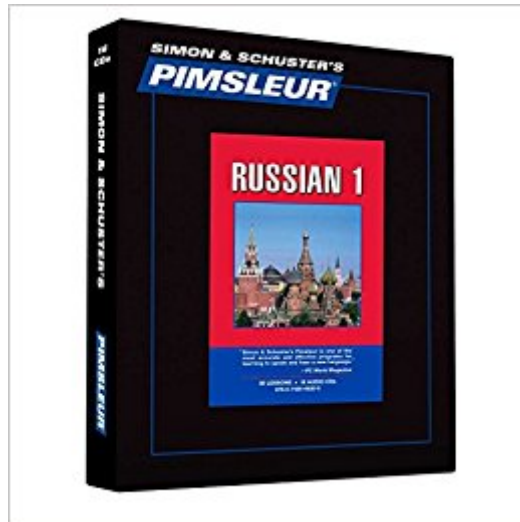




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# Russian I, Third Edition (Comprehensive, 30 Lessons)



## Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn Russian Whether you want to travel, communicate with friends or colleagues, reconnect with family, or just understand more of what's going on in the world around you, learning Russian will expand your horizons and immeasurably enrich your life. The best part is that it doesn't have to be difficult or take years to master. Thirty minutes a day is all it takes, and we get you speaking right from the first day. Pimsleur courses use a scientifically-proven method that puts you in control of your learning. If you've tried other language learning methods but found they simply didn't stick, then you owe it to yourself to give Pimsleur a try.

Why Pimsleur?

- Quick + Easy
- Only 30 minutes a day.
- Portable + Flexible
- Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life.
- Proven Method
- Works when other methods fail.
- Self-Paced
- Go fast or go slow
- It's up to you.
- Based in Science
- Developed using proven research on memory and learning.
- Cost-effective
- Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers.
- Genius
- Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn.
- Works for everyone
- Recommended for ages 13 and above.

What's Included?

- 30, 30-minute audio lessons
- 60 minutes of reading instruction to provide you with an introduction to reading Russian designed to teach you to sound out words with correct pronunciation and accent
- In total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers
- a Reading Booklet and a User's Guide

What You'll Learn

In the first 10 lessons, you'll cover the basics: saying hello, asking for or giving information, scheduling a meal or a meeting, asking for or giving basic directions, and much more. You'll be able to handle minimum courtesy requirements, understand much of what you hear, and be understood at a beginning level, but with near-native pronunciation skills. In the next 10 lessons, you'll build on what you've learned. Expand your menu, increase your scheduling abilities from general to specific, start to deal with currency and exchanging money, refine your conversations and add over a hundred new vocabulary items. You'll understand more of what you hear, and be able to participate with speech that is smoother and more confident. In the final 10 lessons, you'll be speaking and understanding at an intermediate level. In this phase, more directions are given in the Russian language, which moves your learning to a whole new plane. Lessons include shopping, visiting friends, going to a restaurant, plans for the evening, car trips, and talking about family. You'll be able to speak comfortably about things that happened in the past and make plans for the future. Reading Lessons are included at the end of Lesson 30 to provide you with an introduction to reading the Russian alphabet. These lessons, which total about

one hour, are designed to teach you to sound out words with Russian pronunciation and accent. A Reading Booklet to be used with the audio lessons is also included in PDF format. The Pimsleur Method We make no secret of what makes this powerful method work so well. Paul Pimsleur spent his career researching and perfecting the precise elements anyone can use to learn a language quickly and easily. Here are a few of his "secrets": The Principle of Anticipation In the nanosecond between a cue and your response, your brain has to work to come up with the right word. Having to do this boosts retention, and cements the word in your mind. Core Vocabulary Words, phrases, and sentences are selected for their usefulness in everyday conversation. We don't overwhelm you with too much, but steadily increase your ability with every lesson. Graduated Interval Recall Reminders of new words and structures come up at the exact interval for maximum retention and storage into your long-term memory. Organic Learning You work on multiple aspects of the language simultaneously. We integrate grammar, vocabulary, rhythm, melody, and intonation into every lesson, which allows you to experience the language as a living, expressive form of human culture. Learning in Context Research has shown that learning new words in context dramatically accelerates your ability to remember. Every scene in every Pimsleur lesson is set inside a conversation between two people. There are no drills, and no memorization necessary for success. Active Participation The Pimsleur Method + active learner participation = success. This method works with every language and every learner who follows it. You gain the power to recall and use what you know, and to add new words easily, exactly as you do in English. The Russian Language Russian, one of the six official languages of the United Nations, is the official language in Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Krygystan, with an estimated 150 million native speakers around the world. Pimsleur's Russian uses speakers from Moscow and St. Petersburg, which accounts for slight pronunciation differences between speakers, but accurately depicts contemporary spoken Russian. Tech Talk - CDs are formatted for playing in all CD players, including car players, and users can copy files for use in iTunes or Windows Media Player.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. Paul Pimsleur devoted his life to language teaching and testing and was one of the world's leading experts in applied linguistics. After years of experience and research, Dr. Pimsleur developed The Pimsleur Method based on two key principles: the Principle of Anticipation and a scientific principle of memory training that he called "Graduated Interval Recall." This Method has been applied to the many levels and languages of the Pimsleur Programs.

I've struggled for years to become fluent in Russian. I've tried various things to help build my vocabulary, improve my grammar and reduce my accent: purchased many books, a few software packages (including Rosetta Stone), took a university course, watched Russian movies with subtitles, etc. Currently I go to a private tutor 1-2 times per week in addition to studying at home. Out of everything I've tried, this audio course has worked the best for me. If anyone starting Russian were to ask me what I recommend to begin with, this would be it. Don't get your hopes too high and expect to be speaking fluent, conversational Russian by the end of this course. I used to believe the advertisements that claim there is a "fast and easy way to learn a new language", but now I know there is no such thing. It takes a lot of practice, and I suppose "fast" is a relative term. What I would say you can expect of this course is a introduction to some common conversational topics, and a the ability to respond to them very clearly (with minimal accent). This course will only aid you in learning Russian, it won't come close to teaching you everything you need. This audio course has an English speaking instructor, and a Russian speaking man and woman. The instructor essentially translates for you and explains how the grammar works, and you are expected to listen, repeat, and respond. You are often thrown into a conversation where you are expected to respond correctly. The Russian speakers talk very fast, which was jarring to me at first. With most of my language lessons the speakers go very slowly, making it easy for me to absorb everything. However, when you get trained to hear those words slowly and it makes it difficult for you to catch them in a real

conversation later. In my opinion it is much better practice to hear the language as native speakers would actually use it. The Russian guy in this audio talks so fast that it sounds like he is racing for his life sometimes. It was very frustrating to me at first, but eventually I was able to start catching everything he is saying. Like I said, this is great practice for the real thing. You get very little time to respond to conversations, and I realized that I don't have enough time to process my response in English before saying it in Russian. I have to understand the conversation in Russian and immediately know how to respond in Russian. It has truly gotten me to start thinking in Russian. The lessons are each 30 minutes long, and it is recommended that you only ever do one per day. That is up to you I suppose, I will sometimes do a lesson in the morning and another in the evening. My one complaint about this course is that there is no text to go along with it. I end up taking notes on the side when I hear words I'm not familiar with, and reviewing that list of vocabulary and phrases is very helpful to me.

I had this on cassettes and was so happy to find it in cd form. It has helped me communicate with a Russian friend I have even though she speaks english pretty well. To be able to speak with someone who knows the language is very helpful with pronunciation. Even though I am not fluent she can understand what I am trying to say and the cds have helped. This is an excellent product for those of us who need to hear things repeated to grasp it. And I want to say that the seller was excellent in that they let me know that they offered higher levels when this level was accomplished and send extra material for me to look at which was greatly appreciated. I am very happy with the purchase and seller.

My last experience with Pimsleur was a 1993 edition of Ukrainian. It was an effective lesson plan (30 lessons) and I learned sufficiently to successfully visit. I prefer the format of the new course. More time is spent working within conversational contexts as the vocabulary is built whereas the older plan kept most of the heavily involved conversations reserved for the last few tapes. My previous experience with the Pimsleur method was so positive and enjoyable that when I decided to take up conversational Russian their Russian I was my first choice.

This full 30-lesson course is GREAT!!!! I bought the little trial copy (\$15 for 10 lessons) first, and found their method much better than any other language course on audiobook I'd seen. So I splurged on the full 30-lesson set, which I am really enjoying. They are slow-paced and do not require you to look at anything, so it's perfect for using while you drive. My commute is only 20

minutes a day, and I can get in a lesson and a half. If I had any complaint, it would be that they repeat words and phrases more than necessary. If you're like me and want to really get everything well, you'll play each lesson 2-3 times anyway, so they don't need to repeat themselves quite so much. But it's a minor point and won't stop you from really grasping pronunciation and grammar, for which these guys are really strong.

I love this so far. I am only a bit over half-way through Russian I and I feel I am learning a lot. I'm taking my sweet time with it though, as I want to ensure I absorb as much of the language as possible (both listening and speaking). I tend to listen to each lesson 3 or 4 times (many people have commented that they only do it once or twice ... but I think I need the 'extra' time). I just ordered Russian II, so hopefully I will continue to progress. I know they have a Russian III, but that's as far as Pimsleur Russian goes. Hopefully it will be plenty to give me a good grasp of the language.

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