



Pierogi Times

Nr 1
Maj 2026

Your weekly dose of Polish language and culture.

Language Bite

Why is Polish coffee so small?

About *kawka* in Polish.

If a Polish person asks: *Chcesz kawkę?*, don't expect a tiny cup. The word *kawka* literally means "little coffee", but emotionally it means much more. In Poland, adding *-ka* makes words softer, warmer and friendlier. A *kawka* is not only a drink — it is an invitation to slow down, sit together and talk.

You may hear:

- kawa** — normal coffee,
- kawka** — cozy coffee,
- kawusia** — maximum affection level.

Polish people use diminutives everywhere: *herbatka*, *kanapeczka*, *chwileczka*. Sometimes nothing is actually smaller. It just sounds nicer. So when somebody says: "**Chodź na kawkę**" they usually mean: "Come spend time with me".

Polish word we love

Kombinować

A deeply Polish concept. It means: figuring things out, solving problems creatively, improvising, finding unofficial solutions, surviving bureaucracy. Sometimes genius. Sometimes chaos. Usually both.

czas teraźniejszy

ja kombinuję	my kombinujemy
ty kombinujesz	wy kombinujecie
on/ona/ono kombinuje	oni/one kombinują

- I co my teraz zrobimy?
- Nie wiem! Na pewno coś **wykombinujemy!**



False Friends

Aktualnie

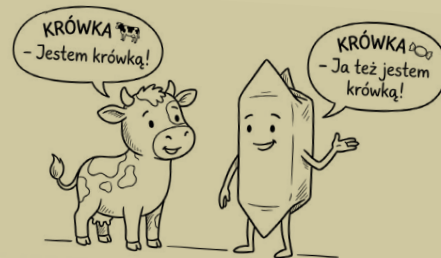
przysłówek

✗ actually

✓ currently

Polskie zwyczaje

In Poland, coffee is rarely lonely. A *kawka* is often served with something sweet: *Delicje*, *Ptasie Mleczko*, home-made *ciasto* or caramel fudge *krówki*. Sometimes the dessert is small, but refusing a second piece may still offend somebody's grandma! ;-)



Polish song of the week!



[Song - link](#)

Say it!

Try and don't cry ;)

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