



RIPASSO DI RUSSO

(in lingua inglese)

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Questo saggio è destinato a quelli che sanno già un poco di russo, avendone studiato un corso di livello medio. Quindi conoscono decentemente l'alfabeto cirillico, e, come è implicito nel mio titolo, quanto basta della lingua inglese. Tuttavia, si suppone che, per i vari casi della vita, essi, come me, non abbiano avuto modo di praticare "in loco" la lingua russa. Di conseguenza, le loro conoscenze sono finite nel ripostiglio sul retro del loro cervello. Essi avranno certamente sperimentato ogni tanto il desiderio di riprendere la (bella, ma non facilissima) lingua, e avranno incominciato il ripasso del loro libro di testo. Ma, e questo avviene in un'alta percentuale di casi, e non solo nel ripasso di una lingua, essi avranno dovuto abbandonare il loro ripasso abbastanza presto, al massimo a metà del corso, per cui le parti più avanzate non sono mai state rinfrescate.

Ho quindi provato a proporre un ripasso in senso opposto: ho preso un mio vecchio corso (Teach Yourself Russian, di M. Frewin, 1977, disponibile in rete) l'ho sezionato a furia di copia e incolla, e l'ho ricomposto partendo dall'ultima lezione (quella che nei ripassi non si raggiunge mai) e risalendo verso la prima. Quindi, chi vuole ripassare con questo metodo, parte dalle regole difficili, che ha visto al massimo una volta, e risale sempre più rapidamente verso quelle facili, che peraltro sono pure messe in calce alle regole difficili, quando vi è fatto riferimento. Alcune regole fondamentali, che compaiono nell'introduzione del Frewin, sono qui riprodotte all'inizio del testo. Al vantaggio di ripassare parti mai ripassate, si aggiunge quello di verificare quanto della lingua russa si ricorda ancora.

Il libro non è stato copiato *in toto*, ma ho salvato tutti gli esempi. **Su questi si dovrebbe concentrare la memoria del lettore.** Larghi margini sono lasciati per eventuali note, di cui ho scritto esempi per le lezioni XX, XIX e XVIII. Se si vogliono aggiungere note personali, si può scaricare questo testo e poi aggiungere note a penna, oppure convertire il file pdf in word e lavorare con la software opportuna. Ad ogni lezione è aggiunto un "Esercizio esemplare", con traduzione, che può quindi essere usato nei due sensi. Consiglierei di tenere sottomano Google Translate o altra App opportuna.

Va tuttavia osservato che l'autore del mio testo di Russo, Mr. Frewin, ha sezionato il corso in sezioni distinte e numerate progressivamente. In ogni lezione sono coperti diversi soggetti, progressivamente più difficili. Siccome alcuni fra loro sono collegati, ho pensato di far bene a *mantenere l'ordine delle sezioni immutato in ogni lezione*. In altre parole, le lezioni sono in ordine inverso, ma le sezioni sono nell'ordine in cui esse compaiono in ciascuna lezione. Spero che l'eventuale lettore non ci perda la testa.

Ripeto che si suppone che il lettore conosca l'inglese e sappia leggere l'alfabeto cirillico. Questo non è un primo corso di introduzione alla lingua russa!

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ESPRESSIONI RUSSE.

(I numeri fra parentesi si riferiscono ai numeri del testo di riferimento “Teach Yourself Russian, di Michael Frewin, 1977)

Regole base (soprattutto ortografia e pronuncia)

(33) *Spelling rule.* There are certain rules concerning the spelling of Russian, one of which it is vital to learn at this stage.

It concerns the guttural consonants — г, к, х.
and the sibilant consonants — ж, ш, щ, ч.

These seven consonants can never be followed by the hard vowel ы or the soft vowels я or ю. After these consonants—

ы is replaced by its soft equivalent и
я is replaced by its hard equivalent а
ю is replaced by its hard equivalent у

This rule has a considerable effect on Russian declensions and conjugations.

Le vocali dure e molli sono:

Hard and Soft

You will see from the alphabet that Russian has ten letters denoting vowels:

Hard а э ы о у

Soft я е и ё ю

La funzione delle vocali molli è di “palatalizzare” il suono della consonante che le precede. Lo stesso effetto lo ha il simbolo: ь.

Note 1. The soft sign (ь) and hard sign (ъ) are sometimes used between a consonant and a following soft vowel. In such cases these letters have a separating function; consonant and vowel are pronounced separately.

e.g. *Hard*—объяснить; съездить *Soft*—воскресенье

Talvolta, i due simboli **ь** e **ъ** possono essere posti tra consonante e vocale per separare il loro suono (per me suona come un mezzo raddoppiamento della consonante).

Note 2. The consonants **ж, ш** and **ц** are *always* hard. Thus, although the vowels **е, ё** and **и** can be written after them, they are pronounced **э, о, ы**.

<i>Written</i>	<i>Pronounced</i>
уже́	ужэ
жёны	жоны
жить	жыть
шесть	шэсть
шёл	шол
шить	шыть
отце́	отцэ
цирк	цырк

Conversely, the consonants **ч** and **щ** are *always* soft. Thus 'hard' vowels after them are pronounced soft.

<i>Written</i>	<i>Pronounced</i>
ча́сто	чясто
чу́дный	чюдный
щу́ка	щюка

* The hard Russian 'л' is very distinctive. It is similar to the 'l' in 'bottle'. The tip of the tongue should push against the upper teeth and the back of the tongue should have no contact with the roof of the mouth.

In Russian we have the following pairs:

<i>Voiced</i>	б в г д ж з
<i>Unvoiced</i>	п ф к/х т ш с

The following tendencies should be noted with regard to voiced and unvoiced consonants:

1. Voiced consonants are usually pronounced unvoiced at the end of words.

Thus:	<i>Written</i>	<i>Pronounced</i>
	хлеб	хлеп
	Ивано́в	Иваноф
	Бог	Бох
	грудь	груть
	муж	муш
	че́рез	черес etc.

2. In groups of consonants, all are voiced if the last is voiced; unvoiced if the last is unvoiced.

Thus:	<i>Written</i>	<i>Pronounced</i>
	во́дка	вотка
	ло́вкий	лофкий
	сбить	збить etc.

N.B. This frequent variation between spelling and pronunciation is in one case resolved by a change of spelling to match the pronunciation:

The prefixes ending in **-з** (**из-**; **воз-**; **вз-**; **без-**; **раз-**) change the 'з' to 'с' before unvoiced consonants.

e.g. **воз:** **восхо́д**; **воскресе́нье**; **восста́ние**
без- **беспла́тно**; **бессо́нница** etc., etc.

LA GRAMMATICA E LA SINTASSI

Lezione XX – pag.313 (testo originale)

LESSON 20

- (223) *Present passive participles.*
- (224) *Past active participles.*
- (225) *Verbal adverbs (gerunds)—their use.*
- (226) *Imperfective verbal adverbs—form and use.*
- (227) *Perfective verbal adverbs—form and use.*
- (228) *узнавать.*
- (229) *служить.*
- (230) *разный and различный.*

223 Present passive participles. Formazione: 1pp+ desinenze aggettivo

(223) *Present passive participles.* These participles are formed by adding the normal adjective endings to the 1st person plural of the present tense of imperfective verbs.

Thus: читать — читаем — читаемый
любить — любим — любимый
организовать — организуем — организуемый

Exception: compounds in -давать and -знавать retain the infinitive stem.

Thus: продавать — продаём *but* продаваемый
узнавать — узнаём *but* узнаваемый

This is much the least common of all the participles in modern Russian and many verbs have lost the form completely. It is virtually never used in spoken Russian and is

Most common:

любимый — favourite
уважаемый — lit. esteemed (used for 'Dear Sir' in business letters)

Note also незабываемый — unforgettable.

The use of the present passive participle, rather than its equivalent in the past, indicates either

1. that the 'action' of the participle coincides in time with the action of the main verb:

Предметы, изучаемые нашими студентами, не особенно интересуют их.

The subjects studied by our students do not particularly interest them.

or 2. that the action is repeated:

Они всегда удивлялись впечатлению, производимому отцом на гостей.

They were always surprised by the impression their father made on the guests.

Cf. also the 1st sentence of the reading passage:

...журнал, издаваемый в Лондоне, недавно описал...

or 3. that the 'action' is still continuing long after it was initiated:

cf. reading passage:

События, описываемые в журнале, происходили много лет назад.

The events described in the magazine happened many years ago.

224. Past active participle. Da verbi perfettivi e imperfettivi. Passato cita/l diventa cita/vshiy

(224) *Past active participles.* These are formed from both imperfective and perfective verbs. Remove -л from the past tense and add the suffix -вший.

Thus:	чита́ть —	чита́/л —	чита́вший
	жи́ть —	жи/л —	жи́вший
	сня́ть —	сня/л —	сня́вший
	возвраща́ться —	возвраща/л/ся —	возвраща́вшийся
	говори́ть —	говори́/л —	говори́вший

Note 1. The stress is usually identical with that of the infinitive.

Note 2. As always in the case of participles, the reflexive suffix *-ся* never changes.

Note 3. If the past tense does not end in *-л* (*нёс, помог, рос, влез* etc.), there is no *в* in the participle. Simply add *-ший* etc.

нести — нёс —нёсший
помочь — помог — помóгший
расти — рос — рóсший
влезть — влез — влézший

Exceptions:

1. идти and compounds give шéдший, происшéдший etc. (*Note сумасшéдший = mad; Он с ума сошёл. He is mad.*)
2. вести and compounds give вéдший, провéдший etc.
3. исчезнуть — исчéзнувший.

Vjesti = condurre; vlyezt' влезть = entrare, Isceznut' Исчезнуть = scomparire, rasti расти crescere

Aspects:

Thus: Мальчик, снимавший свитер = Мальчик, который снимал свитер. The boy who *was taking off* his sweater

Мальчик, снявший свитер = Мальчик, который снял свитер. The boy who *had taken off* his sweater.

NOTA: se i participi passati sono imperfettivi, possono essere sostituiti dal presente (vedi Nota 210).

225: finale in *-YA*; il participio è in *-YASHEMYI* (aggettivo, sta per proposizione relativa), mentre *-YA* sta per proposizione temporale o simile. Per la formazione, vedi N.226, che distingue tra imperfettivi e perfettivi.

(225) *Use of verbal adverbs.*

1. These must not be confused with participles. As their English counterparts are often a present participle form in -ing, this is a real danger.

2. They are adverbs and thus cannot decline.

3. They are formed only from *active* verbs.

4. Participles are intimately connected with nouns. They describe nouns in the same way that adjectives do:

The *fat* boy. (Which boy? — the fat one.)

The boy *who stood on the burning deck*. (Which boy? — the one who stood on the burning deck.)

However a verbal adverb is more closely connected with the main *verb* in a clause or sentence. It can tell you when, why, how etc. the action of this verb takes place. Thus instead of standing for a relative (который) clause as a participle does, it stands for clauses beginning with such conjunctions as *когда; после того, как; так как*.

Quindi:

(a) Participle:

The boy *smoking* a cigarette is only twelve years old.
(Which boy? — the boy smoking a cigarette.)

Russian: Мальчику, *курящему* папиросу, только двенадцать лет.

(b) Verbal adverb:

The twelve year old boy sat in an armchair *smoking* a cigarette.

Russian: Двенадцатилетний мальчик сидел в кресле, *куря* папиросу.

(226) *Imperfective verbal adverbs.* Remove the 3rd person plural ending (-ют, -ут, -ят, -ат) of the present tense and add -я (or -а when the spelling rule demands it).

Thus:

читать	— чита́/ют	— чита́я
говори́ть	— говори́/ят	— говори́я
жить	— живи́/ут	— живи́я
организовáть	— организу́/ют	— организу́я
слы́шать	— слы́ш/ат	— слы́ша
лежа́ть	— леж/áт	— ле́жа

1. Verbs in -давать/-знавать/-ставать and their compounds retain the infinitive stem.

e.g. дава́ть — даю́т *but* дава́я
 узнава́ть — узнаю́т *but* узнава́я
 отстава́ть — отстаю́т *but* отстава́я

2. быть gives б́удучи.

Reflexive verbs: the verbal adverb always takes the -сь form.

 занима́ться — занима/ю́т/ся — занима́ясь
 перепи́сываться — переписыва/ю́т/ся — перепи́сываясь

N.B. Some verbs do not have this form. They include:

1. Verbs with no vowel in the stem of the present tense.
e.g. ждать (ждут); пить (пьют).
2. Verbs in -нуть (пахнуть).
3. Verbs with infinitive in -чь (мочь).
4. писать; петь.

Use of the imperfective verbal adverb.

N.B. This verbal adverb is only used when the actions of the main verb and the verbal adverb coincide in time.

Thus: Он сидел за столом, кончая письмо.
 He sat at the table finishing the letter.

227- Perfective verbal adverbs (past -л goes to -в; riflessivi -вши)

(227) *Perfective verbal adverbs.* Remove the -л from the past tense of the perfective verb. Add -в (or, much less commonly, -вши).

Thus: прочита́ть — прочита́/л — прочита́в
 увиде́ть — увиде́/л — увиде́в
 узна́ть — узна́/л — узна́в
 засну́ть — засну́/л — засну́в

Exceptions:

1. Reflexive verbs must have the full suffix in — вши.

Thus: зани́ться — заня́вшись
 заинтересова́ться — заинтересо́вавшись
 встрети́ться — встрети́вшись

A few other verbs have these alternative forms, but these are rarer than those formed regularly.

e.g. *встрѣтиться* — *встрѣтяться* or *встрѣтившись*
увидеть — *увидя* or *увидев*

3. Verbs whose past tense ends in a consonant without -л add -ши.

Thus: *вырасти* — *вырос* — *выросши*
умереть — *умер* — *умерши*
влезть — *влез* — *влѣзши*
привыкнуть — *привык* — *привыкши*
помочь — *помог* — *помогши*

Use of the perfective verbal adverb. It is used for an action taking place prior to the action of the main verb.

avendo fatto

- (a) Past. *Вернувшись домой, он поцеловал жену.*
(b) Present. *Вернувшись домой, он всегда целует жену.*
(c) Future. *Вернувшись домой, он поцелует жену.*

Note. In the negative form the perfective verbal adverb often translates 'without doing something'.

e.g. *Не поняв ни слова, он согласился на этот план.*
Without having understood a single word, he agreed to the plan.

228. Non si confonda UZNAT' da UZNAVAT' (riconoscere) con UZNAT' da ZNAT' (scoprire, imparare)

(228) *узнавать* to recognise (perfective *узнать*). This verb is easily confused with the perfective *узнать* (from *знать*) meaning 'to find out', 'to learn'.

The present tense of *узнавать* has stressed endings.

я узнаю	мы узнаём
ты узнаёшь	вы узнаёте
он узнаёт	они узнают

The future perfective of both *узнавать* and *знать* has stress on the stem.

я узнаю	мы узнаём
ты узнаёшь	вы узнаёте
он узнаёт	они узнают

229. СЛУЖИТЬ col dativo, "servire", anche figurato (dativo di persona, strum. di capacità)

(229) служить *to serve*. It takes dative of the person — Он служит *мне* — instrumental of the capacity. — Это послужило *темой* для трагедии. This served *as a subject* for a tragedy.

230. (p.320): РАЗНЫИ разный, РАЗЛИЧНЫИ, различный entrambi usati per svariati, differenti.

e.g. Люди совершенно различного/разного характера.
People of completely different character (one from the other).
У меня разные/различные книги.
I have various books.

Они жили в разных странах.
They lived in different countries.
Они жили в разное время.
They lived at different times.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(4) Give the Russian for:

1. A picture in the local paper made a great impression on the famous German writer.
2. It is very curious that Kolya resembles his uncle more than his father.
3. We complained to the hotel-keeper about the noise, the cold and the bad food.
4. You shouldn't pay too much attention to articles in these cheap magazines.
5. This tragedy greatly influenced the mood of the travellers.
6. I cannot agree to (соглашаться на + accusative) these impossible conditions.
7. I don't know why you are always grumbling at me.
8. We shouted at the dogs, but they had already killed five chickens.

- (4) 1. Картина в местной газете произвела большое впечатление на знаменитого немецкого писателя.
2. Очень странно, что Коля больше походит на дядю, чем на отца.
3. Мы пожаловались владельцу гостиницы на шум, холод и плохую кухню.
4. Не надо обращать слишком много внимания на статьи в этих дешёвых журналах.
5. Эта трагедия сильно повлияла на настроение путников.
6. Я не могу согласиться на эти невозможные условия.
7. Я не знаю, почему вы всегда ворчите на меня.
8. Мы закричали на собак, но они уже убили пять цыплят.

LESSON 19

- (209) *Participles.*
- (210) *Present active participles.*
- (211) *Past passive participles.*
- (212) *The short form of the past passive participle.*
- (213) *The passive formed with participles.*
- (214) *Participial adjectives and nouns.*
- (215) *The instrumental case with verbs.*
- (216) *Further uses of the instrumental.*
 - 1. *After доволен, недоволен.*
 - 2. *Manner.*
 - 3. *Comparison.*
- (217) *Verbs in -нуть.*
- (218) *катиться and кататься.*
- (219) *путь.*
- (220) *тысяча.*
- (221) *The preposition по with the prepositional.*
- (222) *The noun suffix -ость.*

209. Participi e simili (equivalenti a proposizione relativa)

1. Participles derive from verbs.
 e.g. читать (to read) > читающий (reading)
 написать (to write) > написанный (written)
2. They have the form of adjectives.
 читающий читающая
 написанный написанная
3. They can be either present — читающий (reading)
 or past — написанный (written)
4. They can be active — читающий что-то (reading something)
 or passive — написанный кем-то (written by somebody)
5. Their function is equivalent to a relative clause (i.e. like all adjectives, they are linked to nouns).
 Девушка, читающая книгу = Девушка, которая читает книгу.
 (The girl reading the book)
 Письмо, написанное по-русски = Письмо, которое кто-то написал...
 (The letter written in Russian)
6. The participle, being an adjective, declines according to gender, number and case, and agrees with its noun.
 с девушкой, читающей книгу with the girl reading a book
 в письме, написанном по-русски in the letter written in Russian

Dei quattro participi che il Russo possiede (presente attivo e passivo; passato attivo e passivo), tratteremo ora il **presente attivo** e il **passato passivo** (che corrispondono ai participi italiani)

(210) *Present active participles.* The present active participle replaces the *т* of the 3rd person plural of the present tense (читаю/т) with *щ* and adds adjective endings (-ий, -ее, -ая, -ие etc.—remember spelling rule).

любить	— любят	— любящ-	— любящий
писать	— пишут	— пишущ-	— пишущий
следовать	— следуют	— следующ-	— следующий
идти	— идут	— идущ-	— идущий
понимать	— понимают	— понимающ-	— понимающий
краснеть	— краснеют	— краснеющ-	— краснеющий
спать	— спят	— спящ-	— спящий

Note. In the participial form, reflexive verbs *never* change -ся to -сь.

e.g. учиться — учатся — учащ- (ся) — учащийся

The present active participle should, in theory, always replace a relative clause in the *present* tense.

Я вижу человека, сидящего в углу. = который *сидит* в углу.

However, in practice, it frequently replaces a *past* relative clause.

Я *увидел* человека, сидящего в углу.

I saw a person (who *was*) sitting in the corner.

3pp -ют diventa -ющ-
desinenza aggettivo - e affini

(211) *Past passive participles.*

1. To form the past passive participle, replace the -ть of the perfective infinitive with -нн- and add adjective endings.

(In the case of imperfective verbs, past passive participles have virtually disappeared from the language.) Only transitive verbs (logically) can provide passive participles.

Thus:

прочита/ть	— прочитанн-	— прочитанный
написа/ть	— написанн-	— написанный
потеря/ть	— потерянн-	— потерянный
увиде/ть	— увиденн-	— увиденный
заинтересова/ть	— заинтересованн-	— заинтересованный

(Thus: заинтересованные стороны — the interested parties)

Note. The stress on these participles falls on the syllable before -анн etc.

2. Verbs in -ить. With these verbs the и changes to е or ё before -нный.

Thus:

получить	— получи-	— полученный
уверить	— увере-	— увёранный
решить	— реше-	— решёанный

Note. Stressed ё is found in verbs whose 2nd person singular of the future perfective is stressed on the ending.

Thus:

решíšь	— решёанный
уверíšь	— увёранный

3. Verbs of the 2nd conjugation with a consonant change in the 1st person singular. In these verbs the consonant change is repeated in the past passive participle.

Thus:

встретить	встречу	встрёанный
купить	куплю	купланный
обратить	обращу	обращёанный
заплатить	заплачу	заплáченный
любить	люблю	влюблёанный (in love)

Exception: увидеть — увижу — увиденный

4. Past passive participles from compounds of the verbs нести; везти; вести; идти are formed from the future perfective stem.

Thus:

принести	принесу	принесёанный
подвезти	подвезу	подвезёанный
вести	веду	ведёанный
найти	найду	найданный

val la pena ricordare che il perfettivo non ha presente.

Desinenza del perfettivo infinito -ть diventa -нн-(desinenze aggettivo)

Потерять: perdere

Уверить: assicurare;

perf. di верить= credere

принести = portare

подвезти = portare con sé, dare un passaggio

вести: far entrare, presentare etc.

найти: trovare

5. Some verbs take their past passive participle in -тый, They are:

(a) All verbs ending in -нуть.

вынуть — вы́нутый

(b) Most verbs of one syllable (with or without pre-
fixes).

пробить — пробі́тый	умыть — умы́тый
взять — взя́тый	снять — сня́тый
закрыть — закры́тый	открыть — откры́тый
покрыть — покры́тый	занять — за́нятый
понять — поня́тый	поднять — по́днятый
выпить — выпі́тый	спеть — спéтый
начать — нача́тый	одеть — одéтый
надеть — надéтый	раздеть — раздéтый

вынуть : portar fuori

спеть :cantare

надеть : indossare

покрыты : coperti

212 Short forms of past passive participle

1. Adjectives. As in the case of most adjectives, passive participles also have a short form, when used predicatively.

e.g.	<i>masculine</i>	<i>neuter</i>	<i>feminine</i>	<i>plural</i>
Long:	постро́ен- ный	постро́ен- ное	постро́ен- ная	постро́ен- ные
Short:	постро́ен	постро́ено	постро́ена	постро́ены
Long:	оде́тый	оде́тое	оде́тая	оде́тые
Short:	оде́т	оде́то	оде́та	оде́ты

Note. Apart from the shortened endings, the only change is from double -нн- to single -н-

e.g.	Дело уже решено́.	The affair is already decided.
	Они были оде́ты по-летнему.	They were dressed in summer clothes.
	Дверь была откры́та.	The door was open.

построенный: costruito

2. Adverbs. Past passive participles can also be used to form adverbs. The neuter short form is used, but in the case of participles in double -нн-, both letters are retained.

Thus: ожида́ть неожи́данно unexpectedly
 откры́ть откры́то openly
 облегчи́ть облегче́нно with relief

(213) *The passive with the past passive participle.* The short form of the past passive participle can be used to form the passive (cf. English).

e.g. The house was built in Дом был построен в
 1960. 1960ом году.
 He was killed. Он был убит.

The agent goes in the instrumental.

He was killed by Russian Он был убит русскими
soldiers. солдатами.

However, as has been previously noted, Russian has various ways of forming the passive. The sentence: Дом был построен... can also be rendered—

1. by the reflexive verb Дом построился...
2. by the 3rd person plural Дом (object) построили...

The sentence: Дом был построен моим отцом.
 The house was built by my father.

can be rendered by changing the sentence into the *active* but retaining the English passive word order.

Дом (object) построил мой отец (subject).

(214) *Participial adjectives and nouns.*

1. Participles sometimes become adjectives in their own right.

e.g. блестя́щий (brilliant) заны́тый (busy)
 сле́дующий (next) откры́тый (open)
 бу́дущий (future) закры́тый (closed)
 настоя́щий (real, present) риско́ванный (risky)
 подходя́щий (suitable)

2. Some have become adjectival nouns.

e.g. отдыха́ющий holidaymaker
 провожа́ющий person seeing somebody off on a
 journey
 -(не)кура́щий (non)smoker
 уча́щиеся students

Altro soggetto: il caso strumentale.

(215) *Verbs governing the instrumental.*

владеть to own, to have a command (of a language)

Он владеет небольшой дачей. Она владеет пятью языками.

гордиться to be proud of

Я горжусь сыном.

жертвовать to sacrifice

Он пожертвовал собой.

заниматься to be occupied with; to study

Он занимается спортом.

любоваться to admire; to enjoy looking at

Они любят природой.

отличаться to be distinguished by

Она отличается (от других) своей красотой.

пахнуть to smell of

Пахнет весной. Пахнет цветами.

пользоваться to use; to enjoy (popularity, success etc.)

Он пользуется лифтом. Она пользуется большой популярностью.

рисковать to risk

Он рискует головой. (He is risking his neck.)

управлять to be in charge of

Он управляет авиакомпанией.

махать to wave

Она махнула рукой.

кивать to nod

Он кивнул головой.

кончаться to end in

Дело кончилось тем, что они расстались навсегда.

обмениваться to exchange

Они обменялись взглядами.

восхищаться to admire (a person, or quality in him or his works)

Я восхищаюсь произведениями Пушкина.

(216) *Further uses of the instrumental.*

1. After (не)доволен (dis)pleased with.

e.g. Она очень довольна новой работой.

She is pleased with her new work.

Они слишком довольны собой.

They are too self-satisfied.

2. To indicate manner.

e.g. всей семьёй	as a whole family, 'en famille'
большими буквами	in capital letters
шёпотом	in a whisper
сухим путём	by land (lit. by the dry way)
таким образом	in this way
мигом	in a flash
спать крепким сном	to sleep soundly

3. To indicate comparison.

e.g. Самолёт появился *маленькой точкой*. (like a small dot)

(217) *Verbs in -нуть*.

1. Some perfective verbs in *-нуть* are used to describe *one single action*.

They are formed from verbs whose imperfective aspect denotes repeated actions.

e.g. стучать perf.—стукнуть (to knock once)
(cf. normal perfective—постучать)
кричать perf.—крикнуть (to shout once)
(cf. normal perfective—закричать)

Other verbs in this category are: коснуться to touch (once)
рискнуть to risk (once)

2. The suffix *-нуть* does not always have this function. For instance, the following perfectives do *not* carry this implication:

исчезнуть; отвыкнуть; привыкнуть; вздохнуть; отдохнуть; вернуть(ся); заглянуть; вынуть; проснуться; заснуть.

3. A few verbs in *-нуть* lose the suffix in the past tense.

e.g. исчезнуть	Past: исчез; исчезло; исчезла; исчезли.
привыкнуть	Past: привык; привыкло; привыкла; привыкли.
отвыкнуть	Past: отвык; отвыкло; отвыкла; отвыкли.

The other verb to remember which has a shortened past tense is

умереть	Past: умер; умерло; умерла; умерли.
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4. Some verbs in *-нуть* are imperfective. (very few—commonest, пахнуть to smell).

Исчезнуть: scomparire

Привыкнуть: abituarsi

Отвыкнуть: divezzare, disabituare

218) катиться *and* кататься. This is a verb of motion like идти/ходить. Катиться is the specific verb.

Самолёт катится по дорожке. The plane is taxiing along the runway.
 Perf. Самолёт покати́лся... The plane began to taxi . . .

The general verb кататься is also used for various forms of 'going for pleasure'.

e.g. кататься на лыжах to ski
 кататься на велосипеде to go for a spin on a bike
 кататься на машине to go for a drive etc.

The perfective form покататься means 'to do a little boating, skiing etc.'

(219) путь. This is probably the most bizarre noun in Russian. It is accompanied by *masculine* adjectives, but its declension hovers between masculine and feminine:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
Nom.	пу́ть	пути́
Acc.	пу́ть	пути́
Gen.	пути	путе́й
Dat.	пути́	путя́м
Inst.	путём	путя́ми
Prep.	пути́	путя́х

(220) ть́сяча.

освещённый тысячами огней illuminated by thousands of lights

Note that тысяча is being used here as a noun, not a numeral. Thus огней is in the genitive plural (thousands of lights).

Compare:

с двумя тысячами огня́ми with two thousand lights

Note. свет (light) cannot be used in the plural. Use огонь (also = 'fire').

(221) по + *prepositional*. This preposition is used with verbal nouns (English: 'on doing...')

e.g. прибыть по его прибытии on his arrival
 возвращаться по его возвращении on his return

(222) The noun suffix *-ость*. This suffix is used to form feminine nouns from adjectives.

устáлый	устáлость	fatigue
молодóй	мóлодость	youth
стáрый	стáрость	old age
глúпый	глúпость	stupidity
нóвый	нóвость	news
промýшленный	промýшленность	industry
гóрдый	гóрдость	pride
стрáнный	стрáнность	strangeness
трúдный	трúдность	difficulty
тóнкий	тóнкость	thinness, fineness; subtlety
терпелíвый	терпелíвость	patience
рéзкий	рéзкость	sharpness
неприятный	неприятность	unpleasantness
неожиданный	неожиданность	unexpectedness
слáдкий	слáдкость	sweetness
рédкий	рédкость	rarity
блízкий	блízость	nearness
бédный	бédность	poverty
рад	рáдость	joy
увéрен	увéренность	confidence etc., etc.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(7) Translate into Russian:

- I couldn't make out the words written on the board.
- Vanya is lagging behind (use the past perfective) the others in school and the teacher has at last managed to persuade his parents that they have to help him at all costs.
- Until the policeman came up, we hadn't noticed the words *No parking*.
- Relations between England and the Soviet Union have improved in recent years.
- The pilot's brilliant career ended by (= тогда, когда) his making a forced landing in the Caucasus.
- He assured us of the good (use добрый) wishes of all Soviet people.
- Sasha made various unsuccessful attempts to change gear then asked me to change places (= поменяться + inst.) with him. I must confess that I was very pleased at this, as my wife is always afraid when he's driving the car.
- Spring was in the air (use пахнуть), the girls were all dressed in their summer clothes, the river was sparkling in the sun. Volodya exchanged glances with the girl sitting beside him and whispered something to her. She nodded and he sighed with relief. Now he was certain that she didn't want to marry him.

- Я не мог разобрать слова, написанные на дощечке
- Ваня отстал от других в школе, и преподавателю наконец удалось убедить родителей в том, что они должны помочь ему, во что бы то ни стало.
- Пока милиционер не подошёл, мы не замечали слова «СТОЯНКА МАШИН ЗАПРЕЩЕНА».
- За последние годы улучшились отношения между Англией и Советским Союзом.
- Блестящая карьера лётчика кончилась тогда, когда он сделал вынужденную посадку на Кавказе.
- Он уверил нас в добрых пожеланиях всех советских людей.
- Саша делал разные безуспешные попытки перейти на другую скорость, потом попросил меня поменяться местами с ним. Должен признаться, что я был очень доволен этим, так как моя жена всегда боится, когда он ведёт машину.
- Пахло весной, все девушки были одеты по-летнему, река блестела на солнце. Володя обменялся взглядами с девушкой, сидящей возле него, и сказал ей что-то шёпотом. Она кивнула головой, и он вздохнул облегчённо. Теперь он был уверен, что она не хочет выйти замуж за него.

LESSON 18

- (197) *Verbs with the genitive.*
- (198) *Verbs of motion.*
 - 1. *With prefixed с- and из-.*
 - 2. *лезть/лазить and гнать/гонять.*
- (199) *The two conjugations of болеть.*
- (200) *Adjectives and pronouns in the neuter.*
- (201) *Words of quantity in oblique cases.*
- (202) *некоторый; некоторые.*
- (203) *Distance, в and prepositional.*
- (204) *оба and полтора.*
- (205) *Compounds with пол-.*
- (206) *Some irregular noun plurals.*
 - 1. *Neuters with plural in -и.*
 - 2. *Nouns in -ёнок/онок.*
 - 3. *дядя; тётя.*
- (207) *на with geographical names.*
- (208) *Some feminine adjectival nouns.*

197. Verbi che reggono il genitivo.

1. The following verbs found in the lesson *always* govern the genitive.

касаться/коснуться	to touch (figuratively 'to concern')
слушаться/послушаться	to obey
бояться	to be afraid of
избегать/избежать	to avoid
хватать/хватить	to suffice, be enough

Note 1. касаться is frequently used figuratively in such phrases as:

Что касается <i>этого</i> вопроса.	As far as this question is concerned.
Это не касается <i>меня</i> .	It doesn't concern me.

Note 2. хватать is used impersonally.

У них хватает <i>времени/денег</i> .	They have enough time, money.
У них хватало <i>времени/денег</i> .	They had enough time, money.

2. The following verbs sometimes govern the genitive, sometimes the accusative:

хотéть/захотéть	to want
ждат ^ь /подождáть	to wait for
искáть	to look for
просíть/попросíть	to ask for
трéбовать/потрéбовать	to demand

The genitive after these verbs is used with abstract nouns.

Он хочет <i>спокойствия</i> .	He wants peace and quiet.
Он ждёт <i>ответа</i> .	He is waiting for an answer.
Он ищет <i>счастья</i> .	He is looking for happiness.
Он просит <i>помощи</i> .	He is asking for help.
Он требует <i>внимания</i> .	He demands attention.

Otherwise (i.e. with concrete nouns and people) the accusative is used.

Он хочет <i>игрушку</i> для дочери.	He wants a toy for his daughter.
Он ждёт <i>тётю</i> .	He is waiting for his aunt.
Он ищет <i>газету</i> .	He is looking for the newspaper.
Он просит <i>стакан</i> воды.	He asks for a glass of water.
Он требует <i>деньги</i> .	He demands his money.

Note 1. ждать. Nouns denoting transport and communication go in the genitive after ждать, although they are not abstract.

e.g. автобус, трамвай, самолёт, письмо, телеграмма.
Он ждёт *автобуса, письма*. He is waiting for the bus, letter etc.

Note 2. The partitive genitive is frequently found after these verbs.

Он попросил <i>чаю</i> .	He asked for <i>some</i> tea.
Он хочет <i>денег</i> .	He wants <i>some</i> money.

1. As we have already seen, the rule about compound verbs of motion is that they form their imperfective from ходить etc., their perfective from идти etc. However there is a small group of prefixes which give the 'general' verb a perfective form. The two prefixes concerned are с and из, and they are mainly used with the verbs ходить, ездить, бегать.

(a) с. сходить; съездить; сбегать

This prefix indicates that a journey there and back is *completed*.

The *result* of the journey is often shown by за with the instrumental, which tells you what the object of the journey was.

Он сходил/съездил/сбегал в город за покупками.

He went to town and fetched the shopping. (i.e. he is back from town)

cf. Он пошёл/поехал/побежал в город за покупками.

He has gone to town to fetch the shopping. (and has not yet returned)

N.B. Do not confuse this verb (perfective) with the imperfective сходить meaning 'to get down, to get off'.

(b) из. исходить; изъездить; избегать

This prefix indicates that the movement is in various directions over a whole area. These verbs are transitive.

Милиция исходила весь город, но не нашла преступников.

The police combed the whole town but didn't find the criminals.

Similarly: изъездить

избегать (note stress and distinguish from избегать 'to avoid')

Note that -ездить is used instead of -езжать with both prefixes.

2. лезть/лазить (to climb) and гнать/гонять* (to drive—animals etc.). These two verbs have double imperfectives.

лезть and гнать belong to the 'specific' type, лазить and гонять to the 'general' type.

Present:	лезть	гнать	лазить	гонять
	лэзу	гоню	лажу	гоняю
	лэзешь	гонишь	лазишь	гоняешь
	лэзет	гонит	лазит	гоняет
	лэзем	гоним	лазим	гоняем
	лэзете	гоните	лазите	гоняете
	лэзут	гонят	лазят	гоняют
Past:	лез	(regular)	(regular)	(regular)
	лэзла			
	лэзли			

When used in compounds, (с.ф. ездить) the verb лазить changes to -лезать

с.г. влезать/влезть, to climb in

Note that the verb разгонять (literally 'to drive away', 'to disperse') is used figuratively in the reading passage.

разгонять плохое настроение to dispel a bad mood.

* The reflexive form of this verb (гоняться) means 'to chase' and takes за+inst. Собаки часто гоняются за кошками. Dogs often chase cats.

(199) болеть 1. to be ill. 2. to ache. The infinitives of the two verbs are the same, but болеть 'to be ill' is a 1a verb.

Он болеет. He is ill.

* The reflexive form of this verb (гоняться) means 'to chase' and takes за+inst. Собаки часто гоняются за кошками. Dogs often chase cats.

болеть 'to ache' is 2nd conjugation.

У него голова болит. He has a headache.
У меня глаза болят. My eyes are sore.

Note that both verbs take their perfective in за-.

заболеть (1a conjugation) to fall ill
заболеть (2nd conjugation) to begin to ache

200: Aggettivi e pronomi – genere neutro: Usati in proprio.

мно́гое всё	many things everything
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са́мое гла́вное одно́	the main thing one thing (Он беспоко́ился только об одном)
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Uso di TO (declinato) “il fatto che ”

Я радуюсь *тому*, что он так скоро вернётся домой.

Sono contento che sia tornato così presto a casa.

Similarly note the following:

Он сожалел *о том*, что невозможно дольше остаться.
He regretted (the fact) that it was impossible to stay any longer.

Несмотря *на то*, что у него болела голова...
Despite the fact that his head was aching . . .

Павлу удалось убедить Давида *в том*, что...
Pavel managed to persuade David (of the fact) that . . .

(201) Words of quantity in the oblique cases.

Words such as Много, немного, сколько? take a genitive noun when they are in the nominative or accusative, but as in the case of numerals, the situation in the other cases is quite different.

Nom.	не́сколько	мно́го
Acc.	не́сколько	мно́го
Gen.	не́скольких	мно́гих
Dat.	не́скольким	мно́гим
Inst.	не́сколькими	мно́гими
Прер.	не́скольких	мно́гих

e.g. У *многих* англичан старые автомобили.
Many Englishmen have old cars.

Во *скольких* русских городах?
In how many Russian towns?

С *немногими* людьми
With a few people

Note 1. мало cannot decline like the other words. Instead one must use *немно́го* or *не́сколько*, sometimes supported by *только*

e.g. *только* в *немногих* случаях
in few cases

Note 2. The rule that человек is used with сколько? and несколько does not apply in the oblique cases.

e.g. о нескольких людях

(202) некоторый; некоторые. некоторый in the singular means 'some', 'a certain', and is usually used in expressions of time.

через некоторое время	some time later
с некоторого времени	for some time now

некоторые (plural) also means some, certain ones, and is much more definite than несколько

Вчера я купил несколько книг. Жена уже прочитала некоторые из них.

Yesterday I bought *some* books. My wife has already read *some* of them. (i.e. specific ones)

It often translates English 'several'.

Standing alone as a pronoun it can mean 'several people' (cf. многие):

Некоторые говорят, что...	Some (several) people say that . . .
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203. Distanza da.

(203) *Distance.* Distance is expressed by в + prepositional.

Мы живём в двухстах километрах от Ленинграда.
We live 200 kilometres from Leningrad.

204: entrambi, uno e mezzo

(204) оба (*both*) and полтора́ (*one and a half*). These are subject to the same rules as два; три; четыре, i.e. they take the genitive singular except in phrases in the oblique cases.

оба has the feminine form обе

полтора́ has the feminine form полторѝ

Thus: оба товарища	both comrades
обе сестры	both sisters

Their declensions are as follows:

	оба		полтора	
	<i>Masc./Neuter</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Masc./Neuter</i>	<i>Fem.</i>
Nom.	оба́	обе́	полтора́	полтора́
Acc.	оба́	обе́	полтора́	полтора́
Gen.	обо́их	обе́их	полу́тора	
Dat.	обо́им	обе́им	полу́тора	
Inst.	обо́ими	обе́ими	полу́тора	
Prep.	обо́их	обе́их	полу́тора	

Thus: с обоими братьями with both brothers
 об обеих книгах about both the books
 около полутора
 часов About an hour and a half

205. Composti con "mezzo"

(205) *Compounds with пол- (half).*

1. пол- + nouns in the genitive (half of . . .)

пол + час	полчасá	half an hour
пол + бутылка	полбуты́лки	half a bottle
пол + век	полвéка	half a century
пол + год	полго́да	half a year
пол + цена	полцены́	half price

Note that accompanying adjectives go in the nominative plural when the whole word is in the nominative or accusative.

интересные полчаса an interesting half an hour

2. пол- + nouns in the nominative (the middle of . . .)

There are only two common examples:

пол + день	по́лдень	midday
пол + ночь	по́лночь	midnight

Note the distinction between полднѧ half a day
 по́лдень midday

In the oblique cases of both types of noun the пол- is expanded to полу- and the noun itself is declined in the appropriate case.

e.g. в полубуты́лке in a half-bottle
 после первого
 получáса after the first half hour

In the case of полдень and полночь in the oblique cases, the y is always stressed.

до полу́дня	before midday
после полу́ночи	after midnight
между полу́днем и полу́- ночью	between midday and mid- night

206: qualche plurale irregolare

(206) *Some irregular noun plurals.*

1. A small group of neuter nouns take a plural in -и instead of the normal -а.

The commonest are: плечó (shoulder) plural: плéчи
колéно (knee) колéни
úхо (ear) úши
яблоко (apple) яблoки

The genitive plural of колéно is колéней
of úхо is ушéй

All other plural forms are regular.

2. Nouns in -ёнок and -онок. These nouns denote the young of animals and change their ending in the plural to -ята and -ата.

Declension of телёнок (a calf) in the plural:

Nom.	теля́та
Acc.	теля́т
Gen.	теля́т
Dat.	теля́там
Inst.	теля́тами
Prep.	теля́тах

Similarly:

ко́шка (cat) gives котёнок (kitten)	pl.	котя́та
сло́н (elephant) слонёнок (baby elephant)		слоня́та
медве́дь (bear) медвежо́нок (bear cub)		медвежа́та
во́лк (wolf) волчо́нок (wolf cub)		волча́та etc.

Notice also цыплёнок (a chicken). The name comes from цып-цып used for calling chickens.

соба́ка (a dog) does not give one of these nouns, the word for puppy being щенóк (pl. щеня́та by analogy).

ребя́та (from ребёнок) does not mean 'children', but 'lads'. The normal word for 'children' is, of course, де́ти.

3. дядя (uncle) and тётя (aunt) have irregular plural genitive:

дядя — дядей
тётя — тётей

207: На con nomi geografici.

(207) на with geographical names. Certain areas of Russia — mostly mountainous — are used with на instead of в = 'in'

с instead of из = 'from'

e.g.	Урал	на Ура́ле	in the Urals
	Кавка́з	на Кавка́зе	in the Caucasus
	Алта́й	на Алта́е	in the Altai
	Украи́на	на Украи́не	in the Ukraine

(208) ristoranti speciali e simili.

(208) шашлы́чная. Moscow and other large Russian towns have restaurants which specialise in certain dishes. The nouns to denote them are adjectival like столо́вая etc. and include:

шашлы́чная	(shashlik = шашлы́к)
пельме́нная	(Siberian dumplings = пельме́ни)
пирожко́вая	(pies = пиро́жки)

столо́вая, apart from meaning a dining-room in a private house, can be a canteen attached to a factory, institute, university etc., or a cheap municipal eating-place rather reminiscent of the wartime 'British restaurant'.

заку́сочная is a snack bar. (заку́ски = hors d'œuvres)

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(5) Give the Russian for:

1. one and a half kilometres from Kiev
2. with both hands
3. for both aunts
4. from both uncles
5. with one and a half rubles
6. before midnight
7. in half a tumbler of water
8. about a day and a half
9. He walked to the centre of Moscow in half a day.
10. with five wolf cubs
11. The six kittens chased Masha round the room.
12. The puppy chased the chickens round the garden.
13. He likes bear-cubs but he's afraid of bears.
14. Well lads, I'm off to the Caucasus tomorrow.
15. He returned some time later.

- (5) 1. в полутора километрах от Клева. 2. обеими руками.
3. для обеих тётей. 4. от обоих дядей. 5. с полутора рублями.
6. до полуночи. 7. в полустакане воды. 8. около полутора суток. 9. Он дошёл до центра Москвы за полдня. 10. с пятью волчатами. 11. Шесть котят гонялись по комнате за Машей.
12. Щенок гонялся по саду за цыплятами. 13. Он любит медвежат, но боится медведей. 14. Ну, ребята, завтра я поеду на Кавказ.
15. Он вернулся через некоторое время.

LESSON 17

- (185) *Numerals in the oblique cases. Declension of numerals.*
- (186) *Time.*
- (187) *один.*
- (188) *The dative case with verbs.*
- (189) *Verbs requiring special care. To put; to have; verbs of motion used figuratively; to marry; to cost; to be worth; to miss.*
- (190) *The conjunctions так как; а то; как только; после того, как; прежде чем; пока не; если не.*
- (191) *чтобы and зачем. хотеть, желать.*
- (192) *Comparatives—further points.*
- (193) *Formation of adverbs other than with -о.*
- (194) *Adjectives having different meanings in long and short form.*
- (195) *Adverbs of place.*
- (196) *Diminutives: 1. Nouns. 2. Adjectives.*

Language notes

(185) *Numerals in the oblique cases.* So far all the cardinal numerals we have met have been in nominative or accusative phrases.

Nominative: В Кремле *четыре собора*.
There are four cathedrals in the Kremlin.

Accusative: За последние дни он прочитал *пять книг*.
He has read five books in the last few days.

It is important to realise that the italicised phrases *taken as units*, are in the nominative or accusative, despite the obvious fact that *the nouns* are in the genitive.

Però :

в три часа at three o'clock (в + accusative)
в восемь часов at eight o'clock (в + accusative)

But in the text we meet:

между *семью и восьмью* between 7 and 8 o'clock
часами (между + instrumental)

The declension of numerals.

1. The declension of *один* is already known (see note (165)).

Riferimento nota 165. Declinazione di ODIN, uno.

(165) *один one; alone.*

The declension is:

	<i>Masculine/Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
N	один/одно́	одна́
A	оди́н/одно́	одну́
G	одногó	одной
D	одному́	одной
I	одни́м	одной
P	одно́м	одной

Note. ни один (not a single . . .). With a verb, he must be supplied.

2. два; три; четыре.

Nom.	два/две	три	четыре
Acc.	два/две	три	четыре
Gen.	двух	трёх	четырёх
Dat.	двум	трём	четырёх
Inst.	двумя́	тремя́	четырьмя́
Prep.	двух	трёх	четырёх

3. Numerals ending in -ь. These decline like *ночь* (i.e. ending in -и, except in instrumental).

Nom.	ночь	пять
Acc.	ночь	пять
Gen.	но́чи	пяти́
Dat.	но́чи	пяти́
Inst.	но́чью	пяти́ю
Prep.	но́чи	пяти́

N.B. *пять, шесть, семь, восемь, девять* are also declined like this when they are the first part of 50, 60 etc. and 500, 600 etc.

Note. *восемь*—instrumental: *восемью́* or *восемью́*.

4. *пятьдесят* and all numerals ending in -десят. *Both* parts decline and take the same endings as *пять*.

Nom.	пятьдесят
Acc.	пятьдесят
Gen.	пяти́десяти
Dat.	пяти́десяти
Inst.	пяти́десятью
Prep.	пяти́десяти

5. *сорок, девяносто* and *сто*. These take -а in all the oblique cases.

Nom.	сорок	девяно́сто	сто
Acc.	сорок	девяно́сто	сто
Gen.	сорока	девяно́ста	ста
Dat.	сорока	девяно́ста	ста
Inst.	сорока	девяно́ста	ста
Prep.	сорока	девяно́ста	ста

SOROK = 40; STO = 100

6. двéсти, тpи́ста etc. Again both parts decline, сто declining in the plural oblique cases like a neuter noun in -о.

Nom.	двéсти	пятьсóт
Acc.	двéсти	пятьсóт
Gen.	двухсóт	пятисóт
Dat.	двумста́м	пятиста́м
Inst.	двумяста́ми	пятьюста́ми
Prep.	двухста́х	пятиста́х

N.B. пять, шесть, семь, вóсемь, дéвять are also declined

feminine noun (except instrumental singular) миллион declines like a hard masculine noun.

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
Nom.	ты́сяча	ты́сячи
Acc.	ты́сячу	ты́сячи
Gen.	ты́сячи	тысяч
Dat.	ты́сяче	ты́сячам
Inst.	ты́сячью	ты́сячами
Prep.	ты́сяче	ты́сячах

Note 1. ты́сяча is the only numeral apart from одна́ which changes in the accusative.

Note 2. миллиóн is regarded as a noun and thus does not follow the rules for numerals.

e.g. с миллиóном рублéй (*not* рублёмi)

N.B. In compound numerals all parts decline.

2543 Englishmen: две ты́сячи пятьсot сорок три англичани́на
with 2543 Englishmen: с двумя ты́сячью пятьюстами́ сорока́ тремя англичана́ми

Numerals with animate nouns in oblique cases. The animate (genitive) form of the accusative is only used with два/две, три and четыре (*not* in compounds ending in these numerals),

e.g. Он любит *двух* женщи́н.

but Дон Жуан любил ты́сячу пятьсot тридцать *три* женщи́ны. (по крайней мере!)

(129) *Time. Age.*

1. Time. The word час (hour) is used for 'o'clock'.

час	one o'clock
-----	-------------

два часа́	two o'clock
три часа́	three o'clock
четы́ре часа́	four o'clock
пять часо́в	five o'clock etc.

The word полови́на (half) is used for half past the hour. Note however that the Russian for 'half past one' is полови́на второ́го literally 'half of the second hour'. The second hour, of course, runs from 1 o'clock to 2 o'clock.

Thus half past nine полови́на де́сятого
half past four полови́на пя́того etc.

at the hour = в + accusative.

at three o'clock в три часа́

at the half hour = в + prepositional

at half past three в полови́не четвёртого

Note also:

at what time? в ко́тором часу́?

2. Age. The dative of the person is used.

Ско́лько вам лет?	How old are you?
Мне два́дцать один год.	I am 21 years old.
Ей три года.	She is three years old.
Ему́ восемна́дцать лет.	He is 18 years old.
Ивану́ семь с полови́ной лет.	Ivan is seven and a half.

186. Tempo, regole restanti oltre n.129

1. From one minute past to the half hour. Here the same rule applies as for the half hour.

i.e. (at) five past three	(в) пять минут четвёртого
(at) a quarter past three	(в) четверть четвёртого
(at) 21 minutes past three	(в) двадцать одну минуту четвёртого
(at) 22 minutes past three	(в) двадцать две минуты четвёртого

2. From 29 minutes to the hour up to 1 minute to the hour. Here one subtracts the number of minutes from the hour by using без + genitive (without).

i.e. (at) 29 minutes to four	без двадцати девяти минут четыре
(at) a quarter to four	без четверти четыре (четверть — fem.)
(at) 4 minutes to four	без четырёх минут четыре
(at) 3 minutes to four	без трёх минут четыре
(at) 2 minutes to four	без двух минут четыре
(at) 1 minute to four	без (одной) минуты четыре

(187) один.

1. Notice the use of один meaning 'a certain . . .'

У одного сибиряка была дочь. A certain Siberian had a daughter.

2. один also exists in the plural — одни (declined like эти).

(a) It must, of course, be used with nouns like часы which have no singular.

одни часы one clock

(b) It is used in the expression одни... другие... some . . . others . . .

Одни поют, другие танцуют. Some are singing, others dancing.

(gli UNI, gli altri)

(c) It can be used as plural of один meaning 'alone'.

Они сидели там одни. They sat there alone.

(d) It is used in both singular and plural meaning 'only'; 'nothing but' in expressions such as:

в одних (только) джинсах just in their jeans
в одной рубашке in shirt-sleeves

(un po' come "solo")

188. Verbi che reggono il dativo.

(188) *The dative case with verbs.*

1. You are already familiar with several verbs which require an indirect object in the dative.

e.g. да́вать	to give	покупáть	to buy
прино́сить	to bring	пока́зывать	to show
предлагáть	to offer	ска́зать	to say
расска́зывать	to tell	отвеча́ть	to answer*
звони́ть	to phone	сообща́ть	to inform
объясня́ть	to explain	писа́ть	to write

In this connection it is worth noting that the following verbs do *not* take a dative indirect object:

спрашивать/спросить — Он спросил *меня*. (*but* Он ответил *мне*.)

просить/попросить — Он попросил *меня* не курить.

(*But note:* Он попросил *у меня* что-то. He asked me for something.)

(по)слушать (to listen *to*) Вы слушаете *меня*? (Are you listening *to* me?)

2. The following verbs also govern the dative:

разрешáть, (to allow) and its opposite запреща́ть, (to forbid)
разрешить opposite запретить

* He answered *me*. Он ответил *мне*.

He answered the question/the letter. Он ответил *на* вопрос/письмо.

Он разрешил <i>мне</i> войти.	He allowed me to enter.
Он запретил <i>мне</i> войти.	He forbade me to enter.
помога́ть, (to help) and its помо́чь opposite	меша́ть, (to disturb, помеша́ть prevent)

Тишина помогает *детям* заниматься.
Silence helps the children to study.
Шум мешает *детям* заниматься.
Noise prevents the children from studying.
учи́ть,* (to teach) and its opposite учи́ться, (to learn)
вы́учить научиться

Преподаватель учил студентов *русскому языку*.
The teacher taught the students Russian.
Мы учимся *русскому языку*.
We are learning Russian.

Some verbs expressing emotions govern the dative:

ра́доваться, (to be glad about something, to enjoy)
обра́доваться
Она так радовалась *тёплым летним вечерам*.

She so enjoyed the warm summer evenings.

удивля́ться, (to be surprised at)
удиви́ться
Я удивился *этой ошибке*.

I was surprised at this mistake.

сочу́вствовать, (to sympathise with)
посо́чувствовать
Она не сочувствует *мне*.

She has no sympathy with me.

* Note that Russian is the exact opposite of English here; we teach a subject to a person, not vice-versa.

Insegnare è qualcosa come “interessare”

Also the following:

вэ́рить, (to believe)
повэ́рить
Я не верю *вам*. I don't believe you.
Я верю *этому*. I believe this.

and сове́товать, (to advise)
посо́ветовать
Совстую *вам* не говорить об этом.
I advise you not to talk about it.

Verbi spaciali: porre (in una data posizione); avere; moto figurato; sposarsi; costare; essere in ritardo, mancare

(189) *Some verbs which require special care.*

1. To put.

(a) The standard word for 'to put' is класть/положить.

Он кладёт бритву в ящик. He's putting his razor in the drawer.

It is used especially when the object is put in a lying position. (to lay)

Он положил книги на стол. He laid the books on the table.

(b) 'To put in a standing position' is ставить/поставить.

Я поставлю зонтик в угол. I'll put (stand) my umbrella in the corner.

(c) 'To put in a sitting position' is сажать/посадить.
Жена посадила гостей за стол. My wife seated the guests at the table.

Note that all these verbs take accusative case after в, на, за.

All these verbs are connected with other verbs already known.

to put	position after putting	putting oneself into that position
класть/положить	лежать (to lie)	ложиться/лечь (to lie down)
ставить/поставить	стоять (to stand)	вставать/встать (to stand up)
сажать/посадить	сидеть (to sit)	садиться/сесть (to sit down)

2. To have. Normally use у + genitive. But note (a) the verb иметь as in я ничего не имею против.

иметь is normally used with abstract nouns.

иметь талант	to have talent
иметь возможность	to have the opportunity
иметь удовольствие	to have the pleasure (of doing something)
иметь дело с	to have business with
иметь место	to take place etc., etc.

(b) *y* + genitive can only be used of people.

Compare:

У Ивана новая квартира. Ivan has a new flat.
В доме пять комнат. The house has five rooms.

(c) English often uses the verb 'to have' where this is impossible in Russian.

e.g. to have a bath	принимать ванну
to have a cup of tea	пить чашку чаю
to have a cigarette	курить папиросу
to have a meal	обедать, ужинать, завтракать
to have a talk	поговорить

3. Verbs of motion used figuratively. A few of the specific motion verbs (*идти* etc.) can be used figuratively; when they are used in this way they do not have the alternative form in *ходить* etc.

These include:

идти	
Дождь идёт.	It is raining.
Снег идёт.	It is snowing.
Фильм идёт.	A film is on.
Пьеса идёт.	A play is on.
Дела идут хорошо.	Business is good.
Галстук вам идёт.	The tie suits you.
Идёт.	OK

вести	
Он ведёт скучную жизнь.	He leads a tedious life.
Куда ведёт эта улица?	Where does this street lead/ go?
Павел ведёт дневник.	Pavel keeps a diary.
Эти дети плохо ведут себя.	These children behave badly.
Он ведёт машину.	He is driving the car.

везти	
Ей везёт.	She is lucky.

A conspicuous exception to this is *носить* (to wear). *нести* cannot be used with this meaning.

носить can only be used of clothes worn habitually. When speaking of one occasion, use *в* + prepositional.

Он был в сером костюме. He was wearing a grey suit.

Note. The 3rd person plural (past tense) of *пойти* and *поехать* can be used to mean 'Let's go!'

Пошли! Поехали!

4. To marry.

(a) Of the man: **жениться на + prepositional** (perfective also **жениться**).

Иван женился на Ирине. Ivan married Irina.

(b) Of the woman: **выходить за́муж за + accusative** (perfective **выйти замуж**).

Ирина вышла замуж за Ивана. Irina married Ivan.

(c) Of both partners: **жениться** (perfective **пожениться**)

Иван и Ирина наконец поженились. Ivan and Irina finally got married.

5. To cost.

сто́ить (note stress **сто́ит/сто́ят** and do not confuse with **стоя́ть** — to stand on **стои́т** etc.)

Машина сто́ит две тысячи рублей. The car costs 2000 rubles.

But with the genitive **сто́ить** means 'to be worth' or 'to deserve':

Машина сто́ит *двух тысяч* рублей. The car is worth 2000 rubles.

With the genitive it often stands with abstract nouns:

Это сто́ит вашего внимания. It deserves your attention.

Note the phrase **Не сто́ит**. Don't mention it.

6. To be late for, to miss. The verbs **успевать/успеть**

and **попа́дать/попа́сть** are frequently used in the negative with the same sense as **опаздывать/опоздать**.

Он опоздал на поезд.
Он не успел к поезду. He missed the train.
Он не попал на поезд.

In the second and third examples the positive form would, of course, mean 'He caught the train.'

успевать/успеть means literally 'to have time to do something'. Don't confuse:

1. Он не успел написать письмо.
He didn't manage to write the letter. (lack of time)
2. Ему не удалось написать письмо.
He didn't manage to write the letter. (the difficulty was the letter itself)

попа́дать/попа́сть means literally 'to get somewhere' and is extremely common in spoken Russian.

Как мне попа́сть на Красную площадь? How do I get to Red Square?

Alcune congiunzioni.

(190) *Conjunctions.* It has already been seen that conjunctions must not be confused with prepositions. (See note (167) for the difference between *с* and *с тех пор, как...*)

The following conjunctions occur in this lesson:

так как	as (reason)
а то	or else
как только	as soon as
после того, как	after
прежде чем	before
пока не	until (lit. 'while not')
если не	unless (lit. 'if not')

All these conjunctions introduce clauses (see reading passage) but *прежде чем* is frequently found with an infinitive if the two clauses have the same subject.

Compare: Хочу поговорить с вами, прежде чем *вы* уйдёте.

I want to have a word with you before *you* leave.

and: Хочу поговорить с вами, прежде чем *уйти*.

I want to have a word with you before *I* leave.

Riferimento n. 167

(167) *Set phrases using the pronoun to.* Various parts of *то* are used in set phrases. The following occur in the reading passage:

с тех пор, как	since (as conjunction)
(с + genitive = 'since' as preposition)	
с тех пор, как я приехал	since I arrived
(compare с пятницы since Friday)	
тому назад	ago
пять дней тому назад	five days ago
между тем	meanwhile; тем лучше
	all the better

(191) чтобы *and* зачем.

1. чтобы used with the infinitive means 'in order to' and answers the question *зачем?* = why, for what *purpose?*

e.g. Зачем вы зашли ко мне?
Чтобы поговорить с вами.
Why did you come to see me?
(in order) To have a chat with you.

N.B. Care must be taken not to confuse *зачем?* with *почему?*

почему means 'why?' in the sense of 'for what *reason?*'

e.g. Почему вы так устали?
Потому что я работаю с раннего утра.
Why are you so tired?
Because I've been working since early morning.

2. чтобы with a clause can also answer the question *зачем?* when there is a change of subject from one clause to the other. (cf. *прежде чем*)

e.g. Зачем вы бьёте меня?
Чтобы ты больше не шутил надо мной.
Why are you beating me?
So that you don't make any more jokes at my expense.

Remember you must use the past tense after *чтобы*.

ZACHEM (anche) = come mai?

3. чтобы with verbs of wishing. Again, as with *прежде чем*, the verbs *хотеть* and *желать* take a clause with *чтобы* when there is a change of subject.

e.g. Мы хотим попасть к началу фильма.
We want to get there in time for the beginning of the film.

but Мы хотим, чтобы Давид попал к началу фильма.
We want David to get there in time for the beginning of the film.

(192) *Comparatives*. Note these points which occur in the present lesson:

1. The prefix *по-* can be added at the beginning of a predicative comparative. It has the same limiting force as the *по-* in some perfective verbs.

e.g. погромче a little louder
побольше a little more
получше a little better
покрепче a little stronger
подольше a little longer (time)

Поскорее! is the regular way of saying 'Hurry up!'

2. всё before a comparative has the sense of 'more and more ...'

всё громче	louder and louder
всё больше	more and more

3. как можно and the comparative means 'as ... as possible'.

как можно тише	as softly as possible
как можно больше	as much as possible

4. In phrases with two comparatives (the more ... the more ...), the first comparative is preceded by чем, the second by тем.

чем больше компания,	
тем веселее	the more the merrier

(193) Formation of adverbs other than in -о.

1. Adjectives ending in -ский form adverbs in -ски. Many of these come from other languages.

иронический	иронически	ironically
критический	критически	critically
логический	логически	logically
драматический	драматически	dramatically
политический	политически	politically
практический	практически	practically
теоретический	теоретически	theoretically
героический	героически	heroically

2. Some adverbs are prefixed by по-.

дружеский	по-дружески	amicably
товарищеский	по-товарищески	in a comradely way

3. With certain adjectives (not ending in -ский), по- is used with the dative of the adjective to form the adverb.

другой	по-другому	differently
старый	по-старому	as of old
летний	по-летнему	as for summer

Она одевается по-летнему. She dresses in summer clothes.

(194) *Adjectives having different meanings in short and long forms.*

Long form		Short form	
хоро́ший	= good	хоро́ш (собой)	= handsome, beautiful
пра́вый	= right (opp. of left)	прав	= right (correct)*
живо́й	= lively	жив	= alive

(195) *Adverbs of place.* Distinguish between those answering the questions

где? Where?		куда? Where to?	
здесь	(here)	сюда́	(here)
там	(there)	туда́	(there)
до́ма	(at home)	домо́й	(home)
наверху́	(upstairs)	наве́рх	(upstairs)
внизу́	(downstairs)	вниз	(downstairs)
спра́ва	(on the right)	напра́во	(to the right)
сле́ва	(on the left)	нале́во	(to the left)

откуда?
Where from?

отсю́да	(from here)
отту́да	(from there)
и́з дому	(from home)†
све́рху	(from above)
сни́зу	(from below)

IZ DOMA: fuori della casa

(196) *Diminutives.*

1. Nouns. Russians use a great number of diminutives in everyday speech. Their use often suggests, apart from

considerations of size as such, some emotional attitude of the speaker towards the object or person he is addressing, describing etc. By the use of various suffixes it is possible to suggest affection at one end of the scale and contempt at the other. The most common of the diminutives are probably those indicating tenderness.

Masculine nouns frequently take the suffixes -ик, -ок, -ец:

дом	до́мик	го́род	городо́к	брат	бра́тец
сад	са́дик	сын	сынóк		
пакет	пакéтик	старíк	старичóк		
стул	сту́льчик				

Common feminine suffixes are: -ка, -енька, -очка:

дочь	—	до́чка, до́ченька	ку́кла	—	ку́колка
ма́ма	—	ма́мочка	ка́рта	—	ка́рточка
кни́га	—	кни́жка			

Some diminutives, especially those in -ушка, have become so well established that they are now more common than the words they came from: ба́бушка; де́душка; де́вушка.

A list of diminutives deriving from Christian names will be found in the Appendix. A knowledge of these is indispensable for the reading of Russian novels and plays.

2. Adjectives. Some adjectives also have alternative diminutives in -еньк- and -оньк-. These too, are often used as endearments.

ми́лый	—	ми́ленький
молодо́й	—	молоде́нький
ти́хий	—	тихо́нький

Note. хоро́шенький = pretty

ма́ленький, as an adjective, only exists in the diminutive form.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(7) Translate into Russian:

1. Boris washes very rarely and his friend told him as a joke that he needed a deodorant. Unfortunately Boris took him seriously and now they don't talk to each other any more.
2. Life in England has got dearer and dearer since inflation started to increase.
3. We agreed to meet at twenty to eight. Needless to say Vera arrived late and we missed the beginning of the play. I couldn't understand the play at all. Apparently some fellow had married some woman or other and now the woman wanted to marry someone else. The woman was very like Vera.
4. 'Ivan, I haven't any time to chat with you. I'm going to the pictures with Anna tonight and I haven't washed and shaved yet. Also (=к тому же) I can't find my grey suit anywhere.'
5. 'Volodya, it's not worth dressing smartly if you're meeting Anna. Her friends always turn up in just jeans and sweaters.'
6. Before Comrade Simonov became a professor, he used to be a teacher at one of the big Moscow scientific institutes. He taught his students higher mathematics. Before he left Moscow, he married one of his students. They now have three children.

- (7). 1. Борис очень редко умывается, и его друг сказал ему в шутку, что он нуждается в дезодораторе. К сожалению, Борис принял его всерьёз, и теперь они больше не говорят друг с другом.
2. Жизнь в Англии становится всё дороже, с тех пор, как инфляция начала расти.
3. Мы договорились встретиться без двадцати минут восемь. Не приходится и говорить, что Вера опоздала, и мы не успели к началу пьесы. Я совсем не понял пьесы. Кажется, какой-то парень женился на какой-то женщине, а теперь эта женщина хотела выйти замуж за кого-то другого. Эта женщина была очень похожа на Веру.
4. «Иван, мне некогда разговаривать с тобой. Сегодня вечером я иду в кино с Анной, а я ещё не побрился и умылся. К тому же я нигде не могу найти мой серый костюм.
5. Володя, не стоит одеваться элегантно, если ты встречаешься с Анной. Её друзья всегда появляются в одних только джинсах и свитерах.
6. Прежде чем стать профессором, товарищ Симопов был преподавателем в одном из больших научных институтов в Москве. Он учил студентов высшей математики. Прежде чем уехать из Москвы, он женился на одной из своих студенток. Теперь у них трое детей.

- (172) (a) *Cardinal and ordinal numerals from 30 to 199.*
- (b) *From 200 onwards.*
- (c) *Years.*
- (d) *Measurements.*
- (e) *The use of collective numerals.*
- (173) *Degrees of comparison.*
- (174) *New uses of the prepositions за; из; по.*
- (175) *Masculine nouns having identical nominative singular and genitive plural.*
- (176) *Impersonal expressions with некогда etc.*
- (177) *Prepositions with никого/ничего; некого/нечего.*
- (178) *-то and -нибудь.*
- (179) *Whatever, however, etc.*
- (180) *тот же (самый). самый.*
- (181) *Instrumental complement with казаться; считаться.*
- (182) *Expressions of time in the instrumental plural.*
- (183) *Aspects used to denote attempt and success.*
- (184) *Neuter adjectival nouns.*

(172) *Numerals from 30 onwards.*

(a) *Up to 100.*

<i>Cardinal</i>	<i>Ordinal</i>
30 три́дцать	30th три́дцáтый
40 sóрок	40th сороко́вой
50 пятьдеся́т	50th пятидеся́тый
60 шестьдеся́т	60th шестидеся́тый
70 се́мьдесят	70th семидеся́тый
80 во́семьдесят	80th восьмидеся́тый
90 девяно́сто	90th девяно́стый
100 сто	100th со́тый

Note 1. Remember that пятьдеся́т and шестдеся́т have stress on the final syllable.

се́мьдесят and во́семьдесят have stress on first syllable.

Note 2. Compound numbers take no 'and' or hyphen.
e.g. сто sóрок два 142

Note 3. Compound ordinal numerals are only ordinal (i.e. adjectival) in their last element, as in English.

Thus девяно́сто *трéтий* 93rd
сто три́дцать *пéрвый* 131st

(b) *From 200 onwards.*

200	двѣсти	200th	двухсо́тый
300	триста	300th	трѣхсо́тый
400	четы́реста	400th	четырёхсо́тый
500	пятьсо́т	500th	пятисо́тый
600	шестьсо́т	600th	шестисо́тый
700	семьсо́т	700th	семисо́тый
800	восемьсо́т	800th	восемисо́тый
900	девятьсо́т	900th	девятисо́тый
1000	ты́сяча	1000th	ты́сячный
2000	две ты́сячи	2000th	двухты́сячный
3000	три ты́сячи	3000th	трѣхты́сячный
4000	четы́ре ты́сячи	4000th	четырёхты́сячный
5000	пять ты́сяч	5000th	пятиты́сячный

etc.

1 million	один миллио́н	1 millionth	миллио́нный
2 million	два миллио́на	2 millionth	двухмиллио́нный

etc.

Note 1. The different forms of сто (100) in, for example, четы́реста and пятьсо́т are explained by the fact that numerals decline like nouns. Four needs genitive singular, 5 needs genitive plural etc.

The same is true of ты́сяча.

Note 2. The same rules about the case used with compound numerals apply as before.

Note 3. The first element of these ordinal numerals is the genitive form of два, три etc. (For declension of numerals see Lesson 17.)

(c) Years.

In 1812—в ты́сяча восемьсо́т двена́дцатом го́ду.

In this construction в + prepositional is used. Note that год takes the stressed -ý ending in prepositional.

The final adjective in the numeral (the ordinal part) declines, of course, like a normal adjective.

(d) Measurements.

2 metres long — длиной в два метра
10 metres high — высотой в десять метров

Note that the number is preceded by *в*.

'In height' etc. is expressed by the instrumental.

Similarly used are *ширина́* (breadth) *шириной* в два
километра
глубина́ (depth) *глубиной* в пять
метров

(e) *двое́, трое́, четыре́*.

These are alternative forms of *два* etc. and are always followed by the *genitive plural*. They are used in the following instances:

1. With masculine nouns denoting males.

e.g. *двое студентов, трое детей, четверо человек*
(Note that *два студента* etc. are also possible.)

2. In expressions with pronouns such as:

Их было трое. *There were three of them.*
Нас будет четверо. *There will be four of us.*

3. With plural nouns which have no singular form:

e.g. *сутки* — *двое суток* *two days and nights*
часы — *четыре часов* *four clocks*
очки — *три очка* *three pairs of spectacles*
брюки — *два брюка* *two pairs of trousers*

173 Comparativi

(173) *Degrees of comparison*. The comparative forms of predicative adjectives and adverbs was dealt with in note (142).

(a) *Comparative*. Here we are dealing with the comparative of attributive adjectives (i.e. adjectives used in front of nouns).

They are formed with the help of the adverbs *бóлее* (more) and *мéнее* (less). These are alternative forms of *бóльше* and *мéньше* which cannot be used here. Being adverbs they never change and are used exactly like *óчень* (very), *довóльно* (fairly) etc.

Thus:	старый город	an old town
	очень старый город	a very old town
	довольно старый город	a fairly old town
	более старый город	an older town

Он живёт в более старом городе.	He lives in an older town.
Она менее интересный человек чем её муж.	She is a less interesting person than her husband.

Note that *чем* must be used (as opposed to the genitive) with comparatives in *более* and *мéнее*.

There are eight adjectives which have special attributive comparative forms and do not use *более*. These are:

(большой)	бóльший	bigger, greater
(мáленький)	мéньший	smaller, lesser
(хорóший)	лúчий	better
(плохóй)	хúдший	worse
(стáрый)	стáрший	elder, senior*
(молодóй)	млáдший	younger, junior*
(высóкий)	вúсший	superior, higher*
(нúзкий)	нúзший	inferior, lower*

Note 1. All these comparative adjectives have a stem ending in *ш* and are thus soft.

с.г.	жена младшего сына	the younger son's wife
	Они теперь живут в бóльшем доме.	Now they're living in a bigger house.
	(cf. в большóм доме	in a big house)

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	(cf. в большóм доме	in a big house)

Note 2. * These adjectives are only used in certain cases. старший/младший: Their use is generally confined to

- (a) senior/junior—старший офицер a senior officer
- (b) older/younger of brothers or sisters—

моя младшая сестра my younger sister

Высший/низший are only used figuratively.

e.g. высшая математика higher mathematics
низшее образование primary education

Note. 'Older', 'younger', 'higher', 'lower' when not used in these senses are translated by the normal comparative with более:

более высокое дерево a higher tree

(b) *Superlative*. The superlative adjective is formed with самый which takes normal *adjective* endings (as distinct from более in the comparative).

Thus: самый красивый город the most beautiful town
в самом красивом городе in the most beautiful town
самая красивая девушка the most beautiful girl
с самой красивой девушкой with the most beautiful girl

The superlative form with самый can be used both attributively and predicatively, although predicatively Russian often uses a comparative with всех (literally, more . . . than anyone) and всего (more . . . than anything):
В университете много умных студентов, но Соколов умнее всех.

There are a lot of intelligent students in the university, but Sokolov is the most intelligent (of them all).

Говорить свободно по-русски — это труднее всего.
Speaking fluent Russian is most difficult of all.

Note. The eight 'comparative' attributive adjectives младший etc. fluctuate in meaning between comparative and superlative. As examples where they undoubtedly have superlative meaning, consider:

в лучшем случае at best
мой младший брат my youngest brother (where more than two in the family)

The superlative adverb. Superlative adverbs are always formed with comparatives and всего or всех (as above).

Он поёт громче всех. He sings the loudest.
Чаще всего мы отдыхаем в Ялте. Most often we holiday in Yalta.

(174) *New uses of prepositions.*

1. за + accusative or instrumental.

(a) With the instrumental за can be used for 'at' in expressions such as:

Она сидит за столом. She is sitting at the table.

The inference here is that the person concerned has some specific purpose in being there.

An extension of this idea can be seen in the expressions:

за завтраком	at breakfast
за обедом	at dinner
за ужином	at supper

Note 1. за is followed by the accusative where the person sits down at the table etc.

Анна Петровна села за стол. Anna Petrovna sat down at the table.

Note 2. Movement in the opposite direction is expressed by из-за + genitive.

Она встала из-за стола. She got up from the table.

(b) The basic meaning of за is, as we have already seen, 'behind' or 'beyond'. It is used in this sense with граница (frontier) to mean 'abroad'.

Thus:

Он живёт за границей.	He lives abroad.
Он едет за границу.	He is going abroad.
Он возвращается из-за границы.	He is returning from abroad.

2. за + accusative.

(a) With the accusative, за can express 'for' when some form of exchange takes place (do not confuse with за + instrumental meaning 'for'—see note (148)).

Я поблагодарил его за помощь. I thanked him for his help.
(thanks in exchange for help)

Он купил газету за 15 к. He bought a newspaper for 15 kopecks. (newspaper in exchange for money)

(b) It can also express a period of time during which something happens, or the time it takes to do something.

За последние годы изменилось много в Москве.
A lot has changed in Moscow over the last few years.

Он кончил работу за два часа.
He finished the work in two hours.

3. из + genitive.

(a) из can be used to express what something is made of:

из дерева	made of wood
из бетона	of concrete

(b) With expressions of quantity, including numbers = 'of'.

большинство из моих друзей	the majority of my friends
один из наших студентов	one of our students

4. по + dative.

(a) on the subject of:

экзамен по русскому языку	an exam in Russian
задачи по математике	problems in mathematics
эксперт по русской истории	an expert in Russian history

(b) according to

по его словам	according to his words
по-моему	in my opinion (мнению dative of мнение understood)

(similarly по-твоему, по-нашему, по-вашему)

Note. With 3rd person pronouns мнение must be added: по его мнению

(175) раз *and* человек. There is a small group of masculine nouns whose nominative singular and genitive plural are identical.

They include:	раз	time (how often?)
	человек	person, man
	глаз	eye
	солдат	soldier
	волос	hair (genitive plural волос)

Note 1. раз

раз is used with в + accusative as in:

в первый раз	(for) the first time
в последний раз	(for) the last time

Colloquially the в is frequently omitted.

N.B. 1. на этот раз this time, on this occasion

2. не раз does not mean 'not once' but 'more than once'

Мы не раз бывали в СССР. We have been to Russia more than once.

cf. Он ни разу не был в СССР. Not once has he been to Russia.

Note 2. человек

The genitive plural человек is used instead of людей with numbers and the words сколько? and несколько

двое человек	two people
27 человек	27 people
сколько человек	how many people?
but много людей	many people etc.

Нye raz: non una sola volta.

(176) Impersonal expressions with некогда etc. The negative words никогда (never) etc. have parallel constructions with некогда (there is no time) etc.

никогда	(never)	некогда	(there is no time)
нигде	(nowhere)	негде	(there is nowhere)

никуда	(nowhere — going)	некуда	(there is nowhere to go)
никто́/-кого́ etc.	(nobody)	некто́/-кого́ etc.	(there is nobody)
ничего́/-ему́ etc.	(nothing)	ничего́/-ему́ etc.	(there is nothing) etc.

All the normal rules applying to impersonal constructions operate:

1. Person in the dative.
2. Used with the infinitive.
3. Third person of 'to be' implied in the present,
было in the past,
будет in the future.

Note. He is not used with некогда etc., but must be used with никогда:

Мне некогда говорить с вами.	I have no time to talk to you.
Мне негде было жить.	I had nowhere to live.
Мне некуда будет идти.	I shall have nowhere to go.
Мне некого пригласить.	I have nobody to invite.
Мне некому рассказать об этом.	I have nobody to tell this to.
Мне нечего делать.	I have nothing to do.

N.B. The initial не is always stressed.

(177) *никогó/ничегó and нéкого/нéчего with prepositions.* When used with prepositions these words split into their component parts. *ни — кого; не — чего* etc., and the preposition stands in the middle.

Thus:

Он *ни с кем* не говорил. He didn't speak to anyone.
Оля *ни о чём* не думает. Olya isn't thinking about anything.

Нет денег *ни у кого*. Nobody has any money.
Оле *не с кем* разговари-
вать. Olya has nobody to chat to.

(178) *The suffixes -то and -нибудь.* Both these suffixes can be added to question words.

когда́-то	когда́-нибудь	sometime, anytime
кто́-то	кто́-нибудь	somebody, anybody
почему́-то	почему́-нибудь	for some reason, for any reason
где́-то	где́-нибудь	somewhere, anywhere
куда́-то	куда́-нибудь	(to) somewhere, anywhere
что́-то	что́-нибудь	something, anything etc., etc.

How to choose between *-то* and *-нибудь*.

(a) Although words with both suffixes are indefinite, *-то* makes the person, thing, place, time, reason etc. specific, although unidentified; *-нибудь* however, makes them vague and implies there is a choice of things, places etc. rather than just one of them.

(b) It follows from this that English 'anybody', 'anything' etc. cannot be translated by *кто-то*, *что-то* etc., although both *кто-то* and *кто-нибудь* etc. can be translated as 'somebody', 'something'.

(c) It also follows that words with *-нибудь* will frequently be found with the future.

Compare: 1. *Кто-то* звонил вчера.
Someone phoned yesterday.

with 2. Если *кто-нибудь* позвонит, скажи, что
меня нет дома.
If someone/anyone phones, say that I'm not
in.

1. *Когда-то* он работал на *каком-то* заводе.
Sometime (i.e. at one time) he worked in some factory or other.
2. Вы работали *когда-нибудь* на заводе?
Did you work at some time (i.e. Have you ever worked) in a factory?
1. Он рассказал нам *что-то* о жизни в Англии.
He told us something about life in England.
2. Расскажи нам *что-нибудь* о жизни в Англии.
Tell us something about life in England.
1. Он работает *где-то* за границей.
He works somewhere abroad.
2. Мне так хотелось бы работать *где-нибудь* за границей.
I should so much like to work somewhere abroad.
1. Он пошёл *куда-то*.
He's gone off somewhere.
2. Хотите *куда-нибудь* пойти?
Do you want to go anywhere?

(179) *Whatever, however etc.* Russian here uses the particle *ни* with question words.

Что он ни делает...	Whatever he does . . .
Когда он ни говорит...	Whenever he speaks . . .
Как прекрасно он ни пишет...	However excellently he writes . . .

It is sometimes used with the subjunctive particle *бы* and the past tense. This makes no difference to the meaning.

Что бы ни случилось...	Whatever happens . . .
------------------------	------------------------

(simile all'italiano in talune espressioni: qualunque cosa non faccia, non dica...)

(180) тот же (*самый*) *the same*. Both parts decline: та же самая; тех же самых etc.
The use of *самый* is optional.

Мы смотрели на того же (самого) человека.	We were looking at the same person.
But N.B. <i>самый</i> on its own cannot mean 'the same'.	
It indicates precisely where something is situated.	
у самого моря	right by the sea
в самом центре	in the very centre, right in the centre

Samyi: talora "proprio"

(181) *Instrumental complement*. As well as *быть* itself, there are a few other verbs which take a complement in the instrumental. In many of them the verb 'to be' is understood, e.g. *казаться* to seem.

Он кажется хорошим человеком. He seems (to be) a good man.
Он считается прекрасным инженером. He is considered (to be) an excellent engineer.

(182) *Expressions of time in the instrumental plural*. The instrumental here often stresses an exceptionally long time.

Они шли целыми сутками. They walked for days and days (for days on end).

(183) Aspects used to denote attempt (imperfective) and success (perfective). There are some verbs whose imperfective aspect suggests an attempt to do something, and whose perfective aspect implies a successful outcome of the attempt.

e.g. *решать/решить*

Он целыми часами *решал* эту задачу.
For hours he tried to solve this problem.
Наконец он *решил* её.
At last he solved it.

Similarly *догадываться/догадаться* (to guess). There is a parallel with English here, where the verb 'to guess' can have both meanings (*Guess* away, but you won't *guess* the answer).

Also *ловить* (imperfective—to try to catch); *поймать* (to catch).

Весь день он ловил рыбу, но ни одной не поймал.
He fished all day without catching a single one.

(184) *Neuter adjectival nouns*. Several of these occur in this lesson.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) <i>будущее</i> (время) | the future |
| Similarly: <i>настоящее</i> | the present |
| <i>прошлое</i> | the past |
| (b) <i>мороженое</i> (блюдо) | ice-cream |
| Similarly: <i>сладкое</i> | sweet (dessert) |
| <i>первое</i> | first course etc. |
| (c) <i>насекомое</i> (существо) | an insect (существо = creature) |
| Similarly: <i>животное</i> | animal |
| <i>пресмыкающееся</i> | reptile |

(8) Translate into Russian:

1. Little Vanya and my younger brother Kolya are (use учиться) at the same school. Yesterday they had to solve a simple problem in maths. Kolya tried to solve it for hours, but didn't succeed. Vanya called round at our flat in the evening. Apparently Kolya had phoned him up and asked him to help. In my opinion Kolya doesn't understand anything about mathematics (use в+prepositional). The problem was very simple.

'In a flat the dining-room is 5 metres long and 3 metres broad. The bedroom is 4 metres long and 3½ metres broad. The kitchen, bathroom (вáнная) and toilet (туалет) are all 3 metres long and 2 metres broad. The hall (пéредняя) is 7 metres long and 1 metre broad. What is the area of the flat in metres? (area in metres = метрáж)'

Vanya looked briefly at the problem and said '54 square metres'.

At first Kolya said nothing. Then he noted it down and said 'You're simply a genius!' He didn't even thank Kolya for his help!

2. One of my friends has just returned from abroad. He and his wife spent three weeks in Moscow and now he is considered a great expert on Soviet affairs (дела). Whenever anyone asks him questions about his stay in Moscow, everyone stops talking, turns round and looks at him. But unfortunately for some reason he always says the same thing: 'Excuse me, I have no time to talk to you just now. I am very busy.' Then he rushes out of the room.

I must admit (=признаться), I wanted to know why he behaved so strangely. 'Maybe he's a very shy man' I thought. Most tourists never stop talking about Moscow. Then one day my wife was having a chat with his wife, and she found out what was the matter. Apparently the guides and interpreters constantly showered them with statistics about Moscow. In the end he and his wife were so bored that they stayed in their hotel for days on end. That's why he doesn't want to talk about Moscow.

(8) 1. Маленький Ваня и мой младший брат Коля учатся в той же школе. Вчера им надо было решить простую задачу по математике. Коля целыми часами решал её, но ему не удалось решить её. Вечером к нам зашёл Ваня. Кажется, Коля уже позвонил ему и попросил его помочь. По-моему Коля ничего не понимает в математике. Задача была очень простая:

«В квартире — столовая длиной в пять метров и шириной в три метра. Спальня длиной в четыре метра и шириной в три с половиной метра. Кухня, ванная, туалет все длиной в три метра и шириной в два метра. Передняя длиной в семь метров и шириной в метр. Какой метраж квартиры?»

Ваня бегло посмотрел на задачу и сказал: «пятьдесят четыре квадратных метра.»

Сначала Коля молчал. Потом записал и сказал: «Ты просто талант!» Он даже не поблагодарил Колю за помощь.

2. Один из моих друзей только что вернулся из-за границы. Они с женой провели три недели в Москве, и теперь он считается большим экспертом по советским делам. Когда кто-нибудь задаёт ему вопросы о его пребывании в Москве, все перестают говорить, поворачиваются и смотрят на него. Но к сожалению он почему-то всегда говорит то же самое: «Извините, мне сейчас некогда говорить с вами. Я очень занят.» Потом он бросается из комнаты.

Признаться, я хотел узнать, почему он так странно поступает.. «Может быть, он очень застенчивый человек», — подумал я. Большинство туристов никогда не перестают говорить о Москве. Однажды моя жена разговаривала с его женой, и она узнала, в чём дело. Кажется, гиды и переводчики постоянно засыпали их статистикой о Москве. Наконец ему с женой стало так скучно, что они целыми сутками оставались в гостинице. Вот почему он не хочет говорить о Москве.

- (156) *The future imperfective.*
- (157) *The system of tenses in Russian.*
- (158) *The conditional and the subjunctive. бы; чтобы.*
- (159) *Some irregular perfective verbs.*
- (160) *Change in the stem of some perfective futures (1st person singular).*
- (161) *The prefixes по- and за- used to express the beginning of an action.*
- (162) *удаваться/удаться.*
- (163) *The instrumental singular and genitive plural of nouns with stems ending in sibilants or щ.*
- (164) *Dates.*
- (165) *один, ни один.*
- (166) *друг друга.*
- (167) *Set phrases using the pronoun то.*
- (168) *Expressions of time using на with the accusative.*
- (169) *слышно; видно.*
- (170) *мало and немного.*
- (171) *смотреть в окно.*

156: futuro imperfettivo: futuro di ESSERE + Infinito imperfettivo

Мы будем читать	We will read
Она будет говорить	She will speak
Я буду одеваться	I shall get dressed

(cf. future perfective—мы прочитаем; она скажет; я оденусь.)

The future imperfective expresses either

1. the actual progress of a future action without regard to result,

or 2. a future action which will be frequent or habitual.

Compare the perfective and imperfective in these examples:

1. Perfective: Завтра я прочитаю книгу и возьму её в библиотеку.

Imperfective: Вам не будет скучно, весь вечер сидеть дома? — Совсем нет. Наверно буду читать.

2. Perfective: Я вам напишу завтра.

Imperfective: Мы будем переписываться. (We will correspond—i.e. frequent exchange of letters)

Note. The English future perfect (I will have . . .) is invariably translated by the Russian future perfective.

I shall have finished the book before dinner.

Я прочитаю книгу до обеда.

107: futuro perfettivo (come il presente, in quanto a desinenze)

e.g.				
éхать	(Imperfective)	поéхать	(Perfective)	
я éду	I am going	я поéду	I shall go	
ты éдешь	you are going	ты поéдешь	you will go	
он éдет	he is going	он поéдет	he will go	
мы éдем	we are going	мы поéдем	we shall go	
вы éдете	you are going	вы поéдете	you will go	
они́ éдут	they are going	они́ поéдут	they will go	

N.B. In many cases where the perfective is formed in other ways the conjugation of the future perfective will have to be learnt in the same way as the present tense of imperfective verbs. However the same three basic types of conjugation (1a, 1b and 2) are found in both present and future perfective.

e.g.	Infinitive	Imperfective (Present)	Perfective (Future)
	поворáчивать	он поворáчивает	он повернёт
	повернúть		
	садítся	он садítся	он сядет
	сесть		

Caution. Verbs in -авать are deceptive in that the present imperfective (я встаю) looks as if it derived from the perfective infinitive (встать). See note (76).

The conjugation of all verbs which present difficulties, whether imperfective or perfective, is given along with the infinitive in the vocabularies.

There are several examples of the future perfective in the text.

e.g. Что же ты не *представишь* мне нашего гостя? Why aren't you going to introduce our guest to me?

Мы скоро *пообедаем*.

We will soon have dinner.

Через минуточку *вернусь*.

I'll come back in a minute.
etc., etc.

(157) *The Russian system of tenses.* It is now possible to give a table of the Russian tense system.

	<i>Imperfective</i>	<i>Perfective</i>
Present:	я читаю	none
Past:	я читал	я прочитал
Future:	я буду читать	я прочитаю

Condizionale e soggiuntivo in pratica hanno la stessa forma

(158) *Conditional and subjunctive.*

(a) бы. This particle is used with the *past tense* of either aspect to form the conditional tense.

Compare: 1. Мне хотелось пить. I wanted a drink.
2. Мне хотелось бы пить. I *should like* a drink.
1. Я сказал... I said . . .
2. Я бы сказал... I would say . . .

бы normally follows the verb, but not invariably, as can be seen by the last example.

In *если* (if) clauses it comes immediately after *если*.

e.g. Если бы у меня были нужные деньги, я купил бы новую машину.

If I had the necessary cash, I'd buy a new car.

Мы спали бы крепче, если бы ветер не дул так сильно.

We would sleep better if it wasn't so gusty.

(b) чтобы. бы is frequently combined with *что* as one word, where a subjunctive is required. The same rules with regard to tense apply here. In fact the conditional and subjunctive have the same form.

One use of the subjunctive is after verbs of advising and suggesting.

e.g. Он предложил, чтобы мы пригласили Ивана в гости.

He suggested that we *should invite* Ivan round.

Other uses of *чтобы* will be found in later lessons.

(159) *Future perfective: some irregular declensions.* It may be helpful at this stage to isolate some of the more common verbs, especially those which can be grouped together by type.

(a) *дать* and its compounds.

дать is highly irregular (cf. *есть* note (134)).

я дам	мы да́дим
ты дашь	вы да́дите
он даст	они да́дут

similarly compounds: продáть (to sell)
раздáться (to be heard)
удáться (to succeed)
(вопрос) задáть (to ask a question)

(b) стать and compounds.
стать (to become; to begin)

я стáну	мы стáнем
ты стáнешь	вы стáнете
он стáнет	они стáнут

similarly compounds: достáть (to get)
остáться (to remain)
застáть (to find in)
отстáть (to lag behind)
встать (to get up, stand up)

(c) Compounds in -казать.

казáться (to seem) is imperfective—кáжется it seems.

Perfective compounds take the same change of з — ж and are conjugated like сказáть (to say):

скажú	скáжем
скáжешь	скáжете
скáжет	скáжут

similarly: показáть (to show) я покажú

Also all other verbs in -казать.

(d) Compounds in -нять. These perfectives drop the н and take -им- in the conjugation.

e.g. приня́ть (to accept, take)

примú	прíмем
прíмешь	прíмете
прíмет	прíмут

similarly: обнять (to embrace) я обниму
 понять (to understand) я пойму (поймёшь,
 поймёт)
 поднять (to lift, raise) я подниму

Also all other verbs in -нять

Note also the peculiarities in the following:

помочь (to help) as мочь	помогу, поможешь, поможет, поможем, поможете, помогут
лечь (to lie down)	лягу, ляжешь, ляжет, ляжем, ляжете, лягут
сесть (to sit down, get onto)	сяду, сядешь, сядет, сядем, сядете, сядут
начать (to begin)	начну, начнёшь, начнёт, начнём, начнёте, начнут
открыть (to open)	открою, откроешь, откроет, откроем, откроете, откроют

Also закрыть and all other compounds

умереть (to die)	умру, умрёшь, умрёт, умрём, умрёте, умрут
одеться (to dress)	оденусь, оденешься, оденется, оденемся, оденетесь, оденутся

Also раздеться (to undress) and other compounds.

прервать (to interrupt)	прерву, прервёшь, прервёт, прервём, прервёте, прервут
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Also оторваться (to tear oneself away) and other compounds.

взять (to take)	возьму, возьмёшь, возьмёт возьмём, возьмёте, возьмут
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(160) *Change in stem of 1st person singular of some perfective conjugations.* In addition to the verbs listed in note (159), remember that 2nd conjugation verbs frequently have a change of consonant in the 1st person singular and that these changes are invariable for certain consonants.

(a) Verbs with stems ending in -б, -п, -в, -м add л.

полюби́ть (to fall in love)	полюблю́, полюби́шь etc.
купи́ть (to buy)	куплю́, купи́шь etc.
пригото́вить (to prepare)	пригото́влю, пригото́вишь etc.
познако́мить (to introduce)	познако́млю, познако́мишь etc.

(b) Verbs with the stems ending in -д- or -з change these vowels to ж.

уви́деть (to see)	уви́жу, уви́дишь etc.
порази́ть (to stun)	поражу́, порази́шь etc.

(c) Verbs with stems ending in -с change to ш.

спроси́ть (to ask)	спрошу́, спрóсишь etc.
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(d) Verbs with stems ending in -т change to ч.

отвэ́тить (to answer)	отвэ́чу, отвэ́тишь etc.
улетéть (to fly away)	улечу́, улети́шь etc.

(161) *по- and за-.* Some perfective verbs are used to express the beginning rather than the end or result of an action. We have already seen this in the case of perfective verbs of motion (note (79) (d)).

1. The prefix по- is also used with various other verbs in this way.

(a) In various expressions concerning the weather.
e.g. идти in various idioms:

Шёл дождь.	It was raining.
Пошёл дождь.	It began to rain.
Шёл снег.	It was snowing.
Пошёл снег.	It began to snow.
Шёл град.	It was hailing.
Пошёл град.	It began to hail.

Also with дуть (to blow):

Ветер дул.	The wind was blowing.
Ветер подул.	The wind began to blow. (sprang up)

(b) With some verbs expressing feelings.

любить (to love)	
Иван полюбил эту девушку.	Ivan fell in love with this girl.
Иван полюбил читать стихи.	Ivan grew fond of reading poetry.
чувствовать (to feel)	

Вдруг он почувствовал, как всё дома изменилось.

Suddenly he began to feel how much things had changed
at home.

(c) With verbs of colour (зеленеть etc.) the perfective in по- directs attention to a *change* in colour and denotes the completion of the change. These verbs can be translated 'to turn (yellow etc.)'

Листья пожелтели.	The leaves have turned yellow.
Сергей побледнел.	Sergei turned pale.
Ирина покраснела.	Irina blushed.

2. The prefix за-
за- with certain verbs performs the same function as по-:

e.g. интересоваться	(to be interested in)
заинтересоваться	(to become interested in)
Он заинтересовался книгами.	He has become interested in books.

Similarly:

(кричать)	Она закричала.	She began to shout.
(петь)	Они запели.	They began to sing.
(шуметь)	Листья зашумели.	The leaves began to rustle.
(смеяться)	Дети засмеялись.	The children began laughing.
(говорить)	Он спокойно заговорил.	He began talking calmly.
(блестеть)	Вода заблестела.	The water began to sparkle.
(кружиться)	У меня голова закружилась.	My head began to whirl.

(162) удаваться/удаться *to succeed*. This verb is used impersonally in the same way as нравиться, хотеться, приходится etc. with the dative.

The most commonly used parts are:

Past (perfective): ему удалось he succeeded

Present: ему удаётся he succeeds

Future (perfective): ему удастся he will succeed.

(163) (a) *Unstressed endings of nouns whose stems end in sibilants (ж/ш/щ/ж) and ц.*

Care must be taken here

1. with the instrumental singular.

In nouns with unstressed endings -ом is replaced by -ем
-ой is replaced by -ей

Compare

a. in the masculine:

	<i>nom.</i> плащ (raincoat)	<i>inst.</i> плащом
but	товарищ	товарищем
	<i>nom.</i> отец	<i>inst.</i> отцом
but	танец	танцем

b. in the feminine:

	<i>nom.</i> душа	<i>inst.</i> душой
but	туча	тучей
	улица	улицей

2. with the genitive plural.

After *ц* in the genitive plural of masculine nouns, a stressed ending will be *-ов*, an unstressed ending will be *-ев*.

Compare: *nom.* отéц *gen. plural* отцóв
 конéц концóв
 but мéсяц мéсяцев

In all the above cases the normal 'o' is replaced by 'e', as a rule of Russian spelling dictates that *ж/ш/щ/ч/ц* may not be followed by unstressed o.

(b) In addition to the above, note that the genitive plural of *all* masculine nouns ending in the sibilants is in *-ей*, no matter where the stress falls.

e.g. товáрищ — товáрищей
 луч лучéй
 карандáш — карандашéй

2. with the genitive plural.

After *ц* in the genitive plural of masculine nouns, a stressed ending will be *-ов*, an unstressed ending will be *-ев*.

Compare: *nom.* отéц *gen. plural* отцóв
 конéц концóв
 but мéсяц мéсяцев

In all the above cases the normal 'o' is replaced by 'e', as a rule of Russian spelling dictates that *ж/ш/щ/ч/ц* may not be followed by unstressed o.

(b) In addition to the above, note that the genitive plural of *all* masculine nouns ending in the sibilants is in *-ей*, no matter where the stress falls.

e.g. товáрищ — товáрищей
 луч лучéй
 карандáш — карандашéй

(164) *Dates.* To express a date of the month Russian uses the *neuter* form of the ordinal numerals (первое first etc.)

двадцать пятое января. the 25th of January.

(literally 'the 25th date' = число—hence neuter)

The *genitive* of dates is used for 'on the . . . th':

двадцать пятого января on the 25th of January

(165) *один one; alone.*

The declension is:

	<i>Masculine/Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
N	один/одно́	одна́
A	оди́н/одно́	одну́
G	одно́го	одно́й
D	одно́му	одно́й
I	оди́ним	одно́й
P	одно́м	одно́й

Note. ни один (not a single . . .). With a verb, *не* must be supplied.

Я *не* знаю ни одного
русского.

I don't know a single
Russian.

(166) *друг дру́га one another.*

Они любят друг друга. They love one another.

This pronoun can be used in any of the oblique cases as well as the accusative and, like other pronouns, can be combined with prepositions. The declension is as follows (note that only the second word changes).

A	друг дру́га
G	друг дру́га
D	друг дру́гу
I	друг дру́гом
P	друг дру́ге

Examples:

Они пишут друг другу.	They often write to each other.
Мы играли друг с другом.	We played with each other.
Они говорят друг о друге.	They are talking about each other.
Мы помогаем друг другу.	We help each other.

Note 1. друг друга is not needed with certain reflexive verbs which are not truly reflexive, but rather reciprocal.

e.g. Они обнимаются.	They are embracing.
Они прощаются.	They are saying goodbye.
Они целуются.	They are kissing.
Они здороваются.	They greet each other.
Они встречаются.	They meet.

Note 2. With some of these verbs the reflexive verb is an alternative to друг друга.

e.g. Они обнимаются.	= Они обнимают друг друга.
Они целуются.	= Они целуют друг друга.

Note 3. Some of these verbs can be used as alternatives to the non-reflexive form used transitively without друг друга (notably *встречаться*)

Я встретился с ним = Я встретил его.

(167) *Set phrases using the pronoun to.* Various parts of *to* are used in set phrases. The following occur in the reading passage:

с тех пор, как	since (as conjunction)
(с + genitive = 'since' as preposition)	
с тех пор, как я приехал	since I arrived
(compare с пятницы since Friday)	
тому назад	ago
пять дней тому назад	five days ago
между тем	meanwhile;
тем лучше	all the better

(168) *на + accusative in expressions of time.* The English preposition 'for' in expressions of time causes certain translation problems.

Distinguish between

1. He worked *for two weeks* in Moscow.
Он две недели (acc.) работал в Москве.

and 2. He has gone to Moscow *for two weeks*.
Он поехал на две недели (на + acc.) в Москву.

на + accusative expresses intention.

In the first example the action of the verb (i.e. working) went on for two weeks. In the second example the action of the verb (i.e. going) does not go on for two weeks. This period of time does not start till the 'going' is completed.

Note 1. *на + accusative* is most frequently used with verbs of motion, but not always.

e.g. ...если бы только он остался в Москве на несколько месяцев.

... if only he would stay in Moscow for a few months.

Дайте мне газету на полчаса.

Lend me the paper for half an hour.

Лучи солнца на минуточку освещали деревья.

The rays of the sun would light up the trees for a moment.

Note 2. *на* combined with *долго* and *всегда* are written as one word.

Он уехал надолго.	He went away for a long time.
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Он уехал навсегда.	He went away for ever.
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(169) *The short neuter forms слышно and видно are used impersonally.*

The positive form takes the accusative:

Её голос было слышно. Her voice could be heard.

The negative form takes the genitive:

Её голоса не было слышно. Her voice could not be heard.

Автобуса ещё не видно. The bus is not in sight yet.

(170) *мáло (little, few) + genitive.* *мáло* takes the genitive like other expressions of quantity:

мáло отдыха little rest
мáло людей few people

Distinguish between *мáло* (pessimistic), and *немного* (optimistic).

У меня *мáло* денег. I have very little money. (i.e. I can't lend you any)

У меня *немного* денег. I have a little money. (i.e. I might possibly lend you some)

(171) *смотреть в окно.*

Compare:

Он *смотрит в* окно. He's looking *out of* the window.

Он *смотрит на* окно. He's looking *at* the window.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(10) Translate into Russian:

Boris phoned me up yesterday and suggested we should take a look at the sights of Moscow. He explained that he had a young English engineer staying with him, who would like to get to know the Russian capital. He had decided to ask me to help him, as I have lived all my life here and know Moscow better than he (does). Apparently Mr Smith—that is the young man's name—is flying back to England at the end of the month, so that there is little time left before his departure. I said I would be glad to accept his invitation. This morning they came round to my flat for half an hour. Mr Smith told me that he had arrived in the Soviet Union only five days ago and had liked Moscow as soon as he saw it. I suggested that I should show him the cathedrals in the Kremlin after dinner and we decided to meet in Red Square at half past two.

I also told him that I was very interested in the English way of life although, of course, I know very little about England. As I explained, how can we know about conditions in England? After all we don't often meet foreigners in Moscow. Mr Smith said that few people in England knew any hard facts about the Russians and the Russian way of life. We agreed in general that the Soviet Union and England would understand each other better if more English people spoke fluent Russian and more Russians spoke fluent English. We decided that we would also meet in the evening at Mr Smith's hotel. And what are we going to do all evening? We are going to speak English, we'll talk about this and that, we'll discuss English culture, English cooking, even English weather. I must admit I'm a little afraid. I don't know a single word of English!

(10) Борис позвонил мне вчера и предложил, чтобы мы осмотрели московские достопримечательности. Он объяснил, что у него

живёт молодой английский инженер, который хотел бы познакомиться с русской столицей. Он решил попросить меня помочь ему, так как я уже всю жизнь живу здесь и знаю Москву лучше его. Кажется, Мистер Смит — так зовут молодого человека — летит назад в Англию в конце месяца, так что осталось мало времени до его отъезда. Я сказал, что был бы рад, принять его приглашение. Сегодня утром они зашли ко мне в квартиру на полчаса. Мистер Смит сказал мне, что он приехал в Советский Союз всего пять дней тому назад, и что Москва ему понравилась с первого взгляда. Я предложил, чтобы я показал ему кремлёвские соборы после обеда, и мы решили встретиться в половине третьего на Красной площади.

Я тоже сказал ему, что я очень интересуюсь английским образом жизни, хотя я мало знаю об Англии. Как я ему объяснил — откуда нам знать об условиях в Англии? В конце концов мы редко встречаемся с иностранцами в Москве. Мистер Смит сказал, что в Англии мало кто знает конкретные факты о русских и о русском образе жизни. Вообще мы согласились, что Советский Союз и Англия поняли бы друг друга лучше, если бы больше англичан свободно говорили по-русски, и больше русских свободно говорили по-английски. Мы решили, что мы ещё раз встретимся вечером в гостинице Мистера Смита. А что мы будем делать весь вечер? Мы будем говорить по-английски, мы будем разговаривать о том, о сём, мы будем обсуждать английскую культуру, английскую кухню, даже английскую погоду. Надо признаться, я немножко боюсь. Я не знаю ни одного английского слова.

- (140) *The dative and instrumental plural.*
- (141) *The plural declension of irregular nouns. мать; дочь; время; имя; англичанин; гражданин; город.*
- (142) *The comparative of predicative adjectives and adverbs.*
- (143) *Short adjectives.*
- (144) *Adjectives after numerals.*
- (145) *New verbs of motion. нести/носить; вести/водить; везти/возить; бежать/бежать.*
- (146) *The preposition по.*
- (147) *Uses of the preposition в with the accusative.*
- (148) *The preposition за with instrumental (=for).*
- (149) *что за.*
- (150) *Approximation with numbers.*
- (151) *Nouns in apposition.*
- (152) *Spelling rule. ы.*
- (153) *Nouns with plural in -ья.*
- (154) *The demonstrative pronoun тот.*
- (155) *The interrogative pronoun чей.*

(140) (a) *The dative plural.*

Nouns

Endings for hard nouns (all genders): -ам

Endings for soft nouns (all genders): -ям

<i>Hard</i>	<i>Soft</i>
предмѐт — предмѐтам	трамвáй — трамвáям
вáза — вáзам	дерѐвня — дерѐвням
окнó — óкнам	пóле — полáям

N.B. Remember the spelling rule—ночь — ночáм

Adjectives

Endings for hard adjectives: -ым

Endings for soft adjectives: -им

<i>Hard</i>	<i>Soft</i>
краси́вый — краси́вым	си́ний — си́ним
молодо́й — молоды́м	хоро́ший — хоро́шим

Possessive adjectives

мой — мо́йм	наш — на́шим
твой — тво́йм	ваш — ва́шим

Pronouns

э́тот — э́тим	весь — все́м
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(b) *The instrumental plural.* With the exception of five nouns, the instrumental plural of all nouns, adjectives and pronouns adds -и to the dative plural.

e.g. с моими хорошими товарищами, с этими белыми розами

The five nouns, all soft, are: де́ти (children); лю́ди (people); ло́шади (horses); до́чери (daughters); двéри (doors).

They take a soft sign instead of я.

Thus: дети — детьми́; люди — людми́; лошади — лошады́ми; дочери — дочерми́; двери — дверми́.

(141) *Plural declension of irregular nouns.* The singular and plural declension of nouns has now been covered in all cases.

Note that in the case of irregular nouns the dative, instrumental and prepositional plural present few difficulties compared with the genitive.

Note 1. Changes found in the stem of the nominative plural are retained in dative, instrumental and prepositional plural.

Example (a) мать, дочь:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
N	ма́ть	ма́тери
A	ма́ть	ма́терей
G	ма́тери	ма́терей
D	ма́тери	ма́терям
I	ма́терью	ма́терьями
P	ма́тери	ма́терях

Example (b) вре́мя, и́мя:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
N	вре́мя	вре́мена
A	вре́мя	вре́мена
G	вре́мени	вре́мен
D	вре́мени	вре́менам
I	вре́менем	вре́менами
P	вре́мени	вре́менах

Example (c) англича́нин, гра́жданин etc.:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
N	англича́нин	англича́не
A	англича́нина	англича́н
G	англича́нина	англича́н
D	англича́нину	англича́нам
I	англича́нином	англича́нами
P	англича́нине	англича́нах

Note 2. Masculine nouns with irregular plurals in stressed '-a' retain the stressed ending throughout.

N	горо́д	горо́да
A		горо́да
G		горо́дов
D		горо́дам
I		горо́дами
P		горо́дах

COMPARATIVI PREDICATIVI

(142) *The comparative of predicative adjectives and adverbs.* Predicative adverbs (i.e. not preceding a noun, usually following the verb 'to be'—He is *strong*) normally add the ending '-ee' to the stem.

бы́стрый	fast	бы́стрее	faster
све́тлый	light	све́тлее	lighter

The first -e- of the ending -ee is normally stressed.

Longer adjectives (three or more syllables) keep their normal stress in the comparative form.

инте́ресный	interesting	инте́реснее	more interesting
краси́вый	beautiful	краси́вее	more beautiful

Note 1. Many of the commonest adjectives change their stem in the comparative form, which then ends in a sibilant (ж, ш, щ, ч) followed by -е. The -е is never stressed. (A list of these adjectives is given in the appendix.)

Adjectives which fall into this category include:

тихий	quiet	тише	quieter
далёкий	far	дальше	further
короткий	short	короче	shorter
глухой	deaf	глуше	deafier
громкий	loud	громче	louder
старый	old	старше	older
тонкий	thin	тоньше	thinner
широкий	wide	шире	wider
молодой	young	моложе	younger
дорогой	dear	дороже	dearer
твёрдый	hard	твёрже	harder
узкий	narrow	уже	narrower
яркий	bright	ярче	brighter
толстый	fat	толще	fatter

Note 2. Although the adjective большой does not change its stem in the comparative, it also takes the ending -е.

bigger больше

Note 3. As in English, a few adjectives have unrelated comparative forms (bad—worse)

хороший	good	лучше	better
плохой	bad	хуже	worse
маленький	small	меньше	smaller

Note 4. The same comparative forms are also used for adverbs.

Эта книга лучше. This book is better. (adjective)

Борис играет лучше. Boris plays better. (adverb)

As adverbs, больше and меньше are the comparatives of много and мало. They mean 'more' and 'less'.

Note that they can be used with the genitive in the same way as много and мало.

мало книг	few books	меньше книг	fewer books
много книг	many books	больше книг	more books

Note 5. 'Than' after a comparative. The Russian equivalent is *чем*. The case after *чем* is the same as that used with the first object of comparison.

Он читает быстрее, чем я	He reads faster than me.
Он пишет лучше карандашом, чем ручкой.	He writes better with a pencil than (with) a pen.
Она знает Колю лучше, чем Илью.	He knows Kolya better than (he knows) Ilya.

The case is all-important. Она знает Колю лучше, чем Илья would mean that she knows Kolya better than Ilya knows him.

A common alternative to *чем* with the nominative (not possible as an alternative to other cases) is the genitive case. Thus in the first example above another possible version would be: Он читает быстрее *меня*.

(143) *Short adjectives (see note 115)*. As explained earlier, most adjectives have both long and short forms. An example of the short form in the text is: Я свободен до послезавтра. Formation:

<i>Long form</i>	<i>Short form</i>	
интересный роман	Роман интересен.	The novel is interesting.
интересная работа	Работа интересна.	The work is interesting.
интересное здание	Здание интересно.	The building is interesting.
интересные люди	Люди интересны.	The people are interesting.

Note 1. When the adjective stem ends in a double consonant, the masculine form of the short adjective has a fleeting -o- or -e-. The commonest examples are:

1. Stem ending in *к* — supply -o-.

крéпкий — крéпок	корóткий — корóток
лéгкий — лéгкок	тóнкий — тóнок

2. Stem ending in *н* — supply -e- (-ë- when stressed).

бéдный — бéден	большóй — бóлен
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Note 2. Stress. In most adjectives the stress falls on the same syllable in both long and short forms. However, note the following exceptions.

1. The short masculine form of adjectives in -ой has the stress on the first syllable.

больно́й — бо́лен доро́гой — до́рог

2. Some short adjectives change the stress to the ending in the feminine.

красно́й — краси́н, краси́на кре́пкой — кре́пок, кре́пка
лёгкой — лёгко́, лёгка́ но́вой — нов, нова́
просто́й — прост, проста́ то́нкой — то́нок, тонка́

3. A few short adjectives are stressed on the final syllable throughout.

высо́кой — высо́к, высоко́, высока́, высоки́
далёкой — далёк, далеко́, далека́, далеки́
тяжёлой — тяжёл, тяжело́, тяжела́, тяжелы́
хоро́шей — хоро́ш, хорошо́, хороша́, хороши́

Note 3. Adjectives referring to (1) nationality, e.g. ру́сский, (2) material, e.g. золо́той, (3) position in a series, e.g. второ́й, have no short form.

Большо́й and ма́ленький have no short form. They use instead the forms:

большо́й — вели́к ма́ленький — мал

Very few soft adjectives are ever used in the short form.

Use of short adjectives. Short adjectives are only used predicatively and are thus never found in front of nouns. They are always in the nominative case.

Этот дом очень красив. This house is very beautiful.
Мне нравится этот краси́вый дом. I like this beautiful house.

Use of short adjectives. Short adjectives are only used predicatively and are thus never found in front of nouns. They are always in the nominative case.

Этот дом очень красив. This house is very beautiful.
Мне нравится этот кра- I like this beautiful house.
сивый дом.

As both long and short forms can be used predicatively, some attention must be paid to the question of which form to choose.

1. In general the short form is becoming less common in the spoken language.

2. The short form often suggests a less permanent characteristic than the long form.

Compare (a) Она добрая. She is kind. (a permanent quality)
Вы очень добры. You're very kind. (specific occasion)

(b) Он больной. He's an invalid.
Он болен. He's ill. (at present)

3. The short adjective is used when accompanied by a qualifying phrase or word, as the latter limits the absolute validity associated with the long form.*

Его дети были *ему* очень дороги. His children were very dear to him.

4. The short form of some adjectives implies excess.

Его пальто коротко, мало, велико His coat is too short, too small, too big etc.

This is really an extension of 3, as the coat is obviously not 'too short' in any absolute sense, but only with regard to the wearer.

* Long form adjectives are identified completely with the nouns they qualify. A rule of thumb guide is that the long form is used when 'a . . . one' can be substituted for the adjective, e.g. Книга красная. The book is red. (a red one)

Note. я должен I must. Like рад it is always used in the short form.

Мы должны работать. We must work.

Do not confuse with the parenthetic expression должно быть.

Вы, должно быть, Павел. You must be Paul.

Past: я должен был Future: я должен буду

я должен also means 'I owe'.

Он мне должен пять рублей.

He owes me 5 roubles.

In this sense the past is: я был должен
future: я буду должен

Riferimento n.115

(115) *Short adjectives.* We have already met the neuter form of 'short' adjectives when dealing with impersonal expressions (see note (52)). The short adjectives in this lesson are these:

он рад	она рада	они рады	he, she, they are glad
он знаком	она знакома	они знакомы	he, she, they are known (to me etc.)

он согласен	она согласна	они согласны	he, she, they agree
он готов	она готова	они готовы	he, she, they are ready
он уверен	она уверена	они уверены	he, she, they are sure

Note that the fleeting -e- in согласен is not needed for the pronunciation of feminine and plural.

Most Russian adjectives have both long and short forms and the difference between them will be explained in note (143). The five examples above are almost always (рад always) found in the short form.

Note 1. Short adjectives are *always* used as predicates, almost invariably with the verb 'to be'.

Эти люди уверены, что...	These people are sure that . . .
Он мне знаком.	I know him. (literally, he is known to me.)

Note 2. They can *never* be used in front of a noun.

Reference, note 52.

(52) *Impersonal adjectives.* (It is cold, it is pleasant, etc.) These are identical in form to adverbs. Thus хорошó can also mean 'it is good'.

Similarly бóльно it is sore (i.e. it hurts.)

Note that the stress can change its position in this form.

холóдный / хóлодно

This will sometimes result in a change from ě to e.

тёпльйй / теплó

(144) *Adjectives after numerals.* We have already dealt with the case of nouns after numerals (see note (127)). The rules for adjectives are different, except after одѳн/однó/однá and numbers ending in одѳн etc.

e.g. одѳн старѳй москвич one old Muscovite
двадцáть однá белáя
роза twenty one white roses etc.

With *all* other numerals, by far the most common case for adjectives is the *genitive plural* (i.e. whether after 2, 3, 4 or the other numbers).

три высокѳх домá three tall houses
двадцáть четѳре малѳнь-
кѳх стулá 24 small chairs
двадцáть семѳ русскѳх
кнѳг 27 Russian books etc.

The only exception to this is in the case of feminine nouns with два, три, четѳре, or compound numerals ending in 2, 3 or 4. Russian usually uses the *nominative plural* here, although here too the genitive plural is not incorrect.

две старѳе кнѳги two old books
двадцáть четѳре большѳе
картинѳ 24 large pictures etc.

(127) *Cardinal numerals.*

1	о́дин (m.) о́дно (n.) о́дна (f.)	11	о́діннадцять
2	два (m. and n.) две (f.)	12	двенáдцать
3	три	13	тринáдцать
4	четы́ре	14	четы́рнадцать
5	пять	15	пятнáдцать
6	шесть	16	шестнáдцать
7	семь	17	семнáдцать
8	вóсемь	18	восемнáдцать
9	дéвять	19	девятнáдцать
10	дéсять	20	двáдцать
		21	двáдцать о́дин etc.

Note 1. один and два change according to gender.

<i>masculine</i>	один мальчик	<i>neuter</i>	одно здание
	два мальчика		два здания
<i>feminine</i>	одна комната		
	две комнаты		

Note 2. Reference has already been made to the cases of nouns used with numerals. The rules can now be stated more fully.

(a) один/одно/одна and any numeral ending with the word один is followed by the nominative, singular.

один самолёт двадцать одна квартира

(b) два/две, три, четыре and any numeral ending with one of these words are followed by the genitive singular.

два самолёта три книги двадцать четыре квартиры

(c) All other numerals are followed by the genitive plural.

пять теплоходов десять квартир двадцать семь дней

(145) *New verbs of motion.* In this lesson occur various verbs of motion to which the same rules apply as those governing *идти/ходить* etc. (see note (53)).

Three of these pairs of verbs share the basic idea of 'taking'. These are:

1. *нести/носить* to carry something (when walking)
2. *вести/водить* to take somebody (when walking)
3. *везти/возить* to convey somebody or something (in a vehicle)

(a) Specific verbs (*идти* type):

	<i>нести</i>	<i>вести</i>	<i>везти</i>
Present:	я <i>несу́</i>	я <i>веду́</i>	я <i>везу́</i>
	ты <i>несёшь</i>	ты <i>ведёшь</i>	ты <i>везёшь</i>
	он <i>несёт</i>	он <i>ведёт</i>	он <i>везёт</i>
	мы <i>несём</i>	мы <i>ведём</i>	мы <i>везём</i>
	вы <i>несёте</i>	вы <i>ведёте</i>	вы <i>везёте</i>
	они <i>несу́т</i>	они <i>веду́т</i>	они <i>везу́т</i>
Past:	<i>нёс/несло́/ несла́/несли́</i>	<i>вёл/вело́/ вела́/вели́</i>	<i>вёз/везло́/ везла́/везли́</i>

From the meanings of these verbs it will be realised that *нести/носить* and *вести/водить* are frequently used in conjunction with *идти/ходить*; *везти/возить* with *ехать/ездить*.

(b) General verbs (*ходить* type):

	<i>носить</i>	<i>водить</i>	<i>возить</i>
Present:	я <i>ношу́</i>	я <i>вожу́</i>	я <i>вожу́</i>
	ты <i>носишь</i>	ты <i>водишь</i>	ты <i>водишь</i>
	он <i>носит</i>	он <i>водит</i>	он <i>водит</i>
	мы <i>носим</i>	мы <i>водим</i>	мы <i>водим</i>
	вы <i>носите</i>	вы <i>водите</i>	вы <i>водите</i>
	они <i>носят</i>	они <i>водят</i>	они <i>водят</i>

The past tense of these verbs is regular.

In addition to these verbs, the verb 'to run' occurs in the lesson.

бежать (specific); *бегать* (general)

бегать is regular, but the present tense of *бежать* is highly irregular:

<i>бежать</i>	
я <i>бегу́</i>	мы <i>бежи́м</i>
ты <i>бежи́шь</i>	вы <i>бежи́те</i>
он <i>бежи́т</i>	они <i>бегу́т</i>

(146) *The preposition по, по* used with the specific verbs of motion means 'along'.

Он шёл по улице. He was walking along the street.

по used with the general verbs of motion implies that:

1. more than one direction is involved (often 'around' in English),

Дети бегали по парку. The children were running around in the park.

or 2. more than one place or object is involved.

Они ходили по магазинам. They went round the shops.
его глаза бегали по стенам. His eyes roamed round the walls.

In time expressions with plural nouns it means 'on' (days of the week):

e.g. по средам on Wednesdays по субботам on Saturdays
cf. on Wednesday в среду on Saturday в субботу

—and 'in' (times of day):

e.g. по утрам in the mornings по вечерам in the evenings
cf. in the morning утром in the evening вечером

(147) *в + accusative*. Apart from its commonest use (into), this preposition has various other uses including:

1. Playing a game.

играть в футбол to play football
играть в шахматы to play chess

2. With various expressions of time.

(a) в среду on Wednesday etc.

3. With the verbs стучать (to knock) and звонить (to ring).

Он постучал в окно. He knocked at the window.
Он позвонил в дверь. He rang the doorbell.

(148) за + *instrumental* (meaning 'for'). За and the instrumental can express the purpose of going somewhere—to fetch somebody or something.

Он пошёл в библиотеку за книгой.	He went to the library for a book.
Он заехал за мной.	He called for me in the car.

(149) что за + *nominative*.

Что за погода!	What weather!
Что это за книга?	What sort of book is that?

N.B. This is the only case where a preposition can be followed by the nominative. It can be used for both exclamations and questions.

(150) *Approximation with numbers*.

десять гостей	ten guests
гостей десять	about ten guests

Approximation is represented by the inversion of number and noun.

Note: часа в три at about three o'clock

(151) *Nouns in apposition*. The nouns usually go in the same case.

Москва-река	the river Moskva
на Москве-реке	on the river Moskva
город Киев	the city of Kiev
в городе Киеве	in the city of Kiev

Note, however, that names of newspapers, books, hotels etc. are in the nominative *when in apposition* and need inverted commas («...»).

e.g. в газете «Известия»	(but в «Известиях»)
в гостинице «Бухарест»	(but в «Бухаресте»)

(152) *Spelling rule concerning ц*. The hard consonant ц can never be followed by я or ю, although the third pair of vowels affected by spelling rules -ы/и can both be found after ц. (Both ы and и are pronounced ы after ц.)

e.g. the genitive of солнце is солнца.

(153) *Nouns with plural in -ья*. A small group of irregular masculine and neuter nouns take this ending (sometimes accompanied by a change in the stem). The commonest we have met so far are:

брат	(brother)	бра́тья	де́рево	(tree)	дерéвья
стул	(chair)	сту́лья			
лист	(leaf)	ли́стья			
муж	(husband)	му́жья			
сын	(son)	сыно́вья			
друг	(friend)	дру́зья			

All these nouns, except for муж; сын; друг retain the soft sign throughout the plural.

e.g.	N	бра́тья	D	бра́тьям
	A	бра́тьев (animate)	I	бра́тьями
	G	бра́тьев	P	бра́тьях

муж; сын; друг are declined similarly except in the accusative and genitive, where the ending is -ей

му́жья; му́же́й; му́же́й; му́жьям; му́жьями; му́жьях
 сыно́вья; сыно́вёй; сыно́вёй; сыно́вьям; сыно́вьями;
 сыно́вьях
 дру́зья; дру́зе́й; дру́зе́й; дру́зьям; дру́зьями; дру́зьях

(154) *The pronoun тот*. Although этот is commonly defined as 'this', and тот as 'that', этот is much the more common word and can be translated by both 'this' and 'that'.

тот is much more emphatic than этот and frequently distinguishes 'that one' from 'this one'.

Мне больше нравится *та* картина. I like *that* picture better.
 (as opposed to *эта*)

The declension of тот is as follows:

	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Plural</i>
Nom:	то́т	то́	та́	<i>те</i>
Acc:	то́т	то́	ту́	<i>те</i>
Gen:	тогó	тогó	той	<i>тех</i>
Dat:	тому́	тому́	той	<i>тем</i>
Inst:	<i>тем</i>	<i>тем</i>	той	<i>те́ми</i>
Prep:	то́м	то́м	той	<i>тех</i>

It will be seen that the declension closely follows that of этот except in the plural and in the masculine and neuter instrumental forms of the singular. In all these cases 'и' is replaced by 'е'.

(155) *The interrogative pronoun чей? (whose?). The declension of this pronoun resembles the declension of третий (see note (128)).*

	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Plural</i>
Nom:	чей	чьё	чья	чьи
Acc:	чей	чьё	чью	чьи
Gen:	чьего	чьего	чьей	чьих
Dat:	чьему	чьему	чьей	чьим
Inst:	чьим	чьим	чьей	чьими
Prep:	чьём	чьём	чьей	чьих

Note that это is invariable in expressions such as:

Чей это дом?	Whose is this house?
чьё это пальто?	Whose is this coat?
чья это книга?	Whose is this book?
чьи это карандаши?	Whose are these pencils?

This makes rather more sense in the singular, if the above examples are translated 'Whose house is this?' etc.

To understand the plural example it must be remembered that Russian uses это demonstratively for both singular and plural.

e.g. Это новые машины. These are new cars.

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(128) *Ordinal numerals.*

1st	первый	11th	одиннадцатый
2nd	второй	12th	двенадцатый
3rd	третий	13th	тринадцатый
4th	четвёртый	14th	четырнадцатый
5th	пятый	15th	пятнадцатый
6th	шестой	16th	шестнадцатый
7th	седьмой	17th	семнадцатый
8th	восьмой	18th	восемнадцатый
9th	девятый	19th	девятнадцатый
10th	десятый	20th	двадцатый
		21st	двадцать первый etc.

Note 1. These are declined as normal adjectives except третий. Note that 2nd, 6th, 7th and 8th have stressed endings like большой.

Note 2. третий declines as follows:

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
Nominative:	третий	третье	третья
Accusative:	третий	третье	третью
Genitive:	третьего	третьего	третьей

As in the genitive case, dative, instrumental and prepositional take soft endings preceded by a soft sign.

(8) Translate into Russian:

(a) 'Just look at that! Three empty bottles on the floor! What a mess! My older boy invited some friends or other in and they drank vodka all night. They went away with some girls in a Moskvich at about 4 o'clock. I cannot understand why girls like medical students with long hair. And I don't know who was driving the car.'

'Boris, you're an old hypocrite. Have you really forgotten how we used to spend the evenings when we were students? Don't you remember that delightful little blonde who lived in the flat above us? I agree (=я согласен) we didn't have a car, but we did drink a lot, didn't we? And we always had a headache when we woke up the next day!'

(b) Masha decided that it was impossible (=невозможно) to stay in the noisy capital that Sunday. She went over to the window and drew the curtains. The bright rays of the morning sun lit up her little room and she looked at the worn brown linoleum on the floor.

'Yes', she thought, 'I must go into the country.' At that moment she looked out of the window. Two young students had just passed the house and she suddenly realised that they were her friends Nikita and Aleksei. She ran out into the street and called out. They turned and she saw that they were carrying books. She asked them where they were going and they replied that they were going to the library. But when she explained that she had just bought a new Moskvich, was going to drive (future) to Serebryany Bor and would drive them there with pleasure, they quickly agreed.

'I'll call for you in twenty-five minutes,' she told them. 'I've just got to tidy up the flat.'

(8) (a) «Посмотри же на это! Три пустые бутылки на полу! Какой беспорядок! Мой старший сын пригласил каких-то друзей

в гости и они всю ночь пили водку. Часа в четыре они уехали в «Москвиче» с какими-то девушками. Я не понимаю, почему девушкам нравятся студенты-медики с длинными волосами. И не знаю, кто вёл машину.»

«Борис, ты старый лицемер. Разве ты забыл, как мы проводили вечера, когда были студентами? И в квартире над нами жила та прелестная блондинка — помнишь? Согласен, у нас не было машины, но мы много пили, не правда ли? И на другой день, когда просыпались, всегда болела голова!»

(b) Маша решила, что оставаться в шумной столице в то воскресенье было невозможно. Она перешла к окну и открыла занавески. Яркие лучи утреннего солнца осветили её маленькую комнату, и она посмотрела на потёртый коричневый линолеум на полу.

«Да», — подумала она. «Надо в деревню.» В тот момент она посмотрела в окно. Два молодых студента только что прошли мимо дома, и вдруг ей стало ясно, что это её друзья Никита и Алексей. Она выбежала на улицу и закричала. Они повернулись и она заметила, что они несут книги. Она спросила их, куда они идут, и они ответили, что идут в библиотеку. Но когда она объяснила, что она только что купила себе новый «Москвич», что поедет в Серебряный Бор и с удовольствием повезёт их туда, они сейчас же согласились.

«Заеду за вами через двадцать пять минут», — сказала она им. «Только надо убрать квартиру.»

- (121) *The genitive plural of soft nouns. Plural nouns with no singular form.*
- (122) *Genitive plural of adjectives, possessive adjectives and все, эти.*
- (123) *The accusative plural of 'animate' nouns. Nouns which are feminine in form but masculine in meaning.*
- (124) *The declension of surnames.*
- (125) *The plural of nouns in -анин.*
- (126) *Neuter nouns in -мя.*
- (127) *Cardinal numerals 1–29 and the cases required.*
- (128) *Ordinal numerals 1st—29th.*
- (129) *Time. Age.*
- (130) *The future tense of быть. надо будет, не будет.*
- (131) *The instrumental case with verbs.*
- (132) *The 1st person plural form of the imperative. дай(те)...*
- (133) *уметь.*
- (134) *есть, 'to eat'.*
- (135) *Prepositions with the genitive. до, после, кроме, от.*
- (136) *ни... ни...*
- (137) *ли.*
- (138) *сам.*
- (139) *англичанин|англичанка. русский|русская. по-русски.*

(121) *Genitive plural of soft nouns.*

1. Ending -ей (a) Masculine and feminine nouns ending in -ь:
- Masculine: гость — гостей; день — дней
 - Feminine: ночь — ночей
- (b) Two neuter nouns in -е:
- поле — полей; море — морей

2. Ending -ев Masculine nouns ending in -й:
геро́й — геро́ев; трамва́й — трам-
ва́ев
3. Ending -ь Feminine nouns ending in -я:
неде́ля — неде́ль; бу́ря — бурь
деревня́ — дереве́нь

Note. Many of these nouns have stem ending in a double consonant. In the genitive plural a fleeting vowel is necessary to facilitate pronunciation.

(e.g. деревня́ — дереве́нь)

4. Ending -ий Nouns in -ия and -ие:
исто́рия — исто́рий; зда́ние — зда́-
ний

N.B. We have not yet dealt in any detail with the various types of irregular noun. The genitive plural has probably more irregularities than any other case. These are listed in the section on noun declensions in the appendix.

There is no guide to the formation of the genitive plural in the case of nouns only found in the plural. They include:

де́нги	(money)	— де́нег
родите́ли	(parents)	— родите́лей
часы́	(watch, clock)	— часо́в
лю́ди	(people)	— люде́й
де́ти	(children)	— дете́й

(See Appendix Part I, *Nouns*.)

(122) *Genitive plural of adjectives, possessive adjectives and pronouns.*

<i>Adjectives</i>	Hard ending (all genders)	-ых
	Soft ending (all genders)	-их

мно́го кра́сных авто́бусов; мно́го ма́леньких зда́ний
мно́го си́них книг; мно́го хоро́ших студе́нтов

Possessive adjectives

мой — мои́х	на́ши — на́ших
твой — твои́х	ва́ши — ва́ших

Pronouns

все — всех
эти — этих

(123) *The accusative case of 'animate' nouns in the plural.* We have already seen that the accusative singular of masculine animate nouns requires the genitive type of ending (note (44)). The same is true of both masculine and feminine accusatives in the plural (also, of course, their accompanying adjectives). Thus the only animate nouns etc. to take normal accusative endings are feminine ones in the singular.

Masculine singular: Мы встретили русского студента.
 Feminine singular: Мы встретили русскую студентку.
 (Accusative.)
 Masculine plural: Мы встретили русских студентов.
 Feminine plural: Мы встретили русских студенток.
 (Gen. pl. of студентка.)

Note. Nouns which are feminine in form, but refer to males, take the normal accusative endings.

Я люблю дедушку.

Accompanying adjectives, however, follow the *masculine* declension (genitive)

Я люблю её старого дедушку.

(124) *The declension of surnames (фамилия).* Many Russian surnames end in -ин or -ов. These have the peculiarity that

the plural is declined adjectivally, apart from the nominative.

Орлов: Nominative plural Орловы (the Orlovs)
 Accusative plural Орловых
 Genitive plural Орловых

In the singular of masculine surnames of this type the instrumental case takes adjectival endings, but all other cases decline like ordinary nouns.

Feminine surnames are adjectival, except for nominative and accusative.

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Plural</i>
Nominative	Орлов	Орлова	Орловы
Accusative	Орлова	Орлову	Орловых
Genitive	Орлова	Орловой	Орловых
Dative	Орлову	Орловой	(as adjective)
Instrumental	Орловым	Орловой	(as adjective)
Prepositional	Орлове	Орловой	(as adjective)

(125) *Nouns ending in -анин (a list of these nouns is given in the appendix).* These nouns drop the ending -ин in the plural and have the further peculiarity that their nominative plural is formed with -е. Genitive plural—no ending.

e.g.	англича́нин	Nominative plural	англича́не
		Acc./Gen. plural	англича́н
	гражда́нин	Nominative plural	гражда́не
		Acc./Gen. plural	гражда́н

(126) *Neuter nouns in -мя.* There are ten of these nouns, of which the most common are время and имя.

Throughout their declension, apart from nominative and accusative singular, the stem has the added syllable -ен. The endings in the singular are -и in genitive, dative and prepositional, and -ем in the instrumental.

(127) *Cardinal numerals.*

1	о́дин (m.) о́дно (n.) о́дна (f.)	11	о́дннадцать
2	два (m. and n.) две (f.)	12	двена́дцать
3	три	13	трина́дцать
4	четы́ре	14	четы́рнадцать
5	пять	15	пяти́надцать
6	шесть	16	шести́надцать
7	семь	17	семи́надцать
8	во́семь	18	восемна́дцать
9	де́вять	19	девятна́дцать
10	де́сять	20	два́дцать
		21	два́дцать о́дин
			etc.

Note 1. один and два change according to gender.

<i>masculine</i>	один мальчик	<i>neuter</i>	одно здание
	два мальчика		два здания
<i>feminine</i>	одна комната		
	две комнаты		

Note 2. Reference has already been made to the cases of nouns used with numerals. The rules can now be stated more fully.

(a) один/одно/одна and any numeral ending with the word один is followed by the nominative, singular.

один самолёт двадцать одна квартира

(b) два/две, три, четыре and any numeral ending with one of these words are followed by the genitive singular.

два самолёта три книги двадцать четыре квартиры

(c) All other numerals are followed by the genitive plural.
пять теплоходов десять квартир двадцать семь дней

(128) *Ordinal numerals.*

1st	первый	11th	одиннадцатый
2nd	второй	12th	двенадцатый
3rd	третий	13th	тринадцатый
4th	четвёртый	14th	четырнадцатый
5th	пятый	15th	пятнадцатый
6th	шестой	16th	шестнадцатый
7th	седьмой	17th	семнадцатый
8th	восьмой	18th	восемнадцатый
9th	девятый	19th	девятнадцатый
10th	десятый	20th	двадцатый
		21st	двадцать первый etc.

Note 1. These are declined as normal adjectives except третий. Note that 2nd, 6th, 7th and 8th have stressed endings like большой.

Note 2. третий declines as follows:

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
Nominative:	третий	третьс	третья
Accusative:	третий	третье	третью
Genitive:	третьего	третьего	третьей

As in the genitive case, dative, instrumental and prepositional take soft endings preceded by a soft sign.

(129) *Time. Age.*

1. Time. The word час (hour) is used for 'o'clock'.

час one o'clock

два часа	two o'clock
три часа	three o'clock
четыре часа	four o'clock
пять часов	five o'clock etc.

The word половина (half) is used for half past the hour. Note however that the Russian for 'half past one' is половина второго literally 'half of the second hour'. The second hour, of course, runs from 1 o'clock to 2 o'clock.

Thus half past nine половина десятого
half past four половина пятого etc.

at the hour = в + accusative.

at three o'clock в три часа

at the half hour = в + prepositional

at half past three в половине четвертого

Note also:

at what time? в котóром часу?

2. Age. The dative of the person is used.

Сколько вам лет?	How old are you?
Мне двадцать один год.	I am 21 years old.
Ей три года.	She is three years old.
Ему восемнадцать лет.	He is 18 years old.
Ивану семь с половиной лет.	Ivan is seven and a half.

(130) *The future tense of быть.*

я буду	мы будем
ты будешь	вы будете
он будет	они будут

Note that this is also found in compounds of быть, e.g. забыть to forget.

Я не забуду. I won't forget.

Note 1. The future of non-verbal impersonal expressions uses будет.

надо	— надо будет
нельзя	— нельзя будет
мне холодно	— мне будет холодно
пора идти	— скоро будет пора идти

Note 2. Note also the use of the genitive with не будет. The construction with the genitive is identical to those with нет and не было (note (67)).

Завтра не будет концерта.	There won't be a concert tomorrow.
У меня не будет времени.	I won't have time.
До завтра его не будет.	He won't be home till tomorrow.

(67) нет/не было + *genitive*. Apart from meaning 'no', нет has another important function. It means 'there is not' or 'there are not' (не + есть) and is followed by the genitive.

e.g. Нет пищи. There is no food.
 Ответа нет. There is no reply.

нет is also used in such cases as:

(a) Ивана нет дома. Ivan is not at home. (Compare Иван дома Ivan is at home)

i.e.—it often has a strong association with *place*, in fact so much so, that the word for 'here' is understood in such expressions as:

Почему Ивана сегодня нет? Why is Ivan not here today?

(b) У Нины нет машины. Nina doesn't have a car.
 (Compare У Алёши машина. Alyosha has a car.)

i.e.—it *must* be used in the negative form of 'to have' in expressions using 'у'.

In the past tense нет becomes не было (быть = to be).

e.g. Ответа не было. There was no reply.
 Нины не было. Nina wasn't there.
 Места не было. There was no room.
 У меня не было газеты. I didn't have a newspaper.

Note that было is always in the neuter form, regardless of the gender of the noun and whether it is singular or plural. The reason for this is that all such expressions are *impersonal*. The nouns are thus *not* the subjects of the verbs as they are in English. (Impersonal adjectives also take neuter endings—see note (52)).

N.B. не and было are pronounced as one word with the stress falling on не.

(131) *The instrumental case with verbs.*

1. Use with **быть** (see note (92) (e)).

(a) The instrumental is used regularly with the infinitive.

Он хочет **быть** врачом. He wants to be a doctor.

(b) Also with the future.

Он **будет** инженером. He will be an engineer.

(c) With the past tense both instrumental and nominative are found. The main distinction is that the instrumental suggests something temporary—a stage in somebody's development, career etc., whereas the nominative indicates more permanency—nationality, permanent characteristic etc.

Когда он **был** мальчиком... When he was a boy . . .
Наш преподаватель **был**
англичанин. Our teacher was English.

Riferimento N.92 (e) - The instrumental case...

(e) It is the usual complement of the verb 'to be'

быть *мелким преступником* to be a petty criminal

Note that the instrumental can only be used when part of the verb **быть** is present. Thus in the present tense:

Он мелкий преступник. (nominative) He is a petty criminal.

(For a comparison of nominative and instrumental with the *past tense* of **быть**, see note (131)).

2. Use with other verbs. A number of verbs govern the instrumental. (A list of these can be found in the Appendix.) The two we have met so far are:

(a) интересоваться to be interested in

Она очень интересуется музыкой. She is very interested in music.

(b) становиться/стать to become

Этот школьник скоро станет студентом. This schoolboy will soon become a student.

Note that the perfective стать is also used with the meaning 'to begin'

Он стал писать = Он начал писать.

Appendice: elenco di verbi che reggono casi diversi dall'accusativo.

(5) Alphabetical list of common verbs governing cases other than the accusative.

(N.B. In the case of many of the *dative* verbs, the dative is used for the indirect object. These verbs, of course, also take a direct object in the accusative.)

боя́ться	to be afraid of	gen.
ве́рить	to believe (person or thing)	dat.
владе́ть	to possess; have a command of	inst.
восхища́ться	to admire	inst.
горди́ться	to be proud of	inst.
дава́ть	to give to	dat.
достига́ть	to reach, attain	gen.
жда́ть	to wait for	gen.
жела́ть	to wish (for)	gen.
же́ртовать	to sacrifice	inst.
заболе́ть	to fall ill with (disease)	inst.
зави́довать	to envy	dat.
занима́ться	to be busy with	inst.
звони́ть	to ring up, phone	dat.
избега́ть	to avoid	gen.
интересова́ться	to be interested in	inst.
иска́ть	to look for	gen.
каза́ться	to seem, appear	inst.
каса́ться	to touch; concern	gen.
кома́ндовать	to command	inst.
любоваться	to enjoy (sight of), admire	inst.
меша́ть	to disturb; prevent	dat.
обеща́ть	to promise (someone)	dat.
объясня́ть	to explain to	dat.
ожида́ть	to expect	gen.
ока́зывать	to turn out to be	inst.
отвеча́ть	to answer (someone)	dat.
отправля́ть	to send to	dat.
подража́ть	to imitate	dat.
пока́зывать	to show to	dat.
покупа́ть	to buy for	dat.
пользо́ваться	to use; enjoy (popularity etc.)	inst.
помога́ть	to help	dat.

пра́вить	to rule, govern; drive, steer (car etc.)	inst.
принадлежа́ть	to belong to	dat.
проси́ть	to ask for	gen.
пуга́ться	to be frightened of	gen.
ра́доваться	to be glad about	dat.
рискова́ть	to risk	inst.
руководи́ть	to manage, lead	inst.
слуша́ться	to obey	gen.
сообща́ть	to inform	dat.
сочу́вствовать	to sympathise with	dat.
станови́ться	to become	inst.
требова́ть	to demand	gen.
увлека́ться	to be keen on	inst.
удивля́ться	to be surprised at	dat.
управля́ть	to administer	inst.
учи́ть	to teach (a subject)	dat.
учи́ться	to learn (a subject)	dat.
хваля́ться	to boast of, about	inst.
хотéть	to want	gen.

(132) *The 1st person plural form of the imperative.* Russian renders 'Let's go', 'Let's eat' etc. by using *дава́й* (singular and informal) or *дава́йте* (plural or formal), followed by the 1st person plural of the verb (usually, but not invariably, perfective).

Дава́йте войде́м в
гости́ную. Let's go into the living-room.

If the idea is imperfective, the infinitive is normally used:

Дава́йте игра́ть в футбо́л. Let's play football.

Note. A particularly common form with *идти* and *ехать* in the plural form is:

Поиде́мте! Поедемте! Let's go.

(133) (с)уме́ть *to be able* (=to know how to cf. *умный* clever). Note the difference between *уме́ть* and *мочь*

Он не уме́ет плава́ть. He can't swim (i.e. he hasn't learnt).

Он не може́т плава́ть. He can't swim (broken his arm etc.).

The perfective *суме́ть* can often be used to translate 'to manage'.

(134) *есть to eat.* The verb is highly irregular.

Present:	я ем	мы еди́м	} do not confuse with <i>эхать</i>
	ты ешь	вы еди́те	
	он ест	они едя́т	

Past: он ел она е́ла они е́ли

(135) *More prepositions with the genitive.*

до As well as meaning 'up to', 'as far as', *до* can mean 'before' or 'until'.

до революции до обеда

Note its use in combination with *за*:

За пять дней до концерта. Five days before the concert.

после after

после революции после обеда

Note its use in combination with *через*:

Через три дня после концерта. Three days after the concert.

кроме except, apart from

все кроме меня; кроме этого

от can be used to indicate a cause.

Она покраснела от удовольствия. She blushed with pleasure.
Я умираю от скуки. (lit. I'm dying of boredom)
I'm bored to death.

Голова его закружилась от вина. His head began to spin from the wine.

(136) *ни... ни... neither... nor...* As with *никогда*, *никто* etc., a verb must be negated by *не*.

Он *не* читает ни Пушкина ни Лермонтова. He reads neither Pushkin nor Lermontov.

(137) (a) ли if (meaning 'whether'). The word is mostly used in indirect questions:

Я не знаю, придёт ли она. I don't know if she's coming.

Note that subject and verb are inverted, ли coming immediately after the verb. Where there is no verb (clauses where 'to be' is understood), ли follows the word which carries the main weight of the question.

Она спросила, дома ли он. She asked if he was at home.
Мы не знаем, правда ли это или нет. We don't know if this is true or not.

(b) ли can also be used in direct questions where there is no question word ('why' etc.). Thus 'Do you know?' can be rendered either by:

Вы знаете? (question indicated by intonation)
or Знаете ли вы? (question indicated by ли)

Note. ли follows the word in a question which requires an answer.

Интересно ли он говорит? Does he speak well?
(Answer—Да, интересно)

(138) сам *myself, himself etc.* (neut.—самó fem.—самá, plural—са́ми).

Сам, я не знаю. I don't know myself.
Она сама сказала это. She herself said it.

Do not confuse with себя. Сам is an emphatic pronoun which can stand as part of the subject. Себя refers to the subject but is never part of it. In the examples quoted, сам emphasises the fact that it is this particular person that is meant and not any other.

As in English the emphatic pronoun can have the implication that a person is doing something without assistance.

Я сделал это сам. I did it myself.

Сам can stand with a noun or pronoun in any case.

Мы поговорили с самим начальником. We chatted to the boss himself.

Сам takes the same endings as этот.

(139) англичанин/англичанка. русский (a Russian), русская (a Russian woman), русские (the Russians) is the only adjective of nationality which can be used as a noun. A list of countries, their inhabitants and the corresponding adjectives is given in the Index.

Note the adverbial form of the adjective with по-:

по-русски in Russian
по-английски in English etc.

The literal meaning is 'in the Russian manner' etc. (cf. French 'à la')

Ненце котлеты по-киевски Kiev cutlets.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(8) Translate into Russian:

1. He's simply a genius. All his pictures have turned out marvellously, but apparently he doesn't want to talk about them. He says that words are empty. But it goes without saying that he is glad people rate (= ценить) them so highly.
2. 'Let's move into the living-room! 'I prefer to sit here in the kitchen. I'm absolutely full up and just (=просто) can't get up. After all we haven't finished the wine yet.'
3. He'll never make a doctor. In school he always got '3's. I just can't understand how he managed to get into the institute of medicine.
4. 'Kolya, how is it that you always blush when Katya looks at you?' 'Stop it, Igor. Surely you know that Kolya blushes when any (=какой-нибудь) young girl looks at him.'
5. No wonder Nikita is bored to death. There's nobody in the flat all day apart from his grandmother and grandfather. Of course when his parents come home from work, it's a different matter altogether.
6. Countless people went into the Kremlin today, because they wanted to see Brezhnev who had just returned from Tbilisi.
7. I hope that that shy young Englishman doesn't want to stay (=жить) in the hostel. We've got a lot of shy young men here already as it is.

- (8) 1. Он просто талант. Все его картины получились прекрасные, но кажется, он не хочет говорить о них. Он говорит, что слова пустые. Но разумеется, он рад, что их так высоко ценят.
2. «Давайте перейдём в гостиную.» «Я предпочитаю сидеть здесь в кухне. Я сыт по горло и просто не могу встать. И мы ещё не кончили всё вино.»
3. Из него никогда не выйдет врач. В школе он всегда получал тройки. Просто не понимаю, как он сумел поступить в медицинский институт.
4. «Коля, почему ты всегда краснеешь, когда Катя смотрит на тебя?» «Брось, Игорь. Разве ты не знаешь, что Коля краснеет, когда какая-нибудь молодая девушка смотрит на него?»
5. Не удивительно, что Никита умирает от скуки. Весь день никого нет в квартире, кроме его бабушки и дедушки. Разумеется, совсем другое дело, когда его родители возвращаются с работы.
6. Бесчисленные люди входили сегодня в Кремль, потому что они хотели увидеть Брежнева, который только что вернулся из Тбилиси.
7. Надеюсь, что этот застенчивый, молодой англичанин не хочет жить в общежитии. У нас здесь и без того много застенчивых молодых мужчин.

- (107) *The future perfective.*
- (108) *Compound verbs of motion. Associated prepositions. в, из, к, мимо, через, до.*
- (109) *The formation of imperfective verbs with the suffix -ыва-.*
- (110) *The imperative. Aspects of the imperative.*
- (111) *The genitive plural of hard nouns.*
- (112) (a) *Expressions of quantity with the genitive.*
 (b) *Cases with numbers 1–20. год, лет.*
 (c) *Partitive genitive.*
- (113) *многое/многие; всё/все.*
- (114) *The prepositional of personal pronouns.*
- (115) *Short adjectives. рад, согласен, etc.*
- (116) *The prepositions за and под with accusative or instrumental.*
- (117) *Reflexive forms used to make verbs intransitive. The verbs смеяться, болеться, правиться, чувствовать себя.*
- (118) *Verbs used to translate 'to ask'.*
- (119) *Wishes in the genitive.*
- (120) *мочь.*

(107) The future perfective tense: è formato nello stesso modo in cui viene formato il presente dei verbi imperfettivi (lo si vede chiaramente se il perfetto è formato mediante un prefisso).

e.g.

ехать	(Imperfective)	поехать	(Perfective)
я еду	I am going	я поеду	I shall go
ты едешь	you are going	ты поедешь	you will go
он едет	he is going	он поедет	he will go
мы едем	we are going	мы поедем	we shall go
вы едете	you are going	вы поедете	you will go
они́ едут	they are going	они́ поедут	they will go

Se il perfetto è formato non con prefissi, restano comunque i tre tipi fondamentali di coniugazione: Ia, Ib, 2.

e.g.

Инfinite	Imperfective (Present)	Perfective (Future)
поворáчивать	он поворáчивает	он повернёт
повернóть		
садíться	он садíтся	он сядет
сесть		

Caution. Verbs in -авать are deceptive in that the present imperfective (я встаю) looks as if it derived from the perfective infinitive (встать). See note (76).

The conjugation of all verbs which present difficulties, whether imperfective or perfective, is given along with the infinitive in the vocabularies.

There are several examples of the future perfective in the text.

Riferimento: nota 76.

(76) *Irregular verbs.* Note the present tense of: *давать*, *хотеть*, *петь*.

(a) *давать* (Compare *вставать*, *раздаваться* and other verbs in *-авать*)

я даю	мы даём
ты даёшь	вы даёте
он/она даёт	они даю́т

(b) *хотеть**

я хочу́	мы хоти́м	я пою́	мы поём
ты хоче́шь	вы хоти́те	ты поёшь	вы поёте
он/она хоче́т	они хотя́т	он/она поёт	они пою́т

(c) *петь*

* There is only a marginal difference between *я хочу* and *мне хочется*. Sometimes the impersonal expression suggests more spontaneity—I feel like . . .

e.g. *Что же ты не представишь мне нашего гостя?* Why aren't you going to introduce our guest to me?

Мы скоро пообедаем.

We will soon have dinner.

Через минуточку вернусь.

I'll come back in a minute.

etc., etc.

(108) *Compound verbs of motion.* In note (53) several verbs of motion with two imperfective forms were introduced. (*идти́/ходить* etc.). These simple (i.e. non-prefixed) verbs have no other connotation than the *type* of movement involved (i.e. swimming, flying, going on foot etc.). If one wants to add some new more precise information about the movement—going *into* a room, flying *across* the Atlantic etc.—a compound (i.e. prefixed) verb is often used, and the prefix provides the extra information.

In this lesson we meet the following prefixes:*

в- <i>into</i>	про- <i>past</i>
вы- <i>out of</i>	пере- <i>across, through</i>
до- <i>as far as</i>	при- <i>arriving, coming this way</i>
за- <i>into (for a brief period)</i>	

If we take the verb *ходить* as our simple verb and add these prefixes, we can form the following new verbs:

<i>входить</i>	to go in, to come in, to enter
<i>выходить</i>	to go out, to leave
<i>заходить</i>	to call in, to pop in
<i>проходить</i>	to go past, to pass
<i>переходить</i>	to go across, to cross
<i>приходить</i>	to arrive, to come
<i>доходить</i>	to go as far as, to reach

Compound verbs of motion do not have two imperfective

* Note also *под-*=up to, *с-*=down, *у-*=away. These prefixes give: *подходить* (to approach); *сходить* (to go down, get down); *уходить* (to go away, leave).

Language notes**(53) Verbs of motion.****Group 1 Specific verbs.**

идти́	ехать́	лететь	плыть
я иду́	я еду́	я лечу́	я плыву́
ты идёшь	ты едешь	ты лети́шь	ты плывёшь
он идёт	он едет	он лети́т	он плывёт
мы идём	мы едем	мы лети́м	мы плывём
вы идёте	вы едете	вы лети́те	вы плывёте
они идут	они едут	они лети́т	они плыву́т

Group 2 General verbs.

ходи́ть	ехать́	летать	плавать
я хожу́	я еду́	я лета́ю	я плаваю́
ты ходи́шь	ты едешь	ты лета́ешь	ты плава́ешь
он ходи́т	он едет	он лета́ет	он плава́ет
мы ходи́м	мы едем	мы лета́ем	мы плава́ем
вы ходи́те	вы едете	вы лета́ете	вы плава́ете
они ходи́т	они едут	они лета́ют	они плава́ют

Russian has one group of verbs which describe movements in *one specific direction* and another group of verbs which describe the same movements from a general non-specific point of view. For many types of movement Russian thus has two distinct verbs, some of which are not even derived from the same root. It is convenient to think of these verbs

in pairs, one coming from the first group and the other from the second (see above).

This lesson includes four such pairs of verbs. Anything said about any one of these pairs of verbs is, by and large, equally true of the others. Let us take, by way of example, the pair *идти/ходить* to go (on foot), to walk.

1. *идти* is the specific verb.

e.g. Вот Виктор. Он идёт в институт. «Здравствуйте, Виктор. Куда вы идёте?» «Иду на почту.»

There's Viktor. He's going to the college.
'Hello, Viktor. Where are you going?' 'To the post office.'

2. *ходить* is the general verb.

e.g. Виктор каждый день ходит в институт.

Viktor goes to college every day. (implying that he also comes back—therefore more than one direction)

Его сын Ваня ещё не ходит.

His son Vanya isn't walking yet. (no specific direction involved)

Note 1. The general (*ходить*) type of verb is frequently modified by adverbs such as *часто*, *обычно*, *каждую неделю* etc., as they usually imply that not only one direction is involved.

Compare, for example:

- (a) Он часто ходит в театр. i.e. he frequently makes the two-way journey (home → theatre/theatre → home)
- (b) Он идёт сегодня в театр. i.e. the interest is centred only on his going to the theatre (home → theatre)

Note 2. In English we frequently distinguish between the specific and the general verb by contrasting 'He is going' (specific) with 'He goes' (general).

- e.g. 1. Он идёт сегодня в театр. He *is going* to the theatre today.
2. Он ходит каждую неделю в театр. He *goes* to the theatre every week.

Note 3. The major consideration when using the specific verb is that it relates to only *one* direction. Thus occasionally идти etc. can be found being used with frequentative sense.

Каждое утро я иду пешком на работу. I walk to work every morning.
(Here the speaker, by using *идти* is stressing that he walks to work, but does not necessarily return home on foot.)

Note 4. *идти/ходить* is the usual verb used to describe the movement of a vehicle itself.

Идёт автобус. A bus is coming.

Note 5. In the above example the verb *идти* was translated by 'to come'. From this it will be seen that these verbs of motion merely describe a particular *type* of movement and do not differentiate between movement away from the speaker and movement towards him.

The other three pairs of motion verbs in this lesson are:

<i>Specific</i>	<i>General</i>	
ехать	ездить	to go (by vehicle), to travel, to drive
лететь	летать	to fly
плыть	плавать	to sail; to swim

As already stated, the same principles which apply to the use of *идти/ходить* also hold good here.

ехать/ездить is also frequently used of the vehicle itself with *машина* (car), *мотоцикл* (motorbike), *грузовик* (lorry). With most other vehicles *идти/ходить* is used as above (note (4)).

лететь/летать is also used of the aircraft itself.

Самолёт летит в Нью-Йорк. The plane is flying to New York.

плыть/плавать is also used of the ship itself.

Пароход плывёт в Ленинград. The steamer is sailing to Leningrad.

Compound verbs of motion do not have two imperfective forms (unlike the simple verbs). Their imperfective aspect derives from the 'general' type of motion verb like *ходить*, their perfective aspect from the 'specific' type like *идти*.

Thus the verbs listed above (*входить* to enter etc.) are all imperfective.

Я *вхож*у. I enter.

The perfective form for 'to enter' derives, then, from *идти* — *войти*.

Идти changes in compounds to *-йти* and prefixes ending in a consonant add *-о*. The perfective infinitives of the verbs listed above are thus:

<i>войти́</i>	(я <i>войд</i> у́)	I shall enter)
<i>вы́йти</i>	(я <i>выйд</i> у́)	I shall leave)
<i>зайти́</i>	(я <i>зайд</i> у́)	I shall call in)
<i>пройти́</i>	(я <i>пройд</i> у́)	I shall pass)
<i>перейти́</i>	(я <i>перейд</i> у́)	I shall go across)
<i>прийти́</i>	(я <i>прид</i> у́ (N.B.)	I shall arrive)
<i>дойти́</i>	(я <i>дойд</i> у́)	I shall reach)

Note 1. You will notice that many of these verbs have English equivalents which are transitive (to enter, to cross, to reach etc.). The Russian verbs can rarely be used with an object and are usually followed by a preposition. Here are some examples.

Она <i>входит</i> <i>в</i> комнату.	She enters the room.
Он <i>выходит</i> <i>из</i> комнаты.	He leaves the room.
Они <i>заходят</i> <i>к</i> товарищу.	They call in on their friend.
Мы <i>проходим</i> <i>мимо</i> Кремля.	We are passing the Kremlin.
Они <i>переходят</i> <i>через</i> улицу.*	They are crossing the street.

* *переходить* can be used transitively—Они *переходят* улицу.

Когда вы приходите в институт?	When do you arrive at the college?
Мы доходим до деревни.	We reach the village.

Note 2. идти has an irregular past tense.

Он шёл.	He went.
Она шла.	She went.
Они шли.	They went.

These forms are, of course, also used in the compound verbs.

Она дошла.
Они перешли. etc.

Note 3. ездить is not used in compound verbs, being replaced by -езжать (not used on its own).

Thus we have the verbs проезжать/проехать
to drive past
приезжать/приехать
to arrive etc.

Note 4. The use of prefixes is not, of course, confined to verbs of motion. A knowledge of their meanings is invaluable for increasing one's vocabulary. Note that many of the prefixes have more than one meaning and can be used to form verbs with figurative meanings. E.g. пере- (across) + водить (to take) = переводить—to translate, (i.e. to take something across from one language into another).

Note 5. One compound of ходить/идти, which is not strictly speaking a verb of motion is находить/найти to find (literally 'to come upon'). It is, of course, transitive (We have already met the reflexive form—находиться to be situated.)

Another is приходиться/прийтись, which is used impersonally and means the same as надо or нужно.

Им пришлось вернуться домой = Им надо было вернуться домой.

(109) *Formation of imperfectives by means of suffix -ыва-.*
To qualify as the true perfective partner of an imperfective verb, the perfective verb must not exhibit any change of meaning apart from stressing the completion (sometimes the beginning) of an action.

e.g. писать to write: написать to finish writing
кричать to shout: закричать to begin to shout

However, as we have seen, Russian has a rich assortment of prefixes which can modify the meaning of the basic verb.

e.g. in the text we have записать to make a note of, to note down.

Obviously (a) It is perfective. (Basic verb with prefix added.)

(b) It cannot be made imperfective by removing the prefix. (It would lose its specific meaning of 'to note down'.)

In a case like this the suffix -ыва- is added to form the new imperfective—записывать.

Он записывает рецепт. He is making a note of the recipe.

Он запишет рецепт. He will make a note of the recipe.

You will meet a great number of aspectual pairs of this type.

(110) *The imperative.* Its stem is that of the 2nd person singular. The endings are:

(a) Ending—и. If the 1st person singular (imperfective present or perfective future) has a stressed ending preceded by a consonant, the imperative has the endings:

-и (ты form), -ите (вы form)

Thus: идти (— иду́)	иди́, иди́те
сказать (— скажу́)	скажи́, скажите́
проходить (— прохожу́)	проходи́, проходи́те
садиться (— сажу́сь)	сади́сь, сади́тесь

(b) Ending -й. If the 1st person singular ends in a vowel + -ю, the imperative endings are:

-й (ты form), -йте (вы form)

Thus: читать (— чита́ю)	чита́й, чита́йте
раздева́ться (— раздева́юсь)	раздева́йся, раздева́йтесь
называ́ть (— называ́ю)	называ́й, называ́йте
чу́вствовать (— чу́вствую)	чу́вствуй, чу́вствуйте
стоя́ть (— стою́)	стой, сто́йте

N.B. Verbs in -авать retain the full (infinitive) form in the imperative, although they lose it in the present tense.

e.g. встава́ть (— встаю́) *but* встава́й, встава́йте
дава́ть (— даю́) *but* дава́й, дава́йте

(c) Ending -ь. If the 1st person singular has an *unstressed* ending preceded by a single consonant, the imperative ends in:

-ь (ты form), -ьте (вы form)

Thus: встать (— вста́ну)	встань, встаньте
бро́сить (— бро́шу)	брось, бросьте
But: по́мнить (— по́мню)	по́мни, по́мните (double consonant)

Note 1. Difficult imperatives.

Some imperatives do not have the same stem as the 2nd person singular.

e.g. Verbs in -чь form their imperative from the stem of the 1st person singular.

помóчь (to help) — помогу — помоги́/помогите

Also note пить (to drink) — пей/пейте

есть (to eat) — ешь/ешьте

быть (to be) — будь/будьте

ехать does not have an imperative form. Use поезжай/поезжайте.

Note 2. Aspect in the imperative.

The choice of aspect in the imperative is to some extent determined by the basic distinctions between the aspects already mentioned. However, it is also worth bearing the following in mind.

(a) The imperfective tends to be used in requests or invitations, being on the whole less peremptory in tone than the perfective.

(b) The perfective is usually a more definite command, although the fact that it is frequently used with пожалуйста shows that it is not necessarily impolite in any way.

(c) Despite the normally milder effect of the imperfective, one of its uses is to sharpen the tone of a command already made in the perfective, when this has not been complied with.

e.g. Встаньте! Что вы еще там сидите? Вставайте же!
Stand up! Why are you still sitting there? *Stand up!*

(d) Negative imperatives are usually imperfective, unless what is intended is a warning rather than a command.

Не выходите на улицу!
(Imperfective.)

Don't go out on the street!

but Смотрите, не опоздайте на концерт!
(Perfective.)

Mind you're not late for the concert!

From the foregoing it will be seen that with the imperative one cannot always automatically apply the normal rules governing the choice of aspect without further thought. One thing to bear in mind is that generally the imperfective will be used to one's social equals, the perfective by teacher to pupils, boss to subordinates etc.

(c) Partitive genitive. The genitive on its own can be used to suggest 'some', 'a certain quantity of':

Дайте воды. Give me *some water*.
 Нам нужно купить книг. We must buy *some books*.

Note. There are several masculine nouns which have an alternative partitive genitive ending in -у (-ю) instead of -а (-я).

These include	чай — чаю	tea
	сáхар — сáхару	sugar
	суп — сúпу	soup
	сыр — сýру	cheese

This form is usually preferred to the normal genitive ending when the partitive sense is present.

чáшка чаю	a cup of tea
кíло сáхару	a kilo of sugar
мнóго сýру	a lot of cheese
сúпу	some soup

cf. цéна чáя, сáхара, сýра etc.—the price of (no partitive sense).

(113) мнóгое/мнóгие; всё/все. The neuter adjectival form of много is used to mean 'many things'. Similarly the plural adjectival form (многие) is used to mean 'many people'.

This is an exact parallel to весь (all) whose neuter form всё means 'everything' and plural form все 'everybody'.

(114) *Prepositional of personal pronouns.* We already know the 3rd person pronouns.

Nominative:	он/оно	оná	онí
Prepositional:	нём	ней	них

The others are	я — мне	} (i.e. same as dative)
	ты — тебе	
	мы — нас	} (i.e. same as accusative and genitive)
	вы — вас	

(115) *Short adjectives.* We have already met the neuter form of 'short' adjectives when dealing with impersonal expressions (see note (52)). The short adjectives in this lesson are these:

он рад	она рада	они рады	he, she, they are glad
он знаком	она знакома	они знакомы	he, she, they are known (to me etc.)
он согласен	она согласна	они согласны	he, she, they agree
он готов	она готова	они готовы	he, she, they are ready
он уверен	она уверена	они уверены	he, she, they are sure

Note that the fleeting -e- in согласен is not needed for the pronunciation of feminine and plural.

Most Russian adjectives have both long and short forms and the difference between them will be explained in note (143). The five examples above are almost always (рад always) found in the short form.

Note 1. Short adjectives are *always* used as predicates, almost invariably with the verb 'to be'.

Эти люди уверены, что...	These people are sure that . . .
Он мне знаком.	I know him. (literally, he is known to me.)

Note 2. They can *never* be used in front of a noun.

(116) *The prepositions за and под used with the accusative or instrumental.*

Они повернули за угол.	They turned round (literally, behind) the corner.
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The two prepositions за (behind, beyond) and под (under) govern both the accusative and instrumental cases. The accusative signifies movement to a place (answering the question куда?); the instrumental indicates where a person or object is (answering the question где?).

Где институт?	Он за библиотекой. (instrumental.)
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Куда он едет?	За город. (accusative.) =into the country, (literally beyond the town, out of town).
Где карандаш?	Он лежит под газетой. (instrumental.)
Куда карандаш упал?	Под стол. (accusative.)

In other words за and под govern the accusative in the same instances as в and на.

(117) *Reflexive verbs.* In note 65 the difference between изменять and изменяться was explained. Other verbs encountered since then which come into this category include:

открывать(ся)	
Он открывает дверь.	Дверь открывается.
закрывать(ся)	
Он закрывает дверь.	Дверь закрывается.
начинать(ся)	
Он начинает работу.	Работа начинается.
кончать(ся)	
Он кончает работу.	Работа кончается.
продолжать(ся)	
Он продолжает работу.	Работа продолжается.
раздевать(ся)	
Она раздевает сына.	Сын раздевается.
останавливать(ся)	
Он останавливает машину.	Машина останавливается.
возвращать(ся)	
Он возвращает книгу в библиотеку.	Он возвращается домой.
обращать(ся)	
Он обращает внимание (attention) на слова своего соседа.	Он обращается к соседу.

(a) In all these examples the identical English verb can be used to translate both reflexive and non-reflexive verbs in Russian. 'He begins work.' 'Work begins.' etc.

(b) Some of the other reflexive verbs we have met can be used to translate the English passive.

	<i>Active</i>	<i>Passive</i>
интересовать(ся)	Эта книга интересуется меня.	Я интересуюсь этой книгой.
встречать(ся)	В его книгах вы встретите разные английские слова.	В его книгах встречаются разные английские слова. (Various English words are encountered (i.e. occur) in his books.)

(c) Other reflexive verbs have no non-reflexive form.

e.g. смеяться (to laugh)	просыпаться (to wake up)
бояться (to be afraid)	ложиться (to lie down)
нравиться (to please)	становиться (to become)

(d) Finally there is the verb чувствовать себя, which is distinguished from the other reflexive verbs by using the full form of the reflexive pronoun. It is used in such cases as:

Как вы себя чувствуете?	How do you feel?
Чувствую себя хорошо.	I feel fine.

(118) *To ask.* (по)просить means 'to ask' in the sense of 'request' or 'invite'.

Она попросила меня не так быстро говорить.	She asked me not to speak so fast.
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Нас попросили к столу.	We were invited to take our places (for a meal).
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спрашивать/спросить means 'to ask' in the sense of 'enquire'

Не спрашивайте его. Он не знает ответа.	Don't ask him. He doesn't know the answer.
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Note. задавать вопрос means 'to ask a question'. It is used with the dative.

Они задают нам много вопросов.	They ask us a lot of questions.
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(119) приятного аппетита (cf. French 'bon appétit'). The use of the genitive is explained by the fact that the verb 'to wish' (желать) is followed by the genitive.

Similarly: всего хорошего ~ all the best

(120) (с)мочь. The verb is used in the same two senses as можно—i.e. either implying physical possibility or permission. It is highly irregular in both present and past.

<i>Present:</i>	я могу	мы можем	<i>Past:</i> мог/могло/
	ты можешь	вы можете	могла/могли
	он может	они могут	

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(8) Translate into Russian:

1. He rang the bell, the door opened and he went thoughtfully into the flat.
2. I'm sure that he will arrive soon. When he left the college half an hour ago, everyone said to him 'Mind you're not late'.
3. In the Soviet Union all pedestrians cross the street by (=no) the zebra crossing. Sometimes one thinks that the stream of cars will never stop.
4. I called in on Vanya yesterday. When I went into the sitting-room he was opening a bottle of wine and a young blonde woman was sitting in the armchair. She obviously felt at home there. I left immediately.
5. I'm very glad to see you. Take off your hat and coat and sit down. Now we can have a little chat.
6. There are many contrasts in Moscow. The traffic on the streets is very noisy during the rush hour. High modern buildings are going up (use *появляться*) everywhere. However, one can forget the noisy life of the capital in the Parks of Culture and Rest. No wonder Muscovites love their parks.
7. I asked you where the corkscrew was (tense?), but you went on reading *Pravda*. You're such a boor. Tanya told me a lot about you and I believe her.
8. 'Come and sit down. Dinner is ready.' 'Oh, what magnificent soup. Masha, you're simply a genius. I'm so glad you invited me round.'

- (8) 1. Он позвонил, дверь открылась, и он задумчиво вошёл в квартиру.
2. Я уверен, что он скоро придёт. Когда он выходил из института полчаса тому назад, все говорили ему: «Смотрите, не опоздайте!»
3. В Советском Союзе все пешеходы переходят улицу (через улицу) по переходу. Иногда кажется, что поток машин никогда не пройдёт.
4. Вчера я зашёл к Ване. Когда я вошёл в гостиную, он открывал бутылку вина, а в кресле сидела какая-то молодая блондинка. Она, очевидно, чувствовала себя там как дома. Я сейчас же ушёл.
5. Я очень рад вас видеть. Раздевайтесь и садитесь! А теперь мы можем поговорить.
6. В Москве много контрастов. В часы-пик уличное движение очень шумное. Везде появляются высокие, современные здания. В парках культуры и отдыха, однако, можно забыть о шумной жизни столицы. Не удивительно, что москвичи так оценивают свои парки.
7. Я спросил вас, где штопор, но вы продолжали читать «Правду». Вы такой некультурный. Тanya рассказала мне многое о вас, и я ей верю.
8. «Прошу к столу. Обед готов.» «Ах, какой чудесный суп. Маша, ты просто талант. Я так рад(а), что ты пригласила меня в гости.»

- (92) *The instrumental case—its uses. The prepositions с, перед, за, над.*
- (93) *The instrumental singular of nouns.*
- (94) *The instrumental singular of adjectives and possessive adjectives.*
- (95) *The instrumental of personal pronouns and instrumental singular of кто, что, весь, этот, один, никто, ничего.*
- (96) *мы с тобой.*
- (97) *The genitive singular of adjectives and possessive adjectives.*
- (98) *The genitive singular of the pronouns кто, что, весь, этот, один, никто, ничего.*
- (99) *Prepositions with the genitive—во время, для, без, насчёт, с. The various prepositions used for 'at', 'to' and 'from'.*
- (100) *правиться.*
- (101) *можно. нельзя.*
- (102) *нужен. нужно, надо.*
- (103) *The prefix по- with limiting force. посидеть, поговорить, etc.*
- (104) *это with the past tense of быть.*
- (105) *The passive expressed by word order.*
- (106) *звать; называть; называться.*

Il caso strumentale.

(92) *Instrumental case—uses.* As with the other cases, the instrumental has various functions, some of which occur in this lesson.

(a) It can denote the *instrument* or agent of an action.

Он писал карандашом. He wrote in (literally 'with')
pencil.

(b) It can denote means of transport.

Он едет автобусом/трам- He is going by bus/by tram.
ваем.
Он летит самолётом. He is going by plane.

Note that these are alternatives to на автобусе/на трам-
вае/на самолёте.

(c) It can denote the capacity in which someone is working.

Он работает *инженёром*. He is working as (=in the capacity of) an engineer.

(d) It can denote time with certain nouns, notably:

ночь	—	но́чью	at night
у́тро	—	у́тром	in the morning
день	—	днём	during the day

вечер	—	вечером	in the evening
зима́	—	зимой́	in winter
весна́	—	весной́	in spring
ле́то	—	ле́том	in summer
осе́нь	—	осе́нью	in autumn

(e) It is the usual complement of the verb 'to be'

быть *ме́лким преступни-*
ком to be a petty criminal

Note that the instrumental can only be used when part of the verb *быть* is present. Thus in the present tense:

Он мелкий преступник. (nominative) He is a petty criminal.

(For a comparison of nominative and instrumental with the *past tense* of *быть*, see note (131)).

(f) It is used with a small number of prepositions. Those encountered here are:

с—with.

Мы познакомились с ним. We became acquainted with him.

Он идёт в кино с сестрой. He is going to the cinema with his sister.

N.B. This usage must not be confused with the construction with pure instrumental.

cf. Он пишет карандашом.	He is writing in pencil. (using as an instrument)
Он идёт с братом.	He is going with his brother. (accompanied by)

(94) *Adjectives and possessive adjectives in the instrumental singular.*

Adjectives

Hard masculine and neuter	-ым	краси́вый/краси́вое	— краси́вым
Soft masculine and neuter	-им	си́ний/си́нее	— си́ним
Hard feminine	-ой	краси́вая	— краси́вой
Soft feminine	-ей	си́няя	— си́ней

N.B. The spelling rule must be remembered in the masculine/neuter instrumental:

мелким преступником

Possessive adjectives

Masculine and neuter:	мои́м	твои́м	на́шим	ва́шим
Feminine:	моёй	твоёй	на́шей	ва́шей

(95) *Pronouns in the instrumental.*

<i>Personal pronouns</i>	<i>Other pronouns</i>
я мной	кто** кем
ты тобо́й	что** чем

** Similarly никто́ and ниче́го.

<i>Personal pronouns</i>	<i>Other pronouns</i>
он/оно (н)им*	весь } все́м
она (н)ей*	всё } все́м
мы на́ми	вся } все́й
вы ва́ми	э́тот } э́тим
они (н)и́ми*	э́то } э́тим
	э́та } э́той
	оди́н } оди́м
	оди́но } оди́м
	оди́на } оди́ной

(*) si riferisce alla nota seguente (N.39)

Note. 3rd person pronouns always have the extra *н* after prepositions. However the possessive adjectives *его, её, их* (his, her, their) never have this extra *н*.

Thus У него сын. He has a son.

But У его сына квартира. His son has a flat.

У меня, у тебя are frequently used instead of the possessive adjectives *мой, твой* etc. in expressions such as:

У меня в кабинете письменный стол. There is a desk in *my* study.

In other words *у меня в кабинете* is probably the commonest way of saying 'in my study'.

(96) *Они с англичанином.* Russian frequently uses this construction, whereby the English (singular) pronoun becomes plural in Russian by including the second person involved. The verb is therefore also plural.

Similarly Мы с Таней Tanya and I
Мы с тобой you and I etc.

Note 'Он и англичанин' would also be correct.

(97) *Adjectives and possessive adjectives in the genitive singular.*

Adjectives

Hard masculine and neuter -ого (N.B. pronounced ово):
красивый — красивого; молодой — молодого.

Soft masculine and neuter -его (N.B. pronounced ево, cf. сегодня, его):

синий — синего; хороший — хорошего.

Hard feminine -ой:

красивая — красивой; молодая — молодой.

Soft feminine -ей:

синяя — синей; хорошая — хорошей.

Possessive adjectives

Masculine and neuter: моего твоего нашего вашего

Feminine: моёй твоёй нашей вашей

(98) *Pronouns in the genitive singular.* (Genitive of personal pronouns see note (39).)

кто*	кого́
что*	чего́
весь } всё }	всего́
вся	всей
э́тот } э́то }	э́того
э́та	э́той
оди́н } одно́ }	одно́го
одна́	одной

* Similarly никто́ and ниче́го.

(99) *Prepositions with the genitive.* So far we have met у; до; от; из. In this lesson there also occur:

во время—*during (literally in the time of)*
 во время обеденного перерыва during the lunch break

(N.B. время is one of a small group of nouns ending in -мя which are all neuter.)

для—*for*

для него	for him
для её мужа	for her husband

без—*without*

без билета	without a ticket
без кондуктора	without a conductor

насчёт—*as regards, concerning*

насчёт нашего товарища as regards our friend

с—*from, off* (N.B. Do not confuse with с + instrumental = with)

с пола	off the floor (на пол onto the floor)
с юга	from the south (на юг to the south)

Note. The choice of preposition for *from, out of, off* will always depend on which preposition is used for *to* and *at*. This can be tabulated as follows:

куда (where to)	где (where)	откуда (where from)
в + <i>accusative</i>	в + <i>prepositional</i>	из + <i>genitive</i>
в комнату	в комнате	из комнаты
в город	в городе	из города
в театр	в театре	из театра
на + <i>accusative</i>	на + <i>prepositional</i>	с + <i>genitive</i>
на стул	на стуле	со стула*
на концерт	на концерте	с концерта
на почту	на почте	с почты
на север	на севере	с севера
к + <i>dative</i>	у + <i>genitive</i>	от + <i>genitive</i>
к двери	у двери	от двери
к Ивану	у Ивана	от Ивана
ко мне*	у меня	от меня

(*) Riferimento a N. 64.

(64) *Additional -o etc. with prepositions in certain circumstances.* Many prepositions add -o in front of certain groups of two or more consonants.

Thus: в > во — во всём in everything
 из > изо — изо дня
 в день from day to day

The preposition *o* changes to *ob* before a vowel, and to *obo* before *mn* and *vs*:

об Иване	about Ivan
обо мне	about me

(100) нравиться. This verb literally means 'to be pleasing' and governs the dative. It is normally translated 'to like'.

Note that the object of the English sentence (I like *him*) becomes the *subject* of the Russian (*Он* нравится мне.)

Орлову понравился молодой англичанин. Orlov liked the young Englishman. (literally 'To Orlov the young Englishman was pleasing'.)

Note 1. Нравиться always implies a less intense emotion than любить, which can never be used of a spontaneous reaction to something previously unknown.

Note 2. Нравиться can also be used impersonally with an infinitive.

Ей нравится кататься на лодке. She likes boating.

Note 3. In the past tense use the perfective aspect.

Как вам понравилась пьеса? How did you enjoy the play?

The imperfective past has the implication that you enjoyed it at the time but have since changed your mind.

Сначала она мне нравилась, но теперь не понимаю почему.

I liked her at first, but now I can't understand why I did.

There are a few other verbs which share this distinction between the aspects.

Note 4. Like all verbs of the 2nd conjugation with stem ending in -в, нравиться takes an extra л in the 1st person singular of the present tense:

Я нравлюсь ей. She likes me.

(101) *можно*; *нельзя*. These are impersonal words and thus are typically used with infinitives, often with dative objects.

можно—*it is possible; it is permitted*

Как можно так говорить?	How can one speak like that? (literally—How is it possible to speak like that?)
Нам можно идти?	May we go? (literally—Is it permitted for us to go?)

Going verbs may be omitted colloquially.

e.g. Можно к вам?	May I come and see you?
нельзя is the exact opposite of можно in both meanings.	
Этот вопрос нельзя так решить.	It is impossible to solve this question like that.
Нельзя курить в кино.	No smoking in the cinema.

In the second sense (one must not), *нельзя* is followed by the imperfective infinitive.

The past tense of these constructions is *можно было*; *нельзя было* (neuter ending in impersonal constructions).

It is typical of Russian that it frequently uses constructions like these instead of the English modal verbs (I can, may, ought to, want to etc.).

(102) *To need*. *нужен* (masculine), *нужно* (neuter), *нужна* (feminine), *нужны* (plural)

This is the 'short' form of the adjective *нужный* (necessary), (short adjectives are explained in note (115)) and provides another illustration of how Russian can dispense with a verb.

Нам нужен третий (автобус).	(literally) A no. 3 (bus) is necessary to us. i.e. We need a number 3.
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The adjective, of course, agrees in gender and number with the noun.

Мне нужен новый пиджак.	I need a new jacket.
Вам нужна симпатичная жена.	You need a nice wife.
Ирине нужно удобное кресло.	Irina needs a comfortable armchair.
Ему нужны были папиросы.	He needed cigarettes.

(cf. the frequent «Что вам нужно?» of Russian shop-assistants.)

Note. The neuter form нужно is an alternative to надо.
Мне нужно (надо) спать. I need some sleep.

Sometimes нужно or надо is omitted colloquially e.g. in the text:

Нам выходить на следующей остановке.

(103) *Perfective verbs with prefix по- having limiting force.* The 'true' perfective of говорить is сказать, but some verbs have a perfective form using the prefix по-. Although these verbs are perfective in form, they do not focus attention on the completion of the action. The prefix по- has a limiting function and can often be translated 'a little'.

Thus: поговорить	to have a little chat
поработать	to do a little work
посидеть	to 'have a little sit down'
почитать	to read for a little

However, be careful not to confuse this type of verb with those where по- is used as a true perfective prefix, such as пообедать to have dinner. (There is no suggestion that it is a small one!)

(104) это *with the past tense of быть.*

Это был его постоянный маршрут.

At first sight it would seem that был should be in the neuter form after это. However Russian considers это to be a secondary subject and the real subject to be the noun or pronoun after the verb.

Thus: Это был Иван.	It was Ivan.
Это была́ Ольга.	It was Olga.
Это было́ только начало.	This was only the beginning.
Это были́ её сёстры.	They were her sisters.

N.B. The stress on the past tense of быть moves to the ending in the feminine.

(105) *Passive.* The passive is less common in Russian than in English. One way of rendering the passive is to invert subject and object so that the word order becomes object—verb—subject, as in the example:

Его оштрафовал кон- тролёр.	He was fined by the ticket collector.
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For other ways of forming the passive, see note (212).

(106) *To call; to be called.*

звать is only used with the names of people or animals.

Как его зовут? What is he called? (literally,
How do they call him?)
Меня зовут Джон. I'm called John.

называть/назвать 'to call' or 'to name' except when giving the name of a person or animal.

Как называют такого человека? What do you call a person like that?

The perfective называть can only be used with people in the sense of 'to give a name to', 'to christen'. The name goes in the instrumental.

Они назвали сына Влади- They called their son Vladi-
миром. mir.
(Теперь его зовут Влади-
мир.)

The reflexive form называться is used when giving the name of something other than a person or animal—e.g. countries, towns, films, plays, buildings etc., etc.

Эта книга называется This book is called *Anna*
«Анна Каренина». *Karenina*.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(7) Translate into Russian:

1. 'What did you do yesterday evening (=in the evening)?
'We read a little and then went to bed.'
2. 'I haven't got a bus ticket. What have I got to do?' 'You
only have to drop a 5 kopeck piece in the box, turn the
handle, and a ticket appears. It's very simple.'
3. Various people were coming out of the hotel and I asked
a guest where one could have dinner. He said you could
have dinner in the hotel. However he couldn't recom-
mend the food and you had to wait half an hour. (to
recommend рекомендовать; food кухня)
4. The next tram is a no. 3 and the tram stop is just round
the corner.
5. Sometimes it's not all that easy being a passenger on a
Moscow bus, if you haven't got any small change. And
if you don't buy a ticket they fine you.
6. I invited the young Englishman to the concert and he
accepted with pleasure. Apparently he loves the music
of Tchaikovsky (Чайковский).
7. It wasn't very convenient for him to take the tube as he
had to change trains.
8. I like Varya's little son. He asks me constant questions
and looks so thoughtfully at me when I reply. Un-
fortunately I seldom understand his questions and he
seldom understands my answers.

- (7) 1. «Что вы делали вчера вечером?» «Мы почитали и потом
легли спать.»
2. «У меня нет автобусного билета. Что мне делать?» «Надо
просто опустить пятак в кассу, повернуть ручку, и появляется
билет. Это очень просто.»
3. Разные люди выходили из гостиницы и я спросил одного
гостя, где можно пообедать. Он сказал, что пообедать можно в
гостинице. Кухню, однако, он не рекомендовал, и надо было
ждать полчаса.
4. Следующий трамвай — третий, и остановка трамвая как раз
за углом.
5. Иногда не так уж просто быть пассажиром на московском
автобусе, если у вас нет мелочи. А если у вас нет билета, вас
оштрафуют.
6. Я пригласил молодого англичанина на концерт и он с удоволь-
ствием принял приглашение. Кажется, он любит музыку Чайков-
ского.
7. Ему не очень удобно было ехать на метро, так как надо было
сделать пересадку.
8. Мне нравится маленький сын Вари. Он постоянно задаёт мне
вопросы и задумчиво смотрит на меня, когда я отвечаю. К
сожалению, я редко понимаю его вопросы, а он редко понимает
мои ответы.

- (77) *Aspect.*
- (78) *The formation of perfectives.*
- (79) *Modification in the meaning of some aspectival pairs.*
говорить/сказать; видеть/увидеть; слышать/услышать; знать/узнать; ехать/поехать.
- (80) *The imperfective infinitive after начинать, продолжать, кончать.*
- (81) *The dative singular of soft nouns.*
- (82) *Dative singular of adjectives and possessive adjectives.*
- (83) *Dative singular of весь, этот.*
- (84) *The words себя and свой.*
- (85) *Accusative of time—весь.*
- (86) *The relative pronoun—который.*
- (87) *The prepositional plural.*
- (88) *Prepositions with means of transport—в, на.*
- (89) *смотреть.*
- (90) *было.*
- (91) *Verbs in -овать and -евать.*

(77) Aspetti del verbo (come compensazione del semplice sistema di tempi – e modi)

Il passato.

(a) Imperfective—an action in progress at some time, where attention is not being focussed on its beginning or end.

Perfective—an action where interest is centred on completion or successful outcome.

Consider these two examples:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. A: Вы читали «Анну Каренину»? | Have you read <i>Anna Karenina</i> ? |
| B: Да, читал. | Yes, I have. |
| 2. A: Вы прочитали «Анну Каренину»? | Have you finished reading <i>Anna Karenina</i> ? |
| B: Да, прочитал.
Почему? | Yes I have. Why? |
| A: Хочу вернуть книги в библиотеку. | I want to return the books to the library. |

Thus we see the first criterion to be used in deciding on the correct aspect. The imperfective establishes the fact of an action taking place ('action' being used in its broadest sense to cover many different types of verb). The perfective draws attention to the completion of the action.

(b) Imperfective—When actions occur with any degree of frequency (every Saturday, twice a month, usually etc.) the imperfective aspect is used. This accounts for the use of the imperfective in the first two paragraphs of the text.

Perfective—When an action occurs only once, the perfective aspect is used whenever either completion (see (a)) is emphasised or single actions of short duration are involved.

Consider these two examples from the text:

1. Он всегда *опаздывал* на работу. (Imperfective)
He was always late for work.
2. Однажды Ваня *опоздал* на полчаса. (Perfective)
One day Vanya was half an hour late.

In these two examples the difference between the frequent occurrence in 1. and the single occasion in 2. is brought out by the use of the different aspects.

Other examples of the use of the perfective to describe a single action of short duration occur in the text:

Он *направился* к своему обычному месту.

Ваня *обратился* к Ольге.

Рабочий день *кончился*.

Он *сел* в кресло.

Он *выключил* свет, etc.

Sometimes other words in a sentence can give one a clue as to aspect. Thus e.g. adverbs of time such as *долго* (emphasising length of time), *часто*, *всегда* (emphasising repetition) and often adverbs of manner (emphasising process rather than result) will tend to be found with imperfective verbs. Words like *сразу же*, *вдруг* (emphasising suddenness and short duration) will tend to be used with the perfective.

N.B. It is as well to point out at this stage that the problem of aspect is a complex one and that there are many cases where the distinction between the aspects will be slight and subtle. These are guide-lines rather than rules, and do not cover many specific instances of aspectual usage which go beyond the scope of the present book. However, some of these instances will be considered later.

Le espressioni italiane come “sto mangiando” richiedono il presente imperfettivo.

78) *Aspects of the verb. Various ways of forming perfective verbs.* From now on new verbs will be listed in both their imperfective and perfective forms* (apart from a few verbs

* In the vocabularies the verbs are listed in pairs, the imperfective preceding the perfective. In the case of verbs which form their perfective by adding a prefix, the perfective prefix is given in brackets.

(a) The addition of a prefix:

<i>Imperfective</i>		<i>Perfective</i>	
пить	(prefix — вы-*)	в́пить	to drink
е́хать	(prefix — по-)	пое́хать	to drive
знать	(prefix — у-)	узна́ть	to know
серди́ться	(prefix — рас-)	рассерди́ться	to be angry
у́жинать	(prefix — по-)	поу́жинать	to have supper
ви́деть	(prefix — у-)	увиде́ть	to see

(b) Changing from 1st to 2nd conjugation:

конча́ть(ся)	ко́нчить(ся)	to finish
объя́снять	объя́снить	to explain
реша́ть	реши́ть	to decide
выключа́ть	вы́ключить*	to switch off
покупа́ть	купи́ть	to buy

(the only verb in Russian which *loses* a prefix in the perfective).

Sometimes there is a change in stem as well as in conjugation. (This type of modification has been already noted with regard to the 1st person singular of many 2nd conjugation verbs—see note (40).)

исправля́ться	испра́виться	to turn over a new leaf
направля́ться	напра́виться	to make for
замеча́ть	заме́тить	to notice
обраща́ться	обрати́ться	to turn to, address
спра́шивать	спроси́ть	to ask

* Perfective verbs in вы- are always stressed on the prefix.

(Il perfetto aggiunge un suffisso, colo il verbo ПОКУПАТ' lo perde.)

(c) Changing the stem (usually more radically than in (b) and not involving a change to 2nd conjugation):

опáздывать	опозда́ть	to be late
встава́ть	встать	to get up, stand up
просыпа́ться	просну́ться	to wake up
засыпа́ть	засну́ть	to go to sleep
начина́ть	нача́ть	to begin

(d) Modifying the suffix:

забыва́ть	забы́ть	to forget
передума́вать	передума́ть	to change one's mind
закрыва́ть	закры́ть	to close

(e) Changing the word completely. A small group of verbs, including some very common ones, form their aspects from unconnected, or sometimes tenuously connected roots.

возвращать(ся)	вернуть(ся)	to return
говорить	сказать	to speak, say
ложиться*	лечь	to lie down
садиться*	сесть	to sit down; get on
брать	взять	to take

* A small group of verbs is reflexive in imperfective, non-reflexive in perfective.

(79) *Modification of meaning in perfective.* Some verbs in their perfective aspect undergo a modification of meaning with the result that the two aspects may be rendered by different verbs in English.

- (a) говорить to talk, to speak
сказать to say (often with conversation quoted)

Он говорил громко. He was talking loudly.
Он сказал «Здравствуйте!» He said 'Hello'.

- (b) видеть to see
увидеть to catch sight of

Мы давно не видели его. We hadn't seen him for a long time.
Я увидел его вчера на вокзале. I caught sight of him yesterday at the station.

(Similarly слышать/услышать to hear)

- (c) знать to know
узнать to get to know, i.e. to learn, hear, find out

Я не знал, что он русский. I didn't know that he was Russian.
Я узнал вчера, что он в Владивостоке. I heard yesterday that he was in Vladivostok.

- (d) ехать to go, drive
поехать to set off, to leave

Мы ехали быстро. We drove fast.
Мы поехали рано утром. We left early in the morning.

(Similarly with all verbs of motion, the prefix по- frequently indicates the beginning rather than the completion of the journey.)

(80) Imperfective infinitive after certain verbs.

The verbs начинать/начать to begin; кончать/кончить to finish; and продолжать/продолжить to continue, are never followed by the perfective infinitive.

Он начал читать.	He began to read.
Он продолжал читать.	He continued reading.
Он кончил читать.	He finished reading.

(81) Dative case of soft nouns. In the previous lesson the dative singular of hard nouns was given.

The soft declension is as follows:

Soft masculine and neuter -ю: читателю, морю

soft feminine in -ь and -ия -и: ночи, истории

Soft feminine in -я -е: Соне

Thus the dative singular can be tabulated like this:

	Masculine	Neuter
Nominative:	стул герой читатель	место счастье
Dative:	стулу герою читателю	месту счастью

	Feminine
Nominative:	Ольга Тания ночь история
Dative:	Ольге Тание ночи истории

(82) Dative case of adjectives.

Hard masculine and neuter:

ending — ому милому; большому; русскому

Soft masculine and neuter:

ending — ему синему; вечернему; хорошему

Hard feminine:

ending — ой милой; большой; русской

Soft feminine:

ending — ей синей; вечерней; хорошей

Possessive adjectives in dative. As in all the oblique cases the endings are soft.

Masculine and neuter: моему твоему нашему вашему

Feminine: моей твоей нашей вашей

Note the difference in stress (which occurs throughout their declension) between мой/твой and наш/ваш

(83) Dative case of весь and этот.

	Nominative	Dative	Nominative	Dative
Masculine:	весь	всему	этот	этому
Neuter:	всё		это	
Feminine:	вся	всей	эта	этой

(84) *Reflexives*. себя and свой.

(a) себя. The full form of the reflexive verb ending -ся is the pronoun себя (oneself, myself, himself etc.). The reflexive pronoun always *refers* to the subject of a clause, thus cannot itself be a subject. Себя is the form in accusative and genitive; it declines in all cases like тебя.
e.g. in the dative—себе.

Он забыл купить себе газету. He forgot to buy *himself* a newspaper.

Consider the phrase: Он читал у себя в квартире.
He read in his flat.

The two cardinal points to note are:

1. If the sentence read Он читал у него в квартире—the subject of the sentence—он—could not be the owner of the flat.
i.e. He (e.g. Ivan) was reading in his (e.g. Vladimir's) flat.
2. The meaning of себя will always depend on the subject of the clause.

e.g. Я смотрел телевизор у себя в комнате.
I was watching television in *my* room.
Они сказали себе, что надо совсем забыть об этом.
They told *themselves* that they must forget all about it.

(b) свой. The reflexive possessive adjective is свой (declined like твой).

Он направился к своему обычному месту.
He made for his usual place.

As with себя, the meaning of свой will depend on the subject.

cf. Я направился к своему обычному месту.
I made for *my* usual place.

N.B. Possessive adjectives, whether мой/твой etc. or свой are frequently omitted except where possession is particularly stressed or where ambiguity would arise from its omission.

Он встречается товарища. He is meeting his friend.

The use of свой is obligatory in the 3rd person singular and plural, if a possessive adjective is used. Его, её and их will always refer to someone other than the subject.

(88) *Prepositions with means of transport.*

на—the emphasis is on the particular means of transport and is used primarily with ехать/ездить

— Как вы ехали? — На автобусе. How did you travel? By bus.

в—the emphasis here is on something incidentally taking place on a bus, tram etc.

Студенты пели в автобусе. The students were singing on the bus.

Нominative:	мasc.	весь	неиетг	все	теш.	вса	рf.	все
Accusative:		весь		всё		всю		все

86. Pronomi relativi: sintassi come in italiano.

(86) *Relative pronouns.* The relative pronoun is который (which, who etc.). It declines like a normal adjective and must agree in gender and number with its antecedent.

девушка, которая... the girl who ...
девушки, которые... the girls who ...

However, as in all inflected languages, its case will depend on its function in its own clause.

cf. text Ваня обратился к красивой девушке, которая сидела рядом.
Vanya turned to an attractive girl (antecedent—dative), who (subject of clause—nominative) was sitting nearby.

(87) *Prepositional plural.*

Nouns Hard nouns take the ending -ах
Soft nouns take the ending -ях

Hard: в ресторанах; в автобусах; о будильниках; на вокзалах

Soft: в трамваях; о героях; на днях

N.B. Remember the spelling rule: e.g. ночь — о п^очах

Adjectives Hard adjectives take the ending -ых
Soft adjectives take the ending -их

Hard: красивых; боль^ных; ч^ерных

Soft: синих; хор^оших; у^тренних

Possessive adjectives soft endings

мой — мо^их, на^ши — на^ших,
твой — тво^их, ва^ши — ва^ших.

Pronouns все and эти

все — все^х

эти — э^тих

Akh nomi; lkh aggettivi

cantiamo sull'autobus, V

(88) *Prepositions with means of transport.*

на—the emphasis is on the particular means of transport and is used primarily with ехать/ездить

— Как вы ехали? — На автобусе. How did you travel? By bus.

в—the emphasis here is on something incidentally taking place on a bus, tram etc.

Студенты пели в автобусе. The students were singing on the bus.

(89) смотреть. The verb is used transitively with телевизор, фильм etc.

Ивановы смотрят телевизор. The Ivanovs are watching television.

Otherwise it is used with на + Accusative.

Почему вы так смотрите на меня? Why are you looking at me like that?

(90) было. This word is used with past perfective verbs to indicate that a projected course of action was not in fact carried out.

Ваня взял было книгу, но передумал. Vanya was going to take up his book but changed his mind.

(91) *Verbs in -овать/-евать.* Many of these verbs are imports from other languages, as will easily be seen from the verbs интересоваться (to interest); гипнотизировать (to hypnotise). Some may not be immediately recognisable such as нокаутировать (to knock out).

The past tense of these verbs is formed regularly from the infinitive:

интересовал; интересовало; интересовала; интересовали.

However in the present tense the -ова- or -ева- changes to у.

я интересую	мы интересуем
ты интересуешь	вы интересуете
он интересуется	они интересуют

“Passato perfetto + Bylo: Stava per”

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(7) Translate into Russian:

1. The day before he read the whole book from beginning to end, so that it's not surprising that his eyes are so sore.
2. Poor Vanya! He found it very difficult (impersonal) to explain to his new boss why he was always late for work. Unfortunately Sokolov is not a very patient person. And yesterday Vanya was half an hour late. Sokolov was very angry.
3. The programme didn't interest her. She turned off the television, went to bed and slept soundly till the morning.
4. Igor turned to his neighbour and asked him who the stranger was, who was sitting nearby. (Care! Tense?)
5. Muscovites travel around their beautiful capital city on trams, buses, trolleybuses and on the underground.

- (7) 1. Накануне он прочитал всю книгу от начала до конца, так что не удивительно, что у него глаза так болят.
2. Бедный Ваня! Ему было очень трудно объяснить новому начальнику, почему он всегда опаздывает на работу. К сожалению, Соколов не очень терпеливый человек. А вчера Ваня опоздал на полчаса. Соколов очень рассердился.
3. Передача не интересовала её. Она выключила телевизор, легла спать и спала крепко до утра.
4. Игорь обратился к соседу и спросил его, кто незнакомец, который сидит рядом.
5. Москвичи ездят по своей красивой столице на трамваях, на автобусах, на троллейбусах и на метро.

- (66) *The past tense.*
- (67) *The genitive with **нем** and **не было**. The use of **у**.*
- (68) *The genitive after negatives.*
- (69) *Negative words with **не**.*
- (70) *Uses of the dative: indirect object, impersonal expressions, with the prepositions **к** and **по**.*
- (71) *Dative singular of hard nouns.*
- (72) *Dative of personal pronouns and **кто**, **никто**, **что**, **ничего**.*
- (73) *Impersonal verbs.*
- (74) *The use of **давно** and **долго**.*
- (75) *Sequence of tenses.*
- (76) *Irregular verbs.*

(66) *Past tense.* Russian has only one past tense which has to do duty for all the different shades of meaning conveyed by the numerous tenses available in English. Thus in various contexts **я звонил** can mean—I rang

I was ringing
I did ring
I have rung
I have been ringing
I had rung
I had been ringing

In order to express the distinctions between different English past tenses, Russian frequently uses adverbs of time such as **ещё** (still) and **уже** (already). In addition, and much more importantly, many different nuances result from the system of *aspects* which are introduced for the first time in the language notes in Lesson 10.

Il passato non è basato sulle persone, ma su genere e numero

The forms of the past tense vary, not according to person as in most languages, but according to gender and number.

The past tense is formed by removing the ending of the infinitive (usually -ть) and adding the endings -л (masculine); -ло (neuter); -ла (feminine) and ли (plural).

e.g. the verb 'to ring up', звони(ть) — звони + л — звонил (masculine)

Thus we have:	я звон ^л ил	I rang (male subject)
	ты звон ^л ил	you rang („ „)
	он звон ^л ил	he rang

and:	я звон ^л ила	I rang (female subject)
	ты звон ^л ила	you rang („ „)
	она звон ^л ила	she rang

In the plural:	мы звон ^л или	we rang
	вы звон ^л или	you rang
	они звон ^л или	they rang

The following examples from the text illustrate the forms of the past tense:

Masculine: никто не отвечал; я сидел на скамейке; ты обнимал её.

Neuter: никого не было дома; всё было так тихо; всё зеленело.

Feminine: стояла прекрасная погода; я слушала радио; машина стояла.

Plural: купола блестели на солнце.

Past tense of reflexive verbs. It has already been noted that the reflexive ending is -ся except after a vowel, where it changes to -сь. In accordance with this it follows that -ся is the masculine ending in the past tense, but -сь is the ending for all other forms.

Thus: он купался he bathed; она купалась she bathed; они купались they bathed.

(67) нет/не было + *genitive*. Apart from meaning 'no', нет has another important function. It means 'there is not' or 'there are not' (не + есть) and is followed by the genitive.

e.g. Нет пищи. There is no food.
 Ответа нет. There is no reply.

нет is also used in such cases as:

(a) Ивана нет дома. Ivan is not at home. (Compare Иван дома Ivan is at home)

i.e.—it often has a strong association with *place*, in fact so much so, that the word for 'here' is understood in such expressions as:

Почему Ивана сегодня нет? Why is Ivan not here today?

(b) У Нины нет машины. Nina doesn't have a car.
 (Compare У Алёши машина. Alyosha has a car.)

i.e.—it *must* be used in the negative form of 'to have' in expressions using 'у'.

In the past tense нет becomes не было (быть = to be).

e.g. Ответа не было. There was no reply.
 Нины не было. Nina wasn't there.
 Места не было. There was no room.
 У меня не было газеты. I didn't have a newspaper.

Note that было is always in the neuter form, regardless of the gender of the noun and whether it is singular or plural. The reason for this is that all such expressions are *impersonal*. The nouns are thus *not* the subjects of the verbs as they are in English. (Impersonal adjectives also take neuter endings—see note (52)).

N.B. не and было are pronounced as one word with the stress falling on не.

NET: presente

NEBYLO, passato

(70) *Uses of the dative.*

(a) Indirect object. The dative case is used for the indirect object of the sentence and is usually translated in English by 'to me', 'to you' etc.

Он даёт товарищу папиросу.	He gives a cigarette <i>to his friend.</i>
Он показывает жене книгу.	He shows the book <i>to his wife.</i>

Note that the identity of the indirect object is sometimes concealed in English, e.g. He told *me*; he gives *his friend* a cigarette; he shows *his wife* a book. In all these English sentences the word 'to' is understood and the italicised phrases must all go in the dative in Russian. Some verbs such as верить (to believe) take a dative object although it is not an indirect object in English.*

(b) Impersonal expressions. The dative is used with impersonal expressions to relate them to a specific person.

e.g. Скучно.	It is boring.
Ивану скучно.	Ivan is bored.
Холодно.	It is cold.
Мне очень холодно.	I am very cold.

As stated, impersonal adjectives are always neuter, and in the past tense these expressions take the neuter past tense of БЫТЬ (to be).

e.g. Было скучно.	It was boring.
Ивану было скучно.	Ivan was bored.
Мне было очень холодно.	I was very cold. etc.

(c) With the prepositions по and к.

The prepositions по and к govern the dative. По has many uses. In this lesson it means 'along' or 'all over', 'round about':

по дороге	along the road
по улице	along the street
по городу	round about the town, throughout the town

к means 'towards'.

к Загорску	towards Zagorsk
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* List of verbs with Dative in Appendix Part I.

With a person it often means 'to', or 'to the house of':

к Ивану	to Ivan's house, to Ivan
к милиционеру	to the policeman
к жене	to his wife

But be careful to distinguish this use of *к* with the dative from the pure dative in the indirect object construction. *К* can only be used where motion is involved.

Он даёт <i>отцу</i> газету.	He gives the newspaper to his father.
Он идёт <i>к отцу</i> .	He is going to his father.

Appendice I

(5) Alphabetical list of common verbs governing cases other than the accusative.

(N.B. In the case of many of the *dative* verbs, the dative is used for the indirect object. These verbs, of course, also take a direct object in the accusative.)

боя́ться	to be afraid of	gen.
ве́рить	to believe (person or thing)	dat.
владе́ть	to possess; have a command of	inst.
восхища́ться	to admire	inst.
горди́ться	to be proud of	inst.
дава́ть	to give to	dat.
достига́ть	to reach, attain	gen.
жда́ть	to wait for	gen.
жела́ть	to wish (for)	gen.
же́ртвовать	to sacrifice	inst.
заболе́ть	to fall ill with (disease)	inst.
завидова́ть	to envy	dat.
занима́ться	to be busy with	inst.
звони́ть	to ring up, phone	dat.
избегáть	to avoid	gen.
интересова́ться	to be interested in	inst.
иска́ть	to look for	gen.
каза́ться	to seem, appear	inst.
каса́ться	to touch; concern	gen.
комáндовать	to command	inst.
любовáться	to enjoy (sight of), admire	inst.
мешáть	to disturb; prevent	dat.
обеща́ть	to promise (someone)	dat.
объясня́ть	to explain to	dat.
ожидáть	to expect	gen.
ока́зываться	to turn out to be	inst.
отвеча́ть	to answer (someone)	dat.
отправля́ть	to send to	dat.
подража́ть	to imitate	dat.
показа́вать	to show to	dat.
покупа́ть	to buy for	dat.
пользо́ваться	to use; enjoy (popularity etc.)	inst.
помога́ть	to help	dat.

пра́вить	to rule, govern; drive, steer (car etc.)	inst.
принадлежа́ть	to belong to	dat.
проси́ть	to ask for	gen.
пуга́ться	to be frightened of	gen.
ра́доваться	to be glad about	dat.
рискова́ть	to risk	inst.
руководи́ть	to manage, lead	inst.
слу́шаться	to obey	gen.
сообща́ть	to inform	dat.
сочу́вствовать	to sympathise with	dat.
станови́ться	to become	inst.
тре́бовать	to demand	gen.
увлекáться	to be keen on	inst.
удивля́ться	to be surprised at	dat.
управля́ть	to administer	inst.
учи́ть	to teach (a subject)	dat.
учи́ться	to learn (a subject)	dat.
хваля́ться	to boast of, about	inst.
хоте́ть	to want	gen.

(71) *Dative case—hard noun declension.*

Masculines and Neuters take -y.

Feminines take -e. (For dative declension of soft nouns see Lesson 10.)

Masculine: Ива́н — Ива́ну; дом — до́му; оте́ц — отцу́.

Neuter: ме́сто — ме́сту; у́тро — у́тру.

Feminine: жена́ — женé; ма́ма — ма́ме; сестра́ — сестре́.

(72) *Dative case—personal pronouns and кто; никто; что; ничего.*

<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Dative</i>
я	мне
ты	тебе́
он/оно́	ему́ (нему after preposition)
она́	ей (ней after preposition)
мы	нам
вы	вам
они́	им (ним after preposition)
кто	кому́
никто́	никому́
что	чему́
ничего́	ничему́

(73) *Impersonal verbs.* Russian has many verbs which are used impersonally.

становиться to become. Мне становится холодно. I am getting cold. (lit. it is becoming cold to me).

(N.B. стало is the past tense of the *perfective* form of this verb.)

казаться (1b) to seem.

Мне кажется, что... It seems to me that...

Мне казалось, что... It seemed to me that...

From these examples it will be seen that impersonal verbs:

1. are always used in the 3rd person singular;
2. take the neuter form in the past tense;
3. take the dative of the person or object.

(74) *давно for a long time, for ages.*

Я их уже давно знаю. I have known them for a long time. (i.e. up to and including the present)

Note 1. Давно involves a continuity from past to present.

Note 2. It must not be confused with долго where no link with the present exists.

Я долго сидел на скамейке. I sat on the bench for a long time. (i.e. I am no longer sitting there).

Note 3. Care must be taken with the tense when using давно. Russian, unlike English, tends to use the present, the logic being that the action lasts into the present.

Я их уже давно знаю. I have known them for a long time.

Я их уже давно знал means 'I had known them for some time.' (i.e. at some time in the past.)

(75) *Sequence of tenses.*

Мне казалось, что живу в древней Руси. I felt that I was living in old Russia.
Я слушал, как поют птицы. (literally—I listened how the birds *are* singing.) i.e. I listened to the birds singing.

With certain Russian verbs the English sequence of tenses is not followed, e.g. with казаться, видеть etc. and many other verbs of thinking, perception and speech. Russian here has a more immediate effect and reports what was thought, perceived, said etc. in the present.

Notice particularly in indirect speech:

He said he *didn't* know. Он сказал, что не знает.

(76) *Irregular verbs.* Note the present tense of: дава́ть, хоте́ть, петь.

(a) давать (Compare вставлять, раздаваться and other verbs in -авать)

я даю́	мы даём
ты даёшь	вы даёте
он/она даёт	они даю́т

(b) хоте́ть*

я хочу́	мы хоти́м	я пою́	мы поём
ты хочёшь	вы хоти́те	ты поёшь	вы поёте
он/она хочёт	они хотя́т	он/она поёт	они пою́т

(c) петь

* There is only a marginal difference between я хочу and мне хочется. Sometimes the impersonal expression suggests more spontaneity—I feel like . . .

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(8) Translate into Russian:

1. When they were travelling along the road to Murmansk the sea was gleaming in the sunshine.
2. It is not surprising that there was no reply. Didn't you know that Vladimir always spends his day off in the country?
3. For a long time I had wanted to go to Zagorsk but I didn't have a car and I'm not very fond of travelling by (= on) bus.
4. At first we found it very pleasant in the country, but yesterday we became bored.
5. Varvara always used to tell us that she knew Shostakovich but I never believed her. Her husband says that she never tells the truth.

- (8) 1. Когда они ехали по дороге в Мурманск, море блестело на солнце.
2. Не удивительно, что ответа не было. Разве вы не знаете, что Владимир всегда проводит выходной день в деревне?
3. Я уже давно хотел ехать в Загорск, но у меня не было машины и я не очень люблю ездить на автобусе.
4. Сначала нам было очень приятно в деревне, но вчера нам стало скучно.
5. Варвара нам всегда говорила, что она знает Шостаковича, но я никогда не верил ей. Её муж говорит, что она никогда не говорит правду.

LESSON 8

- (58) *The nominative and accusative plural of nouns.*
 (59) *Stress in the declension of nouns.*
 (60) *Masculine nouns with plural in -а.*
 (61) *The nominative and accusative plural of adjectives.*
 (62) *The nominative and accusative plural of possessive adjectives and э́том.*
 (63) *The prepositional of personal pronouns and э́том, все́м, что́, кто́.*
 (64) *Prepositions in front of certain letters.*
 (65) *Transitive verbs made intransitive by adding reflexive ending.*

(58) *Nominative and accusative plural of nouns.* The nominative and accusative plural of nouns are identical, except in the case of 'animate' nouns (see note (123)).

Masculine and feminine nouns take the endings -ы (hard) and -и (soft).

Hard

вокза́л	(a station)	— вокза́лы	(stations)
у́лица	(a street)	— у́лицы	(streets)

Soft

музе́й	(a museum)	— музе́и	(museums)
автомоби́ль	(a car)	— автомоби́ли	(cars)
посте́ль	(a bed)	— постéли	(beds)
галере́я	(a gallery)	— галере́и	(galleries)

Neuter nouns take the endings -а (hard) and -я (soft).

Hard

ме́сто	(a place)	— местá	(places)
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Soft

мо́ре	(the sea)	— моря́	(seas)
зда́ние	(a building)	— зда́ния	(buildings)

N.B. As elsewhere the spelling rule must apply here. For instance, we meet in this lesson the following nouns:

фа́брика	(a factory)	— фа́брики	(factories)
грузови́к	(a lorry)	— грузовики́	(lorries)
москвй́ч	(a Muscovite)	— москвичи́	(Muscovites)
парк	(a park)	— па́рки	(parks)

(59) *Word stress.* Russian stress is difficult to master and this is nowhere more apparent than in the declension of nouns, where the stress is by no means always constant. Note that a difference in stress may be the only difference between e.g. genitive singular and nominative plural:

e.g. мѐста of the place
 местá places

The change of stress is particularly obvious when it produces 'ѐ' instead of 'ѐ'.

e.g. *Singular* сестрѐ женѐ
 Plural сѐстры жѐны

(See *Stress patterns in noun declensions*, Appendix Part I.)

Stress patterns in noun declensions

In many Russian nouns the stress remains constant (either on the ending or a particular syllable of the stem) throughout the singular and plural declension. However it must be admitted that a considerable number of nouns do not conform to this general pattern, and the following notes represent an attempt to classify these other patterns.

(1) *Masculine nouns.* Most masculine nouns have regular (i.e. fixed) stress throughout. There are two principal deviations from this:

(a) In some masculine nouns the stress moves from stem to ending throughout the plural.

e.g. суп (soup)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	суп	супы
Acc.	суп	супы
Gen.	супа	супов
Dat.	супу	супам
Inst.	супом	супами
Prep. (в)	супе	супах

This pattern is found in all masculine nouns which take plural in -а and the following:

друг	(friend)	род	(type, kind)
круг	(circle)	сын	(son)
лес	(forest)	том	(volume)
мир	(world)	цвет	(flower)
мост	(bridge)	час	(hour)
муж	(husband)	шкаф	(cupboard)
пол	(floor)		

N.B. One exception to this is the prepositional case of nouns taking -y in the prepositional. This ending is *always* stressed.

(b) In others the stress moves from stem to ending in all the *oblique* cases of the plural.

e.g., зуб (a tooth)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	зуб	зубы
Acc.	зуб	зубы
Gen.	зуба	зубов
Dat.	зубу	зубам
Inst.	зубом	зубами
Prep. (в)	зубе	зубах

Also in the following nouns:

волк	(wolf)	корень	(root)
волос	(hair)	парень	(lad)
зверь	(animal)		
камень	(stone)		

(2) Neuter nouns

(a) In many neuter nouns the singular declension has stress on the endings throughout, the plural on the stem.

e.g., окно (a window)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	окно́	о́кна
Acc.	окно́	о́кна
Gen.	окна́	о́кон
Dat.	окну́	о́кнам
Inst.	окно́м	о́кнами
Prep. (в)	окне́	о́кнах

Also in the following nouns:

вино́	(wine)	письмо́	(letter)
кольцо́	(ring)	стекло́	(windowpane)
лицо́	(face, person)	число́	(number, date)
перо́	(feather)		

(b) In some others the situation is the reverse (i.e. stress on the stem throughout the singular and on the ending throughout the plural).

e.g. дело (affair, thing)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	де́ло	делá
Acc.	де́ло	делá
Gen.	де́ла	дел
Dat.	де́лу	делáм
Inst.	де́лом	делáми
Prep.(о)	де́ле	делáх

Also in the following nouns:

ме́сто	(place)	пра́во	(a right)
мо́ре	(sea)	се́рдце	(heart)
о́блако	(cloud)	сло́во	(word)
по́ле	(field)		

(3) *Feminine nouns.* Most feminine nouns retain the stress of the nominative singular throughout singular and plural declensions. But note:

(a) Some feminine nouns are stressed on the ending throughout the singular, on the stem throughout the plural.

e.g. жена (a wife)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	же ^н а	же ^н ы
Acc.	же ^н у	же ^н
Gen.	же ^н ы	же ^н
Dat.	же ^н е	же ^н ам
Inst.	же ^н ой	же ^н ами
Prep. (о)	же ^н е	же ^н ах

Also in the following:

беда	(calamity)	пчела	(bee)
весна	(spring)	семья*	(family)
война	(war)	сестра*	(sister)
гроза	(thunder storm)	страна	(country)
игра	(game)	толпа	(crowd)
изба	(hut)	травá	(grass)

* Stressed on ending in genitive plural — *семей*; *сестёр*

(b) Some are stressed on endings except in the accusative singular and nominative and accusative plural.

e.g. гора (a mountain)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	го ^р а	го ^р ы
Acc.	го ^р у	го ^р ы
Gen.	го ^р ы	гор
Dat.	го ^р е	го ^р ам
Inst.	го ^р ой	го ^р ами
Prep. (на)	го ^р е	го ^р ах

Also in the following:

вода	(water)	нога	(a foot, leg)
голова	(head)	река	(river)
доска	(a board)	рука	(hand, arm)
душа	(soul)	сторона	(side, direction)

(c) Some are stressed on the stem except in the plural *oblique* cases.

e.g. вещь (a thing)

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	вещь	вещи
Acc.	вещь	вещи
Gen.	вещи	вещей
Dat.	вещи	вещам
Inst.	вещью	вещами
Prep. (о)	вещи	вещах

Also in the following:

дверь	(door)	площадь	(town square)
дочь	(daughter)	роль	(role)
лошадь	(horse)	сеть	(circuit)
мать	(mother)	скорость	(speed)
мелочь	(a trifle)	смерть	(death)
новость	(novelty, piece of news)	степь	(steppe)
ночь	(night)	часть	(part)
очередь	(queue)	четверть	(quarter)

(60) *Irregular noun plurals in -a.* Many of the commonest Russian nouns have irregular plurals. The ones appearing in this lesson are all irregular in the same way: although masculine, their plural is formed like that of neuter nouns with the ending -á (always stressed in these nouns).

The examples here are:

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
пóезд	поездá
вéчер	вечерá
гóрод	городá
дом	домá

Others in previous lessons include

бéрег	берегá
гóлос	голосá

A more complete list is given in the Appendix Part I in the section on irregular noun declensions.

Reference Appendix I on irregular nouns

Notes on irregular noun declensions

(1) A few nouns insert a suffix in all cases except nominative and accusative singular.

(a) мать; дочь

Nom.	мать	мáтери	дочь	дóчери
Acc.	мать	матерéй	дочь	дочерéй
Gen.	мáтери	матерéй	дóчери	дочерéй
Dat.	мáтери	матерéям	дóчери	дочерéям
Inst.	мáтерью	матерéями	дóчерью	дочерéями*
Prep.	мáтери	матерéях	дóчери	дочерéях

* Note soft sign.

(b) время; имя

Nom.	врéмя	временá
Acc.	врéмя	временá
Gen.	врémени	временéи
Dat.	врémени	временáм
Inst.	врéмением	временáми
Prep.	врémени	временáх

(2) путь is a masculine noun, but is declined as a feminine noun in the singular, except in the instrumental.

Nom.	путь	пути́
Acc.	путь	пути́
Gen.	пути́	путéй
Dat.	пути́	путéям
Inst.	путём	путéями
Prep.(o)	пути́	путéях

(3) Nouns ending in -ания and -янии take nominative plural in -ане, -яне, accusative and genitive plural in -ан, -ян.

граждани́н (citizen) — гражда́не, гражда́н
крестья́нин (peasant) — крестья́не, крестья́н

Likewise: христиа́нин (Christian)
англича́нин (Englishman)
армя́нин (Armenian) etc., etc.

(4) Nouns ending in -ёнок and -онок take nominative plural in -ята, -ата, accusative and genitive plural in -ят, -ат.

котёнок (kitten) — котята, котят
 волчонок (wolf cub) — волчата, волчат

Likewise: ребёнок (child)
 телёнок (calf)
 медвежонок (bear cub)

(5) A group of masculine and neuter nouns take nominative plural in -ья, and retain the soft sign throughout the plural declension. The genitive plural is in -ьев.

Nom. братья
 Acc. братьев
 Gen. братьев
 Dat. братьям
 Inst. братьями
 Prep. братьях

Likewise: стул (chair)
 лист (leaf)
 перо (feather)
 дерево (tree)
 крыло (wing)

The nouns друг (friend), муж (husband) and сын (son) also take their plural in -ья, but the genitive plural is in -ей (no soft sign).

друг — друзья, друзей
 муж — мужья, мужей
 сын — сыновья, сыновей

(6) Several neuter nouns ending in -о take nominative and accusative plural in -и.

яблоко (apple) — яблоки (genitive plural — яблок)
 (but облако (cloud) — облака (genitive plural — облаков)
 плечо (shoulder) — плечи (genitive plural — плеч)
 колéно (knee) — колéни (genitive plural — колéней)
 ухо (ear) — уши (genitive plural — ушей)

Also the masculine noun сосед (neighbour) — соседи (Genitive plural — соседей)

(7) Some hard masculine nouns take nominative plural in stressed -а. The stress remains on the ending throughout the plural declension.

бéрег (shore)	бeрeгá	лyг (meadow)	лyгá
вeк (century)	вeкá	мeх (fur)	мeхá
вeчeр (evening)	вeчeрá	нóмeр (number)	нoмeрá
глaз (eye)	глaзá	óстрoв (island)	oстрoвá
гóлoc (voice)	гoлocá	пápyc (sail)	пapycá

гóрод	(town)	городá	пáспорт	(passport)	паспортá
дом	(house)	домá	пóезд	(train)	поездá
дóктор	(doctor)	докторá	пóяс	(belt)	поясá
ку́пол	(dome)	куполá	рука́в	(sleeve)	рукава́
лес	(forest)	лесá	цвет	(colour)*	цветá

* цвет meaning 'flower' takes the regular plural цветы.

(8) After the prepositions в and на, some masculine nouns take prepositional singular in stressed -у.

бе́рег	(shore)	на берегú	мост	(bridge)	на мостú
глаз	(eye)	в глазú	нос	(nose)	на носú
год	(year)	в годú	порт	(port)	в портú
Дон	(Don river)	на Донú	рот	(mouth)	во ртú
Крым	(Crimea)	в Крымú	сад	(garden)	в садú
лёд	(ice)	на льдú	уго́л	(corner)	в углú
лес	(forest)	в лесú	час	(hour)	в часú*
лоб	(forehead)	на лбú	шкаф	(cupboard)	в шкафú
луг	(meadow)	на лугú			

* в четвёртом часу́ between three and four o'clock.

(9) A few masculine nouns take a partitive genitive in -у (ю).

мёд	(honey)	мёду;	суп	(soup)	сúпу;	чай	(tea)	ча́ю;
сáхар	(sugar)	сáхару;	сыр	(cheese)	сы́ру			

(10) A few masculine nouns have a genitive plural the same as the nominative singular.

Nom. singular: глаз (eye) Gen. plural: глаз

Likewise	во́лос	(hair)	Gen. plural:	волóс
	раз	(time)	рука́в	(sleeve)
	сапо́г	(boot)	солда́т	(soldier)
	цыга́н	(gipsy)	челове́к	(person)
	чуло́к	(stocking)		

(11) The genitive plural of nouns only found in the plural.

(a) Genitive plural in -ов:

очки́	(spectacles)	очко́в
часы́	(clock, watch)	часо́в
весы́	(scales)	весо́в
штаны́	(trousers)	штано́в

(b) Genitive plural in -ей:

де́ти	(children)	детéй
лю́ди	(people)	люде́й
родите́ли	(parents)	родите́лей
са́ни	(sledge)	санéй
щи	(cabbage soup)	щей

(c) Genitive plural with no ending:

ворóта	(gate)	воро́т
де́ньги	(money)	де́нег
канику́лы	(school holidays)	канику́л
но́жницы	(scissors)	но́жниц
сúмерки	(twilight)	сúмерек
сúтки	(24 hours)	сúток
черни́ла	(ink)	черни́л

(61) *Nominative and accusative plural of adjectives.* The plural adjective does not vary according to gender.

The hard ending is -ые.

The soft ending is -ие.

Thus: старые города	old towns
старые машины	old machines
старые здания	old buildings
хорошие театры	good theatres
хорошие передачи	good programmes
хорошие места	good places

Note 1. Remember that adjectives in -ой (e.g. большо́й) always have stressed endings.

Note 2. Adjectival nouns invariably behave as adjectives.

отдыхающие	holiday-makers
гостиные	living rooms

(62) *Nominative and accusative plural of possessive adjectives and ЭТОТ.*

мой/моё/моя	— мой
твой/твоё/твоя	— твой
наш/наше/наша	— наши
ваш/ваше/ваша	— ваши
этот/это/эта	— эти

(63) *Prepositional case of personal and other pronouns.*

<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Prepositional</i>
я	(обо)* мне
ты	(о) тебе
он/оно	(о) нём
она	(о) ней
мы	(о) нас
вы	(о) вас
они́	(о) них
этот/это	(об)* этом
эта	(об)* этой
весь/всё	(обо)* всём
вся	(обо)* всей
что	(о) чём
кто	(о) ком

(64) *Additional -o etc. with prepositions in certain circumstances.* Many prepositions add -o in front of certain groups of two or more consonants.

Thus: в > во — во всём in everything
 из > изо — изо дня
 в день from day to day

The preposition *o* changes to *ob* before a vowel, and to *obo* before *mn* and *vs*:

об Иване about Ivan
 обо мне about me

(65) *изменять — изменяться.* Many English transitive verbs can also be used intransitively.

e.g. Transitive — He opens the door. He stops the car.
 Intransitive — The door opens. The car stops.

In intransitive sentences like these, Russian feels the need to supply an object and thus makes the verb reflexive.

Thus:

Советская столица изменяет характер.	(trans.) The Soviet capital is changing its character.
Облик Москвы изменяется.	(intrans.) The appearance of Moscow is changing.

* See note (64).

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(6) Translate into Russian:

1. 'They export books from Moscow.' 'Where to?' 'All over the USSR.'
2. 'Why is it so noisy here?' 'A train from Odessa is just arriving at that station.'
3. The Kremlin is in the centre of the capital on the bank of the river Moskva.
4. In Moscow not only the inhabitants (i.e. Muscovites) but also tourists and holiday-makers love to spend (their) evenings in the Bolshoi theatre.
5. The old men love the municipal parks and gardens. When the weather is sunny they sometimes spend whole days there.
6. In Moscow everything is changing. Even the appearance of the Kremlin is gradually changing. Yes, even there new buildings are appearing.

(6) 1. «Из Москвы вывозят книги.» «Куда?» «Во все концы СССР.»
 2. «Почему здесь так шумно?» «Поезд из Одессы приходит сейчас на этот вокзал.»

3. Кремль находится в центре столицы на берегу Москвы-реки.
 4. В Москве не только москвичи, но и туристы и отдыхающие любят проводить вечера в Большом театре.
 5. Старинки любят городские парки и сады. Когда погода солнечная, они иногда проводят там целые дни.
 6. В Москве всё изменяется. Даже облик Кремля изменяется. Да, даже там появляются новые здания.

LESSON 7

(53) *Simple verbs of motion. идти/ходить; ехать/ездить; лететь/летать; плыть/плавать.*

(54) *The prepositions в and на with the accusative.*

(55) *Prepositions with the genitive—из, от, недалеко от.*

(56) *The present tense of reflexive verbs.*

(57) *Patronymics.*

(53) *Verbs of motion.*

Group 1 Specific verbs.

идти́	ехать́	лететь	плыть
я иду́	я еду́	я лечу́	я плыву́
ты идёшь	ты едешь	ты лети́шь	ты плывёшь
он идёт	он едет	он лети́т	он плывёт
мы идём	мы едем	мы лети́м	мы плывём
вы идёте	вы едете	вы лети́те	вы плывёте
они иду́т	они едут	они лети́т	они плыву́т

Group 2 General verbs.

ходи́ть	ехать́	летать	плавать
я хожу́	я е́зжу	я летаю́	я плаваю́
ты ходи́шь	ты е́здишь	ты лета́ешь	ты плава́ешь
он ходи́т	он е́здит	он лета́ет	он плава́ет
мы ходи́м	мы е́здим	мы лета́ем	мы плава́ем
вы ходи́те	вы е́здите	вы лета́ете	вы плава́ете
они ходи́т	они е́здя́т	они лета́ют	они плава́ют

Russian has one group of verbs which describe movements in *one specific direction* and another group of verbs which describe the same movements from a general non-specific point of view. For many types of movement Russian thus has two distinct verbs, some of which are not even derived from the same root. It is convenient to think of these verbs in pairs, one coming from the first group and the other from the second (see above).

This lesson includes four such pairs of verbs. Anything said about any one of these pairs of verbs is, by and large, equally true of the others. Let us take, by way of example, the pair *идти/ходить* to go (on foot), to walk.

1. *идти* is the specific verb.

e.g. Вот Виктор. Он идёт в институт.	There's Viktor. He's going to the college.
«Здравствуйте, Виктор. Куда вы идёте?» «Иду на почту.»	'Hello, Viktor. Where are you going?' 'To the post office.'

2. *ходить* is the general verb.

e.g. Виктор каждый день ходит в институт.	Viktor goes to college every day. (implying that he also comes back—therefore more than one direction)
Его сын Ваня ещё не ходит.	His son Vanya isn't walking yet. (no specific direction involved)

Note 1. The general (ходить) type of verb is frequently modified by adverbs such as часто, обычно, каждую неделю etc., as they usually imply that not only one direction is involved.

Compare, for example:

- (a) Он часто ходит в театр. i.e. he frequently makes the two-way journey (home → theatre/theatre → home)
- (b) Он идёт сегодня в театр. i.e. the interest is centred only on his going to the theatre (home → theatre)

Note 2. In English we frequently distinguish between the specific and the general verb by contrasting 'He is going' (specific) with 'He goes' (general).

- e.g. 1. Он идёт сегодня в театр. He *is going* to the theatre today.
2. Он ходит каждую неделю в театр. He *goes* to the theatre every week.

Note 3. The major consideration when using the specific verb is that it relates to only *one* direction. Thus occasionally идти etc. can be found being used with frequentative sense.

Каждое утро я иду пешком на работу. I walk to work every morning.
(Here the speaker, by using идти is stressing that he walks to work, but does not necessarily return home on foot.)

Note 4. идти/ходить is the usual verb used to describe the movement of a vehicle itself.

Идёт автобус. A bus is coming.

Note 5. In the above example the verb идти was translated by 'to come'. From this it will be seen that these verbs of motion merely describe a particular *type* of movement and do not differentiate between movement away from the speaker and movement towards him.

The other three pairs of motion verbs in this lesson are:

<i>Specific</i>	<i>General</i>	
ехать	ездить	to go (by vehicle), to travel, to drive
лететь	летать	to fly
плыть	плавать	to sail; to swim

As already stated, the same principles which apply to the use of идти/ходить also hold good here.

ехать/ездить is also frequently used of the vehicle itself with машина (car), мотоцикл (motorbike), грузовик (lorry). With most other vehicles идти/ходить is used as above (note (4)).

лететь/летать is also used of the aircraft itself.

Самолёт летит в Нью-Йорк. The plane is flying to New York.

плыть/плавать is also used of the ship itself.

Пароход плывёт в Ленинград. The steamer is sailing to Leningrad.

(54) **в** and **на** + *accusative* (куда?). The prepositions **в** and **на** are followed by the accusative case when movement to a place is involved.

в + accusative means 'into' or 'to'.
на + accusative means 'onto' or 'to'.

When followed by an accusative these prepositions answer the question *куда?* = where to, whither? (answer—туда = (to) there).

When followed by a prepositional they answer the question *где?* = where? (answer—там = there).

Compare:

1. «Куда вы идёте?»	‘Where are you going?’
«В институт/на почту.»	‘To the college/to the post office.’
Они едут на юг.	They are travelling south (to the south).
на стол	onto the table

2. «Где вы живёте?»	‘Where do you live?’
«В Москве/в Ленинграде.»	‘In Moscow/in Leningrad.’
Они работают на севере.	They work in the north.
на столе	on the table

(55) *Prepositions governing the genitive.* We have already met the preposition ‘у’ followed by the genitive. A further two genitive prepositions occur in this lesson: **из** and **от**.

из means ‘from’ or ‘out of’, and indicates the opposite direction to **в** + accusative.

из квартиры	out of the flat
из Ленинграда в Москву	from Leningrad to Moscow

от also means ‘from’. (The whole question of the prepositions used in Russian to translate English ‘from’ and ‘to’ is dealt with in note (99).)

In this lesson the use of **от** is confined to the expression **недалеко от** = not far from.

Он живёт недалеко от Лондона.	He lives not far from London.
-------------------------------	-------------------------------

(56) *Present tense of reflexive verbs.* In note (15) the reflexive suffix -ся was introduced. Note that this is changed to -сь when the verb ends in a vowel.

Thus the present tense of a reflexive verb is as follows:

садиться—to get onto (a vehicle), to board; to sit down

я сажусь	мы садимся
ты сядишься	вы садитесь
он садится	они садятся

(57) *Patronymics.* All Russians have three names, of which the middle one is always derived from the name of the father (patronymic—отчество).

(a) If the name of the father ends in a hard consonant, add -ович (for males) and -овна (for females).

e.g. Father—Борис—Борисович/Борисовна
Thus his son could be Пáвeл Борисович,
and his daughter Светлáна Борисовна.

(b) If the name of the father ends in -й, the -й is dropped and -евич (male) or -евна (female) added.

e.g. Father—Сергéй—Сергéевич/Сергéевна
son Ивáн Сергéевич,
daughter О́льга Сергéевна.

(c) If the name of the father ends in -а or -я, these endings are dropped and -ич (male) or -ична (female) added.

e.g. Father—Никíта—Никíтич/Никíтична
son Владíмир Никíтич,
daughter Мари́я Никíтична.

Note. The first name and patronymic in conjunction are often used by people who know each other fairly well, but are not particularly intimate friends.

NOTA di Vittorio Venturini:

Ci si chiedeva se la scrittrice Светлана Алексиевич dovrebbe in realtà coniugare al femminile il suo cognome. Interessante questione.

Orbene, avviene che:

- i cognomi che terminano in ев, ов, ин, ын, cioè con **le desinenze dei sostantivi, al genitivo plurale**, si coniugano al singolare maschile come sostantivi salvo all'strumentale dove prendono la desinenza dell'aggettivo e al singolare femminile come aggettivi, salvo all'accusativo, dove prendono la desinenza del sostantivo. Al plurale si declinano come aggettivi.

- i cognomi che terminano in ий, ый, ой, cioè le desinenze degli aggettivi, si declinano come aggettivi

- i cognomi che terminano con altre consonanti si declinano solo al maschile, come sostantivi

- i cognomi che terminano in аго, ко, ых, их e quelli di origine straniera non si declinano.

Da queste semplici (!) regolette risulta che Алексиевич non si declina.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(4) Translate into Russian:

1. 'He is travelling today from Moscow to Yalta.' 'Is he flying there?' 'Yes. He says it is very pleasant flying on a TU 114.'
2. 'Apparently Katya lives not far from the Metropole restaurant.' 'Yes, that's true, but she doesn't dine there very often. She says that (her) husband cooks very well, so she usually dines at home.'
3. 'Irina is working in the Spartak cinema, but unfortunately the work isn't very interesting. She's an usherette.' 'I don't understand that. After all she sees a film every day without paying.'
4. Every Tuesday Captain Bryusov meets (his) wife Sonya in the restaurant and then they go to (their) flat. His battleship is at present in Leningrad, but he says that he prefers a comfortable bed in the flat.

- (4) 1. «Он едет сегодня из Москвы в Ялту.» «Он летит туда?» «Да. Он говорит, что очень приятно летать на ТУ 114.»
2. «Кажется, Катя живёт недалеко от ресторана «Метрополь»» «Да, правда, но она не очень часто обедает там. Она говорит, что муж прекрасно готовит, и поэтому она обычно обедает дома.»
3. «Ирина работает в кинотеатре «Спартак», но к сожалению работа не очень интересная. Она билетёрша.» «Не понимаю. Ведь она каждый день смотрит фильм бесплатно.»
4. Каждый вторник капитан Брюсов встречает жену Соню в ресторане, а потом они идут в квартиру. Его броненосец сейчас в Ленинграде, но он говорит, что он предпочитает удобную постель в квартире.

LESSON 6

- (40) *Present tense of 2nd conjugation verbs.*
 (41) *нать, буть.*
 (42) *The accusative case.*
 (43) *Accusative of nouns.*
 (44) *Accusative of 'animate' nouns.*
 (45) *Accusative of adjectives, possessive adjectives, этом.*
 (46) *Accusative of personal pronouns.*
 (47) *Accusative of time—каждый.*
- (48) *The conjunction что.*
 (49) *Third person plural of verbs used in generalised statements.*
 (50) *кажется.*
 (51) *Adverbs formed with -о.*
 (52) *Impersonal adjectives.*

(40) *Second conjugation verbs.* Apart from a few highly irregular verbs, all verbs not of types 1a or 1b belong to the second conjugation. Just as 'e' was the characteristic vowel for 1st conjugation endings, the 2nd conjugation has 'и' (frequently also in the infinitive).

e.g. говорить—to speak

я говор-ю	мы говор-им
ты говор-ишь	вы говор-ите
он/она говор-ит	они говор-ят

The infinitive is not always a reliable guide to a verb's conjugation.

The 2nd conjugation includes

many verbs in -ить — говорить, любить
 some in -ать — держать, кричать, спать
 some in -еть — смотреть, шуметь

A great number of 2nd conjugation verbs have some change in the stem of the 1st person singular, but *only* there (unlike 1b verbs where changes affect the whole present tense).

e.g. (a) Those with stem ending in -б/-в/-п take an extra л.
 любить — люблю́, люби́шь, люби́т
 гото́вить — гото́влю, гото́вишь, гото́вит
 спать — сплю́, спи́шь, спи́т

(b) Those with stem in -д change д to ж.
 сиде́ть — сижú, сиди́шь, сиди́т

As you meet more 2nd conjugation verbs, you will find that there are other similar consonant changes which occur regularly (see Appendix Part I Verbs).

Notes on irregularities in the conjugation of irregular verbs

(1) Consonantal changes in the 1st person singular of present and future perfective of some 2nd conjugation verbs. The following changes are invariable:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. т > ч | лететь — лечу | (to fly) |
| 2. ст > щ | мстить — мщу | (to take revenge) |
| 3. д > ж | сидеть — сижу | (to sit) |
| 4. с > ш | носить — ношу | (to carry) |
| 5. з > ж | возить — вожу | (to take, convey) |
| 6. б > бл | любить — люблю | (to love) |
| 7. в > вл | править — правлю | (to drive etc.) |
| 8. п > пл | спать — сплю | (to sleep) |

(41) пить, бить. A small group of monosyllabic infinitives in -ить are 1st conjugation verbs and take a soft sign throughout the present tense.

пить		бить	
я пью	мы пьём	я бью	мы бьём
ты пьёшь	вы пьёте	ты бьёшь	вы бьёте
он/она пьёт	они пьют	он/она бьёт	они бьют

(42) *Accusative case.* The direct object of the sentence or clause must be in the accusative case. In many instances this involves no change from the nominative:

Иван (ном.) читает роман (acc.). Ivan is reading a novel.

But see notes (43), (44), (45).

(43) *Accusative case of nouns.* Masculine nouns (except those referring to people and animals—see note (44)) and neuter nouns have the same endings in nominative and accusative. Hard feminine nouns change *a* to *y*, soft ones *я* to *ю*.

nominative	женá	недéля
accusative	жену́	недéлю

Он любит жену. He loves his wife.

(44) *'Animate' accusative.* The accusative case of masculine 'animate' nouns—i.e. those referring to people or animals (and their accompanying adjectives)—is the same as the genitive.

nominative	отец	муж	истóрик	Ивáн
accusative	отца́	му́жа	истóрика	Ивáна

nominative	преподавáтель	Сергéй
accusative	преподавáтеля	Сергéя

Note. Those with feminine form (мужчина, Миша, Ваня etc.) take normal feminine accusative endings.

(45) *Accusative of adjectives.* The rules for nouns also hold good for adjectives in the accusative. Apart from the masculine 'animate' (see genitive adjectives, note (97)), the feminine adjectives are the only ones which differ from the nominative forms. Here again the rule is:

а — у я — ю

Thus:

nominative	чудная	синяя	хорошая
accusative	чудную	синюю	хорошую

nominative	русская	большая
accusative	русскую	большую

Cioè, dal nominativo differiscono solo i nomi femminili e i maschili animati.

This is also true of possessive adjectives and эта:

nominalive	моя синяя шляпа,
accusative	мою синюю шляпу,
nominalive	наша любимая книга,
accusative	нашу любимую книгу,
nominalive	эта громкая музыка.
accusative	эту громкую музыку.

(46) *Accusative of personal pronouns.* The accusative and genitive of personal pronouns are identical. (See note (39).)

e.g. Я люблю вас. Она любит его. Они понимают нас. Мы любим их.

(47) *Accusative of time.* Many expressions of time (including all with каждый—every) are in the accusative:

каждую неделю every week

(48) что *that (conjunction)*. что serves both as the interrogative pronoun 'what?' (Что это?) and the conjunction for 'that' (Я знаю, что он в Москве).

(49) *Third person plural without subject.*

Показывают футбольный матч. They are showing a football match.

This construction is used for generalised statements of this type, where it is not specified who 'they' are. English often uses the passive:

Говорят, что... It is said that . . .

(50) кажется *it seems, apparently.* This reflexive verb (казаться—1b) is more often than not used in parenthesis.

e.g. Кажется, он интересный человек. It seems he is an interesting person.

In English we are more likely to say, 'He seems an interesting person'.

(51) *Adverbs.* Most Russian adverbs end in -о. They are formed from the adjective stem.

Thus: хороший (good), хорош + о = хорошó (well)

(52) *Impersonal adjectives.* (It is cold, it is pleasant, etc.) These are identical in form to adverbs. Thus хорошо can also mean 'it is good'.

Similarly больно it is sore (i.e. it hurts.)

Note that the stress can change its position in this form.

холодный / холодно

This will sometimes result in a change from ё to е.

тёплый / тепло

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(4) Translate into Russian:

1. Ivan is sitting comfortably in an armchair. Apparently he is asleep. No, he's watching television.
2. Who is that shouting? It's Sonya. She's cleaning the flat and her husband is downstairs reading the newspaper and smoking a cigarette. It's often like that in a family. The wife is always working while the husband relaxes.
3. This man speaks very interestingly about Siberia. Yes, I know. And he has a very pleasant voice.
4. Irina has a large flat in Leningrad, but her family lives in Moscow. Every week when she has her day off, she just stays at home and reads a book.
5. I love a comfortable bed. But when everybody is at home I sleep on the floor in the living room. Really, that's the last straw!

- (4) 1. Иван сидит удобно в кресле. Он спит, кажется. Нет, он смотрит телевизор.
2. Кто это кричит? Это Соня. Она убирает квартиру, а её муж читает газету внизу и курит папиросу. Так часто бывает в семье. Жена всегда работает, пока муж отдыхает.
3. Этот человек говорит очень интересно о Сибири. Да, знаю. И у него очень приятный голос.
4. У Ирины большая квартира в Ленинграде, а её семья живёт в Москве. Каждую неделю, когда у неё выходной день, она только сидит дома и читает книгу.
5. Я люблю удобную постель. Но когда все дома, я сплю на полу в гостиной. В самом деле, это последняя капля!

LESSON 5

- (33) *Spelling rule (gutturals and sibilants).*
 (34) *'Mixed' adjectives.*
 (35) *Adjectival nouns.*
 (36) *The genitive case.*
 (37) *Genitive of singular nouns.*
 (38) *The preposition у.*
 (39) *The genitive of personal pronouns.*

(33) *Spelling rule.* There are certain rules concerning the spelling of Russian, one of which it is vital to learn at this stage.

It concerns the guttural consonants — г, к, х.
 and the sibilant consonants — ж, ш, щ, ч.

These seven consonants can never be followed by the hard vowel ы or the soft vowels я or ю. After these consonants—

ы is replaced by its soft equivalent и
 я is replaced by its hard equivalent а
 ю is replaced by its hard equivalent у

This rule has a considerable effect on Russian declensions and conjugations.

(34) *Mixed adjectives.* Many adjectives have a stem ending in a guttural or sibilant consonant. Because of the spelling rule some of their endings do not seem to conform to the normal declension pattern and they are thus sometimes known as 'mixed' adjectives—i.e. partly hard and partly soft. However it is better to think of the adjectives with guttural stems as *hard* (e.g. русский, маленький) and those with sibilant stems as *soft* (e.g. хороший, старший).

The declension of these adjectives will be like this:

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
Hard	русский (SR)*	русское	русская
Soft	хороший	хорошее	хорошая (SR)*

The neuter is the only nominative where there is any choice, as the masculine and feminine endings are the only ones possible (because of the SR). In the prepositional, русский etc. will take the hard endings *ом*; *ой* and хороший etc. the soft endings *ем*; *ей*:

в русском городе in a Russian town
 о старшем сыне about the elder son

All adjectives with stressed endings (-о́й) take hard endings.

e.g. большо́й, большо́е, большо́я.

* SR = spelling rule.

(35) *Adjectival nouns.*

русская a Russian woman русский a Russian man

Note that certain adjectives can be used as nouns. (The noun which is understood determines the gender of the adjective.) Русский is the only adjective of nationality which can also be used for the noun denoting the citizen of the country. Compare украинка—a Ukrainian woman.

(36) *Genitive case.* The nominative and prepositional cases are the only ones whose use is limited to certain basic concepts. For instance the nominative is virtually confined to

- (a) Subject. *Преподаватель читает.*
(b) Complement of verb 'to be'. Он — *преподаватель.*

The other four cases all have one major function and numerous minor ones. The major function of the genitive is to signify possession and all the other categories which in English require 'of' or the apostrophe 's.

e.g. квартира <i>Ивана</i>	Ivan's flat
директор <i>института</i>	the principal of the institute
студент <i>истории</i>	a student of history
улица <i>Герцена</i>	Herzen Street (literally 'street of Herzen')

The other uses of the genitive will be found in separate notes as they arise.

(37) *Genitive of singular nouns.* The hard declension of nouns is as follows:

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
nominative	стол	мѣсто	кварти́ра
genitive	стола́	мѣста	кварти́ры

Thus -a is the hard genitive ending for masculine and neuter, -ы for the feminine.

As is frequently the case, the soft endings can be deduced from the hard, if one remembers the Russian vowel system (see Introduction). Thus the corresponding soft nouns will take the endings -я (masculine and neuter) and -и (feminine).

	<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Genitive</i>
masculine	трамва́й Кремль	трамва́я Кремля́
neuter	мо́ре развлече́ние	мо́ря развлече́ния
feminine	неде́ля жизнь исто́рия	неде́ли жизни́ исто́рии

Endings can, of course, be affected by the Spelling Rule.

му́зыка — му́зика (-ы not possible)

укра́инка — укра́инки (-ы not possible)

Note. Both дочь and мать take the normal genitive ending for soft feminine nouns.

But they add the syllable -ер- to the stem.

Nominative	дочь	мать
Genitive	до́чЕРи	ма́тЕРи

N.B. The extra syllable is retained in every case except nominative and accusative singular.

(38) *The preposition у.* The preposition 'y' governs the genitive case and has many uses. It can mean 'at', 'near', 'at the house of', 'in the possession of'.

у Ивана	at Ivan's
у сына	at my son's house
у дивана	by the sofa, near the sofa

However probably its commonest use is to compensate for the lack of an all-purpose verb 'to have' in Russian.

When you want to say that a person has something, you use the following construction with 'y'.

Ivan has a flat. У Ивана квартира.
Sergei has a marvellous wife. У Сергея чудная жена.

(39) *The genitive of the personal pronouns.*

Nominative	Genitive
я	меня
ты	тебя
он/онó	(н)его́ (pronounced ево)
она́	(н)её
мы	нас
вы	вас
они́	(н)их

Note. 3rd person pronouns always have the extra н after prepositions. However the possessive adjectives его, её, их (his, her, their) never have this extra н.

Thus У него сын. He has a son.
But У его сына квартира. His son has a flat.

У меня, у тебя are frequently used instead of the possessive adjectives мой, твой etc. in expressions such as:

У меня в кабинете письменный стол. There is a desk in my study.

In other words у меня в кабинете is probably the commonest way of saying 'in my study'.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(5) Give the Russian for:

1. Everyone is listening to the radio. Olga has a particularly good set.
2. Why don't you switch on the wireless? The wall is fairly thin and we usually listen to our(—do not translate) neighbour's wireless. That's why.
3. They often spend their holiday at the seaside (=shore of the sea). Life in the Crimea is very good. When they are on holiday they live in a small dacha.
4. His elder son is an historian. He is an interesting author, especially when he writes about the tsar's family and life in the Kremlin.
5. Everywhere one can hear music. Upstairs, downstairs, even in Comrade Zhukov's flat across the street. Unfortunately I'm not a very musical person.
6. 'Who's that over there in the corner?' 'That's our history teacher.' 'He has a flat on Herzen Street, doesn't he?' 'That's right. A little flat on the fourth floor.'

5. 1. Все слушают радио. У Ольги особенно хорошее радио.
2. Почему вы не включаете радио? Стена довольно тонкая, и обычно мы слушаем радио соседа. Вот почему.
3. Они часто отдыхают на берегу моря. Жизнь в Крыму очень хорошая. Когда они отдыхают, они живут на маленькой даче.
4. Его старший сын — историк. Он интересный автор, особенно когда он пишет о семье царя и о жизни в Кремле.
5. Везде раздаётся музыка. Наверху, внизу, даже в квартире товарища Жукова напротив. К сожалению я не очень музыкальный человек.
6. «Кто это там в углу?» «Это наш преподаватель истории.» «У него квартира на улице Герцена, не правда ли?» «Правда. Маленькая квартира на четвёртом этаже.»

LESSON 4

- (23) *Soft nouns.*
 (24) *Soft nouns in the prepositional.*
 (25) *The prepositions о and ну. Prepositional in -у.*
 (26) *Soft adjectives.*
 (27) *The prepositional singular of adjectives.*
 (28) *The prepositional singular of possessive adjectives.*
 (29) *Present tense of 1b verbs.*
 (30) *Demonstrative adjectives—этом, том.*
 (31) *Third person possessive adjectives.*
 (32) *разе.*

(23) *Soft nouns.* This lesson includes the first nouns you have met with *soft* endings. (For an explanation of ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ see the section on Pronunciation.) As with hard nouns, the gender is again easy to determine, with the exception of nouns ending in a ‘soft sign’.

Masculine endings	1) -ь	2) -й
Neuter endings	1) -е	2) -ие
Feminine endings	1) -ь	2) -я 3) -ия

Thus: Masculine царь, трамвай
 Neuter море, сожаление
 Feminine жизнь, неделя, история

Nouns ending in a ‘soft sign’ are sometimes masculine sometimes feminine:

Masculine дождь, Кремль, преподаватель, царь
 Feminine жизнь, специальность

The gender of nouns ending in a ‘soft sign’ will be indicated in the vocabularies.

(24) *Soft nouns in the Prepositional case.* Most soft nouns take the prepositional ending -е (like hard nouns).

Masculine	Кремль (Kremlin)	в Кремле (in the Kremlin)
	трамвай (tram)	в трамвае (in the tram)
Neuter	море (sea)	в море (in the sea)
Feminine	неделя (week)	о неделе (about the week)

All other soft nouns take the prepositional ending -и,

i.e. Neuter nouns in -ие, like сожаление (regret)

prepositional — (о) сожалении

Feminine nouns in -ь, like жизнь (life)

prepositional — (в) жизни

Feminine nouns in -ия, like история (history)

prepositional — (в) истории

Note 1. Nouns ending in a soft sign lose the soft sign in declension.

Note 2. Nouns ending in -ие and -ия retain the ‘и’ of the nominative ending. The double -ии ending which results (в историии) is pronounced as a long и, not as two separate vowels.

(25) *The prepositions о and при.* These two prepositions take the prepositional case.

(a) о = about, concerning.

Он знает всё о Ленинграде. He knows everything about Leningrad.

N.B. Nouns requiring the prepositional ending -у after в and на take the normal -е ending after о.

e.g. Он отдыхает в Крыму. He is holidaying in the Crimea.
Он пишет о Крыме. He is writing about the Crimea.

(b) при = at the time of; in the presence of.

e.g. При Иване Грозном. In the reign of Ivan the Terrible.

(26) *Soft adjectives.* Adjective declensions are also affected by the distinction between hard and soft endings. However the number of soft adjectives is very limited.

Compare a hard adjective (чёрный—black) with a soft one (синий—blue).

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
чёрный зонтик	чёрное пальто	чёрная шляпа
синий зонтик	синее пальто	синяя шляпа

In each case the adjective ending consists of two vowels, the first of which determines whether it is hard or soft.

It will be remembered that и is the soft equivalent of ы,
я is the soft equivalent of а.

That 'e' is often used as the soft equivalent of 'o' has already been established in the case of neuter nouns.

i.e. *Hard* пальто
Soft море

Note that many soft adjectives have their stem ending in -н (домашн-ий).

Notare la terminazione E invece che O del neutro.

(27) *Prepositional singular of adjectives.*

Hard adjectives have the endings -ом (masculine and neuter) and -ой (feminine).

Soft adjectives have the endings -ем (masculine and neuter) and -ей (feminine).

Hard человек в чёрном пальто a person in a black coat
человек в чёрной шляпе a person in a black hat

Soft о средней истории about medieval history
о домашней жизни about domestic life
в синем пиджаке in a blue jacket

(28) *Prepositional singular of possessive adjectives.*

<i>Masculine and Neuter</i>		<i>Feminine</i>	
Nominative	Prepositional	Nominative	Prepositional
мой/моё	моём	моя	моёй
твой/твоё	твоём	твоя	твоёй
наш/наше	нашем	наша	нашей
ваш/ваше	вашем	ваша	вашей

(29) *Verbs of conjugation 1b.* In this lesson we meet the verbs он пи́шет (писать) он преподаёт (преподавать).

These verbs differ in some respects from those we have met so far. However they have much in common with знать etc. and thus can be considered to belong, broadly speaking, to the same class of verb—i.e. first conjugation.

For the sake of convenience we shall call знать etc. a 1a verb, and the new verbs 1b.

1a	
знать	
я зна́ю	мы зна́ем
ты зна́ешь	вы зна́ете
он/она зна́ет	они зна́ют

1b	
писать	
я пи́ш ^у	мы пи́шем
ты пи́шешь	вы пи́шете
он/она пи́шет	они пи́шут

Definition of a 1a verb: it retains the vowel of the infinitive ('a' in знать, 'я' in гулять and 'e' in болеть) and takes the endings -ю, -ешь, -ет, -ем, -ете, -ют.

Definition of a 1b verb: it does not usually retain the vowel of the infinitive and frequently modifies the infinitive stem. This happens in various ways, the most common of which is a change of consonant, e.g. c > ш.

The endings are the same as for 1a verbs with the exception that the ю of the 1st person singular and 3rd person plural changes to у (иду/идут) whenever it follows directly on a consonant. As the present tense stem of 1b verbs most frequently does end in a consonant, the endings -у and -ут are much the most common. The exceptions are the verbs where modification of the infinitive involves the removal of the consonant, as in the verb преподавать, to teach (and all verbs in -авать), where the syllable -ва- disappears in the present tense (я преподаю/они преподают).

The 1st conjugation is sometimes called the -e conjugation as its main distinguishing feature is the e in all endings apart from 1st person singular and 3rd person plural.

N.B. In their inflexions of verbs, nouns etc. Russians consider 'e' and 'ё' as two versions of the same letter, which

are only distinguished from each other by 'ё' always carrying the stress. This can be seen by comparing two 1b verbs:

писать	
я пи́ш ^у	мы пи́шем
ты пи́шешь	вы пи́шете
он/она пи́шет	они пи́шут

преподавать	
я преподаю́	мы преподаём
ты преподаёшь	вы преподаёте
он/она преподаёт	они преподаю́т

N.B. Many 1b verbs like писать have a stressed ending in the 1st person singular, whereas all other endings are unstressed.

As 1b verbs present so many variations, we shall indicate the present tense along with the infinitive in the vocabularies.

(30) *этот/это/эта*. This is the demonstrative adjective for 'this'. Do not confuse with the pronoun *это*,

e.g. *Это гастроном.* This is a grocer's shop.
Этот гастроном. This grocer's shop.

Note that *этот* can be translated by both 'this' and 'that'. *Тот/то/та* means 'that' and is used when 'that' is contrasted with 'this', or when 'that' is very emphatic.

(31) *Third person possessive adjectives*. The 3rd person possessive adjectives are invariable, regardless of the gender or case of the noun they stand with.

They are *его* (his, its); *её* (her, its); *их* (their).

Thus *его шарф* his scarf
её пальто her coat

его шляпа his hat
в их кабинете in their study

его is used for 'its', when the noun it refers back to is masculine or neuter.

её is used for 'its', when the noun is feminine.

N.B. *его* is pronounced *ево*.

(32) *разве*. *разве* is an interrogative particle meaning roughly 'Can it possibly be that...'

Thus *Разве вы не знаете, кто он?* Can it possibly be that you don't know who he is? (i.e. Surely you know who he is?)
Разве это ваш преподаватель? Surely that isn't your teacher?

Разве = (?) davvero?

ESSERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(5) Translate into Russian:

1. Who is that poor woman outside? Her coat is not very warm and the rain still hasn't stopped. What weather!
2. That is our teacher in the corner. He knows a lot about Tsar Ivan the Terrible. His special interest is medieval history.
3. What an amazing person! He's an old man, but he swims every morning in the sea.
4. I don't often take my holidays in the north. I prefer the Crimea. After all, the climate there is wonderful.
5. This is our last week in Yalta. Our neighbour Kolya is also still on holiday.

- (5) 1. Кто эта бедная женщина на дворе? Её пальто не очень тёплое, а дождь ещё не перестал. Какая погода!
2. Это наш преподаватель там в углу. Он много знает о Царе Иване Грозном. Его специальность — средняя история.
3. Какой замечательный человек! Он старик, но он каждое утро купается в море.
4. Я не часто отдыхаю на севере. Предпочитаю Крым. Ведь климат там прекрасный.
5. Это наша последняя неделя в Ялте. Наш сосед Коля тоже ещё отдыхает.

- (14) *Present tense of 1a verbs.*
 (15) *Reflexive verbs. купаться, кататься.*
 (16) *Nominative singular of adjectives.*
 (17) *какой.*
 (18) *Possessive adjectives. наш, ваш.*
 (19) *Prepositional in -у.*
 (20) *на + prepositional.*
 (21) *The conjunctions а, и, но.*
 (22) *Fleeting vowels.*

(14) *Verbs of conjugation 1a.* Previously you have met я знаю (I know) and ты знаешь (you know) from the verb знать. All the verbs in this lesson are of the same type and the full present tense is conjugated as follows:

<i>Singular</i>		<i>Plural</i>	
я знаю	I know	мы знаем	we know
ты знаешь	you know (familiar)	вы знаете	you know (polite)
он } знает	he } knows	они знают	they know
она }	she }		

The *stem* of this type of verb is found by removing the infinitive ending—зна(ть). All that remains is to add the appropriate ending to the stem.

e.g.	я играю	I play
	ты понимаешь	you understand
	он загорает	he is sunbathing
	мы читаем	we are reading
	вы работаете	you are working
	они делают	they are doing etc.

Note 1. Russian has only one form of the present tense, whereas English has three.

он работает = $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{he works} \\ \text{he is working} \\ \text{he does work (very common in questions)} \end{array} \right.$

Note 2.

Он часто отдыхает в Ялте.	He often takes his holiday in Yalta.
Он часто отдыхает в Ялте?	Does he often take his holiday in Yalta?

Questions which do not begin with a question word usually have the same form as statements. The addition of a question mark or (in speech) a change in intonation (see note (7)) changes a statement into a question.

Note 3. A very common feature of this conjugation is that the stem ends in -а. However some verbs have -я (я гуляю—I am taking a walk); others have -е (none so far).

(15) *Reflexive verbs.* The letters -ся joined to the end of a verb, either in the infinitive or elsewhere, denote that the verb is reflexive (ся = myself, yourself, oneself, etc.). Compare English 'to hurt oneself', but note that many verbs in English, although reflexive in meaning, dispense with the reflexive pronoun (-self) e.g. to wash, dress, shave (i.e. oneself). The two examples in this lesson are купаться (to bathe) and кататься. Кататься literally means 'to roll oneself', and is used of going in a boat, on skis, on a bicycle etc.—always for pleasure.

(16) *Adjectives. Declension in nominative singular.* Adjectives must agree in gender (and case) with the nouns they

accompany. After this lesson, when consulting the vocabulary, you will find them listed in their masculine form—прекрасный. As with the verb, the adjective can be split into stem (красив-) and ending (-ый)

The endings are:

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
	-ый	-ое	-ая
мой любимый автор		my favourite author	
красивое место		a beautiful spot	
вкусная пища		tasty food	

N.B. A small group of adjectives are stressed on the ending and take the ending -ой in the masculine form.

большой	big
какой	what a . . !

(17) какой. Note that какой can be used either in a question or an exclamation.

какая книга?	what book?
какая прекрасная книга!	what a wonderful book!

If это is used, it must come between какой and the noun.

Какая это красивая комната!	What a beautiful room <i>this is!</i>
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(18) *Possessive adjectives* наш, ваш. Наш and ваш have the stress on the stem, unlike мой and твой.

	<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Neuter</i>	<i>Feminine</i>
	наш	наше	наша
	ваш	ваше	ваша
Compare	мой	моё	моя

(19) *Prepositional in -ý.* A group of masculine nouns take the ending -y, instead of the usual -e. The prepositional ending in -ý is always stressed.

Among them are:

шкаф (cupboard)	в шкафу́	in the cupboard
пол (floor)	на полу́	on the floor
угол (corner)	в углу́	in the corner (see note (22))
берег (shore, bank)	на берегу́	on the shore
Крым (the Crimea)	в Крымú	in the Crimea

(For a fuller list of these nouns see Appendix Part I, *Nouns (7)*.)

Riferimento Appendice I(8) – non (7)

(8) After the prepositions в and на, some masculine nouns take prepositional singular in stressed -y.

бѳрег (shore)	на берегу́	мост (bridge)	на мосту́
глаз (eye)	в глазу́	нос (nose)	на носу́
год (year)	в году́	порт (port)	в порту́
Дон (Don river)	на Дону́	рот (mouth)	во рту́
Крым (Crimea)	в Крымú	сад (garden)	в саду́
лѳд (ice)	на льду́	угол (corner)	в углу́
лес (forest)	в лесу́	час (hour)	в часу́*
лоб (forehead)	на лбу́	шкаф (cupboard)	в шкафу́
луг (meadow)	на лугу́		

* в четвѳртом часу́ between three and four o'clock.

(20) *на with the prepositional.* We have already encountered several nouns which use the preposition *на* instead of *в* for English 'at' or 'in' (see note (10)).

The points of the compass belong to this group.

север	(north)	на севере	in the north
юг	(south)	на юге	in the south
восток	(east)	на востоке	in the east
запад	(west)	на западе	in the west

(21) *The conjunctions а, и, но.* The conjunction 'а' has already been discussed in note (5). Now compare 'а' with 'и'. Both of them can be translated by English 'and'.

Миша играет, <i>а</i> Катя работает.	Misha is playing and Katya is working.
Миша играет <i>и</i> Катя (тоже) играет.	Misha is playing and Katya is playing (also).

Thus it will be seen that 'а' tends to be used where some contrast is involved. Otherwise 'and' will usually be translated by 'и'.

In the second example above the meaning is really the same as in 'Misha and Katya are both playing', where 'and' must be translated by 'и'.

The conjunction 'но' indicates a stronger contrast than

that suggested by 'а' and is always translated by 'but'. If 'however' can be substituted for 'but' in English, then the Russian will be 'но'.

Она сейчас купается, <i>но</i> предпочитает загорать на берегу.	She is bathing at the moment, but she prefers to sunbathe on the shore.
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(22) *'Fleeting' vowels 'о' and 'е' ('ё' when stressed).* The vowels 'о' and 'е' are sometimes not an integral part of the word in which they appear. Under the influence of various case inflexions (endings) they can be inserted into certain words, or omitted from them, usually to facilitate pronunciation.

e.g. угол (a corner) prepositional—в углу

Here the fleeting vowel is 'о' and it is omitted in the prepositional (and all other cases except the nominative singular). Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that it is inserted in the nominative, as the pronunciation of угол is virtually impossible without supplying 'о'.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(5) Give the Russian for:

1. 'How do you do, Sergei Antonovich. How are you?'
'Not bad, thanks.'
2. By the way, where are you working at present?
3. I am taking a holiday in an hotel in Leningrad. The food is marvellous.
4. Excuse me, do you know where Ivan Petrovich is?
5. Yes, I do. He is at home reading in the library.
6. Sonya is a wonderful woman. Boris is sunbathing outside and she is working in the study.
7. Richter is playing at a concert in Yalta. Let's go!
8. They are holidaying in the Crimea. The climate there is very good.

- (5) 1. «Здравствуйте, Сергей Антонович. Как вы поживаете?»
«Неплохо, спасибо.»
2. Кстати, где вы сейчас работаете?
 3. Я отдыхаю в гостинице в Ленинграде. Пища там чудная.
 4. Извините, вы не знаете, где Иван Петрович?
 5. Да, знаю. Он читает дома в библиотеке.
 6. Соня замечательная женщина. Борис загорает на дворе, а она работает в кабинете.
 7. Рихтер играет на концерте в Ялте. Пойдём!
 8. Они отдыхают в Крыму. Климат там прекрасный.

LESSON 2

- (8) *Personal pronouns (3rd singular).*
- (9) *Possessive adjectives мой, твоё.*
- (10) *Prepositional case. Nouns used with на. Indeclinable neuter nouns.*
- (11) *First and 2nd person singular of present tense.*
 - 1. *Omission of pronoun subject.*
 - 2. *Negative with не.*
 - 3. *ты не знаешь, где...?*
 - 4. *Use of мы.*
- (12) *Diminutives of first names.*
- (13) *Pronunciation. Elision of prepositions with the following word.*

(8) The 3rd person singular personal pronouns in Russian are:

Masculine	он
Neuter	оно
Feminine	она

Here again, the consonant ending is used for the masculine, 'o' for the neuter and 'a' for the feminine.

он means 'he', referring to a person, 'it', referring to a masculine object;
оно means 'it' and can only refer to a neuter object;
она means 'she', referring to a person, 'it', referring to a feminine object.

Thus masculine	Где Иван? Он там.	Where is Ivan? He's there.
	Где зонтик? Он там.	Where is the umbrella? It's there.
feminine	Где Таня? Она там.	Where is Tanya? She's there.
	Где почта? Она там.	Where is the post office? It's there.
but neuter	Где пальто? Оно там.	Where is the coat? It's there.

(9) *Possessive adjectives* 'my' and 'your'. 'my' is мой (masculine); моё (neuter); моя (feminine). 'your' (твой) changes in the same way.

мой шарф	my scarf	твой шарф	your scarf
моё пальто	my coat	твоё пальто	your coat
моя шляпа	my hat	твоя шляпа	your hat

The possessive adjectives answer the question чей? (whose?)
See Note (155).

(10) *Prepositional case*. All nouns in Lesson 1 were in the nominative case—the case used for the subject of the sentence and the complement of the verb 'to be'

e.g. Стул (subject) там.
Этo стул. (complement)

Nouns listed in the vocabulary and in dictionaries are given in their nominative form. They must often have a change of ending or add an ending when not acting as a subject or complement.

Russian has six cases, including the nominative, but here we are concerned only with the prepositional case. As its name suggests, the prepositional is always used with a preposition. The commonest are в and на, both of which occur in this lesson.

The basic distinction between these prepositions is that в means 'in(side)' and на means 'on'.

Стол в библиотеке.	The table is in the library.
Зонтик на столе.	The umbrella is on the table.

The case of a noun is shown by its ending. With the nouns so far encountered the prepositional ending is -e, which is added to the stem.

The -o and -a endings of neuter and feminine nouns in the nominative are case endings, and are dropped in the prepositional and other cases.

<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Prepositional</i>
библиотека	в библиотеке

Note that в will often translate English 'at':

в банке	at the bank <i>or</i> in the bank
в театре	at the theatre <i>or</i> in the theatre

Certain nouns require на although there is no connotation of 'on':

e.g. на концерте	at the concert
на почте	at the post office
на вокзале	at the station

You will find a list of these nouns in Part I of the Appendix (*Nouns*).

Neuter nouns such as метро and пальто, which are imports from other languages, are invariable, whatever case they are in.

e.g. на метро	on the Underground
в пальто	in a coat

(11) *знать*, 'to know'. Most verbs fall into one of two main categories or 'conjugations' (see next lesson for '1a' verbs).

The infinitive form (*to know*) with very few exceptions ends in *-ть*.

The 1st and 2nd person singular of verbs like *знать* are as follows:

я знаю	I know
ты знаешь	you know

Note 1. In conversation the pronoun is frequently omitted. Thus a Russian will often just say 'Знаю', meaning 'I know'.

Note 2. The verb is made negative by the use of *не* (not).

я не знаю	I don't know
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Note 3. Ты не знаешь, где...? is a formula, rather like the English 'I suppose you don't happen to know...?'

Note 4. ты. This pronoun is the equivalent of French 'tu' and is used when addressing a member of the family, a close friend or a child.

(12) *Diminutive forms of first names* are often used of people you address as ты.

e.g.	<i>Full name</i>	<i>Diminutive</i>
	Миха́йл	Ми́ша
	Дми́трий	Ми́тя
	Ива́н	Ва́ня

Note that they have a feminine form, although all the above diminutives are in fact formed from boys' names. A list of these can be found in Part 2 of the Appendix.

(13) *Pronunciation.* Short prepositions such as *в* and *с* are elided with the following word.

в_Ленингра́де с_удово́льствием

APPENDICE 2 – Diminutivi dei nomi propri.

(a) First names and their corresponding diminutives

	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Алекса́ндр	Са́ша/Шу́ра	А́нна	А́ннушка
Алексе́й	Але́ша	Вале́нтина	Ва́ля
Бори́с	Бо́ря	Варва́ра	Ва́ря
Васи́лий	Ва́ся	Ве́ра	Ве́рочка
Влади́мир	Воло́дя	Екатери́на	Ка́тя, Катю́шка
Григо́рий	Гри́ша	Еле́на	Ле́на, Лёночка
Дми́трий	Ми́тя	Елизаве́та	Ли́за
Ива́н	Ва́ня	Ири́на	И́ра, Ири́ночка
И́лья	Илю́ша	Зина́йда	Зи́на
Константи́н	Ко́стя	Любо́вь	Лю́ба
Лев	Ле́ва	Ма́рия	Ма́ша
Миха́йл	Ми́ша	Наде́жда	На́дя
Никола́й	Ко́ля	Ната́лья	Ната́ша
Па́вел	Па́ша, Па́влик	Ни́на	Ни́ночка
Пе́тр	Пе́тя	О́льга	О́ля
Серге́й	Серё́жа	Со́фья	Со́ня
Фёдор	Фе́дя	Татья́на	Та́ня
Ю́рий	Ю́ра		

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(4) Give the Russian for:

1. 'I don't know where my hotel is.' 'It's there on the right.'
2. At present, Ivan is in Leningrad and Varya is in Kiev.
3. 'Is your comrade in the food shop?' 'No, he's in the post office.'
4. 'Is there a call-box in the hotel?' 'Yes, of course there is.'
5. Your coat is on the peg and your hat is on the chair.
6. 'Mitya, do you know where my umbrella is?' 'No, I don't. Maybe it's in the library.'

(4) 1. «Не знаю, где моя гостиница.» «Она там справа.» 2. Иван сейчас в Ленинграде, а Варя в Киеве. 3. «Твой товарищ в гастрономе?» «Нет, он на почте.» 4. «В гостинице есть телефон-автомат?» «Да, конечно, есть.» 5. Твоё пальто на вешалке, а твоя шляпа на стуле.» 6. «Митя, ты не знаешь, где мой зонтик?» «Нет, не знаю. Может быть, он в библиотеке.»

LESSON 1

- (1) *Gender. Hard endings of nouns.*
- (2) *Omission of articles.*
- (3) *Verb 'to be'.*
- (4) *The emphatic particle же.*
- (5) *'And'—translated by a.*
- (6) *Pronunciation of здрáвствуйте; по́здлуйста; что; конечно.*
- (7) *Intonation.*

(1) *Gender.* Russian has three genders:

Masculine банк, вокзал
 Neuter метро
 Feminine библиотека, почта
 Nouns ending in a consonant are masculine.
 Nouns ending in 'o' are neuter.
 Nouns ending in 'a' are feminine.

These are the most common noun endings. In fact the principle involved in these endings does not only concern nouns. You will find the same endings at a later stage in the case of certain pronouns, adjectives and the past tense of verbs.

Gender is a phenomenon of grammar rather than biology. Thus, although most nouns referring to males are masculine and those referring to females, feminine, it is not always so. For example the nouns for 'grandfather' (дедушка) and 'uncle' (дядя) have a feminine form. Note also in this connection that abstract and inanimate nouns may belong to any of the three genders.

(2) *Articles.* Russian has neither the definite nor the indefinite article.

Thus Это банк can mean 'This is *a* bank' or 'This is *the* bank'.

(3) *The verb 'to be'.*

(a) The present tense of the verb 'to be' has virtually disappeared in Russian.

Где банк?	Where (is) the bank?
Это гостиница.	That (is) an hotel.

(b) есть. This is the only form of the present tense of the verb 'to be' still in common use. It can be used to mean 'there is' or 'there are'.

Есть телефон-автомат	There is a public call-box.
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(4) *же is an emphatic particle.*

Где метро?	Where is the Underground?
Где же метро?	Where is the Underground then?

(5) *The conjunction a.*

(a) It expresses contrast and can frequently be translated as 'and', sometimes as a rather mild 'but'.

Метро слева, а вокзал справа. The Underground station is on the left and the mainline station is on the right.

(b) 'a' after a negative roughly corresponds to English 'but', but is often not translated.

Это не универмаг, а гастроном. That's not a department store, it's a food shop.
(see also note (22))

(6) *Pronunciation.*

здравствуйте The first 'в' is not pronounced.
пожалуйста The 'уй' is not pronounced.
что, конечно The 'ч' is pronounced as 'ш'.

(7) *Intonation.*

(a) In a statement the pitch of the voice falls on the stressed syllable of the last word.

Там метро. Это универмаг.

(b) In a question starting with an interrogative word (где, что etc.) the pitch is highest on that word.

Что это? Где милиционер?

(c) In all other questions the pitch rises steeply on the stressed syllable of the last word.

Это библиотека?

In fact the intonation is the only indication you have that this type of question is in fact a question, and not a statement.

Это библиотека? Is that a library?
Это библиотека. That's a library.

(d) In sentences with ...не ..., а ..., the pitch is raised on the stressed syllable of the word before 'a'.

ESERCIZIO ESEMPLARE

(2) Write in Russian:

1. Where is the department store? There on the right.
2. Please tell me, is that the post office? No, it's not the post office, it's a bank. The post office is across the way.
3. The railway station is on the left and the food shop is on the right.
4. Where is the policeman? There, straight ahead.
5. What is that? It's a call-box.

(2) 1. Где универмаг? Там справа. 2. Скажите, пожалуйста, это почта? Нет, это не почта, а банк. Почта напротив. 3. Вокзал слева, а гастроном справа. 4. Где милиционер? Вон там, прямо. 5. Что это? Это телефон-автомат.