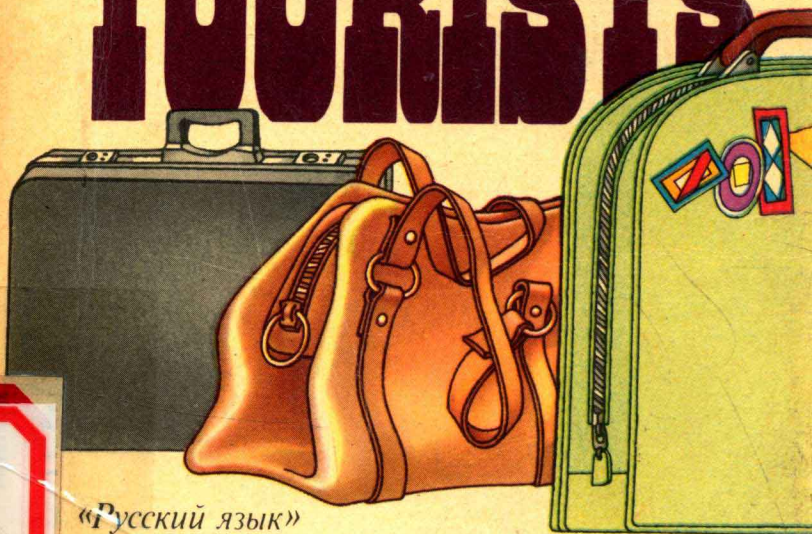


V.G.Kostomarov, A.A.Leontyev

# RUSSIAN FOR TOURISTS



«Русский язык»

V. G. KOSTOMAROV, A. A. LEONTYEV

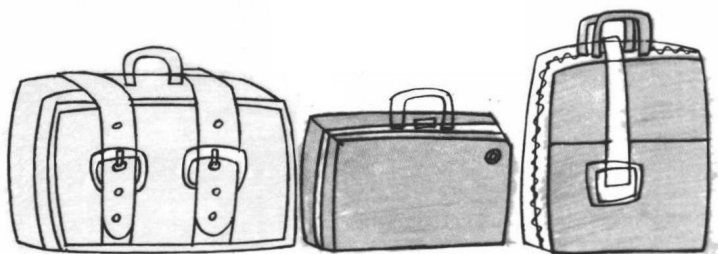
**RUSSIAN  
FOR  
TOURISTS**

**В. Г. КОСТОМАРОВ,  
А. А. ЛЕОНТЬЕВ**

# **РУССКИЙ ДЛЯ ТУРИСТОВ**

**Пособие для занятых деловых людей  
и беззаботных туристов**

*Издание 2-е, переработанное и дополненное*



**МОСКВА**  
**ИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО «РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК»**  
**1987**

V. G. KOSTOMAROV,  
A. A. LEONTYEV

# RUSSIAN FOR TOURISTS

**A Textbook for the Busy Businessman  
and the Lazy Tourist**

*2nd edition, revised and enlarged*



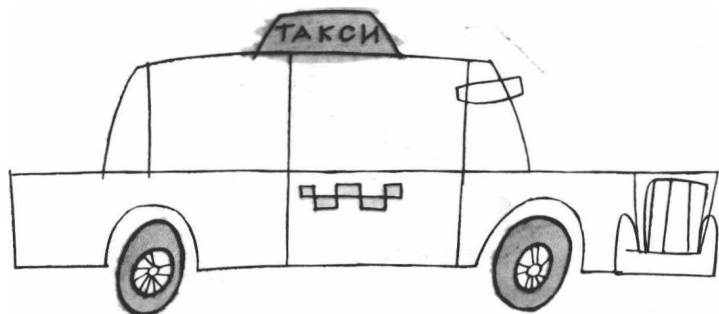
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## TO THE READER

How will this little book help you? What will it teach you? It won't teach you to read Lev Tolstoy and Feodor Dostoevsky in the original or to understand Russian-language broadcasts by Radio Moscow. But it will tell you how to find your way in a strange Russian city or how to get the food you want in a café or restaurant even if the waiter does not speak English. You won't be able to write a letter to your Russian friends in Russian, but you will be able to:—use current everyday expressions, such as the Russian equivalents of "Hello", "How do you do", "Good-bye" and "Thank you";

—make out the various signs, notices and advertisements you may come across in the streets of Soviet cities;

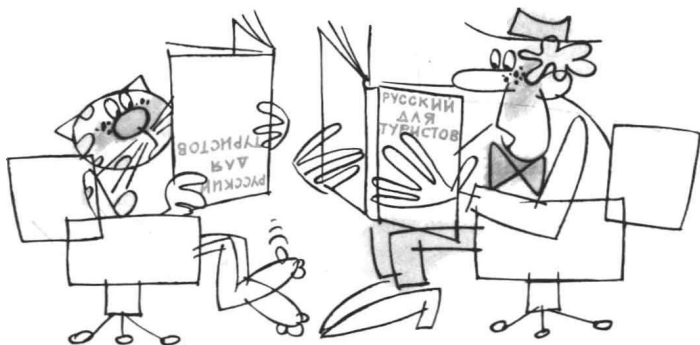
—find your way around fairly easily and without a guide in railway stations, air terminals and shops;

—buy, without anybody's help, a newspaper, a sandwich, a souvenir, and so on;

—order your meals, buy cinema or theatre tickets, make a telephone call, send a telegram and do many other important everyday things.

A person who has read this book must not flatter himself that he knows Russian, although, as we flatter ourselves, he may sometimes get this impression from his quick and easy successes. Our book is meant to help a foreigner to get around safely and, perhaps, to get him interested in Russian so that later on he will take up a more serious study—with real effort and toil.

The Authors



**THIS BOOK** is arranged as follows. There are vertical rows of red dots printed in the margin of some pages to mark the active part of the material—the words, phrases and sentences that you must learn to use yourself. Included here is also some essential information about Russian customs and the Soviet way of life. All the Russian material here is given in Latin transcription followed by the Russian text and its English translation.

Other parts of the text are marked with vertical rows of blue dots. This is the passive part of the material—the words, phrases and sentences that you must be able to understand, and also some more important but not absolutely vital linguistic and non-linguistic information. All that you need to understand when you hear it, is given here in transcription (as in the active part of the text), but all that you need to read and understand without attempting to say it is given only in the Russian writing.

Where possible, drawings have been used to show the words as they occur on Russian signs, notices, posters, and so on.



Finally, much of the text is not marked at all. Here you will find information which is useful but not vital. Most of it has nothing to do with the Russian language.

The book is based on a principle which we would call "the principle of speech actions": This means that we do not simply collect in one place all topical (i.e. thematically close or related) phrases with parallel translations as conventional conversation books do, but try to teach you how to act (linguistically or otherwise) in every particular situation, how to solve problems as they arise, both with and without using Russian.

Therefore, we thought it best to divide this book not into chapters, lessons, or topics, but into problems.

We have 19 of them:

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In many of these Problems both linguistic and non-linguistic information is contained. In some Problems, as in Problem 17, we could give only a general description in English, for the subjects touched upon in them would involve too much linguistic information. Wherever possible, we have tried to give relevant addresses, advice and hints, telephone numbers, and so on.

This book contains no theoretical grammar, though sometimes we considered it necessary to say a couple of words in explanation of word forms.

Naturally, we do not expect you to learn everything by heart. To use the book and to work out our Problems, you have to know: (1) the Russian alphabet and some elementary rules of pronunciation (there are special tables on this at the beginning of the book), (2) the Russian numerals. Apart from this it should be enough just to read carefully the Problem concerned before embarking on your expeditions...

So—Happy landing! As you fly over the Atlantic or the English Channel, or, perhaps, speeding in a train across Europe, open this book and look through it, just to get used to its layout and to acquaint yourself with the Russian alphabet and numerals. We hope you'll have a good time!



# **THE RUSSIAN ALPHABET AND THE TRANSCRIPTION USED IN THIS BOOK**

Russian letter:		Transcription symbol	Note	Pronounced as:
Printed	Script			
<b>А, а</b>	<i>А, а</i>	Á A	when stressed when unstressed	a in 'father' a in 'balloon'
<b>Б, б</b>	<i>Б, б</i>	B or B <sup>h</sup> P or P <sup>h</sup>	at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant	b in 'book' b in 'imbue' p in 'play' p in 'pew'

Russian letter:		Transcription symbol	Note	Pronounced as:
Printed:	Script			
В, в	<i>В в в</i>	V or V <sup>b</sup>		v in 'vote' v in 'view'
		F or F <sup>b</sup>	at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant	f in 'fun' f in 'few'
Г, г	<i>Г г</i>	G or G <sup>b</sup>		g in 'good' g in 'argue'
		K or K <sup>b</sup>	at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant	k in 'kind' k in 'askew'
Д, д	<i>Д д</i>	D or D <sup>b</sup>		d in 'dog' d in 'dew'
		T or T <sup>b</sup>	at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant	t in 'twelve' t in 'stew'
Е, е	<i>Е е</i>	É or Ë	when stressed when stressed	e in 'bet' ye in 'yet'
Ё, ё	<i>Ё ё</i>	Ï	when unstressed	e in 'exact'
		YO		yo in 'yonder'

Russian letter:		Transcription symbol	Note	Pronounced as:
Printed	Script			
Ж, ж	Ж, ж	ZH or SH	at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant	s in 'pleasure' sh in 'shake'
З, з	З, з	Z or Z <sup>b</sup>		z in 'zoo' z in 'Zeus'
		S		
		S <sup>b</sup>	at the end of a word or before a voiceless consonant	s in 'suit'
И, и	И, и	Í	when stressed	ee in 'beet'
		I	when unstressed	e in 'exact'
Й, й	Й, й	ÿ		y in 'yacht'
К, к	К, к	K		k in 'kind'
		K <sup>b</sup>		k in 'askew'
Л, л	Л, л	L or L <sup>b</sup>		l in 'lake'
		L <sup>b</sup>		ll in 'million'
М, м	М, м	M or M <sup>b</sup>		m in 'moon'
		M <sup>b</sup>		m in 'muse'
Н, н	Н, н	N or N <sup>b</sup>		n in 'note'
		N <sup>b</sup>		n in 'new'
О, о	О, о	Ó	when stressed	or in 'born'
		A	when unstressed	a in 'balloon'
П, п	П, п	P or P <sup>b</sup>		p in 'post'
		P <sup>b</sup>		p in 'pew'

Russian letter:		Transcription symbol	Note	Pronounced as:
Printed	Script			
<b>Р, р</b>	<i>Р, р</i>	<b>R</b> or <b>R<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>r</b> in 'root' <b>r</b> in 'rear'
<b>С, с</b>	<i>С, с</i>	<b>S</b> or <b>S<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>s</b> in 'sun' <b>s</b> in 'suit'
<b>Т, т</b>	<i>Т, т</i>	<b>T</b> or <b>T<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>t</b> in 'two' <b>t</b> in 'stew'
<b>У, у</b>	<i>У, у</i>	<b>U</b>		<b>oo</b> in 'good'
<b>Ф, ф</b>	<i>Ф, ф</i>	<b>F</b> or <b>F<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>f</b> in 'fun' <b>f</b> in 'few'
<b>Х, х</b>	<i>Х, х</i>	<b>H</b> or <b>H<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>ch</b> in the Scottish word 'loch' <b>h</b> in 'hew'
<b>Ц, ц</b>	<i>Ц, ц</i>	<b>TS</b>		<b>ts</b> in 'hats'
<b>Ч, ч</b>	<i>Ч, ч</i>	<b>CH</b>		<b>ch</b> in 'check'
<b>Ш, ш</b>	<i>Ш, ш</i>	<b>SH</b>		<b>sh</b> in 'shake'
<b>Щ, щ</b>	<i>Щ, щ</i>	<b>SHCH</b>		<b>sh ch</b> in 'Danish charter' (pronounced as one sound)
<b>Ъ</b>	<i>Ъ</i>		hard sign: <b>Ъ</b> does not represent any sound; it never occurs at the beginning of words	

Russian letter:		Transcription symbol	Note	Pronounced as:
Printed	Script			
И	и	Ý Y	never occurs at the beginning of words when stressed  when unstressed	i in 'pit'  e in 'begin'
Ь	ь		soft sign: Ь does not represent any sound, it never occurs at the beginning of words	
Э, э	э, э	É I	when stressed when unstressed	e in 'bet' e in 'exact'
Ю, ю	Ю, ю	ÝU		ew in 'pew'
Я, я	Я, я	ÝÁ I	when stressed when unstressed	ya in 'yard' e in 'exact'



### PROBLEM 1

## GETTING ACQUAINTED. GREETINGS. FORMS OF ADDRESS

A courteous person must first of all know how to greet the people he meets. In Russian this is a very simple matter: the same word of greeting can be used at any time of the day and with anybody—old friends or casual acquaintances. This word is **ZDRÁSTUÝTʹI** Здравствуйте ‘Hello’ (*lit.* ‘Be healthy’).

It covers a wide range of English greetings, from the formal British “How do you do?” to the American “Hi!”

Of course, although you yourself may use only this one expression (which you will hear on many occasions from Russians), people may well greet you with others, such as:

**DÓBRAÝE ÚTRA** доброе утро ‘good morning’;



DÓBRAÝ D<sup>b</sup>EN<sup>b</sup> дóбрый день ‘good afternoon’;

DÓBRAÝ V<sup>b</sup>ÉCHIR дóбрый вéчер ‘good evening’.

According to our etiquette, it is perfectly all right to approach any person you wish to get acquainted with and say:

M<sup>b</sup>IN<sup>b</sup>A ZAVÚT DZHON BRÁUN, A VAS? Меня зовúт Джон Браýн, а вас? ‘My name is John Brown, what is yours?’ (*lit.* ‘They call me John Brown, and you?’).

Or:

ÝA V<sup>b</sup>IV<sup>b</sup>ÝÉN SM<sup>b</sup>IT or: M<sup>b</sup>IN<sup>b</sup>Á ZAVÚT V<sup>b</sup>IV<sup>b</sup>ÝÉN SM<sup>b</sup>IT. Я Вивьéн Смит.

Or: Меня зовúт Вивьéн Смит. ‘I’m Vivien Smith.’ ‘My name is (*lit.* ‘They call me’) Vivien Smith.’

In the case of a man the answer will almost certainly be something like:

ÓCHIN<sup>b</sup> PR<sup>b</sup>IÝÁTNA (PAZNAKÓM<sup>b</sup>ITSA). ÝA IVÁN VAS<sup>b</sup>ÍL<sup>b</sup>ÝVICH P<sup>b</sup>ITRÓF.\* Очень приятно (познакóмиться).

Я Ивáн Васíльевич Петрóв. ‘Pleased (to meet you). I am Ivan Vasilyevich Petrov.’

The same forms can be used with feminine names. Note that the ending -a is typically feminine in Russian (thus, a girl whose father, or a woman whose husband is P<sup>b</sup>ITRÓF will be P<sup>b</sup>ITRÓVA Петрóва):

ÝA ÁNNA IVÁNOVNA P<sup>b</sup>ITRÓVA. Я Анна Ивáновна Петрóва. ‘I am Anna Ivanovna Petrova’. or:

M<sup>b</sup>IN<sup>b</sup>Á ZAVÚT ÁNNA IVÁNAVNA P<sup>b</sup>ITRÓVA. Меня зовúт Анна Ивáновна Петрóва. ‘My name is Anna Ivanovna Petrova.’