

## Day 1

the alphabet and basic pronunciation

## 1. Practice saying hello (formal and informal)

Whenever you speak to someone in Russian, you'll have to choose between **formal** (polite) and **informal** (friendly, casual) forms. We'll call this using **вы** and **ты**, respectively. This choice will affect the endings on certain words, including this one.

using **вы** (formal): **Здравствуйте!** pronounce as: **Здра - ствуй - те!** (the **в** is not pronounced!)

using **ты** (informal): **Здравствуй!** pronounce as: **Здра - ствуй!** (the **в** is not pronounced!)

## 2. Hello! - How are you? - Goodbye!

Practice these very simple exchanges — one uses **вы**, and the other uses **ты**. Note the slight differences, in **bold**!

|                                     |                              |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>вы:</b> — Здравствуй <u>те</u> ! | <b>ты:</b> — Здравствуй!     | “Hello!” (literally, “be healthy!”) |
| — Здравствуй <u>те</u> !            | — Здравствуй!                | “Hello!”                            |
| — Как у <b>вас</b> дела?            | — Как у <b>тебя</b> дела?    | “How at you (are) things?”          |
| — Хорошо. А у <b>вас</b> ?          | — Хорошо. А у <b>тебя</b> ?  | “Good. And at you?”                 |
| — У меня <u>тоже</u> хорошо.        | — У меня <u>тоже</u> хорошо. | “At me also good.”                  |
| — До свидания!                      | — До свидания!               | “Goodbye!” (= “hasta la vista!”)    |
| — До свидания!                      | — До свидания!               | “Goodbye!”                          |

## 3. Pronouncing Chapter Vocabulary

Let's practice pronouncing the nouns in this chapter's vocabulary. Plan on spending some time every day **drilling** vocabulary — because it is so unfamiliar, Russian may take more time and repetition to learn than other languages you've studied!

Listen carefully for ways in which the pronunciation may **differ slightly** from the actual spelling. Much more on this tomorrow!

| masculine                   | feminine                           | neuter                       |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>стол</b> table           | <b>книга</b> book                  | <b>дело</b> matter, business |
| <b>стул</b> chair           | <b>комната</b> room                | <b>окно</b> window           |
| <b>велосипед</b> bicycle    | <b>одежда</b> clothes              | <b>место</b> place, seat     |
| <b>телефон</b> phone        | <b>работа</b> work                 | <b>зеркало</b> mirror        |
| <b>компьютер</b> computer   | <b>картина</b> picture             | <b>кресло</b> easy chair     |
| <b>телевизор</b> television | <b>футболка</b> t-shirt            | <b>письмо</b> letter         |
| <b>плакат</b> poster        | <b>этажерка</b> bookshelf          | <b>одеяло</b> blanket        |
| <b>карандаш</b> pencil      | <b>машина</b> car                  | <b>мыло</b> soap             |
| <b>рюкзак</b> backpack      | <b>передача</b> TV show            | <b>утро</b> morning          |
| <b>ковёр</b> carpet         | <b>ошибка</b> mistake              | <b>пальто</b> coat           |
| <b>мяч</b> ball             | <b>страница</b> page               | <b>кино</b> cinema, movie(s) |
| <b>ключ</b> key             | <b>газета</b> newspaper            |                              |
| <b>вечер</b> evening        | <b>сумка</b> purse                 |                              |
| <b>зонт</b> umbrella        | <b>тема</b> topic, theme           |                              |
| <b>сериал</b> TV series     | <b>проблема</b> problem            |                              |
| <b>фильм</b> film, a movie  | <b>задача</b> (math) problem, task |                              |
| <b>журнал</b> magazine      | <b>ручка</b> pen                   |                              |
| <b>вопрос</b> question      | <b>лампа</b> lamp                  |                              |
| <b>ответ</b> answer         | <b>рубашка</b> shirt               |                              |
| <b>кошелёк</b> wallet       | <b>бумага</b> paper                |                              |
| <b>учебник</b> textbook     |                                    |                              |