

DIALOG ROLES: П = Преподаватель 'instructor', С = Студент 'undergraduate student'¹

1. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

(a) Answer in English.

П: Как вас зовут?

С: Mary Smith.

What's your name?

Mary Smith.

(b) Answer in Russian.

П: Как вас зовут?

зовут

меня

С: Меня зовут Mary Smith.

What's your name?

'they call', 3rd Plur. of звать

'me', Accusative of я

My name is Mary Smith.

(c) Answer in Russian and ask the teacher's name in Russian.

П: Как вас зовут?

а

вас

С: Меня зовут Mary Smith. А вас?

П: Меня зовут Иван Петрович.

What's your name?

'and'

'you', Accusative of вы

My name is Mary Smith. And yours?

My name is Ivan Petrovich.

INTONATION: Question-word questions and a-questions

Questions beginning with a question-word (e.g. как 'how') have a high falling tune. The place where the pitch is high is marked with an up-arrow (↑); the place where it starts to fall is marked with a slanting down-arrow (↘).

Как вас зовут?

What's your name? (Lit. 'How do they call you?')

If you repeat the question to another person, you can stress вас, like *your* in English:

А как **в**ас зовут?

And what's *your* name?

In questions beginning with the word «а» 'and' (with no question-word) the pitch dips down and then rises:

А теб^я? А в^ас?

And you?

RUSSIAN NAMING CUSTOMS: Patronymics

'Ivan Petrovich' is the first name and middle name of the teacher in this dialog. This is the polite form of address in Russian, corresponding to English 'Mr./Ms./Mrs./Miss'. The middle name is called the *patronymic*, because it is derived from the father's first name; thus, the father of Иван Петрович has the first name Пётр. The patronymic of a woman generally has the suffix -овна rather than -ович, so Ivan's sister would have the patronymic Петровна.

GRAMMAR: Dictionary forms

In the right-hand column of the dialogs, along with the translations, you will find grammatical information on the words in the sentence. If the word in the sentence is an inflected form of the word, then the name of the inflected form is given along with the *dictionary form*. You can then look up the dictionary form in *5000 Russian Words* (henceforth called simply the *Dictionary*) and find out more information on it. For example, the word *меня* is the Accusative case of the word *я* (the Nominative case, which is the dictionary form of nouns and pronouns), just as in English the word *me* is the Accusative form of *I*. The literal translation of *Меня зовут...* is 'They call *me*...' and the word *меня* 'me' is the direct object of the verb *зовут* 'they call'. Direct objects are Accusative.

1. The corresponding terms in elementary and secondary schools are учитель 'teacher' and ученик 'pupil'. The word for 'graduate student' is аспирант.

2. WHAT'S THAT?

П: Повторите, пожалуйста: «Это ручка.»

Repeat, please: This is a pen.
'this is, that is' (*uninflected*)

С: Это ^{это} ручка.

This is a pen.

Repeat, using the following words:

газета 'newspaper' бумага 'paper' книга 'book'

П: Это ручка?

Is this a pen?

С: Да, это ручка.

Yes, that's a pen.

or: Нет, это не ручка.

No, that's not a pen.

Repeat, using all four words.

П: Это ручка?

Is this a pen?

С: Да, это ручка.

Yes, that's a pen.

П: А это?

And this?

С: Это газета.

That's a newspaper.

П: Что это?

What's this/that?

С: Это газета.

That's a newspaper.

Repeat, going around the class at random and pointing to (or holding up) the four objects at random.

Now repeat all the above exercises using the following words:

вино 'wine' кольцо 'ring' письмо 'letter' яйцо 'egg'

Now repeat all the above exercises using the following words:

стакан 'glass' мел 'chalk' конверт 'envelope' карандаш 'pencil'

Now repeat the last 6 lines of the above exercise, mixing up all 12 nouns randomly.

3. WHERE IS IT?

П: Где газета?

Where's the newspaper?

С: Газета здесь.

The newspaper is here.

П: А ручка?

And the pen?

С: Ручка там.

The pen is there.

Repeat, mixing up all 12 nouns, some objects being near the speaker (здесь), some far (там).

П: Где газета?

Where's the newspaper?

С: Газета здесь.

The newspaper is here.

П: А ручка?

And the pen?

С: Ручка тоже здесь.

The pen is also here.

Repeat, using various nouns.

INTONATION: Neutral vs. emphatic statements

A *neutral* statement has low pitch on the main stress, usually at the end of the sentence; on the syllable immediately before the stress there is often a rise in pitch. Russian *emphatic* statements sound like English neutral statements: high pitch on the stressed syllable, then falling pitch.

Neutral: Это бума́га.

Это стака́н.

Emphatic: Это бума́га.

Это стака́н.

GRAMMAR: Declension classes

There are four *declension classes* in Russian, three of which are illustrated in this lesson. The term *declension* refers to the *endings* that come after the noun *stem*.

Nouns like ручк-а belong the *a-declension* because the vowel -а follows the stem.

Nouns like письм-о belong the *o-declension* because the vowel -о follow the stem.

Nouns like стака́н-# belong to the *zero declension* because no vowel follows the stem.

1. REVIEW: Dialog 1(c) from Lesson 1.

2. CHOOSING A NICKNAME

On the following page is a list of Russian names. Choose a nickname that corresponds to your English name (or any that strikes your fancy). You can use your English name if it ends in -a.

The capital letters on the left (followed by a colon) stand for the participants in the dialog:

П = Преподавательница 'instructor (woman)' or Преподаватель 'instructor (man)', М = Маша (woman), С = Саша (man). The word for 'undergraduate student' is студент (man) or студентка (woman).

П: Здравствуйте! Как вас зовут?

Hello! What's your name?

М: Меня зовут Маша. А вас?

My name is Masha. And yours?

П: Меня зовут Нина Степановна.

My name is Nina Stepanovna.

Go around the class, and then do this:

П: Маша, спросите его, как его зовут.

Masha, ask him what his name is.

здравствуй¹

Pronounced as though spelled «здрáствуй»

тебя¹

Accusative of ты

М: Здравствуй! Как тебя зовут?

Hi! What's your name?

С: Меня зовут Саша. А тебя?

My name is Sasha. And yours?

М: Меня зовут Маша.

My name is Masha.

3. ASKING PEOPLE (For simplicity, say 'Ask him/her', though using names would be more polite.)

П: Саша, спросите её, что это.

Sasha, ask her what this is.

что

Pronounced as though spelled «штó»

С: Маша, что это?

Masha, what's this?

М: Это стака́н.

That's a glass.

П: Хорошó.

Good.

INTONATION: Calling people

The tune for calling people by name is very like the tune used in questions containing a question word: high falling pitch. If the name consists of more than one word, the high pitch is on the first stressed syllable and it falls during the second syllable. The tune sounds abrupt to the English ear. Avoid the English rising tune.

Russian: Маша, что́ это?

English: Masha, ...

Russian: Ива́н Петро́вич, ...

English: Mr. Sidorov...

4. ADDRESSING THE TEACHER: Name and patronymic

П: Спросите меня, что́ это.

Ask me what this is.

С: Ива́н Петро́вич (*teacher's name*), что́ это?

Ivan Petrovich, what's this?

5. THE ALPHABET: Pronouncing the names of the letters

П: Это буква «а». Какáя это буква?

This is the letter 'a'. What letter is this?

М: Это буква «а».

That's the letter 'a'.

П: Это буква «б». Какáя это буква?

This is the letter 'b'. What letter is this?

С: Это буква «б».

That's the letter 'b'.

П: А это?

And this?

М: Это буква «а».

That's the letter 'a'.

П: Это буква «в». Какáя это буква?

This is the letter 'v'. What letter is this?

С: Это буква «в».

That's the letter 'v'.

П: А это? *Натáша:* Это буква «а». П: А это? *Андрéша:* Это буква «б»...

Go through the alphabet asking various students. The teacher can write in cursive on the blackboard.

1. Use the pronoun вас (вы) and the form здравствуйте in addressing people of greater age and/or status, e.g. your teacher; use the pronoun тебя (ты) and the form здравствуй (without -те) in addressing fellow students.

THE ALPHABET

The Russian alphabet (also called the *Cyrillic* alphabet) is listed below in alphabetical order, except for the letters *e* and *ë*, which are not distinguished from each other in alphabetical listings such as dictionaries. The two dots over *ë* /yo/ stand for stress; elsewhere stress is marked with ' e.g. *é /yé/, í /yú/ ú /í/, etc.* Stress is not marked in ordinary Russian texts — only in textbooks, dictionaries, etc.. The English 'equivalents' are only rough approximations. Practice saying the letter names in groups of 5 and learn the order, e.g. абвгд, ежзий, клмно, ...

upper case	lower case	letter name	English equivalent	upper case	lower case	letter name	English equivalent
А	а	а	<i>a</i> as in father	П	п	пэ	<i>p</i> as in pet
Б	б	бэ	<i>b</i> as in bet	Р	р	эр	(none; cf. Spanish trilled <i>r</i>)
В	в	вэ	<i>v</i> as in vet	С	с	эс	<i>s</i> as in set
Г	г	гэ	<i>g</i> as in get	Т	т	тэ	<i>t</i> as in tap
Д	д	дэ	<i>d</i> as in debt	У	у	у	<i>u</i> as in brute
Е	е	е	<i>ye</i> as in yet	Ф	ф	эф	<i>f</i> as in fat
Ё	ё	ё	<i>yo</i> as in York	Х	х	ха	(none; cf. German <i>ch</i>)
Ж	ж	же	<i>z</i> as in seizure	Ц	ц	це	<i>ts</i> as in bolts
З	з	зэ	<i>z</i> as in zoom	Ч	ч	че	<i>ch</i> as in chin
И	и	и	<i>i</i> as in machine	Ш	ш	ша	<i>sh</i> as in shin
Й	й	и краткое ¹	<i>y</i> as in boy	Щ	щ	ща	<i>shsh</i> as in Danish ship
К	к	ка	<i>k</i> as in book	Ъ	ъ	твёрдый знак ²	
Л	л	эль or эл	<i>l</i> as in let	Ы	ы	ы	<i>i</i> as in bit
М	м	эм	<i>m</i> as in met	Ь	ь	мягкий знак ³	
Н	н	эн	<i>n</i> as in net	Э	э	э	<i>e</i> as in bet
О	о	о	<i>o</i> as in story	Ю	ю	ю	<i>yu</i> as in Yule
				Я	я	я	<i>ya</i> as in yacht

RUSSIAN FIRST NAMES

Women's names

Nickname	Full name	English
Саша, Шура	Александра	Alexandra
Аня, Нюра	Анна	Ann, Anna
Варя	Варвара	Barbara
Вера	Вэра	Faith; Vera
Даша	Дарья	Darya
Жэня	Евгэния	Eugenia, Jean
Катя	Екатерина	Katherine
Лэна, Лэля	Елэна	Helen
Лиза	Елизавэта	Elizabeth
Жанна	Жанна	Jean
Зоя	Зоя	Zoe
Ира	Ирина	Irene
Кира	Кира	Kira
Лидя	Лидия	Lydia
Люба	Любовь	Charity, Amy
Люся, Люда	Людмила	Ludmilla
Маша	Мария, Марья	Mary
Надя	Надежда	Hope
Наташа	Наталья	Natalie
Нина	Нина	Nina
Оля, Лэля	Ольга	Olga
Соня	Сófья	Sophia
Мара, Тома	Тамара	Tamara
Таня	Татьяна	Tatyana

Men's names

Nickname	Full name	English
Саша, Шура	Александр	Alexander
Алэша, Лэша	Алексэй	Alexis
Толя	Анатолый	Anatole
Андрюша	Андрэй	Andrew
Боря	Борис	Boris
Вася	Василий	Basil
Витя	Виталий, Виктор	Vitaly, Victor
Волodia, Вова	Владимир	Vladimir
Слава	Вячеслав	Vyacheslav
Гэна	Геннадий	Gennady
Жора	Георгий	George
Дима, Митя	Дмитрий	Dmitry
Жэня	Евгений	Eugene
Ваня	Иван	John, Ivan
Костя	Константин	Constantine
Лэва	Лев	Leo
Миша	Михаил	Michael
Колья	Николай	Nicholas
Паша	Павел	Paul
Пэтя	Пётр	Peter
Серёжа	Сергей	Serge
Стэпа	Степан	Stephen
Юра	Юрий	George
Яша	Яков	Jacob

1. Pronounced /i krátkaya/ 'short i' — represents a consonantal sound, despite its name.

2. Pronounced /tv'ordiy znák/ 'hard sign' — an orthographical symbol representing no sound in itself.

3. Pronounced /m'áxk'iy znák/ 'soft sign' — an orthographical symbol representing no sound in itself.

CURSIVE WRITING: Lower case. The upright and italic printed letters are on the right.

а	<i>а</i>	<i>а</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>а'</i>	<i>ава</i>	<i>ана</i>	<i>апа</i>	<i>аи</i>	<i>ам</i>
б	<i>б</i>	<i>б</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>б'</i>	<i>аба</i>	<i>обо</i>	<i>бу</i>	<i>ба</i>	<i>бу</i>
в	<i>в</i>	<i>в</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>в'</i>	<i>ава</i>	<i>аво</i>	<i>вм</i>	<i>ви</i>	<i>ва</i>
г	<i>г</i>	<i>г</i>	<i>г</i>	<i>г'</i>	<i>ага</i>	<i>ого</i>	<i>га</i>	<i>и</i>	<i>г</i>
д	<i>д</i>	<i>д</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>д'</i>	<i>ада</i>	<i>одо</i>	<i>да</i>	<i>ды</i>	<i>двн</i>
е	<i>е</i>	<i>е</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>е'</i>	<i>еде</i>	<i>ега</i>	<i>ель</i>	<i>елва</i>	<i>ем</i>
ж	<i>ж</i>	<i>ж</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>ж'</i>	<i>ажа</i>	<i>ожо</i>	<i>жу</i>	<i>жу</i>	<i>жи</i>
з	<i>з</i>	<i>з</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>з'</i>	<i>аза</i>	<i>озо</i>	<i>за</i>	<i>за</i>	<i>зу</i>
и	<i>и</i>	<i>и</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>и'</i>	<i>иви</i>	<i>ия</i>	<i>им</i>	<i>им</i>	<i>ии</i>
й	<i>й</i>	<i>й</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>й'</i>	<i>ай</i>	<i>ой</i>	<i>уй</i>	<i>ей</i>	<i>ай</i>
к	<i>к</i>	<i>к</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>к'</i>	<i>ака</i>	<i>око</i>	<i>ка</i>	<i>ка</i>	<i>аски</i>
л	<i>л</i>	<i>л</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>ала</i>	<i>оло</i>	<i>лла</i>	<i>лла</i>	<i>жлу</i>
м	<i>м</i>	<i>м</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>м'</i>	<i>ама</i>	<i>оло</i>	<i>мма</i>	<i>мм</i>	<i>пре</i>
н	<i>н</i>	<i>н</i>	<i>л'</i>	<i>н'</i>	<i>ана</i>	<i>оно</i>	<i>ня</i>	<i>анвы</i>	<i>ань</i>
о	<i>о</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>о'</i>	<i>ол</i>	<i>оя</i>	<i>ом</i>	<i>од</i>	<i>ос</i>
		<i>о</i>	<i>о</i>	<i>о'</i>	<i>ол</i>	<i>ов</i>	<i>ое</i>	<i>ор</i>	<i>оно</i>

CURSIVE WRITING: Lower case (continued)

п	п	п	п	п'	ана	оно	ня	пла	пя
р	р	р	р	р'	ара	оро	ря	пра	пя
с	с	с	с	с'	аса	осо	сто	сла	сы
т	т	т	т	т'	ата	ото	тра	та	той
у	у	у	у	у'	уа	оу	уя	уа	уа
ф	ф	ф	ф	ф'	афа	офо	фа	фа	фе
х	х	х	х	х'	аха	охо	ха	ва	ха
ц	ц	ц	ц	ц'	аца	оцо	ца	ца	ца
ч	ч	ч	ч	ч'	ача	очо	ча	ча	ча
ш	ш	ш	ш	ш'	аша	ошо	ша	ша	ша
щ	щ	щ	щ	щ'	аша	ошо	ша	ша	ша
ъ	ъ	ъ	ъ	ъ'	ва	ва	ва	ва	ва
ы	ы	ы	ы	ы'	ва	ва	ва	ва	ва
ь	ь	ь	ь	ь'	ва	ва	ва	ва	ва
э	э	э	э	э'	эа	эа	эа	эа	эа
ю	ю	ю	ю	ю'	юа	юа	юа	юа	юа
я	я	я	я	я'	яа	яа	яа	яа	яа

CURSIVE WRITING: Upper case

А	<i>A A A</i>	<i>Aa Aa Aa Aa</i>
Б	<i>B B B</i>	<i>Ba Ba Ba Ba</i>
В	<i>B B B</i>	<i>Va Va Va Va</i>
Г	<i>G G G</i>	<i>Ga Ga Ga Ga</i>
Д	<i>D D D</i>	<i>Da Du Dv Dy</i>
Е	<i>E E E</i>	<i>Eo Eo Eo Eo</i>
Ж	<i>Ж Ж Ж</i>	<i>Ma Mo Mia Mia</i>
З	<i>Z Z Z</i>	<i>Za Zo Za Za</i>
И	<i>I I I</i>	<i>Ia Io Ia Ia</i>
К	<i>K K K</i>	<i>Ka Ko Kmo Kua</i>
Л	<i>L L L</i>	<i>La Lo Ly La</i>
М	<i>M M M</i>	<i>Ma Mo My Ma</i>
Н	<i>H H H</i>	<i>Ha Ho Hy Ha</i>
О	<i>O O O</i>	<i>Oua Ova Or Ou</i>
П	<i>P P P</i>	<i>Pa Po Pe Pa</i>

CURSIVE WRITING: Upper case (continued)

P	P	Y	P̄	Pa	Po	Pa	Pa
C	C	C	C	Ca	Co	Co	Ca
T	T	T	T	Ta	To	To	Ca
Y	Y	Y	Y	Ya	Yo	Yo	Ya
Ф	Ф	Ф	Ф	Pa	Po	Pe	Pa
X	X	X	X	Xa	Xo	Xa	Xa
Ц	Ц	Ц	Ц	Цa	Цo	Цa	Цe
Ч	Ч	Ч	Ч	Чa	Чo	Чy	Чe
Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ша	Шo	Шo	Ша
Щ	Щ	Щ	Щ	Щa	Щo	Щy	Щe
Э	Э	Э	Э	Эo	Эo	Эo	Эa
Ю	Ю	Ю	Ю	Юo	Юo	Юe	Юa
Я	Я	Я	Я	Ya	Ya	Ya	Ya

CURSIVE WRITING: Copy this page on a separate sheet of lined paper.

Что это?

Это газета?

Да, это газета.

Нет, это не газета.

Это карандаш.

Где книга?

Книга здесь.

А мел?

Мел тоже здесь.

А где конверт?

Конверт там.

стакан стакан

письмо письмо

кольцо кольцо

вино вино

яйцо яйцо

1. SAYING HELLO: Pronounce здравствуйте with the sound /z/ at the beginning (not with /s/!).

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| П: Здравствуйте, Маша. | Hello, Masha. |
| М: Здравствуйте, Нина Степановна. | Hello, Nina Stepanovna (<i>teacher's name</i>). |
| П: Маша, спросите его, как его зовут. | Masha, ask him what his name is. |
| М: Здравствуй, как тебя зовут? | Hi! What's your name? |
| С: Меня зовут Саша. А тебя? | My name is Sasha. And yours? |
| М: Меня зовут Маша. | My name is Masha. |

2. GETTING NAMES WRONG

- | | |
|--|--|
| П: Скажите, пожалуйста, вас зовут Лэна?
не Лэна | Tell me please, is your name Lena?
<i>Pronounced as one word: /'nʲʲéna/</i> |
| М: Нэт, меня зовут не Лэна, а Маша. | No, my name is Masha, not Lena. |
- Now the students can get the teacher's first name wrong; use various full first names listed in Lesson 2.
- | | |
|--|---|
| пожалуйста
скажите | <i>Pronounced /paʒalista/ or /paʒalsta/
Imperative of сказать</i> |
| М: Скажите, пожалуйста, вас зовут Пётр
Петр/ович? | Tell me please, is your name Peter Petrovich? |
| П: Нэт, меня зовут не Пётр Петр/ович, а Иван
Петр/ович. | No, my name is Ivan Petrovich, not Peter
Petrovich. |
- Now the students can ask each other, using informal forms.
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| скажи | <i>Informal imperative of сказать</i> |
| С: Скажи, тебя зовут Даша? | Say, is your name Dasha? |
| М: Нэт, меня зовут не Даша, а Маша. | No, my name is Masha, not Dasha. |

INTONATION: Yes-no questions

A yes-no question is one that elicits 'yes' or 'no' as an answer, e.g. 'Is that a pen?' Such questions in Russian have a very high pitched rise-fall lilt on the stressed syllable. But if that syllable is the last one in the sentence, the question has a very high pitch without a subsequent fall. Compare:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Это р/учка? | Это карандаш? |
| Это Иван Петр/ович? | Это Ив/ан? |

SELF TEST: Review of neutral and emphatic statements (Lesson 1)

Listen to the tape. Write E if you hear an emphatic statement and N if you hear a neutral one. The answers are below.¹

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Это бумага. | 5. Это карандаш. | 9. Меня зовут Стéпа. |
| 2. Это бумага. | 6. Это кольцо. | 10. Меня зовут Натáша. |
| 3. Это стакáн. | 7. Это кольцо. | 11. Меня зовут Иван. |
| 4. Это р/учка. | 8. Это книга. | 12. Меня зовут Иван. |

3. GETTING THINGS WRONG

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| П: Саша, это стакáн?
не стакáн | Sasha, is that a glass?
<i>Pronounced as one word: /'nʲistakán/</i> |
| С: Нэт, это не стакáн, а р/учка. | No, that's a pen, not a glass, |
| П: Саша, вы́ молодéц! | Good for you, Sasha! |
- Use the 12 nouns you know and add these:
доскá 'blackboard' пол 'floor' лампа 'light' стóл 'table'.
- Now switch to ты. Use the proper intonation for the yes-no question: стакáн? бумага?
- | | |
|--|--|
| М: Сáша, это стакáн? | Sasha, is that a glass? |
| С: Нэт, это не стакáн, а р/учка.
(ты) молодéц | No, that's a pen, not a glass,
<i>The pronoun is optional in this expression.</i> |
| М: Хорошó, Саша! Ты́ молодéц! | That's fine, Sasha! Good for you! |

1. 1 = N, 2 = E, 3 = N, 4 = E, 5 = E, 6 = E, 7 = N, 8 = E, 9 = N, 10 = N, 11 = E, 12 = N

PRONUNCIATION: Paired consonants

All but six of the consonants of Russian occur in two varieties: a plain variety and a palatalized variety (pronounced *PALatalized*). For example, the plain variety of *n* is pronounced somewhat like the *p* in English *poor*, and the palatalized variety of *n* is pronounced somewhat like the *p* in English *pure*. Similarly, the plain consonant *n* is pronounced somewhat like the *n* in the middle of English *canon*, while the palatalized *n* is pronounced somewhat like the *n* in the middle of English *canyon*. The consonants that occur in two varieties are called *paired consonants*.

The difference between Russian palatalized consonants and English consonants followed by *y* (as in *canyon*) is that palatalization (pronounced *PALataliZation*) is produced simultaneously with the consonant, whereas in English the *y*-sound is a separate consonant. In other words, a palatalized *n* in Russian is a single sound and takes no longer to say than a plain *n*, while in English the combination *ny* is two sounds and takes longer to say than *n* alone. In order to distinguish between the *y*-sound and palatalization in our discussion of pronunciation, we will indicate palatalization with a small raised *ʹ* on both sides of the palatalized consonant, e.g. /^ʹnʹa/.

The Russian alphabet does not represent palatalized consonants with separate consonant letters. Instead, palatalization is indicated by the letter that follows the consonant. Thus, the consonant letter «н» followed by the letter «я» indicates that «н» is palatalized (ня = /^ʹnʹa/), while «н» followed by the letter «а» indicates that «н» is plain (на = /na/). (English uses a similar device: the difference between 'soft g' and 'hard g' is indicated by the letter that follows, not by two separate consonant letters, e.g. the first g of *George* and *gorge*.)

Notice in the above example (ня vs. на) that the vowel sound is considered to be the same, though the vowel letters differ. There are five basic vowel sounds in Russian, but ten vowel letters; five of these letters (called *plain indicators*) are employed to indicate that the preceding consonant is pronounced in the plain fashion, and the other five (called *palatal indicators*) are employed to indicate that the preceding consonant is pronounced in the palatalized fashion. The whole system looks like this:

Vowel sounds	Plain Indicators	Palatal Indicators
/i/	ы́	и́
/é/	э́	е́
/á/	а́	я́
/ó/	о́	ё́
/ú/	у́	ю́

4. PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE

Listen and imitate each row of paired consonants.

ты́ /ti/	ты́ / ^ʹ tʹi/
те́ /te/	те́ / ^ʹ tʹe/
та́ /ta/	та́ / ^ʹ tʹa/
то́ /to/	то́ / ^ʹ tʹo/
ту́ /tu/	ту́ / ^ʹ tʹu/

5. READING PRACTICE

Listen and imitate each column of syllables containing paired consonants. Then, without listening to the speaker, read each column aloud.

пи	ты	да	бя	ма	на	са	ся
пы	та	до	бэ	мы	ну	за	тя
ни	ти	дѐ	бе	ны	зу	ня	нѐ
ны	тя	ду	бы	ты	ню	зы	не
на	дя	дю	бо	ти	нѐ	зи	нэ
там	где	мел	ты	вы	как	да	нет

CURSIVE WRITING: Copy this page on a separate piece of lined paper.

Как вас зовут?

Меня зовут Зоя.

А её?

Её зовут Наташа.

Как тебя зовут?

Меня зовут Яша.

А его?

Его зовут Менья.

Какая это буква?

Это буква "и".

А это?

Это "ф".

Кто это? Это Дима.

А это? Это Ося.

CURSIVE WRITING: Copy this page on a separate piece of lined paper.

Чайковский

Стравинский

Моцарт

Бах

Толстой

Достоевский

Чехов

Шекспир

русский

советский

английский

американский

французский

немецкий

итальянский

испанский

CURSIVE WRITING: Copy this page on a separate piece of lined paper.

Аня

Боря

Витя

Гая

Даша

Ира

Катя

Лена

Надя

Петя

Саша

Таня

Редя

Эля

Юра

1. GETTING INFORMATION: Tell me please, ...

П: Маша, скажите, пожалуйста, как сказать по-русски «ceiling»?
по-русски

М: «Ceiling» по-русски — потоло́к.

Repeat, using various nouns, plus: о́кно 'window'

Now do it with one student talking to another:

П: Саша, спросите Машу, как сказать по-русски «cup»?

С: Маша, скажи, пожалуйста, как сказать по-русски «cup»?

М: «Cup» по-русски — ча́шка.

С: Спасибо.

М: Пожалуйста.
до свидания

С: До свидания.

М: До свидания.

Tell me, Masha, how do you say 'ceiling' in Russian?

Adverbial form of русский

'Ceiling' in Russian is потоло́к.

сту́л 'chair' ча́шка 'cup'

Sasha, ask Masha how to say 'cup' in Russian?

Tell me, Masha, how do you say 'cup' in Russian?

'Cup' in Russian is ча́шка.

Thanks.

You're welcome.

Pronounced as one word: /dasv'idán'iya/

Goodbye.

Goodbye.

2. PRONUNCIATION: Unstressed vowels

Here are two rules of thumb for pronouncing unstressed vowels (rule 2 doesn't work in certain endings):

1. о = а

2. е = я = и

(1) The letters о and а sound the same in unstressed position, and they are written as /a/ in transcription. The precise pronunciation depends on the position within the word. In pre-stress position (the one syllable immediately preceding the stressed one) it sounds like the а in father, but shorter. In other unstressed positions it sounds like the а in sofa. Thus, the letter «о» in потоло́к represents three different sounds, by virtue of its having three different positions in the word; the first two vowels sound just like those in каранда́ш.

(2) The letters и, е, and я (all palatal indicators) likewise sound the same in unstressed position; they are written /i/ in transcription. In pre-stress position they are more prominent than in other unstressed positions. The actual sound is somewhat like the i in bit, but in certain grammatical endings it sounds more like the а in sofa.

Here are some familiar words containing unstressed «о». Read them aloud and do not pronounce these о's as /o/. Some words are unstressed and are pronounced as part of the following word, e.g., до свидания.

по-ру́сски	потоло́к	спроси́те	спаси́бо	зову́т	кольцо́
конве́рт	э́то	до свида́ния	хорошо́	молоде́ц	пожалуйста

TRANSCRIPTION

The use of English letters between slant lines to represent Russian sounds is called *transcription*. As the foregoing section on unstressed vowels illustrates, a transcription does not reflect all of the fine nuances of sound, but it is helpful in giving a rough representation and in discussing the main features of the Russian sound system. The letters used in transcription are mostly what you would expect from the alphabet chart in Lesson 2 (e.g. п = /p/, т = /t/, etc.). Listed below are the symbols which do not have the values usual to English orthography.

Cyrillic	Transcription	Cyrillic	Transcription
х	/x/ as in хорошо́ /xarašó/	ж	/ž/ as in скажи́ /skaží/
ц	/c/ as in кольцо́ /ka'ŋcó/	ш	/š/ as in ча́шка /'čáška/
ч	/ʧ/ as in ча́шка /'čáška/	щ	/šš/ as in ещё́ /y'iššó/

3. READING PRACTICE: Read aloud in columns:

П: Маша, читайте, пожалуйста.

Masha, read please.

М: С удовольствием.

Be glad to. (*Literally*, 'with pleasure')

лампа	мама	дата	порт	драма	вино	пакт
пакет	папа	доллар	штат	балкон	школа	дама

П: Не так. Ещё раз. Так лучше.
Очень хорошо! Отлично! Дальше.That's not right. Again. That's better.
Very good. Excellent. Go on. (*Lit.* 'further')

4. NOT UNDERSTANDING

П: Саша, скажите, пожалуйста, где ручка?

Where's the pen, Sasha?

понимаю

1st Person Singular of понимать

С: Я не понимаю.

I don't understand.

П: Не понимаете?

You don't understand?

С: Нет, не понимаю.

No, I don't.

повторите

Formal Imperative of повторить

Повторите, пожалуйста.

Repeat [it], please.

П: Где ручка?

Where's the pen?

С: Ручка слева.

The pen is on the left.

Locate various objects:

слева

on the left

справа

on the right

напротив

opposite, across the way

Now students ask each other, using these informal forms:

скажи

Informal Imperative of сказать

понимаешь

Informal 2nd Person Singular of понимать

повтори

Informal Imperative of повторить

GRAMMAR: Pronouns and verbs endings

Verbs have endings that tell you who the subject is:

-ю means 'I' (*1st Person Singular*)

понимаю 'I understand'

-шь means 'you (informal)' (*2nd Person Singular*)

понимаешь 'you understand'

-те means 'you (formal)' (*2nd Person Plural*)

понимаете 'you understand'

If the context makes it clear who the subject of the verb is, you can omit the pronoun subject (я, ты, вы).
The addition of the ending -те changes the informal Imperative to formal:*Informal Imperative (Sg.)**Formal Imperative (Plur.)*

скажи! 'tell'

скажите!

повтори! 'repeat'

повторите!

читай! 'read'

читайте!

NB There is no distinction between Formal and Informal in the Plural, so if you are talking to a group of people with whom you use ты-forms individually, you have to use вы-forms (ending in -те).

5. SPELLING: Palatalization

When no vowel follows a consonant, the letter ь (*мягкий знак / 'm'ak'iy znak/ 'soft sign'*) is used to indicate that the consonant is palatalized. In transcription the symbol /' is placed next to the consonant (both to the right and to the left of it) to indicate palatalization. (Exception: the ending -шь is plain /-š/, not palatalized.)Listen and imitate.
Then read aloud.

ан /an/	ал /al/	ат /at/	ит /it/	повторит /pafta'rit/ 'he will repeat'
ань /a'n'/	аль /a'l'/	ать /a't'/	ить /i't'/	повторить /pafta'rit'/ 'to repeat'

CURSIVE WRITING: Copy this page on a separate piece of lined paper.

Америка

Мексика

Италия

Россия

Мичиган

Чикаго

Вашингтон

Нью-Йорк

телефон

фильм

шоколад

автомобиль

сигарета

документ

спутник

ресторан

керосин

CURSIVE WRITING: Read aloud, translate orally, and write these words in cursive.

па́рк	_____	такси́	_____	пикни́к	_____
по́рт	_____	кредит	_____	плю́с	_____
па́спорт	_____	ра́дио	_____	ми́нус	_____
портре́т	_____	марксист	_____	фи́зика	_____
пара́д	_____	сади́ст	_____	журна́л	_____
ко́мпас	_____	та́нк	_____	ле́кция	_____
о́пера	_____	моме́нт	_____	инструме́нт	_____
Аме́рика	_____	Ме́ксика	_____	Бо́стон	_____
Ке́мбридж	_____	Техáс	_____	Нью-Йо́рк	_____
Тайва́нь	_____	Шанха́й	_____	Ита́лия	_____
Москвá	_____	Ча́рли	_____	Ча́плин	_____
мото́р	_____	дра́ма	_____	а́дрес	_____
теа́тр	_____	рекóрд	_____	демокра́т	_____
до́ктор	_____	десе́рт	_____	маскара́д	_____
ко́смос	_____	оркестр	_____	матадо́р	_____

1. NOT KNOWING

(a) The student asks the teacher to ask somebody else.

П: Сáша, чтó знáчит слóво «рúчка»?
знаю

Sasha, what does the word 'ручка' mean?
1st Person Singular of знать

С: Я не знáю.

I don't know.

П: Не знáете?

You don't know?

С: Нёт, не знáю. Спросíte, пожáлуйста, Мáшу. Masha doesn't know either. When everybody gets tired of not knowing рúчка, try other words.

No, I don't. Ask Masha, please.

(b) Now students can ask each other, omitting пожáлуйста. These informal forms are required:

спроси
знáешь

*Informal Imperative of спросить
2nd Person Singular of знать*

П: Мáша, спросíte Сóню, чтó знáчит слóво «бумáга».

Masha, ask Sonya what the word бумага means.

М: Сóня, ты знáешь, чтó знáчит...?

(c) Now the students can ask the meaning of any word they choose:

П: Андрю́ша, спросíte Натáшу, чтó знáчит какóе-нибу́дь слóво.

Andryusha, ask Natasha what some word or other means.

(d) Now the students can ask anybody they choose the meaning of any word they choose:

П: Пётя, спросíte когó-нибу́дь, чтó знáчит какóе-нибу́дь слóво.

Petya, ask somebody or other (anybody at all) what some word or other means.

GRAMMAR: Accusative

The Accusative case of a-declension nouns is -y (-ю).

SPELLING: if the dictionary form (Nominative) is -a, the Accusative will be -y; if -я, then -ю. In other words, if the stem ends in a plain consonant, use the plain indicators -a and -y to spell the endings; and if the stem ends in a palatalized consonant, use palatal indicators.

The Accusative case is used as the direct object of verbs, much as in English, where the forms *me, him, her, and them* are used as the object of verbs (e.g. John knows *me*), whereas the Nominative forms *I, he, she, and they* are used as the subject of verbs (e.g. *I* know John). The difference between the two languages is that in English only pronouns have case forms, whereas in Russian not only pronouns but also nouns and adjectives have case forms.

Listed below are the Accusative case forms of the pronouns you have met.

Note two spelling irregularities: *г* is pronounced /v/ (not /g/) in *eró /yivó/* and *koró /kavó/*.

<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Accusative</i>	
я	меня	I/me
о́н	его́	he/him
о́на	её	she/her
ты́	тебя́	you (thou/thee in older English)
вы́	вас	you
кто́-нибу́дь	кого́-нибу́дь	somebody or other, anybody at all

Caution: Don't try to use nouns from other declensions (like, for example, Ива́н Петро́вич) in the Accusative.

2. SPEED TEST: Accusative case

The speaker will say these Nominative case forms. Your task is to say the whole sentence with the proper Accusative form, e.g. Спросíte Мáшу/А́ню. Say it as fast as you can.

Спросíte, пожáлуйста, _____ .

Мáша	А́ня	Сáша	Пётя	я
Вéра	Ка́тя	Слáва	Ко́ля	о́на
Ни́на	Та́ня	Ю́ра	Ко́стя	о́н
Натáша	Сóня	Ми́ша	Ва́ня	кто́-нибу́дь

3. CASES

П: Слово «Мáша» — это какой падеж?	What case is the word 'Másha'?
С: Именительный падеж.	Nominative case.
П: Правильно. А «Мáшу»?	Correct. And what about 'Máшу'?
С: Винительный.	Accusative.
П: Очень хорошо.	Very good.

4. PRONUNCIATION: Vowel coloration

Vowels are colored by their neighbors. This is true of English as well as Russian. For example, English vowels are much longer when followed by a voiced consonant than they are when followed by a voiceless consonant; the words listed below are all spelled with the letter *e*, despite the difference in the way the vowel sounds.

<i>voiced consonant follows:</i>	bed	beg
<i>voiceless consonant follows:</i>	bet	beck

Russian vowels are colored by the palatalization of neighboring consonants. The vowel in *нét* sounds somewhat like the vowel in English *bet*, but the vowel in *здéсь* (where a palatalized consonant follows) sounds more like the vowel in English *baít* (though more clipped):

<i>plain consonant follows:</i>	нét
<i>palatalized consonant follows:</i>	здéсь

The transcription marks vowel coloration by placing the symbol /' between the vowel and the palatalized consonant, so that the vowel in *здéсь* /'zd'e's'/ can be seen as /'e'/ and the vowel in *нét* /'n'et/ can be seen as /'e/. Thus, the symbol /' marks vowel coloration as well as palatalization — the two go together. (Some clusters of consonants are palatalized all the way through, from beginning to end; the symbol /' surrounds such clusters, as in *здéсь* /'zd'e's'/.)

Below are some pairs of words which differ only by virtue of the plain vs. palatalized distinction. Listen and imitate, noting the use of the letter *ь* and the coloration of vowels:

вéc /'v'es/ 'weight'	мáт /mat/ 'checkmate'	стóл /stól/ 'table'	пóлка /pólka/ 'shelf'
вэсь /'v'e's'/ 'all'	мáть /ma't'/ 'mother'	стóль /stól'/ 'so much'	пóлька /pó'l'ka/ 'polka'

Below are some familiar words to practice. Note how palatalization runs all the way through some of them.

здéсь /'zd'e's'/	письмó /'p'i'smó/	сказáть /'skaza't'/	кольцó /'ka'l'só/	óчень /'o'č'n'/	винительный /'vin'it'lniy/	именительный /'im'it'lniy/
---------------------	----------------------	------------------------	----------------------	--------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------

Listen and imitate these columns of syllables; the vowel in each column has four colorations. Then do it in rows; the difference between the first and last rows may strike you as low pitched vs. high pitched, respectively.

быт /bit/	гэт /get/	мат /mat/	лот /lot/	нут /nut/
быть /bi't'/	гэть /ge't'/	мать /ma't'/	лоть /lot'/	нуть /nu't'/
бит /'bit/	нет /'n'et/	мят /'m'at/	лёт /'lot/	нют /'n'ut/
бить /'bi't'/	неть /'n'e't'/	мять /'m'a't'/	лётъ /'lot'/	нютъ /'n'u't'/

5. ALPHABET REVIEW

Recite the alphabet in groups of letters:

а б в г д е ж з и й к л м н о п р с т у ф х ц ч ш щ ь ы ь э ю я

6. CURSIVE WRITING: Read aloud, translate orally, and write these words in cursive.

фáкт	_____	гарáж	_____
кафé	_____	бага́ж	_____
ко́фе	_____	инженéр	_____
телефóн	_____	машíна	_____
фíльм	_____	шоколад	_____
флáг	_____	шовинíст	_____
скульпту́ра	_____	агéнт	_____
календа́рь	_____	áнгел	_____
револьвéр	_____	сигарéта	_____
автомобíль	_____	програ́мма	_____
бандíт	_____	мину́та	_____
браслéт	_____	докумéнт	_____
барóметр	_____	аквáриум	_____
банáн	_____	спу́тник	_____
áтлас	_____	вóдка	_____
омлéт	_____	вíски	_____
клíмат	_____	áвтор	_____
ла́мпа	_____	автомáт	_____
рестора́н	_____	керосíн	_____
Нью́тон	_____	Мо́царт	_____
Ба́х	_____	Да́рвин	_____

1. COUNTING

кни́гу
 П: Откро́йте, пожа́луйста, кни́гу.
 Страница́ один.
 М: Ка́к э́то по-англи́йски?
 П: Page one.
 М: А ка́к сказа́ть «zero»?
 П: Но́ль.
 Закро́йте, пожа́луйста, кни́гу.

Accusative case of книга
 Open your book, please.
 Page one.
 What's that in English?
 And how do you say 'zero'?
 Но́ль.
 Close your book, please.

Imitate each number individually, then practice counting in groups:

оди́н, два́, тры́,	one, two, three
четы́ре, пя́ть, ше́сть,	four, five, six
се́мь, во́семь, де́вять, де́сять.	seven, eight, nine, ten.

2. PRONUNCIATION

(a) palatalized /ʎ/

The tongue is further front in the mouth than it is with plain /r/.
 Make the /ʎ/-sound together with the /r/, not after it (/ʎro/, not /ryo/).

NB Unstressed vowels, as in четы́ре, are very short; the unstressed /i/ is like the vowel in *bit*, not *beet*.

Listen, imitate, and then read aloud in columns:

повтори́	/paftaʎ'i/	Серёжа	/s'ir'óža/
тры́	/tr'i/	Андрю́ша	/andr'úša/
четы́ре	/čitiʎ'i/	говоря́	/gavaʎ'a/

(b) Low-pitch ш vs. high-pitch щ

Neither of these sounds is like English *sh* with respect to pitch: ш /š/ sounds lower and щ /šš/ sounds higher. Make ш with the tongue curled back, as in making an English *r*; make щ with the tongue in the front of the mouth, as with palatalized consonants.

NB The word ше́сть starts with the plain-sounding, low pitch ш, but ends in a cluster of palatalized consonants, so start with the tongue in the back of the mouth and end with it up front.

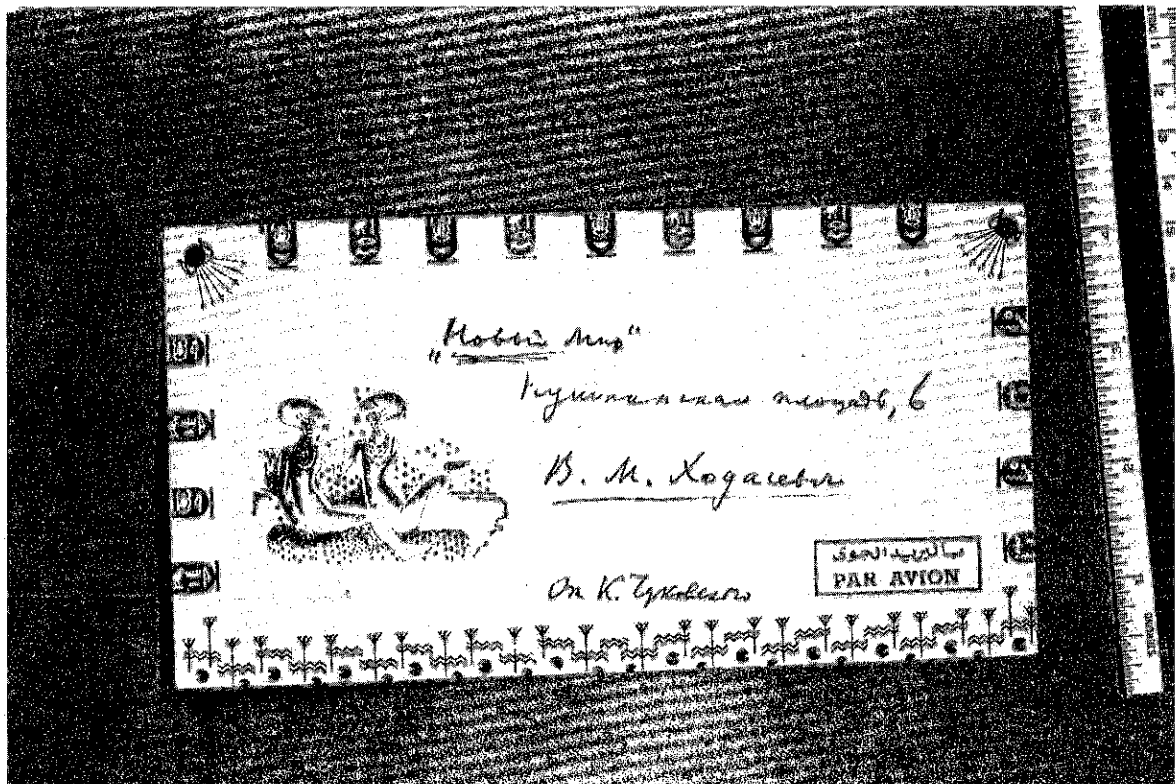
Listen, imitate, and then read aloud in columns:

ш	хорошо́	/xarašó/	ше́сть	/šéstʎ/
щ	ещё	/i'ššó/	ще́ль	/ššéʎ/

3. ARITHMETIC

бу́дет
 П: Ско́лько бу́дет один и тры́?
 С: Четы́ре.
 П: А ско́лько бу́дет пя́ть и ше́сть?
 С: Я не зна́ю, ка́к э́то сказа́ть по-ру́сски.
 ниче́го
 П: Ниче́го.

Future of быть 'be'
 How much is (*Lit.* 'will be') one and three?
 Four.
 How much is five and six?
 I don't know how to say that in Russian.
Pronounced /'n'ič'ivó/ '[It's] nothing'
 That's OK. (Don't be concerned about it.)



Книга и письмо.

4. READING FAMILIAR WORDS

Read these columns of words aloud. Most of them are Russian words borrowed from other languages.

но́с	лимо́н	ми́нус	зо́на	аспири́н	журнали́ст
бана́н	маши́на	мину́та	ро́за	такси́	це́нтр
ба́нк	пикни́к	луна́	ва́за	а́тлас	фи́льм
то́н	капита́н	инструме́нт	сига́ра	спу́тник	фи́зика
пла́н	пинг-по́нг	институ́т	со́да	су́п	О́льга
кли́мат	гита́ра	дипло́м	спо́рт	плю́с	Во́лга

5. CONVERSATION TOPIC

You are a teacher, so use *вы*-forms (formal), not *ты*-forms. Your student(s) should also use *вы*-forms. Ask your students to do and say the various things your teacher has been doing since the first lesson. Your name is *Нина Степановна* (or *Иван Петрович*).

Use people's first names a lot and say *пожалуйста* a lot. (In English we often use the word 'would' or 'could' to make something sound more like a polite request rather than like a command (e.g. 'Would/Could you repeat that?'), but in Russian you just say the word for 'please', often in the middle of a sentence (e.g. *Откройте, пожалуйста, книгу*).

Here are some questions, requests, and reactions you can express:

<i>Questions</i>	<i>Requests</i>	<i>Reactions</i>
Как вас зовут?	Откройте/Закройте книгу.	Не так.
Что это?	Спросите ее/его...	Так лучше.
Это ручка?	Спросите кого-нибудь...	Очень хорошо!
Где ручка?	Повторите.	Отлично!
Понимаете?	Еще раз.	Молодец!
Что значит слово ...?		

The word for 'or' is *или*, usually pronounced without stress. You can quiz your fellow students by asking *or*-questions like these:

Это <i>ручка</i> или <i>карандаш</i> ?	Is that a pen or a pencil?
Это <i>стакан</i> или <i>чашка</i> ?	Is that a glass or a cup?

6. WRITING

Go back to Lesson 5 №2. Read the spelling rule in the grammar section right above it, and then write the Accusative case forms of the words in the box. Write in cursive, including the initial capital letters of the personal names.

A. GRAMMATICAL TERMINOLOGY

1. *Parts of speech* in this book are defined by the *form* of words, not by their meaning or use.

The concept of parts of speech (classes of words such as *noun*, *verb*, *adjective*, etc.) is confusing because there are many ways to describe parts of speech. One way is to say what they mean, *e.g.* a verb is an action. Another way is to say how they are used, *e.g.* a verb is the main part of the predicate. A third way is to say what various forms the words have. *e.g.* a verb is a word to which you can add -s, -ed, and -ing, *e.g.* work, work-s, work-ed, work-ing. This third way is how parts of speech are defined in this book.

In English the concept of parts of speech is particularly confusing because English is very complex in this regard; a single word may function as all three major parts of speech. The word *market* functions as a noun in the sentence 'The market is open.' It functions as a verb in the sentence 'They market their goods in Boston.' And it functions as an adjective in the phrase 'market economy'. Russian does not have this complexity. In Russian it is most often the case that the *form* of a word gives you some hint as to what part of speech it belongs to. You can therefore forget the problems you may have had with terms like *noun*, *adjective*, and *verb* in English grammar and start to think of these terms in a new and simpler way.

2. Words are said to be *inflected* for a grammatical category.

For example, English nouns may be said to be inflected for *number* (Singular vs. Plural) and *case* (Possessive vs. non-Possessive) because a noun may have four different forms: doctor, doctor-s, doctor-'s, doctor-s'. The part of an inflected word that bears the lexical meaning and usually does not change as you go from one form to another is called the *stem* (doctor-) and the parts that change are called the *endings* (-#, -s, -'s, -s').

An example from Russian: nouns in Russian are inflected for number and case. (We will ignore number for now.) The forms *Мáша* and *Мáшу* consist of the stem *Мáш-* plus the Nominative ending -a and the Accusative ending -y, respectively.

When a grammatical rule in this book tells you to *add* a particular ending, it means you are to add it to the *stem* of the word. For example, the rule for the Accusative case is, in part: add the ending -y for nouns like *Мáша*. This means that you should peel off the ending from *Мáш-a*, which leaves you with the stem *Мáш-*, to which you add -y, which gives you the Accusative case form *Мáшу*.

- B. NOUNS: A *noun* is inflected for number & case; it belongs to one of 4 declension classes.

1. There are 4 *declension classes* in Russian.

Nouns can be classified as to the form of the endings that can be tacked onto them. For example, in English some nouns take the plural ending -s (cat-s) and some take -es (ditch-es), thus forming two classes of nouns. (Although we don't call them declension classes, this is the principle upon which such classification is made, *i.e.* on the form of the endings.) Russian nouns are classified into four groups, based on the form of the endings that can be added to them. These groups are called *declension classes*. Some nouns take the Nominative Singular ending -a, some take -o, and some take no vowel ending, or, in other words, *zero* ending. (We will ignore the fourth declension for the time being.) The names of the declension classes are: *a-declension*, *o-declension*, and *zero-declension*; the zero-declension is usually written with the cross-hatch symbol: *#-declension*.
Examples:

- a-declension*: б́у́ква, бума́га, газе́та, доска́, кни́га, ла́мпа, ру́чка, стра́ница, ча́шка,
and all nicknames ending in -a or -я: Ма́ша, Са́ша, Пе́тя, А́ня, Воло́дя. . .
- o-declension*: ви́но, ко́льцо́, окно́, пи́сьмо́, сло́во, яйцо́
- #-declension*: кара́ндаш, конве́рт, ме́л, паде́ж, по́л, потоло́к, стака́н, сто́л, сту́л

2. Nominative vs. Accusative case: form and function

Case endings tell you what *role* (or *function*) the word plays in the sentence. English pronouns, for example, have one form that plays the role of the *subject* of the sentence and another that plays the role of *object*. In the sentence 'He is here' the word *he* is the subject of the sentence and that is why the Nominative case *he* is used instead of the Objective case *him*. In the sentence 'Ask him' the word *him* is the direct object of the sentence and that is why the Objective case *him* is used instead of the Nominative case *he*.

The principal difference between English and Russian in this regard is that in English only pronouns show the distinction between Nominative case and Accusative case (or, as it is usually called, Objective case), whereas in Russian not only pronouns, but also nouns and adjectives are inflected for case. In addition, the number of different cases is greater in Russian than in English.

There are two things you have to learn about a particular case: (1) what its *forms* are (*i.e.* what the endings look like and sound like) and (2) what its *function* is (*i.e.* under what circumstances you use it).

Nominative case

- (1) The forms of the Nominative case: -a, -o, -#

The Nominative case endings are: -a, -o, and no vowel (zero). They are illustrated above in the section on declension classes. The Nominative ending of an a-declension noun is spelled -a if the stem ends in a plain consonant (e.g. Бэра) and it is spelled -я if the stem ends in a palatalized consonant (e.g. Аня).

- (2) The function of the Nominative case: subject

The subject of a sentence is normally in the Nominative case, just as in English. Sentences which have the verb *is* in English, like 'It is he. He is here.' use the Nominative case in Russian (not as in colloquial English: 'It's him'). In the following examples the Nominative case forms are in italics:

<i>Ручка</i> слéва.	The pen is on the left.
Этo <i>ручка</i> .	That's a pen.
Этo <i>он</i> .	That is he. (<i>Colloquial</i> : That's him.)
Гдé <i>стакáн</i> ?	Where's the glass?

Accusative case

- (1) The form of the Accusative case for a-declension nouns: -y (-ю)

If the Nominative ends in -a, the Accusative ending will be -y.
If the Nominative ends in -я, the Accusative ending will be -ю.

<i>Nominative</i> :	Сáша	Мáша	Пéтя	Аня	Волóдя
<i>Accusative</i> :	Сáшу	Мáшу	Пéтю	Аню	Волóдю

- (2) The function of the Accusative case: direct object of a verb

Спросíte <i>Мáшу</i> .	Ask Masha.
Спросíte <i>кого-нибудь</i> .	Ask somebody or other.
Закрóйте <i>кни́гу</i> .	Close the book.
Кáк вáс зовúт?	What's your name? (<i>Lit.</i> 'How do they call you?')
Меня́ зовúт Сáша.	My name is Sasha. (<i>Lit.</i> 'They call me Sasha.')

C. PRONOUNS: The Nominative and Accusative case forms of the pronouns you have met are:

	<i>I</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>he</i>	<i>she</i>	<i>anybody</i>
<i>Nom.</i>	я́	ты́	вы́	о́н	о́на	кто́-нибудь
<i>Acc.</i>	меня́	тебя́	ва́с	его́	её́	кого́-нибудь

D. VOCABULARY REVIEW

This list contains the dictionary forms of all of the words from Lessons 1 through 6 that you should have in your active vocabulary. It also contains a few set phrases, like до свидания. If you are uncertain about the meaning of a word, or where the stress falls in inflected forms, or which of its inflected forms you have met, — you can either look it up in the dictionary or refer to the lesson in which it first occurred (the number in parentheses).

а (1)	кольцо́ (1)	с удовольствием (4)
аспира́нт (1)	конве́рт (1)	се́мь (6)
бу́ква (2)	кто́-нибудь (5)	сказа́ть (3)
бума́га (1)	ла́мпа (3)	ско́лько (6)
бы́ть (6)	лу́чше (4)	сле́ва (4)
вини́тельный (5)	ме́л (1)	сло́во (5)
вино́ (1)	молоде́ц (3)	спаси́бо (4)
во́семь (6)	напро́тив (4)	спра́ва (4)
вы́ (1)	не (1)	спроси́ть (2)
газе́та (1)	не́т (1)	стакáн (1)
где́ (1)	ниче́го (6)	сто́л (3)
да́ (1)	но́ль (6)	страи́ца (6)
да́льше (4)	оди́н (6)	студе́нт (1)
два́ (6)	окно́ (4)	студе́нтка (2)
де́вять (6)	о́н (5)	сту́л (4)
де́сять (6)	о́на (5)	та́к (4)
до свида́ния (4)	откры́ть (6)	та́м (1)
доска́ (3)	отли́чно (4)	то́же (1)
ещё́ ра́з (4)	о́чень (4)	три́ (6)
закры́ть (6)	паде́ж (5)	ты́ (2)
зва́ть (1)	писа́мо (1)	учени́к (1)
зде́сь (1)	по-а́нглийски (6)	учи́тель (1)
здрáвствуйте (2)	повтори́ть (4)	хорошо́ (2)
зна́ть (5)	пожа́луйста (1)	ча́шка (4)
зна́чить (5)	по́л (3)	четы́ре (6)
и (6)	пони́мать (4)	чита́ть (4)
или́ (6)	по-ру́сски (4)	что́ (1)
имени́тельный (5)	потоло́к (4)	ше́сть (6)
ка́к (1)	пра́вильно (5)	э́то (1)
како́й (2)	преподава́тель (1)	я́ (1)
како́й-нибудь (5)	преподава́тельница (2)	яйцо́ (1)
каранда́ш (1)	пя́ть (6)	
кни́га (1)	ру́чка (1)	

1. INTRODUCING PEOPLE

(a) The teacher asks a student to introduce somebody.

- П: Маша, кто́ это? Masha, who's that?
 М: Это́ Саша. That's Sasha.
 студент *For women: студентка*
 П: Он студент? Is he an undergrad?
 М: Да́, студент.¹ Yes, he is.
 П: Предста́вьте меня́, пожа́луйста. Introduce me, please.
 М: С удово́льствием. Be glad to. (*Lit. 'with pleasure'*)
 мо́й преподава́тель (*man*)
 мо́я преподава́тельница (*woman*)
 Саша, это́ мо́й преподава́тель, Sasha, this is my teacher, Ivan
 Ива́н Петро́вич. Petrovich.
 Predicate word: 'It is nice/pleasant.'
 С: О́чень приятно́. Pleased to meet you.
 П: О́чень приятно́. Pleased to meet you.

(b) The teacher quizzes another student:

- П: Ната́ша, кто́ предста́вил Сашу? Natasha, who introduced Sasha?
 Н: Маша. Masha.
 П: Да́йте по́лный отве́т. Give a full answer.
 предста́вила *Past (feminine) of предста́вить*
 Н: Сашу предста́вила Маша. Masha introduced Sasha.
 or: Sasha was introduced by Masha.

2. ASK SASHA.

Caution: Don't try to say 'Who introduced the teacher' with the word преподава́тель, because it is not from the a-declension; you don't know the Accusative case for such nouns yet.

- П: Маша, спроси́те Сашу, кто́ это. Masha, ask Sasha who that is.
 М: Саша, кто́ это? Sasha, who's that?
 С: Это́ Ната́ша. That's Natasha.
 о́на *fem. of он*
 М: О́на студе́нтка? Is she an undergrad?
 С: Да́, студе́нтка. Yes, she is.
 предста́вь *Informal Imperative of предста́вить*
 М: Предста́вь меня́, пожа́луйста. Introduce me, please.

The teacher can occasionally interrupt with quizzes like this:

- П: Со́ня, спроси́те А́ню, кто́ предста́вил Ко́стю.

GRAMMAR: The pseudo-passive in long responses

The general rule for Russian word order is to put new information at the end of the sentence. Thus, in answer to the question Кто́ предста́вил Сашу? the word Маша (the new information) is saved till the end of the sentence: Сашу предста́вила Маша 'Sasha was introduced by Masha'. Another way of stating this rule is: an element that could serve alone as a short response comes last when part of a long response:

Кто́ предста́вил Сашу? — Маша. (*short answer*)

Кто́ предста́вил Сашу? — Сашу предста́вила Маша. (*short answer comes last*)

Sentences like this, where the Nominative subject (Маша) comes at the tail end of the sentence, can be translated with the English passive construction, using the word *by*: 'Sasha was introduced *by* Masha'. The Russian construction is called the *pseudo-passive*.

In spoken Russian you can get the same effect by accentuating the subject in initial position, e.g. МА́ША предста́вила Сашу, but in written Russian that auditory option is not available, so the pseudo-passive construction (Object+Verb+Subject) is very commonly used.

1. Да́, студе́нт. Instead of adding a helper verb like English 'yes, I did; yes, I have; no, I won't, etc.', Russian does the same job by repeating the main word of the sentence. Cf. Lesson 4: Не понима́ете? — Не́т, не понима́ю 'No, I don't.'

GRAMMAR RULE OF THUMB: Past tense and gender

Replace -ть with -л and add gender endings.

<i>Example:</i>	предста́ви-ть	<i>(Infinitive)</i>
	предста́ви-л	<i>(masculine past tense)</i>
	предста́ви-л-а	<i>(feminine past tense)</i>
	предста́ви-л-о	<i>(neuter past tense)</i>
	предста́ви-л-и	<i>(Plural past tense)</i>

This rule covers the vast majority of Russian verbs, most of whose dictionary forms (*Infinitive forms*) end in -ть. The gender endings are the same as those for nouns: *masculine* -# (no vowel, *i.e.* zero) like стака́н-#, *neuter* -о like ко́льц-о, and *feminine* -а like ру́чк-а; the plural is -и. The past tense is said to *agree* with the subject as to gender. All nouns belong to one of three genders (and are so marked in the *Dictionary*): masculine, feminine, or neuter, but you rarely have to look up the gender of nouns in the dictionary because you can generally tell the gender of a noun if you know the Nominative form: all #-declension are masculine, almost all o-declension nouns are neuter, and a-declension nouns are generally feminine, the main exception being nicknames, whose gender depends on the sex of the person.

Сáша егó предста́вил.	Sasha introduced him. (<i>Sasha is a man.</i>)
Сáша егó предста́вила.	Sasha introduced him. (<i>Sasha is a woman.</i>)
Я егó предста́вил.	I introduced him. (<i>The speaker is a man.</i>)
Я егó предста́вила.	I introduced him. (<i>The speaker is a woman.</i>)
Ты егó предста́вил?	Did you introduce him? (<i>The addressee is a man.</i>)
Ты егó предста́вила?	Did you introduce him? (<i>The addressee is a woman.</i>)
Вы егó предста́вили?	Did you introduce him? (<i>The addressee can be one or more people; Вы is grammatically plural.</i>)

3. SPEED TEST: Verb ending

Say the whole sentence as fast as you can, using the proper past tense form.

Егó предста́вил- _____ .			
Ма́ша	Ми́ша	Пе́тя	Ко́ля
Ве́ра	Та́ня	Ва́ня	преподава́тель
Ю́ра	Со́ня	Ната́ша	преподава́тельница

4. PRONUNCIATION: т д н

Pronounce т д н with the tongue against the teeth (like English *th* in *either*), not behind the teeth as in English *eater*. Avoid using the non-Russian sound *ng* when к or г follows; pronounce н more like the *n* in 'Sin King', not like the *n* in 'sinking' (*e.g.* студéнтка, по-а́нглийски).

Listen and imitate.
Do in columns.

та́	да́	на́	де́н	де́нтка	А́ня	а́н	а́нгли
та́м	да́м	на́м	де́нт	студéнтка	Ле́на	а́нк	по-а́нглийски

5. NUMBERS: Translate the numbered items in the box.

П: Ма́ша, переве́дите предложе́ние но́мер де́вять. расслы́шала прости́	Masha, translate sentence number 9. <i>Past of расслы́шать</i> <i>Imperative of прости́ть</i>
М: Прости́, я не расслы́шала.	Pardon [me], I didn't hear [what you said].
П: Не говори́те со мно́й, пожа́луйста, на «ты́».	Please don't use ты-forms with me.
М: Ой! Прости́те!	Oops! I'm sorry! (Pardon me!)

1. Open the book, please.	4. Read, please.	7. Translate #6/7/8/9, please.
2. Repeat, please.	5. Introduce him, please.	8. Pardon [me].
3. Ask Masha/her/Kolya/him.	6. Introduce her, please.	9. Tell [me], please, what's that?

6. WRITING: Write the translations from the above exercise in cursive.

1. PASS THE CAVIAR.

П: Сáша, гдé икрá? (на) столé	Sasha, where's the caviar? <i>Prepositional case of стол</i>
С: Икрá на столé. (у) неё, (у) него попросíte	The caviar is on the table. <i>Genitive case of она́, он</i> <i>Imperative of попросить</i>
П: Попросíte у неё икрú. передáй	Ask her for the caviar. <i>Imperative of передáть</i>
С: Мáша, передáй, пожа́луйста, икрú.	Masha, pass the caviar, please.
М: Вóт, пожа́луйста.	Here you are.
С: Спасíбо.	Thank you.
М: Пожа́луйста.	You're welcome.
С: Передáй и винó, пожа́луйста.	Pass the wine, too, please.
М: Вóт оно́ (<i>neut.</i>). (<i>If masc., он; if fem., она́.</i>)	Here it is.
Э́то всё?	Is that all?
С: Всё.	Yes, it is. (<i>Lit. 'That's all.'</i>)

New words: словáрь 'dictionary' кáмень 'stone' нóж 'knife' вíлка 'fork' лóжка 'spoon'

SPEED TEST: Accusative

Say the whole sentence as fast as you can, putting all the nouns into the Accusative case (because all are objects of the verb).

Попросíte у него́ _____ .				
икрá	дýня	стакáн	словáрь	винó
газéта	лóжка	нóж	кáмень	кольцо́

GRAMMAR RULE OF THUMB: Accusative of #-declension and o-declension nouns

The Accusative of the #- and o-declensions is the same as the Nominative.

This rule doesn't work for nouns that refer to animate beings (e.g. преподавáтель, Ивáн, etc.).

2. WHO PASSED THE CAVIAR?

П: Натáша, ктó передáл икрú?	Natasha, who passed the caviar?
Н: Икрú передалá Мáша.	Masha passed the caviar.
П: Чтó ещё она́ передалá?	What else did she pass?
Н: Ещё она́ передалá винó и дýню.	She passed the wine and the cantaloupe, too.
П: Сáша, попросíte у него́ чтó-нибудь.	Sasha, ask him for something (anything at all).

WORD STUDY: The word и 'and' implies addition; the word а 'and/but' implies contrast:

Сáша и Мáша здéсь.	Sasha and Masha are here.
Сáша здéсь, а Мáша тáм.	Sasha is here and Masha is there.

WORD STUDY: и, тóже, and ещё

Don't put тóже in front of what's added.

If Masha does something, and Sasha does it too, you must put тóже *after* the additional word Сáша, not before.

Мáша передалá икрú. Сáша тóже (передáл икрú). 'Also SASHA passed the caviar.'

If Masha does something, and then does an additional thing, you can express this in several ways: put и right in front of the additional thing, or put ещё in front of the sentence, but if you use тóже, it must come *after* the additional thing (usually accompanied by и):

Мáша передалá икрú.	Мáша передалá и винó.	'Masha passed the WINE, too.'
Мáша передалá икрú.	Ещё Мáша передалá винó.	'Masha passed the WINE, too.'
Мáша передалá икрú.	Мáша передалá и винó тóже.	'Masha passed the WINE, too.'

GRAMMAR: Government patterns

The English verb *request* requires a prepositional phrase to express the person of whom you request something (e.g. I requested a book of *him*). The same is true of Russian попросить (e.g. Попросите у него книгу). This requirement is called the *government pattern* of the verb: the verb is said to *govern* (or *take*) an Accusative object and a prepositional phrase. The government pattern of a word is listed in the *Dictionary*. Look up просить and попросить; for now, avoid the colloquial patterns listed there (though your teacher may use them).

3. PRONUNCIATION: ш ж and щ

Both ш and ж have low pitch, whereas щ has a higher pitch. In other words, ш and ж are pronounced in the plain fashion, while щ is pronounced in the palatal fashion. Plain ш and ж therefore affect the coloration of neighboring vowels the same way, say, plain т does, while щ affects vowel coloration the same way palatalized т does. This rule of pronunciation holds in spite of a spelling rule that requires the letter и after ш and ж: ши /ši/ is like ты /ti/) but щи /'šši/ is like ти /'ti/). Some people pronounce щ as the combination /'šč/ rather than as a long /'šš/.

Listen
and
imitate.

то /to/	тё /'t'o/	ты /ti/	ти /'ti/	ды /di/
шо /šo/	що /'ššo/	ши /ši/	щи /'šši/	жи /ži/

SPELLING: Zero

When a *vowel ending* is added to a stem-final palatalized consonant, the ending is spelled with a palatal indicator; when a *zero ending* is added, мягкий знак (ь) is used to indicate the palatalization of the stem-final consonant.

Plain stem:	ложка /lošk-a/	Анна /ann-a/	стакан /stakan-#/
Palatalized stem:	дьяня /di'n'-a/	Аня /a'n'-a/	словарь /slava'r'-#/

PRONUNCIATION: Devoicing

The consonants б д г в з ж /b d g v z ž/ are called *voiced* consonants; the vocal cords vibrate when you say them. At the end of a word and before *voiceless* consonants they are pronounced like their voiceless partners п т к ф с ш /p t k f s š/. Thus, the /v/ in представить is replaced by /f/ in представь /pr'itsta'f/ and представьте /pr'itsta'f't'i/. Here are some words from this lesson that exhibit such devoicing: нож /nóš/, ложка /lóška/, флаг /flák/, вслух /fslúx/, одиннадцать /a'd'ínatci't'ʃ/, двенадцать /dv'ínatci't'ʃ/. (When р occurs before к it is pronounced /x/ rather than /k/: мягкий знак /'m'á'xk'iy znák/; but there are few such words.)

4. READ! Use прочита́йте when you mention the specific thing to be read; otherwise, use чита́йте.

П: Прочита́йте но́мер одинна́дцать и двена́дцать.	Read number 11 and 12.
С: Вслу́х?	Aloud?
П: Конече́но.	Of course. (Pronounced /ka'n'éšna/)
Ма́ша, попроси́те ко́го-нибу́дь что́-нибу́дь прочита́ть.	Masha, ask somebody to read something.

Упражне́ние №1
Exercise №1

1. но́с	3. то́н	5. капита́н	7. пикни́к	9. бана́н	11. лимо́н
2. ба́нк	4. пла́н	6. маши́на	8. гита́ра	10. пинг-по́нг	12. кли́мат

Упражне́ние №2
Exercise №2

1. зо́на	3. со́да	5. ми́нус	7. сига́ра	9. инструме́нт	11. луна́
2. ро́за	4. спо́рт	6. мину́та	8. дипло́м	10. институ́т	12. ва́за

5. NATIONALITIES: Practice saying these names of nationalities by answering 'Yes, it is'.

П: Са́ша, это́ амери́канский фла́г?	Sasha, is this the American flag?
С: Да́, амери́канский.	Yes, it is.

францу́зский	кана́дский	мексика́нский	неме́цкий 'German'
испа́нский	по́льский	израи́льский	кита́йский 'Chinese'
англи́йский	совете́нский	италья́нский	туре́цкий 'Turkish'

6. WRITING: Write the above language names in cursive. Note that they are not capitalized.