## Russian SOLT I Module 1 Lesson 1 Student Manual



Sound and Script

## Course Overview

As students, you will need new insights and comprehensive cross-discipline skills to meet the increasingly complex issues, assignments, and challenges of the global conflicts you may find yourself in.
As Special Operations soldiers, you need an intensive language program that accelerates your multi-language requirements and, in turn, enhances your career to match the rapid speed of changes.
This language program can help you gain the added credentials and valuable learning that you need to advance in your career and provide the specializations needed, which can immediately put your learning on the fast track and could save your life.
This language course will be taught by leading faculty members who explore the latest concepts and best practices available (anytime, anywhere in the world) in interactive multimedia instruction (IMI) or advanced distributed/distance learning (ADL).
The course focuses on learning how to effectively use what you have learned in the previous lesson and the ability to build up on and use the knowledge in each lesson as the class progresses. You can also explore online tools such as electronic publications and web sites with particular focus placed on how technology can support multiple modes of learning.
The target language you are about to study has been developed and delivered by highly skilled academic designers, integrating technology in the instructional curriculum. Cognition and technology-based instructions and imperatives are explored in relation to programming for varied learning and motivational styles.

## COMMUNICATIVE APPROACH TO LEARNING INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

## Task-based Learning

One of the most effective teaching methods is the Communicative Approach. Tasked-based learning (TBL) requires students to engage in interaction in order to fulfill a task and involves differentiating, the ability to sequence, and problem-posing activities involving learners and teachers in some joint selection.

Tasks are a feature of everyday life. We all have things we need or want to do. We have specific purposes and goals in mind, and we use specific competencies to complete the tasks. In daily life, a task might be shifting a wardrobe from one room to another or planning the budget for the next financial year.

In the classroom, communication is always part of the process, whether the task involves creativity, particular skills to repair or assemble something, problem solving, planning, or completing a transaction. Students become actively involved in communication and focus on achieving a particular goal. They must comprehend, negotiate, express ideas, and get their message across in order to reach that goal.

Bringing tasks into the classroom puts the focus of language learning on the meaning and the goal, rather than on the form of the communication. "Real world" scenarios have been selected to make the course relevant to the students.

These goals are transferred into activities that focus on the reading, writing, oral communication, and/or listening skills relevant to real life needs. It also covers the goals of cross-cultural awareness, as well as leadership, organizational, and interpersonal communication skills.

The following goals of the foreign language program you are about to study will provide each of you with the ability to accomplish many tasks:

- Develop skills for oral presentations, group discussions, and listening comprehension.
- Provide opportunities for exercising initiative leadership and practicing organizational and participation skills in group situations.
- Develop cross-cultural awareness.
- Prepare, practice, perform, and provide feedback. The feedback includes both instructor and peer feedback.
- Support activities or problem-solve activities in small groups, and interactions in the classroom situation.


## Module I

## Student Learning Strategies

As a language student, it is extremely important that you familiarize yourself with the course and the strategies to be successful.

- Learning a language is an active and per formative phenomenon. Language itself is indescribable and evolves frequently. Anyone who learns a new language should expect changes and challenges; especially as adult learners.
- This course is designed to guide you through the language learning process. Activities move from simple to more difficult and overlap to enhance communication. Module I highlights critical and basic functions of communication.
- Each lesson presents functions (or tasks) and provides activities in which you, as a student, will practice performing.
- For each task listed before a lesson, you will find exercises or activities that highlight the steps to meeting every lesson objective. These creative activities emphasize communication, pair and group work, and learning in context.
- Exercises may be developed and enhanced by the instructor to incorporate various critical tasks or underline a specific task that may be unusually challenging for each group of students.
- Class exercises or activities are designed to review lesson materials immediately after instruction. In class, language practice is an important element of successful language comprehension and you will use new information for active and effective language communication.
- As a student, you should always practice pronunciation - especially words or language cases that are difficult for non-native speakers. Use the language inside and outside of the classroom. Ask questions about complex materials during class and your instructor will guide you with more examples.
- You should read over lesson materials before engaging in an activity. The instructor will review necessary lesson information before assignments are given.
- Learn about the culture of your language. Culture shapes language. It affects changes in the language and helps you understand particularities of the foreign language. More importantly, culture helps you understand the similarities in languages and how to adapt to new forms or structures.
- As a language learner, you will regularly participate in language exchange - you contribute as both a listener and a speaker. Active listening is part of class learning and participation, while non-participatory listening is an individual step that happens primarily outside of class as you go through various activities and exercises for homework, on the web, etc...
- You will relate sounds to the individual words in each lesson.
- You will use new vocabulary words within a cultural context.
- You will recognize grammatical concepts that match communicative functions.
- Exercises within the lesson, as well as the Application and Skill Enhancement Activities, stress all four skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking.
- These are activities through which you can further develop your grammatical control of the language with minimal intervention on the part of the instructor.
- You will work with and learn from your partners in small groups and role-play activities and summarize and share information that you have learned from your partners.
- The homework section of each lesson is a follow-up for the lesson of the day. In the homework, you will practice new expressions and grammatical concepts that fulfill lesson tasks.
- At the end of each lesson, you will incorporate listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills to perform comprehensive activities.


## Instructional Technique

The instructor will incorporate various activities within one language exercise or activity. For example, a role-play activity may be expanded to include a feedback or discussion forum where students give personal opinions and ideas. Depending on class size and level of proficiency, the instructor can rearrange and adapt a particular activity as follows:

IN THE TARGET LANGUAGE WITH INSTRUCTOR AS GUIDE:

1. Activity Explanation $\boldsymbol{*}$ Language $\mathrm{Tips} \boldsymbol{*}$ Vocabulary in Context $\boldsymbol{\$}$ Student Questions
2. $\Rightarrow$ Class Brainstorming $\Rightarrow$ Group/Pair Brainstorming $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ Group/Pair Practice
3. $\quad$ Performance of Activity (Situation or Scenario)
4. Expansion of Activity (Homework/Class Discussion/Cultural-related Topics)

This type of step-by-step process, where the difficulty level increases for each performance, stimulates language comprehension.

## Objectives

At the end of this lesson you will be able to read selected simple texts such as maps, signs, names printed on business cards, etc. You will also gain the ability to understand such texts when spoken write and speak on such basic topics. In particular, you will gain the ability to:

## Identify the Russian Alphabet

- Identify consonants and vowels in alphabetical order
- Recognize each letter of the Russian alphabet
- Pronounce Russian alphabet phonetic sounds
- Write all the letters in script
- Associate Russian sounds and letter combinations


## Produce Vowel Sounds

- Recognize stressed and unstressed vowels
- Pronounce stressed and unstressed vowels
- Apply the rules for vowels when reading and writing


## Produce Consonant Sounds

- Identify consonant groupings
- Identify and pronounce consonant clusters
- Apply the rules for consonants when reading and writing


## Recognize Cognates

- Pronounce cognates
- Write cognates


## Identify Special Cases

- Identify the stress and reduction of vowels
- Identify the difference between the written letter and pronounced sound


## Produce Stress and Intonation

- Understand syllabification
- Contrast stress and intonation
- Pronounce stress and intonation


## Identify the Alphabet

## Tip of the day:

The Russian alphabet has 20 consonants, 10 vowels, two characters with no sound value, and one semi-vowel or semi-consonant - 33 letters total.

There are thirty-three characters in the Russian alphabet. Thirty one characters have their corresponding sounds, and two characters, the 'hard mark' $\mathbf{b}$ (number 28) and the 'soft mark' $\mathbf{b}$ (number 30) do not have sound value but serve to indicate phonetic separation in a word or softening of a preceding vowel.


## Exercise 1

Look at the map of the continents and study the labels in Russian. On the list of the continents, underline the letters, which look exactly like English. Circle the letters, which are not part of the English alphabet.

Европа, Азия, Африка, Австралия, Северная Америка, Южная Америка, Антарктида.

Note. Several letters look English capital letters but in Russian they are used as the lower case. Examples: в, к, т, н, м

## Exercise 2

Listen to the instructor read the names of the continents in Russian. Analyze and discuss similarities and differences in the shape and pronunciation of the letters. Listen to the instructor read the names of the continents again and pronounce them yourself.

Европа, Азия, Африка, Австралия, Северная Америка, Южная Америка, Антарктида.

## Similarities and Differences

## Russian letters similar to English letters in shape and sound

A арка - arch
O Омск - Omsk (a city in Russia)
K кухня - kitchen
M Mapc-Mars
T тент - tent (in some cases $\mathbf{E e}$ is pronounced as э - see below)
E кеды - keds
C сидр - cider (also found in a different category below)
Russian letters similar to English letters in shape but different in sound
E Eвропа - Europe (also found in a different category above)
B вирус - virus
H нота - note (musical)
У Уругвай - Uruguay
P Россия - Russia
X Хьюстон - Houston
Russian letters different in shape but similar to English letters in sound
Б Бразилия - Brazil
Г Гренландия - Greenland
Д Дания-Denmark
3 Зимбабве-Zimbabwe
Ё Ёж - [yozh] hedgehog
Ж Жаргон- [zheh] jargon
И Индия - India
Л Люксембург - Luxemburg
П Париж - Paris
Ф Флорида - Florida
Ч Чили - Chile
Ш шоколад - chocolate
Э Эри - Erie
Ю Юта - Utah
Я Ялта - Yalta

## Russian letters different in shape and in sound

Ц цунами - tsunami
Щ борщ - borshch
ы Кыргызтан - Kyrgyztan
Й Йемен - Yemen
Russian letters different in shape and having no sound
$\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{b} \quad$ The soft and hard marks do not stand for any sound

## Russian SOLT 1

## Exercise 3

Now look at the list of similarities and differences between the Russian and English letters given on the next page and listen to your instructor pronounce them.

## Exercise 4

Now work in pairs. Take turns reading the names of the continents in Russian. Then you ask your classmate to name three of the continents and you will name four and then switch roles.
Северная Америка, Европа, Южная Америка, Африка, Антарктида, Австралия, Азия.

## Exercise 5

Here comes the beautiful Russian alphabet. Listen to the sounds of the Russian letters and pronounce both with and without looking at the Alphabet table you trying to imitate, and read the "description" section. Read the letters on your own from top to bottom and bottom to top. Pronounce the sounds modeled by your instructor.

## The Russian Alphabet

|  | Letters |  | Name and Pronunciation | Description of Pronunciation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Printed | Written |  |  |
| 1 | A a |  | a [uh] | $o$ as in mother (short) |
| 2 | Б б |  | бэ [beh] | $b$ as in big |
| 3 | В в |  | вэ [veh] | $v$ as in very |
| 4 | $\Gamma_{\text {г }}$ |  | гэ [gheh] | $g$ as in $g o$ |
| 5 | Дд |  | дэ [deh] | $d$ as in $d o$ (tip of tongue behind teeth) |
| 6 | E e |  | йэ [yeh] | yeh as in yes |
| 7 | Ë ë |  | йо [yoh] | $y o$ as in yo-yo |
| 8 | Ж ж |  | жэ [zheh] | $z h$ as in measure |
| 9 | 33 |  | 39 [zeh] | $z$ as in zoo (tongue more to the front) |
| 10 | И и |  | и [ee] | $e e$ as in eat (but shorter) |
| 11 | Й й |  | и краткое [short 'ee'] | $y$ as in boy, toy <br> Example: мой - my, pronounced [moy] |
| 12 | К к |  | ка [kuh] | $k$ as in kit (but with no aspiration) |
| 13 | Лл |  | эл [еl] | $l$ as in lid (tip of tongue behind teeth) |
| 14 | M м |  | эм [ $\quad$ ¢m] | $m$ as in milk |
| 15 | $\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{H}}$ |  | эн [en] | $n$ as in net (tip of tongue behind teeth) |
| 16 | O o |  | o [ogh, aw] | $o$ as in awe but shorter, and not as deep; nor like the diphthong [ou] in go |
| 17 | Пп |  | пэ [peh] | $p$ as in pet (but with no aspiration) |
| 18 | Pp |  | эр [er] | $r$ as in red (but rolled) |
| 19 | Cc |  | эс [es] | $s$ as in sit (tongue more to the front) |
| 20 | T T |  | тэ [teh] | $t$ as in tip (tip of tongue behind teeth) |
| 21 | Y y |  | y [00] | $o o$ as in soon (but shorter) |
| 22 | Ф ¢ |  | эф [еf] | $f$ as in fit |
| 23 | X x |  | xa [khuh] | $k h$, harder than in hut, like in Scotch loch |
| 24 | Цц |  | цэ [tseh] | $t s$ as in lots (but as one short sound) |
| 25 | Ч ч |  | че [cheh] | ch as in chip (but softer) |
| 26 | Шш |  | ша [shuh] | sh as in ship (but more to the back, harder) |
| 27 | Щщ |  | ща [shchuh] | shch as in fresh cheese but as one short sound |
| 28 | ъ |  | hard sign твердый знак (разделительный) | the hard sign $ъ$ does not stand for any sound; it separates the prefix ending in a consonant from the root starting in я, ю, е, ё |
| 29 | ы |  | ы [ih] | $i$ as in it or is but wider (not used in the beginning of a word) |
| 30 | ь |  | soft sign мягкий знак | the soft sign $b$ does not stand for any sound; it indicates that preceding consonant is soft |
| 31 | Э э |  | э [eh] | between eh in end and eh in add |
| 32 | Ю ю |  | йу [yu] | $y u$ as in $y o u$ |
| 33 | Яя |  | йа [ya] | $y a$ as in yard |

## Exercise 6

In your notebooks, print the letters by hand pronouncing each letter aloud while you write.

## Exercise 7

Students hold packs of cards with the Russian letters. One at a time they pull out cards from the pack and show them to their classmates. The student to whom the card is shown names the letter.

## Exercise 8

Listen to your instructor. You will hear eight groups of six letters each. After writing them out, read the letters again and check for correctness with your instructor.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| y | $\Gamma$ | e | ${ }^{\text {Э }}$ | x | щ | п | 3 |
| $\sigma$ | ч | p | щ | и | ц | к | и |
| ц | a | c | в | M | ч | ф | ы |
| к | ю | ф | H | ж | c | э | ж |
| л | д | ё | я | й | б | ю | ш |
| o | п | T | ш | ы | y | I | я |

## Exercise 9

Work in pairs. Listen and say it. Pronounce the following geographical names. Then take turns reading these words. Provide the English equivalents. What were the most difficult words to read? Share your observations with the class.

Note: When the simple (non-yotted) vowels are illustrated, pay attention to the first vowels in the appropriate name as they are stressed and pronounced at full sound value, while non-stressed vowels in Russian (and in English) have reduced sound value. The consonants are shown as both hard and soft.

| А | Африка, Азия | К | Кавказ, Кёльн | Ф | Флорида, Фиджи |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Б | Бостон, Бельгия | Л | Лондон, Львов | Х | Харьков, Хиросима |
| В | Волга, Вена | М | Москва, Милан | Ц | Цусима, Цюрих |
| Г | Греция, Генуя | H | Новгород, Нью-Йорк | Ч | Чад, Чили (ч-alw. soft)* |
| Д | Дания, Дили (Тимор) | О | Осло, Ольстер | Ш | Шанхай (ш-alw. ard) |
| Е | Европа, Ейск | П | Париж, Пенза | Щ | Щецин (щ-alw. soft)* |
| Ж | Женева (ж-alw. $h a r d$ * * | Р | Россия, Рига | Э | Эльбрус, Этна |
| З | Заир, Зеландия | С | Сочи, Сидней | Ю | Юкон, Юта |
| И | Индия, Ирландия | Т | Тула, Темза | Я | Ява, Ялта |
| Й | Йемен, Йорк | У | Уж, Ужгород |  |  |

[^0]
## Russian Cursive Writing

Russian cursive writing style is not really that different from that of English or other Latin/Cyrillic based languages and can be mastered by students with no problem. An example below shows a calligraphic version of the Russian cursive. Some peculiarities are as follows. In writing by hand, the letters $\boldsymbol{m}$ and $\boldsymbol{u}$ can be mixed up. To avoid that, a dash is drawn over $\boldsymbol{m}$ and a dash is drawn under $\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol { u }}$. The letter д (lower case) can be drawn like ... or like $\boldsymbol{\partial}$. Capital letters are also often drawn the way they are printed.

## Exercise 10

Below is an example of a most common style of the Russian cursive. Look at the letters, watch your instructor write them on board, and write them in space provided.

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Authentic Russian handwriting

This is a postcard with a view of the ancient and beautiful Russian city of Novgorod.

A young Russian girl from Moscow who traveled to Novgorod liked the city so much that she wanted to share her emotions with her friend in Moscow. She bought the postcard and wrote a short letter to her friend. We have her permission to read the letter. Let's turn the card and read the text.


The City of Novgorod


## Post Card Transcript and Translation

| Дорогая Маша! <br> Наша поездка проходит очень интересно. Вчера мы приехали в Новгород. Это очень красивый древний город. Жаль, что ты не поехала с нами. Когда приеду, расскажу все подробно. Целую, Катя. <br> P.S. Сейчас здесь очень тепло и солнечно. | Dear Masha, We've been having a very exiting trip. [lit: Our trip is (has been) going on very interestingly] Yesterday we arrived in Novgorod. It is a very beautiful ancient city. I wish you were with us. [lit: It's a pity you did not go with us. When I come back I'll tell you all in detail. <br> Kissing you, Katya. <br> P.S. It is very warm and sunny here now. |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Место } \\ & \text { для } \\ & \text { марки } \end{aligned}$ | Place for stamp |
| Куда г. Москва 112435 <br> Хорошёвское шоссе <br> д. 28, кв. 63 <br> Кому Потаповой Марии <br> Андреевне | Where to: City of Moscow 112435 <br> Khoroshevskoye highway <br> House 28, Apt. 63 <br> To whom: Potapova Maria Andreyavna |
| Адрес отправителя г. Новгород 129586 гост. Россия, ком. 208 Фроловой Екатерине | Sender's address City of Novgorod 129586 St. Sadovaya 35, Hotel Russia, Rm. 208 Frolova Yekaterina |

## Comment:

1) The acronym P.S. - post scriptum, is widely known and used in Russia and is written with the Latin letters.
2) There are several standard abbreviations used in the letter: $\mathbf{\Gamma}=\boldsymbol{\text { г }}$ ород - city, town; д. $=$ дом house; кв. = квартира - apartment, quarters; ул. = улица - street; ком. = комната - room. 3) In the phrase расскажу все подробно the word всё should be written with $\mathbf{e ̈}$ but in practice $\mathbf{e}$ is written instead since the difference in pronunciation is always clear to the native speakers.

## Exercise 11

Let's rewrite the letter on the card. The board should be separated into two parts. On the left side instructor writes the text in cursive word by word. Students come to the board and write the same word(s) on the right side. Other students watch and write in their notebooks. Pronounce every word after writing. Read the whole letter pronouncing after your instructor and then on your own.

## Exercise 12

One at a time, students go to the board and write their first and last names in cursive. Other students are asked to pronounce the names trying to sound out the Russian.

## Exercise 13

Listen to your instructor and write the letters in cursive during pauses (you can make your own pauses and listen to the passage or to each letter as many times as you want). You will hear six groups of six letters each.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ш | а | ё | с | ч | ф |
| с | к | ж | е | б | т |
| я | х | в | н | и | Ы |
| Г | щ | м | П | ц | ё |
| р | ю | 3 | х | л | й |
| о | $э$ | Д | у | й | х |

## Exercise 14

Imagine you are at a Moscow McDonald's restaurant. Look at the images and tell the class your choice.

"БИГ МАК"


## Produce Vowel Sounds

Tip of the day:
It would not be incorrect to say that Russian has only 6 vowel sounds since the yotted vowels: $\mathbf{e}$, ë, $\boldsymbol{\wp}, \boldsymbol{я}$ are complex sounds, a combination of 4 simple vowels and the semi-vowel й.

## Russian Vowels

| a | и | 0 | y | ы | ы |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Semivowel (or glide) й |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\boldsymbol{q}=\breve{\mathbf{h}}+\mathbf{a}$ |  | $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}=\breve{\mathbf{h}}+\mathbf{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{1}=\breve{\mathbf{и}}+\mathbf{y}$ |  | $\mathbf{e}=\underline{\mathbf{h}}+\boldsymbol{y}$ |

Table 1 Simple Vowels


Table 2
(See Grammar Notes for a detailed explanation)

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| й $+\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}+\mathbf{~ и ̆ ~}$ | $\mathbf{a}+$ й |
| йод - iodine <br> йог - yogi | койка - bed <br> тройка - three | рай - Eden, heavens <br> Николай - male name |

## "Yotted" vowels

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\boldsymbol{g}=\mathbf{h}+\mathbf{a}$ | $\mathbf{e}=$ й $+\boldsymbol{э}$ | $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}=\underline{\mathbf{h}}+\mathbf{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{1 0}=\underline{\mathbf{n}}+\mathbf{y}$ |
| яблоко | $\underline{\text { ель }}$ | ëж | юбка |

## Exercise 15

Bingo Game. Listen to the instructor read the above list of words in Table $\mathbf{2}$ in the order of presentation. Observe the differences in the pronunciation between the "yotted" vowels, the simple vowels and the glide $\mathbf{и}$ in isolation. Then play the following bingo game with a partner. This sign simply marks the free space in a card representing 11 sounds in a table with 12 slots.
A. Choose one of the cards below.
B. Listen carefully to the instructor read a random sequence of vowels and the ' $u$ ' in isolation.
C. The pair of students who first gets three sounds in a row either vertically, horizontally or diagonally wins.

## Card 1



## Card 2

## Card 3

## Card 4



|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

## Card 5

## Exercise 16

Look at the map of Russia given below and study the names of Russian cities. Find the names of the cities that include the yotted vowels and underline these vowels (Remember: the yotted vowels are not always pronounced as yotted)


## Answer:

## Vowels and Consonants

Table 3


## Exercise 17

Listen and say it. Listen to the instructor read the list of the words given in Table 3 twice.
A. Pay special attention to the vowels from the list and consonants that precede them.
B. Listen as the instructor pronounces the 'soft' and 'hard' consonants which precede the vowels.
C. Work in pairs. Each partner will choose a random word from the table. The other partner will point to the image of the word in the table. The activity will proceed until all the words have been mentioned.

## Exercise 18

Listen to another set of words. They are one-syllable words. Pay special attention to the consonant preceding the vowel. Put an $S$ if the consonant preceding the vowel is "soft" next to the number. If the consonant preceding the vowel is "hard", put an H (Key).

1. бар
2. мэр
3. рис
4. тот
5. да
6. бюст
7. сыр
8. дом
9. бис
10. тят

## Exercise 19

Listen to your instructor pronounce the names of countries and Russian republics and areas. The vowels in the list below are missing. Fill in the correct vowels (Key).

1. Б_льг_я
2. _p_л
3. Англ_я
4. К_рг_зст_н
5. К_мч_тК_
6. Ч_к_тк_
7. Як_т_я
8. C_X_ת_H
9. _г_сл_ви_

## Exercise 20

Listen and say it. Getting used to different voices. First listen to the instructor pronounce a list of cognates (eight cognates). Then listen to an audio clip containing the same set of cognates.
Focus on the 'soft' and 'hard' consonants. Then, listen again as instructor reads the same words slowly. Rely on your knowledge of cognates. Each student will share one cognate from the list with the class. The teacher will write these cognates on the board. Which cognate was the most popular one?

танки, автомат, ракета, гаубица, граната, радио, динамит, пистолет.

## Exercise 21

Follow-up on the previous exercise. Now each pair makes an activity with missing vowels based on the words from the list. Then you switch partners. Your new partner will ask you to fill in the vowels from his/her list. Then reverse the roles.

## Exercise 22 (Optional)

Work in pairs. A. Listen to the words from both tables 1, 2 and 3 with images and fill in the missing vowels. Compare your interpretation of the missing vowels with your partner then with the rest of the class.

## Exercise 23 (Optional)

Work in pairs. Learning strategy: using associations. It is well known that making associations helps to learn new words and new sounds. Can you make sense of this seemingly nonsensical text? Work with your partner trying to provide an interpretation. Use the images above to guide you. Compare your interpretation with the rest of the class.

The first example is done for you:
Опера. Белая дама Б___лла.
Should Be: Опера. Белая дама Бэллла
Опера. Белая дама Б лла. блоко. _ж!. __бка! Мо__ юбк__ ! Никола__
$\qquad$ од!!! Анг $\qquad$ л, ты $\qquad$ нг л!!!

[^1]
## Produce Consonant Sounds

Tip of the day:
Consonants often give you more information about the meaning of the word (see Grammar).

During the class on the Russian alphabet you learned that many Russian vowels and consonants look or sound similar to a number of English letters and sounds. In this section we want to focus on the Russian characters and sounds, which may seem to be somewhat foreign to your ear or eye. Let's take a look at the foreign ones.

| Voiced | б | в | д | Г | ж | З | л | м | н | р |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Voiceless | $\Pi$ | ф | т | к | х | ш | с |  |  |  |  | ч | щ |

Pronunciation: In speech consonants influence one another in a single word or at the interface of two words: voiceless consonants make voiced consonants voiceless, and vice versa, voiced consonants may make voiceless consonants voiced. The rule is that the preceding consonant is influenced by the one that follows it.

Consonants in Russian fall into two categories: voiced and voiceless. In the Russian phonetics the voiced consonants are called the 'ringing' consonants whereas the voiceless consonants are called the 'dull' or 'muffled' consonants, which may help you understand better how they are perceived by native speakers. We have organized the consonants by pairs (where applicable) to demonstrate this feature.

## Voiced change to voiceless:

1) At the beginning of a word: $\underline{\mathbf{в}} \mathbf{1}$ [фёсё] - all, вторник [фторник] - Tuesday.
2) In the middle of a word: водка [вотка] - vodka, ложка [лошка] - spoon.
3) At the end of a word the following changes take place (if not followed by a voiced consonant or

 grandfather, муж [муш] - husband, груз [грус] - cargo, load.
4) When two words come together: $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ классе [фклассе] - in a classroom, в Сибири [фсибири] in Siberia.

However, there can be exceptions. For example, the letter в may not voice preceding consonants: Москва is pronounced as it is written, that is the voiceless $\boldsymbol{\kappa}$ is nor influenced by voiced $\mathbf{в}$ and does not become voiced $\boldsymbol{r}$.

## Voiceless change to voiced:

1) At the beginning of a word: сделать [зделать] - to do, make, сббегать [збегать] - to go fetch.
2) In the middle of a word: отдать [оддать] - to give away, фудбол [фудбол] - football.

## Some other consonants change to voiceless:

$\boldsymbol{\Gamma}$ before $\mathbf{K}$ changes to $\mathbf{X}$ :
лёгкий [лехкий] - light (weight), мягкий [мяхкий] - soft.
$\boldsymbol{\Gamma}$ before $\mathbf{U}$ changes to $\mathbf{K}$ or $\mathbf{X}$ :
легче [лекче оr лехче] - lighter, мяцче [мякче or мяххче] - softer.

## Exercise 24

## Listen, write, communicate.

A. Listen to the instructor read the following Russian last names. Each name is given in three forms: male, female and plural. Pay attention to how the ending consonants are pronounced. They represent the singular masculine gender, singular feminine gender and the plural.
B. Choose a name of the list and write it down. This will be your assumed last name for the day.
C. Go around the classroom and find out what names other students chose. What were their reasons? (For example, some students may choose the name because the name refers to a wellknown people, or because they heard these Russian names before or just because they like the way the name sounds).
The instructor will circle around the classroom helping you with the pronunciation.
Смирнов - Смирнова - Смирновы, Романов - Романова - Романовы, Соколов - Соколова Соколовы, Иванов - Иванова - Ивановы, Сергеев - Сергеева - Сергеевы, Антонов Антонова - Антоновы, Селезнёв - Селезнёва - Селезнёвы, Демидов - Демидова Демидовы, Чижов - Чижова - Чижовы, Горюнов - Горюнова - Горюновы.

Note: In certain areas of Russia and based on the individuals preferences of the speakers the letter $\mathbf{B}$ in the masculine singular may be not devoiced.

## Exercise 25

Listen, write, compare. Practice word-final consonants that change from voiced to voiceless. A. Listen to an audio clip. Some will be cognates. The list will be read twice; first, at a normal speech rate, and then for the second time at a much slower rate.
B. Try to write down at least two words from the entire list in the space provided. Then each student goes to the board and copies the two words he/she managed to write.
C. Compare the results. Which word was the most frequent? Which word was the least frequent? Which words contained more mistakes, etc?

Note: Pronunciation can somewhat vary from person to person or from area to area. The words will be pronounced slowly and in a 'neutral' style.

## Correct spelling

Париж, ёж
Санкт-Петербург
шоколад, поезд
Колумб
Горбачёв
газ

The final consont sounds as:
Париш, ёш
Санкт-Петербурк
шоколат, поест
Колумп
Горбачёф
гас

## Spelling Rules and Pronunciation Peculiarities of Sibilants and Velars

'Sibilare' in Latin means to hiss, and 'sibilants' is the name used for the 'hissing' sounds. In Russian they are the ones mentioned above: $\boldsymbol{\pi}, \mathbf{4}, \boldsymbol{ш}, \boldsymbol{\Perp}$, and $\mathbf{ц}$. The velars are the sounds articulated by raising the back of the tongue towards the soft palate (velum).These are: $\boldsymbol{\Gamma}, \mathbf{\kappa}, \mathbf{x}$. Here are the rules of spelling for these consonants.

Spelling rule I: И or Ы

|  | After <br> ж, ч, ш, щ, г, к, х | Only $\mathbf{u}$ ! |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Examples: чихать - to sneeze, щит - shield, гильза - cartridge case, кит - whale, химия chemistry.

After $\boldsymbol{ж , \boldsymbol { m } , \boldsymbol { ц } \text { the letter } \mathbf { и } \text { sounds like } \mathbf { ~ }}$

## Examples:

## Written Sounds

| жизнь | $[$ жызнь $]$ | life |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| чихать | [чихать $]$ | to sneeze |
| ширина | $[$ Шырина $]$ | width |
| машина | $[$ машына $]$ | machine, car |
| цифра | [цыфра | figure (numeric) |
| цинк | [цынк $]$ | zink |

Exceptions: After ц the vowel ы is written:

1) in the words: цыган - a gypsy, цыплёнок - chicken, на цыпочках - on tiptoe, цыкать - to hush, цыц! - hush! (and their forms and derivatives);
2) at the end of nouns when ы forms the plural: палец - пальцы - finger (s), конец - концы end(s), etc.

## Exercise 26

Listening comprehension and pronunciation. "И or $\mathbf{~}$ ". Listen carefully to the instructor. Follow the spelling rules and write either $\boldsymbol{u}$ or $\boldsymbol{b}$ when appropriate (Key).
Ч___ли
Ж___риновский (name of a politician)
ц__рк
Ч__ккаго
ц___фр
Чили
Жириновский
цирк
Чикаго
цинк
шифр

## Spelling rule II

| ( | After |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{\kappa}, \mathbf{x}$ |  |

## Exceptions:

Among exceptions are some foreign words/proper names like Хьюстон - Houston, Хьюз Hughes, etc.

Spelling rule III

| $\boldsymbol{1}$ and $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ | After ж, ч, ш, щ, г, к, х | Only $\mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{a}$ ! |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Pronunciation of ш, ж, ц. Exceptions are the three words borrowed from French. $\mathbf{Ю}$ is pronounced as the [y]: парашют - parachute, жюри - jury, брошюра - brochure. Proper names can also be among the exceptions.
 soft vowels $\boldsymbol{\rho}$ and $\boldsymbol{я}$ are never written, $\mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{a}$ are written instead but soft $\mathbf{\varphi}$ and щ make $\mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{a}$ sound like [ $\mathbf{\circ}$ ] and [ $\mathbf{\Omega}]$.
Examples: чаща [чя彑щপ্র] - thicket, чужой [чюжой] - else's, alien, щука [щюка] - pike-fish, etc.
After the hard sibilants $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ the vowels $\mathbf{0}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ are pronounced as [0] ( $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ is made to sound as hard $\mathbf{0}$ ).
Examples: жёлтый - yellow, жёлудь - acorn, жёнушка - dear wife, жёсткий - hard to touch, strict, жонглёр - juggler, жокей - jockey, etc.
Examples: шёлк - silk, шёпот - whisper, шёрстка - hair (animals);
пошёл, ушёл, нашёл - I/he went away, left, found (verbs in past tense, $1^{\text {st }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }}$ person sing., masc.); шорох - rustle, шофёр - chauffeur, шоколад - chocolate, шок - shock, шоу -show, шоссе - highway, etc.

Note: There is no rule when to write $\mathbf{0}$ or $\mathbf{e}$. These and other words should be looked up in a dictionary. This note also applies to the paragraph below.

After the soft sibilants $\mathbf{\Psi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ the vowels $\mathbf{0}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ are pronounced as [ $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}]$ ( $\mathbf{0}$ is made to sound as soft ë).
Examples: чётки - rosary beads, чёрт - devil, чётный - even (number), учёный - scientist, учёт - record keeping, чокаться - clink glasses (when drinking toasts), чокнутый - cranky, crazy, чопорный - stiff, prim, stand-offish, etc.
Examples: щёлк - click, щёлочь - alkaline, щётка - brush.
After the soft sibilants $\mathbf{\varphi}$ and $\boldsymbol{m}$ the vowels $\mathbf{0}$ and $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ are pronounced as [ё].

## Soft Consonants

## Tip of the day:

In the phrase Я люблю тебя - I love you, if you do not pronounce the word люблю correctly palatalized (л should be soft two times) your Russian sweetheart may not understand you.

Softening (linguistic term palatalization) of consonants is another important feature of the Russian language. Very often it presents a real difficulty for foreign students. Softening (palatalization) was already discussed in this lesson in relation to the soft vowels: $\mathbf{e}, \ddot{\mathbf{e}, \boldsymbol{ю}, \boldsymbol{я}, \mathbf{и} \text { that soften the preceding }}$ consonants.

The soft sign $\mathbf{b}$ was also discussed before when its function of separation was introduced. Now, compare the following syllables with and without $\mathbf{b}$. This is an example of consonant softening due to two causes: use of the soft vowels as well as use of the soft sign.

## Hard

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { сэ, ДЭ, пэ } & \text { се - сье, де - Дье, пе - пье } \\
\text { во, ло, но } & \text { вё - вьё, лё - льё, нё - ньё } \\
\text { ну, бу, лу } & \text { ню - нью, бю - бью, лю - лью } \\
\text { ша, та, ра } & \text { Шя - Шья, тя - тья, ря - рья }
\end{array}
$$

Another case of softening (palatalization) occurs when words end in $\mathbf{b}$. Words change their meaning depending on whether the ending consonant is hard or soft. Here are a few examples.

## Compare:

```
брат - брать brother - to take
был - быль I/he was - a true story
кров - кровь shelter - blood
мел - мель chalk - shallow waters
мол - моль breakwater or 'as if' - (clothes-)moth
pyc - Pyc巨 old for 'a Russian' - Rus'(old name for Russia)
угол - уголь a corner or angle - coal
```


## Exercise 27

Work in pairs. Choose three pairs from the above list and pronounce them. Your partner will try to write it down in his notebook. Then reverse the roles. Switch the notebooks and check your work against the above list.

## Produce Stress and Intonation

Tip of the day: We can divide a word into syllables. We can divide into syllables speech as a whole. Syllabification gives speech its rhythm. Rhythm is found everywhere. In the human body rhythm is the heartbeat. Remember: To understand the Russian syllabification is to understand the heartbeat of the Russian language.

## Syllables and Stress

Syllables. In Russian, and many other languages spelling verbally is done in syllables rather than letters. A syllable is a vowel, or a vowel-consonant combination that constitutes one rhythmic (and very often one morphological) unit of a word. Essentially, Russian words have as many syllables as they have vowels.

## Examples:

- One vowel/syllable: я, да, нет, свет;
(I, yes, no, light)
- Two vowels/syllables: я-ма, дра-ма, бе-рет, пор-трет;
(pit, drama, beret, portrait)
- Three vowels/syllables: Ма-ри-я, ко-ме-та, по-го-да, пла-не-та;
(Maria, comet, weather, planet)
- More than three vowels/syllables: у-ни-вер-си-тет, об-ра-зо-ва-ни-е;
(university, education)


## Written letter/ Pronounced sound

## Nominal sound

| молоко | [малако] | milk |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| золото | [золата] | gold |
| дерево | [дерива] | tree |
| колесо | [калисо] | wheel |
| язык | [йазык] or [йызык] | tongue, language |
| часы | [чисы] | clock, watch |
| жакет | [жэкет] or [жыкет] | jacket |

Another important point about the stress is that placing the voice accent on a different vowel/syllable can change the meaning of the word. Compare:

```
дорога - road, way дорога (adj, fem, short) - something deer to one's hear
духи - spirits, ghosts
жила - vein
мука - torment
(я) плачу - I weep
уже-narrower уже -already
```


## Intonation

Intonation in any language is complex. In this lesson, we give you only a very simple example of this linguistic phenomenon: questions versus statements. The good news is that simple "yes-no" questions in Russian look exactly like statements. They sound differently, however. This difference is called the question-intonation pattern, and it involves changes in the pitch. Questions use the rising intonation and statements a falling intonation pattern. Questions use the rising intonation and statements a falling intonation pattern just as in English. There are, however, some subtle differences in the rise-fall pattern between English and Russian. You will learn more about various types of questions and other intonation patterns in later lessons.

## Exercise 28

Map activity. Now listen to the instructor point to the cities on the map according to the pattern: Это Новосибирск. (This is Novosibirsk, etc.) This is a statement intonation pattern. Now work with your partner. Choose a city, point to it on the map and pronounce its name making sure that you use appropriate intonation. Take turns.


## Exercise 29

Map activity continued. Scenario: guessing game. In the game below the instructor will be asking some questions. Please pay careful attention to how he/she asks her/his questions, especially listen how the instructor's voice is rising for a question.
Look again at the previous map with ten Russian cities. Choose "your city", but don't tell anyone. The instructor will start the game with one of the students by asking the question of the form: Это Москва?, Это Тамбов?, Это Тверь? She/he has three guesses. If she guesses correctly, the student will say: да. If she/he guesses incorrectly, the student says нет. Continue the same game with your partner. Who guessed correctly?

## Recognize Cognates

## Tip of the day:

Cognates in Russian do not sound the same as cognates in English. Understanding the correlation between the English and the Russian sound system helps to recognize cognates.

## Russian

материализм, идеализм
материалист, специалист
демонстрация, реформация
резиденция
дивизия (дивизион), диффузия
сессия, процессия
демократия, философия
ботаника, педагогика
арифметика
физика
косметика, кибернетика
гидравлика
геология, уфология
геолог, уфолог
резистор, модулятор
мастер, компьютер, сканнер
инженер, мушкетёр

## English

materialism, idealism
materialist, specialist
demonstration, reformation
residency
division, diffusion
cession, procession
democracy, philosophy
botany, pedagogy
arithmetic
physics
cosmetics, cybernetics
hydraulics
geology, ufology
geologist, ufologist
resistor, modulator
master, computer scanner
engineer, musketeer

## Exercise 30

Work in pairs. Come up with three English words, which are likely candidates to be cognates and try to "russify" them. Compare them with your partner. Then go around the classroom, talk to three people and find out what their choices were. The instructor will check your predictions. Discuss the rules you applied with your classmates and the instructor.

## Classroom Management

| пожалуйста | please | читайте | read |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| спасибо | thank you | пишите, напишите | write |
| извините, простите | excuse me, sorry | повторите | repeat |
| садитесь | sit down | продолжайте | continue |
| встаньте | stand up | подождите | wait (hold on) |
| идите сюда | come here | сотрите | erase |
| смотрите, посмотрите | look |  |  |

Grammar Points: Similarities and Differences, The Russian Alphabet, Russian Cursive Writing, Jotted Vowels and Hard and Soft Signs, Spelling Rules and Pronunciation Peculiarities of the Sibilants and the Velars, Syllables and Stress, Intonation, Indo-European Languages, Russian and English, Russian Names.

## Abbreviations

| sh.f | short form of an adjective |
| :--- | :--- |
| smth | something |
| inf | infinitive |
| m | masculine |
| f | feminine |
| n | neuter |
| sing | singular |
| pres | present tense |
|  |  |

## Indo-European Languages

In Indo-European languages (and other language families) consonants bear the meaning while vowels govern the melody and rhythm of a language. Example: Read the following short phrase of two words in which consonants have been omitted and try to understand it: oo oo. Quite a puzzle, eh? Now, let's omit the vowels in the same phrase and try to decipher it again: gd bk. [good book] Wow! What a difference! Needless to say those consonants are more helpful as the meaning carriers.

Both English and Russian belong to the Indo-European family of languages. English belongs to the Germanic Group: German, English, Dutch, Flemish, and others; whereas Russian belongs to the Slavic Group of languages, among them are Russian, Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Polish, and others.

There is scientific evidence all these languages have descended from one common proto-language called Proto-Indo-European. It is a reconstructed language. Sanskrit, the ancient language used in the Hindustan subcontinent is closely related to the modern European languages. The next of kin closer to Europe is Latin. Some European languages are grammatically based on Latin, like Italian, French, Spanish, etc., and all European languages have different amount of Latin word roots. Even though structurally (grammatically) English belongs to the Germanic Group, it has more Latin heritage in its vocabulary than German, for instance. Russian has a considerable amount of Latin word roots as well. Here are but a few examples of the words/roots found in Sanskrit, Latin, English, and Russian (all spelt in Latin letters). Pay attention to the consonants as they bear the meaning:

| Sanskrit | Latin | English | Russian |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| agni - fire | ignis - fire | ignition | ogon' - fire |
| dvi -2 | duo - 2 | two* | dva -2 |
| mrita - death | mortis - death | mortal, murder | smert' - death |
| matr - mother | mater - mother | mother | mater', mat' - mother |
| $\underline{\text { tri }-3}$ | tres - 3 | three* | $\underline{\text { tri }}$ - 3 |
| vidya- seeing, knowing | videre - seeing | video, visual | videt', - seeing |

* These are good examples of what in phonetics is known as the 'interchange of consonants'. Such groups of consonants as $\mathbf{d} / \mathbf{t} / \mathbf{t h}, \mathbf{b} / \mathbf{p} / \mathbf{f} / \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{c} / \mathbf{s} / \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{g} / \mathbf{j} / \mathbf{j}$ (when $\mathbf{j}$ is pronounced $[\mathbf{y}]$ as in $y e s), \mathbf{l} / \mathbf{r} / \mathbf{w}$, $\mathbf{u} / \mathbf{v} / \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{c} / \mathbf{k} / \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{g} / \mathbf{h}$ (when $\mathbf{h}$ is fricative), are interchangeable trans-lingual or can change with time within one language.


## Russian and English

In this lesson you might have noticed several similarities between English and Russian. However, the grammar of Russian often appears quite complex to many students.

You might find it interesting that several centuries ago the English grammar used to be almost as complex as that of Russian. English underwent many changes in the course of its history. Have you ever read any Shakespeare in school? Difficult as it must have been it was already Modern English. First English immigrants arriving in America already spoke modern English. The complexity of Russian can be compared to earlier stages of English before the times of Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth. In Modern English, the relationship between the words in a sentence is ruled not by the word endings as in Old English or Modern Russian but rather by the position of the parts of the sentence in a sentence and by the use of prepositions.

Almost every word of Russian may come in many different grammatical forms. The existence of different forms makes Russian very foreign to foreign students. Let us take the Russian adjective, for example. While the English adjective has only 1 grammatical form, the Russian adjective has 24 theoretical grammatical forms. In practice the number of the forms will be less because many forms coincide. Also, different adjectives may have different number of forms. The adjective белый - white, for instance, has 13 forms. The twenty-four forms are made up of the three gender forms in the singular: masculine, feminine, and neuter plus one in the plural for all three genders. Each of the four forms is declined by the six grammatical cases. It makes a total of twenty-four grammatical forms. However, do not be discouraged. At the end of this course you will be able to communicate freely in Russian. As you engage in the study of Russian you will be able to see more and more similarities between Russian and other European languages including English.

## 1. Alphabet

The Russian alphabet, similarly to English, does NOT provide one-to-one sound versus letter correspondences. In fact, no alphabet of any world language does.

In Russian, just as in English you need to learn the spelling rules. The good news, however, is that spelling in Russian is much more rule-governed than in English. After you had practiced some of the rules presented in the Introduction, now read the following part of the Grammar Notes section for more detailed explanations of the Russian alphabet and the sound system.

## 2. Russian Vowels

In Russian, there is no differentiation between long and short vowels. The duration of the sound each vowel is pronounced with depends on whether the vowel is stressed or unstressed.
Phonologically, stressed vowels are always longer than unstressed vowels. Stress and Syllabification will be discussed below.
 simple vowels and 'glides' or 'yotted' vowels, and also as hard vowels and soft vowels.

Simple vowels are those that have only one phoneme (single distinctive sound). They are: $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y}$, $\mathbf{b}$, э. Let's look at examples of words which start with these simple vowels when these vowels are stressed:

ангел - angel, индекс - index, опера - opera, ультра - ultra, экспорт - export, рыба - fish.
Note: There are no Russian words starting in $\mathbf{ы}$.
Glides or yotted vowels are those that represent sound combinations of the glide $\mathbf{и}$ and simple vowels $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\jmath}$. Before discussing the yotted vowels we need to talk briefly about the Russian semi-vowel and glide й, which name in the alphabet is 'short и [ee]'.

## Short и [ee] - й

The eleventh letter of the Russian alphabet is called 'short и' [eee] and is drawn as й. This Russian sound is equivalent to the widely used 'glide' sound in English. Here are some examples of the sound found in many English words. 1) In the beginning of such words as yo-yo, yes, yard. 2) In the middle of words: rain, horizon, etc., 3) At the end of such words as word: toy, my, hi, tie, rye, buy, by. In English, this sound can be rendered in a number of different letter combinations, whereas in Russian it is in most cases just one letter й. (In phonetics, this letter is considered a semi-vowel. It is true because if you try to slowly pronounce just this sound separately from other sounds, you will find out that it consists of two sounds: $[e e+y]$, that is to say, you need to start with the vowel sound $[e e]$ before you reach the glide $[y]$ as in $y e s)$.

There are some examples:
In the beginning of a word (only in a few words):
йод - iodine, йог - yogi
In the middle of a word:
койка - bed, тройка - three
At the end of a word:
рай - heavens, Николай - Nicholas

Now we can return to the yotted vowels $\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e}, \boldsymbol{\ldots}, \boldsymbol{я}$. As has been said above they are a combination of the simple vowels $\boldsymbol{\jmath}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{a}$, and the glide $\mathbf{и}$. This can be depicted in the following way:

Note: 1) There are no letters representing a combination of the glide $\mathbf{и}$ and the simple vowels $\mathbf{и}$ or ы. 2) The letter $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ is always stressed.

## The vowels $\mathbf{e}$, ë, ю, я are pronounced as yotted:

In the beginning of a word:
ель - fir-tree, ёж - hedgehog, юбка - skirt, яблоко - apple
(also after $\mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{b}$ because in these cases they are separated from the beginning of the word and perform as if they were at the beginning of the word - see below)

After other vowels:
поезд - train, он поёт - he sings, я пою - I sing, маяк - lighthouse
In all other cases $\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e}, \boldsymbol{ю}, \boldsymbol{я}$ are pronounced as simple (single phoneme) sounds:
не - not, нет - no, мне - to те, мёд - honey, дюна - duпе, мясо - теat, для - for
Note: It is possible that you may never see the double-dotted vowel $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ in the literature or publications because almost always $\mathbf{e}$ is used instead. This is done for a very simple reason: the Russians know when $\mathbf{e}$ should be pronounced as $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$. In dictionaries $\ddot{\mathbf{e}}$ is found under the letter $\mathbf{e}$.

Strictly speaking, the yotted vowels could be substituted in Russian by the combinations й + simple vowel mentioned above, but as long as these sounds are very common in Russian and represent individual sounds, individual letters were found appropriate to be created. In fact, there are words in Russian that do use the й + simple vowel combination instead of a yotted vowel. They are a small number of borrowed words:
 коёт], etc.
 found in a few borrowed words in Russian: бульон - broth, батальон - battalion, почтальон mailman, медальон - medallion, etc.

Because the yotted vowels $\mathbf{e}, \ddot{\mathbf{e}}, \boldsymbol{ю}, \boldsymbol{я}$ and the simple vowel $\mathbf{и}$ are soft by nature and also serve to palatalize or soften the preceding consonants (with the $\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{ю}, \boldsymbol{я}$ yotted or non-yotted), these vowels are also called 'soft' vowels, whereas the simple vowels $\mathbf{a , ~} \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{m}, \boldsymbol{\jmath}$ are also called 'hard' vowels. Looking at the Russian vowels from this prospective, it will be appropriate to organize these vowels in the following five pairs:
"Hard Vowels" "Soft Vowels"

| $\mathbf{a}$ | я |
| :--- | ---: |
| $\mathbf{\jmath}$ | $\mathbf{e}$ |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | ё |
| $\mathbf{y}$ | ю |
| $\mathbf{~}$ | и |

Compare the following separate syllables:

| мэ - ме | лэ - ле | тэ - те | рэ - ре |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| мо - мё | ло - лё | то - тё | ро - рё |
| му - мю | лу - лю | ту - тю | ру - рю |
| ма - мя | ла - ля | та - тя | ра - ря |
| мы - ми | лы - ли | ты - ти | ры - ри |

Let's look at how these pairs of vowels manifest themselves in the corresponding pairs of real words. Here are some examples:

Бэлла - Bella (fem. name), белый - white
после - after, пёс - dog (m)
суда - ships, сюда - (to) here
масло - butter, oil, мясо - meat
рыба - fish, рис - rice

## Yotted Vowels and Hard and Soft Signs

Some aspects of the usage of the yotted vowels need to be looked at in connection with the use of the hard and soft signs. The vowels $\mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e}, \boldsymbol{ю}, \boldsymbol{я}$ are pronounced as 'yotted' in the following cases:

1) In the beginning of a word: Я $\underline{\mathbf{e m}}-I$ am eating
2) After other vowels:

Я пою - I am singing/I sing
3) After the separating soft mark $\mathbf{b}$ :

Я пью - I am drinking/I drink
4) After the separating hard mark $\mathbf{b}$ : Я съел - I have eaten (m)

Compare with no ъ: $\boldsymbol{Я}$ ceл $-I$ sat down ( $m$ )
Я съела - I have eaten (f)
Compare with no $\mathbf{b}$ : $\boldsymbol{\text { Я ceл }} \boldsymbol{\underline { \mathbf { a } } - I \text { sat down (f) }}$

## Consonant Sounds

During the class on the Russian alphabet you learned that many Russian vowels and consonants look or sound similar to a number of English letters and sounds. In this section we want to focus on the Russian characters and sounds, which may seem to be somewhat foreign to your ear or eye. Let's take a look at the foreign ones.

However, like with the vowels, there are letters that are not found in the English alphabet, as well as there are some sounds and characters.
$\mathbf{X} \mathbf{x}$ does not have its equivalent sound in English. The best way to pronounce it correctly is just by imitating how the Russian people say it. This sound is normally rendered in English as [kh].

Examples: храм - temple, эхо - echo, монах - monk
Ж ж is a very common Russian sound and is pronounced [zh] as in measure, treasure, leisure, but it's harder than its English counterpart sound.

Examples: жизнь - life, ножницы - scisors, ножи - knives
Шш may look very uncommon to you though it has its equivalent sound in English rendered by the letter combination sh. Like in the case with $\boldsymbol{ж}$, it's harder and broader than its English counterpart.

Examples: шар - ball, sphere, лошадь - horse, вишня - sour cherry
Ч ч finds it's counterpart in the English sound rendered by the letter combination ch, but, unlike ж and $\boldsymbol{m}$ it's softer in Russian than its English twin sound.

Examples: час - hour, time, мачта - mast, ночь - night
Now we have approached two Russian consonants which can be referred to as 'complex' as they consist of more than one individual sound.

Щ $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ is a combination of the two consonants above $\boldsymbol{\omega}+\mathbf{\Psi}=\boldsymbol{m}$. It corresponds to the English letter combination shch and is pronounced as one short sound.

Examples: щука - pike fish, роща - grove, мощь - power
Цц is a combination of the two consonants: $\mathbf{T}+\mathbf{c}=\mathbf{ц}$. We will need two letters in English to render this sound: $t s$. It is also pronounced as one short sound.

Examples: царь - Tsar, процент - percent, танец - a dance

On the contrary, there is one letter/sound in English that will need two letters in Russian to be represented. It is $j$ or $g$ when pronounced as [j] in John. There is no such exact short equivalent sound in Russian and we will need two letters д + ж to convey it. Such English words and names as jeep, jeans, George will be written and pronounced in Russian in the following way. (Note that дж combination is pronounced not as one short sound but as a conjunction of the two sounds).

## Examples: джип, джинсы, Джордж

The English sound [ng], represented by the letter combination $n g$, does not exist in Russian. Borrowings from English and other languages having the $n g$ combination in them are found in Russian fairly extensively. The Russian letter combination $\mathbf{H}+\boldsymbol{\Gamma}$ serve the purpose of conveying this sound in Russian but it is pronounced as two separate sounds.

Examples: пинг-понг - ping-pong, брифинг - briefing, рейтинг - rating
Another sound not found in Russian is [w]. In Russian it can be represented in two different ways, either using в or $\mathbf{y}$. Such English words and names like west, Windows, William will be spelt in Russian as:

Traditionally, some spellings are fixed:


## Syllables and Stress

Note: When part of the word needs to be carried over to the next line, the word should be broken in two parts somewhere between two syllables (one syllable words cannot be broken). However, there is a restriction: one letter may not be carried over or left behind. Sometimes there can be more than one way to split the word. For example, the word ресторан - restaurant can be split either as pec-то-ран, or ре-сто-ран, or рест-о-ран, or рест-ор-ан. The preferred ways would be of course the first or the second because rhythmically it is better for every syllable to have possibly an equal load of vowel/consonant combination.

Stress is a very important characteristic feature of the Russian language and it goes hand in hand with syllabification. When one of the syllables in a word is pronounced with more force in the voice than the others, that syllable is called 'stressed'. When the vowel/syllable is not stressed we come across a phenomenon, which is known in phonetics as 'reduction of vowels'.

Reduction of vowels is found in many languages including Russian and English. One of the best ways to show how this phenomenon manifests itself in English would be probably by looking at the name MacDonald and others beginning with 'Mac'. This first part of the word (the first syllable) is never stressed, the vowel a is so greatly reduced in its sound value that such names are sometimes written with no a at all like McDonald because this a is simply "eaten up" and does not have its nominal value any more. Just compare how the sound [a] is pronounced in such words as father, mother, MacDonald, America, butter, garden. Only in father, and garden we can hear [a] in its full value while in the other words the sound [a] is reduced.

The same phenomenon is observed in Russian too. Any vowel in Russian can be reduced when it is not stressed. Normally, the farther away the vowel is from the stressed syllable the more reduced it can be (much depends on the individual way of talking, the area accent, and the speed of speech). Let's look at some examples and see what happens with unstressed vowels. The stressed vowels are typed in bold with an accent mark. Non-stressed vowels can be more or less close to (or distant from) the [a] sound or other sounds.*

## Written letter / Nominal sound Pronounced sound

| молоко | [малако $]$ | milk |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| золото | [золата | gold |
| дерево | [дерива] | tree |
| колесо | [калисо $]$ | wheel |
| язык | [йазык] or [йызык] | tongue, language |
| часы | [чисы] | clock, watch |
| жакет | [жэкет] or [жыкет] | jacket |

Students should be aware that reduction of vowels as well as other phonetic peculiarities of Russian and any other language is not a math formula. Correct pronunciation is learnt by listening to native speakers and by trying to imitate them. With extensive practice in listening and imitating, speaking, and reading aloud students start to get the feel of the sounds of the language.

Another important point about the stress is that placing the voice accent on a different vowel/syllable can change the meaning of the word. Compare:

```
дорога - road, way дорога (adj, fem, short) - something dear
духи - spirits, ghosts духи - perfume
жила - vein (я, она) жила \(-I(f) /\) she lived
мука - torment
(я) плачу - I weep
уже - narrower
```

дорога (adj, fem, short) - something dear
духи - perfume
(я, она) жила -I(f) / she lived мука - flour
(я) плачу - I pay / I am paying

уже - already

Note: When words in Russian are verbally spelt by syllables, every syllable is stressed and therefore there is no vowel reduction, in which case there is only one way to spell the word.

1) Браво, юбилей, добрый, вечер, жужжит.
2) Завтра, ромашка, семья, тетрадь, стрельба.
3) Пожалуйста, цветы, очень, месяц, господин.
4) Сегодня, здание, свидание, солдат, звезда.
5) Кресло, тщедушный, шуршит, студент, траншея.
6) Спасибо, вёсла, морозы, тысяча, друзья.
7) Фамилия, патрон, наощупь, утро, польщён.
8) Дожди, бассейн, госпожа, автомобиль, жульен.
9) Здоровье, бирюза, берёза, спокойный, выстрел.
10) Хребет, фортуна, секунда, радость, успех.

## Recognize Cognates

Cognates are the words of international use but of a national origin. Among the cognates, there are many Greek words like философия - philosophy, психология - psychology, химия - chemistry, геометрия - geometry, демократия - democracy, телефон - telephone, etc.; Latin words: республика - republic, нация - nation, армия - army, etc.; Italian: концерт - concerto, сопрано - soprano, and, of course, пицца - pizza, etc.; Russian: спутник - sputnik, перестройка - perestroika, and, of course, водка - vodka, etc.; Sanskrit: карма - karma, кундалини - kundalini; English: компьютер - computer, баскетбол - basketball, and, of course, о'кей - OK!

Even though cognates and borrowings are numerous in Russian they are often hard to recognize. Students should always pay attention to the consonants (as discussed in Grammar Notes of this lesson) and syllabification. Also, there are equivalent patterns that help recognize cognates and borrowings.

## Grammar Exercises

## Russian Names

## Exercise1-6

(See Culture Notes for comments on names).
Pronounce common Russian first names, last names, and patronymics (middle names) below and do exercises below. Your instructor will explain the procedure for each exercise. Specific tasks are explained in each exercise.

## Exercise 1

Read the given names below and find the first names that are common to both men and women. Then read the list of the given and the last names. Select names for your imaginary family. Write them down on a card and go around the classroom. Compare your choices with those of other students. Which name was the most popular one?

## Given names of men

Александр, Алексей, Андрей, Анатолий, Антон, Борис, Василий, Валентин, Валерий, Виктор, Владимир, Геннадий, Дмитрий, Егор, Евгений, Иван, Игорь, Кирилл, Константин, Максим, Николай, Олег, Пётр, Павел, Роман, Семён, Сергей, Сидор, Степан, Тимофей, Фёдор, Харитон, Эдуард, Юрий, Яков, Рюрик.

## Given names of women

Александра, Альбина, Анна, Антонина, Валентина, Валерия, Вера, Виктория, Галина, Дарья, Екатерина, Елена, Елизавета, Жанна, Зинаида, Зоя, Инна, Ирина, Клавдия, Лидия, Любовь, Людмила, Мария, Марина, Наталья, Надежда, Нина, Ольга, Оксана, Полина, Раиса, Светлана, Тамара, Татьяна, Юлия.

Men's last names (These are most common last names based mainly on first names)
Add -ов if stem ends in a consonant: Иван-Иванов, Пётр-Петров, Борис-Борисов. If first name ends in -ий drop it and add -ьев or drop -й and add -ев: Василий-Васильев, Дмитрий-Дмитриев.
If first name ends in -ей drop й and add -ев: Андрей-Андреев, Сергей-Сергеев. Add -ский after stem, or after stem + -ов, -ев: Чайков-Чайковский, Иванов-Ивановский; if ends in -ий drop it and add -евский: Василий-Василевский.
If first name ends in -а drop and add -ин or -ов: Никита-Никитин-Никитов.

## Exercise 2

From the list of men's given names above make men's last names. Some first names are not commonly used with the -ский ending but you can try adding it to all names just for practice as it is a common ending for adjectives. Pay attention to the pronunciation of the final consonant. Pronounce them aloud dividing and without dividing into syllables.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Women's last names

(add -a or -ская to men's last names)
Иванова, Петрова, Андреева, Сергеева, Васильева, Чайковская, Ивановская.

## Exercise 3

From the list of men's given names above make women's last names. Some first names are not commonly used with the -ская ending but you can try adding it to all names just for practice as it is a common ending for adjectives. Pay attention to the pronunciation of the final consonant before the vowel-a. Pronounce them aloud dividing and without dividing into syllables (Key).
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Men's patronymics

Add -ич to last names ending in -ов or -ев: Иванов-Иванович, Сергеев-Сергеевич. Replace first names ending -а with -ич: Никита-Никитич, but Гаврила-Гаврилович.

## Exercise 4

From the list of men's given names above make men's patronymics. Pronounce them aloud dividing and without dividing into syllables.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Women's patronymics

Add -на to last names ending in -ов, -ев, or -ич: Иванов-Ивановна, Сергеев-Сергеевна, Никитин-Никитична.

## Exercise 5

From the list of men's given names above make women's patronymics. Pronounce them aloud dividing and without dividing into syllables .
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Exercise 6

Below are four popular Russian tongue twisters. First, read them slowly dividing the words into syllables to feel the sounds and rhythm. Then, read the phrases as fast as you can. You can practice the twisters on your own pronouncing them both in fast and slow modes.

Колпак под колпаком, на колпаке колпак. - The cap is under the cap, there is a cap on the сар. (Колпак is a cone or dome shaped cover or cap).

Шла Саша по шоссе и сосала сушку. - Sasha was walking along the highway sucking on a sooshka cookie. (Сушка is a ring-shaped cookie).

Карл у Клары украл кораллы, а Клара у Карла украла кларнет. - Karl stole corrals from Clara, and Clara stole a clarinet from Karl.

Во дворе трава, на траве дрова. - There is grass in the yard, there is fire wood on the grass.

| английский (masc), английская (fem), <br> английское (neut), английские (plural) | English (adjective) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Америка | America |
| американский (masc), американская (fem), <br> американское (neut), американские (plural) | American (adjective) |
| возьми(те) фломастер | take the marker |
| встань(те) | stand up |
| дай(те) мне | give me |
| иди(те) сюда | come here |
| имя | name (mainly first name) |
| напиши(те) (слово) | write down (the word) |
| отчество | patronymic (used as middle name; derived from <br> oтец - father) |
| пожалуйста | please |
| подойди(те) к доске | Come up to the board! |
| Россия; Русь | Russia; Rus' (Old Russia) (See Culture Notes, <br> Lesson 4) |
| русский (таsс), русская (fem), pусское (neut), <br> русские (рlural) | Russian (adjective and adjectival noun) |
| скажи(те) | say |
| славянский (masc), славянская (fem), <br> славянское (neut), славянские (plural) | Slavic (adjective); is derived from the Slavic <br> noun cлава - glory; 'Slavic' people means <br> 'glorious' people. |
| сотри(те) | erase |
| США - Соединенные Штаты Aмерики | USA - United States of America |
| сади(сь)тесь (на место) | sit down (back to your place) |
| слово | word |
| страница | page |
| спасибо | thank you |
| сядь(те) | sit down |
| упражнение | exercise |
| урок | lesson |
| фамилия | family (last) name |
| язык | tongue, language |
|  |  |

## History of Russian Language:

In the $9^{\text {th }}$ century A.D. two monks Cyril and Methodius, went as missionaries from Byzantine Greece to help bring Christianity to Slavic tribes in the North. As the Slavs did not have a written language, Cyril and Methodius created an alphabet based on the language spoken among the Slavs. The characters used in the new alphabet were taken mainly from Greek with Latin features added later. Cyril and Methodius translated the Holy Scriptures into the Old Slavic language so that Slavs could read and understand the Bible. Since then, the alphabet has undergone a number of modifications. Today it looks quite different from its original form in Russian and other Cyrillic based languages, but it still retains many of its previous features. To honor these two outstanding scholars and pioneer linguists, the alphabet was called Cyrillic. Also, for their exceptional role in bringing Christianity to Slavs, Cyril and Methodius were canonized as saints by the Russian Orthodox Church.

In the $18^{\text {th }}$ century under Peter the Great, the forms of letters were simplified and regularized, and some of the Greek being removed. Russian language has been influenced by many foreign languages such as: 1. Indo-European/Common Slavic/East Slavic Influence 2. Scandinavian Influence 3. Greek Influence 4. Tatar-Mongol Influence 5.Western European Influence 6. PolishLatin Influence 7. French/Italian Influence 8.German/French/Dutch/English Influence.

## Russian Names

The full Russian name consists of three parts: имя - first name, отчество - patronymic (father's name, middle name), and фамилия - family name (last name). Let's pick as an example a popular Russian name Иван (English - John, Italian - Giovanni, French - Jean, German - Johannes, Spanish - Juan) and see how it manifests itself in all the three forms mentioned: Иван Иванович Иванов (a man), or Иванна Ивановна Иванова (a woman). The endings -ов (masc) оr -ова (fem) answer the question 'whose' and show belonging or possession meaning that Иванов or Иванова belong(s) to Иван. Endings -ович or -овна indicate the same belonging/possession relationship. Traditionally, -ович or -овна show the father's name (patronymic), while -ов or ова (and other forms), indicate the family name. However, the endings -ович or -овна in Russian can indicate also the family name, which is specifically characteristic of other Slavic languages like Serbian. The following type of a Russian name can very well exist: Иван Иванович Иванович with a difference in the stress. Sometimes among close friends or colleagues only patronymic can be used to address each other.

There are also short or diminutive names derived from full first names widely used as an informal form of address, for example:

Александр - Саша, Шура, Шурик (also: Сашка, Шурка). Владимир - Вова, Володя (also: Вовка, Володька).
Дмитрий - Дима, Митя (also: Димка, Митька).
Елена - Лена (also: Ленка).
Людмила - Люда, Мила (also: Людка, Милка).
Надежда - Надя (also: Надька).

Note: The ending -ка for men and women shows a highest level of familiarity but very often is regarded as being derogatory or rude.
However, if the suffixes -оч, -ич, -онь, -ень, are inserted between the stem and the ending -ка the names change the emotional characteristic to the reverse and become an expression of tenderness, love and affection. For example, this diminutive form is very often used when talking to children and between sweethearts:
Сашенька, Вовочка, Володенька, Димочка, Леночка, Людочка, Милочка, Наденька.

## The Name Рюрик

In the $9^{\text {th }}$ century, a number of Eastern Slavic tribes were scattered over the vast area, which are now Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, Slovakia, and parts of Northern Russia. There was a powerful strive for unity between them but they could not come to an agreement as to how to choose a king from among themselves, because the tribe to which the king was a native would become a dominating nation.
The decision was to invite a nobility representative from Scandinavia, the lands with which the Slavs had good and longstanding relations. The Scandinavians responded positively. They sent a delegation headed by a noble whose name was Рюрик. (This given name has been used in Russia ever since but is not very common). The dynasty of the Ryuriks had started. Among the prominent representatives of the Ryurik family who reigned and ruled in Rus' (old Russia) were Vladimir the Great (the Baptizer), the king of Kiev who introduced Christianity in Rus', Yaroslav the Wise, the king of Kiev, who promoted education and arts, built churches and established relations with Western Europe (one of his daughters was married to the king of France and later became the queen of France), Ivan the Terrible, the tsar of the Moscow Rus' who started the expansion of the Russian Empire to the East. All these rulers were Рюриковичи (the plural form of Рюрикович).

Note: The Romanov dynasty started in 1613 when a Russian noble Michael Romanov was elected tsar of the Moscow Rus'. (South-Western Rus', or Ukraine, including Kiev was part of the kingdom of Poland in those days).

## Activity 1

Speaking example of simple greeting. The teacher comes into the classroom and greets the students: Доброе утро (before noon) and Добрый день (after noon), and Здравствуйте. The students greet the teacher and greet each other (including Здравствуй). This exercise should be practiced every day throughout Lesson 1 (and beyond) even though the Topic Greetings comes about only in Lesson 2.

## Activity 2

The following phrases should be practiced throughout Lesson 1 as a means of emphasizing the communicative side of language study at this early stage without detailed explanations of Grammar.
(Name), Пожалуйста.
Встань(те). Сядь(те). Иди(те)/подойди(те) к доске. Возьми(те) маркер. Напиши(те) (слово). Сотри(те). Сади(сь)тесь на место. Скажи(те). Дай(те) мне... Спасибо.

These phrases should be gradually introduced throughout the first week. Students will also use them in the role-playing situations performing as teachers. Both singular and plural form of verbs in the Imperative should be used. If necessary, more phrases can be added.

## Activity 3

A. Look at the images of animals. What do these animals say in English?
B. Now listen to the instructor read what they say in Russian.

Please note that each phrase consists of a noun (the subject) and a verb (the predicate) in the $3^{\text {rd }}$ person singular.
C. Work in pairs. Then, take turns in reading the phrases again at least two times swapping out the noun and the verb: Russian grammar allows that. This done, proceed to $D$
D. A student reads a phrase using any word order and points at another student who without looking into the text (peeking in is allowed) produces the appropriate sound.
Петух кукарекает
Ку-ка-ре-ку-у-у

## Activity 4

A. Listen and recognize. Look at the following list of logos of Russian, American and European cars. The instructor will read the names to you in random order, relatively fast. Circle the logos which names you think you heard. Note the difference in pronunciation of the Russian and English names.


Russian-produced car BA3 2131

$\qquad$
$\qquad$

B. Listen again and write. Now listen to the instructor slowly read the previous list of car makes again. Write them down in the space provided above next to the logos.
$C$. Work in pairs. Compare your answers with your partner.
The instructor will circle around the classroom checking for correct spelling.

## Activity 5

Shopping on the web. You are an office manager and you made a list of items you want to purchase. Read your list and then read the authentic Internet announcement. Compare them. If you find an item both in our shopping list and in the announcement, put a check next to the item in the shopping list.

## Activity 6

Work in pairs. Read and speak. Continuation of Activity 5. Now go through the announcement again and find all the cognates. Then make a purchase of two items from the announcement and read them to your partner. He/she will mark them on his/her copy of the announcement and read your purchase back to you. Reverse the roles.

## Activity 7

Guessing from context. Find the Russian words, which are cognates in the announcement. Then, find the Russian words, which are not cognates in the announcement and try to guess their meaning from context. Compare your guesses first with those of your partner then with the rest of the class. The person who guessed the largest number of words wins the title of a Linguistic Whiz ..

Your shopping list:

Stationery
Souvenirs $\sqrt{ }$
Pens
Software $\sqrt{ }$
Music $\sqrt{ }$
Atlases $\sqrt{ }$
Poetry $\sqrt{ }$
Video $\sqrt{ }$

The store sells the following items:

## Сегодня в продаже.

## АТ ІААСЫ И KАРТЫ

* Атласы
* Карты

C0 $\boldsymbol{\phi} \mathrm{T}$

* игры

книги * Переводчики

- Словари
* Детские книги
- проза
- Поэзия



## Activity 8

Work in pairs. Guessing meaning from context. Read the job announcement below and provide English equivalents for the advertised position.

## Приглашаем на работу:

Менеджера по работе с клиентами $\qquad$
Web-дизайнера / Администратора сервера $\qquad$
Web-дизайнера $\qquad$

## Activity 9

Now look at the job announcement and try to guess which word means 'work'. Can you think of a related English word which sounds similar?

Activity 10
Read, listen, do.
A. Work in pairs. Now you will work with a map of the St. Petersburg subway. Learning to pronounce the names of streets correctly is the key to finding your way around the city. Endings of different names around town including the names of the streets are very important for name recognition. Look at the endings. How many types of endings have you found?
Note: Просп. stands for Проспект - Prospect. Ул. stands for улица - street. Пл. stands for площадь - square.


$B$. If you ever traveled in a foreign city you have no doubt observed that it is often very difficult to understand the names of the streets when you are riding the subway and the stations are being announced.

## Metro riding simulation game

Step 1. All students come to the middle of the class. They will play the role of passengers, while the instructor will play the role of the station announcer.
Step 2. Each student chooses one of the lines (routes) indicated on the map of the St. Petersburg subway and his/her destination.
Step 3. The names of the lines (routes) are written on the board by the instructor. The students come to the board and write their names, point of departure, and their destinations.
Step 4. The students pretend that they are riding different trains. The instructor reads the names of the stations in a random order taking into account the stations the students chose as their destination, as well as the stations, which the students did not choose. For example, two students choose their destination stations Московские ворота and Горьковская. The instructor reads:

Станция Электросила.
Осторожно, двери закрываются. Следующая станция Московские ворота.
Станция Московские ворота (a student exits).
Осторожно, двери закрываются. Следующая станция Достоевская.
Станция Достоевская (nobody exits).
Осторожно, двери закрываются. Следующая станция Горьковская.
Станция Горьковская (a student exits).
Step 5. When the student hears his/her station he/she exits the train. The game is over when all the students exit. Those who did not exit when their station name was called keep riding until they notice that they missed their station.

Winners are those who exited at their destination. Losers are those who missed the most stations. The game is played several times with different list of the stations.

## Activity 11

Reading biographical names. Work in pairs. Take turns in reading the following biographical names. Which one was the most difficult to read?

| 1. Джордж Вашингтон | 6. Генерал Эйзенхауэр |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. Авраам Линкольн | 7. Бенджамин Франклин |
| 3. Джон Кеннеди | 8. Генерал Пауэл |
| 4. Уолт Дисней | 9. Мэрилин Монро |
| 5. Мухаммед Али | 10. Мартин Лютер Кинг |

## Activity 12

Listen and match. Look at the images. Listen to the teacher read captions from the list on the left. Match the image and the picture.

1. Екатерина Гордеева
2. Никита Хрущёв
3. Борис Ельцин
4. Гарри Каспаров
5. Екатерина Великая


## Activity 13

Map activity. Word recognition. Fluency circle.
Country/Capital. The class forms two circles, one inside the other. Each student is given a card with the name of a country and its capital. When teacher says начали - start, the students show each other their cards. The students on outside circle begin to read the cards of the students on the inner circle, and then the students in the inner circle will read the cards of the students in the outer circle. When the teacher says стоп - stop, the outside circle will move clockwise one space, and the activity will continue with a new partner.

## Activity 14

Look at the blank contours of the continents. Label the continents in Russian.


## Activity 15

A game "Make a word". What does a Russian word look like? Some letters make a word and some do not. Work in groups of three or four. The instructor brings cards with the 33 letters of the Russian alphabet and places them on the desk face down. Students pull the cards two for each. Each group will have a total of at least 6 letters. The group tries to make a word and shows it to the instructor. The group who is successful first wins.

## Activity 1

The instructor will give you an index card. Fold it into two. Write your name and the name of the state you are from in Russian on the card. Place your card on your desk. Keep it there for the duration of Lesson 1.

## Activity 2

Adventures of a businessman/businesswoman in Russia


Situation. Assume the role of an American businessman/woman Bill Wilson or Claire Marlow who is an employee of the Интеркоммуникация RussianAmerican Company. You are sitting in the lobby of the hotel Невский Палас (The Neva-river Palace) sipping a drink. You are looking through a list of the people you are supposed to meet in Russia. All of a sudden someone calls your name: Билл Робертович! or Клара Давыдовна! Startled, you spill the drink. Now you have to reconstruct the list below. Fill in the missing letters.

1. Анна Михайл $\qquad$ Стахан
$\qquad$ Смирновск $\qquad$
2. Мария Антон
3. Александр Витальев $\qquad$ Александровск $\qquad$
4. Павел Петров $\qquad$ Синельщик $\qquad$
5. Александра Алексеев $\qquad$ Марков $\qquad$
Situation. You are invited to a celebration in the Интеркоммуникация Russian-American Company headquarters in St. Petersburg. You have the opportunity to meet your Russian colleagues during a cocktail party. They give you their business cards. (Some of the students will play the role of these individuals).
A. Read the business cards given below.
B. Write down the names of places your newly met colleagues are from.

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## Activity 3

Listen and speak.
A. Listen to your instructor.

Situation. Now the award ceremony begins. Listen to the voice of the director as he reads the names of the Company award recipients. Look at the business cards again and mark those with the names of the people who received an award.
B. Go around the classroom and speak. After the ceremony, come to your new Russian friends and congratulate them using their first name and patronymic. Write these names down. (Some of the students will play the role of these individuals).

Поздравляю вас, $\qquad$
Поздравляю вас, $\qquad$
Поздравляю вас, $\qquad$
Поздравляю вас, $\qquad$

## Activity 4

Find the places where employees whose business cards you read are from on the map below. You will have to visit them in their offices after the end of the 3-day conference in the St. Petersburg headquarters.


## Activity 1

Just letters. Pronounce the letters in the following pairs of words (one pair per student). Use the Alphabet table to name the letters correctly.

Соловей щебечет. Пчела жужжит. Петух кукарекает. Змея шипит. Воробей чирикает. Свинья хрюкает. Лошадь ржёт. Курица кудахчет. Корова мычит. Голубь воркует. Лев рычит. Собака лает. Цыплёнок пищит. Волк воет. Овца блеет. Кошка мяукает. Ёжик фыркает. Слон трубит. Ворона каркает. Кот мурлычет. Обезьяна кричит. Щенок тявкает.

## Activity 2

In your workbook, practice writing letters by hand in cursive using the model. Pronounce each letter out loud while you write.

## Activity 3

Write in Russian cursive the following geographical names. Try to pronounce them in Russian. Listen to the sounds and pronounce with and without looking at the words.

Австралия, Азия, Америка, Антарктида, Африка, Европа.

Австрия, Греция, Люксембург, Россия, Швеция, Эстония.

Афины, Брюссель, Кёльн, Париж, Санкт-Петербург, Хельсинки.

Аляска, Вайоминг, Джорджия, Иллинойс, Огайо, Юта.

## Activity 4

Write in Russian cursive the following biographical names. Pronounce them in Russian. Listen to the sounds and pronounce with and without looking at the names.

Джордж Вашингтон, Абрахам Линкольн,

Франклин Рузвельт, Айк Эйзенхауэр, Джон Кеннеди,

Рональд Рейган, Джордж Буш, Билл Клинтон.

Пётр Чайковский, Юрий Гагарин, Михаил Барышников,

Игорь Сикорский, Владимир Набоков,

Александр Солженицин, Елена Блаватская.

## Activity 5

Write in Russian cursive the first and last names of your classmates, also your name and your teacher's name.

## Activity 6

Listen to the following letters and write or type them. These are phrases where the words are pronounced by letters. There is a pause after each word. Your task is to write the letters correctly. You can listen as many times as you need. You will check this exercise in class the next day.
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Activity 7

Practicing й. Read the following words slowly with one syllable stressed and with no reduction of the non-stressed vowel. Then read them quickly. Afterward write them by looking and then without looking.

1) Ной, бей, чей, буй, дуй, крой, некий, твой, герой, конвой.
2) Двойка, гайка, шейка, пройма, обойма, войска, тайга, майна, бойца, байт.
3) Майор, белый, пегий, ей, Дарий, тонкий, крайний, райский, портной, бройлер.

## Activity 8

Practicing the yotted vowels. Read the following words slowly with one syllable stressed and with no reduction of non-stressed vowels. Afterward write them by looking and then without looking.

Едва, Ермак, ярмарка, яд, ел, Елена, яйцо, ария, ёрш, ёмкий, Мария, юла, Юкон, даёт, яма, Юма, крою, явка, магнолия, Чехия, ясно, ёкну, ясная, юзом, ею.

## Activity 9

Practicing soft and hard vowels (including yotted vowels pronounced as simple vowels. Write or type the words you see (twelve pairs of words). Now read slowly with one syllable stressed and with no reduction of non-stressed vowel.

Мыс - миска, этак - небо, лыбы - либо,
гуси - гюйс, гусак - гуся, эфир - кефир,
ловит - Лёва, дом - найдём, плоский - плёс,
эрг - серб, выла - вилы, эпос - деспот.

## Activity 10

Practicing consonants. Write or type the words you see paying attention to the consonants (fifty words). Now read the words slowly with one syllable stressed and with no vowel reduction of nonstressed vowels.
Хижина, дюжина, сжиженный, крекинг, паркинг, дриблинг, гонг, Джимми, Джексон, лов, плов, столов, снопов, цевьё, цистерна, цилиндр, цинга, щель, защёлка, тощий, сущий, есть, рыть, рвать, реле, желе, гжель, трель, апрель, лью, льющий, пью, пьющий, злой, злющий, кара, карающий, видение, телевидение, сновидение, бдение, зрение, Шура, шут, шаровары, шаркать, пишу, слышу, шипы, мозг.

## Activity 11

Practicing palatalization. Write or type the words you see paying attention to the soft and hard sounds (fifty words). Then read them quickly. Practice it several times.

Рад, ради, рады, ряды, гряда, грядки, грядой, град, градом, пан, пьян, пьяный, сера, серый, серая, серое, серую, сьерра, сюртук, зашью, полью, зайду, пойду, щенок, щёлочь, мелочь, ельник, мельник, быстро, бистро, бирка, бюро, бью, бьёт, бьём, бьёте, бьют, бьются, смеются, грань, гранью, гранями, гарь, нагар, лазурь, базар, базарь, бульон, батальон, медальон.

## Activity 12

Rewrite the following words in cursive dividing them into syllables where appropriate. Pronounce the syllables aloud while writing. You will read the words by syllables the next day in class as a check-up.

Хи-жи-на, дю-жи-на, сжи-жен-ный, кре-кинг, пар-кинг,
дриб-линг, гонг, Джим-ми, Джек-сон, лов, плов,
сто-лов, сно-пов, цевь-ё, ци-стер-на, ци-линдр, цин-га,
щель, за-щёл-ка, то-щий, су-щий, есть, рыть, рвать,
ре-ле, же-ле, гжель, трель, ап-рель, лью, лью-щий,
пью, пью-щий, злой, злю-щий, ка-ра, ка-ра-ю-щий,
ви-де-ни-е, те-ле-ви-де-ни-е, сно-ви-де-ни-е, бде-ни-е, зре-ни-е,
Шу-ра, шут, ша-ро-ва-ры, шар-кать, пи-шу, слы-шу, ши-пы.

## Activity 13

Can you recognize these cognates? Write or type the cognates. (Fifty words are from different areas including geographical and biographical names). Provide English equivalents.

Радио, радар, лазер, монитор, гелий, алкоголь, кальций, холестерин, медицина, математика, генетика, фонетика, сенат, конгресс, министр, премьер, процесс, цензура, бабуин, анаконда, шимпанзе, пингвин, маршал, батальон, армия, револьвер, гаубица, команда, командир, Флорида, Орегон, Джорджия, Арканзас, Япония, Гавайи, Владивосток, Кавказ, Урал, Волга, Камчатка, Ельцин, Горбачёв, Брежнев, Хрущёв, Гор, Голдуотер, Рокфеллер, Морган, Черчилль, Тэтчер.


[^0]:    * The pronunciation of these consonants will be explained later.

[^1]:    B. Put your imagination to work and make a story in English based on the Russian words in $A$. then compare with our story. The same words in English. An opera. The white lady Bella. An apple. A porcupine! Skirt! My skirt! Nicolas! Iodine! You are an angel! My angel!

