, man, "I," as it was implied in the verb ببینم, bebinam.

John: Let's give another couple of sample sentences.

Mehrnaz: من باید به ایران برگردم.

John: "I must go back to Iran."

Mehrnaz: شما باید به خانه بروید.

John: "You must go home."

OUTRO

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

Mehrnaz: خدا حافظ (khodahafez).