notes on transitivity Day 27

1. Crash course: telling time on the hour

We'll cover this in more detail later — but, for answering some questions below, here are basic time expressions — on the hour only, for now! We use "B" to say "at," followed by the time. The numbers 2, 3, 4 are followed by uac (hour) in the genitive singular, while 5 and above are followed by the genitive plural. These answer the question **Bo сколько?** (At what time?). Here are the full expressions:

в час	at 1	в чет <u>ы</u> ре час <u>а</u>	at 4	в семь час <u>о</u> в	at 7	в д <u>е</u> сять час <u>о</u> в	at 10
в два часа	at 2	в пять час <u>о</u> в	at 5	в в <u>о</u> семь час <u>о</u> в	at 8	в од <u>и</u> ннадцать час <u>о</u> в	at 11
в три час <u>а</u>	at 3	в шесть час <u>о</u> в	at 6	в <u>де</u> вять час <u>о</u> в	at 9	в двен <u>а</u> дцать час <u>о</u> в	at 12

2. Let's break stuff

Refer to these examples (from the book) of verbs for which transitivity is ambiguous in English. For example, we can use "to break" in two very different ways, as in "I broke the plate" versus "The plate broke." In the first example, "break" is used transitively — with a direct object. Such verbs do not usually have a reflexive particle. When we add a reflexive particle, we typically get an intransitive verb that may be understood passively ("to be broken").

ломать АЙ / сломать АЙ ломаться АЙ / сломаться АЙ to break (appliances, etc.)	разбив <u>а</u> ть АЙ / разб <u>и</u> ть Ь разбив <u>а</u> ться АЙ / разб <u>и</u> ться to break, shatter			
— Телеф <u>о</u> н у теб <u>я</u> ч <u>а</u> сто лом<u>а</u>ется ?		Does your phone often break?		
— Он нед <u>а</u> вно у теб <u>я сломался</u> ? Ка	κ?	Has it broken recently?		
— Кто ег <u>о</u> слом<u>а</u>л ?		Who broke it?		
— Ты ч <u>а</u> сто разбив<u>а</u>л (а) пос <u>у</u> ду, ког	д <u>а</u> ты был(<u>а</u>) реб <u>ё</u> нком?	Did you often break dishes as a child?		
— М <u>а</u> ма был <u>а</u> дов <u>о</u> льно, когд <u>а</u> он <u>а</u> г	разбивапась?	Was mom happy when the they were broken?		
= =:: = / := = :	, шоом <u>ш</u> лаов :	was morn happy when the they were broken:		
— Что ты говор <u>и</u> л(а), когд <u>а</u> разбив<u>а</u>		What would you say when you broke them?		
	л(а) посуду?			

3. Starting and stopping

The first two verbs involve the same problem: for example, we can use "start" in English in two different ways, as in "I started the discussion" versus "The discussion started." Only the second example — which can be understood passively ("the discussion was started") requires the reflexive particle in Russian.

начин <u>а</u> ть АЙ / нач <u>а</u> ть /H + inf.	зак <u>а</u> нчивать АЙ / зак <u>о</u> нчи	ть И перестав <u>а</u> ть АВАЙ / перест <u>а</u> ть Н
начин <u>а</u> ться АЙ / нач <u>а</u> ться /Н	зак <u>а</u> нчиваться АЙ / зак <u>о</u> нчи	ться И to stop
to begin, start	to end, finish	
— Во ск <u>о</u> лько начин<u>а</u>ется / зак<u>а</u>н	чивается наш ур <u>о</u> к?	What time does our class begin /end?
— Во ск <u>о</u> лько ты начин<u>а</u>ешь / зак а	What time do you start / finish studying?	
— Когд \underline{a} же проф \underline{e} ссор након \underline{e} ц пе	рест<u>а</u>нет говор <u>и</u> ть?	When will the professor finally stop talking?

4. I feel like... (a subjectless expression!)

The reflexive verb **хотеться** / **захотеться** is used **subjectlessly** — with the **dative** case and an **infinitive** — in the sense of "someone feels like..." Any subjectless verb will always look like a **neuter singular** form, and will of course have **no subject** (in the nominative case)!

Say what you feel like doing — and got the urge to do yesterday — by substituting your own infinitives:

— (Мне) хочется пить кофе и есть шоколад.	I feel like drinking coffee and eating chocolate.
— Вчер <u>а</u> мне вдруг захот<u>е</u>лось съесть арб <u>у</u> з.	Yesterday I suddenly got the urge to eat a watermelon.