

LESSON NOTES

# Learn Filipino in Three Minutes #1 Self Introductions

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# GRAMMAR

## The focus of this lesson is Self Introduction in Filipino

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### Topic 1: How to introduce yourself in an informal situation

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Sentence from the lesson:

*Kamusta, Ako si Erica. Kinagagalak kong makilala ka.*

"Hi, I'm Erica. Nice to meet you."

1. Start by saying: *Kamusta. Ako si...* then, say your name. Finally, say *Kinagagalak kong makilala ka*.  
For example:  
*Kamusta, Ako si Erica. Kinagagalak kong makilala ka.*
2. *Kamusta* is the closest equivalent to "hi" in Filipino and is used as an informal greeting for friends or close ones. It comes from the Spanish phrase: "como esta".
3. Though *kinagagalak kong makilala ka* is not usually used by the Filipino youth to say "nice to meet you," the term is taught as a proper Filipino introduction. Again, some English words are sometimes incorporated in informal Filipino conversations, so simply saying "hi" is normal for Filipinos when introducing themselves.

### Topic 2: How to introduce yourself in a formal situation

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Sentence from the lesson:

*Kamusta po, Ako si Erica Reyes. Kinagagalak ko po kayong makilala.*

"How are you? I'm Erica Reyes. Nice to meet you."

1. *Kamusta* has essentially the same meaning as "hi" in English when used in a formal way. *Po* has no English meaning but is usually added to Filipino phrases to show respect. In both cases, *ako si* means, "I am." However during a formal self introduction say your full name, hence Erica Reyes.

2. Finally, pay attention to the ending. We went from *Kinagagalak kong makilala ka* to *Kinagagalak ko po kayong makilala*. *Ka* is changed to the plural pronoun *kayo* which means "all of you." To make it more formal, the pronoun is moved to the front of the verb, and *-ng* is added to connect the words. *Po* is also added to show respect.

## Language Tip

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When you introduce yourself in an informal setting in the Philippines, it's a casual habit to wave your hand when saying "hi." *Kinagagalak kong makilala ka* is not usually used especially by young people there, instead "Nice to meet you" is more often used since the English language is commonly used in Filipino conversations. In a formal setting, *po* should never be left out, especially when speaking to the elderly and people with a higher position than you are since being respectful is a very important Filipino attitude. It is also a good habit to shake hands in the Philippines during formal introductions and encounters. If you use the proper sentence with Filipino people, you're going to win more friends and they're definitely going to be impressed!