

Absolute beginner #4 - Swedish greetings

ABE

LESSON CONTENT

The phrase

has become somewhat like a catch-phrase throughout the years. It means

hello everybody

, consisting of the greeting

– which should be familiar to you by now – and the word

. We talked about

in our very first lesson. It can be used with anyone, no matter if it's your friend answering the door in his underwears, a store clerk, your daughter, your boss, or the king of Sweden. It is equivalent to the English

hello

and NOT, as you would perhaps expect, the more casual

hey

. If we want to be more laid-back, you can use the word

. It's not always seen as colloquial though, since its standard use is not as a greeting but calling out for attention.

As with other languages, there are also Swedish greetings used during different times of day.

God morgon

means

good morning

and is unfortunately pronounced somewhat like "good moron". I know, you're probably chuckling right now.

I can almost smell it. Another simple one is

which means – I think you can guess it –

good night

.

If we want to part ways during the day, and not only when going to bed, we usually just say

. It is possible to use

when bidding someone farewell, this does however not work both ways.