

AN INTRODUCTION
TO
UKRAINIAN

by

YAR SLAVUTYCH



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by

Yar Slavutych

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FOREWORD

An Introduction to Ukrainian is designed as an aid for teachers and for parents who wish to teach their children the Ukrainian language. It can also be used by high-school and university students.

The textbook covers the Ukrainian alphabet and pronunciation, the writing system, an introduction to the Ukrainian morphology and syntax, and some selected words for oral practice.

An Introduction to Ukrainian is planned as a preparatory course to **Conversational Ukrainian**, which may be used after this textbook.

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Аа Бб Вв Гг Ґґ Дд Ее

А а Б б В в Г г Ґ ґ Д д Е е

Єє Жж Зз Ии Іі Ії

Є є Ж ж З з И и І і І і

Йй Кк Лл Мм Нн Оо

Й й К к Л л М м Н н О о

Пп Рр Сс Тт Уу Фф

П п Р р С с Т т У у Ф ф

Хх Цц Чч Шш Щщ

Х х Ц ц Ч ч Ш ш Щ щ

Юю Яя Ъ

Ю ю Я я Ъ

§ 1. THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE

The Ukrainian language belongs to the Slavic (Slavonic) family, which includes Bulgarian, Czech, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Whiteruthenian (Belorussian), and others.

Before the sixth century of our era there existed one language, called by scholars Common Slavic, of which, however, we do not have any record. Within Common Slavic, the growing dialects, due to migrations in peace and war, took form and in the course of time became distinctly separate tongues. Thus, by the tenth century more than a dozen Slavic languages, still very closely related, had come into being.

Ukrainian was basically formed sometime before the eleventh century, when the first records of it, though within the frame of the liturgical Church Slavic, appeared. This date is regarded by scholars as most probable. A. Kryms'kyj, a distinguished linguist, stated in regard to Ukrainian:

in the aggregate of all of its characteristics, the spoken language of the south in the eleventh century is completely separate among those of Eastern Slavs . . . It is a completely distinct, absolutely defined and clearly individual linguistic unity in which one can easily and distinctly recognize the direct ancestor of the modern Ukrainian language. ("Українська мова, звідки вона взялася і як розвивалася", 1924, p. 104).

Of a similar opinion is the American scholar Mario Pei, who in his book, *Language for Everybody*, draws a map of the major languages of about 1100 A.D. and includes Ukrainian among them (see page 126). In contrast, the scholars under the Soviet regime, due to the Kremlin imperialistic policy, are forced to date the formation of Ukrainian in the thirteenth century or even later.

Although Church Slavic, introduced to Ukraine along with the acceptance of Christianity in 988, was in general usage for many centuries as a literary medium of expression, it underwent considerable changes under the influence of the spoken tongue. The Ukrainian dictionaries, especially *Leksyś* by Lavrentij Zyzanij (1596) and *Leksykon* by Pamvo Berynda (1627), as well as poems, plays, religious treatises and gospels of the time, show that the influence of the spoken tongue was taking over. Little by little, the vernacular strongly gained, and Church Slavic, which became an obstacle to the development of literature, was dropped from literary usage. This happened in the second half of the eighteenth century. However, some plays written in the spoken language appeared as early as 1619. A rich variety of folk songs and *dumy* (epics) enjoyed a tremendous popularity at the time. Ivan Kotljarevs'kyj (1769-1838) and, above all, Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861), to mention only two, elevated the vernacular to the status of a literary language and created fine masterpieces in it.

During the nineteenth century the Russian government, under which Ukraine found itself, tried to limit the development of the

Ukrainian language and culture in general. From time to time the publication of books, periodicals and music sheets in Ukrainian was banned and authors were imprisoned and exiled. However, nothing could stop the Ukrainian nation in its growth. After the proclamation of Ukraine's independence in 1918, Ukrainian became the official language of the republic. It was introduced into the schools and universities, where it had been disallowed under the tsarist regime.

The Russian Communists, who took over Ukraine in 1920, did not dare to destroy what had been achieved by the Ukrainians at the time of their short-lived independence. In spite of continuous Kremlin-supported waves of Russification during the last thirty years, the Ukrainian language has preserved its purity, and the nation has retained its identity.

Many newspapers, journals and books now appear in Ukrainian. In brief, it is a highly developed medium of expression for a rich literature and an advanced science. Ukrainian is spoken by nearly fifty million people, some two million of whom live in Canada and the United States.

§ 2. VOWELS AND CONSONANTS

A vowel is a voiced speech sound produced by friction of the air passing in a continuous stream through the opened mouth, with no narrowing or other obstruction of the speech organs. The sounds A, E, O, and others are vowels. A vowel forms a syllable. It should be noted that all Ukrainian vowels are short. There are no diphthongs in Ukrainian.

A consonant is a speech sound produced by stopping and releasing the air stream. B, K, M, and others are consonants. Consonants alone do not make a syllable in Ukrainian.

§ 3. THE VOWELS A, O, Y

A, a is pronounced approximately as A in "father", "far", "art", "cart". The lips are passive in producing this back open vowel.

O, o is pronounced approximately as O in "for", "more", "sport". Note that there is a difference in pronunciation: the English O is uttered without the help of the lips, while the Ukrainian O is pronounced with somewhat protruded, rounded lips. In Ukrainian, O is a short back vowel; it never becomes a diphthong as it is in the English word "go" (pronounced GOU).

Y, y is pronounced approximately as OO in "boot", "food", "school", or U in "rule". In producing the Ukrainian Y the lips must be very protruded and pipe-like, while the jaw moves downward. This is a back labialized vowel.

Practice: A — O — Y
 O — Y — A
 Y — A — O

§ 4. THE CONSONANTS Б, П, М, Т, Д

Б, б is pronounced as B in "boy", "book", "baker". The lips play an important role in producing this voiced consonant.

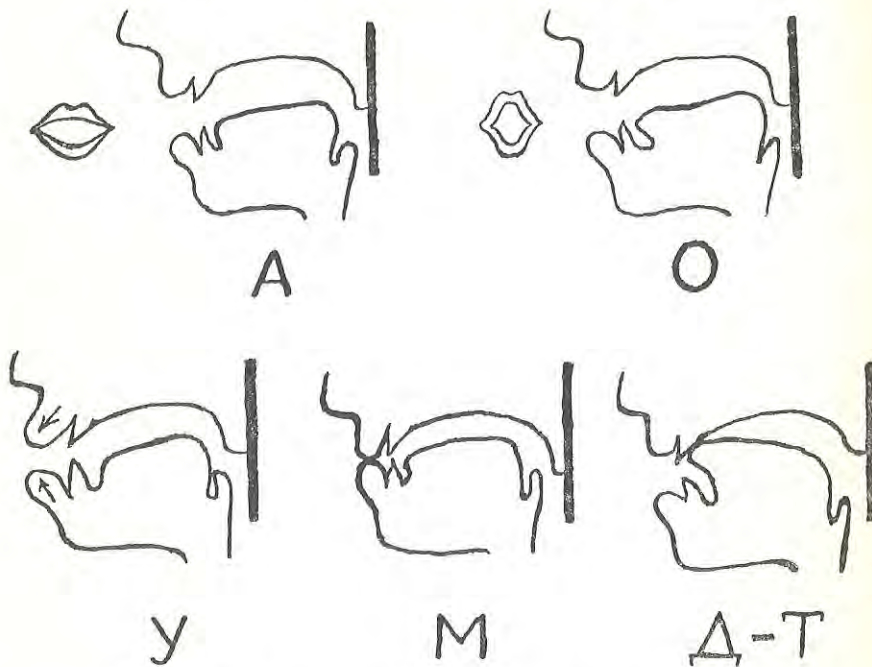
П, п is pronounced as P in "pot", "paper", "pick". This is also a bilabial consonant, but it is voiceless and unaspirated.

М, м is pronounced as M in "man", "make". This is a voiced consonant produced by the lips and the nose.

Д, д is pronounced approximately like the D in "dark", "door", "dog". This is a voiced dental consonant.

Т, т is pronounced approximately like the T in "top", "tea", "too". This is a voiceless dental consonant. It should never approach the English aspirated "th".

THE POSITION OF THE TONGUE AND LIPS IN PRONOUNCING THE UKRAINIAN SOUNDS:



§ 5. SYLLABLE AND ACCENT

In Ukrainian, a syllable consists of a vowel, or of a vowel and one or more consonants. A syllable ending in a vowel is called open:

МА-МА, У-ДО-МА. A syllable ending in a consonant is called closed: ТАМ, ТУТ, ФУТ-БОЛ. The sign / indicates the accent or stress.

ORAL DRILL

One-syllable words:

ТАМ
(there)

ТУТ
(here)

ДАМ
(I'll give)

БО
(because)

ДО
(to, until)

ТОМ
(volume)

ДУБ
(oak)

Two-syllable words:

БАБА
(grandmother)

МАМА
(mama)

ТАТО
(dad)

ТОМУ
(ago)

ДАТА
(date)

МАПА
(map)

БОМБА
(bomb)

БУДУ
(I shall)

ДОБА
(day and night)

Three-syllable words:

УДОМА
(at home)

УПАДУ
(I'll fall)

EXERCISES

Copy the following:

*Ба баба Ма мама Ма тато До
Да дам дам там тут Уд удома мапа
Бо бомба упаду упаду*

§ 6. THE VOWELS И, І, Е

И, и is pronounced approximately as I in "hit", or Y in "myth", but more open. This is a middle-frontal vowel which never softens the preceding consonant. No Ukrainian word begins with this letter.

І, і is pronounced approximately as "EE" in "meet", "sleep", "see". This frontal vowel softens (palatalizes) the preceding consonant.

Е, е is pronounced approximately as E in "let", "set", "step", "head". This is a short frontal vowel approaching a middle one. It never softens the preceding consonant. In unstressed (pre-stressed) positions, E somewhat loses its phonetic value and approaches **И**. (See Rules of Pronunciation)

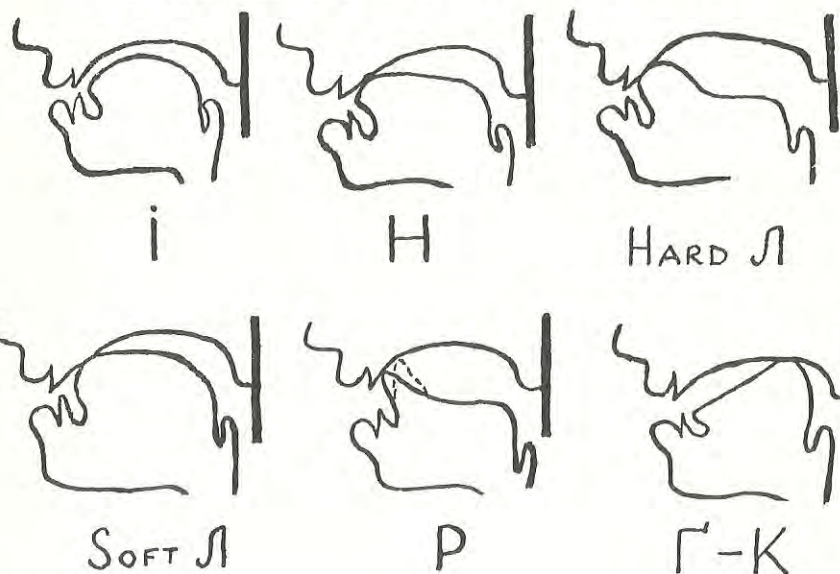
Practice:

І — И — Е
И — Е — І
Е — І — И

§ 7. CLASSIFICATION OF UKRAINIAN VOWELS

Tone of sound	Position of sound against palate	Frontal	Middle	Back	
				unlabialized	labialized
High		І			У
Middle		Е	И		О
Low				А	

THE POSITION OF THE TONGUE AND LIPS IN PRONOUNCING THE UKRAINIAN SOUNDS:



§ 8. THE CONSONANTS В, Ф, Н, Л, Р

В, в is pronounced in two ways: a) at the beginning of a syllable (before a vowel) as V in "vivid", "very", "valley"; b) at

Ч, ч is pronounced approximately as CH in "church", but hard. This voiceless sibilant consonant consists of two fused sounds (Т + Ш).

Щ, щ is pronounced as SHCH in the phrase "fresh cheese". This voiceless sibilant consonant consists of two fused sounds (Ш + Ч).

Note. The peculiar fused sounds ДЖ (as DG in "edge") and ДЗ (as DS in "beds") do not have separate letters in Ukrainian. Therefore two compound consonants are used for them.

ORAL DRILL

БОГ (God)	ГОРА́ (hill)	НОГА́ (leg)
ГАРА́ЗД (all right)	ГА́РНО (beautifully)	БОГДА́Н (Bohdan)
ГАЛІ́НА (Ann)	ГРАМА́ТИКА (grammar)	ГА́НОК (porch)
ГА́ВА (crow)	ГУ́ДЗИК (button)	ЕМИГРА́НТ (emigrant)
ТАК (yes)	РУКА́ (hand)	КА́ВА (coffee)
КУДИ́ (whither)	СЛОВНИ́К (dictionary)	РА́НОК (morning)
КНИ́ГА (book)	ХА́ТА (house)	МУ́ХА (fly)
ХОДИ́ТИ (to walk)	ХОТІ́ТИ (to want)	ША́ХИ (chess)
ТИ́ХО (quietly)	ЗА́ВТРА (tomorrow)	ЗИМА́ (winter)
РА́ЗОМ (together)	ВІЗ (cart)	ЗО́ВСІМ (completely)
СА́ЛО (pork fat)	МІ́СТО (city)	ОКСА́НА (Oksana)
СЛО́ВО (word)	СО́Н (sleep)	СО́НЦЕ (sun)
СИР (cheese)	МАКСИ́М (Max)	ТАРА́С (Taras)
ЦЕ (this)	ЦЕ́РКВА (church)	ЦИ́РК (circus)

ЖИ́ТИ
(to live)

ТАКО́Ж
(also)

ШКО́ЛА
(school)

НА́Ш
(our)

ШТА́НІ
(pants)

ЧО́БОТИ
(boots)

КРИЧА́ТИ
(to shout)

ПРІ́ЗВИЩЕ
(surname)

ДУ́ЖЕ
(very)

ЖУРНА́Л
(journal)

ШИ́ТИ
(to sew)

ПРО́ШУ́
(I ask)

ЧЕРЕВІ́К
(shoe)

ЧОРНИ́ЛО
(ink)

ЩЕ
(yet)

БДЖО́ЛА
(bee)

ДЗЕРКА́ЛО
(mirror)

У́ЖЕ
(already)

ЗА́ВЖДИ
(always)

ВА́Ш
(your)

ШВИ́ДКО
(quickly)

СОРО́ЧКА
(shirt)

ЧЕТВЕ́Р
(Thursday)

ПЛО́ЩА
(square)

ДЖЕРЕЛО́
(spring)

ДЗВІ́Н
(bell)

EXERCISES

Copy the following:

*Бог гора Но нога гаразд гарно Богдан
Галина граматика Га ганок гавва гудзик
Ем емигрант так Ру рука Ка кава куди
Словник ранок Кн книга Ха хата муха
ходить хотіти Ша шахи Ти тихо За
завтра зима Та разом зовсім само
Оксана слово сон сир Максим Тарас
Ще церква цирк Жи жити Ду дуже
Уже уже також журнал завжди школа
шити ваш наш прощу Швидко штани
че черевик сорочка ходит чорнило четвер
кригати площа Пр прізвище Бог Бод
Бджола Дзеркало*

§ 10. THE SEMIVOWEL Й

The semivowel Й is pronounced as Y in "boy", "may". This is a non-syllabic sound.

§ 11. THE IOTATED VOWELS Я, Ю, Є, І

Each iotated vowel consists of two fused sounds:

Й + А = Я (as in "yard")
 Й + У = Ю (as in "you")
 Й + Е = Є (as in "yes")
 Й + І = І (as in "yield")

These vowels retain their full phonetic value:

(a) at the beginning of the words: як (how), який (which, what kind of), ясно (clearly), яйце (egg);

(b) after vowels: моя, мою, мое, мої (my).

The vowels я, ю, є soften the preceding consonant and simultaneously lose their й-glide; thus they are pronounced simply as А, У, Е:

читання	(pronounced: читанн ^я)	- reading
взуття	(pronounced: взутт ^я)	- footwear
біля	(pronounced: білт ^я)	- at, near
вогню	(pronounced: вогнт ^ю)	- of fire
їхне	(pronounced: їхн ^є)	- their, theirs

ORAL DRILL

ЙТИ (to go)	МІЙ (my)	ЙОГО́ (of his)
ЙОМУ́ (to him)	ГАЙ (grove)	АНДРІ́Й (Andrew)
ДОБРИ́Й (good)	ЗВИЧА́ЙНО (usually)	ЯК (how)
ЯКІ́Й (which)	ЯЗІ́К (tongue)	ДІЯЛО́Г (dialogue)
ЛЕ́КЦІЯ (lesson)	МА́РІЯ (Mary)	І́ХАТИ (to drive)
Ї́ (her)	Ї́Й (to her)	УКРАЇ́НА (Ukraine)
Ї́ЖА (food)	МА́Ю (I have)	МА́Є (he has)
КИШЕ́НЯ (pocket)	ЯЙЦЕ́ (egg)	УЧЕНИ́ЦЯ (girl student)

ЛЮДИ́НА
(man)

ВОГНІ́О
(some fire)

УЧИ́ТИСЯ
(to learn)

ЛЮБЛЮ́
(I love)

ВЗУТТ́Я
(footwear)

Ї́ХНЕ
(their)

КАПЕЛЮ́Х
(hat)

ЖИТТ́Я
(life)

§ 12. THE APOSTROPHE

The apostrophe is used to indicate the pronunciation of the Й glide between a bilabial (Б, В, М, П, Ф) and an iotated vowel (Я, Ю, Є, І):

ім'я	(pronounced: ім ^я)	- name
п'ю	(pronounced: п ^ю)	- I drink
п'є	(pronounced: п ^є)	- he drinks
б'ю	(pronounced: б ^ю)	- I beat
б'є	(pronounced: б ^є)	- he (she) beats
п'ятниця	(pronounced: п ^я тниц ^я)	- Friday
солов'ї	(pronounced: солов ^ї)	- nightingales

The use of the apostrophe is discussed in **Conversational Ukrainian** (second revised edition), 1961, p. 521.

§ 13. THE SOFT SIGN

The soft sign (Ь) does not indicate any sound. It is used after the consonants Д, Т, З, С, Ц, Л, Н to soften (palatalize) them.

ORAL DRILL

МІ́ДЬ (copper)	ДІ́ДЬКО (uncle)	ГОВО́РИТЬ (he speaks)
БА́ТЬКО (father)	ЧЕ́СТЬ (honesty)	Ї́СТЬ (he eats)
БЛІ́ЗЬКО (near)	ДЕ́СЬ (somewhere)	УКРАЇ́НСЬКИЙ (Ukrainian)
ХЛО́ПЕЦЬ (boy)	ОЛІ́ВЕЦЬ (pencil)	СТІ́ЛЕЦЬ (chair)
КІ́НЕЦЬ (end)	ТА́НЕЦЬ (dance)	УЧИ́ТЕЛЬ (teacher)
ФІ́ЛЬМ (film)	ТІ́ЛЬКИ (only)	СІ́ЛЬ (salt)
РА́ДІСТЬ (joy)	О́ЛЬГА (Olga)	АЛБЮ́М (album)
ПА́ЛЬТО (overcoat)	КІ́НЬ (horse)	У́ЧЕНЬ (pupil)

Note. The soft sign is not used after the bilabials (б, п, в, ф, м), the sibilants (ж, ч, ш, щ), the gutturals (г, ґ, к, х), and the rolled р. It means that these consonants can be somewhat palatalized (half-softened) only by an i following them.

§ 14. MEANS OF PALATALIZATION

In the preceding paragraph we have discussed the means of palatalization (softening). Thus, in brief, a consonant is softened (palatalized):

1. By the soft sign: день (day), батько (father), сьогодні (today), учитель (teacher).
2. By the vowels я, ю, є if the apostrophe is not used: кишенья (pocket), взуття (footwear), біля (at, near), людина (man), цвях (nail), свято (holiday).
3. By the vowel і: дід (grandfather), зовсім (completely), стіл (table), місто (city), літо (summer), ці (these).

§ 15. CLASSIFICATION OF UKRAINIAN CONSONANTS

Voiced Consonants	Example	Voiceless Consonants	Example
б	баба	п	папір
в	він	ф	фільм
г	гарно	х	хата
ґ	ґава	к	кава
д	дам	т	там
ж	жити	ш	шити
з	завжди	с	сало
дж	бджола	ч	чобіт
дз	дзеркало	ц	це
		щ	ще
р	рука		
л	але		
м	мати		
н	на		

§ 16. CAPITAL LETTERS

A capital letter is used to begin:

- (a) A sentence: Петро говорить добре.
 - (b) Personal names and surnames: Петро, Оксана, Тарас Шевченко, Іван Франко, Симон Петлюра, Богдан Хмельницький.
 - (c) Geographical names: Україна, Канада, Америка, Дніпро.
- Note that the names of days and months are not capitalized in Ukrainian.

EXERCISES

Copy the following:

*Йти йти мій його йому добрий збираймо
 Як як діалог Лекція лекція Марія Іхати
 іхати Ії їй Україна маю має яйце
 кишенья ужитися учениця людина людина
 люблю їхню вогню взуття капелюх
 життя ім'я п'ятниця солов'ї
 мідь дядько батько геть ість близько
 десь український хлопець олівець стілець
 кінець танець учитель фільм тільки
 Ольга альбом пальто день учень Поет
 Тарас Шевченко*

§ 17. RULES OF PRONUNCIATION

The pronunciation of Ukrainian is for the most part phonetic: the letters, in either stressed or unstressed positions, are pronounced as they are spelled. Assimilation and dissimilation in standard Ukrainian are very rare.

To avoid any dialectal colouring or English influence, students are advised to observe the following rules of standard Ukrainian pronunciation.

1. All vowels under the stress are very clearly pronounced.
2. The vowel е in the unstressed (prestressed) position may slightly approach и: веселий is pronounced: в(и-е)селий, мене (of me) is pronounced м(и-е)не. Other unstressed vowels are pronounced clearly.
3. Final voiced consonants always remain voiced and never become voiceless: дуб (oak), під (under), хліб (bread), віз (cart), ніж (knife).
4. The consonant в at the end of a syllable (after vowel) is pronounced as the English w: кров (blood), ставте (put!). At the beginning of the syllable and before a vowel, в is similar to the English v: він (he), вона (she), вам (to you).
5. The consonants б, м, п, ф and ж, ш, ч are hard: дуб (oak), сім (seven), степ (steppe), торф (peat), ніж (knife), стоїш (you stand), ніч (night).

6. The consonant clusters **тц** and **чц** are often pronounced as **щц**:

тітці (pronounced: тіщці) - to the aunt
доцці (pronounced: дощці) - to the daughter

7. The verbal ending **-ться** is often pronounced as **-цьця**:
сміється (pronounced: смійецьця) - he laughs
здається (pronounced: здайецьця) - it seems

8. The verbal ending **-шся** is often pronounced as **-сься**:
смієшся (pronounced: смійесться) - you laugh

9. Prepositions are pronounced together with the words following them: у мене, у школі, в Петра, в Оксани.

The conjunctions are pronounced together with both the preceding and the following word: вона й він. Never make a pause before the conjunction **й** (and). If you have stopped, repeat the preceding word.

§ 18. GENDER OF NOUNS

A noun is a name. There are no articles (a, an, the) in Ukrainian. Ukrainian nouns are divided into three genders: masculine (m.), feminine (f.), and neuter (n.).

The majority of masculine nouns in Ukrainian end in a consonant: стіл, дуб, дід, Максим, Київ, сон, день, учитель, стілець.

Some masculine nouns end in **-о**: батько, тато, дядько, Петро, Павло, Кирило, Дніпро.

The majority of feminine nouns in Ukrainian end in **-а, -я**: хата, гора, школа, лекція, Україна, Марія, учениця, кишеня.

Some feminine nouns end in a consonant plus soft sign: сіль, честь, мідь, кість, шовість, якість, радість.

Some feminine nouns end in a consonant without soft sign: ніч, піч, річ, кров, любов.

Neuter nouns in Ukrainian end in **-о, -е, -я**: чорнило, дзеркало, яйце, сонце, життя, взуття, читання.

Some nouns are used in the plural only: штани, двері.

Some nouns are used in the singular only: життя (n.), кава (f.), нафта (f.), честь (f.).

Collective nouns: взуття (n.).

Note that all modifiers (possessives and adjectives) agree in gender and number with the nouns they modify:

Мій гарний олівець.	My beautiful pencil.
Моя гарна хата.	My beautiful house.
Мое гарне авто.	My beautiful car.
Мої гарні олівці (хати, авта).	My beautiful pencils (houses, cars).

§ 19. HARD AND SOFT STEMS

A noun consists of a stem, or of a stem and an ending. The stem is the unchangeable part of the word. The ending is the changeable part of the inflected word.

Stem nouns: дуб, дід, пан, театр, Максим, ганок, словник, Бог, журнал, цирк, капелюх.

The following nouns consist of a stem plus an ending: баб-а, мам-а, тат-о, вод-а, Оксан-а, школ-а, кишен-я, лекці-я, яйц-е, читанн-я, дзеркал-о.

A soft stem is followed by:

(a) the soft sign: стілець, олівець, танець, хлопець, сіль, день, учитель, учень, мідь, честь.

(b) the vowel **я** or **е**: кишеня, учениця, Марія, життя, читання, яйце, сонце.

(c) the semivowel **й**: гай, Андрій.

All other nouns, with a few exceptions, are hard stems. Note that there is no softening at the end of a hard stem.

EXERCISES

1. Rewrite the following nouns and classify them according to their stems:

хата, баба, мама, тато, мапа, бомба, яйце, дід, читання, дім, пан, учениця, мати, мова, взуття, вода, кінець, поет, театр, життя, правда, нафта, футбол, п'ятниця, Іван, перо, мідь, Петро, порада, ідіома, олівець, література, учитель, Бог, гора, стілець, нога, учень, пальто, день, ганок, Богдан, хлопець, Ольга, честь, граматики, стіл, рука, кава, книга, слово, сонце, сон, журнал, муха, сіль, чорнило, Україна, прізвище.

2. Classify the nouns in Exercise 1 according to their genders.

§ 20. FORMATION OF THE PLURAL

The plural is formed as follows:

1. Hard stem masculine nouns receive the ending **-и**: дід (grandfather) — діди (grandfathers), театр — театри, гудзик — гудзики, словник — словники.

Note. Nouns ending in **-ок** drop **о**: ганок — ганки, ранок — ранки, будинок — будинки.

2. Hard stem masculine nouns drop the ending **-о** and receive the ending **-и**: батько (father) — батьки (parents), дядько — дядьки.

3. Hard stem feminine nouns drop the ending **-а** and receive the ending **-и**: хата — хати, гора — гори, рука — руки, книга — книги.

4. Soft stem masculine nouns drop the soft sign and receive the ending **-і**: хлопець — хлопці, олівець — олівці, день — дні, палець — пальці, стілець — стільці, танець — танці. Note that

-e- is dropped and л receives the soft sign. Masculine nouns of both soft and hard stems change the root vowel i to o: кiнь — коні, віз — вози.

5. Soft stem masculine nouns drop the ending -й and receive the ending -і: рай — раі, соловей — солов'ї. Note that -e- is dropped also.

6. Soft stem feminine nouns drop the ending -я and receive the ending -і: учениця — учениці, кишенья — кишени. By analogy, -я changes to -ї: лекція — лекції.

7. Soft stem feminine nouns drop the soft sign and receive the ending -і: сіль — солі, радість — радості. Note that the root vowel -i- changes to -o- because the syllable becomes open.

8. Hard stem neuter nouns drop the ending -о and receive the ending -а: слово — слова, місто — міста. Also: прізвище — прізвища.

9. Soft stem neuter nouns drop the ending -e and receive the ending -я: поле — поля, яйце — яйця.

10. Soft stem neuter nouns ending in -я have the same form in both singular and plural: читання (reading) — читання (readings).

EXERCISES

Form the plural forms of the nouns: пан, дiм, мова, вода, кінець, пальто, учень, п'ятниця, ранок, дзеркало, журнал, перо, капелюх.

§ 21. PREFIX, ROOT AND SUFFIX

Ukrainian is a highly inflected language. The word building in it differs from that of English.

A word stem in Ukrainian may consist of: (a) the root, (b) the root and the suffix, (c) the prefix and the root, or (d) the prefix, the root and the suffix. If necessary an ending is added to either the root or the suffix.

A root is the commonly shared element of several or many cognate words. Thus, слово (word), словник (dictionary), вислови (expressions), висловити (to express) have the common root **СЛОВ**.

A suffix is the part of a word, which follows the root and often changes the meaning of the word. A prefix precedes the root.

Prefix	S T E M Root	Suffix	Ending	Translation
—	СЛОВ	—	о	word
—	СЛОВ	н + ик (two suffixes)	—	dictionary
ВИ	СЛОВ	—	и	expressions
ВИ	СЛОВ	ит	и	to express
ВИ	СЛОВ	л + ен	ий	expressed

EXERCISES

Divide the following words into their component parts: порада (advice), радити (to advise), порадник (adviser); дiм (house), дома (houses), удома (at home), читання (reading), читати (to read), читач (a man who reads), читанка (reader).

§ 22. EUPHONY RULES

In certain words the so-called "euphony rules" must be observed. The initial unstressed y changes to в, and the initial unstressed i changes to й after vowels for smoother pronunciation:

Мій брат удома.	My brother is at home.
Мій батько вдома.	My father is at home.
Брат і сестра вдома.	(My) brother and sister are at home.
Мати й син удома.	The mother and son are at home.
Сестра йде в місто.	(My) sister is on her way downtown.
Брат іде в місто.	(My) brother is on his way downtown.
Брат пішов у місто.	(My) brother went downtown.

The euphony rules are also applied to the preposition (y — в) and the conjunction (i — й).

For exceptions to these rules, see *Conversational Ukrainian*, (second revised edition), 1961, p. 3.

§ 23. SUBJECT, PREDICATE AND OBJECT

As in English, Ukrainian sentences have a subject, a predicate, and an object:

Subject	Predicate	Direct Object
Богдан Bohdan	бачить sees	батька (his) father
Він He	читає reads	книгу a book

The position of the sentence subject, however, is rather free in Ukrainian. In emphatic sentences, as well as in certain styles, the subject can be placed at the end of the sentence or in the middle of it. Thus the sentences above could be reversed with no change of meaning.

Батька бачить Богдан.	Бачить Богдан батька.
Книгу читає він.	Читає він книгу.

Note that the direct object is always expressed by the accusative case.

The Ukrainian language has seven cases: nominative, genitive (possessive), dative, accusative, instrumental, locative (prepositional), and vocative. Their role in morphology can be seen from the following chart.

Cases and their Uses	Answer the Questions	
	Animate noun	Inanimate noun
Nominative is used to denote: (1) the subject - Богдан читає (Bohdan is reading) (2) the predicate noun - Богдан — учень (Bohdan is a pupil)	who? хто?	what? що?
Genitive is used to denote: (1) possession - Це поема Шевченка (This is Shevchenko's poem) (2) negation - Я не знаю Богдана (I don't know Bohdan) (3) the object of certain prepositions - Я йду до школи (I am going to school)	whose? кого?	of what? чого?
Dative is used to denote the indirect object - Вона каже Богданові (She says to Bohdan)	to whom? кому?	to what? чому?
Accusative is used to denote: (1) the direct object - Я знаю Богдана (I know Bohdan) (2) the object of certain prepositions - Я розкажую про Богдана (I am telling about Bohdan)	whom? кого?	what? що?
Instrumental is used to denote: (1) the instrument or agent by which something is done - Я їм суп ложкою (I am eating soup with a spoon) (2) accompaniment - Я ходжу з Богданом (I go with Bohdan) (3) the predicate noun after certain verbs - Він став учителем (He became a teacher)	by whom? ким? з ким?	with what? чим? з чим?
Locative is used to denote locality - На Богданові добрий костюм (Bohdan is wearing a good suit) Богдан у школі (Bohdan is in school)	on whom? на кому?	on what? where? на чому? де?
Vocative is used to denote direct address, or calling - Богдано, йди сюди! (Bohdan, come here!)		

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“... автор, справді, дав безпрецедентно-досконалий... добір мовного матеріалу... добрав його послідовно в дусі українського патріотизму й соборництва” (Професор В. Чапленко, “Цінний підручник”, “Нові дні”, Торонто, 1959, ч. 116, стор. 29).

“Кожна лекція починається з діалогу, а радше, кожна тема опрацьована в формі діалогу. З методичного боку це досить цікаво й зручно, бо під час лекції студенти відразу включаються в жваву розмову. Потім починається уривок для читання... короткі відомості з граматики... домашнє завдання і словник... в граматичному оформленні... Такий зміст книжки, що в цілому справляє враження методично добре опрацьованого підручника, з різноманітним і цікавим матеріалом та з живим викладом цього матеріалу і змінням подавати його в формі діалогу, що дуже важливе для практичного вивчення мови. Цінне те, що матеріал підручника зв'язаний з Україною, її життям, географією, історією та природними багатствами...” (Проф. П. Ковалів, “Київ”, Філядельфія, 1960, ч. 1, стор. 47-48).

“Підручник д-ра Славутича цінний і тим, що він оригінальний і свіжий, побудований за сучасними нормами доброї української мови... автор... у нього вклав своє глибоке педагогічне знання і по-справжньому виконав важливе національне завдання” (Володимир Жила, “Кращий зразок української розмовної мови”, “Новий Шлях”, Вінніпег, 18 березня 1960).

“Поступове доповнення основних текстів (“Діалоги” і “Читання”) віршами та спеціально дібраними прислів'ями, приказками, ідіоматичними зворотами — незвичайно доречно: воно відразу призвичаює учня чи студента до справжньої, живої мови, а тому заохочує, а не відштовхує... У підручнику дотримано послідовності в наростанні трудности текстів... Систематичність і послідовність підручника — один із найбільших позитивів... найпринциповіший момент у підручнику. А подані в кінці книги зразки відмінювання, граматичний індекс та словничок-індекс, — відобрають у практиці навчання за цим підручником велике значення... по суті вперше намічено нові способи... добрий і досить вдалих почин... цей підручник склав педагог, викладач із чуттям мови і професійної відповідальності... Ініціатива Яра Славутича у зрушенні з мертвої точки викладання української мови в англійських школах гідна того, щоб її відзначити, як удачу, корисну і гідну похвали й наслідування”. (Проф. Д. Кислиця, “Праця гідна всебічної похвали”, “Прометей”, 24 березня 1960).

“... важливий, модерний підручник для навчання української мови... Автором книжки є... тонкий знавець української мови і літератури... застосовано найновішу методу навчання мов... Ціллю її є уможливити учневі якнайскорше опанування словництва й підставових зворотів мови і речень через посилені усні вправи і діалоги... підручник вже від першої лекції вчить студента коротких, простих, щоденних речень... підручник виповнить прогалини в дотеперішніх працях... (Проф. О. Буйняк, “Модерний підручник для навчання української мови”, “Свобода”, Нью-Йорк, 23 січня, 1960).

“Високу якість підручника збільшує ще й прозорий, легкий, справді підручничковий мовостиль. Слід також відзначити майстерно побудовані діалоги... Дуже добре продумана в підручнику тематика дидактичного матеріалу... охоплено всі відомості про Україну, історію й географію України, українське письменство, українську культуру взагалі, її промисловість... А в цілості це складається на якусь маленьку енциклопедію українознавства” (Проф. В. Чапленко, “Закінчення підручника”, “Нові Дні”, 1960, ч. 131, стор. 22).