

Lesson 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural component: Russian language and people• Greeting someone and saying goodbye• Alphabet: К, О, М, Е, Т, А• Identifying people and things• Agreeing and disagreeing• Thanking and responding to thanks• Personal Pronouns in the Nominative Case	page 3
Lesson 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet: с, р, п, н, в, и• Personal Pronouns in the Accusative Case• Introductions: Как вас зову́т? Меня́ зову́т _____.• Unstressed vowels “е” and “я”	page 11
Lesson 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formal greeting: Здравствуй́те!• Alphabet: у, д, з, л, й• Asking for directions: Где _____? вот / здесь / там• Gender of nouns: masculine, feminine, neuter.	page 16
Lesson 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions: Познако́мьтесь.• Alphabet: б, ф, х, ь, ю• Directions: иди́те прямо́ /нале́во / напра́во / сле́ва / спра́ва• Polite phrases: извини́те, прости́те, скажи́те	page 22
Lesson 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family members• Possessive Pronouns	page 28
Lesson 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Places of interest in Moscow• Distance: далеко́ и бли́зко• Alphabet: ё, ы, э, г, я	page 32
Lesson 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet: ш, ж, ь• Professions• Russian names and patronymics	page 37
Lesson 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet: ц, ч, щ• Food items.• Asking for and buying things• Genitive construction: У меня́ есть. I have.• Numbers 1-10	page 42
Lesson 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Countries and nationalities• Asking for and buying things	page 47
Lesson 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revision• Listening: Ваш па́спорт, пожа́луйста.• Song: Кали́нка	page 53

Cyrillic letter	Name of letter	English pronunciation
А а	a (a)	f a ther
Б б	b (be)	b ut
В в	v (ve)	v isa
Г г	g (ge)	g allery
Д д	d (de)	d octor
Е е	e (ye)	y es
Ё ё	(yo)	be y ond
Ж ж	(zhe)	plea s ure
З з	z (ze)	z oo
И и	i (ee)	v isa
Й й	short i (i kratkoje)	bo y
К к	k (ka)	k ind
Л л	l (el)	fu ll
М м	m (em)	m um
Н н	n (en)	n ot
О о	o (o)	h o t
П п	p (pe)	p ie
Р р	r (er)	R ussia
С с	s (es)	s un
Т т	t (te)	t alk
У у	u (oo)	fu ll
Ф ф	f (ef)	f ood, ph ilosoph y
Х х	(ha)	Ba ch , Lo ch Ness
Ц ц	(tse)	pi zz a, qui ts
Ч ч	(che)	ch air
Ш ш	(sha)	sh ock
Щ щ	(shcha)	pos h ch ina
Ъ	hard sign	-----
Ы ы	(i)	shi el d
Ь	soft sign	-----
Э э	(e)	e very
Ю ю	(yoo)	u se
Я я	(ya)	y ard

Урoк 1

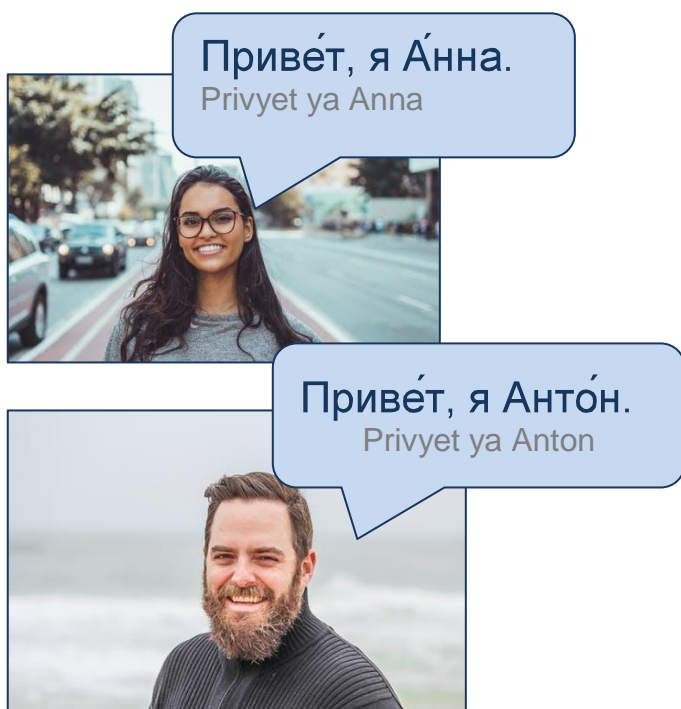
Lesson 1
(urok)

- Cultural component: Russian language and people
- Greeting someone and saying goodbye
 - Hi! Привeт!
 - Goodbye. До свидания.
 - Bye! Пока!
- Alphabet: K, O, M, E, T, A
- Identifying people and things
 - Who's this? Кто э́то?
 - What's this? Что э́то?
- Agreeing and disagreeing
 - Yes, it is. Да, это ...
 - No, it isn't. Нет, это не
- Thanking and responding to thanks
 - Thank you. Спасибо.
 - You're welcome. Пожа́луйста.
- Personal Pronouns in the Nominative Case



Informal greeting and introduction

01.01



привeт *hi*
privyet

я *I*
ya

Привeт, я _____.

The link verb “to be” (am, is, are) is not used in Present tense.

Unlike English “I”, Russian “я” isn’t capitalized unless it’s the first word in a sentence.

The first 6 letters

01.02

These first 6 letters are essentially the same as the English ones.
The vowels **ο** and **α** are short, and **ε** is like “yes”.

Α α as in ‘father’

Ο ο as in ‘hot’

Ε ε as in ‘yes’

Κ κ as in ‘kind’

Τ τ as in ‘top’

Μ μ as in ‘mum’

We can form several words using these letters:

ακτ	act	μάμα	mum
άτομ	atom	τέμα	theme
ατάκα	attack	там	there
κομέτα	comet	τομ	tome (volume)
кот	cat	τομάτ	tomato

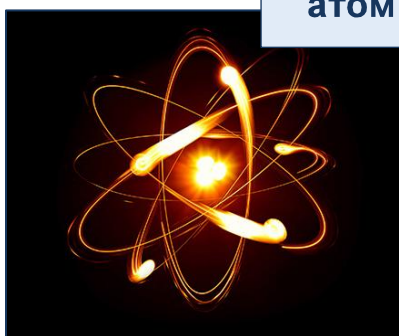
κομέτα



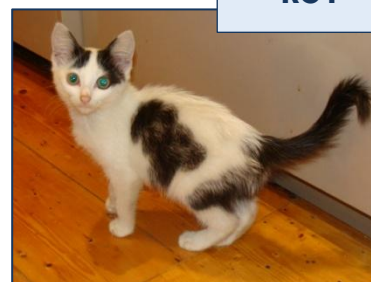
τομάτ



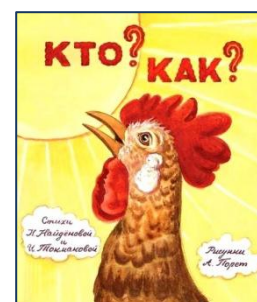
άτομ



кот



как? how?
кто? who?



Stress is very important in Russian. It is indicated by a mark (´) above the vowel which needs to be accented in the pronunciation of the word. For example in a word **Ма́ма** it is the first “a”. And if the word has only one syllable which means one vowel, the stress mark is not used, like in a word “**ко́т**”,

However many syllables there are in a word, only one of them can be stressed. The stressed vowel is given its “full value”, i.e., pronounced quite distinctly, whereas the unstressed vowel is passed over quickly, almost “reduced”.

Vowel ‘o’

This is particularly so with vowel ‘o’:

The sound [o] occurs only in stressed syllables.

e.g. **ко́т** (kot)

If an [o] comes immediately before the stressed syllable of the word, it is “reduced” to sound like an [a] in “mo**th**er”.

e.g. **коме́та** (kaméta)
тома́т (tamát)
Москва́ (maskvá) Moscow

In any other position in the word, an unstressed [o] sounds like the second syllable in the word “matter”

а́том (átem)

Russian vowels

Russian has **FIVE** basic vowel sounds, for which there are **TEN** vowel letters, two for each sound, and they correspond with English vowels more or less.

English vowel	А	Е	О	У	И
Hard Russian vowel	А а (as in fa th er) а́том	Э э (as in e v ery) э́то	О о (as in o n) то́м	У у (as in fu ll) студе́нт (student)	Ы ы ты́
Soft Russian vowel	Я я (as in ya rd) я́ (I)	Е е (as in ye s) те́ма	Ё ё (as in beyo nd) её́ her (yeyo)	Ю ю (as in u s e) мене́ю (menyu)	И и (as in vi s a) пи́во beer (pivo)

Sentence structure: statements, questions and answers

01.05

КТО? (kto) who? (animate: people and animals)

ЧТО? (shto) what? (inanimate)

ЭТО (eta) this is, these are

да (da) yes

нет (nyet) no

не (ne) not

Nominative Case

All Russian **nouns** decline. This means that their endings change according to the case being used. There are 6 cases in Russian. The main use of the Nominative Case is to express the subject of the sentence.

Statement sentence :

Это мама. This is mum.

Asking questions with **кто?** (who?)

Question: **Кто это?** Who is this?

Answer: **Это мама.** This is mum.

Asking question with **что?** (what?)

Question: **Что это?** What is this?*

Answer: **Это томат.** This is a tomato. **

* There is **no present tense of the verb 'to be'** (am, are, is) in Russian, but it exists in the past and the future.

** There are **no articles** (a, an, the) in Russian

Что это?
Это комета.

Это комета?
Да, это комета.

Это атом?
Нет, это не атом.
Это комета.

Asking questions "Is this ____?"

Question: **Это мама?**

Is this mum?

Positive answer: **Да, это мама.**

Yes, this is mum.

Negative answer: **Нет, это не мама.**

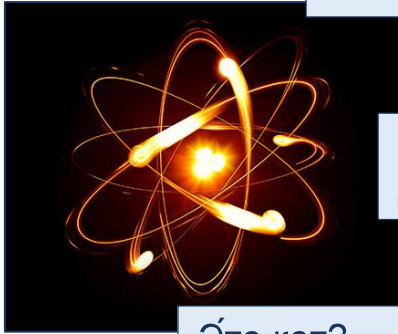
No, this is **not** mum.

Practice:

Ask as many questions as you can about each picture.

01.06

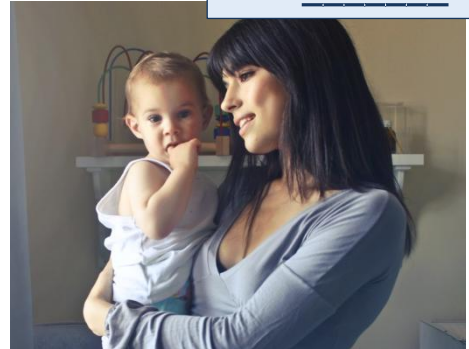
Что это?
Это атом.



Это атом?
Да, это _____.

Это кот?
Нет, это не _____.
Это _____.

Кто это?
Это _____.



ВИНО́ (vino)



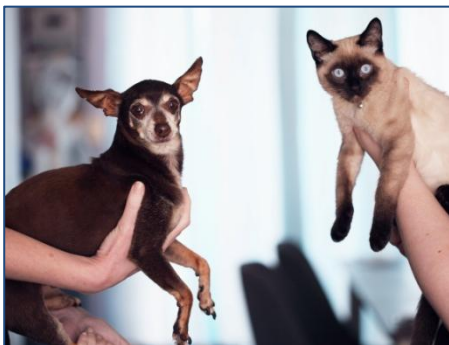
чай (chay)



ПІВО (pivo)



κόφε (kofe)



Я
(ya)

I

ТЫ
(ty)

you

ОН
(on)

he

ОНА́
(ana)

she

ОНО́
(ano)

it

МЫ
(my)

we

ВЫ
(vy)

you

ОНИ́
(ani)

they

студе́нт (student)

student (man)

студе́нтка (studentka)

student (girl)

до́ктор (doctar)

doctor

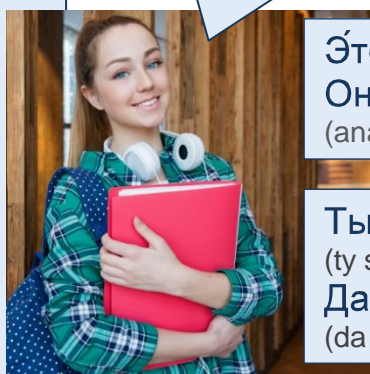
а́ртист (artist)

artiste

журнали́ст (zhurnalist)

journalist

Приве́т, я Э́мма.
Я студе́нтка.
(ya studentka)



Э́то Э́мма.

This is Emma.

Она́ студе́нтка.
(ana studentka)

She is a student.

Ты студе́нтка?
(ty studentka)

Are you a student?

Да, я студе́нтка.
(da ya studentka)

Yes, I am a student.

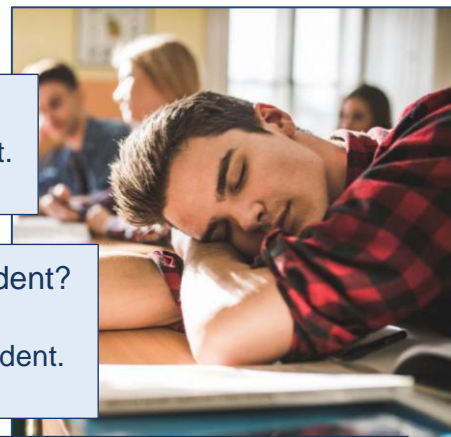
Э́то Анто́н.

This is Anton.

Он студе́нт.

He is a student.

(on student)



Like French and German, Russian has preserved the second person singular pronoun. This pronoun **ТЫ** is used in familiar address between friends, family, children, and when addressing children.

In a formal form of address the second person plural pronoun **ВЫ** (vy) is used.



Ты студе́нт?
(ty student)

Are you a student?

Да, я студе́нт.
(da ya student)

Yes, I am a student.

Он студе́нт?
(on student)

Is he a student?

Да, он студе́нт.
(da on student)

Yes, I am a student.



GRAMMAR

1. Absence of Articles

Russian has no definite or indefinite articles such as **a**, **an**, or **the**.

2. Absence of link verb “to be” in the present tense.

There is no present tense of the verb “to be” (**am**, **is**, **are**) in Russian.

3. Questions

The word order in an interrogative sentence is usually the same as in the declarative sentence.

e.g. Это кот. (This is a cat.) Это кот? (Is this a cat?)

4. The negative particle ‘not’.

English ‘no’ is ‘**нет**’ in Russian. The negative particle ‘**не**’ is pronounced jointly with the word negated.

e.g. Это кот? Нет, это **не** кот. (No, it’s not a cat)

5. Interrogative pronouns

who? **кто?**

what? **что?**

how? **как?**

6. Nominative Case

All Russian nouns decline. This means that their endings change according to the case being used. There are 6 Russian cases in all. The main use of the Nominative case is to express subject of the sentence



SENTENCE STRUCTURES

1. Declarative: **Э́то кот.**
Interrogative: **Э́то кот?**
2. Question: **Кто э́то?**
Answer: **Э́то ма́ма.**
- Question: **Что э́то?**
Answer: **Э́то коме́та.**
- Questions: **Э́то тома́т?**
Answers: **Да, э́то тома́т.**
Нет, э́то не тома́т.



Э́то матрёшка.
(matryoshka)

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

приве́т

hi!

и and

e.g., Э́то ма́ма и па́па.

до свидáния
(da svidaniya)

goodbye

пока́
(paka)

bye

а and/while, distinguishing one thing from another,

спаси́бо
(spasiba)

thank you

e.g., **Э́то ма́ма, а э́то То́м.**

This is mum, and (while) this is Tom.

пожа́луйста
(pazhalusta)

don't mention it / please

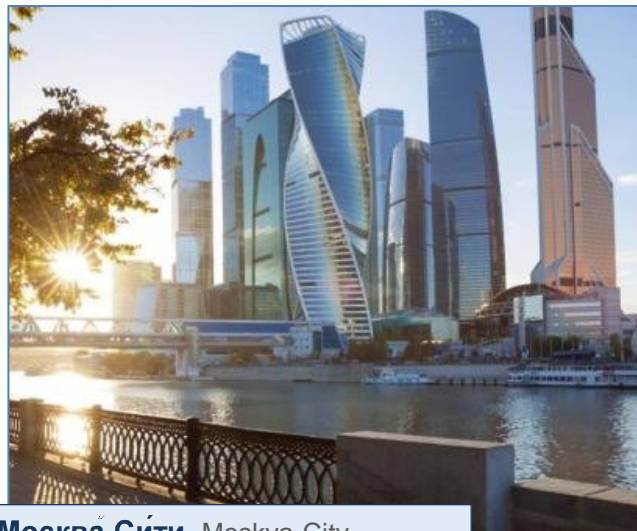
хорошо́
(kharasho)

good, well done

Урoк 2

(urok)

- Alphabet: с, р, п, н, в, и
- Personal Pronouns in the Accusative Case
- Introductions
Меня зовут _____.
Как вас зовут?
- Unstressed vowels “е” and “я”



Москва-Сити. Moskva-City.
Moscow International Business Center.

Practice:

In pairs act the following conversation.

02.01

Student A

Приве́т, я _____ .

А вы?

Student B

Я _____ .

Приве́т.

А кто э́то? (pointing at another student)

Student A

Э́то _____ .

Student B

Он студе́нт? or Она́ студе́нтка?

Student A

Да, он студе́нт / она́ студе́нтка.

or

Нет, он не студе́нт / она́ не студе́нтка. Он/ она́ _____ .

Student B

Спаси́бо.

До свидáния!

Student A

До свидáния!

О́чень рад.^(t)
(ochin' rat)

Very pleased. (to meet you)
You say that if you are a man

О́чень ра́да.
(ochin' rada)

Very pleased. (to meet you)
You say that if you are a woman

О́чень приятно́. Very pleasant / nice.
(ochin' priyatna)



Приве́т, я А́нна.
Privyet ya Anna



Приве́т, я Анто́н.
Privyet ya Anton

The next 6 letters are not like the English letters.

This might help you remember these letters:

СССР — the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

П — **Pi** math symbol

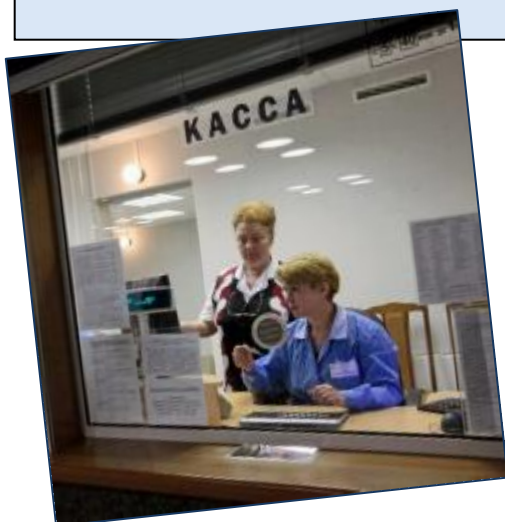


С с as in “**s**oviet”

спорт	sport
спортсмен	sportsman
спортсменка	sportswoman
СТОП	stop
самовар	samovar
ТОСТ	tost
КОСМОС	cosmos
КАССА	cashier / box office

Р р as in “**r**epublic”

ресторан	restaurant
опера	opera
оркестр	orchestra
театр	theatre
метро	metro



П п as in “**p**ie”

папа	dad
парк	park
паспорт	passport
аптека	pharmacy
пианино	piano
пианист	pianist



И и as in "visa"

и	and
интересно	interesting
такси́	taxi
а́ртист	artist (a man)
а́ртистка	artist (a woman)
крити́к	critic
приме́р	example



Н н as in "not"

нет	no
не	not
кино́	cinema
кино́теа́тр	movie theatre
он	he
о́на	she



В в as in "visa"

вино́	wine
пи́во	beer
Москва́	Moscow
вот	right here



What is your name?

02.03

Literally Russians ask "How do they call you"?

Polite (formal) form:

Как вас зовут?

How you (zavut) (they) call? (Accusative form of "you" object position) ("yt" ending indicates 3rd person plural "they")

Familiar form:

Как тебя зовут?

How you called? (familiar in the accusative)

To answer you would say:

Меня зовут ____.

Me (they) call ("I" in the accusative) ("I" in the accusative)

Практика (practice)

A: Как вас зовут?

B: Меня зовут _____. Как вас зовут?

A: Меня зовут _____.

B: Очень приятно.

A: Очень рад/рада.

A: Как тебя зовут?

B: Меня зовут _____.

A: Как его зовут? What's his name?

B: Его зовут _____. His name is_____.

A: Как её зовут? What's her name?

B: Её зовут _____. Her name is_____.

Personal pronouns in the accusative case.

The words: *I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, they, them* are called personal pronouns. *I, you, he, she, it, we, they* are used mainly as **subjects** before verbs, while *me, him, her, us, them* are used as **objects**, e.g.:

SUBJECT		OBJECT
Nominative case		Accusative case
Я	❤️	him.
Я люблю		его.
	(lyublyu)	
Он	❤️	me.
Он любит		меня.
	(lyubit)	



Он любит её. Она любит его.
He loves her. She loves him.

Nominative case		Accusative case
(subject position)		(object position)
Я I	→	меня me
(ya)		(minya)
ТЫ you	→	тебя you
(ty)		(tibya)
ОН he	→	его him
(on)		(jivo)
ОНА she	→	её her
(ana)		(jiyo)
ОНО it	→	его it
(ano)		(jivo)
МЫ we	→	нас us
(my)		(nas)
ВЫ you	→	вас you
(vy)		(vas)
ОНИ they	→	их them
(ani)		(ih)

In unstressed syllables, **e** is pronounced close to [i], e.g.,

меня́ (mínya)
тебя́ (tíbya)
метрó (mítro)
интерéсно (intíresna)

The [j] is preserved if unstressed **e** begin the word or follow vowels, e.g.,

его́ (jívo)
её́ (jíyo)

Voiced and unvoiced consonants

Some consonants are pronounced with vibration of the vocal cord ('voiced'), and others without vibration ('unvoiced'). There are 6 pairs of voiced and unvoiced equivalents:

Voiced: Б Г З Д В Ж
Unvoiced П К С Т Ф Ш

Usually when a voiced consonant is the last letter of the word, it is pronounced like its unvoiced pair. In today's lesson we came across our first example of this: ра**д** (rat).

Lesson 2 summary

02.05

Grammar: pronouns in Accusative case

Pronouns in the **subject** position (**nominative case**):

Я (I), **ТЫ** (you), ОН (he), ОНА́ (she), ОНО́ (it),
МЫ (we), ВЫ (you), ОНИ́ (they)

Pronouns in the **object** position (**accusative case**):

меня́ (me), тебя́ (you), его́ (him), её́ (her), его́ (it),
нас (us), вас (you), их (them)

Sentence structures

Как вы?	How are you?
Как вас зову́т?	What's your name? (polite)
Как тебя́ зову́т?	What's your name? (informal)
Меня́ зову́т ____.	My name is ____.

Useful expressions

Очень рад. (if you're a man)	Very pleased. (to meet you)
Очень рада. (if you're a woman)	Very pleased. (to meet you)
Очень приятно.	Nice to meet you.
Спаси́бо большо́е.	Thank you very much.



ТЫ И ВЫ

А. С. Пу́шкин [1828]

Пусто́е **вы** серде́чным **ты**
The empty **you** by the warm **thou**

Она́, обмо́лвлясь, замени́ла
She by a slip of tongue replaced

И все сча́сливые мечты́
And all the happy dreams

В ду́ше влюбе́нной возбу́дила.
In the soul in love stirred up.

Пред не́й заду́мчиво стою́,
Before her pensively I stand,

Свести́ очей с не́е нет си́лы;
There is no strength to take eyes off her;

И говорю́ ей: как **вы** ми́лы!
And I tell her: how kind of **you**!

И мы́слю: как **тебя́** люблю́!
And I think: how I love **thee**!