

Foreword

Here are a few short testimonials from a few people in Ukraine who happened to read some units of it. I got them just a few days ago:

"I will be deeply touched if I my boyfriend says something in Russian to me. When they (English speakers) try to speak Russian, it sounds a little funny, but it is very romantic and pleasant... My boyfriend is from Canada, I don't think he will set a goal to learn Russian, because we are planning to live in Toronto, but it makes me feel really nice every time when he tries to say something in Russian." Olga Marunko, Ukraine

"The Romantic Russian Phrasebook is an absolutely unique and amazing phrasebook of all I ever had in my hands. Being a language teacher myself, and also being a man, I know for sure that it will be invaluable to those who have romantic relationships with Russian women. Russian women are very sensitive to such things. So I would strongly recommend it to foreign men." Sergey Nikiforov, Ukraine

"The Romantic Russian Phrasebook is a great tool which gives each man more confidence in many situations. Just imagine this- when you come to a new country, you don't know the culture. You can't speak the language. People don't understand you. It's easy to become frustrated with everything. But when you know a few words, it's a way to connect with others. It's also a good way to start communication, even if you can't say more than just one phrase – you'll at least attract attention to yourself." Eric Bolton, USA

"In a romantic relationship, a man who knows a few words in the language of his girlfriend is well-equipped. He has two times more chances to attract and keep her attention. As we know, there is only one chance to produce good impression. So, this is already a good reason to study a bit of Russian." Boris Karatayev, Ukraine

"Everyone knows that Russian is a very difficult language. But learning how to pronounce some phrases is fun, and it makes a perfect hobby for a man who wants to travel to Russia (Ukraine) once in a while. Even if everyone around you speaks English, you can say something in Russian now and then, and you will never fail to impress others. This is a good way to communicate effectively." Valentina Grinyova, Ukraine

"I spent a few years in Ukraine teaching English language and I can speak Russian relatively well now. My wife and son are Ukrainians – so I am "surrounded with Russian language", as Russians like to say. But I did not know many of very important words (phrases) before I read the Romantic Russian Phrasebook. I found it very helpful, because our communication with my wife has improved since I started to use some of the words from the Phrasebook and my wife reacted back immediately. It was amazing – she became more involved into our intimate communication and we are even more "connected" now than we were before." Andrew Phillips, USA.

"I love communicating with foreign cultures, in foreign languages. But as I spent some time in America with my boyfriend, I realized that I could get the meaning of romantic words so much better when they were spoken in my native Russian. While in a foreign language they may simply sound nice. There is a big difference! They do not really touch as much. So in my interpretation, a woman can understand the words in a foreign language, but she may not get the feelings spoken in those words." Tanya Bykova, Ukraine

I have spent in America more than 1 year now (a year and 4 months). It is hard to express the feelings I had when I heard the Russian speech in a store. And I heard that from a complete stranger. Language barrier is a serious problem. It is like you are looking at a person through a glass wall because there is no possibility to communicate with him. And to my opinion, this book can help to get rid of this obstacle, because there are so many wonderful, warm things you can say... It is the inner world of a person, his/her interests, and hobbies. When we have it in our every-day life, we do not appreciate it. But it is a real treasure to hear your native language in a foreign-language environment. Irina Grant, Seattle, WA.

The Author's Intro

*Every time you say something,
Make it simple, but meaningful.*

International dating is a completely different thing today, compared to the Pre-Internet era when men and women got to know each other only through real, face to face communication. Today, we can meet distantly, develop a relationship online, say the most important words in a chat, and even propose over the Internet!

The style, the rhythm and the dynamics of relationships have changed dramatically in a few recent decades. Couples set higher expectations to each other; each one in the relationship must prove their ability to learn and adjust quickly, and even their requirements to the romantic communication have become tougher to meet.

Unlike the old times when each woman was hoping to be "stolen" by a handsome knight on a white horse, each romantic woman today dreams of having her online chat partner to fly over the ocean and appear in front of her eyes with two tickets back, saying in Russian: "Я возьму тебя с собой, любимая" (which means "I'll take you with me to my country, my love"). Every Russian woman experiences an impulse of warmth when she hears HIM speak her language. This proves his commitment to the relationship, and shows that he really cares for her.

When I made my first steps in language teaching, I quickly realized that it is not the number of words and grammar rules that one needs to know to master Russian language. It is the *quality* of the speech that really matters. This *quality* is often determined by two simple things: a good selection of the right phrase, and the correct intonation.

Later, in my practice as a counselor for international couples, I received many confirmations to this fact. I am often contacted by men who ask me for advice about communication with their Russian brides. Quite often, a man would ask me to teach him how to say some words in Russian. He does not intend to communicate with HER in Russian; he just needs to pronounce his words well, and then he'll read the response in her eyes.

Imagine that you want to take a step forward in a relationship with a woman who has caught your heart. You want to make it clear that you are ready for engagement. You buy a ring and you go across the ocean, exactly as she's been picturing in her best dreams since she was a girl. You meet her and arrange to have a romantic dinner with candles and champagne, in the privacy of your apartment. On such an occasion, you certainly don't want to talk to her via your interpreter. Well, when the most important moment comes, you open the box, take out the ring, take her hand and, ... you must say something! Something like "This is for you. Let this ring connect us until we get together forever"... Well, if you are able to say these words in Russian, she will adore you!

This phrasebook will make your task simple and exciting. It is going to offer you a collection of the easiest to remember, the simplest to pronounce and the most meaningful phrases to use in such situations. Make it simple, but meaningful! This was my motto when I was developing the material for the Phrasebook. You don't have to study hard or to drill anything here. Just keep the book in easy reach for a while, pick out some phrases randomly and try to repeat them for fun after the audio-guide, and you will memorize the phrases before you realize this.

If you want to make it even more exciting, then contact me to arrange a few online meetings, and I'll be at your service helping you through the pronunciation "bumps" and grammar "itches". My team and I have been helping people to find easy ways to mastering Russian language for years now. Why not master your romantic relationship by using right words in the right time, eh? Remember- make it simple, but meaningful! Good luck!

Irina Timchenko

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Romantic Russian Phrasebook

Introduction

... John is packing his suitcase to fly to Russia. He is very excited, he is going to have a long-awaited meeting with his Russian princess. The most beautiful lady he's ever known is going to meet him in the Sheremetyevo airport in Moscow.

*He's checking his things. Romantic candles, some make-up and perfumes for her, some presents for her parents, a wedding bracelet with diamonds... Has he forgotten anything?... Ah, yes, of course! His **Romantic Russian Phrasebook!** John puts the book into his handbag. He is going to review it on the plane.*

John is well-equipped. He knows he is going to succeed, he has drilled his phrasebook, through and through, and he has taken the online Romantic Russian course with a native Russian accent training teacher.

This scenario is repeated hundreds of times every year with men traveling to visit Russian speaking women of the former Soviet Union (FSU). Do you know what all this is about? Not yet? Well, stay with us, and you'll soon be booking your flight to visit your Russian speaking princess, too!

About This Phrasebook

The Romantic Russian Phrasebook is not an ordinary phrasebook. It's mission is to help you and your Russian speaking soulmate to create your own world of communication – to learn how to overcome the so-called language barrier, and how to convey the most important meanings using the minimal number of words. This course was developed specifically for those who seek to establish personal relationships with Russian-speaking ladies. The materials of the phrasebook have been successfully used by dozens of men who are building long-term trusting relationships with their Russian soulmates.

The Phrasebook was developed by a group of experts in linguistics, language teaching technologies and psychology of interpersonal relations. It presents unique advice, suggesting how to start and develop a talk; how to pronounce well-known phrases with the right stress and intonation; how to conquer your lady's heart by saying compliments; and what to say in a number of typical situations of communication.

The author of this Phrasebook realizes that knowing the language of your soulmate is not sufficient for success in romantic relationships. There are numerous extralinguistic factors which affect our communication with others – these factors play a crucial role in building the *environment* of relationship between two people. This Phrasebook provides advice about using these factors in your favor to succeed in communication across cultures.

It is also a well-known fact that one cannot master such a complicated language as Russian in a few months – so a man visiting his soulmate in Russia will anyway need an interpreter for serious discussions. But during his trip, there will be a number of face-to-face moments, when the man can succeed or fail to build the solid basis for a long-term relationship. These moments should not be missed. If you are serious about the relationship, you need to know **WHEN** the moment is good for you to pursue the relationship, and **HOW** to say the most important words. This Phrasebook was specifically designed for this purpose and will prove invaluable in your success.

Russian women like when men take the initiative. Your lady will patiently wait in silence, to let **YOU** start the most important conversations. Our phrasebook suggests some solutions about how to give it a start, how to support a talk, or how to turn the talk into a different topic, once you feel the topic should be changed. Remember, a combination of a clearly pronounced phrases with properly verbalized intonation and correct communication behavior, can be more meaningful than a 2-hour talk via interpreter! Study our Phrasebook thoroughly, and you will understand exactly what we mean.

Why The Romantic Russian Phrasebook?

The Phrasebook was created and recorded by professional educators and relationship psychologists, who-

- studied numerous real life examples of romantic communication between foreign men and Russian speaking women;
- made a selection of words/phrases into 18 most important communication topics, which have become the titles of the units;
- provided comments and explanations of professional language teachers and relationship psychologists;
- created an audio coursebook, using advanced teaching methodology and the newest audio-communication technology;
- developed a course program to give you full-time language instruction and relationship counseling in the online video/voice enabled chatroom, to assist you in mastering the material of the Phrasebook.

Unlike other phrasebooks, the author specifically and carefully considered both- linguistic and extralinguistic factors which are equally important in romantic communication. The materials of the units were adjusted exactly to the needs of foreign visitors seeking marriage with Russian speaking women. A minimal but sufficient amount of information is given to the attention of the readers.

The most efficient way to study Russian with this phrasebook is to combine your personal studies with taking a few classes of accent training with a native Russian teacher. Just having a printed (or an electronic) version of the book at hand may not be enough. You need to learn how to pronounce words and you need some training to develop fluency in pronouncing them. You also need to select and practice correct intonation patterns, because Russian articulation and phonetics is very unusual for English-speakers. Do not hesitate to contact our group of authors/teachers who are always at hand to give you a few online classes of pronunciation.

When you come to Russia and the countries of the FSU, you will only need to know a few Russian words to be able to ask for directions, or to pronounce some figures/numbers in Russian (at a market or when paying for taxi). People in the streets and/or your Russian interpreter will be surprisingly assisting in everything. So, communicating in everyday situations will seldom present a problem. These issues are of little importance, compared with your need to communicate with HER.

How can you make her thrill in your hands with just a few words – the trick that works so well when you date women at home? How can you make her happy when she is tired or upset? How can you call her your queen in her native language, and make her believe that you really mean this? And how should you pronounce all these words, to make sure she understands you at your very first try?

Our phrasebook is the first howto course to help you in establishing a convenient and enjoyable manner of communication with her. It will give you some hints of how to benefit from a mix of two languages, for some internationally-recognized words can be turned into a language of romance – a system of symbols just for you and her, which will please, entertain and fill you both with a growing desire to be together.

You can say “*I love you*” in dozens of different ways, but only one of these ways will be just exactly what your dearest person is hoping to hear. Our Phrasebook is supplied with professional comments of relationships’ experts. Read them attentively, learn a few phrases in each unit, and you’ll see how easy it is to make her understand you with just a few words!

How to Use This Phrasebook?

The Phrasebook is organized into eighteen (18) self-contained units and does not require drilling the units one by one in a certain order. In fact, no drilling is required at all. You may start or review any unit in any order and in fact you may pick out and study certain sections of particular units as your situation warrants.

Each unit begins with a short introduction which is followed by a variety of phrases which you can use on your trip. You will find numerous audio files that you can play. Please, note that the voices used in the audio files, in addition to being native speakers, are also interpreters available to assist you while in the FSU. They are also available to teach the corresponding online Romantic Russian Language Course.

All phrases within each unit are written in Russian, translated into English, and supplied with transliteration and audio files. Below this section you will find sample dialogs as illustrations of possible ways to use the phrases in real life dialogs. The dialogs are also available as audio files, so you can adjust your ear to hearing the correct pronunciation of whole sentences. Please, get used to reading Russian and pay complete attention to the pronunciation and intonation in the audio file.

After drilling the phrases in each unit, there are some pertinent language notes, but please remember this is not a Russian language course, you are only learning some key phrases and the ways to pronounce them in context and in certain situations. This can be quite challenging at first, however with practice you will train your ear to hear Russian and your mouth to speak the phrases in real time.

A few notes about Transliteration

Russian Alphabet

Orthographical symbol of Russian letters	Name of letter in Russian	Orthographical symbol of Russian letters	Name of letter in Russian
Аа	а	Рр	эр
Бб	бэ	Сс	эс
Вв	вэ	Тт	тэ
Гг	гэ	Уу	у
Дд	дэ	Фф	эф
Ее	е	Хх	ха
Ёё	ё	Цц	цэ
Жж	жэ	Чч	чэ
Зз	зэ	Шш	ша
Ии	и	Щщ	ща
Йй	и краткое	Ъ	твёрдый знак
Кк	ка	Ыы	ы
Лл	эль	Ь	мягкий знак
Мм	эм	Ээ	э (э обратное)
Нн	эн	Юю	ю
Оо	о	Яя	я
Пп	пэ		

The table below provides transliteration of Russian alphabet. Your Russian friend can type e-mails or typechat with you, using this system, if your computer does not read the Cyrillic.

Russian Letters	US transliteration	Russian transliteration
Аа	a	a
Бб	b	b
Вв	v	v
Гг	g	g
Дд	d	d
Ее	e	e
Ёё	ë	e or yo
Жж	zh	zh
Зз	z	z
Ии	i	i
Йй	i	j
Кк	k	k
Лл	l	l
Мм	m	m
Нн	n	n
Оо	o	o
Пп	p	p
Рр	r	r
Сс	s	s
Тт	t	t
Уу	u	u
Фф	f	f
Хх	kh	h
Цц	ts	ts
Чч	ch	ch
Шш	sh	sh
Щщ	shch	shch
ъ	"	omitted
ы	y	y
ь	,	omitted before a vowel; ' at the end and before a consonant
Ээ	e	e
Юю	iu	yu
Яя	ia	ya

How Much of Russian Will You Need on the Trip?

Certainly, the more of Russian you know, the better. At the same time, do not get upset if you only know a few phrases. Thanks to the modern technologies, you can bring an electronic English-Russian translator with voice presentation, and this will resolve the issue of finding the right word when you need it. This little electronic tool will be a perfect assistant to you in a number of everyday situations – in the streets, stores, hotels, banks – everywhere. As Russians are very communicative and assisting to foreign guests, everyone who has ever studied English will do their best to help you. With the electronic translator in your hands, you will be able to find the necessary key words and explain your needs to Russians.

At the same time, you must realize that no electronic dictionary will give you ability to *communicate*, because they only produce words, and what you really need is the way to put the words together. Classical phrasebooks, as well as electronic tools, will be of little use in romantic communication with the lady of your dream. There will be moments when, with the help of this phrasebook, you will be able to turn an ordinary moment into an extraordinary one with just right phrase(s).

You should not totally give up studying your Russian. You may impress your lady by understanding some phrases, and even by demonstrating to her your knowledge of some widely used Russian words. In this Phrasebook, the most popular conversational phrases are collected into a convenient set of units, and are supplied with examples of real-life dialogs.

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