

Free options in Joensuu and online

1. International House Joensuu's nonstop courses 12.1.2026-11.3.2026

Aimed at three different language levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced. Every group meets up once a week for 8 weeks at a time.

For more information: <https://internationaljoensuu.fi/>

Registration starts 29.12.2025 at 9.00

2. Sumppi

Welcome to the language café!

Do you want to practice the Finnish language in a relaxed atmosphere, meet new people, and get to know Finnish culture? At *Sumppi*, language learning, community, and everyday encounters come together. You can participate on-site or online – wherever you are!

Language cafés are organized in different parts of North Karelia – check out the events and join us!

See the events here: <https://sumppi.net/>

3. Language cafe at the Main Library

Every Tuesday at 17:30. Last meeting this year is on 16.12.2025

Address: Koskikatu 25, 2nd floor

4. Lähiötalo – for kids and moms

Lähiötalo is a meeting place with guided meetups, clubs, and small groups organized to help you in your integration journey.

For more information: <https://joensuu.viadia.fi/lahiotalo/>

5. Savonia University of Applied Sciences' language courses

Savonia organizes free language courses for students and specialists of various fields and for different language proficiency levels. NOTE: the courses are Open University of Applied Sciences courses, therefore unemployed job seekers must check with their Employment Services counselor if they can take the course.

For more information: <https://ella.eduplan.fi/savonia/online-language-cafe/666846d1ee37eef1f2e6b093>

6. Villa Victor's nonstop language courses

Multicultural centre Villa Victor in Oulu organizes nonstop Finnish language courses for different language levels that you can participate in through Teams.

For more information: <https://ouka.fi/villa-victor/suomen-kielen-opetus>

Paid courses in Joensuu and online

1. Courses at the adult education center of the Joensuu area

The adult education center of the Joensuu area offers paid Finnish language courses.

For more information: <https://uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/joensuu/fi/>

2. Karelia's Open UAS courses

Karelia offers paid Finnish language courses. The best time to search for the best course for you is right before the start of a new semester. If you are a student at Karelia, please inquire first if you can participate in the course free of charge.

For more information: <https://www.karelia.fi/en/finnish-language-courses/>

3. UEF's Open University courses

UEF organizes different Finnish language courses for immigrants. If your language skills are sufficient, you can consider taking non-language courses, thus developing your language skills through academic studies. If you are a student at UEF, you can first inquire if you can complete language courses for free.

For more information: <https://www.uef.fi/en/open-university>

4. North Ostrobothnia Summer University

Summer University of North Ostrobothnia offers Finnish language courses all year round.

For more information: <https://www.ppkyo.fi/en/>

For self-study

1. Kielibuusti

Explore language learning tips and materials and make learning and using Finnish part of your everyday life.

Learning materials and courses: <https://www.kielibuusti.fi/en/learn-finnish/learning-materials-and-courses>

All self-study opportunities and materials have been collected on the site, and you can filter them according to your own needs/wishes.

Get acquainted with this page as well: <https://www.kielibuusti.fi/en/learn-finnish/language-learning-tips>

2. Kirjasto.one

At Kirjasto.one's pages you can find a lot for materials and tips for self-study of the Finnish language.

For more information: <https://kirjasto.one/opisuomea/>

3. Find the right courses at Finnishcourses.fi page yourself

At finnishcourses.fi you can find all Finnish language courses organized live in different cities (Helsinki, Vantaa, Espoo, Oulu, Kauniainen, Turku, and Tampere) and online. There are both paid and free courses.

For more information: <https://finnishcourses.fi/>

For full-time students

1. Courses at CampusOnline

CampusOnline offers a selection of course studies from different UAS. You can complete these courses and add them to your transcript or do it for your own benefit in your free time. There are courses available for different language levels. You can enroll for the courses through the Cross-Study Service (RIPA).

You can check out which courses are available at the moment in your Peppi/Pakki.

2. ISYY's language cafe

UEF's Student Union offers an opportunity for university students to participate in a language café. You need to ask for more information at ISYY.

For more information: <https://www.isyy.fi/en/recreation/language-cafes-2.html>