



Quick-Start Guide: Czech for Heritage Speakers

Learn a Bit of Czech Without Losing Your Mind

10 Must-Know Czech Phrases

These will help you shine at your next family gathering:

1. **Babi, tvoje knedlo-vepřo-zelo je prostě nejlepší!** = Grandma, your dumplings-pork-cabbage (a popular Czech meal!) is simply the best!
2. **Můžu si přidat?** = Can I have seconds?
3. **Děláš si srandu?** = Are you (you informal singular) kidding me?
4. **Co se stalo?** = What happened?
5. **Mám hlad jako vlk.** = I'm hungry like a wolf.
6. **Nechápu.** = I don't understand.
7. **Mluv pomaleji, prosím.** = Speak (you informal singular) slower, please.
8. **To je fakt!** = That's a fact! / That's true!
9. **To jako vážně?** = Like seriously
10. **Mluvte na mě česky, chci se zlepšit!** = Speak (you plural) Czech with me, I want to get better!

3 Common Grammar Traps (and How to Avoid Them)

1. False Friends

Example: *Aktuální* means *current*, not *actual*.

Watch out for these Czech-English sneaky pairs! (Read my blog post related to this topic [here](#))

2. Word Order Weirdness

Czech is flexible with word order, but as a beginner, stick to subject-verb-object. It's the safest bet.

3. The Case Maze

Yes, there are seven cases, but don't panic. Start with the *nominative* (who/what) and the *accusative* (whom/what). Build slowly!

Czech Culture Checklist

Watch:

- ☐ Pelíšky (*Cozy Dens*)
- ☐ Samotáři (*Loners*)
- ☐ Popelka (*Cinderella*)

Try listening to:

- ☐ Chinaski
- ☐ Slza
- ☐ Mirai
- ☐ Ewa Farna
- ☐ Lucie
- ☐ Mandrage

7-Day Mini Challenge

Get your Czech muscles moving in just one week!

Day 1	Learn 3 new family-related phrases
Day 2	Watch a Czech YouTube video with subtitles
Day 3	Text a family member in Czech
Day 4	Learn 1 idiom and use it out loud (You can even use one of these)
Day 5	Listen to a Czech song and write down 5 most interesting words
Day 6	Read a meme or tweet in Czech and translate it
Day 7	Speak Czech for 5 minutes (to a family member, Chatgpt or even to yourself!)