

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Lower Beginner S1 #1

What Are You Doing in the Netherlands?

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INTRODUCTION

Gabriella: Hi everyone, Gabriella here! Welcome to DutchPod101.com. This is Lower Beginner Season 1, Lesson 1 - What Are You Doing in the Netherlands?

Jacob: Hallo! I'm Jacob.

Gabriella: With us, you'll learn to speak Dutch with fun and effective lessons.

Jacob: We also provide you with cultural insights...

Gabriella: ...and tips you won't find in a textbook.

Jacob: In this lesson, you'll learn how to describe what you are doing in Dutch.

Gabriella: This conversation takes place on the phone. Karin and Selma are friends, so they will be using casual Dutch.

Jacob: Okay. Let's listen to the conversation.

DIALOGUE

Selma: Hee Karin, wat ben je aan het doen?

Karin: Hee Selma, ik ben aan het studeren.

Selma: Ik zit televisie te kijken. Er is schaatsen op TV. Heb je zin om langs te komen?

Karin: Ja, gezellig. Ik ben hartstikke moe en ik ben het studeren zat.

Selma: Komt je man ook? Of is hij nog aan het werken?

Karin: Nee, Jan is niet aan het werken. Hij ligt al te slapen.

Gabriella: Let's hear the conversation one time slowly.

Selma: Hee Karin, wat ben je aan het doen?

Karin: Hee Selma, ik ben aan het studeren.

Selma: Ik zit televisie te kijken. Er is schaatsen op TV. Heb je zin om langs te komen?

Karin: Ja, gezellig. Ik ben hartstikke moe en ik ben het studeren zat.

Selma: Komt je man ook? Of is hij nog aan het werken?

Karin: Nee, Jan is niet aan het werken. Hij ligt al te slapen.

Gabriella: Now let's hear it with the English translation.

Selma: Hee Karin, wat ben je aan het doen?

Gabriella: Hi, Karin, what are you doing?

Karin: Hee Selma, ik ben aan het studeren.

Gabriella: Hi, Selma, I'm studying.

Selma: Ik zit televisie te kijken. Er is schaatsen op TV. Heb je zin om langs te komen?

Gabriella: I'm watching television. There's speed skating on TV. Would you like to come over?

Karin: Ja, gezellig. Ik ben hartstikke moe en ik ben het studeren zat.

Gabriella: Yes, I would love to. I'm very tired, and I'm fed up with studying.

Selma: Komt je man ook? Of is hij nog aan het werken?

Gabriella: Is your husband coming as well? Or is he still working?

Karin: Nee, Jan is niet aan het werken. Hij ligt al te slapen.

Gabriella: No, Jan is not working. He's sleeping already.

POST CONVERSATION BANTER

Jacob: So let's talk about a favorite pastime of the Dutch...

Gabriella: ...sports! Are Dutch people sport-minded?

Jacob: Yes, they absolutely love sports! They are fond of watching sports, but they also like to do sports themselves!

Gabriella: What's your favorite sport?

Jacob: I love speed-skating, especially on natural ice - but most years it's not freezing long enough to skate on lakes and canals. I usually go to an indoor ice rink.

Gabriella: And how about other popular Dutch sports?

Jacob: The number one sport is football, but hockey, cycling, swimming and tennis are also popular in The Netherlands.

Gabriella: Of course, football! Who doesn't know the Dutch football players Van Basten and Johan Cruyff!

Jacob: Yes, they are quite famous.

Gabriella: Okay, on to the vocab.

VOCAB LIST

Jacob: moe [natural native speed]

Gabriella: tired

Jacob: moe [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: moe [natural native speed]

Jacob: het zat zijn [natural native speed]

Gabriella: to be fed up (with something)

Jacob: het zat zijn [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: het zat zijn [natural native speed]

Jacob: kijken [natural native speed]

Gabriella: to watch

Jacob: kijken [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: kijken [natural native speed]

Jacob: man [natural native speed]

Gabriella: husband

Jacob: man [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: man [natural native speed]

Jacob: schaatsen [natural native speed]

Gabriella: speed-skating

Jacob: schaatsen [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: schaatsen [natural native speed]

Jacob: televisie [natural native speed]

Gabriella: television

Jacob: televisie [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: televisie [natural native speed]

Jacob: al [natural native speed]

Gabriella: already

Jacob: al [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: al [natural native speed]

Jacob: hartstikke [natural native speed]

Gabriella: very, totally

Jacob: hartstikke [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: hartstikke [natural native speed]

Jacob: slapen [natural native speed]

Gabriella: to sleep

Jacob: slapen [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: slapen [natural native speed]

Jacob: studeren [natural native speed]

Gabriella: to study

Jacob: studeren [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Jacob: studeren [natural native speed]

KEY VOCAB AND PHRASES

Gabriella: Let's have a closer look at the usage of some of the words and phrases

from this lesson.

Jacob: Karin says 'hartstikke', did you hear this?

Gabriella: Yes, it's "very" in Dutch, right?

Jacob: Yes, you're right. 'Hartstikke' is used quite a lot, so please remember it! But it's used mainly in spoken and casual language. Try to use it, you'll sound like a local!

Gabriella: ...and what do I use in a more formal situation?

Jacob: You can use 'heel' or 'erg' instead.

Gabriella: So, Karin is 'erg moe' - "very tired"?

Jacob: Perfect!

Gabriella: And how about 'schaatsen' - "speed-skating"? It looks like a verb...?!

Jacob: Yes, 'schaatsen' is a verb - "to skate" in English. But in this dialogue it's used as a noun - Selma is talking about the sport speed-skating. She's watching the sport on TV, she's not talking about the activity skating.

Gabriella: But do you refer to the sport as 'de schaatsen', or 'het schaatsen'?

Jacob: If a verb is used as a noun, it's always a neuter gender....

Gabriella: ... so 'het schaatsen'?

Jacob: Correct! Did you also notice that they were talking about Karin's husband?

Gabriella: Yes, Karin's 'man', in Dutch.

Jacob: Yep! Do you know another word for 'man', which is slightly more formal?

Gabriella: Let's see... 'echtgenoot'?

Jacob: You're a linguistic talent!

Gabriella: Thanks! Okay, now on to the grammar.

LESSON FOCUS

Jacob: In this lesson, we're going to learn how to say what you're doing.

Gabriella: In the dialogue, Karin says she is studying - in Dutch 'ik ben aan het studeren'.

Jacob: Exactly! Karin wants to say that she is studying right now, and she was not

finished studying when Selma called.

Gabriella: So for example you can say 'Ik studeer rechten' in general, and 'Ik ben aan het studeren' when you're actually busy reading your books...?

Jacob: Yes, this is the same difference as in English "I study law" in general, and "I am studying" when you're actually reading your study books.

Gabriella: How do you make this progressive form in Dutch?

Jacob: Use the verb 'zijn'- "to be" + the words 'aan het' + the infinitive.

Gabriella: We've learned the conjugation of the irregular verb 'zijn' before...

Jacob: Yes, do you remember? 'Ik ben / jij bent / hij is / wij zijn / jullie zijn / zij zijn'...?

Gabriella: Yes! So 'ik ben' + 'aan het' + an infinitive, for example 'lopen'?

Jacob: Correct! And when I'm talking about you 'jij bent'+ 'aan het' + 'lopen'!

Gabriella: "You are walking!"

Jacob: Did you notice that Selma said something slightly different, when she told Karin what she was doing?

Gabriella: Yes, Selma said 'Ik zit televisie te kijken' - "she is watching television". But is it the same as 'Ik ben televisie aan het kijken', as we just learned?

Jacob: Yes, the meaning is the same. But in the Absolute Beginner series, we also learned that in Dutch you often indicate that something is lying, standing or sitting while in English you just say that 'it is'.

Gabriella: Can you give an example?

Jacob: Of course, "the book is on the table". You'd translate it as 'het boek ligt op de tafel'. Literally, "The book is lying on the table..."?!

Gabriella: Aha!

Jacob: It's the same for 'Ik zit televisie te kijken'. Literally you say that you're watching television, while you're sitting.

Gabriella: So compared to 'ik ben televisie aan het kijken' you give extra information on how you're watching television?

Jacob: Yes, namely, as a couch potato, sitting in your lazy chair!

Gabriella: And now you're using the verbs "sitting", "standing" or "lying" + 'te' + infinitive...?

Jacob: Correct! In Dutch, 'zitten', 'staan' en 'liggen' + 'te' + infinitive. 'Ik zit te lezen' - "I am reading..."

Gabriella: And 'jij zit te lezen' - "you are reading...".

Jacob: Yes. For now, try to recognise these forms, we'll practice later on!

OUTRO

Gabriella: Okay, that's it for this lesson. And listeners, don't forget to check the lesson notes for more phrases!

Jacob: Thanks for listening, and see you next time!

Gabriella: Tot ziens!