

Wie heißen Sie?

- Duzen / Siezen ('you' informally / 'you' formally)

'What is your name?'
To ask someone's name
in a respectful way.

Wortschatz (Vocabulary)

duzen

siezen

höflich

familiär

Frau

Herr

Talking casually / honorifics

- There are two ways of saying 'you' in German, 'du' and 'Sie'. 'Duzen', is an expression of friendliness. To a person who you think you are in a close relationship with, you use 'duzen', and to someone in a formal situation, you use 'siezen'. Thus, it will be awkward to use 'siezen' when the other person is using 'duzen'. Sometimes, the usage of 'duzen' and 'siezen' can be used to distinguish relationships. 'I do duzen with him' shows how much of a close relation I am with him'

Listen carefully to Ms. Elsa in the lesson.

Auf einen Blick (At a glance)

Lektion 4

1) Duzen/Siezen (informal/formal)

Duzen: familiär

Siezen: höflich

When you are in a close relation, you use 'du'.
Calling 'you' as 'du' is called 'duzen'.
In a formal situation, you use 'Sie'. This is called 'siezen'.
Kids, teenagers, college students use 'du' with each other, even if they have met for the first time.

	sein	heißen
ich (I)	bin	heiße
du (You)	bist	heißt
Sie (You)	sind	heißen

The verb changes as the person of the subject changes (conjugation).
The following examples show the conjugation of 'sein'.
'Wer bist du?' (Who are you?)
'Wer ist das?' (Who is this?)
'Wer sind Sie?' (Who are you?)

In this case, 'Sie' represents 'you' as in second person.
The first letter for 'Sie' is always capitalized as 'S'. For the third person plural, 'sie' (they), which we are going to learn afterwards, the 's' is not capitalized.
The endings change in the same way as 'Sie'.

2) Selbstvorstellung (Self introduction)

Familiäre Vorstellung- Duzen

(Friendly introduction)

Hallo!

Ich bin Elsa.

Wie heißt **du**?/Wer bist du?

Höfliche Vorstellung- Siezen

(Polite introduction)

Guten Tag!

Mein Name ist Frau Müller.

Wie heißen Sie?/Wer sind Sie?



'Familiäre Vorstellung (friendly introduction)' does not mean a friendly attitude, but introducing yourself to someone you can use 'duzen' to.
On the other hand, 'höfliche Vorstellung (polite introduction)' is self introduction in a situation where you have to use 'siezen'.

Übungsaufgaben (Exercise)

Lektion 4

1. Ergänzen Sie. (Fill in the blanks.)

	sein	heißen
ich	<u>bin</u>	_____
du	_____	_____
Sie	_____	_____

Duzen	Siezen
_____	Wie heißen Sie?
Wer bist du?	_____

2. Ergänzen Sie. (Fill in the blanks.)

- a) Guten Tag! Wie heißen Sie?
 Ich heiße Maria Becker.
- b) Guten Tag! Wie heißen Sie?
 Mein _____ ist Sabine Wohlfahrt. Und wie heißen Sie?
- c) Guten Tag, Frau Bauer. (Hello, Ms Bauer.)
 Ich _____ Julia Radermacher.
 Guten Tag!

3. Ordnen Sie. (Rearrange the words to make a correct sentence.)

- a) Tag - Guten - Müller - Elsa - ist - Name -mein
 → Guten Tag. Mein Name ist Elsa Müller.
- b) du - wer - bist
 → _____
- c) heißen - und - Sie - wie
 → _____
- d) Name - wie - Ihr - ist
 → _____

e) ich - Hallo - Elsa - heiße

→

f) sind - wer - Sie

→

Sample

Lösung

1.

	sein	heißen
ich	bin	heiße
du	bist	heißt
Sie	sind	heißen

Duzen	Siezen
<u>Wie heißt du?</u>	<u>Wie heißen Sie?</u>
Wer bist du?	<u>Wer sind Sie?</u>

2.

b) Name c) bin/**heiße**

3.

b) Wer bist du? c) Und **wie heißen Sie?** d) Wie ist Ihr Name? **e) Hallo. Ich heiße Elsa.**
f) Wer sind Sie?

You have seen a chart of conjugation for the verb 'sein' and 'heißen'. You should make sure to memorize them. For example, if you see the verb 'sein' memorize it as 'ich bin', 'du bist', 'Sie sind'. You should also memorize every suggested example in the text by pronouncing and writing them plenty of times. All the examples are expressions that are used very often in German. Start by trying to understand the things you have learned from each lesson, and finish by memorizing them. It is better if you memorize the whole sentences.

Some students do not read the instructions from our 'ButterTongue How To Guide' and first watch the lecture video. If you do so, there is a good chance that you won't last long and that you will eventually give up. You should be prepared for each lesson. Find out the meaning of the words and read the contents carefully. Only then are you ready to attend the lecture. Watch the video at least three times. First with English subtitles, second with German subtitles, and lastly without subtitles. If there is something to memorize such as verb conjugation make sure that you know them in and out. Then solve the problems and check what you have learned. If you have any questions to the lecture, please ask on our website.

• **'Frau Müller'**

In the middle of the lecture, Ms. Elsa introduced herself as 'Frau Müller'. It is not common to introduce yourself as 'Frau Müller' or 'Herr Müller'. 'Frau' and 'Herr', in general, is used to refer to other people. To introduce yourself, you simply just say 'Mein Name ist + name (die Name).'