

Unit 3

2007-10-23

Outline

- Conjunctions (и, а, но́)
- Numbers
- Present tense pseudo-quiz
- The single-stem verb system
 - Learn to conjugate verbs by memorizing only one form
 - (Okay, and a few rules)

The conjunctions *и*, *а*, and *но́*

- Three conjunctions that correspond to the two English conjunctions ‘and’ and ‘but’
- *но́* is stressed, the other two are unstressed
- Always write a comma before *но́* and *а*
- Do not write a comma before *и* (most of the time)
- Never use a “serial comma”
 - Ivan, Dmitrij, and Fedor live in Moscow.
 - Ivan, Dmitrij and Fedor live in Moscow.
 - Ива́н, Дми́трий и Фё́дор живу́т в Москве́.

И

- и combines two things that are alike, with no expression of contrast or contradiction
 - Мы́ чита́ем и пи́шем хоро́шо.
 - The subject is the same (мы́) and we do both things well.
 - The only difference is that there are two activities.
 - Мы́ пи́шем хоро́шо и вы́ пи́шете хоро́шо.
 - The activity is the same (writing) and everyone does it well.
 - The only difference is that there are two subjects.

НО́

- НО́ implies contradiction
- One clause sets up an expectation that is then frustrated in the other
 - Мы́ пи́шем хоро́шо, *НО́* ме́дленно.
 - Most people who write well don't have to qualify such a statement by adding that they have to do it slowly.
 - Good writing suggests writing at a normal speed, so having to do it slowly frustrates the normal expectation.
- Usually one difference (“we” and “write” are constant, but the adverb [“well”/“slowly”] changes)

а

- а implies contrast, but not contradiction
 - Мы́ пи́шем хоро́шо, а вы́ пи́шете пло́хо.
 - *On the one hand*, we write well, but, *on the other hand*, you write poorly
 - We write well, *whereas* you write poorly.
 - There is no expectation that if we write well, you should also write well (that is, there is no contradiction)
 - Reversing the order of the clauses doesn't change the meaning
 - Usually two differences (“write” is constant, but “we”/“you” and “well”/“poorly” varies)

Conjunction practice

- Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски ____ па́па говори́т по-ру́сски.
 - Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски **и** па́па говори́т по-ру́сски.
- Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски ____ она́ не чита́ет по-ру́сски.
 - Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски, **но́** она́ не чита́ет по-ру́сски.
- Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски ____ па́па говори́т по-англи́йски.
 - Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски **а** па́па говори́т по-англи́йски.
 - Ма́ма говори́т по-ру́сски **но́** па́па говори́т по-англи́йски.

New numbers

- You already know 0–10, the teens, 20, 30, 40, and 50
- This unit adds 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, which lets you count up to 199
- Form compound numbers in Russian as you do in English (but with no hyphens)
 - String the pieces together
 - One hundred twenty-eight =
СТО́ ДВА́ДЦАТЬ ВО́СЕМЬ
- Practice in recitation

Learning numbers

- Memorize 0–10
- Teens sound like the units value plus –надцать
 - оді́ннадцат^ь, двенáдцат^ь, тринáдцат^ь, ...
- 20 and 30 sound like the units value plus –дцать
 - два́дцат^ь, трі́дцат^ь
- 50, 60, 70, 80 sound like the units value plus –десят (note: no soft sign at the end)
 - пятьдеся́т, шестьдеся́т, се́мьдеся́т, во́семьдеся́т
- Memorize 40, 90, and 100, which are peculiar
 - со́рок
 - девяно́сто
 - сто́

Numbers and the soft sign

- Numbers never have more than one soft sign
- **Numbers through 30** with a soft sign have the soft sign at the **end**
 - пѣть, шѣсть, сѣмь, вѣсемь, дѣвѣть
 - одѣннадцѣть, двѣнаѣдцѣть, трѣнаѣдцѣть, ...
 - дѣсятъ, двѣдцѣть, трѣдцѣть
- **Numbers from 50 up** with a soft sign have the soft sign in the **middle**
 - пѣтьдѣсятъ, шѣстьдѣсятъ, сѣмьдѣсятъ, вѣсемьдѣсятъ

How to use numbers

- Surprisingly, numbers are *not* normally followed by the nominative plural (!)
- Numbers are normally followed by case forms we haven't learned yet (coming in Unit 6)
 - Notice SAM, p. 57, ex. Б, with different forms of the word for “ruble” after different numbers
- This means that we don't yet know how to count *things*
 - We *do* know how to *recognize* telephone numbers, addresses, prices, etc.
 - We *don't* know how to say “I have six cats and four dogs”

Present tense pseudo-quiz

1. In the ёТ conjugation, when do we write –у (e.g., я пиш[́]у, он[́] пиш[́]ут) and when do we write –ю (e.g., я зн[́]аю, он[́] зн[́]ают)?
 - a. It depends on the place of stress.
 - b. It depends on whether there is a /j/ sound before the ending.
 - c. It depends on whether the other forms have е or ё.
 - d. It must be memorized for each verb.

Present tense pseudo-quiz

2. In –ёТ conjugation verbs, when do we write ё (e.g., ОН ЖИВЁТ) and when do we write е (e.g., ОН ПИШЕТ)?
- a. It depends on the place of stress.
 - b. It depends on whether there is a /j/ sound before the ending.
 - c. It depends on whether the ОНІ form uses –уТ or –яТ.
 - d. It must be memorized for each verb.

Present tense pseudo-quiz

3. What is the difference in stress patterns between conjugation type (–ёТ vs –ИТ) and stress?
- a. –ИТ conjugation verbs always have mobile stress.
 - b. –ёТ conjugation verbs always have end stress.
 - c. –ИТ conjugation verbs always have end stress.
 - d. There is no correlation between conjugation type and stress.

Present tense pseudo-quiz

4. In –ИТ conjugation verbs, when is the ending for the Я́ form –y and when is it –ю?
- a. It depends on the place of stress.
 - b. It depends on whether there is a /j/ sound before the ending.
 - c. It is always –ю.
 - d. It must be memorized for each verb.
- (As far as we know.)

Present tense pseudo-quiz

5. In –ИТ conjugation verbs, what is the ending of the ОНІ́ form?
- a. уТ
 - b. яТ
 - c. unstressed юТ
 - d. stressed Ю́Т

How to learn verb forms

- What forms should you memorize, and which ones can you derive by rule?
- The infinitive has no predicative power
 - чита́ть, чита́ю
 - писа́ть, пишу́ (not *писа́ю)
 - жи́ть, живу́
 - говори́ть, говорю́ (not *говори́ву)
- The present tense has no predictive power
 - живу́, жи́ть
 - пишу́, писа́ть (not *пи́ть)
- Your textbook tells you to memorize *four* forms for each verb: infinitive plus three present-tense (Я, ТЫ, ОНИ)
- You can cut that down to just *one* form per verb

The single-stem verb system

- For each verb, memorize a single stem
- Derive *all* forms from that single stem by rules
- Pro: Much less memorization
 - Are you comfortable with learning systems and applying rules?
- Con: The stem and the rules are abstract
 - Would you prefer to avoid abstraction, even if doing so requires more memorization?
- Disclosure: The presentation here is slightly simplified because you know only seven verbs

Stems and endings

- As with nouns and adjectives, think in terms of *sounds*, not letters
- Like nouns and adjectives, verb forms are made by combining *stems* and *endings*
- Stems may end in consonant sounds or vowel sounds
- Endings may begin with consonant sounds or vowel sounds

Verb stems

Infinitive	Stem	Suffix type
знáть	zn-áj+	aj
изучáть	izuč-áj+	aj
понимáть	pon'im-áj+	aj
читáть	čit-áj+	aj
жítъ	živ+	non-suffixed
писáть	p'is-a+	a
говорítъ	govor'-í+	i

The parts of a Russian verb form

- Root
 - Always ends in a consonant
 - Lexical part of the verb, e.g., /čit/ 'read'
- Suffix
 - Provides information about how the verb is conjugated, e.g., /-aj+/'
- Stem
 - Combination of root plus suffix, e.g., /čit-áj+/'
 - Some verbs are unsuffixed, e.g., /živ+/'
- Grammatical ending
 - Tense, number, person, and gender
e.g., /u/ in читаю = first person singular present tense

Working with stems and endings

- Think of words and their parts in terms of sounds, not letters
 - ЧИТА́Ю has five letters but six sounds /čitáju/
 - The stem is the sounds /čitáj/
 - The ending is the sound /u/
- The stem is not a real word
 - You have to add an ending to it to make it a real word
- The stem is useful because you can derive real words from it by following the rules
- If you memorize one stem for each verb, plus the general rules, you don't need to memorize any other forms

Suffixes and conjugations

- There are two conjugations in Russian
 - –ёТ and –ИТ
- Suffixes indicate conjugation unambiguously
- There are about a dozen suffixes
- You know four suffix types
 - /-aj+/, /-a+/, /-i+/, and non-suffixed verbs
- Of the types you know
 - /-i+/ is ИТ-conjugation
 - all others are ёТ-conjugation

–ĚТ conjugation

Subject	Grammatical ending	Example
Я	/–u/	живѹ́, пишѹ́, читаю́
ТЫ	/–'oš/	живѣшь, пи́шешь, чита́ешь
ОН, ОНА, ОНО	/–'ot/	живѣт, пи́шет, чита́ет
МЫ	/–'om/	живѣм, пи́шем, чита́ем
ВЫ	/–'ot'e/	живѣте, пи́шете, чита́ете
ОНИ	/–ut/	живѹ́т, пи́шут, чита́ют

- As always in Russian, unstressed ě loses its dots and is pronounced like e.
- живѣт /živ'ót/, пи́шет /píšet/, and чита́ет /čitájet/ have the same ending: /–'ot/
- живѹ́ /živú/, пишѹ́ /pišú/, and читаю́ /čitáju/ have the same ending: /–u/

–ИТ conjugation

Subject	Grammatical ending	Example
Я	/–'u/	говорю́
ТЫ	/–'iř/	говори́шь
ОН, ОНА, ОНО	/–'it/	говори́т
МЫ	/–'im/	говори́м
ВЫ	/–'it'e/	говори́те
ОНИ	/–'at/	говоря́т

The two conjugations

Subject	Grammatical ending	Example
я	/-u/	живу́, пишу́, чита́ю
ты	/-'oŝ/	живёшь, пи́шешь, чита́ешь
он, она, оно	/-'ot/	живёт, пи́шет, чита́ет
мы	/-'om/	живём, пи́шем, чита́ем
вы	/-'ot'e/	живёте, пи́шете, чита́ете
они	/-ut/	живу́т, пи́шут, чита́ют

Subject	Grammatical ending	Example
я	/-'u/	говорю́
ты	/-'iŝ/	говори́шь
он, она, оно	/-'it/	говори́т
мы	/-'im/	говори́м
вы	/-'it'e/	говори́те
они	/-'at/	говоря́т

Juncture

- The meeting of stem and ending is called *juncture*
- When two unlike things meet (C+V or V+C)
 - *Stable* juncture
 - Nothing happens
- When two like things meet (C+C or V+V)
 - *Unstable* juncture
 - Something (predictable) happens

When two unlike things meet (C+V or V+C)

- Stable juncture
- Just slap the stem and ending together
- /čit-áj+u/ = чита́ю (C+V)
- /pis-a+l/ = писа́л (V+C)

When two like things meet (C+C or V+V)

- Unstable juncture
- Something (predictable!) happens
 - C+C: Truncation of the first item
 - /živ+t'/ = жить
 - /v/ is truncated
 - V+V: Truncation of the first item and mutation of the preceding consonant
 - /p'is-a+u/ = пишѹ
 - /a/ is truncated and /s/ mutates to /š/

Truncation is easy

- No truncation at stable junctures (C+V, V+C)
 - Nothing interesting happens at stable junctures
- At unstable junctures (C+C or V+V)
 - *C+C truncation*: delete the first consonant
 - /živ+t'/ = жить /žit'/
 - /čit-áj+l/ = читáл /čitál/
 - *V+V truncation*: delete the first vowel
 - /govor'-í+'u/ = говорю /govor'ú/
 - /govor'-í+iš/ = говорíшь /govoríš/

Mutation is easy

- At V+V junctures, the consonant before the first vowel mutates (changes to another consonant)
- *V+V mutation*
- If a consonant mutates, it always mutates to the same thing
 - /r/ doesn't mutate
 - /s/ mutates only to /š/
- /govor'–í+u/
 - V+V truncation: /govor'u/
 - V+V mutation (/r/ doesn't mutate): /govor'ú/ = говорю́
- /p'is–a+u/
 - V+V truncation: /p'isu/
 - V+V mutation (/s/ mutates to /š/): /p'išú/ = пишу́

How do you know what mutates to what?

- Your instructors tell you
- So far
 - /r/ doesn't mutate
 - This means that when you learn the verb *да́рить* 'to give,' with the stem /daŕ'–i/, you will know that the *я́* form has to be *я́ да́рю* (truncation but no mutation)
 - /s/ always mutates to /š/
 - This means that when you learn the verb *че́сать* 'scratch; comb,' with the stem /čes–a+/, you will know that the *я́* form has to be *я́ че́шý* (truncation plus mutation)

Past tense

- The past-tense endings are /l, la, lo, l'i/
 - All past-tense endings begin with a consonant sound
- If the stem ends in a vowel sound (/p'is-a+/, /govor'-í+/
 - Adding a past ending produces a stable juncture (V+C)
 - Just add the stem and ending
 - /p'is-a+l/ = писа́л
 - /govor'-í+la/ = говори́ла
- If the stem ends in a consonant sound (/živ+/, /čit-áj+/
 - Adding a past ending produces an unstable juncture (C+C)
 - Truncation of first consonant
 - /živ+l/ = жи́л
 - /čit-áj+la/ = чита́ла

Past tense

Subject	Grammatical ending	Example
Masculine singular	/-l/	я́, ты́, он жи́л, чита́л, писа́л, говори́л
Feminine singular	/-la/	я́, ты́, она́ жи́ла, чита́ла, писа́ла, говори́ла
Neuter singular	/-lo/	(оно́ жи́ло, чита́ло, писа́ло, говори́ло)
Plural (all genders)	/-l'i/	мы́, вы́, они́ жи́ли, чита́ли, писа́ли, говори́ли

Infinitive

- The infinitive ending for most verbs (and all verbs we know so far) is /t'/
 - The infinitive ending begins with a consonant sound
- If the stem ends in a vowel sound (/p'is–a+/, /govor'–í+/
 - Adding an infinitive ending produces a stable juncture (V+C)
 - Just add the stem and ending
 - /p'is–a+t'/ = писа́ть
 - /govor'–í+t'/ = говори́ть
- If the stem ends in a consonant sound (/živ+/, /čit–áj+/
 - Adding an infinitive produces an unstable juncture (C+C)
 - Truncation of first consonant
 - /živ+t'/ = жи́ть
 - /čit–áj+t'/ = чита́ть

How do you know the stem of a verb?

- You can't predict the stem from any single real form
- Your textbook doesn't tell you what the stem is
 - Your textbook authors don't tell you about single stems; they tell you to memorize four separate forms
- Your instructors tell you what the stem is

/rabót–aj+/ ‘work’

- сейча́с я́
– я рабо́таю /rabót–aj+u/
- сейча́с ты́
– ты́ рабо́таешь /rabót–aj+’oš/
- сейча́с он
– он рабо́тает /rabót–aj+’ot/
- сейча́с мы́
– мы́ рабо́таем /rabót–aj+’om/
- сейча́с вы́
– вы́ рабо́таете /rabót–aj+’ot’e/
- сейча́с они́
– они́ рабо́тают /rabót–aj+ut/
- ра́ньше он
– он рабо́тал /rabót–aj+I/
- ра́ньше она́

/čes–a+/'scratch, comb'

- сейча́с я́
– я́ чешу́ /čes–a+u/
- сейча́с ты́
– ты́ чешешь /čes–a+'oš/
- сейча́с он
– он чешет /čes–a+'ot/
- сейча́с мы́
– мы́ чешем /čes–a+'om/
- сейча́с вы́
– вы́ чешете /čes–a+'ot'e/
- сейча́с они́
– они́ чешут /čes–a+ut/
- ра́ньше он

/dar-i+/'give'

- сейча́с я́
– я́ да́рю /dar-i+u/
- сейча́с ты́
– ты́ да́ришь /dar-i+'iř/
- сейча́с он
– он да́рит /dar-i+'it/
- сейча́с мы́
– мы́ да́рим /dar-i+'im/
- сейча́с вы́
– вы́ да́рите /dar-i+'it'e/
- сейча́с они́
– они́ да́рят /dar-i+'at/
- ра́ньше он