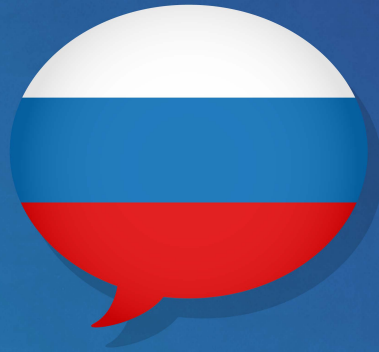




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LEVEL

6



Russian

Lower Intermediate



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LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #1

How to Make the Best Out of Your Russian Vacations!

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1

RUSSIAN

1. МАМА: Егор, сегодня у тебя День Рождения, ты уже совсем взрослый мальчик.
2. ЕГОР: Да, мне уже десять лет, и я хочу взрослый подарок!
3. МАМА: Мы с папой приготовили тебе сюрприз, загляни под подушку.
4. ЕГОР: Ух ты, поездка в летний лагерь, на целых 2 месяца! Здорово!
5. МАМА: Ты рад?
6. ЕГОР: Конечно, рад! Это самый лучший подарок за десять лет!

ROMANIZATION

1. МАМА: Egor, sevodnya u tebya Den' Rozhdeniya, ty uzhe sovsem vzrosliy mal'chik.
2. ЕГОР: Da, mne uzhe desyat' let, i ya hochu vzrosliy podarok!
3. МАМА: My s papoi prigotovili tebe syurpriz, zaglyani pod podushku.
4. ЕГОР: Ooh ty, poyezdka v letniy lager', na celyh dva mesyaca! Zdorovo!
5. МАМА: Ty rad?
6. ЕГОР: Koneshno rad! Eto samiy luchshiy podarok za desyat' let!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. MOTHER: Egor, it's your birthday today, you are a totally grown up boy now!
2. EGOR: Yes, I'm already ten years old, and I want a grown up present!
3. MOTHER: Dad and I prepared a surprise for you. Take a look under your pillow.
4. EGOR: Wow! A trip to a summer camp for a whole two months! Cool!
5. MOTHER: Are you happy?
6. EGOR: Of course I am! It's the best present I've gotten in ten years!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
День Рождения	den' rozhdeniya	birthday	phrase	masculine
лучший	luchshiy	best	adjective	
самый	samiy	most	Adverb	
целый	tseliy	whole	adjective	
лагерь	lager'	camp	noun	
поездка	poezdka	journey, trip	noun	
подушка	podushka	pillow	noun	feminine
заглянуть	zaglyanut'	to glance, peek; take a look; to drop by	verb	

приготовить	prigotovit'	to prepare	verb
взрослый	vzrosliy	adult, grown-up	adjective, noun
совсем	sovsem	completely, totally; at all	adverb
за	za	behind (about place); for	preposition

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Когда твой день рождения? <i>Kogda tvoy den' rozhdeniya?</i></p> <p>"When is your birthday?"</p>	<p>Приглашаю тебя на день рождения. <i>Priglashayu tebya na den' rozhdeniya.</i></p> <p>"I'm inviting you to my birthday party."</p>
<p>Это лучший университет в Москве. <i>Eto luchshiy universitet v Moskve.</i></p> <p>"It's the best university in Moscow."</p>	<p>Это мой самый любимый напиток. <i>Eto moi samiy lyubimiy napitok.</i></p> <p>"This is my most favorite drink."</p>
<p>Он целый год не был в отпуске. <i>On tselyiy god ne byl v otpuske.</i></p> <p>"He hasn't gotten any vacation for the while year."</p>	<p>Мы отправляем сына в лагерь каждое лето. <i>My otpravlyаем сына v lager' kazhdое leto.</i></p> <p>"We send our son to a camp every summer."</p>
<p>Поездка в Москву стоила 3000 долларов. <i>Paoezdka v Moskvu stoila tri tysyachi dollarov.</i></p> <p>"The trip to Moscow cost me three thousand dollars."</p>	<p>Эта подушка слишком твёрдая. <i>Eta podushka ochen' tvyordaya.</i></p> <p>"This pillow is too stiff."</p>
<p>Я к тебе загляну вечером. <i>Ya k tebe zaglyanu vecherom.</i></p> <p>"I'll drop by on you tonight."</p>	<p>Нина приготовила ужин на всю семью. <i>Nina prigotovila uzhin na vsyu sem'yu.</i></p> <p>"Nina cooked dinner for the whole family."</p>

<p>Этот фильм только для взрослых. <i>Etot fil'm tol'ko dlya vzroslyh.</i></p> <p>"This movie is only for adults."</p>	<p>Это совсем не трудно! <i>Èto sovsem ne trudno!</i></p> <p>"This isn't difficult at all!"</p>
<p>Я совсем без денег. <i>Ya savsem bez deneg.</i></p> <p>"I'm totally broke." / "I'm totally without money."</p>	<p>Он сидел за компьютером и что-то читал. <i>On sidyel za komp'yutyerom i chto-to chital.</i></p> <p>"He was sitting at the computer and reading something."</p>
<p>У нас за домом есть маленький сад. <i>U nas za domom yest' malyen'kiy sad.</i></p> <p>"We have a small garden behind our house."</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is совсем ("completely," "totally"), целый ("whole"), the Preposition за, and Superlatives

**Ух ты, поездка в летний лагерь, на целых 2 месяца!
 "Wow! A trip to a summer camp, for a whole two months!"**

Совсем ("completely")

We use the word **совсем** in positive sentences with the meaning of "completely," "totally."

For Example:

Он совсем с ума сошёл
 "He's totally gone crazy."

...or in the negative sentences with the meaning of "at all."

For Example:

Он совсем не изменился

"He hasn't changed at all."

There's also a set phrase with this word: **не совсем**, which means *"not quite."*

For Example:

1. Ты всё понял?
"Did you understand everything?"
2. Не совсем
"Not quite."

целый ("whole")

The word **целый** has almost the same meaning and usage as the word *"whole"* in English. Here are two examples with slightly different undertones:

1. Это две части одного целого
"These are two parts of the whole."
2. Ты целый день ничего не делаешь
"You haven't been doing anything for the whole day."

The Preposition за

The preposition **за** has many meanings in Russian. The four most common ones are:

1. **"Behind"**
За домом есть аптека
"There's a pharmacy behind the house."
2. **"Instead of"**
Я сдал экзамен за него
"I took the exam for him." (instead of him)

3. **"In exchange for"**
Я купил кофе за доллар
"I bought coffee for a dollar."

4. **"In" (when talking about time)**
Он повзрослел за этот год
"He's matured (in) this year."
Она написала статью за ночь
"She wrote an article in a night."

Superlatives

Самый is the word to form the superlative degree (to indicate something is the best, or the most) in Russian. Just like in English, we form the superlative degree in two ways.

First, we can form the superlative with the help of the suffixes. In Russian they **are -ейший** and **-айший**.

For Example:

1. *умный - умнейший* ("smart - smartest")
2. *простой - простейший* ("simple - simplest")

Secondly, we form the superlative with the help of the word **самый** ("most").

самый + the adjective

For Example:

1. *самый умный* - literally, "the most smart" ("the smartest")
2. *самый простой* - literally, "the most simple" ("the simplest")

The difference is, unlike in English, you can apply either way to almost any adjective in Russian, so if you are not sure about your word being correct, you can just use **самый + the**

adjective you need.

There are adjectives, which sound totally different from their original forms when turned into the superlative degree. You should just remember them.

1. *хороший - лучший* ("good - best")
2. *плохой - худший* ("bad - worst")

Note: The phrase *самый лучший* (literally, "*the most best*") is the only case where the word *самый* and the word in the superlative form - *лучший* - are allowed to come together. In all other cases, the word *самый* requires *adjectives* in their primary forms.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Superstitions related to gift-giving in Russia

There are many occasions to give or receive a present in Russia: a birthday, New Year's Eve, Children's Day, Easter, and so forth.

Very often, parents hide the present somewhere in the room (drawing a map and playing a little game) or just put it under the pillow.

Putting something under a pillow is connected with many different beliefs in Russia: To help remember a text, for example, you put a book or a notebook under your pillow. To know the name of your future husband, you put some papers with male names on them and choose one (no looking!) in the morning.

So next time in Russia, be careful. You never know what you might find under your pillow!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #2

Where Are You Going in Russia?

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- 4 Sample Sentences
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- 7 Cultural Insight

2

RUSSIAN

1. ЕГОР: Мама, а когда я еду в лагерь?
2. МАМА: Пятнадцатого июля. Вика едет с тобой.
3. ЕГОР: Вика?! Я еду в лагерь со старшей сестрой? Но она мне испортит весь отдых!
4. МАМА: Не испортит. Просто если вдруг что-то случится, она будет рядом.
5. ЕГОР: Она всегда будет со мной ездить?! Между прочим, эта поездка – мой подарок на День Рождения... А ей она досталась просто так? Так не честно!

ROMANIZATION

1. EGOR: Mama, a kogda ya poyedu v lager'?
2. MAMA: Pyatnadtsatogo iyulya. Vika yedet s toboi.
3. EGOR: Vika?! Ya yedu v lager' so starshey sestroy? No ona mne isportit ves' otdyh!
4. MAMA: Ne isportit. Prosto yesli shto-to sluchitsa, ona budet ryadom.
5. EGOR: Ona vseгда budet so mnoy yezdit'?! Mezhdu prochim, eta poyezdka - moy podarok na Den' Rozhdeniya... A yey ona dostalas' prosto tak? Tak ne chestno!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. EGOR: Mom, when is it that I'm going to a camp?
2. MOTHER: The fifteenth of July. Vika is going with you.
3. EGOR: Vika?! I'm going to a camp with my older sister? But she'll ruin my whole vacation!
4. MOTHER: She won't. It's just if something happens, she'll be there for you.
5. EGOR: Will she always go with me?! By the way, this trip is my birthday present...and she got it for no reason? It's not fair!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
старший	starshiy	older, elder	adjective	masculine
просто так	prosto tak	for no particular reason	phrase	
достаться	dostat'sa	to get	verb	
между прочим	mezhdu prochim	by the way; FYI	phrase	
всегда	vsegda	always	adverb	
рядом	ryadom	near, close	adverb	
случиться	sluchitsa	to happen	verb	
что-то	shto-to	something	pronoun	
весь	ves'	entire, whole, all	adjective	
испортить	isportit'	to spoil, ruin	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>У меня есть 2 старших брата, и одна старшая сестра. <i>U menya yest' 2 starshih brata, i odna starshaya sestra.</i></p> <p>"I have two older brothers and one older sister."</p>	<p>Я пригласил его в гости просто так, без повода. <i>Ya priglasil yevo v gosti prosto tak, bez povoda.</i></p> <p>"I invited him over for no particular purpose (occasion)."</p>
<p>Мне достался счастливый билет! <i>Mne dostalsya schastliviy билет!</i></p> <p>"I got a lucky ticket!"</p>	<p>Между прочим, это ты не закрыл дверь, а не я. <i>Mezhdu prochim, eto ty ne zakryl dver', a ne ya.</i></p> <p>"By the way, it's you who didn't lock the door, not me."</p>
<p>Здесь всегда так шумно? <i>Zdes' vsegda tak shumno?</i></p> <p>"Is it always so noisy here?"</p>	<p>Он всегда приходит вовремя. <i>On vsegda prihodit vovremya.</i></p> <p>"He always comes on time."</p>
<p>Рядом с моим домом находится супермаркет. <i>Ryadom s moim domom nakhoditsya supermarket.</i></p> <p>"There is a supermarket near my house."</p>	<p>Садись рядом, тут свободно. <i>Sadis' ryadom, tut svobodno.</i></p> <p>"Sit near (me); it (seat) is free (not occupied)."</p>
<p>Кто это там, рядом с Леной? <i>Kto eto tam, ryadom s Lenoy?</i></p> <p>"Who is that there next to Lena?"</p>	<p>Что случилось? <i>Shto sluchilos'?</i></p> <p>"What happened?"</p>
<p>Здесь что-то не так. <i>Zdes' shto-to ne tak.</i></p> <p>"There's something wrong here."</p>	<p>Он весь день сидит дома. <i>On ves' den' sidit doma.</i></p> <p>"He's been sitting at home all day."</p>

Ты всё испортил!

Ty vsyo isportil!

"You ruined everything!"

По-моему, молоко испортилось.

Po-moemu, moloko isportilos'.

"I think the milk has gone bad."

Я не брал твой телефон, честно!

Ya ne bral tvoi telefon, chestno!

"I didn't take your phone, honestly!"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Saying "among other things" and "just like this," the Reflexive Form of достать, Verbs of Motion

Между прочим, эта поездка – мой подарок на День Рождения...

"By the way, this trip is my birthday present..."

между прочим ("*among other things,*" "*besides,*" "*by the way,*" or "*inter alia*")

между прочим literally means "among other things." We translate it into English as "besides," "by the way," or "inter alia." Russians very commonly use it, especially in a mentoring or reproaching context or tone of voice.

достаться (*reflexive form of "to reach," "to get"*)

достаться is the reflexive form of the word достать ("to reach, to get"). You would commonly use it when you get something you didn't intend or plan, but just happened to get, in both good and bad senses, whether this thing was desired or undesired.

For Example:

1. После развода ей достался дом
"After the divorce she got a house."
(Divorce processes are unpredictable, she could've gotten more or less.)
2. Мне достался выигрышный билет
"I got a winning (lottery) ticket."

просто так ("*just like this*")

просто так - literally, "just like this," and meaning "without any particular reason."

For Example:

1. Зачем ты ему звонила?
"Why did you call him?"
2. Просто так, поболтать.
"No reason, just to chat."

Verbs of motion: Part 1

ехать - ездить ("*to go by transport*")

The verbs of motion are quite confusing for the Russian language learners; therefore, we'll stop on each of them separately in different lessons. Today we will talk about some of the words that correspond to the English "*to go*"

Essentially, there is no word in Russian that is like the English "go." Instead, you should always indicate how you are going somewhere, whether you are going in one direction or making a return trip. Take a look at this pair of verbs:

ехать - ездить - "to go by transport" (drive, train, bus, etc.).

Difference:

The verb on the left (Ехать) is the unidirectional ("one-way") verb.

The verb on the right (Ездить) is the multidirectional ("return trip") verb.

Use the unidirectional form (ехать) when you are going in one direction, or talking specifically about going in one direction. This form often corresponds to the continuous tenses in English (i.e., when you say, "I am" or "we are," indicating the ongoing or future process).

For Example:

1. Когда я еду в лагерь?
"When am I going to a camp?"
2. Вика едет с тобой.
"Vika is going with you."

Use the multidirectional form (*ездить*) when talking about actions in more than one direction, for example a return trip. Also, use this form when you are talking in general about going somewhere, or when there is no motion, or the number of directions is irrelevant.

For Example:

1. Она всегда будет со мной *ездить*?
"Will she always go with me?" (talking in general)
2. Мы *ездили* по городам Европы.
"We went around the cities of Europe." (a number of different directions)
3. В прошлом году мы *ездили* в Москву.
"Last year, we went to Moscow." (a return is implied)

Conjugations in the Present Tense

Person	Ехать	Ездить
Я	Еду	Езжу
Ты	Едешь	Ездишь
Он, она, оно	Едет	Ездит
Мы	Едем	Ездим
Вы	Едете	Ездите
Они	Едут	Ездят

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Giving presents to the kids in Russia

Many parents in Russia know how dangerous it might be to give a birthday present just to one child. The whole day can be spoiled if one of the other children starts comparing the present s/he got for his or her birthday.

Many parents, therefore, have presents for all their kids - with a better present for the kid whose actual birthday is that day. For example, the prettiest and biggest doll goes to the birthday-girl, and smaller dolls go to her sisters. Or the coolest car for the birthday boy, and some little puzzles for his brothers.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #3 Cracking Down on Russian Litterbugs

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3

RUSSIAN

1. ВИКА: Ну что, Егор, ты идёшь?
2. ЕГОР: Иду...
3. ВИКА: Не бойся, я не буду тебя контролировать, я даже буду жить отдельно и никуда не буду с тобой ходить!
4. ЕГОР: Ладно... Просто мне обидно, что ты тоже получила подарок на мой День Рождения.
5. ВИКА: Егор, это не подарок для меня. Я вообще не хотела ехать. Все мои друзья едут на море, а я с тобой в горный лагерь...

ROMANIZATION

1. VIKA: Nu shto, Egor, ty idyosh?
2. EGOR: Idu...
3. VIKA: Ne boisya, ya ne budu tebya kontrolirovat', ya dazhe budu zhit' ot del'no i nikuda ne budu s toboy hodit'!
4. EGOR: Ladno... Prosto mne obidno, shto ty tozhe poluchila podarok na moy den' rozhdeniya.
5. VIKA: Egor, eto ne podarok dlya menya. Ya voobsche ne hotela yehat'. Vse moy druz'ya edut na more, a ya s toboy v gorniy lager'...

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. VIKA: So Egor, are you coming?
2. EGOR: Coming...
3. VIKA: Don't worry, I'm not going to control you. I'll even be living separately and won't go anywhere with you!
4. EGOR: Fine... It's just it's not fair that you also got a present on my birthday.
5. VIKA: Egor, it's not a present for me at all. I didn't want to go in the first place. All of my friends are going to the sea, and I'm going to the mountain camp with you...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
бояться	boyat'sa	to be afraid of, to fear	verb
контролировать	kontrolirovat'	to control	verb
даже	dazhe	even	adverb
отдельно	otdel'no	separately	adverb
обидно	obidno	it's annoying; it's offensive; it hurts	adverb
получить	poluchit'	to get, to receive	verb (perfective)
вообще	voobsche	in general; on the whole; at all; in the first place	adverb
горный	gorniy	mountain	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Боюсь, я не смогу сегодня прийти. <i>Bojus', ya ne smogu sevodnya priyti.</i></p> <p>"I'm afraid I won't be able to come today."</p>	<p>Мой сын боится высоты. <i>Moi syn boitsa temnoty.</i></p> <p>"My son is afraid of heights."</p>
<p>Рынок не должен контролироваться правительством. <i>Rynok ne dolzhen kontrolirovatsa pravitel'stvom.</i></p> <p>"Market shouldn't be controlled by the government."</p>	<p>Ты даже не представляешь, как это интересно! <i>Ty dazhe ne predstavlyaesh, kak eto interesno!</i></p> <p>"You can't even imagine how interesting it is!"</p>
<p>Я живу отдельно от родителей. <i>Ya zhivu ot del'no ot roditeley.</i></p> <p>"I live separately from my parents."</p>	<p>Мне обидно, что он меня не понимает. <i>Mne obidno, shto on menya ne ponimaet.</i></p> <p>"It hurts that he doesn't understand me."</p>
<p>Ты уже получил мою посылку? <i>Ty uzhe poluchil moyu posylku?</i></p> <p>"Have you received my package yet?"</p>	<p>Мы получили письмо. <i>My poluchili pis'mo.</i></p> <p>"We got a letter."</p>
<p>Вообще, она неплохой человек. <i>Voobsche, ona neplohoi chelovek.</i></p> <p>"All in all, she's not a bad person."</p>	<p>Я хочу купить горный велосипед. <i>Ya hochu kupit' gorniy velosiped.</i></p> <p>"I want to buy a mountain bike."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is the Meanings of Обидно and вообще, and Verbs of Motion
Просто мне обидно, что ты тоже получила подарок на мой День Рождения.
"It's just it's not fair that you also got a present on my birthday."

Обидно ("annoying," "hurtful")

обидно has two main meanings depending on its function in a sentence. If it's an adverb, like in our dialogue, most often it has a meaning of "annoying" or "hurtful."

For Example:

1. Мне обидно это слышать
"It hurts me to hear this."
2. Обидно, что мы не встретились
"It's annoying that we didn't meet."

Most often, if it's an adjective, обидный means "*offensive*".

For Example:

1. Это обидное слово
"It's an offensive word."

Very often, we use it as a verb, **обидеть** ("*to hurt*," usually speaking about feelings).

For Example:

1. Он тебя обидел?
"Did he hurt you?"

вообще

вообще is a very popular colloquial word, sometimes used too often. It has several meanings:

1. "*generally, in general, on the whole*"
Вообще, она неплохой человек
"On the whole, she's not a bad person."
2. "*at all*" (*in the negative sentences*)
Он мне вообще не нравится
"I don't like him at all."

3. "in the first place"
Я вообще не хотела об этом говорить
"I didn't want to talk about it in the first place."

Verbs of Motion - Part II

ИДТИ - ХОДИТЬ ("to go by foot")

Today we continue learning the verbs of motion. Take a look at the next pair:

ИДТИ - ХОДИТЬ - "to go by foot" (walk).

Difference:

The verb on the left (*Идти*) is the *unidirectional* ("one-way") verb.

The verb on the right (*Ходить*) is the *multidirectional* ("return trip") verb.

Use the unidirectional form (*идти*) when you are going in one direction, or talking specifically about going in one direction. This form often corresponds to the continuous tenses in English (i.e., when you say, "I am" or "we are," indicating the ongoing of future process).

For Example:

1. Егор, ты идёшь?
2. "Egor, are you coming?" (literally, "Are you going?")

Use the multidirectional form (*ходить*) when talking about actions in more than one direction, for example a return trip. Also, use this form when you are talking in general about going to somewhere, or when there is no motion, or the number of directions is irrelevant.

For Example:

1. Я никуда не буду с тобой ходить!
"I won't go anywhere with you!" (many times and directions implied)
2. Ты ходил к врачу?
"Did you go to the doctor's?" (return is implied)

3. Я хожу на работу каждый день.
"I go to work every day." (talking in general)

Conjugations in the Present Tense

Person	Идти	Ходить
Я	Иду	Хожу
Ты	Идёшь	Ходишь
Он, она, оно	Идёт	Ходит
Мы	Идём	Ходим
Вы	Идёте	Ходите
Они	Идут	Ходят

To Sum Up:

These are the two most important words that can be translated as "to go":

- идти - ходить**
"To go by foot" (walk)
- ехать - ездить**
"To go by transport" (drive, train, bus, etc.)

Идти - Ехать

"Unidirectional" (One-Way)

Ходить - Ездить

"Multidirectional" (Return trips, in general.)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Spending vacations separately

Many couples prefer to spend their vacation separately, and the reason is not that they don't get along. They simply have different interests: women want to go to some gorgeous location, like Italy, France, or Thailand, to have some quality shopping time, go to the beach with their girlfriends, gossip and eat delicious meals.

Men want some adventure: to go camping, mountain climbing, rafting, and so on.

After a long (separate) vacation men and women are ready to reunite with their significant others.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #4

The Worst Russian Vacation Ever... So Far...

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- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 6 Grammar
- 10 Cultural Insight

4

RUSSIAN

1. ВИКА: Егор! Сколько можно мне мотать нервы! Где ты был полдня?!
2. ЕГОР: Мы с друзьями были в лесу недалеко от лагеря.
3. ВИКА: Ты что, не понимаешь, что это опасно?! Сколько раз я тебе говорила, не выходи за территорию лагеря!
4. ЕГОР: У нас в лагере скучно. А в лесу мы нашли медвежью берлогу...
5. ВИКА: Вы с ума сошли?!
6. ЕГОР: Не бойся, мы не подходили к ней.
7. ВИКА: Всё равно! С этой минуты ты у меня под контролем!

ROMANIZATION

1. VIKA: Egor! Skol'ko mozhno mne motat' nervy! Gde ty byl poldnya?!
2. EGOR: My s druz'yami byli v lesu nedaleko ot lagerya.
3. VIKA: Ty shto, ne ponimaesh, shto eto opasno?! Skol'ko raz ya tebe govorila, ne vyhodi za teritoriyu lagerya!
4. EGOR: U nas v lagere skuchno. A v lesu my nashli medvezh'yu berlogu...
5. VIKA: Vy s uma soshli?!
6. EGOR: Ne boisya, my ne podhodili k nei.

CONT'D OVER

7. VIKA: Vsyo ravno! S etoi minuty ty u menya pod kontrolem!

ENGLISH

1. VIKA: Egor! Stop stressing me out! Where have you been for half of the day?!

2. EGOR: We went to the woods not far from the camp with my friends.

3. VIKA: Don't you understand how dangerous it is?! How many times have I told you not to go out of the camp territory!

4. EGOR: The camp is boring. And in the woods we found a bear lair...

5. VIKA: Are you crazy?!

6. EGOR: Don't worry, we didn't come close to it.

7. VIKA: Doesn't matter! From this minute on, you are under my control!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
СКОЛЬКО МОЖНО	skol'ko mozhno	how much longer (is it going last); when is it going to stop	phrase	
С ЭТОЙ МИНУТЫ	s etoi minuty	from this minute on	phrase	

подходить	podhodit'	to approach, come up	verb	
всё равно	vsyo ravno	it doesn't matter; anyway	phrase	
сойти с ума	soiti s uma	to go crazy	phrase	
берлога	berloga	bear lair	noun	
Медведь	medved'	bear	noun	masculine
найти	nayti	to find	verb	
лес	les	forest; woods	noun	
скучно	skuchno	boring	adverb	
территория	territoriya	territory	noun	
выходить	vyhodit'	to go out, to come out, to get off	verb	
опасно	opasno	dangerous	adverb	
полдня	poldnya	half a day	noun	
мотать нервы	motat' nervy	to make someone extremely worried, frustrated, mentally exhausted	phrase	
под контролем	pod kontrolem	under control	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Сколько можно ныть! <i>Skol'ko mozhno nyt'!</i></p> <p>"Stop whining!"</p>	<p>С этой минуты я буду вести здоровый образ жизни. <i>S etoi minuty ya budu vesti zdorovyi obraz zhizni.</i></p> <p>"From this moment, I'm starting a healthy lifestyle."</p>
<p>Подойти ко мне, пожалуйста. <i>Podoidi ko mne, pozhalusta.</i></p> <p>"Come (up) to me, please."</p>	<p>Я всё равно поеду! <i>Ya vsyo ravno poyedu!</i></p> <p>"I will go anyway!"</p>
<p>Она сходит с ума по Бреду Питту. <i>Ona shodit s uma po Bredu Pitu.</i></p> <p>"She is crazy about Brad Pitt."</p>	<p>Не подходи близко к медвежьей берлоге. <i>Ne podhodi blizko k medvezh'ey berloge.</i></p> <p>"Don't come close to a bear lair."</p>
<p>Медведь является одним из официальных символов лидирующей политической партии в России сегодня <i>Medved ' yavlyayetsya odnim iz ofitsial 'nyh simbolov lideruyushey politicheskoy partii v Rossii segodnya.</i></p> <p>"The bear is the official symbol of the leading political party in Russia nowadays."</p>	<p>Много иностранцев ассоциируют Россию с медведями. <i>Mnogo inostrancev associiruyut Rossiyu s medvedyami.</i></p> <p>"Lots of foreigners associate Russia with bears."</p>
<p>Я нашла 100 рублей. <i>Ya nashla 100 rublyey.</i></p> <p>"I found a hundred rubles."</p>	<p>Ты нашёл свой кошелёк? <i>Ty nashyol svoy koshyelyok?</i></p> <p>"Have you found your wallet?"</p>
<p>Мальчик потерялся в лесу. <i>Mal'chik poteryalsya v lesu.</i></p> <p>"The boy got lost in the forest."</p>	<p>Мне скучно. <i>Mne skuchno.</i></p> <p>"I'm bored."</p>
<p>Крым - это территория Украины. <i>Krym - eto teritoriya Ukrainy.</i></p> <p>"Crimea is a territory of Ukraine."</p>	<p>Нам пора выходить. <i>Nam pora vyhodit'.</i></p> <p>"It's time, we should head off."</p>

<p>Я боюсь выходить вечером на улицу одна. <i>Ya boyus' vyhodit' vecherom na ulitsu odna.</i></p> <p>"I'm scared to go out on the street in the evening on my own."</p>	<p>Переедание опасно для здоровья. <i>Pereedanie opasno dlya zdorov'ya.</i></p> <p>"Overeating is dangerous for health."</p>
<p>Я полдня провела в кровати. <i>Ya poldnya provela v krovati.</i></p> <p>"I spent half of the day in bed."</p>	<p>Её сын мотает ей нервы всю жизнь. <i>Eyo syn motaet yei nervy vsyu zhizn'.</i></p> <p>"Her son has been fraying her nerves her whole life."</p>
<p>Не бойся, всё под контролем! <i>Ne boisya, vsyo pod kontrolem!</i></p> <p>"Don't worry, everything is under control!"</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Saying, "When is it going to stop?" "to wind someone's nerves," "to go crazy," "in any case," and Verbs of Motion

Сколько можно мне мотать нервы!

"Stop stressing me out!"

СКОЛЬКО МОЖНО ("How much can it be?" "When is it going to stop?")

СКОЛЬКО можно, an exclamation literally meaning, "How much can it be?" expresses frustration, annoyance, irritation, or perplexity. It has a meaning of "How much is it going to last?" or "When are you (is it) going to stop?" We use it both individually, and in a sentence.

For Example:

1. Сколько можно есть, ты же лопнешь.
"Stop eating, you're gonna burst out soon."
2. Сколько можно!
"Stop it!"/"I'm sick of it!"

мотать нервы (*"to wind somebody's nerves"*)

мотать нервы, literally, "to wind somebody's nerves" (like threads), meaning "to make someone's life difficult by constantly making someone worried, frustrated, or mentally exhausted."

For Example:

1. Он мне всю жизнь мотает нервы!
"He's been making me nervous and exhausted (by what he's doing) my whole life!" / "He's been keeping me stressed out my whole life."

There's also an expression for "to get on somebody's nerves": **действовать на нервы**.

сойти с ума (*"to come down from one's mind," "to go crazy"*)

сойти с ума, literally, "to come down from one's mind," meaning "to go crazy." Just like in English, we use it in both positive (romantic) and negative meanings.

For Example:

1. Я схожу с ума по нему
"I'm crazy about him."
2. Ты с ума сошёл? Что ты делаешь?!
"Are you crazy? What are you doing?!"

всё равно (*"everything is the same," "in any case"*)

всё равно, literally, "everything the same, equal," has two main meanings. The first one expresses that something doesn't really matter for you, or you don't mind any suggested option.

For Example:

1. Мне всё равно
"I don't care."
2. Чай или кофе? - Всё равно.
"Tea or coffee? - Anything's good (I don't mind)."

The second meaning is "in any case," "anyway."

For Example:

1. Я всё равно не скажу
"I won't say it anyway." (under any circumstances, in any case)
2. Я всё равно тебя найду
"I will find you anyway." (no matter what, in any case)

Verbs of Motion - Part III

Prefixed Verbs of Motion

In the previous two lessons, we went thoroughly through four main verbs of motion in Russian:

Ходить / Идти ("to go by foot") (walk)

Ездить / Ехать ("to go by transport")

In the verbs above, it is possible to add different prefixes. By placing a few extra letters in front of these verbs, you can alter their meaning. Usually prefixes add direction to the meaning of these verbs. For example, you could change the meaning of "walk" to "walk in." In English, we do it by adding an adverb after the verb, words like "in," "down," "through," or "across." In Russian, we achieve this with the help of different prefixes.

In the dialogue, we came across three words:

1. **ВЫХОДИТЬ**
"to go out"
2. **ПОДХОДИТЬ**
"to come close"
3. **СОЙТИ**
"to go (come) down"

The key word in the first two verbs is *ходить*, the key element in *сойти* is *йти* (which came from *идти*), and the prefixes *вы-*, *под-*, and *со-* just gave them a specific direction.

Here are other prefixes you can use to enrich the meaning of the motion verbs you already know:

Russian	"English"
в-	"in"
вы-	"out"
до-	"as far as, reach"
за-	"drop in, stop by"
об-	"around"
от-	"away"
пере-	"across"
под-	"approach"
при-	"arrival"
про-	"through, pass"
с(о)-	"down from"
у-	"from"

Together with the prefixes, the verbs of motion are slightly modified. To be more precise, only the verbs *идти* and *ездить* are modified:

1. **Ходить**
prefix + *ходить*
2. **Идти**
prefix + *йти*

3. **Ездить**
prefix + езжать
4. **Ехать**
prefix + ехать

Examples:

1. **входить/войти**
"to go (come) in"
2. **уходить/уйти**
"to go away (from)"
3. **заходить/зайти**
"to drop in, stop by"
4. **доезжать/доехать**
"to get to (to reach)"
5. **проезжать/проехать**
"to go (drive) through; bypass"
6. **подъезжать/подъехать**
"to come (drive) up to"
7. **Подойди ко мне**
"come up to me"
8. **Не входить!**
"keep out"

It might be easier for you just to remember each of these verbs. Treating each verb as its own word, rather than a set of related verbs.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Adventurous Russian people

Russians are adventurous people. If you are familiar with the history of Russian explorers, you probably know that they traveled from Moscow (within Europe) to the East and ended their journey in Alaska, and some of them even in California (which is, yes, North America).

It is not surprising that kids (and sometimes adults) do crazy stuff, instead of just lying on the beach to relax. In Russia, you can always see kids climbing on the roof, up a tree or, well, actually anything -- even playing with huge dogs or digging some large hole. Adults may be nearby to watch...or sometimes even to help them.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #5

Which is Giving You More Pain in Russia?

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- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

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RUSSIAN

1. ЕГОР: Вика, извини меня, не злись, пожалуйста...
2. ВИКА: Я с тобой не разговариваю. Сиди и читай свои комиксы.
3. ЕГОР: Ну пожалуйста, прости меня, я больше так не буду, обещаю.
4. ВИКА: Что не будешь?
5. ЕГОР: Убегать, плохо себя вести...
6. ВИКА: Ладно. Но я тебя предупреждаю, ещё одна выходка – и мы едем домой!

ROMANIZATION

1. EGOR: Vika, izvini menya, ne zlis', pozhalusta...
2. VIKA: Ya s toboi ne razgovarivayu. Sidi i chitai svoi komiksy.
3. EGOR: Nu pozhalusta, prosti menya, ya bol'she tak ne budu, obeschayu.
4. VIKA: Shto ne budesh?
5. EGOR: Ubegat', ploho sebya vesti...
6. VIKA: Ladno. No ya tebya preduprezhdayu, escho odna vyhodka - i my yedem domoi!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. EGOR: Vika, I'm sorry, don't be mad, please...
2. VIKA: I'm not talking to you. Sit and read your comic book.
3. EGOR: Please, forgive me, It won't happen again, I promise.
4. VIKA: You won't do what?
5. EGOR: Run away...misbehave...
6. VIKA: Okay, but I'm warning you, just one more prank and we're going home!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
злиться	zlit'sa	to be mad, to be angry	verb
предупреждать	preduprezhdat'	to warn	verb
ладно	ladno	okay, well, fine	adverb
вести себя	vesti sebya	to behave	phrase
убегать	ubegat'	to run away	verb
обещать	obeschat'	to promise	verb
простить	prostit'	to forgive; to pardon	verb
КОМИКСЫ	komiksy	comic books	verb
разговаривать	razgovarivat'	to speak, talk to, communicate	verb
выходка	vyhodka	prank	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Он на меня злится уже второй день. <i>On na menya zlitsa uzhe vtoroi den'.</i></p> <p>"He's been angry with me for two days already."</p>	<p>Я тебя предупреждал, что там опасно. <i>Ya tebya preduprezhдал, shto tam opasno.</i></p> <p>"I warned you that it's dangerous there."</p>
<p>Ну, ладно. <i>Nu, ladno.</i></p> <p>"Well, okay."</p>	<p>Она совсем не умеет себя вести на людях. <i>Ona sovsem ne umeyet sebya vesti na lyudyah.</i></p> <p>"She can't behave in public at all."</p>
<p>Наша собака убежала из дома. <i>NAsha sobaka ubezhala iz doma.</i></p> <p>"Our dog ran away from home."</p>	<p>Он всегда сдерживает свои обещания. <i>On vsegda sderzhivaet svoi obeschaniya.</i></p> <p>"He always keeps his promises."</p>
<p>Простите, как пройти к банку? <i>Prostite, kak proyti k banku?</i></p> <p>"Excuse me, how can I get to a bank?"</p>	<p>Прости меня за всё. <i>Prosti menya za vsyo.</i></p> <p>"Forgive me for everything."</p>
<p>У Вас продаются комиксы для взрослых? <i>U Vas prodayutsa komiksy dlya vzroslyh?</i></p> <p>"Do you sell comic books for adults here?"</p>	<p>Мы с ним не разговаривали больше месяца, но в конце концов мы помирились. <i>My s nim ne razgovarivali bol'she mesyatsa, no v kontse kontsov my pomirilis'.</i></p> <p>"We haven't spoken for more than a month, but finally we made up."</p>
<p>Мне надоели твои выходки! <i>Mne nadoeli tvoi vyhodki!</i></p> <p>"I'm sick of your pranks!"</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Saying "To Be Angry," "I Won't Do It Again," "To Run Away," "Behave," and the Imperative Form of Russian Verbs

Ну пожалуйста, прости меня, я больше так не буду, обещаю.

"Please, forgive me, It won't happen again, I promise."

злиться ("to be angry, mad.")

This is a reflexive verb, which means the person is mad at himself, probably at someone, but he's not making anyone angry. Usually, this verb comes with the preposition на ("on"), which we can translate into English as "at."

For Example:

1. Он до сих пор злится на меня
"He's still mad at me (he's still angry with me)."

If you drop the reflexive part **ся**, you will get a verb in the meaning of "to make someone mad, angry" (**злить**).

For Example:

1. Не зли собаку
"Don't make the dog angry."

я больше так не буду

It won't happen again." / "I won't do it again."

я больше так не буду is almost a set phrase children (and adults, but in a childish, joking way) say when they did something wrong and feel guilty for it. It is a phrase to ask for forgiveness. Literally, it means, "I more like this won't," and we can translate it as "It won't happen again." / "I won't do it again."

убегать

"to run away"

убегать means "to run away." In the previous lesson, we learned some prefixes that we can

add to the verbs of motion to give them a direction. These verbs are applicable to all the verbs of motion, not just the verbs with the meaning "to go." Here, we have the verb бегать, which simply means "to run." By adding the prefix "у-" to it, we get a totally new meaning of this word: "to run away."

вести себя

"behave"

вести себя literally means "lead yourself," and we translate it as "behave." Switching the words around doesn't affect the meaning. In order to say "to behave well" or "to behave badly," you should just add the adverbs *хорошо* and *плохо* before the phrase.

For Example:

1. хорошо себя вести
"To behave well."
2. плохо себя вести
"To behave badly."

Imperative (Command) Form of Verbs

The imperative form of verbs, used to make commands or requests, is closely connected to the present tense conjugation pattern of the verb. As we usually give the commands to the second person (singular or plural, polite "you"), we should first put the verbs into the present tense, second person.

For Example:

1. **извинять** ("to excuse, forgive")
извиняешь
2. **сидеть** ("to sit")
сидишь

3. **читать** ("to read")
читаешь
4. **прощать** ("to forgive")
прощаешь

Next, we take a look at the endings. If you see the endings -ешь or -ёшь, you should just replace them with **-и** or **-й**, and if you want your command to sound polite, add **-ите** or **-йте**.

For Example:

1. **извиняй(те)**
2. **сиди(те)**
3. **читай(те)**
4. **прощай(те)**

The words **извиняй** and **прощай** are now in the imperfective form (i.e., they indicate the multiple or ongoing actions) like "You should forgive people," but not one specific action like "Forgive me." When it comes to the concrete completed one-time action, you should say **извини, прости**. The word **злиться** ("to be mad") is a little different as it's a reflexive verb (with the ending -ся it means "to be mad"). If you drop **-ся**, you'll get "to make someone mad." To make an imperative form from **злиться**, we shouldn't forget about this little **-ся**. We change it into **-сь**, and leave out **-ть** from the verb. So if you want to say "Don't make me mad," you should say **не зли меня**. And if you are asking someone not to be mad at you, you should add the reflexive ending: **не злись на меня**.

Imperative Form of Verbs

Infinitive	Second Person- Present Tense	Familiar Singular	Polite or Plural
разговаривать	разговариваешь	разговаривай ("talk")	разговаривайте

убегать	убегаешь	убегай ("run away")	убегайте
предупреждать	предупреждаешь	предупреждай ("warn")	предупреждайте

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Men are like children

Russian women take the leading role in a relationship. They pay in the restaurants, they decide on the places to go, and generally make the more important decisions.

There is a saying that men are like children. They need constant care and attention. So many women do treat men like children and do not let them decide anything. Men on the other hand, adapt to this situation and become passive. All they need to do is to bring the money to the house!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #6 In Case Good Fortune Smiles On You in Russia...

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RUSSIAN

1. ВРАЧ : Добрый день, проходите. На что жалуетесь?
2. ПАЦИЕНТ: Я очень плохо сплю в последнее время...
3. ВРАЧ : Бессонница? Расскажите мне о режиме Вашего дня.
4. ПАЦИЕНТ: Я работаю программистом. Прихожу домой обычно около десяти вечера, ужинаю, смотрю телевизор, часа в 2 иду спать...
5. ВРАЧ : Типичный случай...

ROMANIZATION

1. VRACH: Dobryi den', prohodite. Na shto zhaluetes'?
2. PACIENT: Ya ochen' ploho splyu v poslednee vremya...
3. VRACH: Bessonnica? Raskazhite mne o rezhime Vasheva dnya.
4. PACIENT: Ya rabotayu programistom. Prihozhu domoi obychno okolo desyati vechera, uzhinayu, smotryu televizor, chasa v dva idu spat'...
5. VRACH: Tipichnyi sluchai...

ENGLISH

1. DOCTOR: Hello, come in. What seems to be the problem?

CONT'D OVER

2. PATIENT: I have big troubles sleeping lately...
3. DOCTOR: Insomnia? Tell me what your day routine looks like.
4. PATIENT: I work as a programmer. I come home around ten p.m., have dinner, watch TV, and go to bed around two a.m....
5. DOCTOR: Typical case...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
проходить	prohodit'	to come through; to come in	verb
типичный	tipichniy	typical	adjective
часа в...	chasa v...	at about...o'clock	phrase
около	okala	nearly; nearby; approximately	preposition
приходить	prihodit'	to come	verb
программист	programist	a programmer	noun
режим дня	rezhim dnya	day routine; day schedule	phrase
бессонница	bessonnica	insomnia	noun
в последнее время	v poslednee vremya	lately	phrase
спать	spat'	to sleep	verb
жаловаться	zhalovat'sa	to complain	verb
случай	sluchai	occasion, chance; case	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Проходите, пожалуйста. <i>Prohodite, pozhaluysta.</i></p> <p>"Come in, please."</p>	<p>Он типичный представитель среднего класса. <i>On tipichniy predstavitel' srednego klassa.</i></p> <p>"He's a typical middle-class man."</p>
<p>Давай встретимся часа в 2. <i>Davai vstretimsya chasa v dva.</i></p> <p>"Let's meet around two o'clock."</p>	<p>Я буду ждать тебя около метро. <i>Ya budu zhdat' tebya okolo metro.</i></p> <p>"I'll be waiting for you near the subway."</p>
<p>Я загляну к тебе около 5. <i>Ya zaglyanu k tebe okolo pyati.</i></p> <p>"I'll drop by on you around five."</p>	<p>Он приходит к нам по выходным. <i>On prihodit k nam po vyhodnym.</i></p> <p>"He comes to visit us on weekends."</p>
<p>Больше не приходи сюда. <i>Bol'she ne prihodi syuda.</i></p> <p>"Don't come here anymore."</p>	<p>Он учится на программиста. <i>On uchitsa na programista.</i></p> <p>"He's studying to be a programmer."</p>
<p>Вы соблюдаете режим дня? <i>Vy soblyudaete rezhim dnya?</i></p> <p>"Do you follow a healthy day routine?"</p>	<p>Я уже год мучаюсь бессонницей. <i>Ya uzhe god muchayus' bessonnicei.</i></p> <p>"I've been suffering from insomnia for a year already."</p>
<p>Ты выглядишь уставшим в последнее время. <i>Ty vyglyadish ustavshim v poslednee vremya.</i></p> <p>"You look tired lately."</p>	<p>Я не хочу спать. <i>Ya nye hochu spat'.</i></p> <p>"I don't want to sleep."</p>
<p>Он постоянно жалуется на жизнь. <i>On postoyanno zhaluetsa na zhizn'.</i></p> <p>"He complains about life all the time."</p>	<p>Он его не убивал, это был несчастный случай. <i>On evo ne ubival, eto byl neschasnyi sluchai.</i></p> <p>"He didn't kill him; it was an accident."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Saying "to come through," "to complain," "opportunity," and Approximate Time and Numbers, and Grammar Cases

На что жалуется?

"What seems to be the problem?"

проходить - приходить ("to come through," "to come")

проходить - приходить ("to come through," "to come") have a similar stem: ходить ("to go on foot"). As we remember from the previous lesson, the prefixes just add the direction to the verbs of motion. The word проходить literally means "to come through" when you are talking about a crowd of people or some difficulties you go through. Although you might hear this very often in the context of "come in" in such places as restaurants, offices, or somebody's home. An invitation to come in usually sounds as проходите.

жаловаться ("to complain")

жаловаться literally means "to complain," and we usually use it with the preposition **на** ("on").

For Example:

1. жаловаться на боль в животе
"to complain about a stomachache"
2. жаловаться на жизнь
"to complain about life"

It also has a meaning of "to tell on somebody"

For Example:

1. Он пожаловался на брата
"He told on his brother."
2. На что жалуется?
Literally, "What are you complaining about?"
(Is a standard question a doctor asks a patient. We can translate it into English as "What seems to be the problem?")

режим дня ("*day schedule*")

We often translate режим дня as a "day schedule." Actually, it mostly indicates things you do during the day that relate to your health: food (nutrition), working hours, sleep hours, etc. There are some set expressions with the word режим.

For Example:

1. **правильный (неправильный) режим**
 "the right/proper/healthy day routine"
 (which usually means eating healthy and going to bed at the same time every day)
2. **соблюдать режим**
 "to keep/maintain the proper life routine/lifestyle"
 (i.e., eat healthy and at the same time, get enough sleep, etc.)

Около ("*about, "near"*")

около has two main meanings depending on the context. If you are talking about time, it indicates a proximity, as in "*about, "around."*"

For Example:

1. **около десяти часов**
 "around ten o'clock"

If you are talking about a place, it has a meaning of "*near, nearby, next to."*"

For Example:

1. **Он стоит около аптеки**
 "He's standing near the pharmacy."

часа в 2 ≠ в 2 часа (*around two o'clock/ at two o'clock*)

The phrase "at two o'clock" sounds as в 2 часа in Russian. We know that the word order is flexible in Russian, but not in this case. When we say часа в 2, we get a totally different meaning.

To express the exact number, time, length, weight, and any other measurement, we put a noun after a number.

For Example:

1. 100 метров
"one hundred meters"
2. 10 лет
"ten years"
3. 3 килограмма
"three kilos"
4. 2 часа
"two hours"
5. в 2 часа
"at two o'clock"

If we switch the number and the noun around, we'll get an approximate value.

For Example:

1. метров 100
"about one hundred meters"
2. лет 10
"about ten years"
3. килограмма 3
"about three kilos"
4. часа 2
"about two hours"
5. часа в 2
"at about two o'clock"

случай ("*chance*," "*opportunity*," "*occasion*," "*case*," "*incident*")

случай has different meanings, both positive and negative. Some of them are "chance,"

"opportunity," "occasion," "case," or "incident," depending on the context. What this word is famous for, is that it is the key word in many popular set expressions.

For Example:

1. счастливый случай
"good fortune," "happy thing happened"
2. несчастный случай "accident"
3. в случае
"in case of"
4. на всякий случай
"just in case"

Russian Grammar Cases

It's time to start reviewing the Russian case system, as well as deepen our knowledge in this sphere.

What are the Cases?

Basically, they are just different endings of the nouns according to their roles in the sentences.

When you speak English, you just put the words in the right order and get a correct sentence. In Russian, word order is not that important because cases tell what role nouns play in a sentence. As long as nouns take proper cases, you can arrange words in almost any order and still be speaking perfect Russian. There are six grammar cases in the Russian language. Today we will only go through two of them.

I. The Nominative Case

We use this case to indicate the subject of the sentence. All nouns appear in the dictionaries in the nominative case. In our lesson, they are бессонница and случай.

For Example:

1. Мама пьёт кофе
"Mom is drinking coffee."
Мама is the noun in the nominative case.

II. The Prepositional Case

We call the prepositional case this because it is the only case we use exclusively with prepositions, and we only use three prepositions in this case.

1. в ("in, at")
2. на + prepositional case = ("on, at")
3. о ("about")

In our lesson, the noun in the prepositional case is о режиме ["about a (daily) routine"].

For Example:

1. собака на полу
"The dog is on the floor."
Собака - nominative, полу - prepositional
The original form of the word "floor" is пол.
2. собака в комнате
"The dog is in the room."
Собака - nominative, комнате - prepositional
The original form of the word "room" is комната.

Forming the Prepositional Case

Masculine Nouns:

1. Add -e
стол - столе ("table")

2. Some nouns (mostly single syllable) take -y
пол - полу ("floor")

Feminine Nouns:

1. Replace -a with -e
комната - комнате ("room")
2. Replace -я with -е
семья - семье ("family")
3. Replace -ь with -и
мебель - мебели ("furniture")

Neuter Nouns:

1. Replace -o with -е
пиво - пиве ("beer")
2. -е remains unchanged
море - море ("sea")

Plurals:

Look at the last letter of the noun in the dictionary (nominative) form and...

1. Replace -a, -o, or a consonant with -ах.
комната - комнатах ("room")
2. Replace the last letter with -ях
семья - семьях ("family")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Busy schedule causes insomnia

According to the Ministry of Medical Care and Social Development in Russia, the average number of sleeping hours is decreasing. The main reasons are named as long working hours, night work, and unhealthy lifestyle.

Many people forget that there is no substitute for a long, healthy sleep. Therefore they become nervous, tired all the time and unable to work and relate to other people normally. It concerns not only adults: children who also lack sleep find it influences their performance in school.

In order to tackle the problem some schools are considering implementing a day naptime in school, and some companies are considering a so-called "siesta system" with at least 40 minutes of rest.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #7

There's No Substitution for What You Will Learn in This Russian Lesson!

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- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 10 Cultural Insight

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RUSSIAN

1. ВРАЧ: Расскажите, чем Вы питаетесь.
2. ПАЦИЕНТ: Обычно бутербродами, очень люблю сладкое...
3. ВРАЧ: Так, во-первых, давайте откажемся от сладкого и кофе на ночь. Во-вторых, заменим телевизор лёгкой прогулкой перед сном. И в-третьих, будем выпивать чашку тёплого молока за полчаса до сна.
4. ПАЦИЕНТ: Вы мне не пропишете таблетки?
5. ВРАЧ: Вам 26 лет! Попробуйте сначала природные методы!

ROMANIZATION

1. VRACH: Raskazhite, chem vy pitaetes'.
2. PACIENT: Obychno buterbrodami, ochen' lyublyu sladkoe...
3. VRACH: Tak, vo-pervyh, davaite otkazhemsya ot sladkova i kofe na noch. Vo-vtoryh, zamenim televizor lyohkoi progulkoi pered snom. I vtret'ih, budem vypivat' chashku tyoplova moloka za polchasa do sna.
4. PACIENT: Vy mne ne propishete tabletki?
5. VRACH: Vam dvatsat' shest' let! Poprobuite snachala prirodnye metody!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. DOCTOR: Tell me, what do you usually eat?
2. PATIENT: Usually sandwiches, I also like sweets a lot...
3. DOCTOR: Okay, first, let's cut out the sweets and coffee at night. Second, let's change television into a light walk before bed. And third, let's drink a cup of warm milk before sleeping.
4. PATIENT: You are not going to prescribe me any pills?
5. DOCTOR: You are twenty-six years old! Try some natural methods first!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
рассказать	rasskazat'	to tell	verb	
природа	priroda	nature	noun	
таблетка	tabletka	a pill, a tablet	noun	
прописать	propisat'	to prescribe	verb	
прогулка	progulka	a walk	noun	
заменить	zamenit'	to replace, to substitute	verb	
на ночь	na noch	late at night; before sleep	phrase	
отказаться	otkazatsa	to give up on; refuse	verb	

во-первых, во-вторых, третьих	vo-pervyh, vovtoryh, vtretih	first, second, third	adverb	
бутерброд	buterbrod	sandwich	noun	Masculine
питаться	pitatsa	to eat (general, formal)	verb	
метод	metod	method	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Он рассказал мне страшную историю. <i>On rasskazal mnye strashnuyu istoriyu.</i></p> <p>"He told me a scary story."</p>	<p>Расскажи мне о себе. <i>Rasskazhi mnye o syebe.</i></p> <p>"Tell me about yourself."</p>
<p>В России очень разнообразная природа. <i>V Rossii ochen' raznoobraznaya priroda.</i></p> <p>"Russia has very varied nature."</p>	<p>Мне прописали антибиотики. <i>Mne propisali antibiotiki.</i></p> <p>"I was prescribed antibiotics."</p>
<p>Вечерние прогулки улучшают сон. <i>Vechernie progulki uluchshayut son.</i></p> <p>"Evening walks improve your sleep."</p>	<p>Нам нужно заменить колесо в машине. <i>Nam nuzhno zamenit' koleso v mashine.</i></p> <p>"We have to replace a tire on our car."</p>
<p>Я люблю выпить бокал вина на ночь. <i>Ya lyublyu vypit' bokal vina na noch.</i></p> <p>"I like to have a glass of wine before sleep."</p>	<p>Он отказался от этой идеи. <i>On otkazalsya ot etoi idei.</i></p> <p>"He gave up on this idea."</p>

<p>Я отказался от его помощи. <i>Ya otkazalsya ot ego pomoschi.</i></p> <p>"I refused his help."</p>	<p>Во-первых, уже поздно. Во-вторых, завтра на работу. И в третьих, у меня нет денег. Я не могу пойти с тобой. <i>Vo-pervykh, uzhe pozno. Vo-vtorykh, zavtra na rabotu. I vtret'ih, u menya net deneg. Ya ne mogu poiti s toboi.</i></p> <p>"First, it's already late. Second, I have to work tomorrow. And third, I don't have money. I can't go with you."</p>
<p>Марина купила бутерброд с курицей и авокадо. <i>Marina kupila buterbrod s kuritsej i avokado.</i></p> <p>"Marina bought a sandwich with chicken and avocado."</p>	<p>Давай я тебе сделаю бутерброд с ветчиной. <i>Davai ya tebe sdelayu buterbrod s vetchinoi.</i></p> <p>"Let me make you a ham sandwich."</p>
<p>Я стараюсь правильно питаться. <i>Ya starayus' pravil'no pitatsa.</i></p> <p>"I try to eat healthy."</p>	<p>У него странные методы воспитания ребёнка. <i>U nevo strannye metody vospitaniya rebyonka.</i></p> <p>"He uses strange methods of education for his son."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Saying the Words "to tell," "to eat," "to refuse," "for the night," and "substitute," and the Instrumental Case

Во-вторых, заменим телевизор лёгкой прогулкой перед сном.

"Second, let's change television into a light walk before bed."

In this lesson, we will discuss the Russian instrumental case as well as the use of many helpful Russian words to extend your vocabulary. So first, let's jump right into the Russian vocabulary!

рассказать ("to tell")

рассказать means "to tell." Don't confuse it with the word *сказать*, which means "to say." You use **рассказать** when you mean a long story that should be told. Use *сказать* when you are talking about a short fact or a word.

For Example:

1. Он рассказал тебе эту историю?
"Did he tell you this story?"
2. Он сказал тебе, что это?
"Did he tell you (say) what it is?"

питаться ("to eat")

питаться is a very general formal word for "to eat" or "feed oneself." The noun would be *питание* ("food, nutrition, diet"). Usually, we use it in the following contexts:

1. **Он плохо питается***
"He's not eating healthy." (enough, properly)
2. **Продукты питания**
("food products")
3. **Неправильное питание**
("unhealthy eating, malnutrition")

*Note: If you say он **плохо ест** ("He doesn't eat well."), it would mean either he doesn't have a good appetite, or he doesn't eat enough for some personal reasons. But он **плохо питается** means that "he" doesn't get enough of good nutritious food and it reflects on his health.

отказаться ("to refuse")

отказаться is a reflexive verb which means "to deny oneself something," or "to give up on something."

For Example:

1. Отказаться от помощи
"to refuse someone's help"
2. Отказаться от сладкого
"to give up on sweets"

If you drop the ending **-ся**, you will get a simple verb that means "*deny*" or "*refuse*."

For Example:

1. Мне отказали в визе
"I was denied a visa."

на ночь ("for the night")

"На ночь" literally means "for the night" in the context of "он остался у меня на ночь". ("He stayed over (the night) at my place.") It can also mean "before sleep" if you are talking about some activities before going to bed (mostly those that may harm your sleep).

For Example:

1. наесться на ночь
"to eat a lot before sleep"
2. слушать тяжёлый рок на ночь
"to listen to the hard rock before sleep"

заменить ("replace," "change for," "substitute")

заменить means to "replace," "change for," or "substitute."

For Example:

1. заменить преподавателя
 "to substitute a teacher"
2. заменить старый телефон новым
 " to replace an old phone with a new one"

Russian Grammar Cases II: The Instrumental Case

Today we will focus on only one grammar case: **the Instrumental Case**

We use the instrumental case to indicate *an instrument that helps to perform an action*. We might also use it to describe someone's job or in combination with certain prepositions. In English, this function is marked by the prepositions "by" and "with," as in the following sentences:

1. "I came by bus."
2. "I eat with a spoon."

In this lesson, the nouns in the instrumental case are:

1. **бутербродами**
 "sandwiches" (the original form is бутерброд)
2. **прогулкой**
 "a walk" (the original form is прогулка)

If you translate the sentence "Я питаюсь бутербродами" into English, you might not hear the

preposition "with" there, it simply sounds as "I eat sandwiches." But, we translate the Russian word *питаться* as "to feed oneself"; therefore, it implies "with," which leads us to the instrumental case: **питаться бутербродами.**

In the sentence *заменить телевизор прогулкой* ("to substitute a TV with a walk"), the preposition "with" is obvious, and it leaves us no doubt that we have to use the instrumental case.

In the previous lesson, we also came across the instrumental case when the patient said he worked as a programmer. As the professions also relate to the instrumental case, we changed the word *программист* into *программистом*.

Forming the Instrumental Case

Masculine Nouns:

Formation	Russian	"English"
Add -ом	автобус - автобусом	"bus"
...or -ем	учитель - учителем	"teacher"

Feminine Nouns:

Formation	Russian	"English"
Replace -а or -я with -ой	ложка - ложкой	"spoon"
... or -ей	соя - соей	"soy"

Neuter Nouns:

Formation	Russian	"English"
Add -м	пиво - пивом	"beer"

Plural Nouns:

Look at the last letter of the noun in a dictionary (Nominative) form and...

Formation	Russian	"English"
All consonants, add -ами	бутерброды - > бутерброд - бутербродами	
Replace -а or -о with -ами or -ями	книги - > книга - книгами	"book"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Power of pills and drops for Russians

As in all places in the world, many Russians want a quick fix and believe in the power of pills, sprays, drops, and so on.

Even young people take a lot pills daily to keep them up, to help them sleep, to avoid mood swings, to stay slim, and so forth. With the opening of the pharmaceutical market, lots and lots of drugs and supplements poured into the stores and pharmacies. There are all kinds of products for any kind of person with any size of the wallet.

However, Russian doctors and teachers are still trying to promote a natural, healthy lifestyle and traditional diet.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #8

Will Your Russian Start You Off on the Right Foot?

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RUSSIAN

1. ПАЦИЕНТ: Здравствуйте, это я опять.
2. ВРАЧ: Ну, как, стали спать лучше?
3. ПАЦИЕНТ: Ну... Я прихожу домой уставший и голодный, я не могу не есть много и не смотреть телевизор, это меня расслабляет...
4. ВРАЧ: Но поймите, Ваш мозг устаёт за день, а тело – нет, этот дисбаланс и даёт Вам бессонницу. Вечерние прогулки или лёгкие пробежки должны Вам помочь!
5. ПАЦИЕНТ: Может, всё-таки таблетки?...

ROMANIZATION

1. PACIENT: Zdrastvuite, eto opyat' ya.
2. VRACH: Nu, kak, stali luchshe spat'?
3. PACIENT: Nu... Ya prihozhu domoi ustavshij i golognyi, ya ne mogu ne est' mnogo i ne smotret' televizor, eto menya rasslablyayet...
4. VRACH: No poimite, Vash mozg ustayot za den', a telo - net, etot disbalans i dayot Vam bessonnicy. Vechernie progulki ili lyohkie probezhki dolzhny Vam pomoch!
5. PACIENT: Nozhet, vsyo-taki tabletki?...
6. VRACH:

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. PATIENT: Hello, it's me again.
2. DOCTOR: So, are you sleeping better now?
3. PATIENT: Well...I come home tired and hungry, I can't not eat a lot and not watch TV, it relaxes me...
4. DOCTOR: But you should understand, your brain gets tired during the day but your body doesn't, and this imbalance gives you insomnia. Evening walks or light jogs should help you!
5. PATIENT: Maybe we'll try pills after all?

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
опять	opyat'	again	adverb	
помощь	pomoshch'	help, assistance	noun	
пробежка	probezhka	a jog, a run	noun	
дать	dat'	to give	verb	
дисбаланс	disbalans	imbalance	noun	
тело	telo	body	noun	neutral
мозг	mozg	brain	noun	
расслаблять	raslablyat'	to relax, to make someone feel relaxed	verb	
голодный	golodniy	hungry	adjective	masculine

уставший	ustavshij	tired	adjective
стать	stat'	to become; start doing	verb
всё-таки	vsyo-taki	however, still, after all	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Опять пошёл дождь. <i>Opyat' poshyol dozhd'.</i></p> <p>"It started raining again."</p>	<p>У нас опять нет денег. <i>U nas opyat' nyet dyenyeg.</i></p> <p>"We don't have any money again."</p>
<p>Благодарю Вас за помощь и понимание. <i>Blagodaryu Vas za pomosch i ponimanie.</i></p> <p>"Thank you for your help and understanding."</p>	<p>Утренняя пробежка заряжает тело на весь день. <i>Utrennyaya probezhka zaryazhaet telo na ves' den'.</i></p> <p>"A morning jog energizes your body for the whole day."</p>
<p>Вы забыли дать мне чек. <i>Vy zabyli dat' mnye chyek.</i></p> <p>"You forgot to give me the check (receipt)."</p>	<p>Некоторые лекарства могут вызвать гормональный дисбаланс. <i>Nekotorye lekarstva mogut vyzvat' gormonal'nyi disbalans.</i></p> <p>"Some medicines can cause hormonal imbalance."</p>
<p>После бега у меня болело всё тело. <i>Posle bega u menya bolelo vsyo telo.</i></p> <p>"After a jog, my whole body is sore."</p>	<p>Человеческий мозг - это очень сложный механизм. <i>Chelovecheskij mozg - eto ochen' slozhnyi mehanizm.</i></p> <p>"The human brain is a very complicated mechanism."</p>

<p>Меня расслабляет алкоголь и приятная беседа. <i>Menya rasslablyayet alkogol' i priyatnaya beseda.</i></p> <p>"Some alcohol and a nice conversation make me feel relaxed."</p>	<p>Он не голодный. <i>On nye golodniy.</i></p> <p>"He's not hungry."</p>
<p>У тебя уставший вид. <i>U tebya ustavshij vid.</i></p> <p>"You look tired."</p>	<p>Он стал много пить после развода. <i>On stal mnogo pit' posle razvoda.</i></p> <p>"After he got divorced, he started drinking a lot."</p>
<p>Кем ты хочешь стать, когда вырастишь? <i>Kem ty hochesh stat', kogda vyrastish?</i></p> <p>"What do you want to be when you grow up?"</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Стать, всё-таки, and Russian Adjectives

Ну, как, стали спать лучше?

"So, are you sleeping better now?"

Стать ("become," "start," "to pass away")

стать is one of the most useful words to remember. It has several meanings and all of them are equally frequently used. Here are some of them:

- I. **"become"** (стать + noun in the instrumental case)

For Example:

1. Он стал учителем
 "He became a teacher."
2. Она стала великой актрисой
 "She became a great actress."

II. **"start,"** "start doing something" (стать + infinitive)

For Example:

1. Она стала заниматься спортом
"She started to do sports."
2. Он стал много пить после того, как его уволили
"He started drinking a lot after he was fired."

III. **"to pass away"** (polite expression)

For Example:

1. Его не стало
"He passed away."
2. Её не стало в прошлом году
"She passed away last year."

всё-таки ("still," "after all," "however")

всё-таки ("still," "after all," "however")

This word underlines the final *decision*, whether in a statement or in a question.
We use the word very frequently in all these meanings in Russian language.

Sample Sentences:

1. Может, всё-таки поедём?
"Maybe we will (can) still go?"
2. Всё-таки, ты не прав
"Still, you are wrong."
3. Он сказал, что его не интересует эта вечеринка, но всё-таки пришёл
"He said he had no interest in this party, however he came."

4. Ты не можешь опаздывать, ты же всё-таки директор!
"You can't be late; you are a director after all!"

Russian Adjectives

Today we'll take a short break from the grammar cases and switch our focus to the words we use to describe people or events - the adjectives. In today's lesson, we come across four adjectives:

1. *голодный* ("hungry")
2. *вечерние* ("evening")
3. *лёгкие* ("light")
4. *уставший* ("tired")

In the Beginner series, we learned the basic grammatical structure of the adjectives according to gender and number.

Basic Adjective Structure

Gender	Ending	"blue"	"white"
Masculine	-ый, -ий, -ой	синий	белый
Feminine	-ая, -яя	синяя	белая
Neuter	-ое, -ее	синее	белое
Plural	-ые, -ие	синие	белые

The adjectives "white" and "blue" are the adjectives "by origin" (i. e., not derived from any other part of speech), just like the adjectives **голодный** ("hungry") and **лёгкий** ("light") in our lesson. But there are adjectives in the Russian language that came from nouns or verbs, like the word **вечерний**, which came from the word **вечер** ("evening").

The thing is, in English, such adjectives are no different from the nouns, and we can only say that they are actually adjectives from the context.

For Example:

1. beautiful evening - the word "evening" is a noun here, which is modified by the word "beautiful."
2. evening walk - the word "evening" is an adjective here, which modifies the word "walk."

In Russian, it doesn't work this way. In Russian, we must convert nouns and verbs to adjectives before they can modify nouns.

I. We call adjectives from nouns "relational adjectives."

In English, for example, one may say "evening walk," but in Russian, the word *вечер* ("evening") must first be converted to an adjective, *вечерний*, before this phrase is possible: *вечерняя прогулка*.

Here are some more examples:

- "city transport" (*городской транспорт*). We took the word *город* ("city") and turned it into an adjective (*городской*).
- "computer program" (*компьютерная программа*). We took the word *компьютер* ("computer") and changed it into an adjective (*компьютерная*).

II. We call the verbal adjective form a "participle." It expresses the sense of the "which" clause.

The word *уставший* ("tired," or "which is tired") in our dialogue came from the verb *устать* ("to get tired"). In our lesson, it happened to be in the past tense.

The past participle is formed by adding *-(в)ший* to a verbal stem.

For Example:

1. *устать - уставший* ("to get tired," "tired")
2. *сделать - сделавший* ("to do," "which did")
3. *написать - написавший* ("to write," "which wrote")

Sample Sentences:

1. Уставшая женщина шла домой
"A tired woman was walking home."
2. Человек, сделавший это, достоин награды
"A person, which did it, deserves an award."
3. Девочка, написавшая эти стихи, живёт в Москве
"A girl who wrote these poems lives in Moscow."

As you can see, verbal adjectives (participles) don't usually serve as adjectives in English, but rather can be translated as a construction "which + verb in the past tense."

The important point to remember is that adjectives, whatever their origin, must agree with the noun they modify. They do this with the endings, which are associated with the same cases and genders that nouns reflect in their endings.

For Example:

1. городской транспорт ("city transport"): транспорт is masculine → городской is also masculine.
2. уставшая женщина ("tired woman"): женщина is feminine → уставшая is also feminine.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Are Russians lazy?

It is said in Russia that Russians are lazy.

Many fairytales in Russia are about how you can get everything by doing nothing, like the story of Emelya who managed to marry the Tsar's daughter without coming down from his pechka -- a Russian oven or furnace.

It is not surprising that nowadays many Russians want to be slender, healthy and rich without

doing much by themselves. They want luck or an overnight miracle.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #9

Is There a Russian Doctor in the House?

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- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 10 Cultural Insight

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RUSSIAN

1. ПАЦИЕНТ: Здравствуйте, доктор.
2. ВРАЧ: Ну, как, Вам помогли таблетки?
3. ПАЦИЕНТ: Помогли в некотором роде...
4. ВРАЧ: Что-то не так?
5. ПАЦИЕНТ: Ну, теперь я быстро засыпаю, но совсем не могу проснуться утром...
6. ВРАЧ: А сколько часов Вы спите?
7. ПАЦИЕНТ: Около пяти часов...
8. ВРАЧ: Время действия этих таблеток – 6 часов, значит Вы должны спать минимум 7.
9. ПАЦИЕНТ: Но я не могу спать 7 часов, у меня просто нет столько времени на сон!
10. ВРАЧ: Вы отказываетесь следовать всем моим советам, как я могу Вам помочь?

ROMANIZATION

1. PACIENT: Zdrastvuite, doktor.
2. VRACH: Nu, kak, Vam pomogli tabletki?

CONT'D OVER

3. PACIENT: Pomogli v nektorom rode...
4. VRACH: Shto-to ne tak?
5. PACIENT: Nu, teper' ya bystro zasypayu, no sovsem ne mogu prosnutsa utrom...
6. VRACH: A skol'ko chasov vy spite?
7. PACIENT: Okolo pyati chasov...
8. VRACH: Vremya deistviya etih tabletok - shest' chasov, znachit Vy dolzhny spat' minimum sem'.
9. PACIENT: No ya ne mogu spat' sem' chasov, u menya prosto net stol'ko vremeni na son!
10. VRACH: Vy otkazyvaetes' sledovat' vsem moim sovetam, kak ya mogu Vam pomoch?

ENGLISH

1. PATIENT: Hello, doctor.
2. DOCTOR: So, did the pills help you?
3. PATIENT: They did, in a way...
4. DOCTOR: Is there anything wrong?

CONT'D OVER

5. PATIENT: Well, now I fall asleep fast, but can't wake up in the morning at all...
6. DOCTOR: How many hours do you sleep?
7. PATIENT: Around five hours...
8. DOCTOR: These pills hold the effect for six hours; therefore, you should sleep a minimum of seven.
9. PATIENT: But I can't sleep for seven hours, I simply don't have so much time for sleep!
10. DOCTOR: You refuse to follow my advice, how can I help you?

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
в некотором роде	v nekotorem rode	in a way, kind of, to some extent	phrase
засыпать	zasypat'	to fall asleep	verb
проснуться	prosnutsa	to wake up	verb
теперь	teper'	now, currently, presently	adverb
действие	deistvie	functioning, action, act, effect	verb
значить	znachit'	to mean	verb
отказаться	otkazat'sya	to refuse	verb
следовать	sledovat'	to follow	verb
совет	sovet	advice	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Ты прав в некотором роде, но... <i>Ty prav v nekotorym rode, no...</i></p> <p>"You are right in a way, but..."</p>	<p>Я всегда засыпаю под музыку. <i>Ya vseгда zasypayu pod muzyku.</i></p> <p>"I always fall asleep with the music on."</p>
<p>Ты уже проснулся? <i>Ty uzhe prosnulsya?</i></p> <p>"Are you awake yet?"</p>	<p>И что теперь? <i>I shto teper'?</i></p> <p>"What now?"</p>
<p>Теперь мы знаем, что случилось. <i>Teper' my znaem, shto sluchilos'.</i></p> <p>"Now we know what has happened."</p>	<p>Какое действие у этого лекарства? <i>Kakoe deistvie u etogo lekarstva?</i></p> <p>"What effect does this medicine have?"</p>
<p>Что это значит? <i>Shto eto znachit?</i></p> <p>"What does it mean?"</p>	<p>Он не мог отказаться от такого интересного предложения. <i>On ne mog otkazat'sya ot takogo interesnogo predlozheniya.</i></p> <p>"He couldn't turn down such an interesting offer."</p>
<p>Он отказался от моего предложения. <i>On otkazalsya ot moego predlozheniya.</i></p> <p>"He refused/didn't accept my offer."</p>	<p>Зря я последовал его совету. <i>Zrya ya posledoval ego sovetu.</i></p> <p>"I shouldn't have followed his advice."</p>
<p>Наталья Петровна любит давать всем советы. <i>Natal'ya Petrovna lyubit davat' vsem sovery.</i></p> <p>"Natalya Petrovna loves to give advice to everyone."</p>	<p>Он дал мне полезный совет. <i>On dal mne poleznyi sovet.</i></p> <p>"He gave me a piece of very useful advice."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is в некотором роде, действие, следовать, and the Russian Dative Case

Помогли в некотором роде...

"They did, in a way..."

в некотором роде ("in a way," "to some extent," "kind of," "somewhat")

в некотором роде is an *idiomatic expression*, which means "in a way," "to some extent," "kind of," "somewhat." The key word here is *род*, which has a meaning of "kind" or "sort of." We can translate Некоторый as "some," "certain."

For Example:

1. Вы писатель?
"Are you a writer?"
2. В некотором роде. Я пишу детские пьесы.
"In a way. I write children's plays."

действие ("scene," "act," "effect")

действие is a noun that has different meanings and is used in many set expressions. As a single word, we use it most often in the following meanings:

- I. scene (as in a play: first scene, second scene...)
- II. act, action (usually plural)

For Example:

Его действия непредсказуемы
"His actions are unpredictable."

- III. effect, function

For Example:

Действие этого лекарства наступает через 10 минут
"This medicine comes into effect in ten minutes."

Set Expressions:

1. **время действия** ("the time of effect")
2. **привести в действие** ("to activate; to carry out, to implement")
3. **под действием** ("under the influence (effect) of")

следовать ("to follow")

следовать means "to follow." We equally frequently use this word in two main contexts: "to follow somebody/something" in the direct meaning of it, and to "follow something" more abstract, like advice or a rule.

I. In the first case, the word **следовать** goes together with the preposition **-за** and requires the instrumental case of the noun. The "formula" of this structure looks like this:

следовать + за + Instrumental Case

For Example:

1. **Следовать за человеком** ("to follow a person")
человек → человеком
2. **Следовать за машиной** ("to follow a car")
машина → машиной

II. In the second case, when we are talking about following more abstract things, like advice, rules, or patterns, we don't need the preposition **-за**. All we need is the formula below:

следовать + Dative Case

For Example:

1. **следовать совету** ("to follow the advice")

2. следовать правилам ("to follow the rules")

Russian Grammar Cases III

Today we will take a look at the grammar case, which we use to represent the person or thing that receives the main object.

The Dative Case

Basically, we are talking about the *"giving-taking"* concept. We use the *"receiver"* in the dative case. The dative generally corresponds to the English word *"to,"* although this rule is only general as the word *"to"* has many meanings in English.

In the sentence Я дал маме телефон ("I gave the phone to mom"), "mom" is the receiver; therefore, we put the word into the dative case: мама → маме.

We use a number of verbs with the dative case. Most of them involve giving something or communicating something. In English, we sometimes use the word *"to"* in these situations. Here are a couple of verbs that use the dative case:

1. помогать - "to help," "to give help to"
Я помогаю другу
"I'm helping my friend." / "I help my friend."
2. звонить - "to call," "to give a call to"
Я позвонил другу
"I called a friend."
3. сказать - "to say," "to say to"
Я сказал это другу
"I said it to my friend."

The very important thing to learn about the dative case is the PRONOUNS, as we use them more often than you expect now.

Pronoun	"English"
Мне	"me"
Тебе	"you" (informal)
Ему (m)	"him"
Ему (n)	"it"
Ей (f)	"her"
Нам	"us"
Вам	"you" (formal, or plural)
Им	"them"

Here are the examples of the pronouns in the dative case from this lesson:

1. Вам помогли таблетки?
"Did the pills help you?"
2. Как я могу Вам помочь?
"How can I help you?"

Forming the Dative Case

To create nouns in the dative case, we first start with the nominative (dictionary) form.

Masculine Nouns:

1. If the noun ends in a **consonant**, add **-y**
друг - другу ("friend" - "to a friend")

2. Replace **-й** and **-ь** with **-ю**
бой - бою ("combat" - "to combat")

Feminine Nouns:

1. Replace **-а** and **-я** with **-е**
подруга - подруге ("friend" - "to a friend")
2. Replace **-ия** with **-ии**
Россия - России ("Russia" - "to Russia")

Neuter Nouns:

1. Replace **-о** with **-у**
пиво - пиву ("beer" - "the/a beer")
2. Replace **-е** with **-ю**
море - морю ("sea" - "to the sea")

Plurals:

1. Replace **-а, -о,** or **а** consonant with **-ам** or **-ям**
домам ("houses" - "to the houses")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Strict Russian doctors

The Russian universal medical insurance system decides for the patient which hospital or clinic he or she needs to go to.

It is usually decided accordingly to the patient's address and sometimes the company he or she is working for. Of course, the patient can go to some non-correspondent hospital but in

this case he or she needs to pay full cost.

With such a system, doctors don't really feel the competition or the need to provide better service simply because they always get the same number of patients. So don't be surprised with doctors are not really friendly or polite. They know that you don't really have a choice but to deal with them.

By the way, all Russian patients are praying for the changes in this system that were promised by the government last year!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #10

Quitting Is Not For Losers in Russia

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- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
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RUSSIAN

1. ПАЦИЕНТ: Здравствуйте, доктор. Я пришёл поделиться с Вами хорошей новостью.
2. ВРАЧ: Да? Какой?
3. ПАЦИЕНТ: Я стал замечательно спать! Я бросил таблетки, я прихожу домой в 7 вечера, бегаю, ужинаю лёгким салатом и фруктами, слушаю музыку и читаю книги вместо телевизора, пью тёплое молоко на ночь и ложусь спать в 11 вечера. Просыпаюсь в 7 утра и чувствую себя отлично!
4. ВРАЧ: Я очень рада за Вас. Продолжайте здоровый образ жизни и у Вас не будет никаких проблем!

ROMANIZATION

1. PACIENT: Zdrastvuite, doktor. Ya prishol podelitsa s Vami horoshei novost'yu.
2. VRACH: Da? Kakoi?
3. PACIENT: Ya stal zamechatel'no spat'! Ya brosil tabletki, ya prihozhu domoi v sem' vechera, begayu, uzhinayu lyohkim salatом i fruktami, slushayu muzyku i chitayu knigi vmesto televizora, p'yu tyoploe moloko na noch i lozhus' spat' v odinatsat' vechera. Prosy payus' v sem' utra i chustvuyu sebya otlichno!
4. VRACH: Ya ochen' rada za Vas. Prodolzhaite zdorovyi obraz zhizni i u Vas ne budet nikakih problem!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. **PATIENT:** Hello doctor. I came to share some good news with you.
2. **DOCTOR:** Oh yeah? What is it?
3. **PATIENT:** I sleep just perfectly now! I quit my pills, I come home at seven PM, jog, have a light dinner with salad and fruits, listen to music and read books instead of TV, drink warm milk at night, and go to bed at eleven PM. I wake up at seven AM and feel great!
4. **DOCTOR:** I'm very happy for you. Continue on leading a healthy lifestyle and you won't have any problems!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
поделиться	podelitsa	to share	verb	
новость	novost'	news	noun	feminine
замечательный	zamechatel'niy	great, wonderful	adjective	
бросить	brosit'	throw; quit	verb	
вместо	vmesto	instead of	adverb	
продолжать	prodolzhat'	to continue	verb	
здоровый	zdorovyi	healthy	adjective	masculine
образ жизни	obraz zhizni	lifestyle	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Он никогда не делится со мной своими чувствами. <i>On nikogda ne delitsa so mnoi svoimi chustvami.</i></p> <p>"He never shares his feelings with me."</p>	<p>Если нет новостей - хорошие новости. <i>Yesli net novostey - horoshiye novosti.</i></p> <p>"If there is no news, it is a good news."</p>
<p>У меня есть новости для тебя. <i>U menya est' novosti dlya tebya.</i></p> <p>"I've got some news for you."</p>	<p>Сегодня замечательная погода. <i>Sevodnya zamechatel'naya pogoda.</i></p> <p>"The weather today is wonderful."</p>
<p>Он 3 года пытается бросить курить. <i>On tri goda pytaetsa brosit' kurit'.</i></p> <p>"He's been trying to quit smoking for three years."</p>	<p>Мы пошли в кино вместо клуба. <i>My poshli v kino vmesto kluba.</i></p> <p>"We went to the movies instead of a club."</p>
<p>Она не хочет с ним разговаривать, но он продолжает ей звонить. <i>Ona ne hochet s nim razgovarivat', no on prodolzhaet ei zvonit'.</i></p> <p>"She doesn't want to talk to him, but he keeps calling her."</p>	<p>У него здоровый цвет лица. <i>U nevo zdorovyi cvet lica.</i></p> <p>"He's got a healthy complexion."</p>
<p>С этой минуты я буду вести здоровый образ жизни. <i>S etoi minuty ya budu vesti zdorovyi obraz zhizni.</i></p> <p>"From this moment, I'm starting a healthy lifestyle."</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is поделиться ("to share"), бросить ("to copy"), and the Accusative Case

Здравствуйте, доктор. Я пришёл поделиться с Вами хорошей новостью.
"Hello doctor. I came to share some good news with you."

поделиться ("to

поделиться means "**to share**," and consists of three parts: prefix-stem-ending (по-делить-ся).

- Let's take a look at the main part of it: *делить*. Without any prefixes and endings, this word means "*to divide*," "*to distribute*," or "*to split into*."

For Example:

1. *делить наследство* ("to divide an inheritance")
2. *делить деньги пополам* ("to split the money in half")

- When we add the prefix по- to the word, we transform it from an imperfective word (one that represents an incomplete action, or the ongoing or habitual process), into a perfective one (successfully completed or a one-time action). So if we say:

делить наследство ("to divide an inheritance"), we mean the process of it. And when we say:

поделить наследство ("to have divided an inheritance"), we mean a completed action.

- When we add the ending -ся, we turn a normal verb (perfective or imperfective) into a reflexive verb, the one that represents the concept of "self" (i. e., indicates that the object performs an action on himself), like *одеваться* ("to dress oneself"). Together with the reflexive ending -ся, the word (по)делиться means "to share," or "to give a part of something you have to someone."

For Example:

1. *делиться конфетами с соседом*
"to share candies with the neighbor"

2. поделиться деньгами с братом
"to share (have shared) some money with a brother"

Note: the nouns with the reflexive verb (по)делиться (конфеты, деньги) should be used in the instrumental case.

бросить ("to throw")

бросить literally means **"to throw."**

For Example:

бросить мяч ("to throw a ball.")

But we also often use this word in the following meanings:

I. "to quit"

For Example:

1. Я бросила курить
"I quit smoking."
2. Он бросил пить
"He quit drinking."
3. Она бросила работу
"She quit her job."

II. "to leave someone" or "to dump someone"

For Example:

1. Он бросил её
"He left her." / "He broke up with her." / "He dumped her."

The Accusative Case

The easiest way to determine how to use the accusative case is to ask the key questions associated with the case. So, in other words, when you are forming the sentence, first ask yourself these questions:

- Whom or what do I (or the subject) see / draw / eat / want (or other actions)? Or...
- To where do I (or the subject) go?

The examples of the accusative case in this lesson are:

1. бросил таблетки
"quit (taking) pills"
2. слушаю музыку
"listen to music"
3. читаю книги
"read books"
4. пью молоко
"drink warm milk"
5. продолжайте здоровый образ жизни
"continue a healthy lifestyle"

Forming the Accusative Case.

Masculine Nouns:

1. If the noun is inanimate (non-living object), there is no change.
2. If the noun is animate (person or animal) and ends in a consonant, add -a.
3. If the noun is animate, replace -й and -ь with -я.

For Example:

1. продолжайте здоровый образ жизни

Feminine Nouns:

1. Replace -a with -y
Я слушаю музыку
"I listen to music."
2. Replace -я with -ю
Я еду в Россию
"I am going to Russia."

Neuter Nouns:

1. Almost all neuter nouns are inanimate; therefore, they don't change.

For Example:

1. Я пью молоко
"I drink milk."

Plurals

I. Inanimate nouns are the same as the nominative plural.

For Example:

1. Я бросил таблетки
"I quit pills."

2. Я читаю книги
"I read books."

II. Animate nouns:

- **Masculine**
End in -ов, -ей, or -ев

For Example:

я встретил своих учителей
"I met my teachers."

- **Feminine**
If ending in -а, then drop -а (no ending)

For Example:

Я нашла своих подруг
"I found my girlfriends."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Healthy lifestyle

Healthy lifestyles and diets are very popular nowadays in Russia. Many people still don't have access to the gym due to its high prices and VIP policies so they try to be healthier with some simple changes in diet and sleeping hours.

There are all sorts of suggestions for healthy eating on TV: according to your blood type, region of birth, weight, height and even Zodiac sign!

Certainly, a lot of people try all of this before turning to the most traditional diet: everything in moderation and an active lifestyle. But even those people can't quit television!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #11

Russian Time Passes Too Quickly

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight

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RUSSIAN

1. ВЛАД: Ира! Эй! Обернись! Привет, это я, Влад, узнала меня?
2. ИРА: О, привет! Сто лет не виделись. Ты каким ветром здесь?
3. ВЛАД: Там за углом моё общежитие, а сейчас я просто вышел пройтись.
4. ИРА: Общежитие? А, ты ещё учишься.
5. ВЛАД: Мда... Слушай, извини, что я тебе тогда соврал...
6. ИРА: Да ничего, "банкир", забыли!

ROMANIZATION

1. VLAD: Ira! Ei! Obernis'! Privet, eto ya, Vlad, uznala menya?
2. IRA: Ou, privet! Sto let ne videlis'. Ty kakim vetrom zdes'?
3. VLAD: Tam za uglom moyo obschezhitie, a sechas ya prosto vyshel proitis'.
4. IRA: Obschezhitie? A, ty escho uchishsya.
5. VLAD: Mda... Slushai, izvini, shto ya tebe togda sovral...
6. IRA: Da nichevo, "bankir",zabyli!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. VLAD: Ira! Hey! Turn around! Hi, it's me, Vlad, do you recognize me?
2. IRA: Oh, hi! It's been ages. What brings you here?
3. VLAD: There's my dormitory around the corner, and now I'm just taking a walk.
4. IRA: Dormitory? Oh, you are still in school.
5. VLAD: Yeah... Look, I'm sorry I lied back then...
6. IRA: It's okay, "banker," forget it!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
пройтись	proitis'	to take a walk	verb	
общежитие	obschezhitie	dormitory	noun	neutral
за углом	za uglom	around the corner	phrase	
ветер	veter	wind	noun	masculine
узнать	uznat'	to recognize, to find out	verb	
обернуться	obernutsa	to turn around; to turn into, take someone else's guise	verb	
слушай	slushai	listen, look (command)	verb	

врать	vrat'	to lie	verb
забыть	zabyt'	to forget	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Ты не хочешь пройтись? <i>Ty ne hochesh proitis'?</i></p> <p>"Would you like to take a walk?"</p>	<p>Я живу в общежитии. <i>Ya zhivu v obschezhitii.</i></p> <p>"I live in a dormitory."</p>
<p>Эта авария случилась за углом нашего офиса, так что мы слышали, как произошло столкновение. <i>Eta avariya sluchilas' za uglom nashego ofisa, tak chto my slyshali, kak proizoshlo stolknoveniye.</i></p> <p>"This car accident occurred around the corner of our office so we were able to hear how cars bumped in."</p>	<p>Я буду ждать тебя за углом. <i>Ya budu zhdat' tebya za uglom.</i></p> <p>"I'll be waiting for you around the corner."</p>
<p>Сегодня сильный ветер. <i>Sevodnya sil'nyi veter.</i></p> <p>"There's a strong wind today."</p>	<p>Антон, ты узнал номер телефона Серёжи? <i>Anton, ty uznal nomer telefona Seryozhi?</i></p> <p>"Anton, did you find out the phone number of Serge?"</p>
<p>Я узнала его голос. <i>Ya uznala evo golos.</i></p> <p>"I recognized his voice."</p>	<p>Он обернулся, но никого не увидел. <i>On obernulsya, no nikovo ne uvidel.</i></p> <p>"He turned around but didn't see anyone."</p>
<p>Слушай, давай не будем об этом, ладно? <i>Slushai, davai ne budem ob etom, ladno?</i></p> <p>"Look, let's not talk about it, okay?"</p>	<p>Он совсем не умеет врать. <i>On sovsem ne umeet vrat'.</i></p> <p>"He's a terrible liar."</p>

Как ты мог забыть об этом!

Kak ty mog zabyt' ob etom!

"How could you have forgotten about it!"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Word Explanations and Reflexive Verbs

О, привет! Сто лет не виделись. Ты каким ветром здесь?

"Oh, hi! It's been ages. What brings you here?"

Сто лет не виделись

Сто лет не виделись literally means "We haven't seen each other for one hundred years." This is a very popular expression in Russian to say "Long time."

каким ветром

каким ветром is literally, "by what wind," and means "what brought you here" in a very informal way which is used among good friends.

Мда

Мда is a very informal version of **да**, usually used to express disappointment or unpleasant surprise. In our case, it was admitting the wrong thing and feeling sorry for having done it.

слушай

Слушай is a command form of **слушать** ("to listen"). It is an equivalent of the English "look," used to turn someone's attentions or point something out.

соврать

соврать comes from the word **врать** ("to lie"). The prefix **со-** only changes its form from imperfective to perfective. Basically, we use **врать** when we talk about habitual or ongoing lying. We use **соврать** when we are talking about one particular lie.

ничего

ничего literally means "nothing," but you can use it as a short reply in the following situations:

1. **как дела?**
"How are you?"
ничего
"Not bad."
2. **извини, пожалуйста**
"I'm sorry."
ничего
"Don't mention it."

забыли

Literally, "forgot," **забыли** is a very colloquial way to say that you don't hold a grudge against a person or that the question is not worth discussing. We can translate it as "forget it" or "let's drop it."

Reflexive Verbs

Now we will take a look back and review the type of verbs that are called "reflexive."

As you might remember from the Beginner lessons, we use reflexive verbs in Russian to indicate the concept of 'self.'

For Example:

1. "I washed myself."

The indicators of the reflexive verbs are the endings **-ся** or **-сь**. The example of such words in our lesson can be *учиться* ("to study"), or literally, "to teach yourself." If you drop the ending **-ся**, you will get a simple verb for "to teach" (*учить*).

The word *видеться* ("to meet," "to see each other") is also related to the group of the reflexive verbs, but it's called reciprocal because it expresses the concept of "each other." If we drop the ending **-ся**, we will get the verb for "to see" (*видеть*).

Here are some other reciprocal verbs:

1. **обняться**
"to hug each other"
2. **обменяться**
"to exchange" (with each other)

The words *пройтись* and **обернуться** are a little bit exceptional. Without the ending **-ся**, *пройтись* means "to walk through," as in *пройти через лес* ("to walk through the forest"), but not "to walk someone." But with the ending **-ся**, it's a simple reflexive verb in the meaning of "walk yourself," or "to take a walk" in proper English. The word *обернуться* ("turn around") also has a different meaning without the ending **-ся**. *Обернуть* means "to wrap around."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Solving conflicts in Russia

It is said that most Russians are easy to please and light-hearted.

If there is a problem or a fight, they yell, scream and insult each other without thinking. But as soon as you apologize and it is over, you are the best buddies again.

So don't bring up old fights when you meet someone casually in the street. If someone brings it up, just apologize again, make a joke about how stupid you have been and buy a drink for your friend. The conflict will be resolved forever.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #12

Nonexistence: Life After Work in Russia

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

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RUSSIAN

1. ВЛАД: Алло? Привет, это опять Влад. Хочу реабилитироваться за тот раз.
2. ИРА: Серьёзно? И как?
3. ВЛАД: Я устраиваю вечеринку в общежитии по случаю окончания экзаменов...
4. ИРА: В общежитии? И все твои крутые друзья-банкиры там будут?
5. ВЛАД: Перестань! Я серьёзно, не смейся. Я бы очень хотел, чтобы ты пришла.
6. ИРА: Ладно, приду. Говори, когда и где...

ROMANIZATION

1. VLAD: Alo? Privet, eto opyat' Vlad. Hochu reabilitirovatsa za tot raz.
2. IRA: Ser'yozno? I kak?
3. VLAD: Ya ustraivayu vecherinku v obschezhitii po sluchayu okonchaniya ekzamenov...
4. IRA: V obschezhitie? I vse tvoi druz'ya-bankiry tam budut?
5. VLAD: Perestan'! Ya ser'yozno, ne smeisya. Ya by ochen' hotel, shtoby ty prishla.

CONT'D OVER

6. IRA: Ladno, pridu. Govori, kogda i gde...

ENGLISH

1. VLAD: Hello? Hi, it's Vlad again. Just want to make up for that time.

2. IRA: Really? How?

3. VLAD: I'm throwing a party in my dormitory to celebrate the end of the exams...

4. IRA: In a dormitory? And all your cool banker-friends will be there?

5. VLAD: Come on; stop it! I'm serious; don't laugh. I'd really like you to come.

6. IRA: Fine, I'll come. Tell me when and where...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
реабилитироваться	reabilitirovatsa	to make up for	verb	
серьёзно	ser'yozno	seriously; really	verb	
устраивать	ustraivat'	to organize, arrange	verb	
вечеринка	vecherinka	party	noun	feminine
по случаю	po sluchayu	on the occasion of	phrase	

окончание	okonchanie	ending, finish	noun	neuter
крутой	krutoy	steep, sharp, cool	adjective	masculine
перестань	perestan'	stop it	verb	
смеяться	smeyatsa	to laugh	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Разрешите мне реабилитироваться за моё поведение.</p> <p><i>Razreshi mne reabilitirovatsa za moyo povedenie.</i></p> <p>"Let me make up for my behavior."</p>	<p>Ты серьёзно решила уехать в Европу?</p> <p><i>Ty ser'yožno reshila uyehat' v Evropu?</i></p> <p>"Have you seriously decided to leave for Europe?"</p>
<p>Не устраивай мне скандалы на людях!</p> <p><i>Ne ustraivai mne skandaly na lyudyah!</i></p> <p>"Don't make scenes in public!"</p>	<p>Ты пойдёшь к нему на вечеринку?</p> <p><i>Ty poidyosh k nemu na vecherinku?</i></p> <p>"Will you go to his party?"</p>
<p>Нам выдали бонусы по случаю Нового Года.</p> <p><i>Nam vydali bonusy po sluchayu Novova Goda.</i></p> <p>"We were given bonuses on the occasion of the New Year holiday."</p>	<p>Сегодня они празднуют окончание учебного года.</p> <p><i>Sevodnya oni prazdnuyut okonchanie uchebnova goda.</i></p> <p>"Today they are celebrating the end of the school year."</p>
<p>У него крутой рюкзак.</p> <p><i>U nego krutoy ryukzak.</i></p> <p>"He has a cool backpack."</p>	<p>Осторожно, крутой поворот!</p> <p><i>Ostorozhno, krutoy povorot!</i></p> <p>"Careful! A sharp turn!"</p>
<p>Перестань мне звонить!</p> <p><i>Perestan' mne zvonit'!</i></p> <p>"Stop calling me!"</p>	<p>Никто не смеялся над его шутками.</p> <p><i>Nikto ne smeyalsya nad evo shutkami.</i></p> <p>"No one laughed at his jokes."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This is Word Explanations and Simple, Reciprocal, and Intransitive Reflexive Verbs

Я устраиваю вечеринку в общежитии по случаю окончания экзаменов...
"I'm throwing a party in my dormitory to celebrate the end of the exams..."

реабилитировать ("to rehabilitate")

реабилитировать literally means "to rehabilitate." With the ending -ся, this verb becomes reflexive and has the meaning of "rehabilitate oneself," or "to right oneself." In a more colloquial way, this word has a meaning of "to make up for things." Usually it comes together with the preposition за, which means "for."

For Example:

1. реабилитироваться за что-то
"to make up for something"

Устраивать ("to organize," "to arrange")

устроить literally means "to organize," "to arrange." We usually use it in the following expressions:

1. устраивать концерт
"to organize (arrange, hold) a concert"
2. устраивать представление
"to make (organize) a show"
3. устраивать вечеринку
"to throw a party"
4. устраивать встречу
"to arrange a meeting"
5. устраивать скандал
"to make a scene"

We also frequently use it in its reflexive form (with the ending -ся). In that case, it has a meaning of "to settle down" or "to get" when you are talking about getting a job.

For Example:

1. устраиваться на новом месте
"to settle in a new place"
2. устраиваться на работу
"to get a job"

перестать ("to stop")

перестать literally means "to stop." The tricky thing about this verb is that it is often confused with **остановиться**, which also means "to stop."

We do not use **перестать** when talking about motion. For example, you can't say он перестал ("he stopped"), meaning that he stopped driving. In that case, you should say он остановился.

So, if you are talking about stopping while walking, riding, driving, and so on, you should use **остановиться**.

If you are describing actions other than moving, use **перестать**.

For Example:

1. перестать жаловаться
"to stop complaining"
2. перестать плакать
"to stop crying"
3. перестать шуметь
"to stop making noise"

Grammar

Today we're going to cement our knowledge about the reflexive verbs. Let's take a look at the groups of the reflexive verbs. We are going to discuss three basic groups at this point: simple, reciprocal, and intransitive reflexive verbs.

Simple Reflexive Verbs

Simple reflexive verbs are clearly reflexive, in the translation you'd use "-self" in English (although in English, we often omit it). Besides, we can always turn simple reflexive verbs into simple verbs by dropping the ending -ся.

For Example:

1. реабилитироваться
"to right oneself, to make up for"
2. реабилитировать
"to rehabilitate" - someone
3. одеваться
"to dress oneself, to get dressed"
4. одевать
"to dress" - someone

Reciprocal Reflexive Verbs (each other)

The structure and the usage are very similar to the simple reflexive verbs. But when you translate them into English, you'd use "each other" instead of "-self."

For Example:

1. обняться
"to hug" - each other

2. поцеловаться
"to kiss" - each other
3. встретиться
"to meet" - each other

Intransitive Reflexive Verbs

By nature, many verbs in any language don't have objects, only subjects. For example, you can't "smile" someone; you can only smile yourself. In Russian, we express such verbs through the reflexive form.

For Example:

1. смеяться
"to laugh"
2. улыбаться
"to smile"
3. надеяться
"to hope"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Time after work

Most Russians usually work from nine to five, so one would expect many people to go out afterwards. However, it is not always the case. There are several reasons for people's almost non-existent personal life after a long day at work.

First of all, many people work extra hours or have a second job to make ends meet. (And they say Russians are lazy!)

Second, there are not many places to hang out besides expensive restaurants and bars.

Third, many people are just so worn out after work, they just want to go home, lie down on the sofa, and watch TV while drinking beer. Can you blame them?

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #13

Next Time Maybe You Will Know What to Say in Russia!

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

13

RUSSIAN

1. ВЛАД: Оо! Ирочка! Заходи. Это моя комната, а это мои друзья, Николай, Александр и Валерий. Ещё должны прийти Оля и Аня.
2. ИРА: Очень приятно, Ира. Влад мне много рассказывал о вас в прошлый раз...
3. ВЛАД: Ира! Давай не будем об этом!
4. ИРА: Но почему? По-моему, твои друзья ещё многого не знают о тебе! Например то, что Александр – совладелец банка "Альфа" в Москве...
5. ВЛАД: Саша, я тебе потом объясню...

ROMANIZATION

1. VLAD: Oo! Irochka! Zahodi. Eto moyaya komnata, a eto moi druz'ya, Nikolai, Aleksandr i Valery. Escho dolzhny priiti Olya i Anya.
2. IRA: Ochen' priyatno, Ira. Vlad mne mnogo raskazyval o vas v proshlyi raz...
3. VLAD: Ira! Davai ne budem ob etom!
4. IRA: No pochemy? Po-moemu, tvoi druz'ya escho mnogova ne znayut o sebe! Naprimer to, shto Aleksandr - sovladelets banka "Al'fa" v Moskve...
5. VLAD: Sasha, ya tebe potom ob'yasnyu...

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. VLAD: Oo! Irochka! Come in. This is my room, and these are my friends, Nicolai, Alexander, and Valerij. Also, Olya and Anya should come.
2. IRA: Nice to meet you, I'm Ira. Vlad told me a lot about you last time...
3. VLAD: Ira! Let's drop it!
4. IRA: Why? I'm guessing your friends still have a lot to know about themselves! For example, the fact that Alexander is a co-owner of the "Alpha" bank in Moscow...
5. VLAD: Sasha, I'll explain it to you later...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
заходить	zahodit'	to drop by (in); to come in	verb	
комната	komnata	room	noun	feminine
должен	dolzhen	must, should	modal verb	here in masculine form
по-моему	po-moyemu	I think, to my mind	adverb	
например	naprimer	for example	adverb	
в прошлый раз	v proshlyi raz	last time	phrase	
совладелец	sovladelets	co-owner	noun	masculine
объяснить	ob'yasnit'	to explain	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Ты заходил в банк сегодня? <i>Ty zahodil v bank syegodnya?</i></p> <p>"Did you stop by a bank today?"</p>	<p>Заходи ко мне вечером. <i>Zahodi ko mnye vyechyerom.</i></p> <p>"Drop by on me in the evening."</p>
<p>В этой квартире четыре комнаты. <i>V etoy kvartire chetyre komnaty.</i></p> <p>"There are four rooms in this apartment."</p>	<p>Я забыла очки в комнате. <i>Ya zabyala ochki v komnatye.</i></p> <p>"I forgot my glasses in the room."</p>
<p>Это твоя комната? <i>Eto tvoya komnata?</i></p> <p>"Is this your room?"</p>	<p>Я никому ничего не должен. <i>Ya nikomu nichyego nye dolzhyen.</i></p> <p>"I don't owe anything to anyone."</p>
<p>Я должен вернуть ему деньги в пятницу. <i>Ya dolzhen vernut' emu den'gi v pyatnitsu.</i></p> <p>"I have to give him his money back on Friday."</p>	<p>По-моему, это хорошая идея. <i>Po-moyemu, eto horoshaya ideya.</i></p> <p>"I think it's a good idea."</p>
<p>По-моему, он прав. <i>Po-moyemu, on prav.</i></p> <p>"I think he is right."</p>	<p>Давай сходим куда-нибудь. Например, в боулинг. <i>Davai skhodim kuda-nibud'. Naprimer, v bowling.</i></p> <p>"Let's go somewhere. Bowling, for instance."</p>
<p>В прошлый раз ты забыл у меня шапку. <i>V proshlyi raz ty zabyal u menya shapku.</i></p> <p>"Last time, you forgot your hat at my place."</p>	<p>Мой отец - совладелец рекламной компании. <i>Moi otets - sovladelets reklamnoi kompanii.</i></p> <p>"My dad is a co-owner of the advertising company."</p>
<p>Подожди, не злись, я могу всё объяснить. <i>Podozhdi, ne zlis', ya mogu vsyo ob'yasnit'.</i></p> <p>"Wait! Don't get mad, I can explain everything."</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is должен, в прошлый раз, давай не будем об этом, the Prefix "-co," and Diminutive Forms

**Очень приятно, Ира. Влад мне много рассказывал о вас в прошлый раз...
"Nice to meet you, I'm Ira. Vlad told me a lot about you last time..."**

должен

This word has two main meanings.

I. "must," "have to," "should;" "supposed to"

The word that follows it is always a verb.

For Example:

1. Он должен идти
"He has to go."
2. Она должна была мне позвонить сегодня
"She was supposed to call me today."
3. Это должно быть уничтожено
"This must be destroyed."
4. Они не должны знать
"They shouldn't know."

II. "to owe"

In this meaning, должен requires a noun or pronoun in the *dative case* to follow it.

For Example:

1. Он должен мне 200 рублей
"He owes me two hundred rubles."
2. Я ему должна
"I owe him."

In both cases (meanings), the word changes according to genders.

Gender	должен
Masculine	должен
Feminine	должна
Neuter	должно
Plural	должны

Он много рассказывал о вас - Я много слышал о вас

Он много рассказывал о вас / Я много слышал о вас ("He's told me a lot about you." / "I've heard a lot about you.")

These two phrases are very common in Russia. If you are meeting your friend with his new girlfriend, friends, or parents, you better show your politeness and a little flattery by saying one of these phrases, even if you know the person it is referred to very little.

в прошлый раз

Прошлый literally means "**past.**" You can use this word to form the following phrases:

1. моё прошлое
"my past"
2. это в прошлом
"it's in the past"

Раз literally means "**time**" (like in "one time," "two times")

To complete the set of these phrases, you should also learn how to say "this time" and "next time."

For Example:

1. **в этот раз**
"this time"
2. **в следующий раз**
"next time"

давай не будем об этом

This is a set phrase, which literally means "let's won't talk about it" and we can translate it as "let's drop it," "let's not talk about it." *There's no need to say the verb говорить ("to talk") because it's implied.* If the situation is not a dialogue or discussion, but you just don't want a person to talk about something or reveal something to others, you can say:

не надо (не нужно) об этом

"Please, don't." ("Please drop it," "Please stop talking about it.")

The Prefix Co-

совладелец

The point of special attention here is on the prefix co-. This is the equivalent of the English "co-," like in "cooperation," and *indicates togetherness*. If we drop this prefix, we'll get a simple word for "owner," which is **владелец**. Not all of the words can get rid of this prefix easily though. Without it, a lot of them lose their sense of meaning.

For Example:

1. **сотрудник**
"co-worker"

The key part of this word is **труд**, which is "labor." The prefix co- indicates togetherness and cooperation. But there's no such word as **трудник**, and no, it wouldn't just mean "worker." There's another word in Russian for "worker," which is **рабочий**. **Сотрудник** is one complete

word with inseparable parts.

Here are some more popular words with the prefix co-:

1. **соавтор**
"co-author"
2. **собеседник**
"interlocutor," "companion," "the person you are talking to"
3. **собутыльник**
"drinking buddy"
4. **сочувствовать**
"to sympathize" (literally, "feel the same what another person feels")

Diminutive Forms

The diminutive form is a formation of a word we use to convey a slight degree of the root meaning, smallness of the object or quality named, *intimacy, or endearment*.

In Russian, we often use diminutives for the purpose of expressing affection, but sometimes they can have a derogatory connotation.

Russian has a wide variety of diminutive forms for names, to the point that for non-Russian speakers it can be difficult to connect a nickname to the original. For example, the name "Irina" (Ирина). Here are the nicknames we usually call girls with this name in Russia:

1. Ирочка
2. Иришка
3. Ирка

Or the name "Alexander" (Александр):

1. Саша
2. Саня

3. Сашка
4. Сашок
5. Шурик
6. Шура

We usually distinguish diminutive forms for nouns with suffixes. Usually they are -ик, and -ок for masculine (кот-котик, "cat"), and -чка, -шка, -онка, and -енка for feminine (вода-водичка, "water")

When it comes to personal names, it's better to remember their diminutive forms as they are, because very often the rules don't apply to them.

Other names used in this lesson:

1. Николай
Diminutive: Коля
Nickname: Колян
2. Валерий
Diminutive: Валера, Валерка
1. Оля
Original name: Ольга
2. Аня
Original name: Анна

CULTURAL INSIGHT

All is fair in love and war

Russian women are very picky nowadays; therefore, men who don't have highly-paid jobs sometimes try to trick women into thinking so. Their logic is this: All is fair in love and war, so a

little innocent lie can't do much harm.

Of course, if your friends are not aware of your little lies it may all come out when they hang out with you and your girlfriend.

It is said that men understand each other when it comes to dating women, so it may be a good idea to keep them updated about your 'current job,' 'recent purchases,' and such. Instead of busting you, they might save you!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #14

Are You guilty of Using Another's Possessions in Russia?

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 10 Cultural Insight

14

RUSSIAN

1. ИРА: Извини, я не хотела тебя позорить перед твоими друзьями...
2. ВЛАД: Да ладно, сам виноват, мне до сих пор стыдно...
3. ИРА: Кстати, в тот раз ты меня подвозил на чёрном джипе, он тоже не твой?
4. ВЛАД: Нет, это машина моего друга...
5. ИРА: Может, познакомишь? Шучу!
6. ВЛАД: Надеюсь! Ир, можно пригласить тебя на ужин?

ROMANIZATION

1. IRA: Izvini, ya ne hotela tebya pozorit' pered tvoimi druz'yami...
2. VLAD: Da ladno, sam vinovat, mne do sih por stydno...
3. IRA: Kstati, v tot raz ty menya podvozil na chornom dzhipe, on tozhe ne tvoi?
4. VLAD: Net, eto mashina moevo druga...
5. IRA: Mozhet, poznakomish? Shuchu!
6. VLAD: Ya nadeyus'! Ir, mozjno priglasit' tebya na uzhin?

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. IRA: I'm sorry, I didn't want to embarrass you in front of your friends...
2. VLAD: It's okay, it's my fault in the first place...I'm still ashamed of what I've done...
3. IRA: By the way, last time you gave me a lift in a black jeep, is it also not yours?
4. VLAD: No, it's my friend's car...
5. IRA: You should introduce me to him! I'm joking!
6. VLAD: I hope so! Ira, may I invite you to dinner?

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
позорить	pozorit'	to put to shame, to embarrass	verb
надеяться	nadeyat'sya	to hope	verb
шутить	shutit'	to joke	verb
познакомить	poznaomit'	to introduce somebody to somebody	verb
подвозить	podvozit'	to give a ride, give a lift	verb
кстати	kstati	by the way	interjection
стыдно	stydno	it's a shame; ashamed, embarrassed	adverb

до сих пор	do sih por	still, until now	phrase
виноватый	vinovatyi	guilty	adjective
да ладно	da ladno	it's okay, forget it, oh, come on	phrase
перед	pered	in front of	adverb
пригласить	priglasit'	to invite	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Не позорь меня перед моими друзьями!</p> <p><i>Ne pozor' menya pered moimi druz'yami!</i></p> <p>"Don't embarrass me in front of my friends!"</p>	<p>Мы надеемся, что все будет хорошо.</p> <p><i>My nadeemsa, chto vsyo budet horosho.</i></p> <p>"We hope that everything will be okay."</p>
<p>Надеюсь, что он не забудет об этом.</p> <p><i>Nadeyus', chto on ne zabudet ob etom.</i></p> <p>"I hope that he won't forget about it."</p>	<p>Я пошутила.</p> <p><i>Ya poshutila.</i></p> <p>"It was a joke."</p>
<p>Это я их познакомила.</p> <p><i>Eto ya ih poznakomila.</i></p> <p>"It was I who introduced them (to each other)."</p>	<p>Мой начальник подвёз меня до дома.</p> <p><i>Moi nachal'nik podvyoz menya do doma.</i></p> <p>"My boss gave me a ride home."</p>
<p>Кстати, где ты был вчера вечером? Я не могла тебе дозвониться.</p> <p><i>Kstati, gde ty byl vchera vecherom? Ya ne mogla tebe dozvonit'sya.</i></p> <p>"By the way, where were you last night? I couldn't reach you on the phone (couldn't get through to you)."</p>	<p>Тебе должно быть стыдно за то, что ты сделал!</p> <p><i>Tebe dolzhno byt' stydno za to, shto ty sdela!</i></p> <p>"You should be ashamed of what you've done!"</p>

<p>Я до сих пор не понимаю, как так могло произойти. <i>Ya do sih por ne ponimayu, kak tak moglo proizoiti.</i></p> <p>"I still can't understand how it could've happened."</p>	<p>У него был такой виноватый вид, что я его простила. <i>U nego byl takoi vinovatyi vid, shto ya evo prostila.</i></p> <p>"He had such a guilty face that I forgave him."</p>
<p>Да ладно! Я тебе не верю! <i>Da ladno! Ya tyebye nye vyeryu!</i></p> <p>"No way! I don't believe you!"</p>	<p>Да ладно тебе, не плачь! <i>Da ladno tyebye, nye plach'!</i></p> <p>"Come on, don't cry!"</p>
<p>Я в долгу перед тобой. <i>Ya v dolgu pered toboi.</i></p> <p>"I owe you one."</p>	<p>Выпей эту таблетку перед ужином. <i>Vypei etu tabletku pered uzhinom.</i></p> <p>"Take this pill before dinner."</p>
<p>Он пригласил меня в кино завтра. <i>On priglasil menya v kino zavtra.</i></p> <p>"He invited me to go to a movie tomorrow."</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is перед, сам, мне стыдно, and the Genitive Case

Да ладно, сам виноват, мне до сих пор стыдно...

"It's okay, it's my fault in the first place, I'm still ashamed of what I've done..."

перед

перед has three main meanings and we frequently use each of them equally. Let's remember them in certain categories: *time, location, and person.*

When it comes to the time category, the preposition перед has a meaning of "*before,*" indicating the time or an event preceding the next event.

For Example:

1. перед сном
"before sleep"
2. я поел перед уроком
"I ate before class."

When we use this word in the context of location, it takes a meaning of *"in front of."*

For Example:

1. перед зеркалом
"in front of the mirror"
2. перед домом
"in front of the house"

The last meaning of *перед* is more abstract, although we can translate it as "before," "in front of," or "to" as used in the following contexts:

1. извиниться перед кем-то
"to apologize to somebody"
2. я виноват перед тобой
"I'm guilty in your eyes."
3. мне стыдно перед ним
"I'm ashamed in front of him."
4. зачем ты перед ним отчитываешься?
"Why do you report to him?"

сам ("myself," "yourself," "itself")

сам means "myself," "yourself," "himself," and "itself." Unlike in English, Russian "-self" is not differentiated by persons (I, you, he, etc.), but is modified according to genders and number.

Here are the gender variations of this word:

сам	Gender	"English"
сам	masculine	"myself," "yourself," "itself," "himself"
сама	feminine	"myself," "yourself," "itself," "herself"
само	neuter	"itself"
сами	plural	"themselves," "yourselves," "ourselves"

Sample Sentences:

1. Я сделаю это сам
"I will do it myself."
2. Ты сама знаешь
"You know it yourself."
3. Они сами предложили это
"They suggested it themselves."

мне стыдно ("I'm ashamed.")

мне стыдно ("I'm ashamed.")

When we are talking about feelings, emotions, or conditions (sad, hurt, excited, warm, cold, etc) of a person, we usually put this person (whether it's his name, position, or pronoun) into the dative case, and use the condition itself in the form of an adverb that always ends in -о.

For Example:

1. мне плохо
"I feel bad."

2. ей весело
"She's having fun." (talking about feelings)
3. ему скучно
"He's bored."
4. мужчине грустно
"A man is sad."
5. девочке холодно
"A girl is cold."

Genitive Case

The genitive case is the last grammatical case we haven't mentioned in this series yet.

The primary use of the Russian genitive case is to show possession. In English, it's often indicated this with an apostrophe ('s), or the word "of" (e.g., "mom's book," "a friend of dad's"). The 'owner' is the noun that is used in the genitive case.

You should use the genitive in most cases where you would use the word "of" in English.

An example of the genitive case from our lesson is:

1. машина моего друга
"my friend's car" (a car of my friend's)
...and it's related to the concept of ownership of the dative case.

Here are some more examples:

1. сумка Марии
"a bag of Maria's"/"Maria's bag"
2. причёска женщины
"a hairstyle of a woman"

3. телефон директора
"a telephone of the director"/"director's phone"
4. чашка чая
"a cup of tea"
5. кружка пива
"a mug of beer"

Forming the Genitive Case

Masculine Nouns:

1. If the noun ends in a consonant, add **-а**: друг → друга ("friend" - of a friend)
2. Replace **-й** with **-я**: чай → чая ("tea" - of tea)

Feminine Nouns:

1. Replace **-а** with **-ы**: женщина → женщины ("woman" - of a woman)
2. Replace **-я** with **-и**: Мария → Марии ("Maria" - of Maria)

Neuter Nouns:

1. Replace **-о** with **-а**: пиво → пива ("beer" - of beer)
2. Replace **-е** with **-я**: море → моря ("sea" - of the sea)

Forming Plurals in the Genitive Case

The plurals in genitive case are a little complicated because they also involves gender.

I. Masculine Nouns

The main two endings for masculine plurals in the genitive case are:

-ей

врач ("doctor") - врачей ("of the doctors")

For Example:

1. Халаты врачей
"the robes of the doctors"

-ОВ as in

сотрудник ("worker") - сотрудников ("of the workers")

For Example:

1. Имена сотрудников
"the names of the co-workers"

II. Feminine Nouns:

- If it ends in -а, then drop -а (no ending)

For Example:

1. книга ("book") - книг ("of the books")

- If it ends in -я, then change it to -ь or -й

For Example:

1. няня ("nanny") - нянь ("of the nannies")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Dont judge book by its cover

Russia's economy is doing relatively well nowadays, so there are many people who have money and who want to spend them on expensive clothes, jewelry, luxury cars, and so on. Therefore, looks, cars, and image are becoming all the more important when it comes to looking for a boyfriend or a girlfriend.

And as you know, all is fair in love and war, so many people play tricks (e.g. using their

friend's luxury car and not saying anything) in order to win someone over. They can also buy some outfits especially for dates to look richer than they are in reality.

So here is a piece of advice: Don't be lured in by the appearances. Dig deeper.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #15

How to Replenish Your Money While in Russia

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 8 Cultural Insight

15

RUSSIAN

1. ИРА: Спасибо, Влад, замечательный ужин. Девушка, счёт, пожалуйста!
2. ВЛАД: Ира, я заплачу!
3. ИРА: Своей стипендией? Не смейся. Я сама заплачу. Кстати, разрешите представиться, менеджер банка "Альфа".
4. ВЛАД: Ты серьёзно?... У меня нет слов...
5. ИРА: Серьёзнее не бывает! Ну, что, поехали ко мне? Такси!

ROMANIZATION

1. IRA: Spasibo, Vlad, zamechatel'nyi uzhin. Devushka, schot, pozhalusta!
2. VLAD: Ira, ya zaplachu!
3. IRA: Svoei stipendiei? Ne smeshi. Ya sama zaplachu. Kstati, razreshite predstavitsa, menedzher banka "Al'fa".
4. VLAD: Ty ser'yozno?... U menya net slov...
5. IRA: Ser'yoznee ne byvaet! Nu, shto, poehali ko mne? Taksi!

ENGLISH

1. IRA: Thank you, Vlad, it was a wonderful dinner. Waitress, a bill, please.

CONT'D OVER

2. VLAD: Ira, I'll pay!
3. IRA: With your scholarship money? You must be joking. I'll pay myself. By the way, let me introduce myself, I'm a manager of "Alfa" bank.
4. VLAD: You're serious? ...I'm speechless...
5. IRA: Can't be any more serious! So, let's go to my place! Taxi!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
счёт	shyot	bill, check; account	noun	masculine
платить	platiit'	to pay	verb	
стипендия	stipen'diya	scholarship; scholarship money	verb	feminine
смешить	smesheet'	to make someone laugh	verb	
разрешите представиться	razresheete predstavitsa	let me introduce myself	phrase	
слово	slovo	word	noun	neutral
бывать	byvat'	to happen; to take place; have been	verb	
...не бывает	... ne byvaet	couldn't be any more...	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Ваш счёт, пожалуйста. <i>Vash schyot, pozhaluysta.</i></p> <p>"Here's your bill."</p>	<p>У него на счету - сто тысяч евро. <i>U nyego na schyetu - sto tysyach yevro.</i></p> <p>"He's got one hundred thousand euros in his account."</p>
<p>Она никогда за себя не платит. <i>Ona nikogda za sebya ne platit.</i></p> <p>"She never pays for herself."</p>	<p>Он получил стипендию в Московский Университет. <i>On poluchil stipendiyu v Moskovskii Universitet.</i></p> <p>"He got a scholarship to the Moscow University."</p>
<p>Не смеши меня, а то я подавлюсь. <i>Ne smeshi menya, a to ya podavlyus'.</i></p> <p>"Don't make me laugh because I'll choke."</p>	<p>Разрешите представиться, Михаил Лавров, директор исследовательского института. <i>Razresheete predstavitsa, Mikhail Lavrov, direktor isledovatel'skova instituta.</i></p> <p>"Let me introduce myself: Michail Lavrov, Director of the Research Institute."</p>
<p>Я забыл это слово по-русски. <i>Ya zabyt eto slovo po-russki.</i></p> <p>"I forgot this word in Russian."</p>	<p>Я бывал в азиатских странах. <i>Ya byval v aziatskih stranah.</i></p> <p>"I've been to Asian countries."</p>

-На улице холодно? -Холоднее не бывает!

Na ulice holodno? -Holodnee ne byvaet!

"-Is it cold outside? -Couldn't be any colder!" (really cold)

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is платить ("to pay"), бывать ("to happen," "have been"), and the Genitive Case

Ира, я заплачу!

"Ira, I'll pay!"

платить ("to pay")

платить means "to pay." We mainly use this word in two contexts: to pay for something, and to pay with something.

When you "pay for something", you use платить with the preposition за ("for").

For Example:

1. платить за квартиру
"to pay for the apartment"

When you "pay with something," you put the noun (that is the means of your payment) into the instrumental case.

For Example:

1. платить наличными
"to pay in cash"
2. платить карточкой
"to pay with a card"

In our lesson, we used the word платить with the prefix за-, which indicates that the verb is perfective (i.e., shows one-time complete action: заплатить).

бывать ("to happen," "have been")

бывать is a rather colloquial word that has two main meanings.

I. "to happen."

We can also say it's just a more conversational word for случаться.

For Example:

1. Так бывает, что близкие люди теряют друг друга на долгие годы.
"It happens sometimes that close people lose each other for many years."

2. Я провалил этот экзамен дважды
"I failed this exam twice."
3. Бывает
"It happens."

II. "have been"

We frequently use this word in a conversational and sometimes joking way to say that you had a chance to be somewhere (usually not just once), or simply that you have been to some places.

For Example:

1. Я бывал в Корее, ничего особенного
"I've been to Korea, nothing special."

Comparative Adjective + не бывает ("couldn't be")

Comparative adjective + не бывает means "couldn't be" (any more) + comparative adjective.

For Example:

1. лучше не бывает
"couldn't be better" (really good)
2. холоднее не бывает
"couldn't be any colder" (really cold)
3. смешнее не бывает
"couldn't be funnier" (really funny)

Genitive Case

In the previous lesson, we learned one of the functions of the genitive case: it indicates possession. In today's lesson we have another example of the genitive case, representing its possession function:

менеджер банка ("a manager of a bank")

The "possessor" in this case is the bank, therefore, it is the one we should convert into the genitive case. According to the rules of how to form the genitive, we simply add -а to the word банк and get банка.

Today we'll learn another two functions of the genitive case.

I. We use the genitive case for words, where in English you could place "some," "any," "few," and "several" before them. We also commonly use it with numbers and other quantities.

For Example:

1. несколько часов
"several hours"
2. немного молока
"some (a little) milk"
3. 3 книги
"three books"
4. 7 стульев
"seven chairs"

II. We commonly use the genitive case after negation in the following cases:

1. У меня нет + noun in Genitive
"I don't have" + noun in genitive
2. noun in Genitive + нет
"There's no" + noun in genitive
3. У меня нет собаки
"I don't have a dog."
4. У меня нет слов
"I don't have words." (I'm speechless)

5. Директора нет в офисе
"The director is not in the office."
6. Чая нет
"There's no tea."

Note! The word **нет** in Russian has two meanings: "no" (as a simple negative answer) and "there's no" (is not), as a verb. In the case when we use it in its second meaning, a noun following it should ALWAYS be put into the genitive case.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A famous Russian poet Nikolay Nekrasov once wrote about Russian women: "They can stop a running horse and enter a burning house." True, Russian women are very strong and do many impossible things. Nowadays, Russian women want to succeed, have great careers with all the advantages it brings--money, a comfortable house, and everything that money can buy in it. It is not surprising that with such drive many women earn much more money than Russian men, who are busy drinking. But women remain women, and they also want a loving husband in their big, comfortable house. So when these women see a guy, who is loving, caring, polite and smart, they don't care about the money and are ready to pay in restaurants, for overseas trips, and more -- all of this in exchange for the ring and wedding march, of course.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #16

Getting on Your Russian Boss's Good Side

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

16

RUSSIAN

1. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Иван, Вы опять опоздали. Вы каждый день опаздываете, и каждый день у Вас новая причина!
2. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Сегодня я просто проспал... Но вчера я работал до двух часов ночи!
3. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Мила видела, как Вы уходили из офиса в 8 вечера.
4. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Я работал дома...
5. НАЧАЛЬНИК: А почему от Вас пахнет алкоголем?!

ROMANIZATION

1. NACHAL'NIK: Ivan, Vy opyat' opozdali. Vy kazhdyi dyen' opazdyvaete, i kazhdyi dyen' u Vas novaya prichina!
2. PODCHINYONNY I: Sevodnya ya prosto prospal... No vchera ya rabotal do dvuh chasov nochi!
3. NACHAL'NIK: Mila videla, kak Vy uhodili iz ofisa v vosem' vechera.
4. PODCHINYONNY I: Ya rabotal doma...
5. NACHAL'NIK: A pochemu ot Vas pahnet alkogolem?!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. **BOSS:** Ivan, you are late again. You are late every day, and every day you come up with a new excuse!
2. **SUBORDINATE:** Today I just overslept... But yesterday I worked until two AM!
3. **BOSS:** Mila saw you leaving the office at eight PM.
4. **SUBORDINATE:** I worked at home...
5. **BOSS:** And why do you smell like alcohol?!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
начальник	nachal'nik	boss	noun	masculine
алкоголь	alcagol'	alcohol	noun	masculine
подчинённый	podchinyonnyi	subordinate	none	masculine
пахнуть	pahnut'	to smell (to produce smell)	verb	
опоздать	opozdat'	to be late	verb	
уходить	uhodit'	to walk away, to leave	verb	
проспать	prospat'	to oversleep	verb	
причина	prichina	reason, cause	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Мой начальник подвёз меня до дома. <i>Moi nachal'nik podvyoz menya do doma.</i></p> <p>"My boss gave me a ride home."</p>	<p>У Вас аллергическая реакция на алкоголь. <i>U Vas alergicheskaya reaktsiya na alkogol'.</i></p> <p>"You have an allergic reaction for alcohol."</p>
<p>Вам нельзя пить алкоголь. <i>Vam nyel'zya pit' alkogol'.</i></p> <p>"You mustn't drink alcohol." (formal)</p>	<p>Я дал своим подчинённым дополнительный выходной. <i>Ya dal svoim podchinyonnyim dopolnitel'nyi vyhodnoi.</i></p> <p>"I gave my subordinates an extra day off."</p>
<p>Здесь вкусно пахнет. <i>Zdes' vkusno pahnet.</i></p> <p>"It smells tasty here."</p>	<p>Как 'опоздала'? Еще только 9 утра! <i>Kak 'opozdala'? Escho tol'ko devyat' utra!</i></p> <p>"What do you mean 'late'? It's only nine AM!"</p>
<p>Извините, я опоздал. <i>Izvinite, ya opozdal.</i></p> <p>"I'm sorry, I'm late."</p>	<p>Он ушёл рано утром. <i>On ushol rano utrom.</i></p> <p>"He left early in the morning."</p>
<p>Не уходи! <i>Ne uhodi!</i></p> <p>"Don't go!" ("Don't leave!")</p>	<p>Я проспал свой поезд. <i>Ya prospal svoi poezd.</i></p> <p>"I overslept and was late for my train."</p>

По какой причине тебе отказали в визе?

Po kakoi prichine tebe otkazali v vize?

"For what reason were you denied a visa?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Verbs

Сегодня я просто проспал... Но вчера я работал до двух часов ночи!

"Today I just overslept... But yesterday I worked until two AM!"

Unlike English, Russian language has only three *basic tenses*—*present, past, and future*. But this simplicity in tenses is compensated by aspects.

Aspects of the Russian verbs are:

1. *Perfective*
2. *Imperfective*

We only use aspects in the past and future tenses (almost never in the present tense) and in the dictionary forms of the verbs.

We use aspects to indicate if an action was completed successfully or is ongoing.

To do this in English, you can use verbs like "had" and "have." For example, in the phrase, "I read," the action is completed. However, in a phrase like "I have been reading," we imply that the action is not yet completed. We use aspects to illustrate this difference.

Imperfective Aspect

Imperfective aspect *indicates incomplete, ongoing, habitual, reversed, or repeated actions.*

Perfective Aspect

Perfective aspect *indicates actions that have been completed successfully.*

Almost every Russian verb has both aspects. There are normally two words for each verb indicating each aspect. Often these two words are closely related (and only differ in prefixes or suffixes), but sometimes they are completely different.

Let's take a look at the verbs from today's lesson.

For Example:

1. опоздали
"(you) were late"
2. опаздываете

"(you) are late"

3. проспал

"(I) overslept"

4. работал

"(I) was working"

5. видела

"(she) saw"

Let's go over them one by one.

The dictionary form of the verb "*to be late*" is **опаздывать**, but it can also be опоздать (some dictionaries give both perfective and imperfective aspects of the verbs, some give only one form).

Опаздывать – Опоздать

Опаздывать is an imperfective verb, which indicates ongoing or habitual action.

For Example:

1. Я опаздываю на работу
"I'm late for work."
2. Он всегда опаздывает
"He's always late."

Опоздать is a perfective form of the verb, which indicates a completed action. Let's try using it in both future and past tenses.

For Example:

1. я не опоздаю в следующий раз
"I won't be late next time."
2. он опять опоздал
"He is (was) late again."

Просыпать – Проспать

Просыпать is an imperfective verb, which shows us a regular action (logically, it can't be ongoing).

For Example:

1. Он часто просыпает работу
"He often oversleeps and is late for work."

Проспать is a perfective verb, which indicates that the action was performed once and successfully completed.

1. Я проспал свою остановку
"I slept through my stop."
2. Я опять проспал сегодня
"I overslept again today."

Работать – Поработать

Работать is an imperfective verb, which indicates a process or a regularity of work. In the dialogue, Ivan is talking about a process: "I was working" (Я работал).

Here are some more examples:

1. Я работаю в банке
"I work in a bank." (regular thing)
2. Я буду работать до поздна сегодня
"I will be working late today." (ongoing process in the future)

Поработать is the perfective form of the word "to work," which means "to do some amount of work," or "to complete some piece of work." But there's a little nuance about this word. The

prefix **по-** can also give a diminutive sense to the word "to work" and make it sound like "to work a little."

For Example:

1. Мы сегодня хорошо поработали
"We did a good job today (we worked well today)."
2. Пойду, поработаю
"I'll go and work a little."

Видеть – Увидеть

Видеть is the imperfective form of "to see," which can't indicate the process (there are words like "to look" or "to watch" for that), but rather indicates the ability or states the fact.

For Example:

1. Я ничего не вижу
"I can't see anything."
2. Я тебя видела вчера
"I saw you yesterday."

Увидеть is the perfective form of "to see," which indicates a short, complete action, like "to capture with your eyes."

For Example:

1. Она увидела его и потеряла сознание
"She saw him and fainted." (Obviously she saw him for a very brief moment).
2. Я ничего там не увидел
"I didn't see anything there." (Nothing specific. If we talked about not being able to see anything, we'd say Я ничего там не видел).

3. Я тебя завтра увижу?

"Will I see you tomorrow?" (In the future tense, увижу is the most commonly used form of this verb in any case).

As you have noticed, perfective and imperfective verbs mostly differ in suffixes and prefixes. Getting a feel for which aspect to use is something that can only come with practice. This lesson gave you (or refreshed) a general idea about the aspects of the Russian verbs. In the following lessons of this season, we'll practice forming and using the verbs in both aspects a little more.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Russian bosses

Russian bosses can be very nice and understanding. We are all human, they say, and can occasionally overlook your late arrival at the office or the smell of alcohol.

You should not take it for granted, though. One day you might go to the office and be fired because you are one minute late. It all depends on your boss's mood, the day's weather, etc. Keep in mind that about 50 percent of bosses in Russia are women, and you cannot predict their reaction to your story about the late soccer game or your hot date the previous night.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #17

The Toughest Russian Boss

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 13 Cultural Insight

17

RUSSIAN

1. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Иван, где Ваш отчёт за прошлый месяц?
2. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Я его закончил вчера, но я не могу его найти...
3. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Как так можно! Вы медлительный, рассеянный и безответственный работник!
4. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Вот, я нашёл отчёт!
5. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Он мятый и на нём следы кофе и шоколада... Иван!!!

ROMANIZATION

1. NACHAL'NIK: Ivan, gde Vash otchot za proshlyi mesyac?
2. PODCHINYONNY I: Ya evo zakonchil vchera, no ya ne mogu yevo naiti...
3. NACHAL'NIK: Kak tak mozhno! Vy medlitelnyi, rasseyanniy I bezotvetstvennyi rabotnik!
4. PODCHINYONNY I: Vot, ya nashol otchot!
5. NACHAL'NIK: On myatyi I na nyom sledy kofe I shokolada... Ivan!!!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. BOSS: Ivan, where is your report on the last month?
2. SUBORDINATE: I finished it yesterday, but I can't find it...
3. BOSS: How can you be like this! You are sluggish, absent-minded, and an irresponsible worker!
4. SUBORDINATE: Here, I found the report!
5. BOSS: It's crumpled and it has coffee and chocolate stains on it...Ivan!!!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
отчёт	otchot	a report	noun	masculine
мятый	myaty	crumpled; wrinkled	adjective	
закончить	zakon'chit'	to finish	verb	
найти	nayti	to find	verb	
Как так можно!	Kak tak mozhno!	How can it be?!/ How could you do that!/How is it possible!	phrase	
медлительный	medlitel'nyi	sluggish, slow (about character)	adjective	
рассеянный	rasseyanniy	absentminded; scatterbrained	adjective	

безответственн ый	bezotvetstvennyi	irresponsible	adjective	
люди	lyudi	people	noun	none
след	sled	trace, track, sign, footprint; stain	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Мне нужно сдать отчёт в пятницу. <i>Mne nuzhno sdat' otchot v pyatnicu.</i></p> <p>"I have to hand in the report on Friday."</p>	<p>Он пришёл на работу в мятом костюме. <i>On prishol na rabotu v myatom kostyume.</i></p> <p>"He came to work in a wrinkled suit."</p>
<p>Мы хотели закончить сегодня, но не получилось. <i>My hoteli zakonchit' segodnya, no ne poluchilos'.</i></p> <p>"We wanted to finish today, but it didn't work out."</p>	<p>Я нашла 100 рублей. <i>Ya nashla 100 rublyey.</i></p> <p>"I found a hundred rubles."</p>
<p>Ты нашёл свой кошелёк? <i>Ty nashyol svoj koshyelyok?</i></p> <p>"Have you found your wallet?"</p>	<p>Как так можно, Катя, ты опять всё испортила! <i>Kak tak mozhno, Katya, ty opyat' vsyo isportila!</i></p> <p>"You are impossible Katya: you spoiled everything again!"</p>
<p>Он очень умный, но немного медлительный. <i>On ochen' umnyi, no nemnogo medlitel'nyi.</i></p> <p>"He's very smart, but a bit sluggish."</p>	<p>Я такой рассеянный в последнее время. <i>Ya takoi rasseyannyi v posledneye vremya.</i></p> <p>"I'm so absentminded lately."</p>

**Как ты можешь быть таким
безответственным?!**

Kak ty mozhesh byt' takim bezotvetstvennym?!

"How can you be so irresponsible?!"

**Всем людям полагается отпуск в
январе.**

Vsem rabotnikam kompanii polagaetsa otpusk v yanvare.

"All people have the right to holidays in January."

Чьи это следы?

Ch'yi eto sledy?

"Whose footprints are these?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Russian Pronouns and the Vocabulary to Describe the Negative Working Qualities of a Person

Вы медлительный, рассеянный и безответственный работник!

"You are sluggish, absent-minded, and an irresponsible worker!"

In this lesson, we are going to introduce some Russian words and phrases to help you describe the negative working qualities that people have.

Words Used to Describe Unsatisfactory Workers and Their Antonyms.

Как так можно

Как так можно literally means "*How like this possible.*" Usually it is directed to a person you are dissatisfied with in order to scold him and express your frustration, disappointment, irritation, annoyance, or even anger. We can translated it as "How could you do this," "You are impossible," and so on.

безответственный

безответственный means "*irresponsible*." The prefix без- in Russian means "without," therefore, to build the word for "responsible," we simply drop the prefix без- and get ответственный.

рассеянный

рассеянный means "*absent-minded*." There are several antonyms to this word, but we will give you the most common one for now.

Antonym:

1. **внимательный**
"attentive"

медлительный

медлительный means "*sluggish*," "*slow*." You can't use this word to describe the speed of the object movement. This is a character feature that describes a person as dull and slow-moving.

Antonyms:

1. **энергичный**
"energetic"
2. **активный**
"active"
3. **расторопный**
"quick," "efficient"

Pronouns

There are many pronouns in the Russian language, and it takes some time to learn them all

because each of the Russian pronouns decline according to their case.

Here are the personal pronouns from today's dialogue:

Russian	"English"
Я	"I"
его	"him"
Вы	"you" (polite or plural)
он	"he"
на нём	"on him"

We only use three pronouns in their primary forms: Я, Вы, and Он. We modify the rest of them according to different cases. The word "report" (отчёт) is masculine, therefore, we always refer to it as "he."

We use all personal pronouns in all six cases.

Nominative

The nominative (**dictionary form**):

For Example:

Russian	"English"
Я	"I"
Мы	"we"
Ты	"you" (singular informal)

ВЫ	"you" (plural, polite)
ОН	"he"
ОНА	"she"
ОНО	"it"
ОНИ	"they"

You can always double-check it with the questions "Who?" or "What?"

For Example:

1. Кто это?
"Who is this?"
2. Это я (ты, он, она, они...)
"This is me (you, him, her, them)."

Genitive

The genitive expresses **possession**. We use it after negation:

For Example:

Russian	"English"
Меня	"me"
Тебя	"you" (informal)
Его (у него)	"him"

Её	"her"
Нас	"us"
Вас	"you" (formal or plural)
Их	"them"

Double-check these with the questions "Who/What has?" "Is there...?" or "Of whom/what?"

For Example:

1. У кого есть телефон? "Who has a phone? У меня (него, неё, них, нас...) есть телефон
"I (he, she, they, we) have a phone."
2. Кого нет дома? "Who's not at home?" Его нет дома
"He's not at home."

Dative

The dative is a **"giving-taking"** concept where we use the "receiver" in the dative.

For Example:

Russian	"English"
Мне	"me"
Тебе	"you" (informal)
Ему (masculine)	"him,"
Ему (neutral)	"it,"
Ей (feminine)	"her"

Нам	"us"
Вам	"you" (formal or plural)
Им	"them"

Double-check with the questions "To who(m)?" or "To what?"

For Example:

1. Кому ты звонил?
"Who did you call (to)?"
2. Я ей звонил
"I called (to) her."

Accusative

The accusative designates **a person or thing to whom or which an action is being done.**

For Example:

Russian	"English"
Меня	"me"
Тебя	"you" (informal)
Его (у него)	"him"
Её	"her"
Нас	"us"

Вас	"you" (formal or plural)
-----	-----------------------------

Их	"them"
----	--------

Double-check with the question "Whom or what do I (or the subject) see/draw/eat/want (or other actions)?"

For Example:

1. Кого ты любишь?
"Whom do you love?"
2. Я её люблю
"I love her."
3. Что ты потерял?
"What did you lose?"
4. Я их потерял
"I lost them." (the keys, for example)

Instrumental

The instrumental indicates **how something is done**; we use it in talking about jobs or attitudes. We use it in phrases with the prepositions "**by**" and "**with.**"

For Example:

Russian	"English"
Мной	"me"
Тобой	"you"
Им	"him"

Ей	"her"
Им	"it"
Нами	"us"
Вами	"you" (plural)
Ими	"them"

Double-check with the questions "By/with whom?" and "By/with what?"

For Example:

1. Чем ты ешь?
"What are you eating with?"
2. Я ей ем
"I am eating with it" (feminine, for example, spoon)
3. Кем ты недоволен?
"Who are you dissatisfied with?"
4. Я им недоволен
"I am dissatisfied with him."

Prepositional

We use the prepositional **after the prepositions -о ("about"), в ("in"), and на ("at," "on"):**

For Example:

Russian	"English"
Мне	"me"

Тебе	"you"
Нём	"him"
Ней	"her"
Нём	"it"
Нас	"us"
Вас	"you" (plural)
Них	"them"

Double-check with the questions "about/in/at/on what (who)?"

For Example:

1. О ком вы разговаривали?
"Who were you talking about?"
2. Мы разговаривали о ней
"We were talking about her."
3. В ком надета шляпа?
"Who's wearing the hat?" (Literally, "On whom is a hat?")
4. На нём надета шляпа
"She's wearing a hat" (Literally, "A hat is on her.")

It is far too difficult to remember every pronoun and case. They normally decline in a logical pattern, so you should learn them this way.

The pronoun Ваш ("your") from today's dialogue is not a personal pronoun but a possessive pronoun; therefore, we are leaving it out of the Grammar Points for this lesson.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tough Russian character

A Russian boss, a Russian teacher, and a Russian policeman can be very hard to deal with. Russians are not particularly polite and courteous people in general and it can worsen with the sense of power.

Bosses, teachers, and policemen can talk in a very short way and sometimes yell at you. The best strategy here is to stay calm and be polite. They don't expect this reaction and can calm down faster.

Oh, and sometimes it is true for shopkeepers too!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #18

The Sly Russian Fox

CONTENTS

- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

18

RUSSIAN

1. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Уважаемые коллеги! Разрешите представить вам нового менеджера отдела продаж – Михаила Титова!
2. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Ничего себе... За что ему дали такое повышение?...
3. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Это деятельный, решительный, ответственный человек с творческим подходом и миллионом новых идей!
4. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Да, конечно... Хитрый лис... Все эти "новые идеи" – это наши старые, которые он не принял в прошлом году... Жулик...

ROMANIZATION

1. NACHAL'NIK: Uvazhaemye kolegi! Razresheete predstavit' vam novova menedzhera otdela prodazh – Mikhaila Titova!
2. PODCHINYONNY I: Nichevo sebe... Za shto emu dali takoe povyshenie?
3. NACHAL'NIK: Eto deyatel'nyi, resheetel'nyi, otvetstvennyi chelovek s tvorcheskim podhodom i milionom novyh idei!
4. PODCHINYONNY I: Da, koneshno... Hitryi lis... Vse eti "novye idei" – eto nashi starye, kotorye on ne prinyal v proshlom godu... Zhulik...

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. **BOSS:** Dear colleagues! Let me introduce you the new manager of the sales department, Michael Titov!
2. **SUBORDINATE:** What the...what was he given such a promotion for?
3. **BOSS:** He is an active, decisive, responsible person with a creative approach and a million new ideas!
4. **SUBORDINATE:** Yeah, right...sly fox... All these "new ideas" are just our old ideas that he didn't accept last year... Swindler...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
уважаемый	uvazhaemyi	honorable; respectable, dear	adjective	
лиса	lisa	fox	noun	feminine
хитрый	hitryi	sly, tricky, cunning	adjective	
подход	podhod	approach	noun	masculine
творческий	tvorcheskij	creative	adjective	
решительный	resheetel'nyi	decisive, resolute	adjective	
ответственный	otvetstvennyi	responsible	adjective	
деятельный	deyatel'nyi	active, hardworking	adjective	
повышение	povyshenie	promotion	noun	neuter

за что	za shto	For what?/Why?	phrase
ничего себе!	nichevo sebe!	Well I never! Wow! Unbelievable! What the...	phrase
отдел продаж	otdel prodazh	sales department	phrase
коллега	kolega	coworker, colleague	noun
который	kotoryi	which	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Уважаемые посетители, добро пожаловать в музей имени Пушкина! <i>Uvazhayemyye posyetityeli, dobro pozhalovat' v muzyeey imyeni Pushkina!</i></p> <p>"Dear visitors, welcome to the Pushkin Museum."</p>	<p>Уважаемые пассажиры, пристегните ремни безопасности. <i>Uvazhayemyye passazhiry, pristyegnitye ryemni byezopasnosti.</i></p> <p>"Dear passengers, fasten the seat belts."</p>
<p>Лисы играют в траве. <i>Lisy igrayut v trave.</i></p> <p>"The foxes are playing in the grass."</p>	<p>Лиса - персонаж многих сказок. <i>Lisa - personazh mnogih skazok.</i></p> <p>"A fox is a character in many fairy tales."</p>
<p>Будь с ним осторожна, он очень хитрый и непредсказуемый. <i>Bud' s nim ostorozhna, on ochen' hitryi i nepredskazuemyi.</i></p> <p>"Be careful with him: he's very sly and unpredictable."</p>	<p>Главное - найти правильный подход. <i>Glavnoe - naiti pravel'nyi podhod.</i></p> <p>"The main thing is to find the right approach."</p>

<p>У творческих людей зачастую бывает сложная жизнь.</p> <p><i>U tvorcheskikh lyudej zachastuyu byvaet slozhnaya zhizn'.</i></p> <p>"Creative people (artistic people) often have difficult lives."</p>	<p>Он очень решительный, и даже немного резкий.</p> <p><i>On ochen' reshitel'nyi, i dazhe nemnogo rezkij.</i></p> <p>"He's very resolute and even a little harsh."</p>
<p>Мой сын вырос ответственным человеком.</p> <p><i>Moi syn vyros otvetstvennym chelovekom.</i></p> <p>"My son grew up a responsible man."</p>	<p>Он такой деятельный, никогда не сидит на месте.</p> <p><i>On takoi deyatel'nyi, nikogda ne sidit na meste.</i></p> <p>"He's so active: he never sits on one place."</p>
<p>Он заслужил это повышение.</p> <p><i>On zasluzhil eto povyshenie.</i></p> <p>"He earned this promotion."</p>	<p>За что ты его так не любишь?</p> <p><i>Za shto ty evo tak ne lyubish?</i></p> <p>"Why do you dislike him so much?"</p>
<p>Ничего себе! Он купил себе новую Ламборджини!</p> <p><i>Nichevo sebe! On kupil sebe novuyu Lambordzhini!</i></p> <p>"Well I never! He bought a new Lamborghini!"</p>	<p>Я работаю в отделе продаж.</p> <p><i>Ya rabotayu v otdele prodazh.</i></p> <p>"I work in a sales department."</p>
<p>У меня на работе замечательные коллеги.</p> <p><i>U menya na rabote zamechatel'nyye kollegi.</i></p> <p>"I have great colleagues at work."</p>	<p>Познакомься, это Лера, моя коллега.</p> <p><i>Poznakom'sya, eto Lera, moya kollega.</i></p> <p>"Let me introduce you. This is Lera, my co-worker."</p>
<p>Где зонт, который я вчера здесь оставил?</p> <p><i>Gde zont, kotoryi ya vchera zdes' ostavil?</i></p> <p>"Where's the umbrella, which I left here yesterday?"</p>	<p>Извините, который час?</p> <p><i>Izvinite, kotoryy chas?</i></p> <p>"Excuse me, what time is it?"</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Russian Adjectives and Cases

Это деятельный, решительный, ответственный человек с творческим подходом и миллионом новых идей!

"He is an active, decisive, responsible person with a creative approach and a million of new ideas!"

ничего себе

ничего себе is an *exclamation of surprise*, usually at something shocking (in both good and bad ways) or scandalous.

For Example:

1. Ничего себе, уже 2 часа ночи!
"Oh my God, it's two AM already!"

за что

за что literally means "*For what!*" We mostly use this short expression as an *exclamation of disagreement* when someone unfairly gets something he doesn't deserve, whether it's a good or bad thing.

For Example:

1. За что ты ему дал свою машину?
"What did he earn your car for?" (Literally, "What did you do your car to him for?")
2. За что ты его наказала?
"What did you punish him for?"
3. За что!
"Why!" ("What for!" showing protest against unfairness. For example, if someone was unfairly punished and awarded.)

хитрый лис

хитрый лис means, "*sly fox*" (masculine). If you are talking about a girl, you should say **хитрая лиса**.

Adjectives to Describe Positive Working Qualities and Their Antonyms **деятельный**

деятельный means "*active*" or "*energetic*."

Antonyms:

1. бездеятельный
"inactive," "not doing anything," "idle"
2. ленивый
"lazy"
3. пассивный
"passive"

решительный

means "decisive," "resolute."

Antonym:

1. нерешительный
"indecisive"

творческий

means "*creative*." In the dialogue, we saw it in the phrase *творческий подход* ("*creative approach*"). But you can also use it to describe a person.

For Example:

1. творческий человек
"creative person"

Adjectives

In lesson eight, we learned how to modify Russian adjectives according to gender and number. The gender and number of the adjectives depend on the nouns they describe. MOREOVER, Russian adjectives must agree with the noun in the case as well—adjectives may change their endings in each case of the six cases depending on which case the noun is using.

So to have the proper form of an adjective, you should know what case/gender/number the noun uses, and then form the adjective accordingly, which means that if the noun is in the accusative feminine singular, you will have to do the same with the adjective.

Below is a table of very common endings, which many adjectives take.

Case	Masculine/ Neuter	Feminine	Plural
Nominative	ЫЙ	ая	ЫЕ
Accusative	Nominative or Genitive	ую	Nominative or Genitive
Genitive	ого	ой	ЫХ
Dative	ому	ой	ЫМ
Prepositional	ом	ой	ЫХ
Instrumental	ым	ой	ЫМИ

Case Review

In the previous lessons, we learned the essentials of the grammar cases. Today, let's practice what we've learned by analyzing a sentence from the dialogue.

For Example:

1. Это человек с творческим подходом и миллионом новых идей.

"This is a person with creative approach and a million new ideas."

As we know, nouns are the pillars of any sentence in the Russian language. To build a grammatically correct sentence, we should first figure out the function of the noun in a sentence and define its case. After you figure out the role of the noun in a sentence, you can start working on adjectives, which must agree with the noun in gender, number, and case.

Let's break this sentence down:

Это человек is a "person." человек is in the *nominative case* (or dictionary, primary form) here.

The next phrase is *с творческим подходом* ("with creative approach"). First, we take a look at the noun. The noun in this phrase is *подход* ("approach"). Next, we connect it with the preposition *с* ("with"). As we know, the preposition *с* always requires *the instrumental case*; therefore, we put *подход* into the instrumental case and get *подходом*.

Next, we take a look at the rest of the words. In this phrase it was the adjective *творческий* ("creative") that has to agree with *подход* in gender, number, and case. *Подход* is masculine, singular, and used in the instrumental case; and knowing all of that, we can choose the proper form (ending) for the adjective: *творческим*.

Next, we have the phrase *(с) миллионом новых идей* ("(with) a million new ideas").

The key words (nouns) here are *миллион* and *идея*. Because they also relate to the preposition *с*, we should put them into *the instrumental case* - *миллионом, идей*.

The last word in the sentence is an adjective, *новых*, which is related to the noun *идей*; therefore, we should also put this into the plural number and the genitive case (the "of" case), and we get *новых*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Harsh working environment

Working environments can be very stressful in Russia. With the sudden change from socialism to capitalism, people wanted to succeed by any means available, and this

sometimes can mean taking advantage of and hurting others.

As everywhere in the world, top-level managers try to steal the good ideas of their subordinates, or some professors try to appropriate their students' work. The difference is that in Russia the mechanisms to protect your intellectual property and yourself are very imperfect.

Of course, not all people are terrible but it is a good thing to be alert and pay attention to this kind of sneaking and stealing.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #19

Your Cheap Russian Boss

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- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 10 Cultural Insight

19

RUSSIAN

1. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Коллеги! В связи с кризисом, я вынужден вам сообщить, что в этом году у нас не будет новогодних бонусов...
2. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Как?! Не может быть! У нас их не было в прошлом году, и Вы сказали, что...
3. НАЧАЛЬНИК: ...не будет новогодних праздников...
4. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Что?! Но я обещал родителям, что я приеду!
5. НАЧАЛЬНИК: И не будет корпоративных вечеринок за счёт фирмы
6. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Ну, это уже просто беспредел...

ROMANIZATION

1. NACHAL'NIK: Kollegi! V svyazi s krizisom, ya vynuzhden vam soobschit', shto v etom godu u nas ne budet novogodnih bonusov...
2. PODCHINYONNY I: Kak?! Ne mozhet byt'! U nas ih ne bylo v proshlom godu, i Vy skazali, chto...
3. NACHAL'NIK: ...ne budet novogodnih prazdnikov...
4. PODCHINYONNY I: Shto?! No ya obeschal roditelyam, shto ya priedu!
5. NACHAL'NIK: I ne budet korporativnyh vecherinok za schot firmy

CONT'D OVER

6. **PODCHINYONNY** Nu, eto uzhe prosto bespredel...
I:

ENGLISH

1. **BOSS:** Colleagues! Due to the crisis, I'm forced to inform you that there will be no New Year bonuses this year...
2. **SUBORDINATE:** No way! That's impossible! We didn't have them last year and you said that...
3. **BOSS:** There will be no New Year holidays...
4. **SUBORDINATE:** What?! But I promised to my parents I would come!
5. **BOSS:** And there will be no company parties on the company's cost.
6. **SUBORDINATE:** This is a total bummer...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
В СВЯЗИ С	v svyazi s	due to; because of	phrase	
кризис	krizis	crisis	noun	masculine
вынужден	vynuzhden	forced to, can do nothing but; obliged to	verb	

новогодний бонус	novogodnij bonus	New Year's bonus	phrase	
не может быть	ne mozhet byt'	it's impossible; it can't be	phrase	
праздник	prazdnik	holiday, celebration, event	noun	masculine
родители	roditeli	parents	noun	
корпоративная вечеринка	korporativnaya vecherinka	company party	phrase	feminine
беспредел	bespredel	lawlessness; unruliness; free- for-all	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Он уволил двух сотрудников в связи с финансовым кризисом. <i>On uvolil dvuh sotrudnikov v svyazi s finansovym krizisom.</i></p> <p>"He let go of 2 employees due to the financial crisis."</p>	<p>Что ты знаешь про кризис 2008 года? <i>Chto ty znayesh' pro krizis 2008 goda?</i></p> <p>"What do you know about the crisis of 2008?"</p>
<p>У него кризис среднего возраста. <i>U nego krizis srednego vozrasta.</i></p> <p>"He has a midlife crisis."</p>	<p>Я вынужден Вас огорчить, Вам отказали в стипендии. <i>Ya vynuzhden Vas ogorchit', Vam otkazali v stipendii.</i></p> <p>"I am sorry to disappoint you, but you were denied a scholarship."</p>

<p>На что ты потратишь свой новогодний бонус? <i>Na shto ty potratish svoi novogodnij bonus?</i></p> <p>"What will you spend your New Year bonus on?"</p>	<p>Вы разошлись? Не может быть! <i>Vy razoshlis'? Ne mozhet byt'!</i></p> <p>"You split up? That's crazy!"</p>
<p>Мы планировали маленькую вечеринку, а получился настоящий праздник. <i>My planirovali malen'kuyu vecherinku, a poluchilsya nastoyashchiy prazdnik.</i></p> <p>"We were planning a small party, but it turned out to be a real celebration."</p>	<p>Мои родители уже на пенсии. <i>Moi roditeli uzhye na pyensii.</i></p> <p>"My parents have already retired."</p>
<p>У тебя такие молодые родители. <i>U tyebya takiye molodyye roditeli.</i></p> <p>"You have such young parents."</p>	<p>Сейчас популярно приглашать на корпоративную вечеринку кого-либо из известных певцов. <i>Seychas populyarno priglachat' na korporativnuyu vecherinku kogo-libo iz izvestnyy pevtsov.</i></p> <p>"Now it is very popular to invite famous singers to a corporate party. "</p>
<p>Мы познакомились на корпоративной вечеринке. <i>My poznakomilis' na korporativnoi vecherinke.</i></p> <p>"We met at a company party."</p>	<p>В городе творился полный беспредел. <i>V gorode tvorilsya polnyi bespredel.</i></p> <p>"There's a total anarchy going on in the city."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Word Explanations and the Verb "To Have"

не будет новогодних праздников...

"There will be no New Year holidays..."

В СВЯЗИ С

в связи с literally, "*in connection with*," means "*due to*." You should put the noun that goes after this phrase into the instrumental case.

For Example:

1. в связи с эпидемией ("due to the epidemia")
2. в связи с плохими погодными условиями ("due to bad weather conditions")

ВЫНУЖДЕН

вынужден + *infinitive* means, "*forced to, compelled to, obliged to*." The word implies that you don't have any other choice but to perform some action.

For Example:

1. Я вынуждена уйти ("I have to go.")
(I have no other choice but to go, I'm forced to go - because you have an emergency at work, for example)
2. Мы были вынуждены вернуться ("We had to come back.")
(the circumstances forced us to come back)
3. Я буду вынужден его уволить ("I will have to fire him.")
(I will have no other choice but to fire him – if the worker keeps messing up his work, for example)

ЗА СЧЁТ

за счёт means, "*on the cost of*" (in both direct and figurative meanings).

For Example:

1. ужин за счёт ресторана ("dinner "on the house") (on the restaurant's money)
2. за счёт здоровья ("on the health cost")
3. за счёт чужого счастья ("on the cost of someone else's happiness")

The Verb "To Have/Not to Have" in Three Tenses

Unlike in English, the Russian word "to have" is different in its infinitive form from what it's usually used in. The dictionary form of the Russian "to have" is **ИМЕТЬ**. Of course, you can conjugate it according to Russian grammar rules and get an expression like я **имею**. It's also used in some special cases, but the expression you are more familiar with is **У МЕНЯ ЕСТЬ**.

To build the phrases with the word "have" tense, you need the pronouns in the genitive case:

Russian	English
Меня	I
Тебя	You (informal)
Него - ("нuevo")	He
Неё	She
Нас	We
Вас	You (formal or plural)
Них	They
У меня есть	I have
У тебя есть	You have
У него есть	He has
У неё есть	She has
У нас есть	We have
У вас есть	You have
У них есть	They have

HAVE (Present Tense)

The nouns that come after this phrase we use in the nominative case (simple dictionary form).

У + pronoun from above + есть + a noun in the nominative case

For Example:

1. У меня есть собака ("I have a dog.")

To build the negation, you simply replace the word **есть** with **нет** and put the noun after the phrase into the genitive case.

For Example:

1. У него нет собаки ("He doesn't have a dog.")

HAD (Past Tense)

To form phrases like "I had," or "He had," we need:

У + a pronoun from above + the verb есть in the past tense modified according to a person and number + a noun in the nominative case.

The gender and number of the verb "had" depends on gender and number of the object, which someone or something had.

Had

Gender	Russian
Masculine	был
Feminine	была
Neuter	было

For Example:

1. У него была машина ("He had a car." - машина is feminine)
2. У нас были гости ("We had guests." – гости is plural)
3. У меня было всё ("I had everything." - всё is neuter)
4. У нас был билет ("We had a ticket." – билет is masculine)

Forming a negation in the past tense is easy. You don't need to put the verb был into the agreement with the noun. All you need is:

У + pronoun + не было + a noun in the genitive case.

For Example:

1. У него не было машины ("He didn't have a car.")
2. У нас не было гостей ("We didn't have guests.")

WILL HAVE (Future Tense)

The "formula" for the future tense is similar to the one for the past tense, but this time you don't have to mind the gender to agree the verb with, only number – singular or plural.

У + pronoun from above + the verb будет ("sing") or будут (pl) + a noun in the genitive case.

For Example:

1. У меня будет много времени ("I will have a lot of time.")
2. У них будут гости ("They will have guests.")

To form a negation, you don't even need to mind the number:

У + pronoun from above + не будет + a noun in the genitive case

For Example:

1. У меня не будет времени ("I won't have time.")
2. У нас не будет гостей ("We won't have guests.")

Summary in examples:

1. У меня есть + nominative ("I have")
2. У меня был/была/было/были + nominative ("I had")
3. У меня будет/будут + nominative ("I will have")
4. У меня нет + genitive ("I don't have")
5. У меня не было + genitive ("I didn't have" - "I haven't had")
6. У меня не будет + genitive ("I won't have")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Long New-Year holidays

New Year is a favorite holiday and the longest time off from work for most Russians. Since 2008, it officially became the longest holiday with 10 days off from December 31 through the January 10th. It is not surprising that with so much free time on their hands most Russians expect bigger bonuses at the end of the year so they can spend quality time with their families, maybe even go overseas -- something that has become especially popular lately. Unfortunately, bigger bonuses became reality only for the executive-level workers while middle and low-income workers sometimes don't even have bonuses at all. Therefore many people don't want to have so much time off because they need to work to make their living.

Now the Parliament-Duma is discussing the possibility of making the New Year holidays shorter!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #20 Russian Reports – Stained, Wrinkled, and Great!

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- 2 Russian
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
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- 9 Cultural Insight

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RUSSIAN

1. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Иван, зайдите ко мне.
2. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Вызывали, Пётр Сергеевич?
3. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Вызывал. Я прочитал Ваш отчёт. Да, тот самый, мятый и в пятнах. Я приятно удивлён!
4. ПОДЧИНЁННЫЙ: Правда?...
5. НАЧАЛЬНИК: Если Вы его написали сами, то должен Вам сказать... Вы молодец! Не ожидал. Вы заслужили благодарность от всего отдела и новогодний бонус! Поздравляю!

ROMANIZATION

1. NACHAL'NIK: Ivan, zaidite ko mne.
2. PODCHINYONNY I: Vyzyvali, Pyotr Sergeyevich?
3. NACHAL'NIK: Vyzyval. Ya prochital Vash otchot. Da, tot samyi, myaty i v pyatnah. Ya priyatno udivlyon!
4. PODCHINYONNY I: Pravda?...
5. NACHAL'NIK: Esli Vy ego napisali sami, to dolzhen Vam skazat'... Vy molodets! Ne ozhidal. Vy zasluzhili blagodarnost' ot vsego otdela i novogodnij bonus! Pozdravlyayu!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. **BBOSS:** Ivan, come into my office.
2. **SUBORDINATE:** Did you call me Pyotr Sergeevich?
3. **BOSS:** I did. I read your report. Yes, that one: wrinkled and stained. I'm pleasantly surprised!
4. **SUBORDINATE:** Really...
5. **BOSS:** If you wrote it yourself then I must tell you...You did a good job! I didn't expect that. You earned the gratitude of the whole department and a New Year bonus! Congratulations!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
вызывать	vyzyvat'	to call; call in; send for; summon	verb	
...самый	...samyi	...very; the exact same	adjective	
пятно	pyatno	stain; spot	noun	neuter
удивлённый	udivlyonnyi	surprised	adjective	
молодец	molodets	Well done!, Good job!	noun	masculine
ожидать	ozhidat', azhidat'	to await, to expect	verb	
заслужить	zasluzhit'	to earn	verb	
благодарность	blagodarnost'	gratitude	noun	feminine

поздравлять

pozdravlyat'

to congratulate

verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Вызовите милицию, у нас во дворе драка!

Vyzovite militsiyu, u nas vo dvore draka!

"Call the police, there's a fight in our yard!"

Этот самый фильм мы смотрели на первом свидании.

Etot samyi fil'm my smotreli na pervom svidanii.

"This very movie we were watching on our first date."

У тебя пятно от кофе на юбке.

U tebya pyatno ot kofe na yubke.

"You have a coffee stain on your skirt."

У него был такой удивлённый вид, как будто он меня впервые видел.

U nevo byl takoi udivlyonnyi vid, kak budto on menya vpervye videl.

"He looked so surprised like it was the first time he'd seen me."

Он молодец, он сдал экзамен.

On molodets, on sdal ekzamen.

"Well done, he passed the exam."

Молодец, Юра, так держать!

Molodets, Yura, tak derzhat'!

"Good job Yura, keep it up!"

Это было не так плохо, как он ожидал.

"It wasn't as bad as he expected."

Наш босс очень непредсказуемый, и мы не знаем, что от него ожидать.

Nash boss ochen' nepredskazuyemyy, i my ne znayem, chto ot nego ozhidat'.

"Our boss is very unpredictable, so we don't know what to expect from him."

Конечно он победил, а чего ты ожидал?

Konechno on pobedil, a chego ty ozhidal?

"Of course he won, what did you expect?"

Он не заслужил никаких похвал.

On ne zasluzhil nikakih pohval.

"He hasn't earned any praise."

**Я хотел бы выразить Вам свою
благодарность.**

Ya hotel by vyrazit' Vam svoyu blagodarnost'.

"I would like to express my gratitude to you."

**Он поздравил меня с Днём Рождения
по телефону.**

On pozdravil menya s dnyom rozhdeniya po telefonu.

"He congratulated me on my birthday over the phone."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Word Explanations and Adjectives

Вызывал. Я прочитал Ваш отчёт. Да, тот самый, мятый и в пятнах. Я приятно удивлён!

"I did. I read your report. Yes, that one: wrinkled and stained. I'm pleasantly surprised!"

ВЫЗЫВАТЬ

вызывать is mostly used in the work places when a superior calls for a subordinate to his office, usually by phone or through a secretary.

For Example:

1. Александр, тебя генеральный вызывает! ("Alexander, the head (director) is calling you in!")
2. Вера, вызовите мне Новосельцева (a boss talking to a secretary) ("Vera, call Novoselcev in (my office).")

вызывать is also a word for calling in (sending for) a doctor.

For Example:

1. вызовите врача, человеку плохо! ("Call a doctor, a man is feeling bad!")
2. Мы ему вызвали врача ночью ("We sent for a doctor for him at night.")

ТОТ САМЫЙ

тот самый means, "that very," or "exactly that one." Самый doesn't mean "the most" in this case, but emphasizes on the thing being the same, identical to the one mentioned before. You can substitute тот with этот according to the situation.

For Example:

1. этот самый вопрос я задала ему вчера ("This very question I asked him yesterday.")

Normal Adjectives vs. Short Adjectives

Normal adjectives are those that you are familiar with the most.

They come before nouns.

For example: красная машина ("red car").

They always agree in gender and case with the noun that they are describing, which we learned in lesson 18.

For Example:

1. Я прочитал Ваш **мятый** отчёт ("I read your wrinkled report.")

2. У меня нет **новых** ботинок ("I don't have new shoes." - ботинок is plural, genitive case; therefore новых should agree with it in all these parameters)

We generally use short adjectives to make statements about something. In English, they normally follow the word "is" or "are," like in, "She is busy." Notice that short adjectives are not followed by a noun. Not all adjectives can have a short form, but most do.

In today's lesson, the example of a short adjective was удивлён ("surprised").

If it was a normal adjective, it would sound as удивлённый and would have to have a noun to describe: удивлённая женщина ("a surprised woman"), удивлённый вид ("surprised look").

But in our case it's just a statement: Я удивлён ("I am surprised").

You don't need to mind cases when using short adjectives; you only need the nominative

when making those short statements, although the adjectives should still agree in gender with the noun.

Nominative

1. Masculine - just use the stem of the adjective in the short form
занят ("busy"), красив ("beautiful")

2. Feminine - adds **-а**
занята, красива

3. Neuter - adds **-о**
занято, красиво

4. Plural - adds **-ы** or **-и**
заняты, красивы

For Example:

1. Она необыкновенно красива ("She's amazingly beautiful.")

2. Я очень занят в последнее время ("I'm very busy lately.")

3. Занято! ("Occupied!" - yelling from the toilet).

Aspects

Today, we will consolidate our knowledge about the aspects of the Russian verbs.

The aspect is how an action is perceived through the eyes of the Russian speaker. Russians look at an action as being in one of two states: completed or ongoing/habitual.

Not to be confused with tense (when the action takes place in time), aspect is the distinction between whether the action has been completed or not, and occurs in all tenses: past, present, and future (Although when you are talking in the present tense, you can ignore aspects all together).

Aspect of most Russian verbs can be determined by looking at their prefixes and suffixes.

Let's take a look at some verbs from today's lesson to get a better idea about aspects. We'll

give them to you in the imperfective aspect first, which means the actions are either ongoing or habitual.

For Example:

1. **заходить** ("to drop by; to come in")
(Я к нему год не заходила – "I haven't dropped by on him for a year.")
2. **вызывать** ("to call in, summon")
(Начальник вызывает подчинённого – "The boss is calling in the subordinate.")
3. **читать** ("to read")
(Я читаю книгу – "I'm reading a book")
4. **писать** ("to write")
(Я пишу письма каждый день – "I write letters every day.")
5. **поздравлять** ("to congratulate")
(Мы его поздравляем каждый год – "We congratulate him every year.")

Now let's use the same verbs in the perfective aspect, which will give us a completed action.

For Example:

1. **зайти** – Я зайду к тебе вечером ("I will drop by on you in the evening." - For better understanding, can be translated into English as, "I will have dropped by on you in the evening.")
2. **вызвать** – Мы вызвали врача ("We called a doctor." - The action is obviously completed.)
3. **прочитать** – Я уже прочитал эту книгу ("I already read this book.")
4. **написать** – Я написал письмо, но ещё не отправил ("I wrote a letter but haven't sent it yet.")
5. **поздравить** – Его никто не поздравил на день рождения ("No one congratulated him on his birthday." - The exclamation, "Congratulations!" (lit: I'm congratulating you) sounds as поздравляю! in the Imperfective form because it doesn't show the completed action, you are just congratulating a person right now).

Summary:

As you can see, very often the perfective is simply a slight alteration of the imperfective form's spelling (adding of a prefix, changing vowels, a different ending on stem, are some ways perfectives are made.)

The most common prefixes for Russian verbs are:

НА-, ПО-, ПРО-, В-, ВЫ-, ЗА-, ПЕРЕ-, С-, ПРИ-, У-

The most common suffixes for Russian verbs are:

-ЫВА-, -ИВА-, -ВА-, -А-, -И-

CULTURAL INSIGHT

You cannot understand Russia just with your common sense.

On November 28th, 1866 a famous Russian poet Fyodor Tyutchev wrote, "You cannot understand Russia just with your common sense."

It can be perfectly related to this situation. How can a dirty wrinkled report be great? Well, it just shows that in Russia the content is worth much more than the surface. Sometimes it may seem illogical but it is just how life goes in Russia. Great poets and thinkers used to be heavy drinkers and almost never looked like intelligent and educated people. One of the most charismatic men in Russian politics, Lenin, was short, bald, and really average looking.

Of course, there is no excuse for submitting stained reports all the time, but it is nice to know that your report will not be judged only by its cover.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #21 Russian Riot...From Your Significant Other

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- 2 Russian
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- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
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21

RUSSIAN

1. МУЖ: Дорогая, ты дома?
2. ЖЕНА: Дома, дома. Уже час ночи, где ты был? Ты пил? На тебе чьи-то волосы!
3. МУЖ: Я был... на работе, у нас такой важный проект...
4. ЖЕНА: Я звонила 3 раза, и каждый раз какой-то "проект" отвечал мне женским голосом и говорил, что тебя нет!
5. МУЖ: Это наша новая секретарша. Ну, мы же не могли работать до часа ночи без кофе...
6. ЖЕНА: Без водки тоже не могли?! Ты мог хотя бы позвонить и сказать, где ты?!

ROMANIZATION

1. MUZH: Dorogaya, ty doma?
2. ZHENA: Doma, doma. Uzhe chas nochi, gde ty byl? Ty pil? Na tebe ch'yi-to volosy!
3. MUZH: Ya... na rabote, u nas takoi vazhnyi proekt...
4. ZHENA: Ya zvonila tri raza, i kazhdyi razkakoi-to "proekt" otvechal mne zhenskim golosom i govoril, chto tebya net!

CONT'D OVER

5. MUZH: Eto nasha novaya sekretarsha. Nu, my zhe ne mogli rabotat' do chasa nochi bez kofe...
6. ZHENA: Bez vodki tozhe ne mogli?! Ty mog hotya by pozvonit' i skazat', gde ty?!

ENGLISH

1. HUSBAND: Darling, are you at home?
2. WIFE: Home, home. It's one AM already, where have you been? Did you drink? You have somebody's hair all over you!
3. HUSBAND: I...was at work, we're working on such an important project...
4. WIFE: I called three times and every time some "project" answered me with a female voice and said you weren't there!
5. HUSBAND: It's our new secretary. Well, we couldn't work till one AM without coffee...
6. WIFE: You couldn't without vodka, either, right?! Could you have at least called and told me where you were?!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
муж	muzh	husband	noun	masculine
мочь	moch	to be able to, can	verb	

голос	golos	voice	noun	
отвечать	otvechat'	to answer	verb	
какой-то	kakoy-to	some, certain; kind of	pronoun	masculine
каждый раз	kazhdyi raz	every time	phrase	
проект	proekt	project	noun	
важный	vazhnyi	important	adjective	
такой (такая, такое, такие)	takoy (takaya, takoye, takiye)	such, so	pronoun	masculine (feminine, neutral, plural)
дорогой	dorogoy	expensive; dear, darling	adjective	masculine
жена	zhena	wife	noun	feminine
хотя бы	khotya by	at least	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Мой муж так занят в последнее время. <i>Moi muzh tak zanyat v posledneye vremya.</i></p> <p>"My husband is so busy lately."</p>	<p>Я не могу остановить машину! <i>Ya ne mogu ostanovit' mashinu!</i></p> <p>"I can't stop the car!"</p>
<p>У неё красивый голос. <i>U ney krasivyy golos.</i></p> <p>"She has a beautiful voice."</p>	<p>Я узнала его голос. <i>Ya uznala ego golos.</i></p> <p>"I recognized his voice."</p>

<p>Почему ты не отвечаешь на мои письма? <i>Pochemu ty ne otvechaesh na moi pis'ma?</i></p> <p>"Why aren't you answering my letters?"</p>	<p>Я звоню в банк весь день, но никто не отвечает. <i>Ya zvonyu v bank ves' den', no nikto ne otvechaet.</i></p> <p>"I've been calling the bank all day but no one is answering (picking up the phone)."</p>
<p>Тебя ждёт какая-то женщина на улице. <i>Tyebya zhdyot kakaya-to zhyenschina na ulitsye.</i></p> <p>"Some woman is waiting for you outside."</p>	<p>Он дарит мне цветы каждый раз, когда мы встречаемся. <i>On darit mne cvety kazhdyi raz, kogda my vstrechaemsa.</i></p> <p>"He gives me flowers every time we meet."</p>
<p>Я работаю над этим проектом уже месяц. <i>Ya rabotayu nad etim proektom uzhe mesyac.</i></p> <p>"I've been working on this project for a month already."</p>	<p>Он очень важный человек в компании. <i>On ochen' vazhnyi chelovek v kompanii.</i></p> <p>"He's a very important man in the company."</p>
<p>Это очень важный документ. <i>Eto ochen' vazhnyi dokument'</i></p> <p>"This is a very important document."</p>	<p>Наташа такая красивая! <i>Natasha takaya krasivaya!</i></p> <p>"Natasha is so beautiful!"</p>
<p>Сегодня такой хороший день! <i>Segodnya takoy horoshiy den'!</i></p> <p>"It's such a nice day today!"</p>	<p>Дорогой Иван Иванович, спасибо за письмо. <i>Dorogoy Ivan Ivanovich, spasibo za pis'mo.</i></p> <p>"Dear Ivan Ivanovich, thank you for the letter."</p>
<p>Этот номер очень дорогой. <i>Etot nomyer ochyen' dorogoy.</i></p> <p>"This hotel room is very expensive."</p>	<p>Это моя жена. <i>Èto moâ žena.</i></p> <p>"This is my wife."</p>
<p>Ты должен хотя бы извиниться перед ней. <i>Ty dolzhen khotya by izvinit'sya pered ney.</i></p> <p>"You should at least apologize to her."</p>	

The Focus of This Lesson is Word Explanations and Indefinite Pronouns

Это наша новая секретарша. Ну, мы же не могли работать до часа ночи без кофе...

"It's our new secretary. Well, we couldn't work till one AM without coffee..."

МОЧЬ

мочь is a verb which literally means, "to be able to," "can."

It is a very important and useful word to know, therefore it's necessary to know how to conjugate it in all three tenses.

Person	Present	Future	Past
Я	могу	смогу	М. мог
Ты	можешь	сможешь	Ф. могла
Вы	можете	сможете	Н. могло
Он, она, оно	может	сможет	Рl. могли
Мы	можем	сможем	
Они	могут	смогут	

Remember that in the past tense verbs, we conjugate according to gender and number, but not according to a person like in present and future tenses.

For Example:

1. Вы можете завтра прийти? ("Can you come tomorrow?")
2. Я не смогу прийти завтра ("I won't be able to come tomorrow.")
3. Он не мог позвонить ("He couldn't call.")

Note that you can't use this word when talking about skills, like in a sentence, "I can swim." In this case you should use the word **уметь**: Я умею плавать ("I can swim.")

Indefinite Pronouns

Russian indefinite pronouns express the concepts of the English pronouns beginning with some- (someone (somebody), somewhere, somehow) and any- (anyone, anywhere, anyhow).

These words refer to indefinite or unknown things, people, features, or quantities.

For Example:

1. **ЧТО-ТО** ("something")
2. **ЧТО-НИБУДЬ** ("anything")
3. **КТО-ТО** ("someone/body")
4. **КТО-НИБУДЬ** ("anyone/body")

In our dialogue, the examples of the indefinite pronouns are:

1. **ЧЬИ-ТО** ("somebody's")
2. **КАКОЙ-ТО** ("some kind of")

Forming Indefinite Pronouns

How do we form such words?

The way of forming Russian indefinite pronouns is quite easy. All you have to do is:

1. Take a question word.

For Example:

1. **КТО** – who

2. **что** – what
3. **где** – where
4. **куда** – where to
5. **какой** – what kind of
6. **чей** – whose

2. Put a hyphen after the word.

3. Add suffixes *-то* or *-нибудь*.

The suffix *-то* stands for the English "some-."

The suffix *-нибудь* stands for the English "any-."

For Example:

1. **кто-то** ("somebody") - **кто-нибудь** ("anybody")
2. **что-то** ("something") - **что-нибудь** ("anything")
3. **где-то** ("somewhere") - **где-нибудь** ("anywhere")
4. **куда-то** ("to somewhere") - **куда-нибудь** ("to anywhere")
5. **какой-то** ("some kind of") - **какой-нибудь** ("any kind of")
6. **чей-то** ("somebody's") - **чей-нибудь** ("anybody's")

Note that the prefix *-нибудь* only stands for the English "any-" in the questions. In a statement like, "Anyone can do it," you should use the same question word but add the word *угодно* instead of the suffixes mentioned above.

For Example:

1. **кто угодно** ("anyone")
2. **что угодно** ("anything")

Compare the examples:

1. Это какой-то новый ресторан, давай зайдём ("This is some new restaurant, let's check it out.")
2. Здесь есть какой-нибудь ресторан? ("Is there any (kind of) restaurant around here?")
3. Там есть какие угодно рестораны ("There are any (all) kinds of restaurants there.")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Drinking is National Russian sport?

Russian men are notorious for their drinking, especially strong liquors. It is sometimes even said as a joke that drinking is a National Russian Sport.

Curiously enough, before the 19th century mass drinking was not considered a national problem like it is nowadays. The strongest liquor that existed in Russia was medovukha: a honey-based alcoholic beverage that is similar to beer.

Who taught Russians to drink strong spirits remains an enigma, but the first Russian Vodka standard was established by Tsar Alexander III in 1894. Since then Russian vodka has been one of the most popular spirits in the world, although many Russians nowadays prefer Vodka Absolut (Swedish standard) to Stolichnaya.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #22

Begging for forgiveness in Russia

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22

RUSSIAN

1. МУЖ: Милая, не сердись, всё хорошо, я дома, я тебя люблю...
2. ЖЕНА: Да, всё просто прекрасно. Я безумно рада, что ты весело провёл время.
3. МУЖ: Ну что ты... Ну... хочешь, я тебе сделаю массаж? Или бутерброд с чаем?
4. ЖЕНА: Не выводи меня из себя, ложись спать!
5. МУЖ: А ты меня простила? Ты же у меня самая дорогая, самая красивая, самая любимая...
6. ЖЕНА: И что я такая хорошая делаю с тобой...

ROMANIZATION

1. MUZH: Milaya, ne serdis', vsyo horosho, ya doma, ya tebya lyublyu...
2. ZHENA: Da, vsyo prosto prekrasno. Ya bezumno rada, shto ty veselo provyol vremya.
3. MUZH: Nu shto ty... Nu... hochesh, ya tebe sdelayu massazh? Ili buterbrod s chaem?
4. ZHENA: Ne vyvodi menya iz sebya, lozhis' spat'!
5. MUZH: A ty menya prostila? Ty zhe u menya samaya dorogaya, samaya krasivaya, samaya lyubimaya...

CONT'D OVER

6. ZHENA: I shto ya takaya horoshaya delayu s toboi...

ENGLISH

1. HUSBAND: Honey, don't be mad, everything's good, I'm at home, I love you...

2. WIFE: Yes, everything is just wonderful. I'm deliriously happy that you had fun.

3. HUSBAND: Please...Well...Do you want me to give you a massage? Or would you like a sandwich with tea?

4. WIFE: Don't get on my nerves, just go to bed!

5. HUSBAND: Did you forgive me? You are my dearest, most beautiful, most loved one...

6. WIFE: And being so good as you say, what am I doing here with you...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
милый	milyi	nice, sweet; cute; sweety, honey	adjective
ложиться	lozhitsa	to lay down	verb
выводить из себя	vyvodit' iz sebya	to drive someone mad	phrase
сделать массаж	sdelat' massazh	to give a massage; to get a massage	phrase

мне всё равно	mne vsyo ravno	I don't care; I don't mind	phrase
весёлый	vesyolyi	fun, cheerful, joyful	adjective
безумный	bezumnyi	mad; insane; wild	adjective
прекрасный	pryekrasnyi	beautiful, wonderful, excellent	adjective
сердиться	serditsa	to be angry	verb
любимый	lyubimiy	favorite; my love	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Я сегодня видела очень милое платье в магазине. <i>Ya sevodnya videla ochen' miloe plat'ye v magazine.</i></p> <p>"I saw a very cute dress in a store today."</p>	<p>Милый, когда ты будешь дома? <i>Milyi, kogda ty budesh doma?</i></p> <p>"Honey, when are you coming home?"</p>
<p>Пора ложиться, выключай телевизор. <i>Pora lozhitsa, vyklyuchai televizor.</i></p> <p>"It's bed time, turn off the TV."</p>	<p>Он меня так вывел из себя вчера, что я бросила в него тарелку. <i>On menya tak vyvel iz sebya vchera, shto ya broсила v nego tarelku.</i></p> <p>"He drove me so mad yesterday that I threw a dish at him."</p>
<p>Я сегодня сделала массаж спины в салоне. <i>Ya sevodnya sdelala masazh spiny v salone.</i></p> <p>"I got a back massage in a salon today."</p>	<p>Сделайте мне массаж шеи, пожалуйста. <i>Sdelajte mne masazh shei, pozhaluista.</i></p> <p>"Give me a neck massage please."</p>

<p>-Ты хочешь, чтобы я к тебе приехал? - Мне всё равно. <i>-Ty hochesh, shtoby ya k tebe priehal? -Mne vsyo ravno.</i></p> <p>"Do you want me to come to you? -I don't care."</p>	<p>Мы провели лето весело и беззаботно. <i>My proveli leto veselo i bezzabotno.</i></p> <p>"We had a fun and carefree summer."</p>
<p>Он весёлый парень. <i>On vesyolyi paren'.</i></p> <p>"He's a fun guy."</p>	<p>Я безумно счастлив! <i>Ya bezumno schastliv!</i></p> <p>"I'm crazily happy!"</p>
<p>Она тратит безумные деньги на одежду. <i>Ona tratit bezumnye den'gi na odezhdu.</i></p> <p>"She spends crazy money on clothes."</p>	<p>Сегодня прекрасная погода. <i>Syegodnya pryekrasnaya pogoda.</i></p> <p>"The weather is beautiful today."</p>
<p>Ты ещё сердишься на меня? <i>Ty escho serdishsya na menya?</i></p> <p>"Are you still angry with me?"</p>	<p>Любимый, позвони мне! <i>Lyubimiy, pozvoni mne!</i></p> <p>"My love, call me!"</p>
<p>Новый Год - мой любимый праздник. <i>Novyy God - moy lyubimiy praznik.</i></p> <p>"New Year's is my favorite holiday."</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is сделать массаж, выводить из себя , and Adverbs

Ну что ты... Ну... хочешь, я тебе сделаю массаж?

"Please...Well...Do you want me to give you a massage?"

сделать массаж

сделать массаж is literally, "to do a massage." Unlike in English, this expression can mean

both "to give a massage" and "to get a massage" depending on a context.

For Example:

1. давай я тебе сделаю массаж
"Let me give you a massage."
2. я хочу сделать массаж
"I want to get a massage."

Obviously, if you indicate a person in the dative case, the phrase will mean, "to give a massage." If there are no words indicating a "receiver" in the dative case, then it's obviously "to get a massage."

ВЫВОДИТЬ ИЗ СЕБЯ

выводить из себя means, "to drive somebody mad". There's also an expression for "to lose one's temper": *выйти из себя*.

For Example:

1. Сын меня вывел из себя своим поведением сегодня
"My son drove me crazy with his behavior today."
2. Я вышел из себя как услышал, что он сделал
"I lost my temper when I heard what he'd done."

Adverbs

What is an adverb?

*An adverb is a part of speech that describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

*Adverbs answer the questions, "How?", "When?", "Where?", "Why?", "In what way?", "How much?", "How often?", "Under what condition", and "To what degree?"

In English, the easiest adverbs to recognize are those that end in "-ly:" warmly, quickly. (They greeted me warmly.) However, they might as well be identical to the adjectives:

(I jump high - "high" is an adverb which describes the verb "jump" here).

In Russian, it's much easier to recognize the adverbs as most of them end with **-о**.
Let's take a look at the adverbs from today's lesson:

1. **хорошо** ("good")
2. **просто** ("simply")
3. **прекрасно** ("beautiful, excellent")
4. **безумно** ("madly")
5. **весело** ("fun")

As you can see, the adverbs in English translation are not always obvious, not all of them end in "-ly," but look like normal adjectives. In Russian however, all of them end in **-о**.

We form most Russian adjectives from the adverbs. It is done very easily, as all you have to do is change the ending of an adjective into **-о**.

For Example:

1. хороший – хорошо
2. простой – просто
3. прекрасный - прекрасно

Let's take a look at some examples to figure out the difference between the adjectives and the adverbs.

For Example:

1. Он хороший человек
"He's a good person." (adjective)
2. Он хорошо одет
"He's dressed well." (adverb - answers the question "how," describes a verb)

3. Это простой текст
"This is a simple text." (adjective)
4. Я просто проспал
"I simply overslept." (adverb)
5. Это прекрасный город
"This is a beautiful city." (adjective)
6. Он прекрасно танцует
"He dances wonderfully." (adverb)

Besides describing the verbs and adjectives, adverbs are widely used to describe conditions.

For Example:

мне ("I'm")...

1. **холодно** ("cold")
2. **жарко** ("hot")
3. **весело** ("having fun")
4. **грустно** ("sad")

сегодня ("it's...today")...

1. **пасмурно** ("cloudy")
2. **тепло** ("warm")
3. **солнечно** ("sunny")
4. **ветренно** ("windy")

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How are Russian husbands making up for doing something wrong

Many Russian men become the best husbands after doing something wrong like coming back home late, drunk and with someone's lipstick on their shirt.

They clean the room, they cook, they give massages, and let women watch TV series instead of soccer games.

Unfortunately, it only lasts for a couple of days while their memory is still fresh. Fortunately, Russian men drink pretty regularly so their wives always have something to complain or be upset about.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #23

Getting payback in Russia

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23

RUSSIAN

1. МУЖ: Родная, ты дома? О Боже, что это такое?!
2. ЖЕНА: Это мои друзья, познакомься! Алик и Вадим!
3. МУЖ: Сделай тише музыку! Что происходит? Ты пьяная?!
4. ЖЕНА: Не пьянее, чем ты был вчера. Я отдыхаю! Тебе можно, а мне нельзя?
5. МУЖ: И кто эти "друзья"? Я впервые их вижу!
6. ЖЕНА: Ну, я твоих секретарш тоже не знаю, но это не мешает тебе с ними развлекаться до ночи!

ROMANIZATION

1. MUZH: Rodnaya, ty doma? O Bozhe, shto eto takoe?!
2. ZHENA: Eto moi druz'ya, poznamom'sya! Alik I Vadim!
3. MUZH: Sdelai tishe muzyku! Shto proiskhodit? Ty p'yanaya?
4. ZHENA: Ne pyanee, chem ty byl vchera. Ya otdyhayu! Tebe mozhno, a mne nel'zya?
5. MUZH: I kto eto "druz'ya"? Ya vpervye ih vizhu!
6. ZHENA: Nu, ya tvoih sekretarsh tozhe ne znayu, no eto ne meshaet tebe s nimi razvlekat'sya do nochi!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. HUSBAND: Darling, are you at home? Oh my God, what is this?!
2. WIFE: Meet my friends! Alik and Vadim!
3. HUSBAND: Turn down the music! What's going on? Are you drunk?!
4. WIFE: Not any drunker than you were yesterday. I'm having fun! You can and I can't?
5. HUSBAND: And who are these "friends"? I've never seen them before!
6. WIFE: Well, I haven't met your secretaries either, but it doesn't stand in the way of you having fun with them until the night!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
родной	rodnoy	natural (relative); native (language); home (town)	adjective	masculine
мешать	meshat'	to bother; interrupt; stay on the way	verb	
впервые	vpervye	for the first time	adverb	
нельзя	nel'zya	you can't, you mustn't, it's forbidden, it's impossible	adverb	

МОЖНО	mozhno	it's allowed to, can, may, it's possible to	adverb
отдыхать	atdyhat'	to rest	verb
пьяный	p'yanyi	drunk	adjective
происходить	proiskhodit'	to happen, occur; go on	verb
тихий	teehij	quiet	adjective
о Боже	o Bozhe	oh my God	phrase
развлекаться	razvlekatsa	to have fun, to disport	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Родная моя, где ты была? <i>Rodnaya moya, gde ty byla?</i></p> <p>"My dear, where have you been?"</p>	<p>Она мне не родная сестра. <i>Ona mnye nye rodnaya syestra.</i></p> <p>"She's not my natural sister."</p>
<p>Мне что-то мешает в ботинке. <i>Mne sh-to-to meshaet v botinke.</i></p> <p>"There's something in my shoe that's bothering me."</p>	<p>Не мешай мне заниматься. <i>Ne meshai mne zanimatsa.</i></p> <p>"Don't bother me, I'm studying."</p>
<p>Я впервые в России. <i>Ya v pervye v Rossii.</i></p> <p>"It's my first time in Russia."</p>	<p>Вам нельзя пить алкоголь. <i>Vam nyel'zya pit' alkogol'.</i></p> <p>"You mustn't drink alcohol." (formal)</p>
<p>Нельзя так делать. <i>Nyel'zya tak dyelat'.</i></p> <p>"It's forbidden to do so."</p>	<p>Можно войти? <i>Mozhno voyti?</i></p> <p>"May I come in?"</p>

<p>Здесь можно курить? <i>Zdyes' mozhno kurit'?</i></p> <p>"Is it okay (allowed) to smoke here?"</p>	<p>Так приятно отдыхать в парке! <i>Tak priyatno otdyhat' v parkye!</i></p> <p>"It's so nice to rest in the park!"</p>
<p>Я уже такой пьяный, мне нужно ехать домой. <i>Ya uzhe takoi p'yanyi, mne nuzhno yehat' domoi.</i></p> <p>"I'm so drunk already, I should go home."</p>	<p>Что происходит? <i>Shto proiskhodit?</i></p> <p>"What's going on?"</p>
<p>Я не понял, что произошло. <i>Ya ne ponyal, shto proizoshlo.</i></p> <p>"I didn't understand what happened."</p>	<p>Это очень маленький и тихий город. <i>Eta ochen' malen'kij i teehij gorod.</i></p> <p>"This is a very small and quiet town."</p>
<p>О Боже, какое грязное место! <i>O Bozhye, kakoye gryaznoye myesto!</i></p> <p>"Oh God, what a dirty place!"</p>	<p>Он развлекался в клубе до утра. <i>On razvlekalsya v klube do utra.</i></p> <p>"He was hanging out (having fun) in a club till morning."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is **можно – нельзя ("Allowed To") and Comparative Adjectives**

Тебе можно, а мне нельзя?

"You can and I can't?"

можно - нельзя

можно means, "allowed to; possible; okay to"

нельзя means the opposite: "not allowed to, not possible"

***When you talk about something being allowed (not allowed) or possible (impossible) to a specific person, you should put this person into a dative case.

For Example:

1. Ему уже можно голосовать
"He can vote already."
2. Лене можно войти
"Lena can too come in."
3. Мне нельзя пить
"I shouldn't drink."
4. Николаю нельзя этого знать
"Nikolai mustn't know this."

***When you talk about something being allowed or forbidden in general, you say "it's..." or "it's not..." in English, like, "It's forbidden to smoke here." Where in Russian, all you need is just one of the above words to express the general ideas or rules.

For Example:

1. В Париже можно купить этот сыр
"You can buy this cheese in Paris." (It's possible to buy this cheese in Paris.)
2. Здесь нельзя курить
"It's not allowed to smoke here."

***We also use the word можно when asking for permission. The usage in this case is very simple. First you say можно and then make a simple question in Russian (which is basically a simple statement with a question intonation).

For Example:

1. Можно я сегодня тебе позвоню?
"Can I call you today?"
2. Можно я уйду с работы пораньше?
"Can I leave work earlier?"

Comparative Adjectives

In the previous lessons, we talked a lot about Russian adjectives - words that are used to describe things. But you may also wish to use adjectives to compare one thing to another. For example: "This house is bigger than that one." For that we need comparative adjectives and the word "than."

There are two ways to compare things in Russian. First, with the help of the words **более** and **менее** ("more" and "less") plus normal adjectives.

For Example:

1. Он более симпатичный, чем его брат
Literally, "He's more cute than his brother." (cuter)
2. Она менее аккуратная, чем её мать
Literally, "She's less neat than her mother."

Although acceptable, this easy way of comparing things is not preferable. Most of the time Russians would use the comparative adjectives, just like the English speakers would say "cuter" instead of "more cute."

Let's take a look at the comparative adjectives from today's lesson:

1. тише ("quieter")
2. пьянее ("drunker")

As we can see, both of them end in **-е**. So do all the other comparative adjectives.

There are several rules to form the comparatives, but basically it's just changing the ending of a normal adjective (-ый, -ий, ой) into **-е** or **-ее**.

For Example:

1. тихий - тише ("quiet" – "quieter")

2. **пьяный** - **пьянее** ("drunk" – "drunker")
3. **красивый** - **красивее** ("beautiful" – "more beautiful")
4. **красный** - **краснее** ("red" – "more red")
5. **высокий** - **выше** ("tall" – "taller")

To make a sentence with comparative adjectives, all we need to add is the word **чем**, which means, "than."

For Example:

1. **Этот дом выше, чем тот**
"This house is taller than that one."
2. **Твой район тише, чем мой**
"Your area is quieter than mine."

Exceptions:

Just like in English, the words "good" and "bad" have irregular comparative forms.

For Example:

1. **хороший** - **лучше** ("good" – "better")
2. **плохой** - **хуже** ("bad" – "worse")

The superlative degree of adjectives (how we indicate something is the best or the most) is the topic of the very first lesson of this Intermediate series. Take a look and refresh your memories!

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Independent Russian women

Russian women are not those submissive docile creatures you might imagine. They can be very independent, and very often do the same things men do.

Women earn the same money, they are as good at drinking as men are, and if they are really mad they can pay back in kind.

Many men are pretty scared when they see their good wife drinking and partying hard. Here is a piece of advice: don't upset your Russian wife, or you may see her transform into Russian Baba Yaga (Russian witch).

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #24

Making up is hard to do in Russia

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- 2 Russian
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- 3 Vocabulary
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RUSSIAN

1. МУЖ: Нам нужно поговорить.
2. ЖЕНА: Да, я знаю...
3. МУЖ: Я понимаю, что ты пыталась мне отомстить вчера. Тебе это удалось.
4. ЖЕНА: Я рада.
5. МУЖ: Давай договоримся не делать друг другу больно. Я буду всегда звонить, если буду задерживаться на работе, и говорить с кем я. А ты не делай мне ничего назло, хорошо?
6. ЖЕНА: Хорошо. Я просто хотела, чтобы ты почувствовал, как мне было плохо вчера, извини...

ROMANIZATION

1. MUZH: Nam nuzhno pogovorit'.
2. ZHENA: Da, ya znayu...
3. MUZH: Ya ponimayu, shto ty pytalas' mne otomstit' vchera. Tebe eto udalos'.
4. ZHENA: Ya rada.
5. MUZH: Davai dogovorimsya ne delat' drug drugu bol'no. Ya budu vseгда звонit', esli budu zaderzhivatsa na rabote, i govorit' s kem ya. A ty ne delai mne nichevo nazlo, horosho?

CONT'D OVER

6. ZHENA: Horosho. Ya prosto hotela, shtoby ty pochustvoval, kak mne bylo bol'no vchera, izvini...

ENGLISH

1. HUSBAND: We need to talk.
2. WIFE: Yes, I know...
3. HUSBAND: I understand that you were trying to take a revenge on me yesterday. You did a good job.
4. WIFE: I`m glad.
5. HUSBAND: Let`s make an agreement not to hurt each other. I will always call if I`m late at work and tell you who I`m with. And you don`t do anything to hurt me on purpose, ok?
6. WIFE: Ok. I just wanted you to feel how badly I felt yesterday, I`m sorry...

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
нужно	nuzhno	necessary, need; should	adverb
назло	nazlo	out of spite; on purpose	adverb
задерживаться	zaderzhivatsa	to be delayed	verb
друг друга	drug druga	each other	phrase

делать больно	delat' bol'no	to hurt (usu. feelings)	phrase
договориться	dogovoritsa	to agree to/on; to arrange; find a consensus	verb
удаваться	udavatsa	to be successful, to work out, to turn out (well)	verb
мстить	mstit'	to take a revenge	verb
пытаться	pytatsa	to try, make an attempt	verb
чувствовать	chuvstvovat'	feel	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Я уже такой пьяный, мне нужно ехать домой.</p> <p><i>Ya uzhe takoi p'yanyi, mne nuzhno yehat' domoi.</i></p> <p>"I'm so drunk already, I should go home."</p>	<p>Мне нужно сдать отчёт в пятницу.</p> <p><i>Mne nuzhno sdat' otchot v pyatnicu.</i></p> <p>"I have to hand in the report on Friday."</p>
<p>Мне кажется, он это сделал мне назло.</p> <p><i>Mne kazhetsya, on eto sdelal mne nazlo.</i></p> <p>"I think he did it just to hurt me (out of spite)."</p>	<p>Извини, я задержался на совещании.</p> <p><i>Izvini, ya zaderzhalsya na soveschani.</i></p> <p>"I'm sorry, I was delayed at the stuff meeting."</p>
<p>Мы знаем друг друга с детства.</p> <p><i>My znaem drug druga s detstva.</i></p> <p>"We know each other since we were kids."</p>	<p>Пожалуйста, не делай ей больно.</p> <p><i>Pozhalusta, ne delai yei bol'no.</i></p> <p>"Please, don't hurt her."</p>
<p>Мы договорились встретиться вечером.</p> <p><i>My dogovorilis' vstretitsa vecherom.</i></p> <p>"We agreed to meet in the evening."</p>	<p>Так до чего вы в конце концов договорились?</p> <p><i>Tak do chego vy v konce koncov dogovorilis'?</i></p> <p>"So what have you finally agreed on?"</p>

<p>Пирог удался! <i>Pirog udalsya!</i></p> <p>"The pie turned out really well!"</p>	<p>Мне не удалось его уговорить. <i>Mne ne udalos' ego ugovorit'.</i></p> <p>"I didn't manage to convince him." / "I couldn't convince him."</p>
<p>Она ему отомстила тем же способом. <i>Ona yemu otomstila tem zhe sposobom.</i></p> <p>"She took a revenge on him in the same way."</p>	<p>Он пытался оправдаться, но она ему не поверила. <i>On pytalsya opravdatsa, no ona emu ne poverila.</i></p> <p>"He tried to explain himself, but she didn't believe him."</p>
<p>Я себя плохо чувствую. <i>Ya sebya ploho chustvuyu.</i></p> <p>"I feel under the weather/bad."</p>	<p>У меня онемела нога, я её не чувствую. <i>U menya onemela noga, ya eyo ne chustvuyu.</i></p> <p>"My leg went numb (fell asleep), I can't feel it."</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is удаваться, друг друга, and Conjunctions

Давай договоримся не делать друг другу больно.

"Let's make an agreement not to hurt each other."

удаваться

удаваться means, "to be successful," or "to work out." The usage of this word can be confusing for English learners.

To say that something worked out for you or any other specific person, you should put the pronoun (noun, name) into the dative case and put the word удаваться in the tense you need, which will always take only the following forms:

1. Present tense

Мне не удаётся это починить

"I can't fix it."

2. Future tense

Как ты думаешь, Мише удастся это сделать?

"Do you think Misha will manage to do it?"

3. Past tense

Мне не удалось его уговорить

"I couldn't convince him (didn't succeed in)."

We also commonly use this word to say that something turned out good or bad.

For Example:

1. Суп удался

"The soup turned out very tasty."

2. Поездка не удалась

"The trip didn't work out (turned out bad)."

друг друга

друг друга is an interesting expression, which means, "each other," but consists of two words that both mean "friend." This phrase changes according to the cases. For example, it will sound different in sentences like, "to each other," and "about each other." Let's take a look at this phrase in different contexts.

For Example:

1. Мы знаем друг друга

"We know each other." (accusative case)

2. Мы многое сделали друг для друга

"We've done a lot for each other." (genitive case)

3. Мы доверяем друг другу

"We trust each other." (dative case)

4. Мы гордимся друг другом
"We are proud of each other." (instrumental case)
5. Мы знаем о друг друге
"We know about each other." (prepositional case)

As you can see, besides the rare insertions of the prepositions (о, для), all you have to do is to change the ending of the second "friend" word. The first word, друг, remains constant in this phrase.

Conjunctions

Russian conjunctions are similar to those in English. Their function is to conjoin nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositional phrases, and the clauses of compound sentences like, "and," "or," "but" in English.

There are different types of conjunctions, but you don't need to remember their names as long as you remember the conjunctions themselves and their functions in sentences.

Let's take a look at the conjunctions from today's lesson:

1. **и**
"and"
2. **а**
"and," "but," "whereas"
3. **что**
"that"
4. **чтобы**
"so that;" "in order to"
5. **если**
"if"
6. **как**
"how," "in what way"

Not all of these words are as simple in their meaning and usage as they might seem.

и vs. а

These two conjunctions can both be translated as "and"

For Example:

1. Оля и Маша разговаривают по телефону
"Olya and Masha are talking on the phone."
2. Я приду в 5, а он придёт в 6
"I'll come at five and he'll come at six."

Although the difference in the meanings is obvious, the first "and" (и) expresses a simple connection, and the second "and" (а) shows the opposition, contrast. It can also be translated as "but" in English.

а

-А is a preposition that is used almost the most in Russian. Here are a couple of examples of its usage apart from what we mentioned above.

The preposition -а is often used in the beginning of a sentence to make the transition between two topics smoother. It's also used in the counter questions.

For Example:

1. Я сегодня так устала "I am so tired today." - Да, тяжёлый день ... А я сегодня видела Пашу, представляешь?
"Yeah, tough day. Oh, I saw Pasha today, can you believe it?"
(here -а is used as a transition word between the two topics).
2. Я такая голодная, а ты как?
"I'm so hungry, how about yourself?"
(inquiring about the same thing that has been mentioned)

что in Russian means both, "what" (as a question word), and "that" (as a conjunction, connecting word between two parts of a sentence). When using the conjunction что, we always separate it with a comma from the first part of a sentence.

For Example:

1. Он сказал, что придёт в 8
"He said that he'd come at eight."

ЧТОБЫ

чтобы means, "so that," or "in order to." Very often, we do not translate it in English like in the sentences when it expressed desire or an order.

For Example:

1. Я хочу, чтобы ты извинился
"I want you to apologize." (literally, "I want so that you would apologize.")
2. Скажи ей, чтобы она мне позвонила
"Tell her to call me." (literally, "Tell her so that she would call me.")

As you can see, a lot of the time чтобы we do not translate into English, especially in the colloquial speech. But there are also cases when we should include чтобы in our English translation. Usually it happens when this word expresses the aim or a possibility.

For Example:

1. Я должен идти, чтобы не опоздать на автобус
"I should go so that I don't miss my bus."
2. Он сделает всё, чтобы получить её согласие
"He'll do anything (in order) to get her agreement."
3. Он говорил тихо, чтобы не разбудить её
"He was speaking quietly in order not to wake her up."

если

если means, "if." Just like in English, it can be put both at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence, depending on the structure of a sentence.

For Example:

1. Если он меня пригласит, я приду
"If he invites me, I'll come."
2. Я приду, если он меня пригласит
"I'll come if he invites me."

Note 1: that two parts of the sentence are separated by a comma.

Note 2: when making a sentence with "if" in the future tense in Russian, both parts of a sentence (a condition and a possible result) are said in the future tense, when in English you wouldn't normally put future tense after "if."

как

как means, "how." Most often this conjunction is used to help us draw analogies and can be translated as the English "like" or "as, as if."

For Example:

1. он худой как спичка
"He's thin as a match."
2. Дождь лил как из ведра
"The rain was pouring like from a bucket."

For Example:

1. Я хочу, чтобы ты понял, как это неправильно
"I want you to understand how wrong it is."
2. Расскажи мне, как это было
"Tell me what it was like."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Making up is not easy in Russia

You must be totally honest and sincere and apologize million times in order to make your significant other believe that you are truly sorry.

It is especially hard because many fights include retaliation—some women just can't forgive if they haven't done the same to their husbands, or haven't made them feel the same.

The reward after a huge fight is worth it: a good, loving and attentive wife until you do something wrong again.

Would you reconsider having a Russian girlfriend?

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S1 #25

Russian love is a beautiful thing

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25

RUSSIAN

1. МУЖ: Малыш, ты дома?
2. ЖЕНА: Да, любимый, я на кухне! Я приготовила ужин, мой руки и садись за стол.
3. МУЖ: Оо, квартира просто блестит! Ты сделала уборку?
4. ЖЕНА: Я хотела тебя порадовать. Я помыла полы, пропылесосила, поменяла постель, погладила бельё и приготовила твою любимую курицу с мандаринами!
5. МУЖ: Ты у меня такая замечательная! Вот, это тебе.
6. ЖЕНА: Цветы! И духи! Дорогой, ты просто золото!

ROMANIZATION

1. MUZH: Malysh, ty doma?
2. ZHENA: Da, lyubimyi, ya na kuhne! Ya prigotovila uzhin, moi ruki I sadis' za stol.
3. MUZH: Oo, kvartira prosto blestit! Ty sdelala uborku?
4. ZHENA: Ya hotela tebya poradovat'. Ya pomyla poly, propylesosila, pomenyala postel', pogladila bel'yo i prigotovila tvoyu lyubimuyu kuritsu s mandarinami!
5. MUZH: Ty u menya takaya zamechatel'naya! Vot, eto tebe.

CONT'D OVER

6. ZHENA: Tsvety! I duhi! Dorogoi, ty prosto zoloto!

ENGLISH

1. HUSBAND: Baby, are you home?

2. WIFE: Yes, my love, I'm in the kitchen! I made dinner, wash your hands and sit down at the table.

3. HUSBAND: Oh! The apartment is sparkling! Did you clean it?

4. WIFE: I wanted to do something good for you. I washed the floor, vacuumed, changed the bed sheets, did ironing, and cooked your favorite chicken with mandarins!

5. HUSBAND: You are so wonderful! Here, this is for you.

6. WIFE: Flowers! And perfumes! Darling, you are a gem!

VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
малыш	malysh	baby	noun	
духи	duhi	perfume	noun	
цветы	cvety	flowers	noun	
замечательный	zamechatel'niy	great, wonderful	adjective	

бельё	bel'yo	bedclothes; underwear; laundry	noun	
гладить	gladit'	to iron	verb	
постель	postel'	bed linen; bed utensils	noun	
менять	menyat'	to change	noun	
радовать	radovat'	to make somebody happy; to do something good for somebody.	verb	
пол	pol	floor	noun	masculine
пылесосить	pylesosit'	to vacuum	verb	
делать уборку	delat' uborku	to clean (a place)	phrase	
блестеть	blestet'	to shine, sparkle	verb	
квартира	kvartira	apartment	noun	feminine
мыть	myt'	to wash	verb	
готовить	gotovit'	to cook	verb	
кухня	kuhnya	kitchen; cuisine, food	noun	
золото	zoloto	gold	noun	neutral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Какой симпатичный малыш! Как его зовут? <i>Kakoi simpaticchnyi malysh! Kak evo zovut?</i></p> <p>"What a cute baby! What's his name?"</p>	<p>Я не покупаю духи в России, боюсь подделки. <i>Ya ne pokupayu duhi v Rossii, boyus' poddelki.</i></p> <p>"I don't buy perfume in Russia, I'm afraid of getting a fake."</p>
<p>Он дарит мне цветы каждый раз, когда мы встречаемся. <i>On darit mne cvety kazhdyi raz, kogda my vstrechaemsya.</i></p> <p>"He gives me flowers every time we meet."</p>	<p>Сегодня замечательная погода. <i>Sevodnya zamechatel'naya pogoda.</i></p> <p>"The weather today is wonderful."</p>
<p>Я видела очень красивое бельё на витрине сегодня. <i>Ya videla ochen' krasivoe bel'yo na vitrine sevodnya.</i></p> <p>"I saw a very beautiful lingerie in the shop window today."</p>	<p>Мне нужно постирать бельё. <i>Mne nuzhno postirat' bel'yo.</i></p> <p>"I need to do laundry."</p>
<p>Я каждый день глажу мужу рубашки. <i>Ya kazhdyi den' glazhu muzhu rubashki.</i></p> <p>"I iron my husband's shirts every day."</p>	<p>Я не люблю шёлковую постель. Она холодная и скользкая. <i>Ya ne lyublyu sholkovuyu postel'. Ona holodnaya i skol'zkaya.</i></p> <p>"I don't like silk bed linen. It's cold and slippery."</p>
<p>Я хотела бы поменять эти джинсы на размер больше. <i>Ya hotela by pomenyat' eti dzhinsy na razmer bol'she.</i></p> <p>"I would like to change these jeans for a pair one size bigger."</p>	<p>Я люблю радовать её подарками. <i>Ya lyublyu radovat' eyo podarkami.</i></p> <p>"I like making her happy with my presents."</p>

<p>Я не люблю кафельные полы. <i>Ya ne lyublyu kafel'nye poly.</i></p> <p>"I don't like tiled floors."</p>	<p>У меня трое маленьких детей, поэтому приходится пылесосить каждый день. <i>U menya troe malen'kih detei, poetomu prihoditsa pylesosit' kazhdyi den'.</i></p> <p>"I have 3 little kids, therefore I have to vacuum every day."</p>
<p>Я делаю генеральную уборку по субботам. <i>Ya delayu general'nyuyu uborku po subbotam.</i></p> <p>"I do a general cleaning every Saturday."</p>	<p>Не всё золото, что блестит. <i>Ne vsyo zoloto, shto blestit.</i></p> <p>"Not everything that shines is gold."</p>
<p>Квартиры в Москве очень дорогие. <i>Kvartiry v Moskve ochen' dorigiye.</i></p> <p>"Apartments in Moscow are very expensive."</p>	<p>У него двух-комнатная квартира в Москве. <i>U nevo dvuh-komnatnaya kvartira v Moskve.</i></p> <p>"He has a 2-room (one bedroom) apartment in Moscow."</p>
<p>Я не люблю мыть посуду, поэтому это всегда делает мой муж. <i>Ya ne lyublyu myt' posudu, poetomu eto vseгда delaet moi muzh.</i></p> <p>"I don't like washing the dishes, so my husband always does it."</p>	<p>Сегодня не все девушки умеют готовить. <i>Segodnya ne vse devushki umeyut gotovit'.</i></p> <p>"Nowadays not all girls can cook."</p>
<p>Я не умею готовить. <i>Ya ne umeyu gotovit'.</i></p> <p>"I can't cook."</p>	<p>Моя мама хорошо готовит. <i>Moya mama khorosho gotovit.</i></p> <p>"My mom cooks well."</p>
<p>У меня такая маленькая кухня, даже стол некуда поставить. <i>U myenya takaya malyen'kaya kuhnya, dazhye stol nyekuda postavit'.</i></p> <p>"My kitchen is so small, there's even no space to put a table."</p>	<p>Мне не нравится китайская кухня, слишком жирная для меня. <i>Mnye nye nraivitsya kitayskaya kuhnya, slishkom zhimaya dlya myenya.</i></p> <p>"I don't like Chinese food - too oily for me."</p>

Симпатичный браслет, это золото?

Simpatichnyi bracelet, eto zoloto?

"Cute bracelet, is it gold?"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is to Analyze Sentences

Я приготовила ужин, мой руки и садись за стол.

"I made dinner, wash your hands and sit down at the table."

Today we will take a couple of sentences from our dialogue and try to analyze them in all possible ways and try to tell everything we know about the sentences as well as the separate words before we learned how to modify the words in order to express ourselves in a proper way. Today we offer you the reverse approach - analyzing and understanding different forms and functions of the words. Try to read and understand why each word took one or another form, why it is said that the word possesses these or those characteristics. Understanding the grammar is necessary at this point of learning.

Я приготовила ужин, мой руки и садись за стол.

Я приготовила ужин, мой руки и садись за стол means, "I made dinner, wash your hands and sit at the table."

The first part of the sentence is a statement in the past tense. The second part of the sentence is a command.

• The word **приготовила** ("cooked") has the following characteristics:

1. Verb (comes from the infinitive form - *приготовить*)
2. Past tense (because of the feminine ending **-ла**)
3. Perfective aspect (because of the prefix **при-**. Imperfective verb would sound as [*готовила*])

4. Feminine gender (with the ending **-ла** - masculine would be **-л** as in *приготовил*)
5. Singular (the plural would sound as [*приготовили*])

• **ужин** ("dinner") has the following characteristics:

1. Noun
2. Singular (plural would sound as [*ужины*])
3. Masculine (because ends with a consonant)
4. Accusative case (because it's the object of the action, something is done to it)

• **мой** ("wash") has the following characteristics:

1. Verb (comes from the infinitive - *мыть*)
2. Imperfective aspect (the perfective aspect needs the prefix **по-** here, as in *помой*)
3. *Command Form*
4. Singular (or informal - plural or formal would sound as [*мойте*])

• **руки** ("hands") has the following characteristics:

1. Noun
2. Plural (singular - *рука*)
3. Accusative case (something is done to the hands, the action is performed on the hands)

• **садись** ("sit down") has the following characteristics:

1. Verb (infinitive - *садиться*)

2. Imperfective aspect (the perfective aspect of this command verb would sound as [сядь])
3. Command form
4. Reflexive intransitive (has the reflexive ending **-ТЬСЯ**, but it can't be dropped because there's no such word as *сади*.)
5. Singular

• **стол** ("table") has the following characteristics:

1. Noun
2. Masculine (because it ends in a consonant)
3. Singular (in plural it would sound as [столы])
4. Accusative case (The accusative case is used after the prepositions **в** ("to," "into"), **на** ("on," "to") and **за** ("behind;" "at") when they indicate motion towards something).

Я хотела тебя порадовать

Я хотела тебя порадовать means, "I wanted to do something good for you."

This sentence is a statement.

• **хотела** ("wanted") has the following characteristics:

1. Verb (infinitive - *хотеть*)
2. Past tense (because of the ending **-ла**)
3. Imperfective aspect (in perfective aspect it would sound as [захотела])
4. Feminine (because it ends with the feminine ending **-ла**. If it was masculine, it would end with **-л**.)

5. Singular (if it was plural, it would sound as [хотели])

• **тебя** ("you") has the following characteristics:

1. Personal pronoun, second person
2. Singular (in plural it would sound as [Вас])
3. Accusative case

• **порадовать** ("to make somebody happy," "to do something good for somebody") has the following characteristics:

1. Verb (infinitive)
2. Perfective aspect (Imperfective would not have the prefix **по-** and the verb would sound as [радовать])

Я приготовила твою любимую курицу с мандаринами.

Я приготовила твою любимую курицу с мандаринами means, "I cooked your favorite chicken with mandarins."

• **приготовила** ("cooked") has the following characteristics:

1. Verb (infinitive - *приготовить*)
2. Past tense (ending **-ла**)
3. Perfective aspect (because of the prefix **при-**. Imperfective aspect would make the verb sound as [готовить])
4. Feminine (because of the feminine ending **-ла**. Masculine would sound as [приготовил])
5. Singular (in plural, the verb would sound as [приготовили])

• **ТВОЮ** ("your") has the following characteristics:

1. Possessive pronoun, second person
2. Singular (in plural it would sound as [*Ваши*])
3. Accusative case (because the noun it describes, *курицу* ("chicken"), is in the accusative case, therefore the pronoun should also be in the accusative case)

• **любимую** ("favorite") has the following characteristics:

1. Adjective (the dictionary form of it would sound as [*любимый*] and in masculine form it would sound as [*любимого*])
2. Singular (in plural it would sound as [*любимых*])
3. Accusative case (because the noun *курицу* (chicken), is in the accusative case, and adjectives should always be in agreement with the nouns)

• **курицу** ("chicken") has the following characteristics:

1. Noun (the dictionary form - *курица*)
2. Feminine
3. Singular (in plural, it would sound as [*куриц*])
4. Accusative case (because the accusative case is used to modify an object on which the action is performed. In this sentence, the object is *курица*, therefore it should be put into the accusative case)

• **с мандаринами** ("with mandarins") has the following characteristics:

1. phrase: preposition + noun
2. Preposition **с** ("with")

● **мандаринами** ("mandarins") has the following characteristic:

1. Noun (dictionary form - *мандарин*)
2. Plural (singular form would sound as [*мандарин*])
3. Instrumental case (we should always put a noun into the instrumental case if it goes after the preposition **с** ("with")).

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How to be a good Russian husband

Russian women can be perfect wives—your house is perfectly clean, delicious meals are served every day and your wife still manages to look like a star.

What do you need to have all that? Simple! Just to be a perfect husband—which in Russia means: Always be on time from work, surprise your wife with little presents (flowers, perfume, chocolate would work) and...recite poems!

In Russia, a country with great writers and poets, knowing and reciting poems is considered to be a social skill!

So are you ready for romantic, beautiful, and...poetic love in Russia?



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