


INTRODUCTION

R U S S I A N G R A M M A R

Some useful hints on Russian phonetics

The Russian alphabet consists of 33 Russian Cyrillic letters: 10 vowels (marked in blue) and 23 consonants.

 0.1.

Russian letter	Pronunciation	Example
А а	<i>А а</i> [a]	ма р т, да т ь, ча с , па р к /as in: car , a fter, f ather/
Б б	<i>Б б</i> [b]	б анк, б ар, б ла н к /as in: back , bed , bat /
В в	<i>В в</i> [v]	в ино, в ече р , в о д а /as in: v ine, ve ry, v oice/
Г г	<i>Г г</i> [g]	г од, г ид, г о с ть /as in: g olf, g oal, g o/
Д д	<i>Д д</i> [d]	да т а, д верь, д е н ь /as in: desk , d oor, d rop/
Е е	<i>Е е</i> [je]	е сли, е ха т ь, е вро /as in: y ellow, y es, y en, y et /
Ё ё	<i>Ё ё</i> [jo]	ё лка, да ё м, е щ ё /as in: Y orkshire, y oga, y our /
Ж ж	<i>Ж ж</i> [zh]	мо ж но, ва ж но, ж ена /as in: plea s ure, mea s ure, usa l /
З з	<i>З з</i> [z]	за л , за е зд, за ка з /as in: z one, z ero, z ebra/
И и	<i>И и</i> [i]	ию н ь, три, и м я /as in: be et, mi r ror, she e p/
Й й	<i>Й й</i> [j]	й о г урт, се й ф, мо й /as in: y ogurt, bo y , to y /
К к	<i>К к</i> [k]	ко м ната, к люч, лю к с /as in: c ash, k ey, ch aracter /
Л л	<i>Л л</i> [l]	ла м па, ви л ка, туа л е т /as in: l amp, l ong, l ock/
М м	<i>М м</i> [m]	ма р т, но м ер, ва м /as in: M arch, nu m ber, m ate/
Н н	<i>Н н</i> [n]	не т , но ж , но ч ь /as in: n o, so n , n ight/
О о	<i>О о</i> [o]	но м ер, бро н ь, со к /as in: n ot, o ffer, f og/
П п	<i>П п</i> [p]	пи в о, пе р ец, су п /as in: p en, pe pper, sou p /
Р р	<i>Р р</i> [r]	ра д , во п ро с , ри с /as in: r ock, r ent, p roud/
С с	<i>С с</i> [s]	са л он, са у на, се й ча с /as in: s alon, s oft, s auna/
Т т	<i>Т т</i> [t]	теле ф о н , за в тра, не т /as in: t en, t ime, m et/
У у	<i>У у</i> [u]	сту л , ду ш , у жин /as in: l ook, b ook, pu t /
Ф ф	<i>Ф ф</i> [f]	теле ф о н , ф ен, ф а н та /as in: p hone, f act, s oft/
Х х	<i>Х х</i> [h] [kh]	х леб, х олл, вы х од /as in: h elp, h otel, some h ow /
Ц ц	<i>Ц ц</i> [ts]	це н а, це л ь, пи ц а /as in: pe t s, t sunami, ts ar/
Ч ч	<i>Ч ч</i> [ch]	ча й , ча с ы, ча ш ка /as in: ch air, ch ild, m uch/




Шш	<i>Шш</i>	[sh]	ду ш , ше ф , шу м	/as in: wish , sh ower, sh oes/
Щщ	<i>Щщ</i>	[shsh]	щи , шу ка , шу т	/as: fish + ship [shsh] /
Ь	<i>ь</i>	[']	де нь , ию ль , со ль	/the letter Ь does not indicate any sound/
Ы	<i>ы</i>	[y]	сы р , мы ло , вы с	/as in: letter ' e ' = [əi]; a way, a go/
Ъ	<i>ъ</i>	["]	под ъ ём, съ ел	/the letter Ъ does not indicate any sound/
Ээ	<i>Ээ</i>	[e]	э таж, э тот, с э р	/as in: b ear, p ear, p air/
Юю	<i>Юю</i>	[ju]	м ю сли, ут ю г, л ю кс	/as in: y ou, n ew, e uro, docu m ent /
Яя	<i>Яя</i>	[ja]	мя с о, п я ть, п я ж	/as in: y ard, y arn/

Vowels

The Russian phonetic system includes 6 basic vocal sounds: [a], [и], [э], [о], [y], [ы], which are indicated by the following letters: **а, е, ё, и, о, у, ы, э, ю, я**.

The letters **а, е, и, о, у** correspond to the five most common vowels **а, е, i, o, u** in most Indo-European languages.


The vowels [э], [о], [y], [а], [ы], [и] ([e, o, u, a, y, i]) under stress are pronounced with more force: for example:

 0.2. с**э**р [ser], суп [sup], бланк [blank], мы [my], холл [khol], стул [stul], гид [git].


Э э

The sound [э] in Russian is represented by two letters – **Э э** and **Е е**.

The letter **Э э** is pronounced as an open vowel. This letter is used at the beginning of words and after hard vowels:

 0.3. **э**тот [état], **э**таж [etázh], **э**клер [ekléř], **э**кран [ekrán], м**э**р [mer], с**э**р [ser], а**э**ропóрт [aerapórt]


The letter **Е е**, at the beginning of a word, in particular, contains the sound [je]:

 0.4. **е**да [jedá], **е**сть [jést'], Е**л**ена [jel'éna], Е**в**а [jeva], Е**в**ропа [jevrópa]

This letter is used after soft consonants:


 0.5. п**е**ть [p'et'], с**е**ть [s'et'], в**е**чер [v'éch'ir], л**е**то [l'éta], де**н**ьги [d'én'gi]

When it is not stressed, it sounds like [и] not [e]:


 0.6. те**а**тр [t'iatr], дела́ [d'ila], четв**е**рг [ch'itvjerg], сред**а** [sr'ida], рестор**а**н [r'istaran], вч**е**ра́ [fch'ira], зв**е**нит [zv'init], зер**н**о́ [z'irno], вес**н**а́ [v'isna], перч**а**тки [p'irchatki], ап**е**льс**и**н [ap'il'sin], телегр**а**ф [t'il'igraf], теле**в**изор [t'il'ivizar], в**е**чер [v'jechjer], ск**а**тер**т**ь [skat'irt'], ос**е**нь [os'in'].

О о

In a stressed position the vowel **о** is pronounced as the sound [o]:

- 0.7.  сорт[sort], порт [port], стол [stol], нóмер [nómer], числó [chisló], óфис [ófis]


In an unstressed position the vowel о is pronounced as a short sound, similar to[a]:

- 0.8.  обéд [abé't], оди́н [adín], отéль [atél'], окнó [aknó], оплáта [apláta], хорошó [kharashó], погóда [pagóda], водá [vadá], дáма [dáma]

она́	[aná]	
водá	[vadá]	
потóм	[patóm]	
когда́	[kakdá]	
пáспорт	[páspart]	


У у

The letter **у** is pronounced as the Russian sound [y] and never changes. In English, it is similar to the sound [u] as in put, book, look:

- 0.9.  тут [tut], стул [stul], ўжин [úzhin], зову́т [zavút],
ждут [zhdut], б́уду [búdu], стук [stuk], услу́га [uslúga].


И и

In Russian the letter **и** is pronounced as the sound [и] (e.g. [e] in 'sheep') and it is always used after a soft consonant or at the beginning of a word:

- 0.10.  три [tr'i], лифт [l'ift], рис [r'is], игра́ [igrá], внизу́ [vn'izú], фíрма [f'irma]

А а

In Russian the letter **а** is pronounced as the sound [a] regardless of whether it is under stress or not (similar in English to the sound in a stressed position e.g. car, bar, after):


- 0.11.  дам [dám], там [tám], нам [nám], са́ми [sám'i], март [mart], банк [bank],
фа́милia [famílija], кара́мель [karamjél']

However, the pronunciation of a vowel changes in quality and is pronounced as a sound similar to [и] in some words such as: *часы́* [ch'isý], *к пята́* [k p'it'i] ([и] = [i] in English).

Ы

The Russian letter **ы** has **no** equivalent in other languages. It is pronounced as the sound [ы], similar in English to the pronunciation of **a** in **away**, **ago**. The letter **ы** is used after hard consonants, in the middle or at the end of a word: **был**, **сын**, **ты**, **кассы**.

For example:

- 0.12.  For example: сыр [syɾ], ты [ty], вы [vy], ры́ба [rýba], был [byl], мы́ло [mýla],
вы́ход [výhat].

Listen and repeat.



0.13.

[o]
дом [dom] – том [tom]
тот [tot] – ром [rom]
зонт [zont] – код [kod]
фото [fóta] – тост [tost]
порт [port] – торт [tort]

[a]
дам [dam] – там [tam]
зал [zal] – рад [rad]
бар [bar] – сад [sad]
дата [data] – парк [park]
банк [bank] – март [mart]

[ы]
вы [vy] – мы [my]
сыр [syɾ] – мыл [myl]
быт [byt] – ты [ty]
сын [syn] – был [byl]
дым [dym] – рыба [ryba]

[y]
стул [stul] – клуб [klub]
душ [dush] – труд [trud]
куда [kudá] – туда [tudá]
суп [sup] – друг [drug]
зуб [zub] – фут [fut]

Listen and repeat.



0.14.

[э]
это [eta] – этаж [etazh]
сэр [ser] – этот [etat]
эти [et'i] – мэр [mer]
эта [eta] – этот [etat]
эклер [ekl'er] – сэр [ser]

[и]
тир [t'ir] – тип [t'ip]
вид [v'id] – пил [p'il]
приз [pr'iz] – бит [b'it]
пиво – [p'iva] виза [v'iza]
пицца [p'itsa] – фирма [f'irma]

Listen and repeat.



0.15.

тут [tut] – там [tam]
суп [sup] – сам [sam]
стул [stul] – стол [stol]
сумма [suma] – зовут [zavut]
ужин [uzhin] – нужен [nuzhjen]

моло [m'ila] – мыло [myla]
бил [b'il] – был [byl]
мил [m'il] – мыл [myl]
пили [p'il'i] – были [byl'i]
тир [t'ir] – сыр [syɾ]

Listen and repeat.



0.16.

In unstressed position ois read as [a]

фо́то
э́тот
Ви́ктор
о́твет
о́бед
во́прос

[a]

Listen and repeat:

0.17.

мэр	мер
экспёрт	Екатери́на
эско́рт	есть
мэтр	метр
этаж	ле́то
э́тот	ме́тод
алоэ́	по́ехать

There are some letters in the Russian alphabet that have two corresponding sounds. These are the letters **я, ё, е, ю**. There are no corresponding letters in English except for the letter **e**, but it is pronounced differently. At the beginning of a word or after another vowel, they represent a combination of two sounds: **я** [j+a], **ё** [j+o], **е** [j+e], **ю** [j+y]. If a word begins with one of these letters **е, ё, ю, я**, you have to pronounce [**j**] in front of the vowel (similar to the sounds [ja, je, jo, ju] in the English words *yard, yes, yoga, document*):

0.18. я́блоко [j'áblaka], е́сть [j'ést'], ё́лка [j'ólka], ю́г [juk].

The letter **ё** is always stressed (similar to [jo] in the English word *yoga*):

0.19. всё [fsjo], полёт [paljót], даём [dajóm], печём [p'ichjóm], узнаём [uznajóm]

In a combination of two vowels when the second one is **е, ё, ю, я**, they are pronounced with [**j**] for English speakers. For example: *встаю́* [fstajú], *продаю́* (pradajú), *моя́* (majá).

In the other possible positions, the letters **е, ё, ю, я** also influence the pronunciation of the preceding consonant. They require that the preceding letter is pronounced as a soft consonant:

0.20. мя́со [m'jása], се́сть [s'jést'], люблю́ [l'jubl'jú], те́тя [t'jót'ja], не́с [n'jos].

When the letter **е** [e] is in an unstressed position after a soft consonant, it is pronounced as [i] for English speakers:

0.21. де́ла [d'ilá], неде́ля [n'idjél'ja], ме́ста [m'istá], фе́враль [f'ivrál'], теб́я [t'ib'já], ве́сна [v'isná], се́мья [s'im'já], ме́ня [m'injá], сте́на [st'iná].

Listen and repeat.

0.22.

о́на [aná]	среда́ [sr'idá]
по́том [patóm]	по́ехать [pajéhat']
э́то [eta]	це́на [tsyná]
омле́т [amlét]	теб́я [t'ib'já]
вода́ [vadá]	ве́сна [v'isná]



окно [aknó]
чемодан [chimidán]
молоко [malakó]
ответ [atv'ét]
магазин [magazi'n]
такси [taks'í]

семья [s'im'já]
сегодня [s'ivódn'ja]

завтра [zaftrá] - нельзя [n'il'zjá]
сумка [sumka] – сюда [sjudá]
стул [stul] – костюм [kast'jum]
зал [zal] – взял [vz'jal]

стоят [stoját] – стоят [stójat']
ответ [atv'jét] – ответь [atv'et']
быт [byt] – быть [byt']
вес [v'es] – весь [v'es']

гид [git]
вход [vhot]
гараж [garázh]
этаж [etázh]
заказ [zakás]
город [górat]
краб [krap]

водка [votka]
лодка [lotka]
пробка [própka]
завтрак [záftrak]

вещи [v'eshsh'i]
овощи [ováshsh'i]
площадь [plóshshat']
плащ [plashsh]
щётка [shshjótka]
ещё [jeshshjó]
женщина [zhénshshina]
мужчина [mushshína]

Listen and repeat.



0.23.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Скажите, где бар?
Бар внизу. | [Skazhíte, gde bar]
[Bar vnizú] |
| 2. Где бассейн?
Бассейн здесь. | [Gde bas'ein]
[Basein zd'es'] |
| 3. Где лифт?
Лифт рядом. | [Gde lift]
[Lift rjádám] |
| 4. Это ваш паспорт?
Да. Это мой паспорт. | [Eta vash páspart]
[Da.Eta moj páspart] |
| 5. Что это?
Это сейф. | [Shto eta]
[Eta sejf] |



Consonants

The letters **ь, ъ** do not represent any sounds at all. The letter **ь** is written to show that the preceding consonant is soft (marked here with the sign ['] after it). For example:

0.24. гост**ь** [gost'], спáльня [spál'nja], двер**ь** [dv'er'], сол**ь** [sol'], ию**нь** [ijun'], декаб**р**ь [d'ikábr'], пять [pjat'], кровá**т**ь [kravát'], то**ль**ко [tól'ka], ест**ь** [jest'].

The letter **ъ** shows that the preceding consonant is hard and that the vocal after it should be pronounced with **ј**. For example:

0.25. под**ъ**езд [pad"jést], съ**е**л [s"jél], объя**в**лѣние [ab"javl'énije].

There are 23 consonants in the Russian language. 12 of these consonants differ in hardness – softness. The soft consonants are marked with the sign ['] here:

0.26.

б — б'	з — з'	н — н'	с — с'
в — в'	л — л'	п — п'	т — т'
д — д'	м — м'	р — р'	ф — ф'

hard consonants:

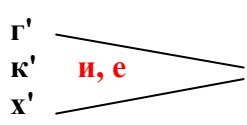
был [byl]
 вы́ход [výkhat]
 дом [dom]
 зуб [zup]
 ма́сло [másla]
 на́до [náda]
 парк [park]
 ры́ба [rýba]
 сок [sok]
 гроза́ [grazá]
 ты [ty]
 нос [nos]

soft consonants:

бил [b'il]
 Ви́ктор [V'iktar]
 де́ло [d'éla]
 зе́бра [z'ébra]
 мини-ба́р [minibár]
 ня́ня [njánja]
 пя́ть [p'jat']
 рис [r'is]
 се́мга [s'jomga]
 грозя́ [graz'ja]
 тихо [t'ikha]
 не́с [n'jos]

The pronunciation of 3 consonants requires special attention: **г — г'**; **к — к'**; **х — х'** (i.e. [g], [k], [kh]). In front of the vowels **и, е** they are always pronounced softly (softness is marked here by the sign [']):

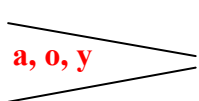
0.27.

	г и д [g'it] ру к и [ruk'i] за в тра к и [záftrak'i] х е к [kh'ek]
---	--

г, к, х are pronounced as hard consonants when they precede the vowels **а, о, у**.



0.28.

Г К a, o, y Х		город [górat]
	катер [kát'ir]	
	кушать [kúshat']	
	халат [khalát]	

The consonants **ж, ш, ц** are always pronounced as hard consonants. For example:
 0.29. жил [zhyl]; цирк [tsirk]; шифр [shyfr]; машина [mashína]; решил [reshýl].

The consonants **ч, щ** [ч'; ш':] are always soft. For example:
 0.30. чай [chay]; щи [shsh'i], борщ [borshsh'], счёт [shsh'ot].

The Russian consonant **й [j]** appears in the middle and at the end of words after vowels:
 0.31. музей [muz'éj], мой [moj], давай [davaj]; сейф [s'ejf], пойду [rajdú], район [rajón]

or at the beginning of words:
 0.32. йод [jot], йогурт [jógurt], йога [jóga].

There are voiced consonants in Russian phonetics (б, в, г, д, з, ж), which at the end of the words are unvoiced i.e. are pronounced as voiceless consonants as in б – p, в – f, г – k, д – t, з – s, ж – sh:

0.33.
 б – п → клуб [klup]; гриб [grip]; обед [ab'et];
 в – ф → прав [praf]; готов [gatóf];
 г – к → друг [druk]; уют [ut'júk]
 д – т → гид [g'it]; город [górat]; проезд [prajést]; вход [vkhot]
 з – с → заказ [zakás]; газ [gas];
 ж – ш → гараж [garásh]; нож [nosh] багаж [bagásh].

Stress in Russian

The stress in Russian words is:

- 1) **Free/ not fixed**, i.e. it can fall on any syllable (1st, 2nd, 3rd):
 го-род, ба-гаж, мо-ло-ко;
- 2) **Flexible**, i.e. it can change its position in the same word depending on its grammatical form (infinitive or past tense, singular or plural etc.):
 по-ня-ть – по-ня-л – по-ня-л-я; ок-но – ок-на; го-род – го-ро-да;
- 3) **Semantic**, i.e. it can determine the meaning of a word:
 замо-к (castle) and замо-к (lock), уже (already) and уже (narrower).

Always try to memorise the correct pronunciation and stress of the words you use regularly.



Intonation

 0.34.

Complete sentence. Statement.	A complete declarative sentence has a falling intonation with the tone of the last stressed syllable falling sharply.	— \ Это Ива ^н о ^в . — — / Он наш го ^с ть.
Incomplete sentence /part of a sentence.	An incomplete declarative sentence has a falling intonation with a gradually rising tone before the pause.	— — / — \ В нашей гостинице комфортно.
Questions with interrogative words	The emphasis is on the interrogative word followed by a gradually falling tone.	// \ Кто это? // \ Где рестора ^н ?
Questions without interrogative words	A rising tone on the semantic centre of the question and a sharp falling tone on the unstressed syllables.	— — ^\ Это господин И ^в ано ^в ? — ^ \ Он наш го ^с ть?

How to pronounce combinations of several letters

In Russian there are combinations of letters the pronunciation of which do not conform to the rules described previously:

 0.35.

- **сч, жч [shsh]:** счёт [shchot], сча^стье [shchást'e], мужчи^на [mushchína]
- **зж [zhzh]:** э^жу [jézhzhu], по^же [pózhzhe]
- **вств [stv]:** здра^вствуйте [zdrástvujte]
- **стн [sn]:** изве^стный [izvéсныj], уча^стник [uchásnik]
- **здн [zn]:** по^здно [pózna], пра^здник [práznik]
- **здк [sk]:** по^эдка [rajéska]
- **стл [sl]:** сча^стлив [schásliv]
- **вст [st]:** здра^вствуй [zdrástvuj]
- **стн [sn]:** ле^стница [léstnitsa]
- **что [sht]:** что [shto], что^бы [shtóby]
- **тс [ts]:** де^тский [détskij]
- **чн [shn]:** in the word: коне^чно [konéshno]

- In Russian the word **сeрoдня** and in the endings **-oгo** and **-eгo** of pronouns and adjectives, the letter **г** is pronounced as [v]: **сeрoдня** (today) [sevódnja], **oкoлo этoгo** [étovo] **дóма** (near this house)
- In words borrowed from other languages, consonants may remain hard before letter **e**: **тeннис** [ténnis], **кoмпьютeр** [komp'júter]

Gender of Russian nouns

Russian nouns belong to one of three genders: Masculine (мужской род), Feminine (женский род) and Neuter (средний род). Unlike English, some of the Romance languages and Bulgarian, the gender of a noun in Russian can be easily recognised, simply by looking at its ending in the nominative case (basic form) in the singular.

A Masculine noun ends in a consonant:

- **hard**: **сoк**, **тeлeфóн**, **нóмeр**, **рeстoрaн**, **сeйф**, **туaлeт**, **интeрнeт**, **хoлл**, **лифт**, **хлeб**, **сыр**, **турист**
- **soft**: **дeнь**¹, **июнь**, **oтeль**, **гocть**
- **-й (-ий)**: **чaй**, **музeй**, **тpaмвaй**, **Алeксeй**, **Юрий**, **Анaтoлий**

A Feminine noun ends in a vowel:

- **-a**: **стpaнa**, **гocтиницa**, **кóмнaтa**, **кaбинa**
- **-я (-ия)**: **спaльня**, **кúхня**, **фaмилия**, **экcкúрсия**, **пóрция**
- **soft consonant**: **кpoвaть**, **бpoнь**

There are a number of nouns, which end in **-ь** and can be either masculine or feminine. There are generally few ways to predict this. Often, if a noun ends in **-сть**, **-oсть** such as **чaсть** (part), **стóймoсть** (value, price) or it ends in a **-шь**, **-щь**, **-жь**, **-чь** it is feminine. These are often abstract nouns.

A Neuter noun ends in a vowel:

- **-e**: **мoрe**, **пóлe**, **кaфe** (cafe), **пюре**, **бидe**, **пoлoтeнцe**
- **-o**: **числo**, **oкнo**, **oтчeствo**, **eвpo**, **oдeялo**, **тaблo**, **пивo**, **винo**, **мaслo**
- **-иe**: **бpoниpoвaниe**, **oбслуживaниe**, **желaниe**, **рeшeниe**
- **-мя**: **имя**, **врeмя**

он (Masculine)	oнa (Feminine)	oнo (Neuter)
сoк	стpaнa	мoрe
сыр	гocтиницa	пoлe
хoлл	кóмнaтa	кaфe (cafe)
сeйф	кaбинa	пюре
лифт	спaльня	числo
хлeб	кúхня	oкнo
дeнь	фaмилия	пивo

¹ Letter **Ь** („soft sign“) is not pronounced, it indicates that the consonant preceding it is pronounced softly.



ию́нь	экску́рсия	вино́
оте́ль	по́рция	о́зеро
но́мер	кровать	жела́ние
тури́ст	бронь	реше́ние
рестора́н		и́мя
интерне́т		вре́мя
телефо́н		
чай		
музе́й		
трамва́й		
Ю́рий		
кофе		

There are a few exceptions to this rule, but they are easy to spot:

- There are a few masculine nouns that end in -а, -я; these are usually associated exclusively with males, such as **мужчи́на** (man), колле́га, **дядя́** (uncle) **деду́шка** (grandfather), **кофе́** and the like, or diminutive forms of masculine names, like **Серёжа́**, **Ваня́**, **Пе́тя** and so on. These nouns have one attribute that is easy to remember: they decline/inflect *like feminine nouns*, but any demonstratives, adjectives and the like decline *like masculine nouns*.
- Neuter nouns ending in -о, -е, -и, -ю that are direct imports from foreign languages such as кафе́, биде́, пюре́, евро́, кино́, ризо́тто, такси́, фоайе́, меню́ do not decline at all, regardless of what case they ought to be in, however any adjectives or demonstratives tied to them do: диетическое меню́

Number

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Masculine nouns ending in a hard consonant add ы in the plural | -ы зал – за́лы, лифт – ли́фты, тури́ст – тури́сты |
| Feminine nouns ending in -а change to ы in the plural | -ы ко́мната – ко́мнаты, страна́ – стра́ны
ви́за – ви́зы |
| 2. Any nouns ending in -ь, -й, -я change to -и in the plural | день – дни, гость – го́сти
музе́й – музе́и, трамва́й – трамва́и
кухня – кухни, пор́ция – пор́ции |
| 3. Neuter nouns ending in -о change to -а in the plural | -а окно́ – о́кна, о́зеро – озе́ра |
| 4. Neuter nouns ending in -е change to -я in the plural | -я мо́ре – моря́, по́ле – поля́ |
| 5. Masculine and feminine nouns with their | -и парк – па́рки, бланк – блáнки, |



stem ending in -к, -г, -х, -ж, -ч, -ш, -щ,
change to **-и** in the plural

флаг – флаги, нож – ножи,
ночь – ночи, плащ – плащи
ночь – ночи, плащ – плащи
карандаш – карандаши

6. NB the following exceptions:

дом – дома, город – города, номер – номера, адрес – адреса,
паспорт – паспорта, повар – повара

7. The following nouns are used only in the plural. They have no singular:
часы, очки, брюки, шорты, джинсы, деньги

8. NB: the following words do not change in case and have no plural forms:
такси, меню, кафе, евро, радио, кофе, казино

Write the plural forms of the words.

ресторан	рестораны	гость	гости	номер	номера
турист		сок		город	
лифт		банк		паспорт	
гид		отель		адрес	
телефон		врач		дом	
машина		аптека		окно	
виза		пляж			
фен		сумка			
автобус		дверь		море	морья
камера		музей		поле	
магазин		ключ		здание	
сейф		этаж			

Cases

In the Russian language a noun (as well as an adjective, a numeral and a pronoun) has several forms. For example: **гид, у гида, гида, гида, с гидом, о гида**. Each form has its own meaning, answers a question and performs a role in the sentence. These forms are called **cases**.

There are six cases in the Russian language:

Nominative (Nom.)	- Кто? Что?
Genitive (Gen.)	- Кого? Чего?
Dative (Dat.)	- Кому? Чему?
Accusative (Acc.)	- Кого? Что?
Instrumental (Instr.)	- Кем? Чем?
Prepositional (Prep.)	- О ком? О чём? Где?



Each case has several meanings.

The **Nominative case** indicates a person or a thing and is used as the subject.

The **Genitive case** indicates possession, object of negation, location.

The **Dative case** indicates the indirect object of an action.

The **Accusative case** indicates the direct object of an action.

The **Instrumental case** indicates the instrument or means by or with which the subject achieves or accomplishes an action.

The **Prepositional case** indicates the place of action.

The Nominative case is never used with prepositions, whereas the Prepositional case is always used with prepositions. The rest of the cases may be used either with prepositions or without them.

The meaning of each case as a grammatical category, the declension (the formation of the case inflections) of nouns, adjectives, pronouns and numbers will be discussed in detail in the teaching materials.

