

## THE ROLE OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND MAIN CHALLENGES PROCESS

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**Abstract:** Knowing more than one language is fast becoming a requirement for anyone who wants to compete and thrive in a world where boundaries and barriers are becoming less relevant. Multilingual learners can take advantage of the full scope of accompanying cognitive and social skills—making them great employees, leaders in their communities, and true global citizens. This article defines the role of Russian in the world and Uzbekistan and explores most common issues in learning process and emphasizes possible solutions to overcome these difficulties.

**Keywords:** the Russian language, the Cyrillic Alphabet, Russian grammar.

As mobility and communications bring the world closer together, the need for global citizens to be competent in other languages is more urgent. Learning a foreign language increases global understanding, employment potential, develops life skills and strengthens relations with all around us. By learning a foreign language, we can step inside the mind and context of another culture.

There are many Russian-speaking people all around the world, but there are just four countries where Russian is the official language. According to Worldpopulationreview.com statistics these countries are Belarus (70.2% of population speak Russian), Kazakhstan (19% of population), Kyrgyzstan (9% of population) and Russia (82% of population). There are two countries where Russian is used for official functions. In Tajikistan, it is used in lawmaking and it is also the language of inter-ethnic communication. In Uzbekistan, it is used in registry offices and notary institutions across the nation. In the country of Turkmenistan, Russian is widely spoken throughout the country as either a first or second language. It is typically spoken within the country's major cities, and it is taught in schools.

Throughout non-sovereign countries and semi-autonomous regions, Russian is recognized as a de jure official language, which is spoken with other languages. In Russia, these regions include: Adygea, Altai Republic, Bashkiria, Buryatia, Chechnya, Chuvashia, Dagestan, Ingueshtia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Kalmkia, Karachay-Cherkessia, Karelia, Khakassia, Komi Republic, Mari El, Mordovia, North Ossetia-Alania, Sakha Republic, Tatarstan, Tuva, and Udmurtia.

In Ukraine, Russian is recognized as a de jure official language in the following regions: Donetsk Oblast, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, Kharkiv Oblast, Kherson Oblast,

Luhansk Oblast, Mykolaiv Oblast, Sevastopol, and Zaporizhia Oblast. There are other regions that also speak Russian, including Gagauzia, Romania and Transnistria.

Russian used to be widely spoken and used in Uzbekistan during the Soviet era when Uzbekistan was part of the Soviet Union. At that time, Russian was the dominant language of politics, education, and culture, and it was the language of communication between different ethnic groups in the country.

After Uzbekistan gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, the use of the Russian language declined as the government began to promote the Uzbek language as the official language and emphasize the country's cultural and linguistic identity. However, Russian remains and plays an important language in Uzbekistan.

Today, Russian is taught in schools in Uzbekistan as a second or foreign language, and people continue to use Russian for business, communication with Russian-speaking countries, and cultural exchange. Thus, the interest in learning Russian among Uzbek youngsters has been increased over the past years.

From its Cyrillic alphabet to complex grammar, it presents numerous hurdles that can sometimes learners feel overwhelming. However, by understanding these challenges and adopting effective strategies to overcome them, they can significantly enhance their learning experience and make substantial progress towards fluency. This article explores the common difficulties faced by Russian learners and provides practical solutions to break down these barriers. Here are most common challenges and practical solutions for both teachers and students:

1. The Cyrillic Alphabet
2. Complex Grammar
3. Pronunciation
4. Vocabulary and Idiomatic Expressions
5. Verb Aspects
6. Motivation and Consistency

1. The Cyrillic Alphabet

An initial challenge for many learners is the Cyrillic alphabet. With 33 letters, some of which resemble Latin letters but have different sounds, it can be intimidating.

Possible Solutions:

- Taking it Step-by-Step: Breaking down the learning process. Starting by learning a few letters at a time, focusing on their shape and sound. Repeating this process until Russian learning beginners have covered the entire alphabet.

- Practicing Regularly: Writing out the alphabet, pronouncing each letter, and reading simple Russian words daily.

2. Complex Grammar

Russian grammar, with its six cases, two verb aspects, and flexible sentence structure, is notoriously complex and can confuse learners.

#### Overcoming the Challenge:

- Understanding the Basics: Before diving into the intricacies, students have to ensure they understand the basics, such as the concept of gender, number, and case.
- Learning in Context: Instead of memorizing tables and rules, students must learn grammar in the context of sentences. This makes the learning process more meaningful and effective.
- Practicing Consistently: Regular exercises and speaking practice can help solidify learners' understanding and usage of Russian grammar.

#### 3. Pronunciation

Pronunciation in Russian, with its hard and soft consonants, vowel reduction, and palatalization, can be difficult to master, leading to misunderstandings when conversing with native speakers.

##### Overcoming the Challenge:

- Listening and Mimic: Learners have to listen to native Russian speech through songs, movies, or podcasts, and try to imitate the sounds and intonations regularly.
- Using Phonetic Transcriptions: These can help them understand how to pronounce words correctly. Many Russian dictionaries provide phonetic transcriptions.
- Getting Feedback: Students can use language exchange platforms to get feedback on their pronunciation from native speakers or consider investing in a language tutor.

#### 4. Vocabulary and Idiomatic Expressions

Russian has a vast vocabulary, with many words having no direct Uzbek equivalent. Furthermore, idiomatic expressions can be tricky to understand and use correctly.

##### Overcoming the Challenge:

- Using Frequency Lists: Learners may start by learning the most frequently used words to quickly build a functional vocabulary.
- Learning Words in Context: students can learn new words and phrases in the context of sentences or stories, which aids in understanding their connotations and usage.
- Immersing: Learners must exposure to Russian through movies, books, and conversations in order to pick up idiomatic expressions naturally.

#### 5. Verb Aspects

Russian verbs have two aspects: imperfective and perfective, representing incomplete and completed actions, respectively. This concept can be challenging to grasp.

##### Overcoming the Challenge:

- Understanding the Concept: Starting by getting a good understanding of what verb aspects represent in Russian.



- Learning in Pairs: Students may learn perfective and imperfective forms of verbs together to see the relationship between them.

- Practicing through Usage: Regularly practicing verb usage in conversations and written exercises help them reinforce their understanding.

#### 6. Motivation and Consistency

Staying motivated and consistent can be a significant challenge, especially when progress seems slow.

##### Overcoming the Challenge:

- Setting Realistic Goals: Having specific, achievable goals can keep student motivated.

- Making Learning Fun: Teachers or parents have to incorporate enjoyable activities into their students or children learning routine, such as watching Russian movies, playing language games, or reading Russian literature.

By understanding these common challenges and adopting the strategies mentioned to overcome them, learning Russian can become a more manageable and enjoyable journey. The process might be daunting, but the rewards of being able to communicate in Russian and connect with its rich culture and history are well worth the effort.

### REFERENCES

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