

Welcome to the wonderful world of Russian grammar!

My name is Daria Molchanova, and I am a Russian language teacher. In this course, we are going to learn how to use Russian cases properly. It might seem confusing at first but do not give up. I promise that if you keep working, you will master cases (and everything else) in no time!

How to use this course?

This is not just a textbook with theory, this is a full course that will help you not only to grasp the theory of each case but also to put your knowledge to good use.

1) Watch the video with explanations. Take notes (writing or typing)! It helps to remember things faster. If you are one of those people who understand and remember better while reading – read the text.

2) After each theoretical part, you will find a set of exercises. This is the time to put your knowledge to practice. Go through each exercise carefully. If you forgot the rule, go back to the rule explanation. Do not forget to check yourself with the keys at the end of this book.

3) The most important part – listening and speaking! Listen to the audio (several times if necessary), answer all the questions **OUT LOUD!** You can combine this activity with house chores, driving, gardening, you name it. You should listen and speak to the same story as many times as you need until it feels easy and automatic.

4) The main rule of all – **D O N' T W O R R Y!!!** Seriously, I don't know how to emphasize it enough. Cases are difficult, cases are confusing, so the only way to truly master them is to relax and enjoy the process of learning. If you feel stressed and overwhelmed – take a break and come back to lessons when you feel ready. Do not be too harsh upon yourself.

Good luck! If you have any questions or want to share some feedback with me, please, contact me at daria@realrussianclub.com

Sincerely,
your teacher Daria

What are cases and why we need them?

Different languages can express the same things in different ways. You should just accept it as a fact and stop comparing Russian with your native language when it seems that the first one does not make any sense.

So why do we even need cases? It has a lot to do with the order of words. For example, in the English language word order is more or less strict, and it is easy to understand who does what and what belongs where. However, word order in Russian is flexible, you literally can put words wherever you like in a sentence.

For example, the phrase “I like music very much” in Russian we can say as:

Я очень люблю музыку
Музыку я очень люблю
Очень люблю я музыку
Я очень музыку люблю
Я музыку очень люблю.

Sometimes the meaning is crystal clear from the context but sometimes it might become confusing. This is when cases become handy! The role of each word in a sentence is indicated by its case. To indicate which case it is we change the ending of a word.

There are 6 cases in Russian. Look at this table and notice how endings are different in each case (don't worry, you don't have to memorize it all at once!):

Cases	Gender and forms			
	Masculine	Feminine	Neurtal	Plural
Именительный падеж (Кто?/Что?)	Это мой брат	Это моя сестра	Это моё окно	Это книги
Родительный падеж (Кого?/Чего?)	У меня нет брата	У меня нет сестры	Здесь нет окна	На столе нет книг
Дательный падеж (Кому?/Чему?)	Я звоню брату	Я звоню сестре	Я подошёл к окну	Этим книгам 100 лет
Винительный падеж (Кого?/Что?)	Я люблю брата	Я люблю сестру	Я протёр окно	Я читаю книги
Творительный падеж (Кем?/Чем?)	Я говорю с братом	Я говорю с сестрой	Под окном трава	Я работаю с книгами
Предложный падеж (О ком?/О чём?)	Я думаю о брате	Я думаю о сестре	Я мечтаю об окне	Мы говорим о книгах

Understanding the case system is often one of the biggest problems for people learning Russian, so make sure you take it slowly. But once the case system is understood the Russian language will truly open up to you, and you will concentrate more on vocabulary. So what are we waiting for?