



## *Learn Languages With Nina!*

### **E1: Who am I?**

#### *Learning resources*

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#### **Vocabulary**

A vocabulary list for the episode can be found at the following link.

<https://quizlet.com/86975642/e1-who-am-i-flash-cards/>

**Note:** If vocab on the Quizlet list is too easy or difficult, "copy" the list to your personal Quizlet account (free), and delete what you don't want/need.

Practice the vocab on Quizlet, first using the flash cards with audio, both sides, then "shuffling" the cards and starting with the English side, then "shuffling" again and start with the English/picture side. Playing some games, "scatter", do the "learn" activity and "test."

#### **True or false?**

##### **True or False?**

**Directions:** Decide if the statement is true or false; if it's false, correct it.

1. \_\_\_\_ Nina is 25 years old.



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2. \_\_\_\_ Nina French, Spanish and ESL teacher.
3. \_\_\_\_ Her mom was French.
4. \_\_\_\_ Her dad was Russian.
5. \_\_\_\_ Nina was born in Turkey.
6. \_\_\_\_ Turkey is in two continents.
7. \_\_\_\_ Moscow is the capital of Turkey.
8. \_\_\_\_ Singapore is in Malaysia.
9. \_\_\_\_ There is a famous castle in Windsor.
10. \_\_\_\_ Detroit is also known as the Motor City.

### **Grammar explanations & exercises**

#### **Basic grammar**

*Directions: Read the short grammar explanation and example. Then, find examples of the same grammar structure in the transcript!*

1. **The present progressive:** formed by using the verb *to be* (present) + *-ing* (present participle)

ex: I am sleeping; he is watching

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2. **The simple past:** regularly formed by adding *-ed* (but there are many irregular forms)

ex: he watched; we moved;

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#### **Intermediate & advanced grammar explanations & exercises**

1. **The present perfect:** have (present) + past participle.

ex. She has slept; he has eaten.

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**2. The perfect progressive:** formed by using the verb *to be* (*perfect*) + *-ing* (present participle)

ex: He has been sleeping; we have been watching

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### **Cloze Passage Activities**

#### **Basic Cloze Passage**

Hi everyone and welcome to: Learn Languages With Nina!

My name is Nina, and today I'm going to tell you a little bit about \_\_\_\_\_ and about the program.

I've been teaching languages for 25 years. I teach English as a Second language, French and Spanish. I love teaching languages and I also love \_\_\_\_\_ languages! I also love to cook. So in this program, you're going to learn some recipes; you're going to learn about culture, geography and a lot more. And of course, in the meantime, you're going to be learning and \_\_\_\_\_ your English!

And, to help you learn English, I have developed resources to go with each episode. And, if you go to my website [learnlanguageswithnina.com](http://learnlanguageswithnina.com) you will find a PDF that contains \_\_\_\_\_ explanations, vocabulary lists, and a lot of different activities for you to do while you are watching the episode.

#### **My background**

I'm American, from the United States, and French but my ancestors were Irish, Russian and Ukrainian. I'm actually going to \_\_\_\_\_ you a picture of my parents because they've been a very big influence in my life. My father was American (US) but from Irish descent - and you can notice this in this photograph - and my \_\_\_\_\_ was French, but from Ukrainian and Russian descent. My parents communicated in both English and French, but they also spoke some Turkish and English. So it's easy to see how I became \_\_\_\_\_ in languages. My mom was also an excellent cook and she taught me a lot about \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **My biography**

I was born in France, but during that time, my parents were living in Turkey, in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Istanbul. So, at the age of five days old, they put me in a



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car, and we drove from Paris to Istanbul. And that is how my life full of \_\_\_\_\_ began.

So, when I was a baby, I lived in Turkey, a country that's located in both Asia and Europe. After that, I lived in the U.S. where I \_\_\_\_\_ up. When I was a teenager, I went to live and study in France. I began my professional career \_\_\_\_\_ in South Africa, and lived between Johannesburg and Pretoria. I then lived in Singapore, which is an island and city-state, located in Southeast Asia at the tip of the Malaysian Peninsula. After that, I lived in Russia, in the beautiful \_\_\_\_\_ city, Moscow. Then I lived in England, in Windsor, which is a small town to the west of London, where the famous Windsor Castle is. The castle was actually only a few blocks from my \_\_\_\_\_ - and here is a photo I actually took from my window.

What a beautiful sky!

I am currently living \_\_\_\_\_ in the States, in Michigan. Anyone who is telling you about where they're from, and they're from Michigan, will show you their hand, because Michigan resembles a \_\_\_\_\_. As you can see, with the Great Lakes surrounding Michigan, it really looks like a hand or mitten. So, this is where I'm from, just to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Detroit, which is also called the Motor City or Motown, which I will be talking about in another episode.

I'm really looking forward to sharing some recipes with you, some cultural lessons as well as English lessons. \_\_\_\_\_ a lot and see you next time!

### **Advanced Cloze Passage**

Hi everyone and welcome to: Learn Languages With Nina!

My name is Nina, and today I'm going to tell you a little \_\_\_\_\_ about myself and about the program.

I've been \_\_\_\_\_ languages for 25 years. I teach English as a Second language, French and Spanish. I love teaching languages and I also love learning languages! I also love to cook. So in this program, you're going to learn some recipes; you're going to learn about culture, \_\_\_\_\_ and a lot more. And of course, in the meantime, you're going to be learning and practicing your English!

And, to help you learn English, I have developed \_\_\_\_\_ to go with each episode. And, if you go to my website [learnlanguageswithnina.com](http://learnlanguageswithnina.com) you



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will find a PDF that contains grammar \_\_\_\_\_, vocabulary lists, and a lot of different activities for you to do while you are watching the episode.

### **My background**

I'm American, from the United States, and French but my \_\_\_\_\_ were Irish, Russian and Ukrainian. I'm actually going to show you a picture of my parents because they've been a very big \_\_\_\_\_ in my life. My father was American (US) but from Irish descent - and you can notice this in this photograph - and my mother was French, but from Ukrainian and Russian \_\_\_\_\_. My parents communicated in both English and French, but they also spoke some Turkish and English. So it's easy to see how I became interested in languages. My mom was also an excellent cook and she \_\_\_\_\_ me a lot about cooking.

### **My biography**

I was born in France, but during that time, my parents were living in Turkey, in the city of Istanbul. So, at the age of five days old, they put me in a car, and we drove from Paris to Istanbul. And that is how my life full of travels \_\_\_\_\_.

So, when I was a baby, I lived in Turkey, a country that's located in both Asia and Europe. After that, I lived in the U.S. where I grew up. When I was a \_\_\_\_\_, I went to live and study in France. I began my professional career teaching in South Africa, and lived between Johannesburg and Pretoria. I then lived in Singapore, which is an island and \_\_\_\_\_, located in Southeast Asia at the tip of the Malaysian Peninsula. After that, I lived in Russia, in the beautiful capital city, Moscow. Then I lived in England, in Windsor, which is a small town to the west of London, where the \_\_\_\_\_ Windsor Castle is. The castle was actually only a few blocks from my house - and here is a \_\_\_\_\_ I actually took from my window. What a beautiful sky!

I am \_\_\_\_\_ living back in the States, in Michigan. Anyone who is telling you about where they're from, and they're from Michigan, will show you their hand, because Michigan \_\_\_\_\_ a hand. As you can see, with the Great Lakes surrounding Michigan, it really looks like a hand or mitten. So, this is where I'm from, just to the west of Detroit, which is also called the Motor City or Motown, which I will be talking about in another episode.

I'm really looking forward to sharing some recipes with you, some cultural lessons as well as English lessons. Thanks a lot and see you next time!



**Answer Key**

**Grammar explanations & exercises**

**Basic grammar**

**1. The present progressive:**

ex: I am sleeping; he is watching

I'm going

You're going

You are watching

I am living

who is telling

I'm looking

**2. The simple past:**

ex: he watched; we moved;

was

communicated

spoke

became

taught (from teach)

put

drove

began

lived

went

took

**Intermediate & advanced grammar explanations & exercises**

**1. The present perfect:**

ex. She has slept; he has eaten.

I have developed

They've (they have) been

**2. The perfect progressive:**

ex: He has been sleeping; we have been watching

I have been teaching

**True or False?**

Directions: Decide if the statement is true or false; if it's false, correct it.



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1. \_\_\_\_ Nina is 25 years old. *False; she has been teaching for 25 years*
2. \_\_\_\_ Nina French, Spanish and ESL teacher. *True*
3. \_\_\_\_ Her mom was French. *True*
4. \_\_\_\_ Her dad was Russian. *False; he was American (from Irish descent)*
5. \_\_\_\_ Nina was born in Turkey. *False; she was born in France*
6. \_\_\_\_ Turkey is in two continents. *True*
7. \_\_\_\_ Moscow is the capital of Turkey. *False; it is the capital of Russia*
8. \_\_\_\_ Singapore is in Malaysia. *False, Singapore is its own country, located at the tip of Malaysia.*
9. \_\_\_\_ There is a famous castle in Windsor. *True*
10. \_\_\_\_ Detroit is also known as the Motor City. *True*

### **Transcript**

Hi everyone and welcome to: Learn Languages With Nina!

My name is Nina, and today I'm going to tell you a little bit about myself and about the program.

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### **Ideas for teachers**

#### **Possible lesson plan**

1. Show students the episode with subtitles if necessary.
2. Present vocabulary using [Quizlet](#); then, work as a class or students in pairs (if they have tablets or laptops.) You can also print the PDF of the vocab list (choose "small" and deselect "alphabetize" if you want the vocab in the order as on [Quizlet](#).), photocopy and have students fold the page over to quiz each other.
3. Show the episode again and have students do the *cloze passage* relevant to their level (no subtitles.) Check together.
4. Go through the *Grammar explanations and activities* relevant to the class. Pick and choose what you know they've done, and have them find examples. If time is short, have different groups of students do different grammar points. Students share/check together.
5. Have students do true/false activity in pairs. Check together.

Other ideas:





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- Assign some of the above activities for homework.

### **Ideas for independent learners**

#### **Complete beginners:**

If you have never taken English before and would like to learn, I would recommend signing up for lessons, either online (I offer Skype lessons!) or in your local community. Doing this in tandem with the program will get you learning fast!

1. Watch the episode and follow along with the English subtitles.
2. Practice the vocab on Quizlet, as described above.
3. Repeat step 1.
4. Read through the *Basic grammar* explanations. Find more examples in the transcript. Check your answers in the *Answer Key*.
5. Watch the episode again and pause and refer to the grammar explanations as you go. Repeat as many times as necessary.
6. Then, with no subtitles, do the *basic cloze passage* activity for beginners (below.) Listen and fill in the English words as best you can. Check your answers with the *transcript*
7. Do the *True/false activity*; then check your answers in the *Answer Key*.

**False beginners:** If you studied a couple of years of high school ESL, 10 years ago, for example, you fall into a category we call "false beginners." To best use the program, I would recommend signing up for lessons (I offer Skype lessons!) to supplement what you'll get out of the program. However, just watching and cooking along with me will also help you regain what you've forgotten and learn more. Please see the strategies above (1-7) to make the most out of each episode.

**Intermediate learners:** You know quite a bit of grammar and vocabulary, but you may have trouble putting it all together, both in speaking and writing. You may also have trouble understanding spoken English.

1. Use the same strategies 1-5 as outlined above. Pay attention to both the basic grammar points and intermediate and advanced ones, and find examples for both sections. Check your answers with the Answer Key.
2. Then, try the advanced cloze passage activity. Listen with no subtitles and fill in the English words as best you can. Check your answers with the *transcript*.
3. Do the True/false activity; then check your answers.
4. Then, watch the episode with English subtitles. Repeat this until you can simply listen and understand (without the subtitles!)



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**Advanced learners:** You can converse, read and write fairly easily. You have the basic grammar down, and you can recall vocab, on a wide range of topics, easily. You are able to put the language together so that it's comprehensible.

1. Watch the episode with no subtitles the first time to see how much you can understand on your own.
2. Watch again with the English subtitles to get anything you may have missed.
3. Practice the vocab on Quizlet, as described above.
4. Read through the *Intermediate and advanced grammar*, do the activity and check your answers in the Answer Key.
5. Then, try the advanced cloze passage activity. Listen with no subtitles and fill in the English words as best you can. Check your answers with the *transcript*.
6. Watch the version without subtitles again without any "help."