

INTRODUCTORY RUSSIAN SECTION 1

I. STARTING A CONVERSATION IN RUSSIAN:

1.1. GREETING PEOPLE

Russians greet each other saying: **Здра́вствуйте**¹ [здра́ствуйте]or **Здра́вствуй**. The first form can be used to greet several people or one person who is older than you or has a socially higher status. For instance, you have to use this form when you greet your professor or your boss, your friend's mother. It is a formal greeting. When used to greet one person the form **здра́вствуйте** shows respect to this person in formal situations. You might want to address a stranger on the street or in other public places using the polite form of greeting **Здра́вствуйте**. The form **Здра́вствуй** is used to extend a greeting to a child, a close friend or members of your family. It is an informal greeting used in casual situations.

When you address one person in Russian, you use a pronoun “**ты**” (“you” in the singular) : “**Ты знаёшь?**” (Do you know?)

When you address more than one person in Russian, you use the pronoun “**вы**” (“you” in the plural): “**Вы знаёте?**” (Do you know?)

Pay attention to the change of the endings of the verb depending on what kinds of the pronouns are used: the singular or the plural.

The form “**Вы знаёте?**” may also be used when you address one person. In this case the phrase will express polite and respectful attitude to the person. The “**вы**” forms are used to address a person who is older or has a higher position.

“**Здра́вствуй!**” and “**Здра́вствуйте!**” are greetings that are, by nature, a verb in the imperative meaning something close to “(You) be healthy!”. You can see it easily in the endings. The same rule applies to these two verb forms. If you greet a close friend, you will say “**Здра́вствуй!**” If you greet your professor, the best form to use will be “**Здра́вствуйте!**” Russians differentiate between formal and informal styles.

Another informal and even more casual greeting is “**Приве́т!**” (Hi! Howdy.)

Depending on the time of the day one may greet another person(s) saying:

Добры́й день! (Good afternoon!)

Добро́е утро! (Good morning!)

Добры́й вече́р! (Good evening!)

1.2 SAYING GOOD-BYE

To say “Good- bye” the Russians use “**До свидания́**” or “**Пока́**”. The latter is less formal and can be used in informal situations. Informal “good-bye” **Пока́!** usually implies that you expect to see the person again soon.

When we go to bed or someone is leaving to go to bed we usually say: **Спокойной но́чи!**

¹ Make sure that you don't pronounce the letter «В» in this word

1.3. REQUESTING, GIVING AND RECEIVING THINGS

“**Пожа́луйста**” which is often pronounced as [**пожа́лста**] may be used in three situations:

1. In the situations that require “please”, as in “Will you please? Could you please?” in English.
2. In the situations that require “You are welcome” in English, as in “Thank you for being here with us today.” – “You are welcome” “It’s my pleasure”
3. In the situations that require "Here you are".

Use the word **Спаси́бо** (Thank you) when receiving an item or favor.

Exercise 1.1. How would you greet the following people:

1. your professor
2. your classmates
3. your roommate
4. your mother
5. the maid in a hotel
6. a cab-driver
7. your seven year old neighbor
8. your grandparents
9. a person you ask about directions in the street
10. your elder brother

Exercise 1.2. How would you greet your friends at the times of the day indicated below:

1:00 PM	6:00 PM	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	11:00 PM
10:00 AM	8:00 AM	11:00 AM	7:00 PM	5:00 AM

Exercise 1.3. Working in pairs, take parts of a salesperson and a customer. Practice buying the following items: **ко́фе** (coffee), **вино́** (wine), **пи́во** (beer), **торт** (cake), **пирожо́к**(small filled pastry), **сок** (juice), **сала́т** (salad), **суп** (soup)

- Model:**
- A – Здра́вствуйте! Мо́жно чай, пожа́луйста?** (May I have tea, please?)
- B – Пожа́луйста.** (Here you are)
- A - Спаси́бо**
- B - Пожа́луйста.** (You are welcome)

II. RUSSIAN ALPHABET.

2.1. General Information and History.

Russian has had the reputation of being a difficult language to learn, and it is indeed somewhat more difficult for a native English speaker than French, Spanish, or German. Nevertheless, as an Indo-European language, it does not differ all that radically from English as you will see after you are able to read and understand Russian words. In order to be able to read in Russian you have to learn the Russian alphabet.

The Russian Alphabet is called **Cyrillic** after one of the two brothers, monks, **St. Cyril** (another name he is known under is Constantine the Philosopher) and St. Methodius, missionaries to the Slavs from Byzantium. 1,000 years ago they created the alphabet for the use by Slavic

peoples. They used the Greek alphabet and added some letters that represented the sounds which were not used in Greek. In fact, their alphabet looked absolutely different from the alphabet we are using now. and it was called Glagolitic. The first alphabet used in Russia was the Old Church Slavonic and it used Cyrillic letters. It was used until the early eighteenth century in Russia. The Cyrillic alphabet achieved its current form in 1708 during the reign of Peter the Great. Four letters were eliminated from the alphabet in a 1917/18 reform. At present, basic Cyrillic alphabet is used by several languages. Each language also has some letters which are specific to that particular language. Cyrillic alphabet is used by the following Slavic nations: Russians, Byelorussians, Ukrainians, Bulgarians and Serbians and others. Many languages that are spoken by non-Slavic peoples, who live close to the Russians, also use Cyrillic alphabet, e.g. Mongols.

Of course, the Russian alphabet is different and apprehension about it is, in fact, one of the most frequently given reasons for not studying Russian. This is unfortunate because the Russian alphabet is not at all difficult to learn. Russian alphabet is phonetic, or nearly phonetic. This means that every **SOUND** in the Russian language has a corresponding **LETTER** in the alphabet. In most of the languages the writing is phonetic, the exception is English with its “unexplainable” spelling.

There are 33 letters in the Russian (Cyrillic) alphabet. They are the graphic representations of the sounds we articulate. Some of the letters represent sounds similar to those of English. Although there are often close similarities, exact sound equivalences are very rare. The following table demonstrates the approximate pronunciation of the sounds represented by the letters of the Russian alphabet.

2.2. Transliteration and Transcription

Imagine that you would like to write an English word using Russian letters, you might need to know the transliteration system to do it. **Transliteration is the system of representing or spelling the text written in one alphabet using the corresponding letters of another.** There are a number of different transliteration systems from Cyrillic into Latin and vice versa. Nevertheless, there is no international agreement among experts on a single unified system of converting Cyrillic into Latin letters. That's why modern transliteration tables differ a bit. Look at columns 1 and 3 of your alphabet (previous page) and you will see one of the Cyrillic > Latin transliteration tables. Please remember that transliteration is appropriate for written communication and isn't a reliable guide to proper pronunciation.

We have already mentioned that Russian is almost phonetically perfect; which means that the letters are pronounced as they are written, except in a very few instances. For these words and phrases where there is no one to one correspondence between a sound and graphic image we resort to transcription. **Transcription is the process of matching the sounds of human speech to special written symbols using a set of exact rules, so that these sounds can be reproduced later.** Where it is necessary the pronunciation is given in normal Russian letters between square brackets [], e.g. атом [áтам] - the letter “O” in the word “atom” is pronounced as “A”.

2.3. Consonants vs. Vowels

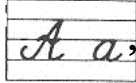
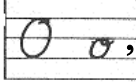
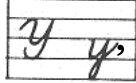
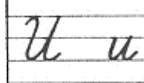
On the basis of the articulation mechanism, the sounds and, consequently, the letters are divided into vowels and consonants. **Vowels** are open sounds: when articulating them, we do not form an obstruction in the mouth cavity to the air stream from our lungs. When articulating **consonants**, we form a obstruction to the outgoing air steam. This obstruction is then removed completely or partially to let the air stream out.

Letter	Approximate sound	Transliteration	Letter	Approximate sound	Transliteration
1. А а	a as in father	a	18. Р р	r as in error	r
2. Б б	b as in but	b	19. С с	s as in smile	s
3. В в	v as in van	v	20. Т т	t as in ten	t
4. Г г	g as in get	g	21. У у	u as in cool	u
5. Д д	d as in dress	d	22. Ф ф	f as in farm	f
6. Е е	ye as in yesterday	e, ye	23. Х х	h as in loch	kh
7. Ё ё	yo as in yonder	yo	24. Ц ц	ts as in its	ts
8. Ж ж	zh as in measure	zh	25. Ч ч	ch as in chess	ch
9. З з	z as in zoo	z	26. Ш ш	sh as in fish	sh
10. И и	ee as in meet	i	27. Щ щ	shsh as in fresh chicken	shch
11. Й	y as in toy	y	28. Ъ	the “hard sign”, has no sound of its own, used to separate a consonant from a following sound, effect is just a brief pause which is transliterated as “	
12. К к	k as in class	k			
13. Л л	l as in love	l	29. Ы	I as in bill (with the tongue tip a little bit further back)	i/y
14. М м	m as mother	m	30. Ь	the “soft sign”, makes the preceding consonant soft like the first n in “onion” which is transliterated as ‘	
15. Н н	n as in name	n	31. Э э	e as in bet	e
16. О о	o as in bottle	o	32. Ю ю	yu as in Yugoslavia	yu
17. П п	p as in paper	p	33. Я я	ya as in yard	ya

2.4. LETTERS AND SOUNDS.

In this section you will learn the following Russian letters and sounds: Russian vowels: **А**, **О**, **У**, **И** and Russian consonants: **М**, **Н**, **Л**, **Г**, **З**, **Б**, **Д**, **Р**, **К**, **С**, **П**, **Т**

2.4.1. Vowels

Russian Vowels: **А**  **О**  **У**  **И** 

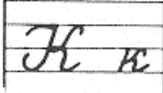
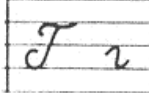
When articulating the accented vowel **А**, the tip of the tongue is placed on the back of the lower teeth. The back of the tongue is slightly raised. Its front part is lowered and creates a small saddle.



When articulating the accented vowels **У** and **О**, the tongue is pulled far back. The back part of the tongue is highly arched towards the rear portion of the root of the mouth, i.e. the hard palate (the arch for **У** is slightly higher than that for **О**). The tip of the tongue is lowered but it does not touch the lower teeth. Lips are considerably protruded and rounded (but not strained!) especially when pronouncing **У**. The tongue and lower jaw are tensed and motionless!

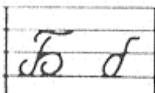
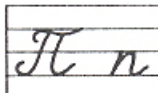
When articulating the vowel **И**, the whole tongue together with its root, is moved far forward – the blade is brought near the upper teeth. The front and the middle parts of the tongue are raised highly towards the hard palate while the tip of the tongue and its back part are sharply lowered down (the lowered tip of the tongue should be slightly placed against the lower teeth.) Lips are spread in a big smile!

2.4.2. Russian Consonants

Consonants «К»  and «Г» 

When articulating consonants **К** and **Г**, the whole tongue is pulled back and its back portion is arched towards the soft palate (the rear portion of the root of the mouth) creating the occlusion. Lips are open. Remember that the outgoing air stream for Russian **К** is weaker than for the corresponding English **К**, i.e. avoid aspiration!

ка–га ко–го ку–гу ки–ги
уку уку–ку ку укук ук гу угу–гу гу гу–гу
око око–ко ко окок ок го ого–го го го–го
ака ака–ка ка акак ак га ага–га га га–га

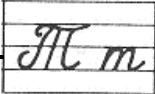
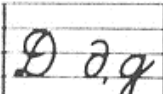
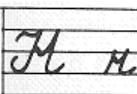
Consonants «Б»  and «П» 

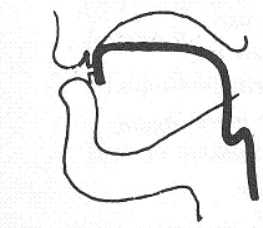
When articulating consonants **Б** and **П**, lips are closed up creating an obstacle on the way of the outgoing air stream and then are abruptly open. **Attention!** At the beginning of words, the Russian sound **П** does not have that relatively strong aspiration, which the corresponding English

P has. When articulating the Russian **П**, remember to keep the outgoing air stream weaker than when articulating the English **P**.

апа апа-па па апап ап пап
 опо опо-по по опоп оп поп
 упу упу-пу пу упуп уп пуп
 ипи ипи-пи пи ипип ип пип

аба аба-ба ба аба-ба
 обо обо-бо бо аба-ба
 убу убу-бу бу убу-бу
 иби иби-би би иби-би

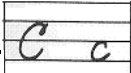
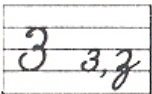
Consonants «Т», , **«Д»**  **and «Н»** 



When articulating consonants **Т**, **Д**, as well as **Н**, the tip of the tongue should be kept against the lower teeth. The articulation is also possible when the tip of the tongue is raised towards the upper teeth – but not towards the alveolar ridge! The blade of the tongue (the part just behind the tip) is firmly placed against the back of the upper teeth and alveoli. The middle and the back portions of the tongue must remain low. Remember that there is no aspiration.

ада ада-да да да-да
 одо одо-до до до-до
 уду уду-ду ду ду-ду
 иди иди-ди ди ди-ди
 ана ана-на на анан ан
 ани ини-ни ни инин ин

ата ата-та та атат ат
 ити ити-ти ти итит ит
 уту уту-ту ту утут ут
 ото ото-то то отот от
 уну уну-ну ну унун ун
 оно оно-но но онон он

Consonants «С»  **and «З»** 



The consonants **С** and **З** are similar to the Russian **Т** and **Д**. The tip of the tongue is placed against the lower teeth. The back part of the tongue is raised and convex slightly. Its front part is a little bit lower than the back part. Remember that the whole tongue must remain low.

аса аса-са са асас ас
 осо осо-со со осос ос
 усу усу-су су усус су
 иси иси-си си исис си

аза аза-за за аза
 озо озо-зо зо озо
 узу узу-зу зу узу
 изи изи-зи зи изи

Consonant «Л» 

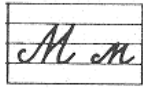
When articulating **Л**, press the front part of the tongue together with its tip very firmly against the back of the upper teeth. At the same time raise the back part of the tongue towards the

soft palate. The middle portion of the tongue is concave and forms a saddle. The whole tongue is strained!

лу улу лу лул ул
ло оло ло лол ол

ла ала ла лал ал
ли или ли лил ил

Consonant «М»

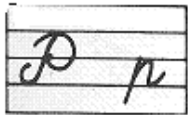


When articulating the sound **М**, lips are closed up (as when articulating the sound **Б**) creating an obstacle that is abruptly blown up. The outgoing air stream is directed into the nasal cavity. Lips are less tensioned than when articulating **Б**.

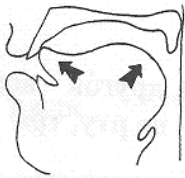
ама ма амам ам мам
оמו мо омом ом мом

уму му умум ум мум
ими ми имим им мим

Consonant «Р»



Consonant **Р** looks familiar but is pronounced and, consequently, sounds different. There is no similar sound in the English language.



When articulating the consonant “**р**”, the tensed tip of the tongue is slightly raised and aimed directly at the alveolar ridge right behind the upper teeth (but not turned towards the hard palate!). The outgoing air stream is directed to the tip of the tongue and makes it vibrate. The back part of the tongue is pulled back and slightly raised. The middle part forms a saddle.

ра дра тра адра атра ра ар
ро дро тро одро отро ро ор

ру дру тру удру утру ру ур
ри дри три идри итри ри ир

2.5. Voiced and Voiceless Consonants in Russian

There are voiced and unvoiced consonants in the Russian language. **Voiced** consonants are those in whose articulation the vocal cords vibrate. Correspondingly, **unvoiced** consonants are those in whose articulation the vocal cords do not vibrate. The articulation of the sounds **К** and **Г**, **З** and **С**, **Б** and **П**, **Д** and **Т** is the same with the only difference that in pronouncing the sounds **К**, **С**, **Т** and **П** we do not engage our vocal cords.

Consonants **М**, **Н**, **Л**, **Р** are always voiced. They don't have voiceless counterparts.

Remember these pairs of voiced/unvoiced consonants!

voiced	Б	Г	Д	З	М	Н	Л	Р
unvoiced	П	К	Т	С				

In English there are also voiced and unvoiced consonants, actually, the same pairs as in the Russian language. Nevertheless, there is no need to draw special attention to this distinction for the native speakers of English, unless they study English phonetics and want to know all the

details about the sound system of their language, since in English, voiced consonants are always pronounced as voiced and unvoiced consonants are always pronounced as unvoiced. In the Russian language, however, the situation is different. There are pronunciation rules that involve the voiced/unvoiced consonants. Knowing and applying these rules in speech helps students to avoid unnecessary foreign accent.

2.6. Pronunciation Rules and Consonant Assimilation in Russian:

2.6.1. Devoicing of Voiced Consonants at the End of a Word, Phrase or a Sentence

RULE I: Voiced consonants Б, Г, Д, З are pronounced as their voiceless counterparts at the absolute end of a word, phrase or a sentence:

сад [са^т] (a garden); глаз [гла^с] (an eye); лоб [ло^п] (a forehead);
луг [лу^к] (a meadow)

2.6.2. Consonant Assimilation in Russian

When, in a word or at the juncture of words in a sentence, there is a combination of voiced and unvoiced consonants, the first consonant in this combination will be assimilated to the second one, i.e. if the first consonant in the combination is voiced and the second is unvoiced, the first will be devoiced to be similar to the second and if the first one in the combination is unvoiced and the second is voiced, the first one will become voiced to be similar to the second. This phonetic process is called **ASSIMILATION**. **Assimilation** can be defined as the process through which a sound becomes similar to a nearby sound in a certain way. Consonant assimilation in the Russian language is called **regressive assimilation** because it is always the second consonant that determines the quality of the first.

RULE II: A) Voiced consonants Б, Г, Д, З are pronounced as their voiceless counterparts П, К, Т, С before any voiceless consonant etc. in a word or at the juncture of two words in a sentence:

in a word: лодка [лотка] (a boat); мозг [моск] (brain); визг [виск] (scream)

at the juncture of words:

под столом [пот столом] (under the table)
(noun preceded by a preposition)

друг сказал [друк сказал] (a friend said)
(the phrase in which the last word ends in an voiced consonant and the second word begins with an unvoiced consonant)

RULE II: B) Voiceless consonants П, К, Т, С are pronounced as their voiced counterparts Б, Г, Д, З before any voiced consonant etc. in a word or a at the juncture of two words in a sentence:

in a word: сдал [здал] (passed an exam; turned in a paper)

at the juncture of words:

с домом [з домом] (with a house)
(noun preceded by a preposition)

к дому [г дому] (to the house) (noun preceded by a preposition)

¹ A letter, letters or words in brackets denote their transcription (pronunciation) which does not necessarily coincides with the their spelling.

There are some consonants in Russian that do not participate in the process of regressive assimilation. These are voiced consonants **М, Н, Л, Р**. They never cause assimilation of the preceding consonant sound:

С нами, **т**руд, **г**луп

2.7. Syllabification.

Words can be cut up into units called **syllables**. Humans seem to need syllables as a way of segmenting the stream of speech and giving it a rhythm of strong and weak beats, as we hear in music. Syllables don't serve any meaning-signaling function in language; they exist only to make speech easier for the brain to process. A word contains at least one syllable. A **syllable** is a word or part of a word that can be pronounced with one impulse from the voice. A syllable always contains a vowel sound, and most syllables have consonants associated with the vowel. Syllables are more 'natural' units to analyze the spoken word than the individual speech sounds. One can segment words into syllables more easily than into sounds, and syllables are more easily combined into words than sounds can be blended into words.

In Russian, there are as many syllables in a word as there are vowels. There are a few rules of syllabification in Russian. It is very important to know them if you want to learn to read Russian.

1. A single consonant forms a syllable with the vowel that follows it:

Ру-да́, да́-та, ба́-ба, ма́-ма, Ко-ло-ра́-до, ка-ка-ду́, ку-да́

2. Generally, in a consonant cluster, the last consonant forms a syllable with the vowel that follows:

По́л-ка, каз-на́, мус-та́нг, ка-пу́с-та, по́м-па, па-ра-до́кс, па́п-ри-ка.

3. A syllable may consist of a vowel alone usually if a word starts with a vowel or if there are several vowels in the middle of the word:

Ин-ди-а́-на, а-та-ма́н, у-ку́с, у-ро́к, и-ри́с, и́-ли, ли-а́-на, о́-пус

о́-ко-ло

2.8. Word Stress

Some syllables in words or sentences are stressed with more force from the voice than others. Those stressed syllables are called **accented (stressed) syllables**. Each Russian word has only one stressed syllable no matter how many syllables it contains. A student should aim at acquiring and fostering the habit of putting the proper stress on the accented syllable without giving any prominence to any other syllable in the word; he must not create two stress centers. A wrongly accented vowel will upset the pronunciation of the whole word.

сто́л – a table (1 syllable); **маши́на** – a car (3 syllables);
достопримеча́тельность – point of interest (7 syllables)

Remember that by putting the accent on the wrong syllable you may often alter the meaning of the word, as in the following words:

ДО́ма (at home) - **ДОМА́** (houses)

ЗА́мок (a castle) – **ЗАМО́к** (a lock)

МУКА́ (flour) - **МУ́ка** (torment)

The accented syllable requires a higher pitch of the voice. The vowel in a stressed syllable is slightly longer and more distinct than in unstressed syllable.

Акт-ри́-ца (an actress); **па́-го-да**(a pagoda); **ко́м-на-та,** (a room), **бук-ва-ри́** (ABC books).

As the accent is frequently shifted from one syllable to another in different forms of the same word or in the derivatives, students of Russian must form a habit of memorizing the place of the accent in the word.

карандаш (a pencil) – **карандаши́** (pencils)

пишу́ (I am writing) – **пишет** (he is writing)

Single vowels or syllables before the words are prepositions (**за, у, на,**). They are always unstressed and merge with the word that follows them forming an additional unstressed syllable:

на сто́л (on the table); **у стола́** (near the table); **за столóм** (at the table)

2.9.Vowels in An Unstressed Position. Vowel Reduction.

Russian vowels, when occurring in unaccented positions, change their quantitative and even qualitative characteristics. This process is called **reduction**, and unstressed vowels are called **reduced vowels**. There are two levels of reduction in the Russian language: minimal (first) and medium (second).

The first degree of reduction occurs in the first pre-tonic syllable (i.e. the first unstressed syllable before the stressed one) as well as at the absolute beginning or absolute end of a word. The second degree of reduction occurs in all the rest of the syllables.

For example, in the word “pencil” – **ка-ран-даш** the vowel **a** in the syllable **-ран-** has the first degree of reduction, while the vowel **a** in the syllable **ка-** has the second degree of reductions which is determined by its position in relation to the stressed syllable **-даш**.

Vowels **У, А** and **И** in unaccented positions go through minor qualitative changes; their unaccented variants are simply less tense, and a little bit shorter.

Vowel **О** in unaccented positions changes not only its quantitative but also qualitative characteristics.

For example, in the following words the vowel **О** is under the stress, consequently, there are no changes in its pronunciation: **приро́да** [приро́да] (nature); **мо́да** [мо́да] (fashion); **па́ром** [па́ром] (a ferry), while in the following group of words the unstressed vowel **О** in its pronunciation is closer to the vowel **А**: **гора́** [га́ра] (a mountain); **доска́** [даска́] (a board); **она́** [ана́] (she).

III. READING AND LISTENING EXERCISES.

Exercise 3.1. Recognizing identical and different pairs of words.

You will hear ten pairs of words. Write “+” if the sound identical and a “-“ if they sound different. Listen carefully to the word-initial consonants:

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

Key: 1. тут-тут 2. суд-зуд 3. тут-дут 4. рост-пост 5. сон-сон 6. сон-зон 7. ром-дом 8. сад-зад 9. сад-сад 10. стол-стул

Exercise 3.2. Listen to the following words and fill in the missing initial consonants in the words below:

1. _ ом 2. _ ок 3. _ ар 4. _ арк 5. _ от 6. _ анк 7. _ орт 8. _ ом 9. _ ол 10. _ ам

Key: 1. дом 2. ток 3. пар 4. парк 5. кот 6. банк 7. сорт 8. ком 9. гол 10. дам

Exercise 3.3. Read the following words and phrases:

1) ба́ба, бубо́н, бам, бана́н, бом-бом, бо́мба, бум

2) па́па, поп, по́мпа, пуп

3) атама́н, зато́н, бата́н, бутáн

4) там, тампо́н, тома́т, том, тон, тут, мот, нот, бату́т

5) зада́м, удо́д, у до́ма, удо́ду

6) дон, дом, до́мна, ду́ма, дуст

7) анана́с, нам, нос, ну,

8) ба́нда, бант, тумáн, он, сон,

9) ма́ма, ма́нна, манто́, манту́, мопс, мута́нт, ум

10) ма́сса, муссо́н, сам, са́уна, со́да, со́ус, суп, су́мма, сумá, суббо́та,

11) нас, пас, насос, ус, мусс

12) у зу́ба, зано́зу, му́за, зато́н, забу́ду, зано́за, зазно́ба, зонт, зо́на

13) му́ка, му́ка, какаду́, ку́ст, ку́ма, ку́да, кот, ком, ка́ста, ка́зус, ка́ктус,

14) камбус, капо́т, казна́, канон, капу́ста, бук, каток, казанок, так, как

15) гудо́к, губа́, гумно́, го́нка, газо́н

16) клоп, глуп, гло́бус, глас, лук, му́скул, ау́л, скала́, гу́лу, сту́лу, ду́мал, бу́лка,

17) по́лка, лоск, ла́да, лагу́на, гул, мул, кол, мол, стол, зол

18) уко́л, мал, бал, стал, уста́л, сказа́л, бил, мил, купи́л, на лбу́, лбом

- 19) дра, гра, сра, зра, три, дро, трон, драма, драп, дракон, бодр, баран, барабан,
 20) народ, радуга, работа, рот, роба, роза, розга, румба, руна, рута, рука, руда,
 21) базар, дар, бар, пар, удар, загар, гусар, бор, мор, позор, спор
 22) тур, бур, спорт

- 22) нитка, Лиза, им, иду, идут ил, мил, Ира, Ирина, писк, лик, писал, Рита,
 23) Маргарита, риза, бизон, диапазон, Нина, Марина, пила, пил, прибил, убил,
 24) забил, зима, сидр, сплин, иди, никак, никто, зимник, тина, кит,
 25) гимназист, гигант, гимн, гимнастика, гимнаст, гипс

Exercise 3.4: Read the following words devoicing the final voiced consonants. In the spaces provided write down the consonant that represent the correct final sound in these words:

запад[], боб[], зоб[], зуб[], бутуз[], туз[], сад[], пуд[],
 суд[], паз[], назад[], зонд[], зуд[], куб[], буг[], мустанг[], год[],
 газ[], клуб[], клад[], луг[], лаз[], лад[], друг[],
 труд[], парад[], народ[], рад[], раб[], род[], рог[], низ[],
 приз[], сноб[]

Exercise 3.5: Arrange the following words in pairs on the basis of their identical pronunciation:
 лук (onion), зонд (probe), трут (they are rubbing), глаз (an eye), рот (a mouth), сноб (snob), луг (a meadow), коз (Genitive case of “goats”), рок (fate), глас (voice), зонт (an umbrella), кос (Genitive case of “scythe”), род (tribe, family), рог (a horn), сноп (a sheave), труд (labor)

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1. | 2. | 3. |
| 4. | 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. | |

Exercise 3.6: Read the following words and phrases where there is regressive assimilation at the juncture of two consonants. In the space provided write down the letters that represent the correct pronunciation of the two consonants at the juncture:

губка[], гúзка[], лóдка[], скáзка[], сдал[], из пúпса[],
 к дубу[], к до́му[], к ба́нку[], к губа́м[], сдо́ба[], из кино́[]

Exercise 3.7: Listen to the following words and phrases and determine which vowel is stressed:

- 1) лирики, ритм, риторика, кури, дари, замри, ладони, молоко, золото, угол,
- 2) мускул, долго, думала, думал, мука, мука, канон, капуста, просто, казанок,
- 3) кактус, атаман, паприка, парадокс, Аризона, Канзас, мазанка, панама,
- 4) тамада, помазок, потому, погода, пагода, поднос, засада, зараза, согласно,
- 5) соната, собака, помада, зазноба, тогда, колокол, колокола, сутана, сауна, способ

Key: 1) 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 1, 1
2) 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 3
3) 1, 3, 1, 3, 3, 2, 1, 2,
4) 3, 3, 3, 2, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2
5) 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 4, 2, 1, 1

Exercise 3.8: Read the words reducing vowel “O” in the following words where necessary:

то́пот, то́мат, ма́монт, ма́нтó, мо́дно, зано́за, доно́с, нога́, но́ра, помазо́к,
посу́да, подго́н, гумно́, локото́к, зо́лото, мо́лодо, о́город, горо́да, мо́локо́, коза́,
ма́ло, боло́то, пого́да, апо́стол, о́кно, просто́, то́нко, до́ктор, го́лос, поро́да,
боро́да, го́лоса́, ко́локол, ко́локола

Exercise 3.9: Divide the following words into syllables:

Note: The underlined words are prepositions

ана́нас, арбу́з, са́уна, му́ссон, насос́, зазно́ба, согла́сно, ко́мната, ка́ктус,
к до́му, на сто́л, под сто́л, за уго́л, гимна́стика, гита́ра, киос́к, кни́га, глаго́л,
от горо́да, под со́усом, из о́кон, Да́ллас, грамма́тика, о́город

INTRODUCTORY RUSSIAN SECTION 2

I. STARTING A CONVERSATION IN RUSSIAN:

1.1.SPEECH PATTERNS

Speech pattern - distinctive manner of oral expression that pertains to a particular language. In other words, speech patterns are sentence models that are used in a particular language to generate sentences, units of speech. There are different communicative types of sentences: statements and questions. Statement may be affirmative and negative. Russian statements and questions differ only in the intonation patterns. There is no change in the word order. The verb “to be” (**am, is, are**) is not used in the Present Tense.

1.2. ASKING AND ANSWERING SIMPLE QUESTIONS ABOUT THINGS AND PEOPLE

Asking questions about things:

Что это? (what is this?) (special question)

Это дом. (This is a house.) (statement)

Это дом? (Is this a house?) (general question)

Да, это дом. (Yes, it is a house.) (positive response to the general question)

Нет, это не дом. Это стол. (No, it is not a house. It is a table) (negative response to the general question and correct response)

Asking questions about people:

Кто это? (who is this?) (special question)

Это журналистка. (This is a female journalist.) (statement)

Это журналистка? (Is this a female journalist?) (general question)

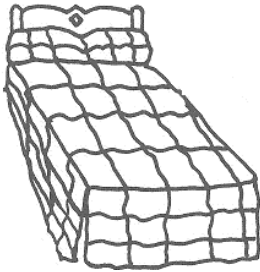
Да, это журналистка. (Yes, it is a female journalist.) (positive response to the general question)

Нет, это не журналистка. Это актриса. (No, it is not a female journalist. It is an actress) (negative response to the general question and correct response)

As you can see from the examples above there are two types of questions possible to ask about a person or a thing: **special and general questions**.

Special questions begin with question words and cannot be answered with “да” (yes) or “нет” (no). The two question words in the Russian language are **что** (pronounced as [што], “what”) and **кто** (“who”). The word **что** may be applied only to inanimate objects, while the word **кто** may be only applied to people and animals (animate objects). So if you ask the question about a person it will be: **Кто это? - Это мама (брат, физик, врач)**. The question about a thing will be: **Что это? – Это дом (карандаш, школа, сок, сахар)**

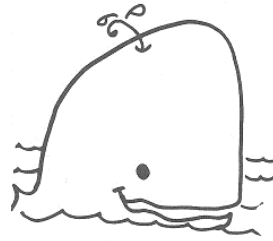
Exercise 1.1. Working in pairs ask and answer special and general questions about things and people in the pictures:



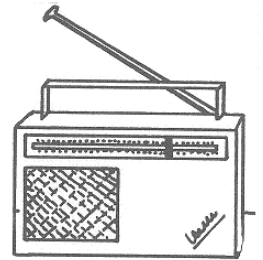
кровать



мальчик



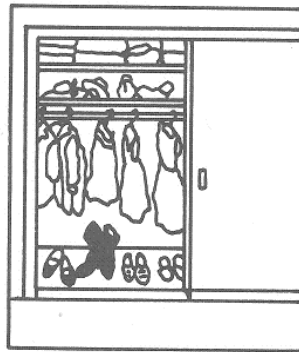
кит



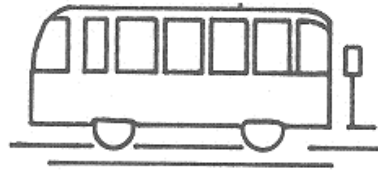
радио



кресло



шкаф



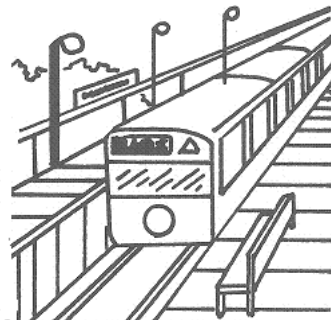
автобус



девочка



ребёнок (малыш)



поезд



мать (женщина)



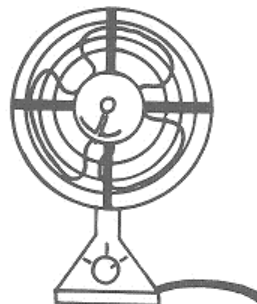
мышь



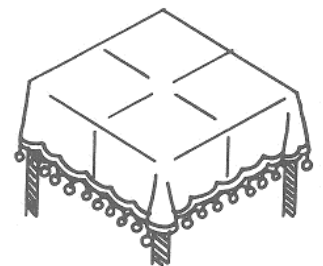
отец (мужчина)



пылесос



вентилятор



стол

Exercise 1.2. Working in pairs ask the questions using the words below and answer the questions in the affirmative:

Model: Это дом? – Да, это дом.

молоко́, голова́, двóйка, стрóйка, авто́бус, кни́га, журна́л, журнали́ст, соба́ка,
milk head unsatisfactory grade, construction, bus book magazine journalist dog
ко́шка cat

Exercise 1.3. Working in pairs ask and answer the questions in the negative and give the correct answers. For correct answers use the words in parentheses:

Model: Это дом? – Нет, это не дом. Это кварти́ра.

Это стол? (стул chair)	Это банан? (каранда́ш pencil)
Это у́хо (ear)? (голова́)	Это дом? (шкаф)
Это врач (doctor)? (фи́зик physicist)	Это журнали́ст?(журнали́стка)
Это са́хар (sugar)? (сок juice)	Это сала́т? (суп)

Exercise 1.4. Ask special questions about the following nouns:

Note: The word order in the question is of no importance.

Model: шкаф - Что это? (Это что?)
 журнали́ст – Кто это? (Это кто?)

шко́ла, инститúт, каранда́ш, ка́рта, фи́зик, бра́т, врач, мост, ма́ма, па́па, ла́мпа,
ба́р, сок, суп, нос, голова́, ко́шка, соба́ка, ва́за, журна́л, журнали́ст, чай,
стрóйка, кни́га, хими́к, кот, арти́ст

1.3. REQUESTING, GIVING AND RECEIVING THINGS

We have already discussed the use of “Спаси́бо” and “Пожа́луйста” in the previous section. When you are making request of a person you can also preface it with “Извини́те!” and “Прости́те!” that are translated as “Excuse me! Sorry! Pardon!” and are used in formal speech situations, while the forms “Прости́!” and “Извини́” will be used in informal speech situations.

Exercise 1.5. Working in pairs, take parts of a salesperson and a customer. Practice buying the following items: ко́фе/молоко́ (coffee), вино́/салфе́тка (wine) (a napkin), пи́во/чи́псы (beer) (chips), тóрт/ви́лка (cake) (fork), пиро́жок/салфе́тка (small filled pastry), сок/соло́минка (juice) (a straw), сала́т/ви́лка (salad), суп/хле́б (soup) (bread),

Model: А – Здравствуйте ! Мо́жно чай, пожа́луйста? (May I have tea, please?)

В – Пожа́луйста. Вот он. (Here you are)

А - Извини́те, а где са́хар?

В - Са́хар там.

А - Спаси́бо. До свидáния.

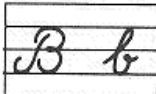
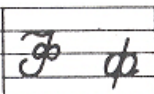
В - Пожа́луйста. (You are welcome)

II. RUSSIAN ALPHABET. LETTERS AND SOUNDS

2.1. Consonants

There are two more pairs of voiced and unvoiced consonants in the Russian language **В-Ф** and **Ж-Ш**:

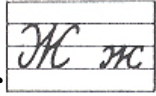
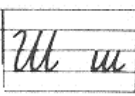
voiced	В	Г	Д	З	В	Ж	М	Н	Л	Р
unvoiced	Ф	К	Т	С	Ф	Ш				

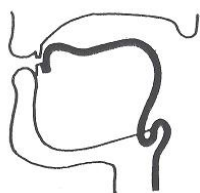
Consonants В  and Ф 



When articulating the hard consonants **Ф** and **В**, the upper front teeth and the lower lip are brought together, but not completely, creating a crack. The back part of the tongue together with the root is pulled back. These Russian sounds are similar to their English counterparts except the lips are slightly rounded.

па – фа по – фо пу – фу фса – фса фсо – фсо фсу – фсу
ап – аф оп – оф уп – уф в3а – 3вa в3о – 3во в3у – 3ву

Consonants Ж  and Ш 



If you want to pronounce consonants **Ж** and **Ш** correctly, raise the front part of your tongue and bend the tip of the tongue slightly back (as you bend it when articulating the English sound “r”). At the same time, arch the back part of your tongue towards the soft palate (to the area where the Russian vowel **У** is articulated). While you are busy trying to perform these operations, the middle part of your tongue is creating a small concave saddle. Your lips are smiling slightly and are protruded. The pronunciation of the Russian sound **Ш** is similar to the combination of letters **SH** in English as in the words “shelf”, “shock”, etc. There is no sound similar to Russian **Ж** in English. In writing, this sound is often rendered by the combination of letters **ЖН** in English. The English sounds rendered by the letters **G** and **J** do not exist in Russian, so they are transliterated into Russian by the combination of letters **ДЖ** as in **Джон (John)** or **Джордж (George)**.

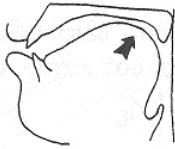
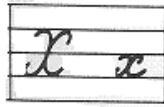
ушу – шу – ш ужу – жу – ж
ошо – шо – ш ожо – жо – ж

кшу	ушу	ошу	шу	ГЖгу	Жгу	Гжу	жу	ДЖо	ждо
кшо	ушо	ошо	шо	ГЖго	Жго	Гжо	жо	ДЖи	жди
кша	уша	оша	ша	ГЖги	Жги	Гжи	жи	ДЖэ	ждэ
				ГЖга	Жга	Гжа	жа	ДЖа	жда

The other two Russian consonants are **Х** and **Ч**. These consonants are always unvoiced and they don't have any voiced counterparts.

voiced	Б	Г	Д	З	В	Ж			М	Н	Л	Р
unvoiced	П	К	Т	С	Ф	Ш	Х	Ч				

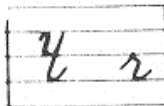
Consonant Х



The consonant **Х** is articulated at the same place as that of the Russian **К**. The whole tongue is pulled back and arched towards the soft palate, forming a constricted passage between the back part of the tongue and the soft palate through which an outgoing air stream is channeled. Lips are slightly open. There is no similar sound in the English language. In English, the sound **Х** is rendered as **КН** as in “Kazakhstan”

кхо – хо	кху – ху	кха – ха	хо ко хо	ко хо ко
охо ухо	ухо – хо – хо		ху ку ху	ху ку ху
уху уху	уху – ху – ху		кох – хок	кхо – хко
аха уха	уха – ха – ха		ках – хак	кха – хка

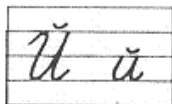
Consonant Ч



When articulating the consonant **Ч**, the front part of the tongue, together with its tip, touches the alveolar ridge and the front part of the hard palate (the tip of the tongue may touch the lower teeth.) The middle part of the tongue rises highly, creating a slightly convex form. Smiling lips are slightly protruded and opened. Consonant **Ч** is similar in pronunciation to **СН** as in words “church”, “chalk” etc.

ичи - чи чи ич ача - ча ча ач учу - чу чу уч

Consonant (semi-vowel) Ы



The place of articulation for the consonant **Ы** is actually the same as that of the vowel **И**, but the middle part of the tongue is raised even higher towards the hard palate forming an obstacle – a constricted passage through which the outgoing air stream is channeled. The tip of the tongue and its back part are sharply lowered (the tip of the tongue is placed on the back of the lower teeth). Lips are slightly smiling. The Russian **Ы** is similar to the English “Y” as in the words “yes”, “yard”, “yellow”, “yet”, “you”. But the Russian “Ы” is more tensioned. This letter never

occurs in the beginning of the Russian words. It is used in the initial position in some borrowed words: **Йорк**, **йод**. The letter always follows a vowel in the middle or at the end of a word.

Й...й...й.....ий.....ай.....ой.....эй.....уй

АЙ: дай, рай, лайка, чайка, лай, тай, майка, давай, май, чай, сарай, пай, зайка, сайка

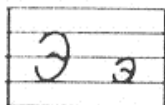
ИЙ: русский, английский, китайский, вий, задний, кий, тихий, **п**ологий, л**о**вчий, г**о**нчий, бли**з**кий

ОЙ: бой, разбой, **к**овбой, вой, бойкий, страной, мой, **в**ойна, **к**онвой, пой, **в**ойско, **т**обой, **д**орогой

УЙ, дуй, разуь, подуь, холуь

2.2. Vowels

Vowel Э



When articulating the accented vowel Э, the whole tongue is moved forward. Its middle part is raised towards the hard palate. The tip of the tongue slightly touches the back of the lower teeth. The lips are neutral. This letter appears only in a few Russian pronouns. It is mainly used in borrowed foreign words. It is pronounced as [e] in “set”.

Мэр, сэр, пэр, э́та, э́то, э́тот, э́ти, э́та**ж**, этажи́, э́хо, э́кстра, экстра́кт, эбо́нит, Кэ́трин, Э́рик, э́дак, Э́мма, э́то дом, э́тот дом, э́тот вид, э́то чадо, э́та подро́уга

III. READING AND LISTENING EXERCISES

Exercise 3.1. Listen carefully to the initial voiced or voiceless consonants and circle the words that you hear:

1. бар - пар 2. вон – фон 3. год – кот 4. дом – том 5. зуб - суп
6. док-ток 7. дом-том 8. жар-шар 9. доска́-тоска́ 10. до́чка-то́чка

Key: 1. бар 2. фон 3. кот 4. том 5. зуб 6. док 7. том 8. жар 9. тоска́ 10. то́чка

Exercise 3.2. Listen to the following words. Circle the vowels that are not pronounced the way they are spelled:

Окно́	ко́смос	ко́шка	соба́ка	молоко́
Ка́рта	у́хо	голова́	бана́н	ла́мпа

Exercise 3.3. Listen to the following words. pronounce the words to show the difference between И and Й:

Мои – мой твои – твой свои – свой

Exercise 3.4. Read the following words with the new letters:

- 1) уфа́, фант, фата́, фон, фуф, фунт, шкаф
- 2) ва́та, вот, забав́а, во́зит, ва́за, враги́
- 3) шум, шут, шу́тка, шушу́н, ша́пка, укушу́, ношу́, внушу́, багажу́, шантажу́
- 4) внуша́л, душ, ваш, наш, фи́ниш, жук, жупа́н, жом, жаба, жа́жда, бужу́
- 5) но́жу, скажу́, му́жу, ви́жу, ска́жут, му́жа
- 6) в у́х, уха́, су́ха, му́ха, хоп, хан, хам, ух, бух, дух, пасту́х, во́здух, ох, мох, сох,
- 7) вздох, мах, бах, пах, мхом, мох сох, вакха́нка
- 8) учи́, о́чи, куличи́, зачи́н, да́ча, зада́ча, уда́ча, мо́чи, ту́чи, чин, чан, ча́сики,
- 9) чубу́к, чугу́н, чубучо́к, бич, врач, грач, стука́ч, пала́ч, луч, туч, скрипу́ч,
- 10) ку́ча, журча́, ча́шка
- 11) ко́йка, та́йна, Зо́йка, дво́йка, стро́йка, займу́

Exercise 3.5. Read the following words devoicing the final voiced consonants. In the spaces provided write down the consonant that represent the correct final sound in these words:

фонд[], гото́в[], воз[], вуз[], заво́д[], шов[], муж[], уж[],
за́муж[], но́ж[], монта́ж[], масса́ж[], бага́ж[], шанта́ж[], уходи́[],
походи́[], заходи́[], ход[], худ[], бог[], ча́д[], чуб[], эта́ж[],
Смирно́в[], приходи́[]

Exercise 3.6: Read the following words and phrases where there is regressive assimilation at the juncture of two consonants. In the space provided write down the letters that represent the correct pronunciation of the two consonants at the juncture: **в** том,¹ [] ло́жка[], но́жка[],

ваш жу́к[], нахо́дка[],

вход[], **в** тон[], **в** тумбу[], **в** пу́зо[], **в** пот[], **о**б фант[],

от заво́за[], ло́вчий [], бли́зкий []

Exercise 3.7. Read the words reducing vowel “О” in the following words where necessary:

Софа́, фотóн, фофан, фотó, гото́в, вода́, волово́з, ношу́, монта́ж, жу́тко,
покажу́, но́жа, походи́, заходи́, оха́пка, у́хо, в у́хо, су́хо, ход, хо́хот, ху́до,
ходи́к, хому́т, хо́боток, хо́хоту́н, восходи́, почи́н, мочи́, ча́до, чу́до, могу́ч,
то́чно, нау́чно, уда́чно, молчи́, молчу́, э́то, э́тот, э́хо, поло́гий, ковбо́й, война́,
конво́й, войско, то́бой, доро́гой, подуй, холу́й, пожа́луйста, бо́йко, помо́йка,
посто́й-ка, престо́йка, случа́йно, пойму́, дойду́

¹ Consonant «в» here is the preposition which means ‘on’ or ‘in’ in English. Remember that in pronunciation prepositions merge with the following word

Exercise 3.8. Practice reading the following poem:

Тук – тук – тук!	Тут как тут,
Кто вас тут?	Кот как кот.
Кто тут вот?	Кот так кот !
Тут вот кот.	Вот так вот (В. И Гусев)

IV. GRAMMAR (ГРАММАТИКА)

4.1. Preliminary remarks. Morphology and word structure in English and Russian.

A language student needs to understand the word structure and word derivation patterns used by the language he studies. The way in which a word is constructed, the elements of which it is made, is an important building block in our understanding of the language. The branch of linguistics that studies the structure and form of words in a language is called **morphology**. There are the following components, called morphemes, identified within a word: root, affix (prefix, suffix), ending and stem/base. These morphemes may be **free**, that can stand as a word on its own and **bound**, that only occurs in combination with other morphemes. You can encounter bound morpheme "**-gress**" in the following words: **progress**, **regress**, **digress**, **ingressive**, **retrogression**. The example of free morphemes will be the following: **pack** – **un** - **pack**

Root - a bound or free morpheme that contributes the main portion of meaning of a word, such as morpheme "**help**" in the words **help** (n), **help** (v), **helpless**, **helpful**, **helpfully**, **unhelpful** or "**-gress**" above.

Affix – a bound morpheme that must be attached to another morpheme in a particular way, and does not contribute the main portion of the meaning of a word. Affixes are subdivided into **prefixes** that attach to the beginning of a root and **suffixes** that attach to the end of the root. They derive a new word of different part of speech or make a word to which they attach more abstract. For example, if you add a bound morpheme/affix "**-ful**" to the root "**help**" (noun) you will get an adjective "**helpful**". If you add a prefix "**be-**" to the root friend (noun) you will get a verb to "**befriend**". If you add a prefix "**-ship**" to the noun "**friend**" you will get a noun "**friendship**" which is more abstract in meaning than the word "**friend**".

Stem - is a morpheme or a group of morphemes, consisting at least one root and possibly one or more affixes, to which an ending is attached. For example, the stem in the following words **befriend**|-s, **befriend**|-ed, **befriend**|-ing will be **befriend**|- while "**-s**", "**-ed**", "**-ing**" will be the endings. In other words, the stem of a word is the part of it to which the ending is added.

Ending – is a grammatical bound morpheme that does not create a new word, and that creates a different form of the same word. Another name for ending is the word "**inflexion**". The major difference between English and Russian is that Russian has a lot of inflexions and is called an **inflexional language**, while English has lost almost all of its inflexions and is called an **analytical language**. Russian uses endings to show different grammatical forms, while English uses other means more than endings. That is why knowing proper endings in Russian is of crucial importance. You will see and will have to remember a lot of them in your course.

4.2. Nouns

Nouns are words that name persons, places, things, phenomena and ideas. Grammar books divide nouns into 2 groups - **proper nouns** and **common nouns**. **Proper nouns** are nouns which begin with a capital letter because it is the name of a specific or particular person place or thing.

All nouns have **gender** in Russian: they are **masculine**, **feminine** or **neuter**. The gender of a noun may be determined by its **ending**, the changing part of a word that indicates syntactic relationships of the word in a sentence. Endings of nouns in Russian are usually presented by a single vowel, combination of two vowels or combination of a vowel and a consonant.

Generally speaking masculine nouns usually end in a consonant or «й», or as is often said they have zero ending: **СТОЛ**|__ (a table), **ЖУРНАЛИСТ**|__ (a journalist), **ДОМ**|__ (a house)

Feminine nouns end in “а”: **КНИ́Г**|**-а** (a book), **КО́МНАТ**|**-а** (a room), **МА́М**|**-а** (a mother) and neuter nouns end in “о”: **ОКН**|**-о́** (a window), **СУКН**|**-о́** (woolen cloth), **О́БЛАК**|**-о** (cloud)

A noun may be substituted by a personal pronoun **ОН** (masc.), **ОНА́** (fem.) **ОНО́** (neuter). The pronouns **ОН**, **ОНА́**, **ОНО́** only partially correspond to the English pronouns **he**, **she** and **it**. While in English the pronouns **he** and **she** may be referred only to people (animate nouns) and pronoun **it** – to objects (inanimate nouns), in Russian the pronouns **ОН**, **ОНА́**, **ОНО́** may be referred to both people and objects depending on their grammatical gender, not on their denoting a person or objects.

Compare: a) objects

a table – it	a book – it	a window - it
СТОЛ - ОН	КНИ́ГА – ОНА́	ОКНО́ – ОНО́

b) people

an actor – he	an actress – she	актёр – он	актёриса – она́
journalist – he	journalist – she	журналист –	он журналистка – она́
cat – he	cat – she	КОТ – он	КО́ШКА – она́

As you see from the examples, the gender distinctions of nouns are absolutely arbitrary for the words denoting objects, though in the nouns, naming people and their professions or animals they might reflect the sex of the people.

Exercise 4.1: The following nouns are cognates. Read them and try to guess what they mean in English. Determine their gender.

Аэропорт, автобус, бар, институт, фотоаппарат, банк, парк, стадион, гараж, суп, нос, журнал, ваза, мама, папа, катастрофа, парадокс, караван, космос, журналист, журналистка, доктор, химик, физик, машина, вода, молоко, брат, торт, лампа, банан, салат, школа, чай, политика, импорт, футбол, экономика

Exercise 4.2: Read the following words to you partner. The partner should provide the pronoun «ОН», «ОНА́», «ОНО́» that corresponds to the gender of the noun you read.

СОК (juice), СТОЛ (a table), СТУЛ (a chair), РОТ (a mouth), МОСТ (a bridge), ДОМ (a house), КОТ (a cat), УХО (an ear), РУЧКА (a pen), КАРАНДАШ (a pencil), ШКАФ (a wardrobe), СУМКА (a bag, a purse), САХАР (sugar), КАРТА (a map), КОМНАТА (a room), ОКНО́ (a window), ДОСКА́ (a board), ГОЛОВА́ (a head), СОБАКА (a dog), ВРАЧ (a doctor), СЛОВО (a word), СТРОЙКА (a construction site), ДВОЙКА (an unsatisfactory grade “F”)

Exercise 4.3: Learn a few Russian words:

са́хар (sugar), **голова́** (a head), **шко́ла** (a school), **стро́йка** (a construction site), **шкаф** (a wardrobe), **ко́мната** (a room), **у́хо** (an ear), **аэропо́рт** (an airport), **ру́чка** (a pen), **сло́во** (a word), **журнали́ст** (a journalist)

Working in pairs name the letters in the following strings. Rearrange the letters to make one of Russian words given above. Write the word down. Determine its gender.

А

1. мтанако
2. _____
3. клашо
4. _____
5. фкаш
6. _____
7. освол
8. _____
9. жраилтсун
10. _____

В

1. _____
2. храса
3. _____
4. олгоав
5. _____
6. чкару
7. _____
8. оху
9. _____
10. рпотразо

**INTRODUCTORY RUSSIAN
SECTION 3**

I. STARTING A CONVERSATION IN RUSSIAN:

1. 1. GETTING AQUAINTED

If you like to initiate the introduction and get to know somebody you can use the phrase «**Давай(те) познакомимся**» (Let us get acquainted) and

[давай(ти) познакомимся]

«**Разрешите(те) представиться**» (Allow me to introduce myself).

[разрешите(те) представиться]

If you want to ask somebody his/her name, the Russian phrase will be:

“Как вас (тебя) зовут?”

[как вас (тебя) зовут]

which is literary translated as “**What do (they) call you**”. The pronoun “**you**” may be used in the form of “**вас**” for formal situations or when you ask the names of several people, and “**тебя**” for informal situations or when you ask the name of only one person. The response to the question will be:

“Меня зовут Иван”.

[меня зовут]

When somebody introduces himself/herself and tells you your name, you have to say

“Очень приятно (познакомиться)”

[очень приятно (познакомиться)]

which means, “**I am pleased (to get to know you)**”.

The conversation to initiate the acquaintance would sound as the following:

A: - Здравствуйте! Разрешите представиться. Меня зовут ...(your name)

А как вас зовут?

B: - Здравствуйте! Очень приятно! Меня зовут...(your name)

A: - Очень приятно! Спасибо.

Or the conversation might be the following:

A: - Добрый день! Давайте познакомимся.

B: - Добрый день! Давайте! Как вас зовут?

A: - Меня зовут ...(your name)

B: - Очень приятно.

A: - А как вас зовут?

B: - Меня зовут ...(your name)

A: - Очень приятно (познакомиться).

1.2. GETTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT EACH OTHER

You might want to find out more about the person and ask him/her a question about his nationality/citizenship: **Вы американец/американка?** (Are you an American?)

Вы русский/ русская? (Are you an ethnic Russian) **Вы россиянин/россиянка?**
(Are you a citizen of the Russian Federation?)

Please take a note that a person who lives in the Russian Federation may not necessarily be an ethnic Russian. The Russian Federation is a multinational country where people of various ethnic backgrounds have been living for centuries. It is quite appropriate in certain situations to ask about the person's nationality or ethnic background:

Кто вы по национальности? - Я по национальности русский.

[па на-ци-а-наль-нас-ти]

[па на-ци-а-наль-нас-ти]

If you want to find out what the person's profession or occupation is, you could ask about it in the form of a general question: **Вы студент/студентка?** - The answer to this question will sound as «Да, я студент/студентка.» or «Нет, я не студент/студентка. Я врач.»

Or in the form of a special question:

Кто вы (ты) по профессии? [кто вы па профессии] or simply **Кто вы (ты)?**

The answer to this question will sound as

Я по профессии врач (a physician)

That's how your conversation will sound:

A: - Здравствуйте! Как вас зовут?

B: - Здравствуйте. Меня зовут Джессика.

A: - Очень приятно Джессика. Вы американка?

B: - Да, я американка. А как вас зовут?

A: - Извините. Я забыла представиться. (I forgot to introduce myself)

Меня зовут Наташа.

B: - Очень приятно, Наташа. Вы русская?

A: - Нет, я тоже (also) американка. Просто моё имя русское. (simply my first name is Russian)

Exercise 1.1. Answer the following questions using the suggested names of nationalities. Pay attention that the names of nationalities usually have two gender forms: masculine and feminine:

Model: а) **Вы русская?/Вы русский?** - Да, я русская. Да, я русский.

Нет, я не русская, я американка. Нет я не русский, я американец

б) **Кто он по национальности?** – Он по национальности американец.

Кто она по национальности? – Она по национальности американка.

Канадец/канадка, испанец/испанка, итальянец/итальянка, немец/немка (a German), мексиканец/мексиканка, японец/японка, ирландец/ирландка, шотландец/шотландка, норвежец/норвежка, португалец/португалка, вьетнамец/вьетнамка, швед/шведка, финн/финка, украинец/украинка, китаец/китайка, кореец/корейка, филиппинец/филиппинка

Exercise 1.2. Answer the following questions using the suggested names of professions. Pay attention that many names of professions are used only in the masculine gender:

Model:

1. Кто он по профессии?

Он по профессии учитель. Он по профессии врач.

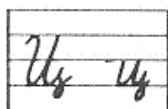
2. Кто она по профессии?

Она по профессии учительница. Она по профессии врач.

Журналист (-ка), фотограф, архитектор, механик, медсестра/медбрат (a nurse), инженер, музыкант (-ка), писатель (-ница) (a writer), художник (-ца) (an artist), лётчик (-ца)(a pilot), слесарь (a maintenance person), менеджер, секретарь, пожарник (a fireman), преподаватель (-ница) (a university instructor), программист(-ка), химик (a chemist), физик, врач, биолог (biologist), политик, аналитик.

II. RUSSIAN ALPHABET. LETTERS AND SOUNDS

2. 1. Consonant Ц



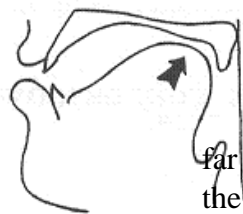
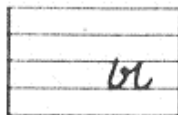
When articulating the hard consonant **Ц**, the whole tongue is flat. Its back part is slightly pulled back. The tip of the tongue can be placed either on the upper or lower teeth. At the moment of articulation, the front part of the tongue is closed up with the alveolar ridge producing the element of the [t]-type, which immediately changes into the element of the [c]-type. Lips are slightly smiling. The consonant **Ц** is pronounced as [ts] as in “rats”, but more closely fused. There is no similar sound in the English language. It is rendered in English with the help of two letters TS.

Тсы – цы	ыцы – цы	цы	сы – цы	сцы	цвы – цви
Тсу – цу	уцу – цу	цу	су – цу	сцу	цву – цвю
Тсо – цо	оцо – цо	цо	со – цо	сцо	цво – цвё
Тса – ца	аца – ца	ца	са – ца	сца	цва – цвя
Тсэ – цэ	эцэ – цэ	цэ	сэ – цэ	сцэ	цвэ – цве

2.2.Vowels

In the previous sections you learned about Russian vowels **А, У, О, И** and **Э**.

Vowel Ы



Another Russian vowel is **Ы** which does not have a similar vowel in English and is often substituted in pronunciation by vowel **И**. Remember that **Ы** and **И** are letters that represent different sounds in Russian. When articulating the vowel **Ы**, the whole tongue together with its root is pulled far back (to the place where the sound **У** is articulated.) The front part of the tongue together with the tip is not only pulled back but it is also considerably lowered. The middle and the back parts are highly raised towards the soft palate. The back part of the tongue and its root are tensioned! As opposed to the sound **У**, now lips are spread in a smile! Don't round your lips!

бу – бы ву – вы ду – ды му – мы бу – бы ту – ты
ими – ымы ипи – ыпы ифи – ыфы

ми – мы – мы	би – бы – бы	пи – пы – пы
ми – мы – ми	би – бы – би	пи – пы – пи
мы – ми – ми	бы – би – би	пы – пи – пи
мы – мы – ми	бы – бы – би	пы – пы – пи
мы – ми – мы	бы – би – бы	пы – пи – пы

фи – фы – фы	ви – вы – вы
фи – фы – фи	ви – вы – ви
фы – фи – фы	вы – ви – вы
фы – фи – фи	вы – ви – ви
фы – фи – фы	вы – ви – вы

У -- Ы

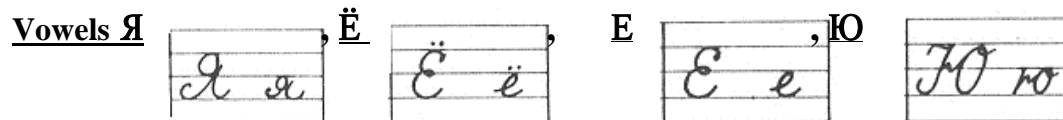
бук – бык, дум – дым, мусс – мыс, суд – сыт, дубу – дубы, коту – коты

И-- Ы

мил – мыл, риф – рыл, пил – пыл, сил – слыл, вил – выл, Нил – ныл, сир – сыр,

ИЙ---ЫЙ

си́ний – си́зий, ру́сский – ру́сий, зи́мний – ста́рый, жу́ткий – но́вый,
пры́ткий – у́мный, ло́вкий – здра́вый, англи́йский – лы́сий



Vowels Я, Ё, Е, Ю are different from the rest of the vowels А, У, И, О, Э and Ы because they are **diphthongs** composed of two sounds fused together. The first sound is **Й** which then glides to the sounds А, О, Э and Ю, that is why we can transcribe them as follows: Я – [йа]; Ё – [йо]; Е – [йэ]; Ю – [йу]

А-а-а-а йа-йа-йа-йа
 О-о-о-о йо-йо-йо-йо
 Е-е-е-е йэ-йэ-йэ-йэ
 У-у-у-у йу-йу-йу-йу

2.3. Russian vowels and palatalization (softening) of consonants

hard vowels	А	О	У	Э	Ы
soft vowels	Я	Ё	Ю	Е	И

As you can see from the table above, all Russian vowels are subdivided into two groups, based on their effect on the preceding consonants:

Vowels Я, Ё, Е, Ю and И make the preceding consonant soft or palatalized.

Palatalization occurs when the middle part of the tongue is considerably raised towards the front part of the roof of the mouth that is called the hard palate. It happens naturally when a consonant is followed by one of the above vowels, because for their pronunciation we need to raise the middle part of the tongue towards the hard palate. (See the description of articulation the vowel И and a consonant (semi-vowel) Й). It is Й, the glide of the diphthongs Я, Ё, Е, Ю, that causes the palatalization of the preceding consonant and merges with it, so we cannot hear it at the juncture of the vowel and the consonant. The glide Й is heard when these vowels occupy an initial position in a word or follow another vowel:

Яна ---- зная ---- синя

In the first word the vowel Я is in the beginning of the word, so the glide Й is pronounced and heard distinctly. In the second word the vowel Я follows the vowel А, so again the glide Й is pronounced and heard distinctly. In the third word we have two vowels Я, the first follows the consonant Н, so the glide Й of the first Я is not pronounced, while the glide Й of the second Я in this word is pronounced and heard distinctly.

ма - мя - ма	ба - бя - ба	па - пя - па	фа- фя - фа
мя - ма - мя	бя - ба - бя	пя - па - пя	фя- фа - фя
му - мя - му	бу - бю - бу	пу - пю - пу	фу - фю - фу
мя- му - мя	бю - бу - бю	пю - пу - пю	фю - фу - фю

Ва - Вя - ва	Дэ - де - дэ	Нэ - не - нэ	Сэ - се - сэ
ва - вя - ва	де - дэ - де	не - нэ - не	се - сэ - се
Ву - вю - ву	до - дё - до	но- нё - но	со - сё - со
вю - ву - вю	дё - до - дё	нё - но- нё	сё - со - сё

ян - ная - ня	ят - тая - тя	ял - лая - ля	яз - зая - зя
юн - ную - ню	ют - тую - тю	юл - лую - лю	юз - зую - зю
ён - ноё - нё	ёт - тоё - тё	ёл - лоё - лё	ёз - зоё - зё
ен - ное - не	ет- тое - те	ел - лое - ле	ез - зое - зе

Palatalized consonants are traditionally called “**soft**” consonants; **unpalatalized** ones are called “**hard**” consonants. A consonant is hard when it is followed by vowels **А, О, Э, У,** and **Ы**. With all this in mind, we can arrive at the conclusion that in Russian all consonants can be modified by the following vowel and exist in two variants; as a hard and as a soft consonant. This phenomenon is peculiar only of the Russian language and does not exist in English. As you can see from the table below, not all of the consonants have two variants. There are some exceptions that require special attention on the part of the Russian language student.

voiced	hard	Б	Г	Д	З	В	Ж			Ц	М	Л	Р	Н
	soft	Б'	Г'	Д'	З'	В'	?			?	М'	Л'	Р'	Н'
unvoiced	hard	П	К	Т	С	Ф	Ш	Х	?					
	soft	П'	К'	Т'	С'	Ф'	?	Х'	Ч'					

2.4. Spelling and Pronunciation Rules in the Russian language.

Remember that Russian consonants **Ж** and **Ш** are not capable of palatalization. They are always hard. In spite of this, in writing they can never be followed by hard vowels **Ы, Э** but may be followed by the soft vowels **И, Ё, Е, Ю**. If softening vowels **И, Ё, Е, Ю** follow them, these vowels have to be pronounced respectively as **Ы, О, Э, У**. Consonants **Ж** and **Ш** may be followed by both **Ё** and **О** in writing, but both these vowels will be pronounced as **О**. You will have to remember the spelling of the word. The following table shows the vowels in parentheses that cannot be used in writing after the consonants **Ж** and **Ш**:

hard vowels	А	О	У	(Э)	(Ы)
soft vowels	(Я)	Ё	Ю	Е	И

Pay attention to the difference between the pronunciation and spelling of the following words:

жѐн [жон]; пошѐл [пашол]; парашю́т [парашут]; жу́ри [жури];
брошю́ра [брашюра]; жѐст [жэст]; шѐст [шэст]

Remember that the Russian consonant **Ц** is not capable of palatalization. It is always hard. In spite of this, in writing it can be followed by soft vowels **И** and **Е**. If softening vowels **И** and **Е** follow it, these vowels have to be pronounced respectively as **Ы** and **Э**. Consonant **Ц** can never be followed vowel **Э** in writing. Consonant **Ц** can be followed by both vowels **Ы** and **И**. You will have to remember the spelling of the words. The following table shows the vowels in parentheses that cannot be used in writing after the consonant **Ц**:

hard vowels	А	О	У	(Э)	Ы
soft vowels	(Я)	(Ё)	(Ю)	Е	И

Thus, in the words the letter «и» will be pronounced as «ы» **ци́нк** [цы́нк], **ци́ник** [цы́ник], **ци́кл** [цы́кл], **ци́рк** [цы́рк] and the letter «е» will be pronounced as «э» **це́х** [цэх], **це́пь** [цэп’], **це́пкий** [цэпкий]

Remember that on the contrary, Russian consonant **Ч** is always soft regardless of what vowel follows it. In spite of it, the consonant **Ч** can never be followed in writing by the soft vowels **Я, Ю**, but instead we can write vowels **А, О** and **У** after it. If it is followed by hard vowels **А, У, О** they will be always pronounced as soft vowels **Я, Ю, and Ё** after **Ч**. Consonant **Ч** may be followed by both vowels **О** and **Ё**. But in both cases, the vowel will be pronounced as **Ё**. You will have to remember the spelling of the word. The following words' spelling is different from the way they are pronounced;

чу́до¹ [чю́да]; ча́шка [чя́шка]; ча́сто² [чя́ста]; чу́ма [чю́ма]; жу́чок [жучёк]

The following table shows the vowels in parentheses that cannot be used in writing after the consonants **Ч**:

hard vowels	А	О	У	(Э)	(Ы)
soft vowels	(Я)	Ё	(Ю)	Е	И

2.5. Vowel Reduction. (continued)

We have already discussed in the previous sections that the vowels are reduced in quantity and quality in the unstressed syllables. All the vowels in the unstressed position undergo

¹ pay attention to the reduction of “О” in unstressed syllables

² see the previous footnote

reduction, but the most obvious is the reduction of vowel **О** in unstressed position, as in the words **МОЛОКО́, ЗО́ЛОТО, МНО́ГО.**

Vowels **Я** and **Е** are also reduced qualitatively and quantitatively in the unstressed position. Vowels **Я, Е** sound like **И** in unstressed position. Compare the pronunciation of these vowels in both stressed and unstressed positions in the following words:

пя́тка [п^ятк^а] – п^ятáк [п^итáк] (a heel - five kopeck coin)

снег [сн^ек] – снегá [сн^игá] (snow - snows)

мя́со [м^ясá] – мяснóй [м^иснóй]; (meat – meaty)

After consonants **Ж, Ш** and **Ц** vowel **Е** in the unstressed position is reduced to the sound **Ы** in pronunciation. Remember that we never pronounce **И** after **Ж** and **Ш** which are always hard. Compare the spelling and pronunciation in the following words:

шестóй [ш^ыстóй] (the sixth)

женá [ж^ынá] (a wife)

шелухá [ш^ылухá] (husk)

желтóк [ж^ылтóк] (yolk)

Женéва [ж^ынéва] (Geneva)

ценá [ц^ынá] (price)

целина [ц^ылина] (virgin land)

In the combination of **ЧА** in the unstressed position, where the letter **А** stands for the actual sound **Я**, the reduction will occur also with **А** changing to **И**.

час [ч^яс] – часы́ [ч^исы́] (an hour - hours, clock)

Vowels **Я** and **Е** in the initial unstressed position, when they retain their **Й** glide, will be reduced to **ЙИ**.

язы́к [й^изык]

енóт [й^инóт]

ерунда́ [й^ирунда́]

Япóния [й^ипóния]

III. READING AND LISTENING EXERCISES

Exercise 3.1: Recognizing vowels: Mark the vowel you hear for each recitation:

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 2. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 3. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 4. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 5. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 6. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 7. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 8. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 9. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |
| 10. | А | У | О | Е | Ё | И | Ы | Э | Ю | Я |

Exercise 3.2: Recognizing soft and hard consonants. As you listen to each syllable repeated twice, circle the syllable you hear – hard or soft:

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. ты – ти | 2. до – дѐ | 3. фо – фѐ | 4. ну – ню |
| 5. да – дя | 6. та – тя | 7. ва – вя | 8. фэ – фе |
| 9. му – мю | 10. вы – ви | 11. то – тѐ | 12. са – ся |
| 13. во – вѐ | 14. сэ – се | 15. зы – зи | 16. тѐ – то |
| 17. зу – зю | 18. пу – пю | 19. па – пя | 20. ду – дю |

Exercise 3.3: Practice reading the words with alternative soft and hard consonants:

мат – мят, мусс – мюзикл, мот – мѐд, намѐк – намѐк¹, бѹдка – бюст,
поп – пѐк, ваза – вяз, вал– вял, воск – вѐз, был – бил, рад – ряд, мол – мѐл,
нос – нѐс, возы – возы, мал – мял, сын – синий, выл – вил, пыл – пил,
прибыл – прибил, лак – ляг, ток – тѐк, лук – люк, сэр – сер, дыма – Дима,
папка – пятка, хата – хотя, вол – вѐл, дом – идѐм, пост – пѐс, кот – ткѐт

Exercise 3.4. Read the following words with the new letters:

мы, вы, ты усы, бык, зык, быт, сыт, сын, дым, кумыс, сыр, мыты, сѳты,
вымыты, выступы, сыны, суды, сады, стансы, заводы, туманы, автобусы,
умный, модный, здравый, бывалый, старый, глупый, важный, лысый, новый,
сизый, пористый, войны, музыка, дыра, дыры, папиросы, рѳтвина, присыпка,
сынѳшка

я, яма, язва, армия, странная, синья, зная, вынимая, гуляя

ѐж, ѐмкий, ѐлка, ѐрш, заѐм, даѐт

ем, ест, ел, евнух, дѐлает, понимает

юнга, юный, юнат, даю, дают, уют, читаю, дѹмаю, капаю, зная,

моют, купаю

мята, мюзикл, намѐк, бѳсня, пятый, пѐк, вѐсти, вѐсны, Мюнхен, бѳка, бюст, бес,
пипѐтка, пѐсня, фиолѐтовый, фен, мех, смех, рѳса, испѐк, дѹжина, зѐрна,
любит, люблю, макѐт.

цыц, цып-цып, цыпка, цыпочки, цинк, цѳник, цикл, цирк,

цифра (a number), цѳркуль (a compass), цыплѐнок (a chicken), цыган (a gypsy man),

циклоп, цунами, цукаты (candied fruit), к танцу (to a dance), цок, цокот (hoof beat),

цокать (to clip-clop), цаца, цапля (a heron), царь (a czar), царѳца

(a czarina), цапать (to snap), цех (a shop), цент, цѐлый (whole), цѐдра (lemon peel),

цѐнник (a price tag), цѐпкий (clingly), цель (an objective), цепь (a chain), птица

(a bird), улица (a street), лицѐ (a face), куцый (dock-tailed), глупѐц (a fool), курица (a hen)

¹ Vowel ѐ is always stressed.

Exercise 3.5. Read the following words and guess their meaning.

Note: English letter combination “-tion” corresponds to Russian letter combination «-ция» революция, нация, функция, иллюстрация, коллекция, эволюция, информация, реакция, инфляция, ситуация, организация, демонстрация, делегация, цивилизация, ситуация, акция, станция,

Exercise 3.6. Read the following words, paying attention to the pronunciation of the letter **И** after consonants **Ж, Ш and Ч**. Remember that consonants **Ж, Ш and Ч** can never be followed by the vowel **Ы** in writing. The letter **И** that follows the consonants **Ж** and **Ш** should be always pronounced as **Ы**. The letter **И** that follows the consonant **Ч** is pronounced as **И**.

Жил, жижа, жили, ужин, жир, лыжи, ножи, ножик, чирик, пирик, рижик, живот, хижина, джин, шила, шина, машины, шишка, шуршит, широка, шип, шиповник, ширинка, шик, чирикает, чинит, чин, зачин

Exercise 3.7. Listen the following words. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate vowel according to the spelling rules.

Rule I: Consonants **Ж, Ш and Ц** are always hard, it means that they should be always followed by hard vowels: **А, У, О, Э, Ы**, but **Ж, Ш and Ц** in Russian can never be followed by hard vowels **Э** instead they are always followed by **Е** which should be pronounced as [э], and consonants **Ж** and **Ш** can never be followed by **И**, which should be pronounced as [ы].

Rule II: Consonant **Ч** is always soft, it means that it should be always followed by soft vowels **Я, Ю, Ё, Е, И**, but in Russian **Ч** can never be followed by soft vowels **Я** and **Ю**, instead it is always followed by **А** and **У**, which should be pronounced as [я] and [ю]

Ж...ба, ж...зл, ж...нат, ш...ст, ч...деса, ч...ртит, ч...сто, ч...ма, ч...ры, маш...на, ж...вот, ш...рота, ч...д, ч...м, ч...стный, ч...дак, шурш...т, ж...рчит, ч...стный, ч...с, ч...х, ж...дный, ж...р, ж...р, ж...рнов, ж...рнал ц...х, ц...ль, ц...лый, ц...пля, ц...ризм, ц...г, ц...пь, ц...рк, ц...плёнок

Exercise 3.8. Read the words reducing vowels **О, Е, Я** and **А** in the following words. In the spaces provided write down the sound that should be pronounced in these words:

забыто [], рядом [], выводы [], воды [], зонты [], коты [], однажды [], попытка [], ясно [], ягоды [], якобы [], яблоко [] [], моя [], твоя [], своя [], стоят [], отнимая [], моё [], твоё [], своё [], поёт [], поеду [], доеду [], доём [], поём [], моей [], твоей [], своей [], понимает [], югославы [], мою [], твою [], свою [], фиолетовый [] [], место [], мясо [], земля [], вперёд [], бежит [], жена [], желудок [] [], часовой [] [], частота [] [], ярык [], ячейка [], ядро [], дерево [] [], едим [],

единогласно [ɐdʲɪnɔgɫɐsno], ежевика [ʲɛʒɛvʲɪkə], ему́ [ɐmu], ездок [ɛzdɔk],
желание [ʒɛlanʲɪɛ], рябой [rʲɛbɔj], боец (a soldier) [bɔjɛtʲs], конец (an end) [kɔnɛtʲs], америкáнец [ɐmɛrʲɪkəˈnɛtʲs]
[ɐmɛrʲɪkəˈnɛtʲs], , целовать (to kiss) [tʲɛlɔvətʲ], целá (safe, intact) [tʲɛlɐ], цемент [tʲɛmɛnt], цепочка (a
necklace) [tʲɛpɔtʲʃkə], церковь (church) [tʲɛrkɔvʲ]

Exercise 3.9. Listen and read the following sentences. Pay attention to the pronunciation of the hard and soft consonants.

Та́ня приде́т сюда́ ско́ро. (Tanya will come here soon)

Зёрна упáли на зéмлю. (The seeds fell down on the ground)

Дядя е́дет на да́чу. (The uncle is going to the summer house)

На́дя и Ля́ля реши́ли ряд вопро́сов. (Nadya and Lyalya have resolved a number of issues.)

Вре́мя бежит впе́ред [фпирёд]. (The time is running ahead.)

У Нью́ры и Дени́са нет со́ка. (Nyura and Denis have no juice.)

У султа́на мно́го жён. (The sultan has many wives.)

Он поше́л в кино́. (He went to the movies.)

Жёлтая ле́нта привя́зана к маши́не. (A yellow ribbon has been tied to the car.)

Exercise 3.10: Practice reading the following poem. Pay special attention to the pronunciation of the underlined letters.

Раз, два, три, четыре,
[рас] [читы́ри]
Сосчита́ем¹ ды́ры в сы́ре.
[сащита́им] [ф сы́ри]
Е́сли в сы́ре мно́го дыр,
[ф сы́ри] [мно́га]
Зна́чит вкусным бу́дет сыр.
[фку́сным] [бу́дит]
Е́сли в нём одна дыра́,
[адна́]
Зна́чит вкусным был вчера́
[фку́сным] [фчирá]

¹ Note: Combination of the letters **СЧ** is pronounced as **Щ** (soft **Щ** as if followed by the sound **И**)

Translation of the poem sounds as follows: One, two, three, four. Let's count the holes in the cheese. If there are many holes in the cheese, it means it will be tasty. If there is only one hole in the cheese. It means it was tasty yesterday

IV. ГРАММАТИКА. (GRAMMAR)

4.1. Gender of Nouns (continued)

Since you learned more vowels that may be used as endings of nouns, add nouns ending in “-я” and “-ия” to the group of nouns of the feminine gender and nouns ending in “-е” and “-ие” to the group of nouns of the neuter gender.

masculine	neuter	feminine
Zero ending (no vowel); -й	-о; - е, - ие	-а, - я, -ая
стол -	окн о́	ма́м -а
телефо́н -	мо́р -е	ды́н -я
трамва́ -й	здáни -е	áрми -я

The category of gender in the Russian language is absolutely arbitrary. But there are some words that have two forms of gender to denote the real sex and gender distinctions which exist in real life. These are mostly nouns that name people or animals:

“студе́нт”(male student) – “студе́нтка”(female student)

“тигр” (tiger)– “тигри́ца” (tigress).

For the nouns naming people, these will be the names of nationality and some will name professions:

“амери́канец”(male American) – “амери́канка” (female American);

“учи́тель”(male teacher)– “учи́тельница” (female teacher).

There has to be agreement between the subject and the predicate:

“Он – учи́тель” (He is a teacher), but

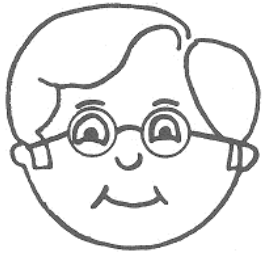
“Она́ – учи́тельница” (She is a teacher).

However, many nouns denoting professions can be used only in the masculine gender. Thus, the sentences “She is a doctor” and “He is a doctor” will look as follows in Russian:

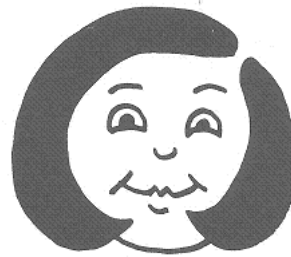
“Она - врач” and “Он – врач”

2. Russian Names and Gender Distinctions.

All Russian names also have gender distinctions. Full Russian name always consists of three components: a first name “и́мя”, a patronymic “о́тчество” and a family name or, as we call it, last name “фа́млия” as the following names:



Ива́н Ива́нович Ива́нов
Ива́н Серге́евич Смирно́в



Ири́на Ива́новна Ива́нова
Ири́на Серге́евна Смирно́ва

As you can see from these names, the masculine and the feminine forms have different endings for the first names and the family names, and different suffixes for the patronymics. Male first names usually end in a consonant and female first names usually end in “-а” or “-я”. Thus, the names **Ива́н|-**, **Васи́ли|-й**, **Никола́|-й** will be the first names for males, while **Ири́н|-а**, **Мари́|-я** will be female first names. If Ivan’s father’s first name is also **Ива́н** (Ivan) then Ivan’s patronymic will be **Ива́н|-ович**. If Ivan’s father’s first name is **Серге́|-й**, then Ivan’s patronymic will be **Серге́|-евич**. The patronymic is derived from a person’s father’s first name with the help of the suffixes “-ович” and “-евич” for males; “-овна” and “-евна” for females.

How do we know which suffix to use in which case? You have to look at the person’s father’s first name and determine whether the stem of the name is hard or soft.

The first name “**Ива́н**” will be a hard stem without any vowel ending, so to derive the patronymic from this name, we will have to add suffix “-ович” or “-овна” and we’ll get the forms **Ива́н|ович** (masc.) and **Ива́н|овна** (fem.). The first name “**Серге́|-й**”, ending in a soft consonant **Й**, will be a soft stem, the same as in the Russian nouns “**музе́|-й**” (museum) or “**трамва́|-й**” (a street car). Therefore, to derive the patronymics from those names, we’ll have to add suffixes “-евич” and “-евна” and remove the consonant **Й** and we’ll get the forms “**Серге́|евич**” (masc.) and “**Серге́|евна**” (fem.). If a name ends in “-ий”, the form of the derived patronymic will include a soft sign as in “**Васи́ль|евич**” and “**Васи́ль|евна**” derived from “**Васи́ли|-й**”. When the suffixes are added to the stem “**Васи́ли|-й**”, the consonant **Й** is removed and the vowel **И** is replaced by the soft sign [ь].

Russian family names also have gender distinctions: the male family names end in a consonant and the female family names end in a vowel “-а” or in a combination of vowels “-ая” as in the following names:

Петро́в|- – **Петро́в|-а**
Толст|-ой – **Толст|-ая**
Достоёвск|-ий – **Достоёвск|-ая**.

V. GRAMMAR EXERCISES

Exercise 5.1. Determine the gender of the following nouns. Write them down in three separate groups:

Учи́тель (a school teacher), архи́тектор , ли́цо (a face), шко́льница (a school student), студéнт (a university, college student), амери́канка, кана́дец, яйцо́ (an egg), мексика́нец, не́бо (the sky), писа́тель (a writer), числó (a date) писа́тельница, ко́льцо (a ring), волейболи́ст, баскетболи́стка, зебра́, тигри́ца, кафе́, письмо́ (a letter), дочь, воспи́татель (a kindergarten teacher), мышь (a mouse), окно́ (a window), инжени́р, меха́ник, врач, медсестра́ (a nurse), пожа́рник (a fireman), те́хник, (a technician) слéсарь (maintenance person), но́чь, сло́варь, задáние (an assignment), расписа́ние (an itinerary), метро́, физи́к, домохозяйка́ (a housewife), космо́навт, крыльцо́ (a porch), солдат, цунами́.

Masc. nouns (**ОН**)

Fem. nouns (**ОНА́**)

Neut. nouns (**ОНО́**)

Exercise 5.2. Form the feminine forms of the following nouns using the suggested feminine gender suffixes:

a) Suffix “**ниц**”–“**а**” (the ending) as in “**учи́тель**” – “**учи́тельница**”
писа́тель (a writer) _____, чита́тель (a reader) _____,
преподава́тель (a university instructor) _____,
учи́тель (a school instructor) _____, худо́жник¹ (an artist) _____,
учени́к (a school student) _____, шко́льник (a school student) _____, лётчик (a pilot) _____

b) Suffix “**-к-**”+ “**-а**” (the ending) as in “**студéнт**” – “**студéнтка**”
журнали́ст _____, активи́ст (an activist) _____,
коммуни́ст _____, арти́ст (an actor) _____, музыкант (a musician) _____, бизне́смен _____,
программи́ст _____, юри́ст (a lawyer, an attorney) _____,
швед (a Swede) _____, финн (a Finn) _____,
москвйч (a muscovite) _____

c) Substitute the masculine suffix “**-ец**” by the feminine suffix “**-к**” + ending “**-а**” in the following names of nationalities as in “**амери́канец**” – “**амери́канка**”

кана́дец _____, испа́нец _____,
италья́нец _____, не́мец (a German) _____,
мексика́нец _____, япо́нец _____,
ирла́ндец _____, шотла́ндец _____,

¹ In the last four words the masculine suffix “**-ик**” has to be replaced by the feminine suffix “**ниц**”–“**а**” (the ending), as in “**худо́жник- худо́жница**” (male artist- female artist)

норве́жец _____, португа́лец _____,
вьетна́мец _____.

Exercise 5.3. Match the name of the country with the name of the people who live in it:

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Португа́лия | 8. Ита́лия | A. мексика́нцы | F. шотла́ндцы |
| 2. Мексика́ | 9. Шотла́ндия | B. япо́нцы | I. норве́жцы |
| 3. Кана́да | 10. Испа́ния | C. ирла́ндцы | J. вьетна́мцы |
| 4. Герма́ния | 11. Япо́ния | D. португа́льцы | K. ита́льянцы |
| 5. Норве́гия | | E. испа́нцы | |
| 6. Ирла́ндия | | F. не́мцы | |
| 7. Вьетна́м | | G. кана́дцы | |

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11.

Exercise 5.4. These are the Russian first names. Circle the female names and underline the male names:

Григо́рий, Ната́лья, Анто́н, Никола́й, Зинаи́да, Влади́мир, Пе́тр, Фе́до́р,
Алекса́ндр, Алекса́ндра, Игна́т, Макси́м, Михаи́л, Зо́я, Кири́лл, Татья́на,
Ге́рман, Евге́ний, Евге́ния, Дми́трий, Ни́на, Тара́с, Па́вел, Еле́на, И́горь, Мари́на,
Андре́й, Наде́жда, Бори́с, Светла́на, А́нна, Ири́на.

Exercise 5.5. What are the first names of these people's fathers? Write them down.

Григо́рий Анто́нович Ива́нов _____
Мари́я Петро́вна Ма́ркова _____
Еле́на Ви́кторовна Ка́спина _____
Алексе́й Михаи́лович Аксе́нов _____
Наде́жда Ива́новна Канды́бина _____
Ната́лья Григо́рьевна Макси́мова _____
Евге́ний Никола́евич Никола́ев _____
Андре́й Алекса́ндрович Шишо́в _____
Никола́й Па́влович Зерно́в _____
Людми́ла Бори́совна Па́влова _____
Еле́на Андре́евна Вознесе́нская _____

Exercise 5.6. Derive male and female patronymics from the following first names. Write them down.

Пе́тр _____
Никола́й _____
Ива́н _____
Бори́с _____
Михаи́л _____

Семён _____
Серге́й _____
Евге́ний _____
Анто́н _____
Андре́й _____
Васи́лий _____
Ники́фор _____
Григо́рий _____
Алекса́ндр _____
Макси́м _____
Вале́рий _____
Дми́трий _____
Вячесла́в [вичесла́ф] _____
Па́вел _____
Фёдор _____

INTRODUCTORY RUSSIAN SECTION 4

I. STARTING A CONVERSATION IN RUSSIAN:

1.1. INFORMAL GREETINGS

Use the informal question “**Как дела?**” or its full form “**Как (у тебя/ у вас) дела?**” with your friends, family and your fellow students. It’s quite appropriate for an instructor to ask the same question of a student, but the reverse is inappropriate. The conversational phrase “**Как дела?**” means “How are you doing?” or “How are things?” It does not substitute a greeting, but follows it.

“**Здравствуй (те), как дела?**”

The response might not necessarily be the positive one that you expect in American English and which is best expressed by the words “Fine, thank you!” In Russian it may be

Спасибо, хорошо (well) **Здорово!** (great)

Прекрасно! (fine)

Отлично! (excellent)

These are very positive responses. There are also responses which are very neutral and evasive, but polite responses to keep the person out of your business and indicate that you are not in the mood to talk much on the topic of your life problems:

Ничего¹ [ничиво]

Нормально (not bad, normal, as usual),

The familiar form of the natural follow-up question is «**А у тебя?**» meaning “**And you?**”

There are also responses in Russian that indicate that things are going not well for you:

Так себе

Неважно,

Плохо

Ничего хорошего. (so-so, poor, bad, there is nothing good)

[ничиво хорошава]

If you hear a pessimistic unhappy response to the question “**Как дела?**”, you might want to ask more to show interest in the person’s problem:

Правда? Почему? [почиму?](Really? Why?) and encourage him/her saying

Всё будет хорошо. [фсе будит харашо] (Everything will be fine)

The conversation might be the following:

¹ Pay attention to the pronunciation of this word where the letter «Г» is pronounced as [В]

Ли́за. – Приве́т, Ви́ктор!

Ви́ктор. – Приве́т, Ли́за! Как дела́?

Л. – Нева́жно, Ви́ктор.

В. – Пра́вда!? Почему́?

Л. – Не зна́ю. Я изуча́ю ру́сский язы́к, но не понима́ю мно́го.

В. – Я то́же изуча́ю ру́сский язы́к.

Л. – Пра́вда? Ты понима́ешь ру́сский язы́к?

В. – Да, понима́ю. Все́ бу́дет хоро́шо, Ли́за.

Л. – Спа́сибо, Ви́ктор. До свидания́.

В. – Пока́, Ли́за!

1.2. DESCRIBING YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

Это моя семья

жена
бабушка
мать/мама
женщина



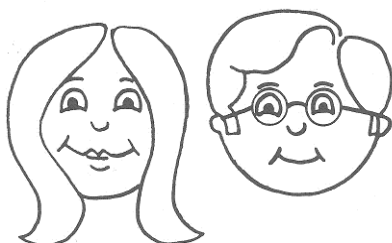
Это моя бабушка Елизавета Петровна



муж
дедушка
отец/папа
мужчина

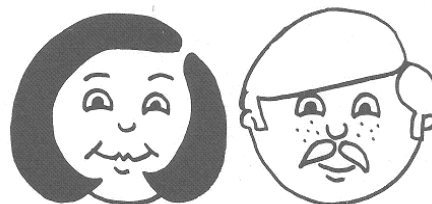
Это мой дедушка Николай Иванович

жена и муж
тетя и дядя
дочь и сын

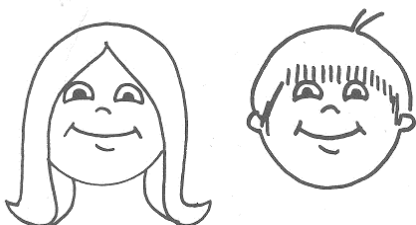


Это моя тётя Елена Викторовна и мой дядя Алексей Николаевич

мать и отец (мама и папа)
жена и муж
тетя и дядя



Это мои родители мама Анастасия Николаевна и папа Андрей Васильевич



Это дети Катя и Серёжа или Екатерина Алексеевна и Сергей Алексеевич

сестра и брат
племянница и племянник
внучка и внук
дочь и сын



Это я. Меня зовут Наташа или Наталья Андреевна

1.3. EXPRESSING OWNERSHIP

There several ways we can express possession or ownership in English. We can use the possessive pronouns like **MY** and etc. or we can use a sentence : **My car. I have a car.** Russian also has several ways to express possession that correspond to the English phrases above:

МОЯ МАШИ́НА

МОЙ ДЕДУШКА

У МЕНЯ ЕСТЬ МАШИ́НА

У МЕНЯ ЕСТЬ ДЕДУШКА

The last phrase is used to express possession in Russian. It is translated into English as “**I have a car**”, though the translation of the sentence is not literal . The more exact translation of the phrase will be “To me is/belongs/exists a car” which sounds very clumsy in English, though this explanation that draws parallel with English might help you to understand the construction. The thing possessed (**машина**) is in the Nominative case because it is the grammatical subject of the sentence. The element «**есть**» is the verb “**to be**” in the personal form. It is one of the few structures where the verb “to be” is used in Russian

The sentence “**У тебя/у вас есть машина**” means “**You have a car**”. The pronouns “**меня**” and “**тебя/вас**” are the Genitive case forms of the personal pronouns “**я**” and “**ты/вы**”. You will study them in detail later in the course. For now you need to remember these sentences.

У меня́ есть маши́на. (the statement) (I have a car)

У тебя/ у вас есть маши́на? (the general question) (Do you have a car?)

Да, у меня́ есть маши́на. (the positive response to the general question) (Yes, I do. I have a car.)

Нет, не́ту. (the negative response to the general question) (No, I don't)¹

У тебя/вас есть маши́на или мотоци́кл? (the alternative question) (Do you have a car or a motorcycle?)

У меня́ есть маши́на. (the response to the alternative question) (I have a car)

Что у тебя/вас есть? (the special question) (What do you have?)

У меня́ есть маши́на и дом. (the response to the special question) (I have a car and a house)

Кто у вас/тебя есть?

У меня́ есть сестра и брат.

Exercise 1.1. Work in pairs. Ask you partner if he/she has the following objects or people:

Model: У тебя́ есть маши́на? – Да, есть

Нет, не́ту

Use the following words for your questions:

Компью́тер, телеви́зор, дом, друг (a male friend), брат, сестра́, подру́га (a female friend), кни́га, журна́л, тетрадь (a note book), ру́чка (a pen), каранда́ш (a pencil), телефо́н, кот, па́спорт, ви́за, докуме́нты,

¹ For this question we have to learn only the short answer for now since the full answer requires the use of the Genitive case that we have not yet studied.

зонТ (an umbrella), ба́бушка, до́чери.

II. RUSSIAN ALPHABET. LETTERS AND SOUNDS

2.1. Hard and Soft Consonants

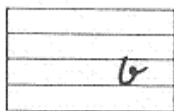
As it has already been mentioned in Section 3 the Russian letters П, Б, Ф, В, Т, Д, К, Г, С, З, Х, М, Н, Л, Р are used to denote both hard and soft consonant sounds. In other words, each of these letters may have two pronunciations, depending on its environment - the vowel that follows it. Thus, the letter В will be soft in the word “**ВИТО́К**” (revolution), while in the word “**ВЫЛ**” (howled) it will be pronounced as a hard consonant. We have an opposition of [В – В’]. In phonetics, the softness of the sound is marked by a stroke as in [В’]. See Table on page 23.

What is the difference in pronunciation of hard and soft consonants? You know that in order to pronounce the consonant В, you touch your lower lip with your upper teeth to form a complete obstruction like in combinations of sound ВА, ВУ, ВЫ, ВЭ, ВО. In pronouncing sound combinations ВЯ, ВЮ, ВИ, ВЕ, ВЁ, you form the complete obstruction in the same way: by touching the lower lip with your upper teeth. At the same time, the middle part of your tongue raises towards the hard palate preparing to pronounce the following vowel И or the Ъ element of the diphthongs Я [йа], Ю [йу], Е [йэ], Ё [йо]. The raising of the middle part of the tongue towards the hard palate, which is called palatalization, produces a softening effect on the consonant В. In this case, we will pronounce a soft or palatalized variant of the consonant.

In the word “**дья́тел**” (a wood - pecker) there are 3 consonants. The two of them “**д**” and “**т**” will be soft, because they are followed by softening vowels, while the consonant “**л**” will be hard; it is not followed by any vowel.

In the word “**го́рка**” there are 3 consonants, and all of them are hard.

2.2. The Soft Sign «Ь»



Consonants are also pronounced as soft when they are followed in writing by a soft sign “Ь”. The soft sign “Ь” is a letter that represents no sound. Its presence in a word indicates that the preceding consonant is pronounced as a soft one. As in the following words which differ only in the pronunciation of the final consonant «Л»:

ел (he ate)- **ель** (spruce)



How is the soft Л «Л’» different in pronunciation from the hard Л «Л»? What should one do to make the consonant Л sound soft? You have already learned that in order to pronounce Л, you form a complete obstruction to the air stream from your lungs with the tip of your tongue and the upper teeth. To make Л sound soft, while moving the tip of the tongue to touch the upper teeth, you simultaneously should raise the middle part of your tongue towards the hard palate, as if you are preparing to utter the sound И after it. To make it work, you might even want to pronounce a very short И after it, but don’t make it sound long or very distinct.

ИТИ – ТИ – ТИ – ТИ – ТЬ
ИСИ – СИ – СИ – СИ – СЬ
ИЗИ – ЗИ – ЗИ – ЗИ – ЗЬ
ИМИ – МИ – МИ – МИ – МЬ

ИНИ – НИ – НИ – НИ – НЬ
ИДИ – ДИ – ДИ – ДИ – ДЬ
ИПИ – ПИ – ПИ – ПИ – ПЬ
ИБИ – БИ – БИ – БИ – БЬ

The soft sign always follows a consonant. It may be the final consonant in the word, as in “ель”, or in the middle of the word, as in “горько” (bitterly), «возьми» (take!) Sometimes the soft sign in the word might be followed by a vowel, as in “семья” (family). In the last case the soft sign will soften the consonant “м”, not the vowel “я”. The “й” element of the diphthong Я [йа] will be pronounced distinctly because it won’t merge with the preceding consonant М, as it does in the word “семя” (seed). The soft sign «ь» in the first word also separates letters М and Я in pronunciation thus performing the dividing function. Compare the pronunciation of the following words:

семья́ [сим’йя́] - се́мя [се́мя]

мы – мии – мьи
ма – миа – мья
му – миу – мью
мо – мио – мьё
мэ – миэ – мье

бы – бии – бьи
ба – биа – бья
бу – биу – бью
бо – био – бьё
бэ – биэ – бье

пы – пии – пьи
па – пиа – пья
пу – пиу – пью
по – пио – пьё
пэ – пиэ – пье

ми – мьи
мя – мья
мю – мью
мё - мьё
ме – мье

би – бьи
бя – бья
бю – бью
бё - бьё
бе – бье

пи – пьи
пя – пья
пю – пью
пё - пьё
пе – пье

ты – тии – тьи
та – тиа – тья
ту – тиу – тью
то – тιο – тьё
тэ – тиэ – тье

сы – сии – сьи
са – сия – сья
су – сиу – сью
со – сιο – сьё
сэ – сиэ – сье

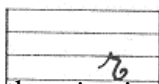
фы – фии – фьи
фа – фиа – фья
фу – фиу – фью
фо – фио – фьё
фэ – фиэ – фье

та – тья
ти – тьи
тю – тью
то – тьё
те – тье

са – сья
си – сьи
сю – сью
сё - сьё
се – сье

фа – фья
фи – фьи
фю – фью
фё - фьё
фе - фье

2.3. Hard Sign



There is another sign in the Russian alphabet - a hard sign “Ъ”. It occurs only between a consonant and a softening vowels **Я**, **Е** and **Ё**. Its presence in the word emphasizes the fact that the consonant followed by a softening vowel is not pronounced as a soft one; it remains hard. The following vowel is not merging with the consonant, thus retaining its first element “Й”. The hard sign as well as a soft sign performs a dividing function separating a consonant and a vowel that follows it. Compare the pronunciation of the following words:

Объявление [абэ́йавле́ние] (advertisement)

Объятие [об’я́тие] (embrace, hug)

Обязан [абя́зан] (must)

These words differ in the way the consonant **Б** and the following vowel **Я** are pronounced. In the first word, the consonant **Б** [б] is hard because it is followed by the hard sign [Ъ], and the vowel doesn’t merge with the preceding consonant and retains its initial element [й]. In the second word the consonant **Б** [б] is soft because it is followed by the soft sign [ь], and the vowel doesn’t merge with the preceding consonant and retains its initial element [й]. In the third word, the consonant **Б** [б] is soft because it is followed by a softening vowel, which merges with the preceding consonant, and its initial element [й] is not pronounced.

бя – бья – бъя

ся – сья – съя

зя – зья – зъя

вя – вья – въя

бе – бье – бье

се – сье – сье

зе – зье – зье

ве – вье – вье

бё – бье – бье

се – сье – сье

зе – зье – зье

ве – вье – вье

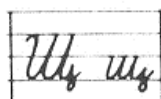
2.4. Spelling and Pronunciation Rules:

You can often see the soft sign [ь] after the hard consonants **Ш**, **Ж** and a soft consonant **Ч** in many Russian words:

отрежь (cut off), **говоришь** (you speak), **прочь** (away), **чья** (whose), **чьё** (whose), **чья** (whose), **дочь** (a daughter), **ночь** (a night), **мышь** (a mouse).

Positioned after the hard consonants **Ж**, **Ш**, the soft sign [ь] is there only for correct spelling. It doesn’t make the preceding consonants soft. In words, where the soft sign [ь] follows the soft consonant **Ч**, it doesn’t fulfill its function either. The consonant **Ч** is soft by its nature. You will have to remember the spelling of those words.

2.5. Consonant Ш.



When articulating the consonant **Ш**, the whole tongue moves forward. The tip of the tongue is slightly raised. Its middle part is highly raised towards the hard palate, creating a convex form. The back part of the tongue is lowered. Lips are slightly stretched. Remember! Consonant

Щ is always soft no matter what vowel follows it in writing. It is also always unvoiced. It does not have an voiced counterpart. Pay attention to the position of the consonant **Щ** in the general classification of Russian consonants reflected in the table below:

voiced	hard	Б	Г	Д	З	В	Ж				Ц	М	Л	Р	Н
	soft	Б'	Г'	Д'	З'	В'	Ж'				?	М'	Л'	Р'	Н'
unvoiced	hard	П	К	Т	С	Ф	Ш	Х	?	?					
	soft	П'	К'	Т'	С'	Ф'	Ш'	Х'	Ч'	Щ'					

ищи – щи щи ищ ыщи – аща – ущу – ощё - ищи
 еще – ше ще ещ
 аща – ша ща ащ
 ущу – шу шу уш
 ощё - щё щё ёщ

2.6. Spelling and Pronunciation Rules.

Remember that the Russian consonant **Щ** is always soft. In spite of this, in writing it can be followed by hard vowels **А, У** and **О**. If hard vowels **А, У** and **О** follow it, these vowels have to be pronounced respectively as **Я, Ю** and **Ё**. Consonant **Щ** can never be followed vowels **Э, Ы, Я** and **Ю** in writing. Consonant **Щ** can be followed by both vowels **О** and **Ё**. You will have to remember the spelling of the words. The following table shows the vowels in parentheses that cannot be used in writing after the consonant **Щ**:

hard vowels	А	О	У	(Э)	(Ы)
soft vowels	(Я)	Ё	(Ю)	Е	И

Sometimes the consonant **Щ** is followed by the soft sign as in the word **вещь** (a thing, fem.). The soft sign [**Ь**] in this word is there only for spelling, it doesn't make the consonant **Щ** soft; the consonant is soft by its nature. You will have to remember the spelling of these words.

The consonant **Щ** is often mistakenly confused with the consonant **Ш**. Their articulation is very similar. But the consonant **Щ** is soft and the consonant **Ш** - hard, which means that any vowel that follows **Щ** will be pronounced as [**я**], [**ю**], [**е**], [**ё**], [**и**], while any vowel that follows **Ш** will be pronounced as [**а**], [**у**], [**э**], [**о**], [**ы**] accordingly. It might be useful to practice pronouncing these consonants in combination with the following vowels. The difference in their pronunciation is more obvious in this case. Compare the pronunciation of the following words:

ча́ща [ч'ащ'я]– ка́ша [ка́ша] щу́ка [щ'ю́ка] – шу́тка [шу́тка]
 щель [щ'ел']– шесть [шэст'] щётка [щ'ётка] – пошёл [пашо́л]

щи[щ'и] – шил [шыл]

Consonant clusters **СЧ**, **ЗЧ** and **ЖЧ** are pronounced as **Щ** as in

сосчита́ем [саш'ита́им]

гру́зчик [гру́ш'ик]

му́жчина [муш'ина].

III. READING AND LISTENING EXERCISES

Exercise 3.1: Listen to the syllables two times. When you are listening to them for the second time circle the syllables that you hear:

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. та – тя – тья | 2. са – ся – сья | 3. бо – бё – бьё | 4. ду – дю – дью |
| 4. рэ – ре – рье | 5. му – мю – мью | 6. но – нё – ньё | 8. лу – лю – лью |
| 9. пэ – пе – пье | 10. ты – ти – тьи | 11. за – зя – зья | 12. фу – фю – фью |

Exercises 3.2: You will hear the couples of words either absolutely identical in pronunciation or almost identical in pronunciation with the only difference that the final consonant of one of them is soft and the final consonant of the other is hard. Listen to these pairs of words carefully and determine whether you hear identical or different words. If you hear identical words put down “+”, if you hear different words put down “—”

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12.

The Key: 1. за́вить – за́вит 2. дут – дут 3. ест –есть 4. спор – спорь 5. стал – стал 6. был – был 7. дал – даль 8. пуст – пуст 9. дан – дань 10. пят – пять 11. жеть – жест 12. шесть – шесть

Exercise 3.3. Practice reading the following pairs of words paying attention to the different pronunciation of final consonants:

ел – ель	ест – есь	лез – лезь
топ – топь	вит – вить	прибит – прибить
бит – бить	сын – синь	сад – сядь
шест – шесть	брат – брать	клад – кладь
дут – дуть	мат – мать	раб – рябь
гол – голь	мел – мель	кров – кровь
пят – пять	кол – коль	спор – спорь
ос – ось	мыт – мыть	готов – готовь
угол – уголь	дал – даль	дан – дань
лён – лёнь	лад – ладь ¹	стал – сталь
был – быль	пуст – пусть	убыл – убыль
Вер – верь		

¹ The voiced consonant followed by a soft sign at the end of the words has to be devoiced according to the general rule

Exercise 3.4. Practice reading the following pairs of words paying attention to the different pronunciation of the underlined consonants in the middle of a word

водна́ – вольна́ колко – сколко
полка – полька варка – Варька горка – горько
булка – булькать мелком – мелком толком – только.

Exercise 3.5. Practice reading the following pairs of words paying attention to the different pronunciation of the underlined combinations of consonants and vowels:

буяка – воробуя, пять – пян, хотя – статя,
дядя – судя, семя – семья, гостя – гостя, тетя – питя, коси – колося
песня – песа
бедра – бедет, пек – пет, вез – везет, лед – ледет
буст – бусют, дебют – убюю, тетю – статю, женю – свиню
семи – семьи, кати – статьи, суди – судьи, гони – свиньи

Exercise 3.6. Practice pronouncing the words with the soft sign paying special attention to the devoicing of the underlined letters:

Ель, есть, лезь, топь, вить, прибить, бить, синь, сядь, шесть, сесть, режь¹, рожь,
дрожь

редька, нянька, ходьба, польза, Польша, тюрьма, Львов, Филадельфия,
Петька, Витька, пулька, бабулька.

семья, пян, гостя, ладья, бадья, друзья, статья, скамья, Татьяна, куфья,
листья, стулья, Софья,

платье, ученье, именье, песа, курьер, карьера, статье, судье, скамье, устье,
ледет, пет, везет, живьем, бабье

вьюнок, бусют, скамю, статю

судьи, статьи, скамьи, свиньи

Exercise 3.7. Out of each pair of words only one will be read to you. In each pair of words circle the one that you hear:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. пи <u>ш</u> и – пи <u>ш</u> и́ | 2. пи <u>ш</u> у́ – пи <u>ш</u> у́ | 3. шу <u>р</u> – шу <u>р</u> |
| 4. шо <u>к</u> – щ <u>е</u> к | 5. шу <u>б</u> – шу <u>п</u> | 6. про <u>ш</u> у́ – про <u>ш</u> у́ |
| 7. ше <u>л</u> к – щ <u>е</u> лк | 8. ши <u>п</u> – ши <u>п</u> | 9. плю <u>ш</u> – плю <u>ш</u> |

¹ Remember that **Ж** is always hard

Exercise 3.8. Practice pronouncing the following words paying attention to the different pronunciation of the consonants **Ш** and **Щ** followed by a vowel:

Пиши́ – пищи́, пишу́– пишу́, шёлк - шёлк, прошу́ – прошу́,
шерсть – шерить, шарик – шавель, шип – шип, шуб – щуп, Шу́ра – щу́ка,
шутка – шур, шёлка – щёлка, шорох – щёлок, шок – щёк, леший – нищий,
плюш – плющ, шерстка – щётка, шил – ши, шабаш – пощада, решётка – щётка,
отношение – угощение, ваш – плащ, мажь – мощь, вошь – овош, ложь – борщ,
ешь – леш

Exercise 3.9. Listen and practice reading the following words. Remember that the letter **А** will be pronounced as [я] and **У** will be pronounced as [ю] after the consonant **Щ**. Remember to reduce the underlined vowels:

ищи́, пищи́, свищи́, вощи́на, нищий, ищейка, вошанка, ро́ща, гу́ща, пу́ща, ишу́,
пишу́, навещу́, прощу́, угощу́, отпушу́, щётка, щёлка, щёлкать
щи, шип, шито́к, щека́, шего́л, шегле́нок, шеко́лда, щебету́н, ше́бет, щель,
щепка, ще́дрый, шерить, щуп, шур, щу́ка, щупать, щуплый, щёлк, щёлка,
щёлка́ть, щего́ль, щёлок, щёки, женщина
ищу́щий, вме́щающий, щёлкающий, защища́ющий
овош, леш, зрящ, плющ, плащ, борщ, мощь, помо́щь, вещь.

Exercise 3.10. Read the following words paying attention to the different pronunciation of the words with the hard sign:

Сел – съел Сёмка – съёмка зять – изья́н
одежда – подьезд обе́дать – объе́кт.

Exercise 3.11. Read the following words paying attention to the different pronunciation of the words with the soft and the hard signs:

Обезья́на – объя́вление
обобье́м – объе́м
отребе́ье – объе́хать

Exercise 3.12. Practice reading the following words that have the hard sign. Remember that the preceding consonant should be pronounced as a hard one. Pay special attention to devoicing or reduction of the underlined sounds. In the spaces provided write down the required pronunciation of the letters underlined:

Изья́н, необья́тный [] [], подьезд [] [], отье́зд [] [], съем,
обье́дки [] [], изья́вить [], изья́звить [], обья́снять [] [],
обья́снение [] [], объе́м [], субъект, обье́кт [], обья́вить [] [],
обья́вление [] [], разья́снял [], разья́снение [],
обье́ктивность [] [] [], обье́хать [], съел, адьюта́нт, инье́кция

Exercise 3.13. Read the following words. Circle the words in which the soft sign «Ь» is there only for correct spelling:

До́чь, тетра́дь, крова́ть, но́чь, мочь, сло́ва́рь, учи́шься, шьёт, пьёт, нальём, говори́шь, режь, ро́жь, коло́ть, здоро́вье, чьё, дро́жь, пла́тья, ружьё, ручьи́, вно́вь, Сиби́рь, песка́рь, прино́сишь, весь, де́нь.

Exercise 3.14. Determine which consonants are hard and which are soft in the following words. Pay special attention to the consonants **Ж, Ш** and **Ч**. Circle the soft consonants and underline the hard ones:

Журнали́ст, Ваши́нґто́н, Филадель́фия, универси́тет, Горбачёв, респу́блика, литерату́ра, жира́ф, кларне́т, телеви́зор, часо́вня (a chapel), Португа́лия, жизнь (life), исто́рия, хи́мия, хорошо́ (well), часы́ (watch, clock), чароде́й (a magician), чужа́к (a stranger), жеребе́нок (a colt), заявле́ние (a petition), объ́ясне́ние (explanation), пробо́ём (we'll break through), пьют (they drink), жи́молость (honeysuckle), четы́ре (four), де́вять (nine), де́сять (ten).

Exercise 3.15. Practice reading the sentences and the phrases:

На скамье́ ме́д. (there is honey on the bench)

Пе́тр пьёт весь де́нь. (Peter has been drinking all day long)

Пяты́й пан пьян. (The fifth lord is drunk)

Илья́ прода́л импе́ние. (Ilea has sold his estate)

Пе́сня в пье́се. (the song in the play)

Эти́ люди́ лью́т сталь. (These people make steel)

Со́фья пьёт ко́фе в кафе́. (Sofia is drinking coffee in the coffee-shop)

На реке́ уже́ ле́д. (There is ice on the river already)

Ка́тя - госты́я Татья́ны. (Katya is Tatyana's guest)

Дождь́ льёт как из ве́дра. (It's raining cats and dogs)

На́ша А́ня - бегу́нья. (Our Anna is a runner)

Иде́м домо́й! (Let's go home)

Уче́нье - свет, а неуче́нье тьма. (Proverb: Knowledge is light, ignorance is darkness)

Друзья́ познаю́тся в беде́. (Proverb: Misfortune shows who is your friend)

По пла́тью встреча́ют, по уму́ провожа́ют. (Proverb: Appearances are deceiving)

Где щи́ – там нас ищи́.

(You'll find us at the places where the food is)

Щи́ да каша́ – пи́ща на́ша.

(We eat simple food – cabbage soup and grain)

Не́ было бы́ сча́стья, да несча́стье помо́гло.

(Every cloud has a silver lining)

Часовщи́к, прищу́рив гла́з, Squinting his eye the watchmaker

[чисафши́к прищу́риф гла́с]

Чи́нит ча́сики для нас

Repairs the watch for us

Exercise 3.16. Practice reading the following poems:

Наварила́ щу́ка шей, The pike has cooked a cabbage soup
Угоща́ла двух ерше́й. And invited two rockfish
[угащала́ двух йирше́й]
Рассказа́ли нам ерши́ The rockfish told us
[йирши́]
Щи у щу́ки хороши́ That the pike's cabbage soup was good
[хараши́]

Exercise 3.17. Learn to pronounce Russian numbers from 1 to 10. Pay attention to the pronunciation of the underlined letters:

Оди́н [ади́н](1), два (2), три (3), четы́ре [читы́ри](4), пять (5), шесть (6), семь (7),
во́семь [во́сим'] (8), де́вять [де́вит'] (9), де́сять [де́сит'] (10)

IV. ГРАММАТИКА. (GRAMMAR)

4.1. Gender of Nouns (continued).

It will not be necessarily easy to determine the gender of the nouns that end in a consonant followed by a soft sign [Ь] because they may be either feminine or masculine. The nouns that end in **Ж, Ш, Ч** followed by a soft sign [Ь] are usually feminine, for example, **ночь** (a night), **дочь** (a daughter), **рожь** (rye), **мышь** (a mouse). Other nouns ending in a soft sign have to be remembered. For example, **словарь** (a dictionary), **день** (a day), **уголь** (a coal), **конь** (a stallion) are masculine nouns and **тетрадь** (a notebook), **кровать** (a bed), **мать** (a mother), **пыль** (dust), **кровь** (blood), **жизнь** (life) are feminine nouns. If you are in doubt about the gender of a noun ending in a soft sign, you'll have to look it up in the dictionary. Next to the noun there will be a letter (F) or (M) for feminine or masculine gender.

4.2 .Foreign Nouns.

In every language, there are words which have been borrowed from other languages. In the English language, only 30% of words are the words of native stock; the other 70 % were borrowed from other languages. Some of the words have successfully assimilated to the norms of the English language and are no longer perceived as foreign. For example, the words like to “**ski**”, “**skull**”, “**skill**” were all borrowed from the Scandinavian languages, but we perceive them as regular English words. There is nothing in their pronunciation or spelling that contradicts the norms of modern English language. The words like “**hors d'oeuvre**” and “**coup d'etat**” definitely look foreign to a native English speaker. Nouns that were brought into the language and have not yet assimilated to the existing norms of the language are called **foreign words**. There are foreign words in the Russian language as well. There are some of them: “**такси**” (taxi/cab)(n), “**кенгуру**” (kenguru)(n), “**метро**” (subway)(n), “**радио**” (radio)(n), “**кофе**” (coffee)(m), “**кафе**” (cafe)(n), “**торнадо**” (tornado) (n.), “**авеню**” (avenue) (n) , “**рефери**” (referee) (n). As you see, all of them, except “**кофе**”, are of neuter gender. These nouns do not form the plural forms as do all other Russian nouns. Their plural forms are the same as the singular.

4.3. Words Naming Family Members and their Gender.

There are several words that you already know that denote family members and there are some new words:

females	males
мать/мама (mother)	отец/папа (father)
дочь(daughter)	сын (son)
сестра (sister)	брат (brother)
бабушка (grandmother)	дедушка (grandfather)
жена (wife)	муж (husband)
тётя (aunt)	дядя (uncle)
племянница (niece)	племянник (nephew)
мужчина (man)	женщина (woman)

Some Russian nouns ending in “-а” and “-я” name persons of male sex as “папа” (a daddy), “дедушка” (grandfather), “мужчина” (man/male), “слуга” (servant), “юноша” (young man) or “дядя” (an uncle). These nouns are considered masculine nouns though their endings look like feminine ones.

Russian nouns that end in **Ч, Ш, Щ, Ж** followed by a soft sign [Ь] are always feminine.
вещь(a thing), **мощь** (might), **ночь** (night), **мышь** (a mouse), **рожь** (rye)

4.4. Gender and Russian Names. (continued)

Almost all first Russian names have a number of “short” forms or diminutive nicknames. Compare English “James” and “Jim” and Russian “Иван” and “Ваня”. Both masculine and feminine forms of the nicknames end in “-а” or “-я” as in Мария – Маша, Михаил - Миша. Men’s nicknames ending in “-а” or “-я” are considered masculine gender nouns though their endings look like feminine ones.

Russian First Names and Nicknames.

Male

Ива́н, Ва́ня
Васи́лий, Ва́ся
Никола́й, Ко́ля
Ви́ктор, Ви́тя
Вячесла́в, Сла́ва
Юри́й, Юра
Анато́лий, То́ля
Влади́мир, Воло́дя, Во́ва
Алексе́й, Але́ша
Андре́й, Андру́ша
Константи́н, Ко́стя
Дми́трий, Ди́ма, Ми́тя

Female

Ната́лья, Ната́ша
Екатери́на, Ка́тя
Ольга, Оля
Татья́на, Та́ня
Верони́ка, Ве́ра, Ни́ка
Анна, Аня
Любо́вь, Лю́ба
Евге́ния, Же́ня
Валенти́на, Ва́ля
Светла́на, Све́та
Со́фья, Со́ня
Мари́я, Ма́ша

Михаи́л, Ми́ша
 Евге́ний, Же́ня
 Серге́й, Серге́жа
 Пе́тр, Пе́тя
 Григо́рий, Григо́ша
 Семён, Се́ня
 Алекса́ндр, Са́ша, Шу́ра
 Оле́г, Оле́жка, Алик
 Па́вел, Па́ша

Лари́са, Ла́ра
 Наде́жда, На́дя
 Гали́на, Га́ля
 Зинаи́да, Зи́на
 Людми́ла, Лю́да, Ми́ла
 Еле́на, Ле́на
 Алекса́ндра, Са́ша, Шу́ра
 Ири́на, Ира
 Да́рья, Да́ша

The Russian names that don't have nicknames:

Male

Игорь, Антон

Female

Нина, Марина, Неля

4.5. Gender of Russian Nouns. Summary.

The following chart summarizes the category of gender of Russian nouns.

Nouns	Masculine Nouns that end in a consonant, - Й , some nouns ending in a soft sign Ь , and some masculine nouns: names of people and words of kinship	Neuter Nouns that end in -О and -Е , the majority of the foreign nouns	Feminine Nouns that end in -А and -Я , some nouns ending in a soft sign Ь .
Hard stem	стол _ (a table) студент _ (a student) пап а (a father) Саш а (short for Alexander)	окн о (a window) лиц о (a face) метр о (a subway)	книг а (a book) мыш ь (a mouse) Маш а (short for Maria)
Soft stem	трамва й (a street car) ден ь (an uncle) Вит я (short for Victor)	пол е (a field) мор е (a sea) здани е (a building) каф е (a cafe)	дын я (a melon) арми я (an army) мат ь (a mother) доч ь (a daughter) Мари я

4.6. Gender of Russian Pronouns

You are already familiar with personal pronouns **я (I), ты (you- sing.), он (he), она́ (she), оно́ (it), мы (we) , вы (you- plural), они́ (they)** . There are also possessive pronouns in Russian, which are equivalent to English possessive pronouns, eg. English **my** and Russian **мой/моя/моё/мои**. Possessive pronouns are always followed by a noun and they have to agree with the following noun in number, gender and case. The following table illustrates the agreement of the Russian possessive pronouns with the following nouns in gender and number

	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.	Plural
My, mine	Мой стол	Моя книга	Моё письмо	Мои столы Мои книги Мои письма

4.7. Russian Verbs.

The initial form of the verb in Russian is **the infinitive**. Infinitive is the name of an action, process or state, which is not referred to a grammatical person. While in English, the sign of the infinitive as the particle “to” as in “to run”, in the Russian language the ending “-ть” indicates the infinitive of the verb. For example: “**чита́ть**” (to read), “**пони́ма́ть**” (to understand), “**изуча́ть**” (to study), “**зна́ть**”(to know), “**повторя́ть**”[па́фтарит’] (to repeat, to review), “**слу́шать**” (to listen), **отвеча́ть** [атвич’ат’](to respond, to answer), **объясня́ть** [аб’йиснят’](to explain)

The actions, processes and states in real life are usually tied to a person or an agent. There are six grammatical persons to which the action, process or state named by a verb can be referred. This process is called verb conjugation:

The Singular

1. я **чита́ю** (I read)
2. ты **чита́ешь** (you read)
3. он (она́, оно́) **чита́ет** (he, she, it reads)

The Plural

1. мы **чита́ем** (we read)
2. вы **чита́ете** (you read)
3. они **чита́ют** (they read)

As you see from the example, the conjugation of an English verb is not very complicated due to the fact that the English language doesn’t have endings except for “-s” in the 3rd person singular. With Russian verbs, you can see that they have a set of six endings (“-ю”, “-ешь”, “-ет”, “-ем”, “-ете”, “-ют”). These endings are the same for a large group of verbs; therefore they have to be memorized. The ending is added to the stem of the verb. To get the stem, you have to drop the ending “-ть” of the infinitive and add the proper ending to the remaining stem “чита́-“.

V. GRAMMAR EXERCISES

Exercise 5.1. Determine the gender of the following nouns. Use the dictionary if necessary:

панорама ____, аппарат ____, машина ____, молоко ____, чай ____, парк ____, катастрофа ____, слово ____, вода ____, язык ____, мясо(meat) ____, сын ____, яблоко (an apple) ____, поле(meat) ____, ёж (a hedgehog) ____, черепаха(tortoise) ____, мать ____, словарь ____,

мышь__, музей__, торнадо ____, окно__, объявление (an ad)__, семья__, жираф__, армия__, новость(an item of news)__, ель(a spruce)__, дедушка ____, такси__, внимание (attention)__, счастье (happiness), щука (a pike)__, цапля(a heron)__, ночь (a night)__, учитель (a teacher)__, день (a day)__, яйцо (an egg)__, кольцо (a ring)__, песня (a song)__, улица (a street)__, концерт (a concert)__, тетрадь (a notebook)__, телефон__, дядя (an uncle)__, тётя (an aunt)__, мужчина (an man)__, клей (glue)__, нож (a knife)__, полиция (police)__.

Exercise 5.2. Match the following nouns indicating feminine and masculine gender forms of the same word:

Masculine nouns:

актёр_____, испанец_____, журналист_____, кот_____, гимнаст_____, пассажир_____, студент_____, теннисист_____, турист_____, писатель (a writer) _____, американец_____, читатель (a reader) _____, продавец (a salesman)_____, канадец_____

Feminine nouns:

кошка, канадка, актриса, туристка, студентка, читательница, писательница, журналистка, испанка, гимнастка, американка, пассажирка, теннисистка, продавщица

Exercise 5.3. Supply the missing words - names of family members

females	males
мать/мама (mother)	_____
дочь(daughter)	_____
_____	брат (brother)
бабушка (grandmother)	_____
_____	муж (husband)
тётя (aunt)	_____
_____	племянник (nephew)
женщина (woman)	_____

Exercise 5.4. Insert the appropriate forms of possessive pronouns into the following sentences:

Model: Этокомната

Это мой комната.

A. Мой, моя, моё, мой

1. Это.....стол. 2. Эторучки (pens). 3. Это машина. 4. Это компьютер. 5. Этописьма и газёты (letters and newspapers).
6. Это.....учитель. 7. Этоучительница. 8. Это мать.
9. Этоотец. 10. Этобрат. 11. Этосестра. 12. Это преподаватель.

Exercise 5.5. Write down the words for the following Russian numbers:

1 -

4 -

2-

6-

10 -

3 -

9 -

5 -

7 -

8 -

Exercise 5.6. Do the following sums, write them down in words and read them in Russian.

Russian words that you need to know:

plus (+) **плюс**

minus (-) **минус**

equals (=) **будет**

Model: 10-5=5

Десять минус пять будет пять

9 - 7 =

6 + 4 =

3 + 7 =

5 - 2 =

10 - 8 =

1 + 8 =

9 - 4 =

Exercise 5.7. Learn the names of the months and seasons in Russian

зима: декабрь, январь, февраль

[дикабрь] [йинвар'] [фиврал']

весна: март, апрель, май

[висна]

лето: июнь, июль, август

[лэта]

осень: сентябрь, октябрь, ноябрь

[осин'] [синтябрь'] [актябрь'] [наябрь']

Exercise 5.8: Insert the verb “**читать**” in the appropriate form:

1. Я текст.
2. Ты роман. (a novel)
3. Мы журнал.
4. Он письмо. (a letter).
5. Вы объявление. (an ad).
6. Я рассказ (a story).
7. Мы правило (a rule).
8. Вы письмо.
9. Она словарь (a dictionary).

Exercise 5.9: Insert the appropriate pronouns:

1. читаем роман.
2. читаю журнал.
3. читаете текст.
4. читаешь письмо.
5. читает рассказ.
6. читают упражнение (exercise).
7. читает предложение (sentence).
8. читаю правило.

Exercise 5.10: Conjugate the verbs in the following sentences:

1. Я повторяю текст.
2. Я знаю правило.
3. Я понимаю предложение.
4. Я слушаю радио.
5. Я отвечаю урок.
6. Я изучаю русский язык.
7. Я объясняю правило.

Exercise 5.11: Answer the following general questions first in the affirmative and then in the negative:

Model: Ты понимаешь предложение?
Да, я понимаю предложение.
Нет, я не понимаю предложение.

1. Он слушает радио?
2. Она читает письмо?
3. Они повторяют текст?
4. Она читает журнал?
5. Студент знает русский алфавит?
6. Студентка понимает текст?
7. Анна и Иван изучают русский язык?
8. Вы понимаете текст?
9. Вы слушаете радио.
10. Вы читаете журнал?
11. Ты знаешь правило?
12. Ты повторяешь урок?
13. Вы повторяете диалог?
14. Учитель объясняет урок?

Exercise 5.12: Answer the following general questions in the negative. Negate the underlined word. Use the word in parentheses to clarify the response in the following sentence:

Model: 1. Ты понимаешь предложение? (знать)

Нет, я не понимаю предложение. Я знаю предложение.

2. Ты понимаешь предложение? (правило)

Нет, я понимаю не предложение, Я понимаю правило.

1. Он слушает радио? (стихи) (poems) 2. Она читает письмо (слушать)?
3. Они повторяют текст? (читать) 4. Она читает журнал? (русский алфавит)
5. Студент знает русский алфавит? (английский алфавит)
6. Студентка понимает текст? (знать) 7. Анна и Иван изучают русский язык? (финансы) 8. Вы понимаете текст? (правило) 9. Вы слушаете радио? (рассказ)
10. Вы читаете журнал? (диалог) 11. Ты знаешь правило? (повторять)
12. Ты повторяешь урок? (отвечать) 13. Вы повторяете диалог? (алфавит)
14. Учитель объясняет урок? (правило)

Exercise 5.13: Answer the following special questions using prompts given in parentheses in your responses. Pay attention to the use of personal pronouns:

Model: Что ты знаешь? (правило) (a rule)

Я знаю правило.

1. Что она читает? (письмо) 2. Что он слушает? (радио). 3. Что студенты изучают? (алфавит). 4. Кто понимает текст? (мы) 5. Кто повторяет текст? (студентка). 6. Кто знает русский язык? (сестра) 7. Что вы читаете? (диалог)
8. Что изучают Анна и Иван? (финансы) 9. Что ты читаешь? (правило)
10. Что ты знаешь? (правило). 11 Кто объясняет урок (учитель)
12. Что учитель объясняет (урок). 13. Что вы изучаете (русский язык)
14. Что вы знаете? (русский алфавит)