

LESSON 5

Who Are You? Introducing Yourself

اسم

Tonight you get a name. Walk into a Persian dinner party, introduce yourself two ways, and answer with the most beautiful "nice to meet you" in any language.

AFTER THIS LESSON YOU CAN...

- Say your name two ways: **esmam ...-e** and **man ... hastam**.
- Ask someone's name politely: **esm-e shomâ chi-e?**
- Answer introductions with **khoshbakhtam** — "I've become fortunate."
- Understand -am's second job: *I am* on adjectives, *my* on things.

THE PHRASE MAP

esm

name

the thing everyone asks about first

esmam ...-e

my name is ...

esm + am (my) + -e (is) — drop your name in the gap

esm-e shomâ chi-e?

what's your name? (formal)

chi = what · the -e after esm is Farsi's glue

man ... hastam

I am ... (full form)

the formal version — both are correct

khoshbakhtam

nice to meet you

literally "I have become fortunate"

...jân

dear (glued to names)

Sâm jân — affection, Persian-style; you'll hear it constantly

-AM'S SECOND JOB

Lesson 1: on a describing word, **-am** means *I am* — **khub-am** = I'm good.

Today: on a *thing*, **-am** means *my* — **esm-am** = my name. One sound, two jobs; context does all the work.
Esmam Sâm-e = my-name Sam-is.

THE TINY -E (TWO OF THEM!)

Glue -e: *esm-e shomâ* = name-OF-you. It links words. Don't study it — let it ride.

"Is" -e: *Sâm-e* = is Sam. The same little sound Farsi uses for "is" after names and things. Both arrive free with the phrases — no memorizing needed.

THE INTRODUCTION — TWO FREE RULES

1 · Khoshbakhtam + hand on heart. Works for anyone, anywhere — always right.

2 · Across genders, follow their lead. Some shake hands, some don't. Never force it — the hand-on-heart nod is universally graceful.

JÂN — THE AFFECTION ENGINE

Persians glue **jân** (dear) to names constantly: Sâm jân, Leila jân, Mâmân jân. Being "jân-ed" means you're in. Use it back once you've been jân-ed first.

THE SCENE — THE INTRODUCTION CIRCLE

Friday night, Leila's apartment. Your first mehmuni (party). The circle is a national sport.

SPEAKER	FARSI	ENGLISH
Leila	Khob! Esm-e shomâ chi-e?	OK! What's YOUR name? (playing formal)
Sam	Esmam Sâm-e!	My name is Sam!
Amir	Man Amir hastam!	I am Amir!
Sam	Khoshbakhtam!	Nice to meet you!
Amir	Khoshbakhtam, Sâm jân!	Nice to meet you, Sam dear!
Leila	Che khub!	How nice!

BOTH FORMS IN ONE SCENE

Sam used the short form (**esmam Sâm-e**), Amir the full form (**man Amir hastam**). Both perfect. Friends default to the short one.

EXERCISES — PART 1

1 • Match

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. esmam ...-e | a. nice to meet you |
| 2. esm-e shomâ chi-e? | b. dear |
| 3. man ... hastam | c. my name is ... |
| 4. khoshbakhtam | d. I am ... |
| 5. jân | e. what's your name? |

2 • Which job is -am doing?

Circle I-AM or MY for each:

khub**am** (I am / my) · es**ma**m (I am / my) · âmrikâyî-**am*** (I am / my) · bâbâ**m*** (I am / my)

*previews: nationality (Lesson 6) and "my dad" — same machine.

3 • Introduce yourself

Short form: Esmam _____-e. Full form: Man _____ hastam.

4 • Complete the circle

Leila: "Esm-e _____ chi-e?" You: "_____ ...-e!" Amir: "Khoshbakhtam!" You: "_____, Amir _____!"

EXERCISES — PART 2

5 • Formal or friendly?

Pick the right ask: (a) Amir's grandmother: _____ (b) a kid at the party: "Esmet chi-e?"* — and what did -et mean? _____

*-et = your (casual) — the -am family's cousin. Preview, not required.

6 • Fix the mistake

"Esmam hastam Sam." — rewrite it both correct ways: _____ · _____

7 • The gesture round

Say khoshbakhtam three times out loud — once plain, once with hand on heart, once with a nod. Which feels most natural? That's your signature now.

8 • Run the circle (out loud)

Play all three roles of the scene. Then introduce yourself to your mirror — short form, full form, khoshbakhtam, done.

DAILY 5-MINUTE ROUTINE UNTIL LESSON 6

1) esmam ...-e ×3 with your name 2) esm-e shomâ chi-e? ×3 3) khoshbakhtam + hand on heart ×3 4) the scene, all roles 5) drill track.

ANSWER KEY

- 1: 1-c · 2-e · 3-d · 4-a · 5-b
- 2: khubam = I am · esmam = my · âmrîkâyi-am = I am · bâbâm = my
- 3: your name in both gaps
- 4: shomâ · Esmam · Khoshbakhtam · jân
- 5: (a) Esm-e shomâ chi-e? · (b) -et = your (casual)
- 6: Esmam Sâm-e. · Man Sâm hastam.

PHRASES YOU OWN NOW

esmam ...-e

esm-e shomâ chi-e?

man ... hastam

khoshbakhtam

...jân

che khub!

NEXT — LESSON 6: WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

The nationality machine (Irân → irâni), the hero sentence **ye kam fârsi baladam** — and the video call from Tehran you were promised in Lesson 1. Mâmân Pari is waiting.