



Western Armenian Essentials I

Learning a whole language can be daunting. But you'd be surprised how many situations you can handle with just 48 common words and phrases. Although you may be inspired to learn more, if all you know are these, you should be able to navigate your way through many common situations in Armenian Church, community and family settings.

a as in father **e** as in bet **i** as in Tina **o** as in old **u** as in tuna **ê** as in alone **ay** as in Maya
g as in go **j** as in jet **kh** as in Khachig **gh** as in Boghos **zh** as in Zhivago **dz** as in loads **ts** as in lots

1	այո	ayo	yes
2	ոչ	voch	no
3	կը ներեք	g-nerek	Excuse me (I'm sorry).
4	հրամմեցեք	hram-me-tsek	Come in, join us.
5	խնդրեմ	khn-trem	Please.
6	չ'արժեր	charzher	You're welcome. (response to thank you)
7	շնորհակալ եմ	shnor-hagal em	Thanks.
8	բարեւ	parev	Hello.
9	ինչպէ՞ս ես	inchbes es	How are you?
10	լաւ եմ	lav em	I'm fine.
11	իսկ դուն ինչպէ՞ս ես	isk tun inchbes es	And how are you?
12	ես ալ լաւ եմ	yes al lav em	I'm fine too.
13	լաւ չեմ	lav chem	I'm not well.
14	ի՞նչ կայ չկայ	inch ga chga	What's new? (what's up?)
15	ամէն ինչ լաւ է	amen inch lav e	Everything's fine.
16	անունդ ի՞նչ է	anu-nêch inch e	What's your name?
17	անունս Արամ է	anu-nêch Aram e	My name is Aram.
18	իսկ քու անունդ ի՞նչ է	isk ku anu-nêch inch e	And what's your name?
19	իմ անունս Անուշ է	im anu-nêch Anush e	My name is Anush.
20	ուրախ եմ	urakh em	Pleased (to meet you).
21	նմանապէս	nma-nabes	Likewise.
22	ուրկէ՞ս ես	ur-ge es	Where are you from?
23	_____էն եմ	_____en em	I'm from _____
24	ն՞որ կը բնակիս	ur g-pna-gis	Where do you live?
25	Ամերիկա կը բնակիմ	Ameriga g-pnagim	I live in America.
26	սուրճ կ'ուզե՞ս	surj guzes	Would you like some coffee?
27	այո, կաթ ու շաքարով, հաճիս	ayo gat u shakarov hajis	Yes, with milk and sugar, please.
28	ոչ, շնորհակալ եմ	voch shnor-hagal em	No, thanks.
29	ջուր, հաճիս	chur hajis	Water, please.
30	հիւթ, հաճիս	hyut hajis	Juice, please.
31	շատ քիչ, հաճիս	shad kich hajis	Very little, please.

32	քիչ ւրն ալ, հաճիս	kich mn-al hajis	A little more, please.
33	հաց ու պանիր կ'ուզե՞ս	hats u banir guzes	Do you want some bread and cheese?
34	շատ համով է	shad hamov e	It's very tasty.
35	արդէն ուշ է	arten ush e	It's late.
36	ցտեսութիւն	ts-desutyun	Good bye.
37	բարի լոյս	pari luys	Good morning.
38	գիշեր բարի	kisher pari	Good night.
39	լոյս բարի	luys pari	Good light (response to kisher pari)
40	բարի գալուստ	pari kalust	Welcome
41	շնորհաւոր նոր տարի եւ Սուրբ Ծնունդ	shorhavor nor dari yev surp dznunt	Happy New Year and Merry Christmas!
42	ցաւակցութիւններս	tsa-vak-tsu-tyun-ne-rs	My condolences.
43	Աստուած հոգին լուսաւորէ	Ast-vadz hokin lusavore	May God illuminate his/her soul. (condolences)
44	կենացդ	genats-t	To your health/Cheers!
45	տարուսը քեզի	darosê kezi	May you be next (said at weddings to singles)
46	ձեռքերդ դալար	tserker-t talar	Good handiwork!
47	վարձքդ կատար	vartsk-t gadar	Well done! Congratulations!
48	յաջողութիւն	ha-cho-ghu-tyun	Good luck (success)!

Want to Know More? Get to the Root of It

The Armenian Language is distantly related to English, for this reason, you may **recognize** certain words (or parts of words). These related words are called **cognates**. Cognates usually have similar consonants, or the consonants exhibit a regular correspondence, e.g., **h**ayr **f**ather **p**ater, **h**ats **f**ood **p**asture. Armenian often loses letters, as in **l**i **full** **p**lenty, **yere**k **thre**e, and sometimes sounds change quite dramatically and uniquely, as in **dznunt kin** generation, **dzan**ot **kn**ow **progn**osis, **medz mega**, or **kaghtsr** **s**weet, **kuyr** **s**ister **so**rority. Recognizing cognates can accelerate your mastery of Armenian or any foreign language. Try to think of Armenian as an extension of the English you already know.

Cognate Key: The phrases above consist of roughly 80 distinct words, more than half of which are cognates. Here are a few cognates to get you started:

<i>shakar</i> – sugar	<i>ku</i> – thy – tuo (tuo => kuo)	<i>dznunt</i> – birth – kin, generate
<i>anun</i> – name, noun	<i>es, unis</i> – you are, have, Sp. estas	<i>hats</i> – bread, food – pasture
<i>tun</i> – thou	<i>e – is</i> – Fr. est	<i>pnagil</i> – reside – bungalow
<i>yegeghetsi</i> – church, ecclesiastical	<i>luys</i> – light, luster	<i>-s</i> – this, my
<i>es</i> – ego – I	<i>gat</i> – milk– galactic, Milky Way	<i>-t</i> – that, your
<i>em</i> – am, <i>im</i> – my	<i>nor</i> – new	<i>al</i> – also, else
<i>utyun</i> – tion	<i>tserk</i> – hand, as in chiropractor	<i>kisher</i> – night – vespers
<i>genats-t</i> – life – quick – vivacious	<i>kalust</i> – come, invade, wade	<i>hoki</i> – spirit – heave (sigh)
<i>des</i> – see – dragon (large eyes, <i>r</i> drops and <i>g>s</i>)	<i>shnorhagal</i> – thankful, <i>shnorh</i> = grace, Sp. gracias	<i>Astvadz</i> – God (as in hasdad, fasten, establish)

Non-cognates - 20 words to memorize: *ayo, voch, lav, kich, shad, pari, parev, inchbes, ga, nerek, hrammetsek, urakh, nmanabes, surj, hyut, tsav, surp, arten, ham, banir*