



Lesson • Speaking Essentials

Very simple conversation starters for brand-new learners.

In this lesson, we will practice basic introductions and greetings.

Each phrase has audio, click  to hear it.

Transliterations [an approximate spelling using English letters] are also given, but try reading in Russian first.

Ты is *informal* "you" (friends, kids, people you know well).

Вы is *formal* or plural "you" (new people, elders, polite situations).

Здравствуйте [Zdrástvuyt'e] — a polite "Hello."

Привет [Pr'iv'et] — friendly "Hi."

Asking a name:

Как вас зовут? [Kak vas zovút?] (formal) vs.

Как тебя зовут? [Kak t'eb'a zovut?] (informal).

Saying goodbye:

До свидания [Do sv'idán'iya] (neutral/formal) vs.

Пока [Poka] (casual "Bye").

Tip: When in doubt, start formal (Вы / Здравствуйте). People will switch you to informal if appropriate.



Click the speaker to hear each phrase.

An **accent** (**ˈ**) above a vowel marks **stress**; an **apostrophe** (**'**) after a consonant indicates **softening**.
Minimal suggested phrases for your first practice session are highlighted in orange.



Здра́вствуйте [Zdrástvuyt'e] — Hello (formal/polite)



Как вас зову́т? [Kak vas zovút?] — What is your name? (formal)



Меня зовут Яков. [Men'á zovút Yakov.] — My name is Yakov.



Приятно познакомиться. [Pr'iyátno poznakóm'its'a.] — Nice to meet you.



Очень приятно. [Ochen' pr'iyátno.] — (It's) very nice (to meet you).



До свидания. [Do sv'idán'iya.] — Goodbye.



До скорой встречи. [Do skóroy vstr'échi.] — See you soon.



Привёт! [Pr'iv'e't!] — Hi!



Как дела? [Kak d'ela'?] — How are you?



Спасибо, хорошо. [Spas'íbo, khoroshó.] — Thanks, (I'm) good.



Как ваши дела? [Kak váshi d'elá?] — How are you? (formal)



Покá! [Poka'!] — Bye!



Спасибо. [Spas'i'bo.] — Thank you.



Пожáлуйста. [Pozháluysta.] — Please / You're welcome.



С прázдником! [S pra'zdn'ikom!] — Happy holiday!

Scan to hear the phrases and view the lesson online.



https://ellablab.github.io/RussianCourse/lesson1/basic_greetings.html

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