



5 GO-TO WELSH PHRASES

1. SHWMAE!

English translation: Hello!

Su'mae is the very first greeting many Welsh beginners learn. An abbreviation of **sut** (how) + **mae** (is), it literally translates as “How are (things)”?

Most speakers pronounce it as **s'mae** and it can be written this way as well.

Note that it isn't at all uncommon to hear the familiar greetings **Helo!** and **Hiya!** instead of **Su'mae**.

2. SUT WYT TI? (Informal) SUT DACH CHI (formal)

English translation: How are you?

Once you've learned **Shwmae**, you can follow up with the phrase **Sut wyt ti?** which means “How are you”?

Whereas **Sut dach chi?** is reserved for people to whom you wish to show respect (your elders, shopkeepers, people you don't know well, etc.),

The informal **Sut wyt ti?** can be used with friends, family, children and people of the same age.

3. DA IAWN!

English translation: Very good! / Well done!

Da means good and **iawn** means very (in this specific context) so by putting the two together, you are literally saying Very good! You can use it to congratulate someone or show approval.

- **Dw i wedi gorffen y gwaith! – Da iawn!** = I've finished the work! – Well done!

iawn! on its own can be translated as Okay! / Fine! / Great!

- **Sut wyt ti? – iawn!** = How are you? – Fine!
- **Dw i'n mynd allan. – iawn.** = I'm going out. – Ok.

4. DIOLCH YN FAWR IAWN!

English translation: Thank you very much!

The word for thank you in Welsh is **diolch**. Followed by **yn fawr iawn** (very big) you get the expression **Diolch yn fawr iawn!** which translates literally as “A big thanks”!

- **Dyma anrheg i chi. – Diolch yn fawr iawn!** = Here is a present for you. – Thank you very much!

5. CROESO!

English translation: You're welcome!

Croeso! means both “You're welcome”! (the response to thank you) and simply “Welcome”! (the polite and friendly greeting).

- **Diolch am ddod heddiw. – Croeso!** = Thanks for coming today. = You're welcome!
- **Croeso, dewch i mewn!** = Welcome, come on in!

We hope you enjoyed this mini lesson, and we hope you will give it a go!

You can find more Welsh language resources on the [Shwmae Day official website](#).