

Principles Of Russian Orography In The Practical Course Of Russian As A Foreign Language

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Abstract: This article describes the basic principles of Russian language orthography, creating a set of tasks and exercises for practicing orthographic norms in Russian language classes as a foreign language.

Keywords: orthography, phoneme, learning, spelling of voiced, voiceless consonants, coherent speech, pedagogical conditions, intonation, process, speech environment, remark, communication, interaction.

Modern Russian spelling is based on the Code of Rules published in 1956. The rules of the Russian language are reflected in Russian grammars and spelling dictionaries.

When learning any language, including Russian as a foreign language (RFL), the student must master the spelling of the language being studied. Sometimes spelling mistakes are due to the spelling system of the Russian language itself, which is confirmed by the fact that native speakers make similar mistakes.

Spelling (from the Greek *Orthos* - "correct" and *gramma* - "letter") is a historically established system of rules establishing the spelling of words. The theory of Russian spelling began to take shape back in the 18th century. V.K. Trediakovsky, M.V. Lomonosov, Ya.K. Grot, F.F. Fortunatov made a great contribution to its development.

Historical Context of Russian Spelling Reform

The evolution of Russian spelling has been influenced by numerous linguistic reforms throughout history. The first significant attempt to standardize Russian orthography was made by Peter the Great (1672–1725) as part of his broader modernization efforts. He introduced the civil script (*гражданский шрифт*) in 1708, simplifying the Cyrillic alphabet and removing several archaic letters.

In the 19th century, scholars such as V.K. Trediakovsky, M.V. Lomonosov, and Ya.K. Grot contributed to the development of Russian spelling rules, emphasizing phonetic and morphological principles. By the late 19th and early 20th centuries, inconsistencies in spelling led to discussions about reform.

The most significant spelling reform in Russian history occurred in 1918, following the October Revolution. The Soviet government, under the guidance of linguists like A.A. Shakhmatov and G.A. Vinokur, introduced major changes:

- The elimination of letters Ъ (*yat'*), І (decimal I), Ѡ (*fita*), and Ѳ (*izhitsa*) from the alphabet.
- The mandatory use of Ё (*yo*) in place of Е in certain words.
- The simplification of suffixes and endings in accordance with pronunciation.

This reform aimed to improve literacy rates and make Russian spelling more accessible to the general population. However, some aspects of pre-revolutionary spelling persisted in émigré communities abroad.

The modern Russian spelling system, as codified in the 1956 Orthographic Reform, remains largely unchanged today. The reform further clarified rules regarding hyphenation, capitalization, and word separation. Over time, spelling commissions and linguistic institutions have continued to update spelling dictionaries, reflecting changes in vocabulary due to scientific progress and globalization.

Despite its relative stability, Russian spelling continues to evolve, especially with the rise of digital communication. New borrowings from English, technological terminology, and informal online writing have sparked discussions about potential future reforms.

Language changes as society changes. Many new words and expressions, both native and borrowed, appear. The rules for writing new words and expressions are established by the Spelling Commission and recorded in spelling dictionaries. The most complete modern spelling dictionary was compiled under the editorship of the spelling scholar V. V. Lopatin (2018, 5th edition)

Russian spelling is a system of rules for spelling words. It consists of five main sections:

- 1) rendering the phonemic composition of words by letters;
- 2) continuous, separate and hyphenated spelling of words and their parts;

- 3) use of uppercase and lowercase letters;
- 4) transfer of part of a word from one line to another;
- 5) graphic abbreviations of words.

A spelling section is a large group of spelling rules associated with different types of difficulties in rendering words in writing. Each section of spelling is characterized by certain principles underlying the spelling system. The principles of Russian spelling are the main theoretical principles on which the rules are based. Each principle of spelling unites a group of rules that are the application of this principle to specific linguistic phenomena.

L. B. Shcherba (1880-1944) was a Russian Soviet linguist, academician, who made a great contribution to the development of lexicography and phonology; one of the creators of the theory of the phoneme, wrote: "There are four principles of spelling: 1) phonetic, 2) etymological, or word-derivative, 3) historical and 4) ideographic."

In addition to those named, Russian spelling has principles regulating continuous, separate and hyphenated spelling, the use of capital letters, the rules for hyphenation, etc.

The lexical-semantic principle of Russian spelling is associated with the distinction between a word and a phrase: parts of a word are written together, and individual words in a phrase are written separately. On the basis of this principle, such spellings of words as an evergreen bush are distinguished - the grass that is evergreen in alpine meadows; to look into the distance - to peer into the sea distance; to act at random - to hope for luck; wet clothes - clothes that have not dried overnight, etc.

Orthographic difficulties are associated with the fact that writers have to decide whether a given segment of speech is a separate word or a phrase, which is often difficult to do due to the unclear boundaries between these linguistic units.

Some spellings are explained by the traditional principle, according to which parts of a modern single word are written separately, going back to the combination of words: under the arm, without looking back, without prosyphu, without stopping, in the embrace, on the slaughter, etc. Writing capital letters:

Capital letters are used in two completely different functions:

- 1) to highlight the beginning of certain sections of text (sentences, lines of poetry), based on the syntactic principle;
- 2) to highlight individual words in the text, based on three principles: morphological, semantic and word-formation.

The morphological principle is that proper names are written with a capital (uppercase) letter, and common nouns - with a lowercase (small) letter: lensky - Lensky (surname), tyotka - Tyotka (dog's nickname), velikaya - Velikaya (name of the river), etc.

The semantic principle is that common nouns endowed with a certain pathos or symbolism can also be written with a capital letter: Motherland, Fatherland, Man, Victory Day, Teacher's Day, New Year.

The word-formation principle is that abbreviations are rendered in capital letters: GES, ZAGS, TYUZ. And some words of this type are written only in lowercase: vuz, ssuz, nep, etc. Despite the fact that this topic is as important as it is complex, it is obvious that foreign students, when studying RKI, cannot and should not know this theoretical information (non-philological profile of training), but this information becomes available to them in the practical course of RKI, when the teacher presents it in practical tasks and exercises. Practicing spelling rules in class allows students to avoid spelling errors in writing.

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