

I.M.Pulkina

A SHORT  
RUSSIAN  
REFERENCE  
GRAMMAR

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WITH A CHAPTER  
ON PRONUNCIATION

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Expressions in frequent use: *без сомнения* 'without doubt', *без исключения* 'without exception', *без толку* 'to no purpose'.

**близ** 'near', 'close to'

Я живу́ близ бульвара. 'I live near a boulevard.'

Близ рощи на пригорке стоит старый дом. 'On the hill near the grove stands an old house.'

**вдоль** 'along'

Вдоль стены посажены деревья. 'Along the wall trees are planted.'

Дёти шли вдоль реки, вдоль опушки леса. 'The children were walking along the riverbank, along the edge of the wood.'

Вдоль дорожки тянулась молодая побоюль орешника. 'Along the road stretched young hazel bushes.'

**вместо** 'instead of'

Вместо математики будет урок русского языка. 'Instead of the lesson of mathematics there will be a lesson of Russian.'

Дайте мне, пожалуйста, бумаги вместо тетрадей. 'Please give me some paper instead of exercise-books.'

Так ты бы с своего гнезда слетела  
Да вместо матери к малюткам села.

(Кр.)

'You ought to fly down from your nest  
And sit by the little ones instead of their  
mother.'

**вне** 'outside'

Вне дома. 'Outside the house.'  
Вне страны. 'Outside the country.'

Вне закона. 'Outside the law.'

Вне времени и пространства. 'Outside time and space.'

Выполнить работу вне плана. 'To do work over and above the plan.'

Жизнь больного вне опасности. 'The patient's life is out of danger.'

Этот человек вне всяких подозрений. 'This man is altogether above suspicion.'

Внутри помещения. 'Inside the house (room).'

Внутри страны. 'Inside the country.'

**внутри** 'inside'

**вблизе** 'near', 'close to' (synonymous to the prepositions **близ**, **около**)

Я живу *вблизе реки*. 'I live near a river.'  
*Вблизе леса*, на горе, стоял старый деревянный дом. 'On the hill near the wood stood an old wooden house.'

**вокруг** '(a)round'

Они сели *вокруг стола*. 'They sat down round the table.'

Пионёры стояли *вокруг костра*. 'The Young Pioneers were standing round the fire.'

*Вокруг рассказчика* собралось много народа. 'Many people gathered round the narrator.'

Земля вращается *вокруг своей оси*. 'The earth revolves round its axis.'

Постоянно возникал спор *вокруг одних и тех же вопросов*. 'An argument always arose about the same questions.'

В то время стоял полуночный  
 Один *вокруг стены* крутоя,  
 Свершая тихо путь урочный,  
 Бродил с чугунною доской. (Л.)  
 'At that time the night guard  
 Was alone on his usual round  
 Along the high wall,  
 With an iron plate in his hands.'

Человек двадцать партизан лежали *вокруг костра*. (Фад.) 'Some twenty guerrillas were lying round the fire.'

Молодёжь собралась *вокруг чистенького, аккуратного плотника Сергея*. (М. Г.) 'The young people gathered round the neat and tidy carpenter Serafim.'

*Вокруг меня* всё было так уныло. (Тютч.) 'Everything round me was so gloomy.'

**для** 'for'

Principal meanings:

(1) the person or object for whose benefit the action is performed:

(2) purpose:

**до** 'till'; 'up to', 'as far as':

Principal meaning: limit in space or time:

Мáльчик купил книгу *для товáрища*.  
'The boy bought a book for his friend.'У менá есть все возможности *для рабóты*. 'I have every opportunity for work.'Чудесá мóжет дéлать нарóд, когда он тру́дится *для себá*, *для своéй Рóдины*, *для всегó óбщества*. 'People can work wonders when they work for themselves, for their mother country, for the whole of society.'Мы остановíлись в путí *для óтдыха*.  
'We made a halt on our way for a rest.'Помещéние *для библиотéки*. 'A building for a library.'Посúда *для молокá*. 'Containers for milk.'От Ленингráда до *Москвы* 649 киломéтров. 'It is 649 kilometres from Leningrad to Moscow.'Онí дошлí *до стáнции* за дéсять минúт.  
'They reached the station in ten minutes.'До *отхóда* поезда остáлось две минúты.  
'Two minutes remained till the train's departure.'Он рабóтал *до утрá*. 'He worked till the morning.'Жárá лéтом доходитá *до тридцатí пя́ти грáдусов*. 'In the summer the temperature reached thirty-five degrees.'Бóлосы *до пóяса*. 'Hair reaching one's waist.'С трудóм добрали́сь мы *до избы*. (T.)  
'We reached the cottage with difficulty.'Язы́к *до Кýеева* доведёт. (Proverb) Cf. 'A clever tongue will take you anywhere.'От *Москвы* до сáмых до *окраин*,  
С южных гор до сéверных морéй  
Человéк прохóдит как хозяин  
Необъятной Рóдины своéй. (Л.-К.)

'From Moscow to the farthest outlying regions,  
From the southern mountains to the northern seas

Man marches, the master  
Of his immense mother country.'

Я рад. Остáнься до утрапа  
Под сéнью нашего шатрапа. (П.)  
'I'm glad. Stay till tomorrow  
Under the shelter of our tent.'

**из (изо)** 'from', 'of',  
'out of'

Principal meanings:

(1) the starting point of a movement:

(2) the source of information, the origin:

(3) the material of which an object is made:

(4) the whole from which some part is singled out:

(5) the cause of an action:

Он приéхал из гóрода, из дерéвни. 'He came from town, from the country.'

Мы узнали об э́том из газéта. 'We learned that from the newspapers.'

Словá из стихотворéния Пúшкина.  
'Words from a poem by Pushkin.'

Мой това́риш из рабóчей семéй, из крестьян. 'My friend comes from a worker's family, a peasant's family.'

Эта посúда из глины, а та из стекла. 'These dishes and plates are made of clay, and those of glass.'

Костюм из сукна. 'A suit (made) of broadcloth.'

Нéкоторые из рабóчих выполнili задание досрочно. 'Some of the workers fulfilled their tasks ahead of time.'

Совершить по́двиг из любви к Рóдине. 'To accomplish a feat out of love for one's country.'

Метéли, снегá и тумáны  
Покóрны морóзу всегдá.  
Пойдú на моря-окияны\*,  
Построю мосты изо льда. (Некр.)  
'Snow-storms, snows and fogs  
Always obey the frost.  
I'll attack the seas and the oceans  
And will build bridges of ice.'

\* This form is archaic; the modern form is океáны.

Был оди́н из тех ненáстных студёных дней, какие ча́сто встречаются к концу осени. (Т.) 'It was one of the cold rainy days which are so frequent at the end of autumn.'

Одна из гла́вных алле́й была уса́жена липовыми дерéвьями. (Т.) 'One of the main lanes was lined with lime trees.'

Expressions in common use: из гóда в год 'from year to year', изо дня в день 'day by day'.

**из-за** 'from (a)round', 'from behind'; 'owing to', 'because of'

Principal meanings:

(1) the place whence the movement proceeds (in this instance **из-за** combines the meanings of the prepositions **из** and **за**):

(2) cause:

*Из-за углa* вышel человéк. 'A man came from round the corner.'

*Из-за лéса* всхóдит сóлнце. 'The sun rises from behind the wood.'

*Из-за дерéвьев* пробиваéтся луч сóлница. 'A sun beam comes through the trees.'

*Из-за дождя* отложíли экскúрсию. 'The excursion was put off owing to the rain.'

*Из-за тумáна* не видно путý. 'The road is invisible owing to the fog.'

*Из-за тебá* я опоздáл. 'I am late because of you.'

Он достáл из-за пóяса топóр, присéл на пол и начал колоть лучину. (Т.) 'He got an axe from his belt, squatted on the floor and began chopping splinters.'

*Из-за рéчки* послышалась кукушка. 'From beyond the river a cuckoo was heard.'

*Из-за туч* лунá катится. (П.) 'From the clouds the moon comes rolling.'

Над Москвой великой, златоглáвою,  
Над стеной кремлёвской белокáменной,  
*Из-за* дальних лесóв, из-за сýних гор  
Заря алая подымáется. (Л.)

'Over the great, golden-domed Moscow,  
Over the Kremlin's white-stone wall,  
From beyond the far forests, from be-  
yond the blue mountains  
A scarlet dawn is breaking.'

***из-под*** 'from under'

Principal meanings:  
 (1) the starting point of a movement (indicating a movement from below; in this instance *из-под* combines the meanings of the prepositions *из* and *под*):

(2) the purpose of an object:

*Из-за шума* падающего ливня ничего не было слышно. (Т.) 'Nothing could be heard because of the noise of the pouring rain.'

Мальчик вылез *из-под стола*. 'The boy crawled from under the table.'

Заяц выскочил *из-под куста*. 'A hare rushed from under the bush.'

*Из-под* большого плоского камня тоненькой струйкой лилась вода. 'From under a large flat stone a small stream of water came forth.'

Голубые цветы показались *из-под снега*. 'From under the snow peeped light-blue flowers.'

Idiomatic expression: приехал *из-под Ленинграда* '(he) came from near Leningrad'; *из-под Москвы* 'from near Moscow'.

Банка *из-под варенья*. 'A jam jar.'

Кувшин *из-под молока*. 'A milk jug.'

Две большие чёрные собаки поднялись *из-под крыльца*. (Л. Т.) 'Two big black dogs came from under the porch.'

*Из-под куста* мне ланьши серебристый  
Приветливо киваёт головой. (Л.)  
'From under the bush a silvery lily-of-the-valley  
Gives me a welcoming nod.'

*Из-под* широкого папоротника скромно улыбаясь спёлая земляника, а *из-под опавшей листвы* гордо тянущаяся вверх чумазый гриб. (Нев.) 'From under the broad cap-like frond of a fern a ripe strawberry smiled shyly, and from under the fallen leaves a smudgy mushroom strove up proudly.'

На маленькой тесной поляне валялись бочки *из-под дёгтя*. (М. Г.) 'All over the small cramped glade tar barrels were scattered about.'

**Note.** — Unlike the preposition *под*, 'under', used answering the questions *где?* 'where?', *куда?* 'where to?' (*Где* сидел заяц? 'Where did the hare sit?' — *под кустом* 'under the bush'). *Куда* спря-

**крóме** 'except', 'besides'

тáлся зáяц? 'Where did the hare hide?' — под кустом 'under the bush'), the preposition **из-под** 'from under' is used answering the question *откуда?* 'from where?' (*Откуда* выскочил зáяц? 'Where did the hare rush from?' — из-под куста 'from under the bush').

По состоянию здоровья я могу жить везде, **крóме Ленинграда**. 'The state of my health enables me to live anywhere except Leningrad.'

На собрание пришли все, **крóме больных**. 'The meeting was attended by all except those ill'.

Я никогó, **крóме тебá**, здесь не знаю. 'I don't know anyone here except you.'

**Кróме лáсточки**, здесь поселился и скворец. 'Besides the swallow, a starling settled there.'

Я ничегó не вижу, **крóме бéлой стéпи да ясного нéба**. (П.) 'I don't see anything except for the white steppe and the clear skies.'

Поезд промчáлся **мýмо стáнции**. 'The train rushed past the station.'

Он прошёл **мýмо мéня** и не замéтил ме-  
нý. 'He went by without noticing me.'

**Мýмо этого фáкта** пройтí нельзя. 'This fact must not be overlooked.'

Вы проходите **мýмо дéрева** — онó не ше-  
лохнётся: онó нéжится. (Т.) 'You pass by a tree — it won't stir, it is indulging itself.'

Мне почтí всегдá случáлось проходить  
**мýмо усадьбы** в сáмый разгáп вечéрней за-  
рý. (Т.) 'I nearly always passed by the coun-  
try-estate at the height of the evening-glow.'

Вдруг онá пробежáла **мýмо менý**, напе-  
вáя чтó-то другóе. (Л.) 'Suddenly she  
tripped past me singing a different song.'

**наканúне** 'on the eve of'

Meaning: 'on the day preceding the one on which some event takes place'; in a broad-

**Наканúне прáздника**. 'On the eve of the holidays.'

**Наканúне учéбного гóда**. 'Just before the beginning of the academic year.'

er sense **накануне**  
means 'shortly before',  
'not long before':

**около** 'by', 'near',  
'around'; 'about'

Principal meanings:

(1) by, near, close  
to somebody or some-  
thing:

(2) approximation of  
quantity, distance or  
time (usually in the  
sense of 'almost',  
'about'):

**от (омо)** '(away)  
from'

Principal meanings:

(1) the starting  
point in time or space;  
the person (or object)  
from whom (or which)  
the action proceeds:

(2) cause:

Мы **накануне** великих событий. 'We are  
on the eve of great events.'

Самолёт опустился **около леса**. 'The aeroplane landed near a forest.'

Летом я жил **около моря**. 'In the summer I lived at the seaside.'

Тропинка вилась **около дороги**. 'The path wound its way along by the road.'

Мы прошли **около пяти километров**. 'We covered nearly five kilometres.'

Я бываю дома **около двух часов**. 'I shall be at home at about two o'clock.'

Я ждал тебя **около месяца**. 'I waited for you for nearly a month.'

От дома до школы четверть километра.  
'It is a quarter of a kilometre from the house to the school.'

От дерева ложится длинная тень. 'The tree casts a long shadow.'

Приём у врача **от одиннадцати** до трёх.  
'The doctor's consultation hours are from eleven to three.'

Я получил письмо **от брата**. 'I received a letter from my brother.'

Он пришёл **от товарища**. 'He came from a friend.'

Привёт **от сестры**. 'Regards from one's sister.'

Ребёнок запрыгал **от радости**. 'The child started jumping with joy.'

Мальчик заплакал **от обиды**. 'The boy began crying with resentment.'

Он не мог говорить **от волнения**. 'He could not speak for nervousness.'

Деревья побелели **от холода**. 'The trees turned white with hoarfrost.'

Трава выгорела **от солнца**. 'The grass faded in the sun.'

(3) the purpose of cure or protection ('for', 'against'):

Лекáрство от ревматíзма, от головной боли. 'A medicine for rheumatism, for headache'.

Раскидистая ель защищáла от солнца. 'The branchy fir-tree gave shelter from the sun.'

В крепости мы были защищéны от врагóв. 'In the fortress we were protected against the enemy.'

**Note.** — The preposition *от* 'of' may be used to introduce the date (generally in official papers): Резолюция от пятого сентября. 'A resolution of September the fifth.'

Приказ дирéктора от 1-го áвгуста. 'The director's order of August the 1st.'

Протокóл собрания от 3 мая. 'The minutes of the meeting of May 3.'

Письмó от 10 áвгуста. 'A letter of August 10.'

Длínная тень ложíлась от гор на стéпи. (Л. Т.) 'A long shadow was cast by the mountains on the steppes.'

От дерéвьев, от кустóв, от высóких стогóв сéна — ото всегó побежáли длínные тéни. (Т.) 'The trees, the bushes, the tall haystacks — all cast long shadows.'

Дубóвый листóк оторвáлся от вéтки родíмой

И в степь укатýлся, жестóкою бúрей гонýмый...

Засóх и увял он от хóлода, знóя и гóря  
И вот наконéц докатýлся до Чёрного мóря... (Л.)

'An oak leaf tore off from its native branch  
And rolled into the steppe driven by the cruel storm...

It faded and dried because of the cold,  
the heat and sorrow  
And at last it rolled as far as the Black Sea...'

Егóрушка лежáл на тюкé и дрожáл от хóлода. (Ч.) 'Yegorushka was lying on the bale shivering with cold.'

Волчíха вздрáгивала от малéйшего шу́ма. (Ч.) 'The she-wolf started at the slightest noise.'