

# **UKRAINIAN SELF-EDUCATOR**

by  
HONORE EWACH, B. A.



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## **For The Beginners**

### **(Ukrainian Grammar Simplified)**

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**HONORE EWACH, B. A.**

1946

**CULTURE and EDUCATION**

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**Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre  
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## FOREWORD

This book aims to teach the basic elements of Ukrainian in a direct, conversational way, with as little reference to grammatical rules as possible. My purpose is not to discourage with too many grammatical rules and details all such who are very anxious to learn Ukrainian but have no thorough training in grammar.

If you have an intense desire to learn, you may know the contents of this course by heart at the end of two months and be able to carry on simple conversations with Ukrainians. Dictionary in hand, you could learn then more Ukrainian words from Ukrainian books and newspapers, as most of the big Ukrainian words are made up of little Ukrainian words.

Ukrainians take everyone for a bright and quick-witted person. That is the reason why they so often leave out from their speech words which are obvious. It is perfectly correct in Ukrainian to say "It is a man" by using but two words—"To choloveek", dropping out "is a". So be prepared to guess the obvious little words when you start reading Ukrainian. Ukrainians, like the ancient Romans, like to express themselves concisely.

THE AUTHOR

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## **LESSON ONE**

### **Read This Carefully**

In East Europe there is a large Slavic family of languages. The Ukrainian language is one of that family. In importance it comes next to Russian. It is spoken by almost fifty million Ukrainians, being the language of Ukraine. Over a million of Ukrainians live on the North American continent—over 300,000 in Canada and the rest in the United States.

Ukrainian is a language richly endowed with emotional qualities, well adopted to poetry and dramatic expression. By now it has also acquired all the necessary technical and scientific terms. The Ukrainian Academy of Sciences has already published all the necessary Ukrainian handbooks of scientific terminology.

Many centuries ago Latin was the official language of Western Europe and England. In the Balkans and East Europe the Slavs wrote in the so-called Old Slavonic. Such was the literary language, with a strong admixture of Ukrainian words, of the Ukrainian authors to the end of the eighteenth century. The first book written

in pure Ukrainian appeared in 1798—Ivan Kotlyarevsky's *Travesty of Aeneid*. Since then Ukraine produced a whole gallery of great writers, such as Hrihoriy Kvitka, Taras Shevchenko, Maria Markovich (Marko Vowchok), Panko Kulish, Stepan Rudansky, Ivan Nechuy-Levitsky, Ivan Franko, Lesya Ukrainka, Mikhaylo Kotsyubinsky, Olha Kobilyanska, Vasil Stèfanik, and others. The greatest among them was Taras Shevchenko. His poems woke up Ukraine to a new life as a nation. The dominant note of Ukrainian literature is its humaneness—the warm, heart-felt sympathy for people, especially the people who are not given a fair chance in life. In addition, Ukrainians possess a very rich folklore—the oral literature, consisting of folk songs, proverbs, fairy tales, legends, etc.

## **LESSON TWO**

### **The Simplicity of Ukrainian Language**

If you know Latin or Greek, you know how fully inflected those languages are. Ukrainian words undergo as many changes as Latin or Greek, and yet Ukrainian is not a hard language to learn. There are very few irregular forms of Ukrainian nouns and verbs. Besides, Ukrainians

leave out from their speech all the words that are obvious, easily guessed.

Due to the richness in case-endings of their nouns, Ukrainians have no such little worlds as the English “an” and “the” or the French “la”, “le”, and “les”. Instead of saying “an apple” or “the apple” Ukrainians simply say “apple” yabluko.

The introductory English “there” is also omitted in Ukrainian. “There is a girl here” is translated into Ukrainian by three words, thus—“Tut ye dyeevchina” (here is girl).

The introductory English “it is” is also omitted in Ukrainian. “It is time to go” is translated simply as “Chas eeti” (time - go).

In the above sentence, “it is time to go”, there is the infinitive form of verb “to go”. Ukrainians do not use any such auxiliary words as “to” to express the infinitive form of the verb.

Such forms of the copula verb as “am”, “is” and “are” have only one form in Ukrainian—ye. “Ye” is the only form of copula verb for all the persons, singular and plural. But as it is not a real verb, expressing some action or description, but a linking verb, Ukrainians in most cases omit



it. "I am a doctor" is translated in Ukrainian simply as "Ya doktor" (I doctor), the omitted "ye" is expressed audibly by a little pause. Of course, the copula verb "to be" is fully expressed in Ukrainian in its future and past forms, for there it expresses also the time.

You will like best of all the simplicity of Ukrainian spelling. Ukrainians write exactly the way they talk, marking down on the paper every sound of the words with a separate letter. They have no silent letters, like in French and English. A Ukrainian writes down the English words "tomb", "bomb", "fight" and "ride" as "toom", "bom", "fayt" and "rayd". If you pronounce your English words slowly they can be written down even by a Ukrainian who knows no English at all, — of course, in Ukrainian letters.

If a Ukrainian heard some little boy recite slowly "Mary had a little lamb", he would write it down according to the Ukrainian orthography, in Ukrainian letters, thus:

"Meree hed a litl lem,  
Its flees woz hvayt ez snow,  
End evreewer det Meree went  
De lem woz shoor to gow.

In Ukrainian letters it looks like this:

Мері гед е литл лем,  
Иц фліс воз гвайт ез снов,  
Енд еврївер дет Мері вент  
Де лем воз шюр ту гов.

After a little study you will also discover how simply Ukrainians conjugate their verbs.

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## LESSON THREE

### Useful Ukrainian Expressions

Pronounce in the English transcription of Ukrainian words in this book “a” as in father, “o” as in for, “u” as in put, “e” as “a” in cat, “i” as in fit, “kh” as “ch” in loch, and “zh” as “s” in pleasure, “ee” as in feet, stressing the syllable written in capital letters. As Ukrainians pronounce their words clearly, syllable by syllable, we have divided some Ukrainian words into syllables by dashes, thus — Shev-CHEN-ko. The soft Ukrainian consonants are marked either by “y” after them or simply by making them capital, thus — lyaL-ka (doll).

1. Good morning and Good day — DobrideN!  
(dob-RI-deN)

2. How do you do? — Yak sya mayete? (MA-ye-te)

3. Fine! — Dobre! (DOB-re)
4. Not so well — Ne duzhe dobre. (DU-zhe DOB-re)
5. A fine day! — Harniy DeN! (HAR-niy deN)
6. It's so warm — Tak teplo! (TEP-lo)
7. Do you smoke? — Chi kurite? (KU-ri-te)
8. Yes, I do smoke — Tak, kuryu. (KU-ryu)
9. Have a cigarette — ZakureeT sobee (za-ku-REET so-BEE), literally "Have a smoke".
10. Thanks — Dyakuyu. (DYA-ku-yu)
11. Will you have a drink? — Napyetesya? (napye-TE-sya), literally "Will you drink?"
12. Gee, this beer is good! — Nu, ot dobre pivo! (Nu, ot DOB-re PI-vo)
13. Well, let's go now to a restaurant — Nu, teper khodyeem do restoranu. (Nu, te-PER kho-DEEM do res-to-RA-nu)
14. Let's go! — To khodyeem! (to kho-DYEEM)
15. Let's sit here — Syedaymo tut! (syee-DAY-mo tut)
16. Let's start with beet-soup — Peechnemo borshchem. (peech-NE-mo bor-SHCHEM)
17. Pass me some bread, please — Proshu, po-

dayte Khleeba. (PRO-shu, po-DAY-te KHL YEE-ba)

18. Now we shall eat “vareniki” — Teper budemo yeesti vareniki. (te-PER bu-DE-mo YEE-sti va-RE-ni-ki)

19. Vareniki are good! — Vareniki dobre! (va-RE-ni-ki DOB-ree). (Vareniki are a sort of Ukrainian dumplings with cheese, potatoes, cabbage, or meat. They are called by western Ukrainians “pi-ro-HI”.)

20. Dip your vareniki in cream — machayte vareniki v smetanu. (ma-CHAY-te va-RE-ni-ki v sme-TA-nu).

21. Help yourself — veezmeeT sobee (veez-MEET so-BEE), or simply — Proshu (PRO-shu), which means literally “please”.

22. Thank you very much — Dyakuyu shchi-ro. — (DYA-ku-yu SHCHI-ro), literally “I thank you sincerely”.

23. How much for the dinner? — SkeeLki za obed? (SKEEL-ki za o-BEED)

24. Forty cents — Sorok tsenteev (SO-rok TSEN-teev)

25. Good-bye! — Do pobachenya! (do po-BA-che-nya) — meaning literally “Till we see each other again”, French “Au revoir!”

## LESSON FOUR

### Read Aloud

#### 1. RA-no. Rano.

It is morning. (Notice that the introductory English phrase “It is” is not necessary in Ukrainian. The word “rano” sometimes means also “early”.)

#### 2. Chas vsta-VA-ti. Chas vstavati.

(It is) time to get up. (“Vstavati” is an example of the infinitive form of verb in Ukrainian. It means “to get up”.)

#### 3. Ya vsta-YU. Ya vstayu.

I get up, or I am getting up.

#### 4. Ti vsta-YESH. Ti vstayesh.

You get up or you are getting up. (In speaking to children, or to very intimate friends, Ukrainians use the pronoun “ti”. For instance, the English sentence “You, Johnny, come here” would be translated into Ukrainian thus: “Ti, Ivanku, khodi syudi”. “Ti” is used in Ukrainian in the same way as “tu” in French or “du” in German. “Ti” is also used in speaking to God or a very distinguished person, like the English “thou”. In polite speech Ukrainians always use the courteous “vi”, meaning “you”, the French “vous”.)

**5. Veen vsta-YE. Veen vstaye.**

He is getting up.

**6. Vo-NA vsta-YE. Vona vstaye.**

She is getting up.

**7. Vo-NO vsta-YE. Vono vstaye.**

It is getting up. (“Vono” (it) in this example could be referring to the Ukrainian word “ditya”, meaning — child, a word of neuter gender.)

**8. Mi vsta-ye-MO. Mi vstayemo.**

We are getting up.

**9. Vi vsta-ye-TE. Vi vstayete.**

You are getting up. (“Vi” is the polite Ukrainian form of address. “Vi, mammo, dobree” means “You, mother, are good”. It is also the form of personal pronoun used in speaking to many people — the plural form. “Vi dobree voyaki” means “You are good soldiers”. The words “ti” and “vi” begin with capitals in Ukrainian letters, thus — Ti, Vi. But “ya”, meaning “I”, is never written with capital letter, unless it stands at the beginning of a sentence.)

**10. Vo-NI vsta-YUT. Voni vstayuT.**

They are getting up.

**11. Ya vmi-VA-yu RU-ki. Ya vmivayu ruki.**

I am washing my hands, or I wash my hands.

**12. Vmi-VA-yu-sya. Vmivayusya.**

I wash myself. (Notice that the personal pronoun “ya” is left out in the above example. The syllable — sya — means “self”. With one exception, it is always attached to the end of the verb. The exception is “Yak sya mayete?” Ukrainian personal pronouns cannot be left out only in the past tense. Later on you will see the reason why).

**13. Syee-DA-yu ee yeem. Syedayu ee yeem.**

I sit down and eat.

**14. Yeem KA-shu. Yeem kashu.**

I am eating porridge.

**15. Mi vsyee yee-MO KA-shu. Mi vsyee yeemo kashu.**

We all eat porridge. (“Kasha” means porridge. “Kasha dobra” means “Porridge is good”. But when “Kasha” becomes the object of eating it is put, the grammarians would say, into an accusative case which is indicated by the change of the final ending “a” into “u”. The ordinary form of the noun, like “kasha”, is said to be in the nominative case. The nouns that end in “a”, like “kasha”, in Ukrainian are of feminine gender.

## EXAMINE THIS CAREFULLY

Present Tense of *vstavati*, *vmivati*, *vmivatisya*,  
*yeesti*

1. *Ya vsta-yu, ti vsta-yesh, veen, vona, vono vsta-ye, mi vstaye-mo, vi vstaye-te, voni vsta-yuT.*

2. *Ya vmiva-yu, ti vmiva-yesh, veen, vona, vono vmiva-ye, mi vmivaye-mo, vi vmivaye-te, voni vmiva-yuT.*

3. *Ya vmivayusya, ti vmivayeshsya, veen, vona, vono vmivayesya, mi vmivayemosya, vi vmivayetesya, voni vmivayuTsya.*

4. *Ya syeeda-yu, ti syeeda-yesh, veen, vona, vono syeeda-ye, mi syeedaye-mo, vi syeedaye-te, voni syeeda-yuT.*

## B U T

5. *Ya yeem, ti yeesi (ti yeesh, colloquially), veen, vona, vono yeesT, mi yeemo, vi yeeste, voni yeedyat.*

## LESSON FIVE

Read this aloud and get used to the Ukrainian  
way of writing

1. RA-no. Rano.

РА-но. Рано.

2. Chas vsta-VA-ti. Chas vstavati.

Час вста-ВА-ти. Час вставати.



3. Ya vsta-YU. Ya vstayu..  
Я вста-Ю. Я встаю.
4. Ti vsta-YESH. Ti vstayesh  
Ти вста-ЄШ. Ти встаєш.
5. Veen vsta-YE. Veen vstaye.  
Він вста-Є. Він встає.
6. Vo-NA vsta-YE. Vona vstaye.  
Во-НА вста-Є. Вона встає.
7. Vo-NO vsta-YE. Vono vstaye.  
Во-НО вста-Є. Воно встає.
8. Mi vsta-ye-MO. Mi vstayemo.  
Ми вста-є-МО. Ми встаємо.
9. Vi vsta-ye-TE. Vi vstayete.  
Ви вста-є-ТЕ. Ви встаєте.
10. Vo-NI vsta-YUT. Voni vstayuT.  
Во-НИ вста-ЮТЬ. Вони встають.
11. Ya vmi-VA-yu RU-ki. Ya vmivayu ruki.  
Я вми-БА-ю РУ-ки. Я вмиваю руки.
12. Vmi-VA-yu-sya. Vmivayusya.  
Вми-БА-ю-ся. Вмиваюся.
13. Syee-DA-yu ee yeem. Syedayu ee yeem.  
Сі-ДА-ю і їм. Сідаю і їм
14. Yeem KA-shu. Yeem kashu.  
Їм КА-шу. Їм кашу.
15. Mi vsyee yee-MO KAshu. Mi vsyee yeemo  
kashu.  
Ми всі ї-МО КА-шу. Ми всі їмо кашу.

### Present Tense of

**vstavati, vmivati, vmivatisya, syeedati, yeesti**  
**вставати, вмивати, вмиватися, сідати, їсти.**

1. Ya vstayu, ti vstayesh, veen, vona, vono vstaye,

Я встаю, ти встаєш, він, вона, воно встає.

mi vstayemo, vi vstayete, voni vstayuT.

ми встаємо, ви встаєте, вони встають.

2. Ya vmivayu, ti vmivayesh, veen, vona, vono

Я вмиваю, ти вмиваєш, він, вона, воно

vmivaye, mi vmivayemo, vi vmivayete, voni

вмиває, ми вмиваємо, ви вмиваєте, вони

vmivayuT.

вмивають.

3. Ya vmivayusya, ti vmivayeshsya, veen, vona,

Я вмиваюся, ти вмиваєшся, він, вона,

vono vmivayeTsya, mi vmivayemosya, voni vmi-

воно вмивається, ми вмиваємося, вони

vayuTsya

вмиваються.

4. Ya syeedayu, ti syeedayesh, veen, vona, vono

Я сідаю, ти сідаєш, він, вона, воно

syeedaye, mi syeedayemo, vi syeedayete, voni

сідає, ми сідаємо, ви сідаєте, вони

syeedayuT.

сідають.

5. Ya yeem, ti yeesi (or ti yeesh), veen, vona,

Я їм, ти їси, (ти їш), він, вона, воно їсть.

vono yeesT, mi yeemo, vi yeeste, voni yeedyat'.

... ми їмо, ви їсте, вони їдять.

## LESSON SIX

### Learn this by heart

After a thorough examination of the Ukrainian writing in Lesson Five we come to these conclusions:

Some Ukrainian letters, especially in their capital form, are the same as English. Such are: A - a, E - e, I - i, K - k, M, H, O - o, P, C - c, T, Y - y, X - x.

But only these Ukrainian letters, from the above list, are similar to the English in their pronunciation: A-a, E-e, I-i, K-к, M-м, O-o, C-c, T-т.

You certainly can read the following Ukrainian words, though you have not yet learned the Ukrainian alphabet: TATO (father), MAMA (mother), TAK (yes), KOMA (comma), KIT (cat, reading "I" like in machine), CITKA (net), etc.

But the Ukrainian letter B is always pronounced as V (or as "W" in diphtongs), H as "N", P as "R", Y - y as "u" in put, and X - x as the "ch" in the Scottish word "loch". This last sound is written in Polish and German as

“ch”. Ukrainian C - c is always pronounced as “S”. A - a is always pronounced as in father, and E - e approximately as “e” in bet.

**Ukrainians have six pure vowels:**

A - a, O - o, Y - y, E - e, I - i, И - и

As you see, only the last vowel is unfamiliar to you. It is pronounced approximately like the English “i” in “fit” or “y” in “myth”. The other pure Ukrainian vowels always retain the same pronunciation. They are pronounced as purely as in French or Italian. A is always pronounced as “a” in father, O as in “more”, Y as “u” in “put”, E under stress as the English “a” in “had”, otherwise as simple “e” in “bed”, I always as “i” in “police” or “machine”.

**In addition, Ukrainians have four yotated vowels that have the “y” sound in front of them:**

Я - я, Ю - ю, Є - є, І - і,

which are pronounced as YA, YOU, YE, YEE. They are but modified forms of A, Y, E, and I.

a) Only one Ukrainian yotated vowel, the last one, is always used but for one purpose, namely, for the YEE sound syllable. Here are some Ukrainian words with the YEE vowel:

Україна, їсти, їхати, в'їхати,

which are pronounced as U-kra-YEE-na (Uk-

raine), YEES-ti (to eat), YEE-kha-ti (to ride), and VYEE-kha-ti (to enter riding).

The other Ukrainian yotated vowels, YA, YOU, YE are used either like the YEE vowel above or simply as the SOFTENING VOWELS.

**b) The yotated Ukrainian vowels used as the SOFTENING VOWELS are the following:**

Я - я, Ю - ю, Є - є

The softening Ukrainian vowels are used only after the so-called Ukrainian soft consonants. In fact, they are written after the soft consonants in order to mark the soft pronunciation of the consonants. When a soft Ukrainian consonant comes at an end of a syllable or a word it is marked by a special Ukrainian letter which is known as the soft sign or, more accurately, as the softening sign (mya-KIY znak).

In the following examples the yotated vowels are used as the softening vowels:

Ню Йорк, сяду, він лє воду,  
which are pronounced as New York, SYA-du (I will sit down), and veen llye VO-du (he pours water).

**The ordinary Ukrainian consonants are:**

1. Б - б, 2. В - в, 3. Г - г, 4. Г - г, 5. Д - д,  
6. Ж - ж, 7. З - з, 8. Й - й, 9. К - к, 10. Л - л,  
11. М - м, 12. Н - н, 13. П - п, 14. Р - р, 15. С - с,

16. Т - т, 17. Ф - ф, 18. Х - х, 19. Ц - ц, 20. Ч - ч, 21. Ш - ш, 22. Щ - щ, 23. Дж - дж, 24. Дз - дз.

**Their approximate English sound value:**

1. B as in Bob, 2. V as in vest, has w sound only in diphthongs aw and ow, 3. H as in hat, 4. G as in goose, 5. D as in daddy, 6. the sound of "s" in measure, French j, 7. Z as in buzz, 8. Y as in yes, 9. K as in kick, 10. L as in look, 11. M as in mother, 12. N as in Nancy, 13. P as in Peter, 14. R as in Russia, 15. S as in sister, 16. T as in Tom, 17. F as in France, 18. the sound of "ch" in loch, transcribed in this book as "kh", 19. the sound of "ts" in hats, 20. Ch as in chair, 21. Sh as in shoe, 22. the double sound of "sh" and "ch" pronounced in rapid succession, as in "the English church", 23. J as in John, 24. the sound of "ds" in hands.

There are soft consonants in English as well as in Ukrainian. For instance, a well-educated Englishman or American pronounces the first letter of New York softly. He also pronounces softly the "d" sound in "dew" and the "t" sound in "steward". There are more soft consonants in Irish, Welsh, Breton, and the Gaelic of the Scottish highlanders. The soft "n" is written in French and Italian as "gn". There is also soft "l" in French and Italian. Such and other soft conson-

ants abound in the Slavic languages. That is the reason why the Slavic peoples of Europe have invented special yotated forms of vowels, a softening sign, and other orthographical marks for the marking of the soft consonants, as such consonants have no special forms of letters. (Only the Servian soft L and N and the Polish hard L have special letters.)

When you try to pronounce a soft Ukrainian consonant put your tongue in the position in the mouth as if you were going to pronounce just an ordinary consonant of the same category, but press your tongue against the palate more lightly. But the best method for you would be to get hold, for an hour or two, of a Ukrainian and ask him to pronounce for you the soft Ukrainian consonants. They are not hard to pronounce once you learn the trick how to pronounce them correctly.

These are the soft Ukrainian consonants, in combination with the softening sign:

ДЬ (д-ь), ЗЬ, ЛЬ, НЬ, СЬ, ТЬ, ЦЬ, ДЗЬ.

(In Latin script they can be marked as dj, zj, lj, nj, sj, tj, cj or zj, and dzj, where “j” has the value of the English “y” in “yes”.)

There is but one Ukrainian vowel which has no yotated form and is never used for the

softening of the consonants. That vowel is и. It never takes the “y” sound or the sign of softening in front of it.

It is otherwise with the pure vowel “O”. It has no yotated form, but it can take in front of it both the “y” sound and the sound of softening. For instance:

Йосиф, Йордан, Нью Йорк, льох, льожа,  
which are pronounced as Yo-sif, Yor-DAN, New York, lyokh (cellar), LYO-zha (lodge).

On the other hand, the pure vowel “i” is always regarded as the soft vowel, no matter where it stands. The reason why it is regarded as the ever soft vowel is this. No matter what consonant comes in front of the Ukrainian “i” it acquires at least partial softening. For instance, even the “v” consonant in the word “veen” (he) is pronounced more softly than in the word “vona” (she). That is the reason why Ukrainians write “i” also after the soft consonants.

**The examples of the use of “i” after the soft consonants:**

дівчина, зірка, лід, Ніна, сірка, тітка, ціна, дзінь!  
which are pronounced as DYEEV-chi-na (girl), ZYEER-ka (small star), lyeed (ice), NYEE-na (Nina, girl’s name), SYEER-ka (sulphur), TYEET-ka (aunt), tsee-NA (price), dzeeN! (the



sound made by the falling coin on the hard ground).

In order to attain exact pronunciation Ukrainians sometimes put an apostrophe (') in front of the yotated vowels if such vowels come after the "hard" Ukrainian consonants. They write the words "ryad" (row or file) and "bur'-yan thus: ряд, бур'ян

as they have a heavily trilled "r" (the French, Irish and Scottish "r") and a "softly" trilled "r", closely related to the English "r" as it is pronounced in the United States and Canada.

This rule is strictly applied in the books that are printed in Ukraine at present.

But the western Ukrainians predominantly pronounce all their r's with a heavily trill of the tongue, therefore, some of them prefer to omit the apostrophe in front of the yotated vowels. Since they pronounce both ряд and бур'ян with a "hard" R sound, they write such words simply as ряд and бурян.

**IMPORTANT. Read carefully the above lesson several times and learn by heart all the Ukrainian letters.**

## LESSON SEVEN

### Dinner Time

(Po-LUD-ne)

1. **Chas na o-BEED. Time for dinner.** (“Na” means on, but used here in the sense of the English “for”.)

Час на о-БІД. Час на обід.

2. **MA-mo, ya KHO-chu YEES-ti. Mother, I am hungry.** (Literally “Mother, I want to eat”.)

МА-мо, я ХО-чу ЇС-ти. Мамо, я хочу їсти.

3. **PER-she vmiy so-BEE RU-ki, Ee-VAN-ku! First wash your hands, Johnny!**

ПЕР-ше вмий со-БІ РУ-ки, і-ВАН-ку! Перше вмий собі руки, Іванку!

4. **MA-mo, de MI-lo? Mother, where is the soap?** (The phrase “is the” is omitted).

МА-мо, де МИ-ло? Мамо, де мило?

5. **MI-lo tut, SIN-ku. The soap is here, sonny.** (“Is” omitted).

МИ-ло тут, СИН-ку. Мило тут, синку.

6. **A rush-NIK de? And where is the towel?**

А руш-НИК де? А рушник де?

NOTE. It is time to draw your attention to the fact that every language has its own peculiar ways of expression. As you have been told before, Ukrainians quite often do not express some

of the obvious little words. Thus Ukrainians attain conciseness in their language. But don't you ever think that the Ukrainian ways of saying are ungrammatical! The Ukrainian grammar, like Latin, strongly approves of all the possible ways which help to attain brevity and clarity in the language. By and by you will discover much natural beauty in the short-cuts and the poetic ways of expression in the Ukrainian language.

**7. Rush-NIK? U TE-be v ru-KAKH! Ot za-BUD-ko! (za-bud-ko). The towel? It is in your hands! What a scatter-brain!**

Руш-НИК? У ТЕ-бе в ру-КАХ! От за-БУДЬ-ко! Рушник? У тебе в руках! От забудько!

**8. Ya Du-zhe pe-re-pro-Sha-yu vas, Ma-mo. I am very sorry, mother.**

Я ДУ-же пе-ре-про-ША-ю вас, МА-мо. Я дуже перепрошаю вас, мамо.

**9. Te-PER syee-DAY YEES-ti, meey KHLOP-che! Now sit down and eat, my boy.**

Те-ПЕР сі-ДАЙ ЇС-ти, мій ХЛОП-че! Тепер сідай їсти, мій хлопче!

**10. A to DOB-ra ka-PUS-ta, MA-mo! What a good cabbage-soup, mother!**

А то ДОБ-ра ка-ПУС-та, МА-мо. А то добра капуста, мамо.

**11. Yeej, yeej, SIN-ku. Ya va-RI-la MYA-so**

**v ka-PUS-tyee. Eat, sonny, eat, I cooked some meat in the cabbage-soup.**

Їдж, їдж, СИН-ку! Я ва-РИ-ла МЯ-со в ка-ПУС-ті. Їдж, їдж, синку! Я варила мясо в капусті.

**12. DAY-te shche MAS-la, PRO-shu. Give me more butter, please.**

ДАЙ-те ще МАС-ла, ПРО-шу. Дайте ще масла, прошу.

**13. Na! MAS-lo DOB-ree YEES-ti. Here, butter is good to eat.** (In speaking to a child say "Na!" The polite form is "Nate!" These two words are very expressive and useful in Ukrainian. They can be translated into English only by a combination of several words. "Na" and "nate" mean "Here, take some" or "Here, take it". They can also be translated as "Help yourself".)

На! МАС-ло ДОБ-ре ЇС-ти. На! Масло добре їсти.

**14. CHA-yu shche KHO-chu, MA-mo. I want more tea, mother.** (Chayu is the genitive form of the word "chay" (tea). When a Ukrainian wishes to say that he wants "some" tea, coffee, bread, or some other food he expresses the idea of "some" or "part of" by putting the word in its genitive case, like the above.)

Ча-ю ще ХО-чу, МА-мо. Чаю ще хочу, мамо.

**15. Mo-lo-KO piy, KHLOP-che! Mo-lo-KO**

**LYEEP-she veed CHA-yu. Drink milk, (my) boy. Milk is better than tea.**

Мо-ло-КО пий, ХЛОП-че! Мо-ло-КО ЛІП-ше від ЧА-ю. Молоко пий, хлопче! Молоко ліпше від чаю.

**16. Nu, to DAY-te mo-lo-KA. Well, then give me some milk.**

Ну, то ДАЙ-те мо-ло-КА! Ну, то дайте молока!

**17. SPRAW-dyee ti YEES-ti KHO-tyeev! Vse yak mee-TEL-ko-yu za-MEEV! You really were hungry! You swept away everything like with a broom! (Literally "You really wanted to eat".)**

СПРАВ-ді ти ЇС-ти хо-ТІВ! Все як мі-ТЕЛ-ко-ю за-МІВ. Справді ти їсти хотів. Все як мітел-кою замів.

**18. A TA-to ko-LI priy-DUTT do-DO-mu? By the way, when is father coming home? (When a Ukrainian reminds himself of something more to say he puts an "A" at the beginning of his sentence, meaning literally "but". It is best to translate such an "A" by the English phrase "by the way".)**

А ТА-то ко-ЛИ прий-ДУТЬ до-ДО-му? А тато коли прийдуть додому?

**19. TA-to priy-DE do-DO-mu TROSH-ki peez-NYEE-she. Father will come home a little later.**

ТА-то прий-ДЕ до-ДО-му ТРОШ-ки піз-Ні-ше. Тато прийде додому трошки пізніше.

**20. Do po-BA-che-nya, MA-mo! Bye, bye, mother, or, Au revoir, mother!**

До по-БА-че-ння, МА-мо! До побачення, мамо!

## **LESSON EIGHT**

### **Let's read Ukrainian!**

Unless you have learned thoroughly Lesson Six, you cannot learn the art of reading Ukrainian. So, if you are still not sure about some of the Ukrainian letters and how to read them, turn back to Lesson Six and learn it thoroughly now. If you were clever, you have undoubtedly already learned the art of reading Ukrainian from the parallel lines of Ukrainian sentences both in the English and the Ukrainian letters.

If you can, get hold of a Ukrainian and ask him to read with you some of the Ukrainian passages in this book. But even with such help, you should be satisfied for the start, if your Ukrainian pronunciation is approximately correct. By and by you will gain more fluency and correctness in your Ukrainian reading.

Now, remember this, no matter how slowly you pronounce your Ukrainian words, Ukrainians will understand you, as long as you pronounce

your words syllable by syllable, thus—dic-tio-na-ry (slow-NIK). You should never slur any of the Ukrainian letters or syllables, nor insist on running one syllable into another. In reading Ukrainian, like in reading Latin, you must accustom your eyes to see all the letters of the words and your mouth to pronounce them. Remember that there are no silent Ukrainian letters, except the “soft sign” which looks like a letter, but is really only an orthographical mark.

In speaking or reading Ukrainian open your mouth wide, as if for singing. Keep your lower jaw and lips in a relaxed position. Don't make them tense. Nor press your tongue as hard against the palate as in English. Most of the time hold the tip of your tongue just back of the upper teeth—not as far forward as for the English “th”, nor as far back as for the English “t”, “d”, and “n”. Press the tip of the tongue against the palate even more lightly when you pronounce Ukrainian soft consonants. Now, go ahead and gently but firmly “bite off” your Ukrainian syllables in the following exercises.

#### EXERCISES IN UKRAINIAN READING

1. У-кра-ї-на ве-ЛИ-ка. Україна велика.

U-kra-YEE-na ve-LI-ka. Ukraine is big.

2. БІЛЬ-ша від ФРАН-ції. Більша від Франції.

BEELL-sha veed FRAN-tsyee-yee. Bigger than France.

4. У-кра-Ї-на на ПІВ-ніч від ЧОР-но-го МО-ря.  
Україна на північ від Чорного моря.

U-kra-YEE-na na PEEV-nyeech veed CHOR-no-ho MO-rya. Ukraine (lies) to the north of the Black Sea.

5. Най-БІЛЬ-ша і-Ї рі-КА — Дніп-РО. Найбіль-ша її ріка — Дніпро.

Nay-BEELL-sha yee-YEE ree-KA — Dneer-RO. Its biggest river is Dnyeer-RO.

6. КИ-їв — сто-ЛИ-ця У-кра-Ї-ни. Київ — столиця України.

KI-yeev — sto-LI-tsyа U-kra-YEE-ni. Kiev is the capital of Ukraine.

7. Про-ДУК-ти У-кра-Ї-ни — пше-НИ-ця, ву-Гі-лля, за-ЛІ-зо, ман-ГАН і НАФ-та. Продукти України — пшениця, вугілля, залізо, манган і нафта.

Pro-DUK-ti U-kra-YEE-ni — pshe-NI--tsyа, vu-HEE-lyа, za-LYEE-zo, man-GAN ee NAF-tа. Ukraine's products are: wheat, coal, iron, manganese, and oil.

8. У-кра-ЇН-ці слав-ЛЯТЬ-ся СПІ-вом. Українці славляться співом.

U-kra-YEEN-tsyee slaw-LYETT-sya SPEE vom. Ukrainians are famous for their singing.



9. Най-БІЛЬ-ший їх ге-РОЙ — Бог-ДАН Хмель-НИЦЬ-кий.

Nay-BEELL-shiy yeekh he-ROY — Boh-DAN KmehL-NITS-kiy. Their greatest hero is Bohdan Khmelnytsky.

10. Най-БІЛЬ-ший їх по-ЕТ — Та-РАС Шев-ЧЕН-ко.

Nay-BEELL-shiy yeekh po-ET — Ta-RAS Shev-CHEN-ko. Their greatest poet is Taras Shevchenko.

11. У-кра-ЇН-ські ТАН-ці — коза-ЧОК, го-ПАК, ар-КАН і ко-ло-МИЙ-ка. Українські танці — козачок, гопак, аркан і коломийка.

U-kra-YEEN-Ski TAN-tsyee — ko-za-CHOK, ho-PAK, ar-KAN ee ko-lo-MIY-ka. Their dances are kozachok, hopak, arkan and kolomyika.

12. Ї-ДЯТЬ у-кра-ЇН-ці борщ, ва-РЕ-ни-ки і ГО-луб-ці. Їдять українці борщ, вареники і голубці.

Yee-dyaT u-kra-yeen-tsyee borshch, va-RE-ni-ki ee HO-lub-tsyee. Ukrainians eat borshch, vaRE-ni-ki, and holubtsyee.

NOTE. Borshch, vareniki, and holubtsyee are typical Ukrainian dishes. In English they could be called beet-soup, stuffed dumplings, and cabbage rolls.

## LESSON NINE

### The Ukrainian Action Words

Every language has two main classes of words: words that serve as names for things and living beings and words that describe some kind of action, movement, etc. The words of action are called verbs. Some languages make greater use of the name words, that is, nouns, others use more verbs. Ukrainian language is very rich, indeed, in verbs. That is why we should get well acquainted right at the start with the workings of the Ukrainian verbs.

There are two main functions for verbs: they tell of some work or movement and they indicate at what time the work or movement was done. In most languages the verbs undergo peculiar changes in their form to indicate either the person who does some work or the time of the work, or both. The special words that indicate the persons are known as pronouns, that is, the words that stand instead of nouns. The personal pronouns are: I, you singular, he, she, it, we, you plural, and they. In some languages the personal pronouns are also expressed in the endings of the verbs. In English there is but a remnant of such endings. We say in English, for instance,

I work, you work, he, she, it works, we work, you work, and they work. It is only in the third person singular that there is a peculiar personal ending. But it was otherwise in the Old English. Especially the ancient languages of the Greeks and Romans had a special verb ending for every person. Examine, for instance, the present tense of the Latin word “amare” (to love): amo — I love, amas — you love, amat — he, she or it loves, amamus—we love, amatis—you love, amanti — they love. Ukrainian verbs undergo similar changes for person and time as Latin, yet it is easier to learn to conjugate (change) Ukrainian verbs for person and time than Latin. We shall see later why.

Ukrainian verbs have as many tenses (time indications) as Latin or English, yet they undergo fundamental changes but in two tenses. Like the English verbs, Ukrainian verbs have but two main tenses—the present tense and the past tense. All other tenses are built up either through the help of special prefixes or through the aid of such little helping words as “was”, “were” and “would”—buw, buli and bi.

Ukrainian verbs, like in other Slavic languages, undergo such peculiar changes for tenses that we usually speak of the perfective and

imperfective aspects of the Ukrainian verbs. The fact is that Ukrainian verbs can add in front of them such little particles of speech, known as prefixes, as po-, na-, za-, z-, pere-, pri-, veed-, od-, etc., in order to attain more precision. The imperfective verbs denote an action that keeps on going. The perfective verbs, on the other hand, denote actions or movements that have already come or will come to conclusion. However, you should not be misled by such terms as the “perfective” and “imperfective” aspects of Ukrainian verbs, because the Ukrainian verbs coincide nicely in their tenses with similar tenses of the English verbs. Here we give the complete scheme of Ukrainian conjugation of verbs. For this purpose we shall use the verb “pisati”—to write.

### READ ALOUD

1. Ya PI-shu. Ya pishu. I write. (Present tense, imperfective aspect.)
2. Ya pi-SAW. Ya pisaw. I wrote. (Past tense, imperfective aspect.)
3. Ya na-pi-SAW. Ya napisaw. I have written. (Past perfect, perfective aspect.)
4. Ya buw na-pi-SAW. Ya buw napisaw. I had written. (Pluperfect, perfective aspect.)

5. Ya na-PI-shu. Ya napishu. I will write. I will have written. (Future perfect, perfective aspect.)
6. Ya BU-du pi-SA-ti. Ya budu pisati. I shall write. (Simple future, imperfective aspect.)
7. Ya pi-SA-ti-mu. Ya pisatimu. I shall write. (Simple future, same as No. 6).
8. Ya pi-SAW bi. I would write. (Conditional and subjunctive.)
9. Pi-SHI! Pishi! Write! (familiar form). Pi-SHEET! PisheeT! Write! (polite form). This is the ordinary Imperative Mood.
10. Na-pi-SHI! Napishi! Write! Na-pi-SHEET! NapisheeT! Write! (imperative perfective). Imperative perfective is used very often in Ukrainian. It could be translated "have it written", but it sounds much more natural in Ukrainian. It really means "Be sure that you write it!"

## **LESSON TEN**

### **Ukrainian Women Speak Differently**

A young boy speaking English in the dark could be easily mistaken for a girl. Ukrainians make no such mistakes. When you hear a Ukrainian girl speaking, even in the dark, you cannot

take her by mistake for a boy, as Ukrainian verbs in the past have special feminine endings. A Ukrainian boy says, "Ya pisaw lista" (I was writing a letter), but a Ukrainian girl says, "Ya pisala lista". She would say to her sister "Ti pisala lista". And to her mother she would say about her sister, "Vona pisala lista". In short, Ukrainian women have their own special way of talking, ending their verbs in the past, singular, with "la". By analogy Ukrainian verbs in the past are treated as if they were adjectives, that is, such words as good, bad, tall, small, green, black, etc. The endings of Ukrainian verbs in the past are also uniform with Ukrainian nouns.

There are three main kinds of Ukrainian nouns: feminine, masculine, and neuter. Most masculine nouns end in consonants, like cholo-veek (man), voyak (soldier), shofer (chauffeur), etc. Most neuter nouns end either in "o" or "e", milo (soap), tyeelo (body), pero (pen), veekon-tse (a little window), etc. And most feminine nouns end in "a" and "ya", like dyeevchina (girl), shapka (cap), Mariya (Mary). Ukrainians say, "Beela shapka" (a white cap). The adjective "beela" agrees in its ending with "shapka". In the same way the adjectives agree in their endings with masculine and neuter nouns. By

analogy Ukrainians treat their verbs in their past form as if they were adjectives. That is the reason why a Ukrainian man says, "Ya pisaw lista". A little kitten (kotyatko) who talks in a fairy tale might say, "Ya pilo molochko" (I drank milk). And a girl would say, "Ya shila sorochku" (I was sewing a shirt). In other words, a Ukrainian man ends his verbs in the past, singular, with a "w" or "v" sound; a girl ends her verbs in the past, singular, with "la". And a personified thing of neuter gender in Ukrainian would end its verbs in the past, singular, with "lo".

Now, here is a useful hint for you. If you want to put a Ukrainian verb in its past tense form, drop off its last syllable, and put in its place either the Ukrainian "v" (to make it masculine-like), or the syllable "lo" (to make it neuter-like), or the syllable "la" (to make it feminine-like). But there is no gender element in the past tense form of Ukrainian verbs when they are in plural. All Ukrainian verbs end in their past tense plural in "li".

So far we have met such Ukrainian verbs as: buti (to be), vstavati (to get up), syeedati (to sit down), vmivati (to wash something), etc. If we want to put them in the past tense, just

drop off the last syllable “ti”, and add either the letter “v” or the syllables “lo”, “la” or “li” to suit your purpose.

Now, let us see how the Ukrainian word for “write” (pisati) looks in its past tenses.

## **PAST INDEFINITE OF “PISATI”**

(Imperfect)

### **Masculine Form**

(I was writing, etc.)

Я писав, ти писав, він писав.

### **Feminine Form**

(I was writing, etc.)

Я писала, ти писала, вона писала.

### **Neuter Form**

(It was writing, etc.)

Я писало, ти писало, воно писало.

### **Plural Form**

(We were writing, etc.)

Ми писали, ви писали, вони писали.

**NOTE.** As the neuter verb form will be almost useless to you, from now on we shall omit it from our examples of verb forms.



## PAST DEFINITE OF "PISATI"

(Perfect)

(I have written, etc.)

Masculine form	Feminine form	Plural form
я, ти, він написав	я, ти, вона написала	ми, ви, вони написали

## PAST ANTERIOR OF "PISATI"

(Pluperfect)

(I had written, etc.)

Masculine form	Feminine form	Plural form
я, ти, він був написав	я ти, вона була написала	ми, ви, вони були написали

## CONDITIONAL AND SUBJUNCTIVE OF "PISATI"

(I would write, etc.)

Masculine form	Feminine form	Plural form
я, ти, він був би писав був би написав	я ти, вона була б писала була б написала	я, ти, вони були б писали були б написали

NOTE. Once you grasp the idea that Ukrainian verbs have the gender element in them in their past tenses, you will have no other difficulty with the past forms of Ukrainian verbs. They are very simple in comparison with the identical forms in Latin, Greek, or French.

Since most of the Ukrainian verbs assume their perfective aspect by adding some prefix, such as na-, z-, pere-, etc., there are also perfective and imperfective infinitives. For instance, "pisati" is the imperfective infinitive. "Napisati", on the other hand, is treated as the perfective infinitive. For practical purposes both forms of infinitives are given in Ukrainian dictionaries and grammars. In fact, they are treated as separate words. No wonder, some of the prefixes give a different slant to the meaning of the verb. "Ya robiv svoyu robotu" means "I was doing my work," but "Ya zarobiv sobee hroshey" means "I earned some money".

Ukrainians use the perfective forms of verbs as freely as the imperfective. When a Ukrainian says, "Ya napishu lista" (Ya na-PI-shu lis-TA) it does not mean literally "I shall have written a letter", but "I will write a letter" — a solemn promise. Nor does "Ya napisaw lista" (Ya na-pi-SAW lis-TA) mean simply "I have written a letter", but "I wrote a letter" — as a plain statement about the work brought to a definite completion.

## LESSON ELEVEN

### At the store.

#### У крамниці (у крам-НИ-ці)

1. Піди но до крамниці, сину! (Пі-ДИ но до крам-НИ-ці, СИ-ну!)

Go to the store, sonny.

2. Купиш мені хліба, цукру, чаю, кави, молока і цитрин! КУ-пиш ме-НІ ХЛІ-ба, ЧА-ю, КА-ви, мо-ло-КА і цит-РИН!)

Buy for me some bread, sugar, tea, coffee, milk, and lemons. (You will buy for me some bread....)

3. Добре, мамо! Піду. (ДОБ-ре, МА-мо! Пі-ДУ.)

All right, mother. I will go.

4. Іванко прийшов до крамниці. (І-ван-КО прий-ШОВ до крам-НИ-ці.)

Johnny has come to the store.

5. А чого хочеш сьогодні, Іванку? (А чо-ГО ХО-чеш сьо-ГО-дні, І-ВАН-ку?)

Well, what will you have to-day, Johnny?  
(Well, what do you want . . .)

6. Дайте три бохонці хліба, п'ять фунтів цукру. фунт чаю, два фунти кави, кварту молока і чотири цитрині! (ДАЙ-те три БО-хон-ці ХЛІ-ба, п'ять ФУН-тів ЦУК-ру, фунт ЧА-ю, два

ФУН-ти КА-ви і КВАР-ту мо-ло-КА.)

Give me three loaves of bread, five pounds of sugar, one pound of tea, two pounds of coffee, one quart of milk, and four lemons.

7. Отут маєш все. (о-ТУТ МА-єш все.)

Here is everything. (Here you have everything.)

8. А кільки вам належиться? (А КІЛЬ-ко вам на-ЛЕ-житься?)

How much do I owe you? (How much is due to you?)

9. Долара і пів. (До-ЛА-ра і пів.)

Dollar and a half.

10. Ось тут гроші. (Ось тут ГРО-ші.)

Here is the money.

NOTE. For emphasis Ukrainians put the “no” particle at the end of the verb in the imperative mood. “Peedi no” means “Do go”. “Day no menyee” means “Do give it to me”. Another Ukrainian particle used for emphasis is “zhe” or only “zh”. One could say, “Day zhe menyee spokeey”, meaning “Please, do leave me in peace”.

In the above conversation at the store we heard such an expression as “Kupish menyee chay, moloka, kavi”. The regular form of the enumerated things is “chay”, “moloko” and

“kava”, meaning tea, milk, and coffee. Notice the ending of the words “Chay” ends in a consonant “y”. Well, any word that ends in a consonant, like “chay”, sounds man-like, that is, of masculine gender, to Ukrainians. A word like “moloko”, ending in “o”, sounds to Ukrainians as of neuter gender. And all such words like “kava”, ending in “a”, sound to Ukrainians as the woman-like words, that is, of the feminine gender. By nature Ukrainians are very emotional and poetic. That is the reason why, by analogy and through vivid imagination, they put even the names of the trees, animals, articles, etc., into three genders. By their form Ukrainian words for an oak, stone, sword, fist, etc., (dub, kameeN, mech, pyastook, toshcho), are, for instance, of masculine gender. But when a thing, animal, bird, or article has some feminine quality about it, Ukrainians call it by woman-like words, that is, of feminine gender. That is why such Ukrainian words as “verba” (willow), “bereza” (birch-tree), “ptashka” (bird), etc., are of feminine gender. On the other hand, such things that remind one of neither sex were named by Ukrainians in such a way that they are classified as of the neuter gender. Such words usually end either in “o” or in “e”. Mo-

loko (milk), pero (pen), sontse (sun), are of the neuter gender.

Now, if you want to say in Ukrainian that you want **SOME** tea, **SOME** coffee, or **SOME** milk, you change the ending of Ukrainian words thus: Ya khochu chayu, kavi, ee moloka (I want some tea, coffee, and milk). The grammarians say that the words were put in the partitive (part of) genitive case.

## **LESSON TWELVE**

### **Ukrainians think of the future, too**

“Ye u vas tsukor?” means “Is there any sugar at your place?” The storekeeper may answer, “Ye”, meaning “There is”, or “Nema”, meaning “There is none”. “Ye na sveetyee ee dobre ee zlyee lyudi” means “There are good and bad people in the world”. Such are some of the uses of the present tense of the verb “to be” in Ukrainian. In Ukrainian “ye” is the only form of the verb “to be” used, for all personal pronouns.

“Ye” is expressed when it actually points out that there is or exists something. Otherwise, as a linking verb (copula verb), it is implied in the speech by a little pause, but not expressed in writing.

We have already seen how “buti” (to be) is declined in the past definite. In the past it is treated like an adjective, indicating the gender of the person to which it refers.

### **Past Tense of “Buti”**

(masculine)

(I was, we were, etc.)

Я, ти, він був ми були

(feminine)

Я, ти, вона була ми були

(neuter)

Я, ти, воно було ми були

We proceed with every Ukrainian verb in the same way as with “buti” when we put it in the past tense, that is, first of all we drop the last syllable, then add the proper past tense endings: -v(w), -la, -lo, or -li. For instance, in the verb “robiti” we drop “ti” and add the afore-said endings, thus — robiv, robila, robilo, and robili.

You have just seen how easy it is to conjugate a Ukrainian verb in its past tense. When you want to put a Ukrainian verb in a compound past tense, like pluperfect (past anterior), use an auxiliary (helping) verb. In English we use “to have”, “shall” and “will” as auxiliary verbs. For instance, we say, “I have

done my work". In Ukrainian the same sentence would sound thus: "Ya buw zrobiv svoyu robotu". The phrase "have done" is translated into English as "buw zrobiv", that is, "buw" (was) takes the place of the English auxiliary verb "have".

It is also very easy to form the future tense in Ukrainian. But before we can proceed with the future conjugation of Ukrainian verbs we have to know the future of "buti" (to be).

### **The Future Definite (Promissive) of**

#### **БУТИ**

(I will be here, etc.)

Я буду тут	Ми будемо тут
Ти будеш тут	Ви будете тут
Він, вона воно	
буде тут	вони будуть тут

Now, examine thoroughly the present tense of "pisati". Notice that the verb endings are the same in the future definite of "buti" as in the present tense of "pisati". The same is true of other Ukrainian verbs. In other words, the ordinary Ukrainian simple future and the future definite have no special endings. They are formed either through the use of the auxiliary "buti", for instance, "Ya budu pisati lista" (I



shall write a letter), or through the use of a perfective verb. And all the perfective verbs in the future definite tense use the verb endings of the present tense. We shall see this clearly in the following examples:

**The Simple Future of**  
**ПИСАТИ (ТУ РАЙТ)**  
(I shall write)

Я буду писати	Ми будемо писати
Ти будеш писати	Ви будете писати
Він, вона, воно	
буде писати	Вони будуть писати

So, once you learn how to conjugate the future tense of “buti”, you will be able to form the simple future of every imperfective Ukrainian verb. The perfective Ukrainian verbs do not need any help from the auxiliary verb “buti” in the future tense. You can see this in the following example:

**The Future Definite (or Promissive) of**  
**НАПИСАТИ (ТУ ГЕВ РИТТЕН)**  
(I will write, etc.)

Я напишу	Ми напишемо
Ти напишеш	Ви напишете
Він, вона, воно	
напише	Вони напишуть

Now you can see that the future tense of “buti” has the same endings as the verb “pi-sati” in the present tense and in the future definite. In fact, the future definite of “pisati” is exactly like the present tense, but with the prefix “na-” added to it.

In addition, Ukrainian has also a secondary form of the simple future which does not require the auxiliary “buti”. It is but rarely used. You should know about it and be able to recognize it at sight in the Ukrainian books and newspapers, but you need not use it yourself at this stage.

### **The Secondary Simple Future of**

**ПИСАТИ (I shall write, etc.)**

Я писатиму

Ми писатимемо

Ти писатимеш

Ви писатимете,

Він, вона, воно

писатиме

Вони писатимуть

You can readily see that the secondary Simple Future is formed with the infinitive. All that you need to do is to add to the infinitive the following endings: -mu, -mesh, -me, -memo, -mete, and -muT.

NOTE. Since Ukrainians use as often the future definite tense as the simple future, it is best to translate them by such simple English

expressions as “I shall write” (Ya budu pisati) and “I will write”. You must remember that the Ukrainian future definite (perfective) is not so complicated as the English future perfect, future perfect progressive, or future progressive tenses. It is used daily as often as the simple English expressions “I will write”, “I will do”, etc.

The other most often used Ukrainian tenses are: the present tense, past indefinite, past definite, and the anterior past definite (pluperfect). The conditional mood is the same as the subjunctive mood. It is very simple. All that you have to do is to put a particle “bi” after a verb that ends in a consonant, like “Ya pisaw bi” (I would write), or its contracted form “b”, if the verb ends in a vowel, like “Ya pisala b” (I would write — feminine). In the past compound tenses the particles “bi” and “b” usually come after the auxiliary verb “to be”. You can write or say your auxiliary verb “to be” either thus “Ya buw bi pisaw” or “a pisaw bi buw”. Quite often the particles “bi” and “b” are put separately from the verbs of the sentence. For instance, “I would have written to him” can be expressed in Ukrainian thus: “Ya b buw yomu napisaw”.

## LESSON THIRTEEN

### At a Concert

1. Ну, підемо на концерт чи до театру? (Ну, пі-ДЕ-мо на кон-ЦЕРТ чи до те-А-тру?)

Well, shall we go to a concert or a theatre?

2. Ходім на концерт! (Хо-ДИМ на кон-ЦЕРТ!)

Let's go to the concert.

3. Кажуть, що там є добрий співак. (КА-жуть, що там є ДОБ-рий спі-БАК.)

They say that there is a good singer there.

4. Ну, то ходім туди! (Ну, то хо-ДИМ ту-ДИ!)

Well, then let's go there.

5. Ось тут заля, де є концерт. (Ось тут ЗА-ля, де є кон-ЦЕРТ.)

Here is the hall where the concert is.

6. Дайте мені два білети, прошу! (ДАЙ-те ме-НІ два білети, про-ШУ!)

Give me two tickets, please.

7. Ось тут ваші місця. (Ось тут ВА-ші міс-ЦЯ.)

Here are your seats.

8. Та дівчина добре співає. (Та ДІВ-чина ДОБ-ре спі-БА-є.)

That girl sings well.

9. Цей хлопець ще ліпше співає. (Цей ХЛО-пець ще ЛІП-ше спі-БА-є.)

This boy sings even better.

10. Ну, а цей співак найліпше співає. (Ну, а цей спі-ВАК най-ЛІП-ше спі-ВА-є.)

Well, but this singer sings best of all.

11. Він деклямує заскоро. (Він декля-МУ-є за-СКО-ро.)

He recites too fast.

12. Вона гарна дівчина, але не добре співає. (ВОНА ГАР-на ДІВ-чи-на, а-ЛЕ не-ДО-Бре спі-ВА-є.)

She is a pretty girl, but she doesn't sing well.

13. Це добрий був концерт. (Це ДОБ-рий був кон-ЦЕРТ.)

This was a good concert.

14. Ну, міг бути і ліпшим тут і там. (Ну, міг БУ-ти і ЛІП-шим тут і там.)

Well, it could have been better here and there.

15. Зайдім тепер до ресторану. (Зай-ДІМ те-ПЕР до ре-сто-РА-ну.)

Let's go now to a restaurant (or cafe).

NOTE: Such words as "well", "better", "best", "bad", "worse", "worst", etc., are called adverbs if they say something about the action words (the verbs). But if they say something about the doer of the action, like in "Michael is a better singer than John", they are known as adjectives.

(From now on the word-stress will be marked by the syllable put in brackets, thus: добре (доб).)

## LESSON FOURTEEN

### How to count in Ukrainian

1. Один (дин) долар (до).  
One dollar.
2. Два долари (ла).  
Two dollars.
3. Три долари.  
Three dollars.
4. Чотири (ти) долари.  
Four dollars.
5. П'ять долларів.  
Five dollars.
6. Шість долларів.  
Six dollars,        etc.
7. Сім.
8. Вісім (ві).
9. Дев'ять (де).
10. Десять (де).
11. Одинадцять (оди-НАД-цять).
12. Дванадцять (два-НАД-цять).
13. Тринадцять (три-НАД-цять).
14. Чотирнадцять (чо-тир-НАД-цять).
15. П'ятнадцять (п'ятнадцять).

16. Шіснадцять (шіс-НАД-цять).
17. Сімнадцять (сім-НАД-цять).
18. Вісімнадцять (ві-сім-НАД-цять).
19. Дев'ятнадцять (де-в'ят-НАД-цять).
20. Двадцять (ДВАД-цять).
21. Двадцять один долар.  
Twenty one dollars.
22. Двадцять два долари.
25. Двадцять п'ять доларів.
30. Тридцять (ТРИД-цять).
31. Тридцять один.
40. Сорок (СО-рок).
50. П'ятдесять (сять).
60. Шістдесять (десять).
70. Сімдесять (сять).
80. Вісімдесять (сять).
90. Дев'ятьдесять (сять).
100. Сто.
101. Сто один.
200. Двісті (двіс.)
300. Триста (три).
400. Чотириста (ти).
500. П'ять сот.
600. Шість сот.
700. Сім сот.
800. Вісім сот.
900. Дев'ять сот.

1000. Тисяча (ти).

1,000,000. Мільон (он).

2,000,000. Два мільони (о).

10,000,000. Десять мільонів (о).

1945 A. D. — Тисяча дев'ять сот і сорок п'ятий рік по Христі.

First — перший (пер)

Second — другий (дру)

Third — третій (тре)

One quarter — четвертина (ти)

One half — половина (ви)

One and a half — півтора (пів)

NOTE. Such numbers as 1, 2, 3, 10, 100, etc., are known as cardinal, that is, main, and such as 2nd, 3rd, etc., as ordinal, that is, as they come in order. The numbers in Ukrainian are known as “chisleevniki” (leev), that is, numerals. They constitute a separate part of speech. In English grammars they are regarded as adjectives.

The ordinal numbers in Ukrainian are treated like adjectives. If an ordinal number in Ukrainian stands in front of a noun and belongs to it, it is treated like an adjective and declined accordingly, agreeing even with the gender of the noun, like “persha dyeevchina” — the first girl.



## LESSON FIFTEEN

### The words of emotion

Even before people learned to express their thoughts in words they used to make peculiar sounds, exclamations, sighs, etc. They still express their strong feelings likewise. They make such emotional sounds as ugh, oh, ah, pshaw, ouch, etc. Such short words are known as interjections. Most likely all other words, especially words of action, were born of interjections. As Ukrainians are strongly emotional, they have many interjections, too. Here are some Ukrainian interjections:

1. Ой, зуб болить. (Ой, зуб бо-ЛИТЬ.)  
Oh, what a toothache! (Lit. "Oh, a tooth aches.")
2. Ой, йой-йой, яке нещастя! (я-КЕ не-ЩАС-тя.)  
Oh, oh, what a misfortune!
3. Ой, голка вколола в палець. (ГОЛ-ка вко-ЛО-ла в ПА-лець.)  
Ouch, the needle pricked my finger.
4. Ох, ох, тяжко на серці (ТЯЖ-ко на СЕР-ці.)  
Oh, oh, how heavy is my heart.
5. Ха-ха-ха, смішне то. (сміш-НЕ)  
Ha-ha-ha, it's funny.

6. Стук він кулаком об стіл... (ку-ла-КОМ)  
Thump goes his fist on the table. (He thumped his fist against the table.)
  7. А його рушниця бах! (йо-ГО руш-НИ-ця)  
Bang goes his gun!
  8. А риба хвостом тріп-тріп.... (РИ-ба хво-СТОМ)  
Flip-flip-flip goes the fish's tail.
  9. Ура! крикнули вояки. (КРИК-ну-ли во-Я-ки)  
Hurrah, cried the soldiers.
  10. Ц-ц-ц-ц, яка вона гарна; (я-КА во-НА ГАР-на)  
Ts, ts, ts, how pretty she is!
- NOTE. It is possible in Ukrainian to change into an interjection almost every common verb.

## LESSON SIXTEEN

### The little Joining Words

In every language there are little words that are used to show some connection between the words or sentences. In English there are such joining words as "and", "but", "because", "if", etc. They are known as conjunctions. In this lesson we are going to use only the most important Ukrainian conjunctions (spoluchniki.)

1. Папір і перо. (па-ПІР і пе-РО)

2. Перо й папір. (пе-РОЙ па-ПІР)

The pen and the paper. Or: pen and paper.

3. Як є папір, перо та чорнило, то можна писати (Як є па-ПІР, пе-РО та чор-НИ-ло, то МОЖ-на пи-СА-ти.)

If there is paper, pen, and ink, one can write.

4. Він має папір і перо, але не має чорнила. (Він МА-є па-ПІР і пе-РО, а-ЛЕ не МА-є чор-НИ-ла.)

He has paper and pen, but he has no ink.

5. Я не можу писати, бо не маю пера. (Я не МО-жу пи-СА-ти, бо не МА-ю пе-РА.)

I cannot write, because I have no pen.

6. Хоч пера нема, то є олівець. (Хоч пе-РА не-МА, то є о-лі-ВЕЦЬ.)

Though there is no pen, there is a pencil.

7. Коли є олівець, то писати можна. (ко-ЛИ є о-лі-ВЕЦЬ, то пи-СА-ти МОЖ-на.)

If there is a pencil, one can write.

8. Чи сяк чи так, а писати мушу. (Чи сяк чи так, а пи-СА-ти МУ-шу.)

One way or another, I must write. (This way or another, I have to write.)

## **LESSON SEVENTEEN**

### **The Important Little Words**

In every language there are such little words as: on, in, over, below, through, of, from, by, etc. They are little words, but they are very important. Without them it would be impossible to express ourselves clearly, without ambiguity. In many languages they stand in front of the nouns, in others they come after them. There are also languages in which they come both before the nouns and after them. There is evidence that such was also the case with the old Ukrainian language.

Such little words as on, in, of, etc., are known as prepositions. If they come after the nouns they are known as post-positional, or simply as postpositions. Hindustani, for example, has no regular prepositions, but postpositions. The postpositions are usually pronounced in such a manner as if they were part of the nouns. That is why in some languages in time they simply grew into special endings for the nouns. To a great degree this is true, for example, in Turkish, but one can still plainly discern the postpositions. In others, like in Latin, Greek, Russian, Ukrainian, and Polish, the postpositions have so coalesced with the nouns

that they are treated simply as special endings of the nouns, known by grammarians as case-endings. This is the reason why every Ukrainian noun has seven case-endings. For instance, the word “kava” has these six additional endings: kavi, kavee, kavu, kavo, kavoyu, (u) kavee. As can be seen, some case endings are alike or almost alike.

The main business of the prepositions is to tell where the action takes place in regard of some object. For instance, we say, “This book is on the table but the other one is in the book-case.” In Ukrainian this sentence runs thus, “Tsia knizhka **na** **kreesli**, a ta druha **v shafee**.” That is, in Ukrainian prepositions have a special influence on the nouns. They keep company, so to say, with special case-endings. For instance, if you put “na” (on) in front of the noun “kreeslo” (chair), that noun changes its case-endings to “kreesli”.

1. Ворона сидить на дереві. (Во-РО-на си-ДИТЬ на ДЕ-ре-ві.)

A crow is sitting in the tree. (A crow is sitting on....)

2. Ворони пір'я чорне. (Во-РО-ни ПІ-р'я ЧОР-не).  
The crow's feathers are black.

3. Малі пташки тікають від ворони. (Ма-ЛІ пта-

ШКИ ті-КА-ють від во-РО-ни.)

Small birds flee from the crow.

4. До ворони говорив лис. (До во-РО-ни го-во-РИВ лис.)

A fox spoke to the crow.

5. Вороні говорив лис. (Во-РО-ні го-во-РИВ лис.)

A fox spoke to the crow.

6. Вороно, ти добре співаєш. (Во-РО-но ти ДО-бре спі-ВА-єш.)

Crow, you sing well. (Crow, thou singest well.)

7. Хто хотів би бути вороною? (Хто хо-ТІВ би БУ-ти во-РО-но-ю?)

Who would like to be a crow?

8. З вороною лис говорив. (З во-РО-но-ю лис го-во-РИВ.)

A fox talked with the crow.

9. За вороною сидить воронятко. (За во-РО-но-ю си-ДИТЬ во-ро-НЯТ-ко.)

Behind the crow sits a baby-crow.

10. Під вороною галузка. (Під во-РО-но-ю га-ЛУЗ-ка.)

There is a twig under the crow.

11. На вороні пір'я чорне. (На во-РО-ні ПІ-р'я ЧОР-не.)

The crow's feathers are black. (The feath-

ers on the crow are black.)

12. Я бачив ворону. (Я ба-ЧИВ во-РО-ну.)

I saw the crow. (Or: I saw a crow.)

13. Він стрілив у ворону. (Він СТРІ-лив у во-РО-ну.)

He shot at the crow.

14. Лис говорив про ворону. (Лис го-во-РИВ про во-РО-ну.)

The fox talked about the crow.

15. Воронятко сховалося за ворону. (Во-РО-нят-ко схо-ВА-ло-ся за во-РО-ну.)

The baby-crow hid itself behind the crow.

16. Куля попала у ворону. (Ку-ля по-ПА-ла у во-РО-ну.)

A bullet struck the crow. (Also: The bullet hit a crow.)

## **LESSON EIGHTEEN**

### **How to treat the names**

In Lesson Seventeen we were talking of the little words which are known as prepositions. But that was not the only topic we talked about. A smart student could have certainly observed that we have been showing him also the various case-endings of the word “vorona”. In fact, we have shown him all the possible case-endings of the word “vorona”. “Vorona” is an example of the so-called feminine nouns in Uk-

rainians. There are thousands of such nouns,—for instance, zheenka (woman or wife), dyeevchina (girl), kveetka (flower), khata (house) veera (faith), osyeeN (autumn), etc. All such words that end in “a” and many that end in a soft consonant are of the feminine gender. On the other hand, all the nouns that end in a consonant, like “choloveek”, (man), are the man-like words, that is, of the masculine gender. Such nouns as “khlopetz” (boy), “voyak” (soldier), “keet” (tomcat), etc., are all of the masculine gender.

There are also such nouns that are not endowed, by people’s poetic imagination, with sex qualities. Usually such nouns end in “o” or “e”. Such words, the grammarians say, are of neuter gender. Such are “slovo” (word), “sontse” (the sun), “veekontse” (a little window), etc.

In the last chapter we have been talking of just one crow. Now let’s talk of more than one crow. When we talk of more than one crow in English we say “crows”, that is, we add an “s” at the end of the word “crow”. In the language of the grammarians, we make it plural. The plural of “vorona” in Ukrainian is “voroni”. Now, this plural form — voroni — has its own case endings. Let’s see how they look like.



### **The Case-endings of "voroni"**

1. Ворони літають високо. (Во-РО-ни ЛІ-та-ють ви-СО-ко.)  
The crows fly high.
2. Літаки літають ще вище. (Лі-та-КИ ЛІ-та-ють ще ВІ-ще.)  
Planes fly higher.
3. Крила ворон (є) сильні. (КРИ-ла во-РОН (є) силь-НІ.)  
The wings of the crows are strong.
4. Воронам легко літати. (Во-РО-нам ЛЕГ-ко ко ЛІ-та-ти.)  
Flying is easy for crows. (It is easy for crows to fly.)
5. Воронам ніхто не дає їсти. (Во-РО-нам ніх-ТО не да-Є ЇС-ти.)  
Crows are fed by nobody. (Nobody gives to eat to the crows.)
6. Я бачив ворон на дереві. (Я БА-чив во-РОН на ДЕ-ре-ві.)  
I saw crows in the tree. (I saw crows on the tree.)
7. Вона наче пава між воронами. (Во-НА НА-че ПА-ва між во-РО-на-ми.)  
She is like a peacock among the crows.
8. На воронах пір'я чорне. (На во-РО-нах ПІ-р'я ЧОР-не.)

The crows have black feathers. (The feathers on the crows are black.)

9. Від ворон тікають горобці. (Від во-РОН ті-КА-ють го-роб-ЦІ.)

Sparrows flee from the crows.

10. Літак летить вище ворон. (Лі-ТАК ле-ТИТЬ ВИ-ще во-РОН.)

The plane flies higher than the crows.

11. Ворони летять нижче літака. (Во-РО-ни ле-ТЯТЬ НИЖ-че лі-та-КА.)

The crows fly lower than the plane.

## LESSON NINETEEN

### **The Flexibility of Ukrainian Language**

You need not be surprised at the number of the Ukrainian case-endings. Some languages, like Sanskrit, Lithuanian, Finnish, etc., have even more case-endings. The nouns of the Old English, that is, Anglo-Saxon, had also several case-endings. The English nouns lost their case-endings after the Norman conquest of England. For over two hundred years the proud Normans, as conquerors, spoke even in England only French. By and by the Normans started to learn a little English in order to get along with their English serfs and servants. Of course, they would learn only the basic forms of the English

words, ignoring the case-endings. Thus a period of chaos in the Old English language set in. During that period all the English nouns lost their case-endings, with the exception of one — the one that denotes possession, and many new words crept in from French and Latin. For instance, the popular word “ox”, used by the English serfs, was retained side by side with the French word “boeuf”, corrupted into “beef”. It was the English serf who still spoke of the “ox”, the living animal, but his Norman master spoke of it as “boeuf”, that is, in the sense of “beef”, the meat. Those two little words are still alive in English, retaining the closely associated meanings. Furthermore, the word “ox” has still retained even its ancient plural form — oxen, while other English nouns have their plural form ending in “s”.

Now we shall show you how flexible are the languages that still retain their fully developed system of case-endings, that is, the declension of their nouns, numerals, pronouns, and adjectives. If you have studied Latin or Greek, you know what we mean. Now take a look how flexibly, with various delicate shades of meaning, can a Ukrainian express even such a simple English sentence as “John loves Mary”. Word

for word this simply sentence sounds in Ukrainian thus: Ivan lyubeT Mareeyu (Ee-VAN LYU-beT Ma-REE-yu). By transposing the words in English that sentence would lose its original meaning, but no such thing would happen in Ukrainian. See now what a Ukrainian can do with that simple sentence in his own language:

1. Іван любить Марію.

John loves Mary.

2. Марію любить Іван.

3. Марію Іван любить.

4. Любить Марію Іван.

5. Любить Іван Марію.

6. Іван Марію любить.

Now, all the above sentences are really but one sentence, with variously transposed words, which can be translated into English by "John loves Mary". It is possible to transpose the words in Ukrainian sentences, without changing their meaning, due to the fact that the nouns have case endings. In the above Ukrainian examples the word "Maria" grammatically is the object of John's love, that is, it is put in the accusative case by acquiring the case-ending "yu" (Mariyu). Besides, when any language has plenty of case-endings for its nouns it requires less prepositions. All the fine shades of meaning

that are supplied in Ukrainian by case-endings must be supplied in English by prepositions.

The case-endings of nouns, adjectives, pronouns, etc., are put by the grammarians usually in the following order: 1. nominative, 2. genitive, 3. dative, 4. accusative, 5. vocative, 6, instrumental, 7. locative (also called, by some grammarians, — prepositional). There are different case-endings for the same word in both singular and plural.

Here is the word “vorona” with all its case-endings:

<b>Однина</b>	<b>Множина</b>
<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
1. ворон-а	1. ворон-и
2. ворон-и	2. ворон
3. ворон-і	3. ворон-ам
4. ворон-у	4. ворон
5. ворон-о	5. ворон-и
6. ворон-ою	6. ворон-ами
7. (на) ворон-і	7. (на) ворон-ах

As you can see, the basic form of the word is “vorona”. All the other forms are derived from it. If we have in mind the doer of some action, we use the basic form of the noun, that is, the nominative form. The plural form is also regarded as the basic form. Other forms are

used when we say something about the noun. We use the second form when we want to express the idea of possession. We express this form in English by saying, for instance, crow's or of the crow. The phrase "to the" in the sentence "He gave some meat to the crow" translates the Ukrainian dative form — the third form. "I saw the crow" illustrates the use of the fourth form, that is, of the accusative case. The object (crow) may be the recipient of seeing, shooting, etc. When we speak to somebody or something, addressing it, we use the fifth form, the vocative form, thus: "Crow, O crow, you have a sweet voice," said the sly fox. The sixth form is the instrumental case. The noun in this form becomes, so to say, an instrument by means of which something is done, — like in the sentence "This letter was written with a pen" (Tsey list buw napisaniy perom). The seventh form, the locative, is used when it denotes something's or somebody's position or place in regard of it. "The feathers on the crow are black" illustrates the use of this last form. What we have said of the singular case forms is also true of the plural case forms.

## LESSON TWENTY

### Three Kinds of Nouns

In French there are but two kinds of nouns, of masculine and of feminine gender. In English there are three genders: masculine, feminine, and neuter. But the English nouns have no gender endings. The division of the English nouns into three genders is natural. The names of all the living beings are classified as either masculine or feminine gender, but the names of the things are usually classified as of neuter gender, unless in poetry as personified beings. On the other hand, Ukrainian nouns, like Greek and Latin, are classified into three genders according to their endings. All the Ukrainian feminine nouns end either in “a” (“ya”), or in a soft consonant, like “sestra” (sister) or “smerT” (death). Masculine nouns have consonantal ending, like “brat” (brother). The usual ending of the neuter nouns is either “o”, like in “veekno” (window), or in “e”, like in “veekon-tse” (small window).

The words sestra, brat, and veekno are declined thus:

### SINGULAR

1. сестра	1. брат	1. вікно
2. сестри	2. брата	2. вікна
3. сестрі	3. братові	3. вікну
4. сестру	4. брата	4. вікно
5. сестро	5. брате	5. вікно
6. сестрою	6. братом	6. вікном
7. сестрі	7. браті	7. вікні

### PLURAL

1. сестри	1. брати	1. вікна
2. сестер	2. братів	2. вікон
3. сестрам	3. братам	3. вікнам
4. сестер	4. братів	4. вікна
5. сестри	5. брати	5. вікна
6. сестрами	6. братами	6. вікнами
7. сестрах	7. братах	7. вікнах

The declension of Ukrainian nouns depends very much on the ending. Words like *sestra*, *brat* and *veekno* are declined regularly. But when a noun has in its ending, for instance, the consonant “k” it is declined somewhat differently. Here we shall examine the full declension of such words as *zheenka* (woman or wife), *cholo-veek* (man or husband), and *oko* (eye).



### SINGULAR

1. жінка	1. чоловік	1. око
2. жінки	2. чоловіка	2. ока
3. жінці	3. чоловікові	3. оку (-ові)
4. жінку	4. чоловіка	4. око
5. жінко	5. чоловіче	5. око
6. жінкою	6. чоловіком	6. оком
7. жінці	7. чоловіку (-ці)	7. оці

### PLURAL

1. жінки	1. чоловіки	1. очі
2. жінок	2. чоловіків	2. очей
3. жінкам	3. чоловікам	3. очам
4. жінок	4. чоловіків	4. очі
5. жінки	5. чоловіки	5. очі
6. жінками	6. чоловіками	6. очима
7. жінках	7. чоловіках	7. очах

Now let us take a look how a Ukrainian would decline nouns that end like “nadyeeya” (hope), “neezh” (knife), and “pole” (field):

### SINGULAR

1. надія	1. ніж	1. поле
2. надії	2. ножа	2. поля
3. надії	3. ножу (-еві)	3. полю
4. надію	4. ніж (ножа)	4. поле
5. надіє	5. ноже	5. поле
6. надією	6. ножем	6. полем
7. надії	7. ножі	7. полі (-ю)

## PLURAL

1. надії	1. ножі	1. поля
2. надій	2. ножів	2. піль
3. надіям	3. ножам	3. полям
4. надії	4. ножі	4. поля
5. надії	5. ножі	5. поля
6. надіями	6. ножами	6. полями
7. надіях	7. ножах	7. полях

Also there is a class of Ukrainian feminine and masculine nouns ending in soft consonants and of the neuter diminutive nouns. Such are: poveesT (novel), uchiteL (teacher), and telya (calf).

## SINGULAR

1. повість	1. учитель	1. теля
2. повісті	2. учителя	2. теляти
3. повісті	3. учителю (еві)	3. теляті
4. повість	4. учителя	4. теля
5. повісте	5. учителю	5. теля
6. повістю	6. учителем	6. телям
7. повісті	7. учителі (-ю)	7. теляті

## PLURAL

1. повісті	1. учителі	1. телята
2. повістей	2. учителів	2. телят
3. повістям	3. учителям	3. телятам

4. повісті	4. учителів	4. телята
5. повісті	5. учителі	5. телята
6. повістями	6. учителями	6. телятами
7. повістях	7. учителях	7. телятах

There are also a few Ukrainian nouns which are used in plural or singular only. The word “tsukor” (sugar) is always used only in singular. Such words as “nozhitsyee” (scissors) and “dveree” (doors) are always used only in plural whether we speak of one door and one pair of scissors or of many doors and many pairs of scissors. In addition, a few Ukrainian nouns have irregular declension. The intimate word for “mother” in Ukrainian is “mama”. It is declined regularly. The poetical word for “mother” is “neNka”. It is also declined regularly. But when one speaks of his mother in a dignified manner, in public, he speaks of his “mati”. This noun is declined irregularly, thus:

### SINGULAR

1. мати, 2. матері, 3. матері, 4. матір, 5. мати,  
6. матірю, 7. матері

### PLURAL

1. матері, 2. матерей, 3. матірям, 4. матері,  
5. матері, 6. матірями, 7. матерях.

## LESSON TWENTY ONE

### Of work and adjectives

When we talk or write we do not use all the time just the plain, so to say, unadorned nouns. Quite often we use nouns in combination with such words that either extend or limit their meanings. Grammarians call such words adjectives. In the sentence "Our teacher is a tall, thin man" we have such adjectives as "tall" and "thin". In most cases we put them right in front of the nouns. We could say, "That tall, thin man is our teacher." What concerns us here is the fact that adjectives are declined in the same way as the nouns they are associated with. Here are some examples of adjectives used in sentences:

1. Ваша робота легка. (ВА-ша ро-БО-та ЛЕГ-ка)  
Your job (or work) is easy.
2. Моя робота тяжка. (Мо-Я ро-БО-та тяж-КА).  
My job is hard.
3. Добра робота чекає вас. (ДОБ-ра ро-БО-та че-КА-є вас).  
A good job awaits you.
4. Хто тікає від доброї роботи? (Хто ті-КА-є від ДОБ-ро-ї ро-БО-ти?)  
Who runs away from a good job?
5. Це його похвала вашій добрій роботі. (Це

його пох-ВА-ла ВА-шій ДОБ-рій ро-БО-ті.)

This is his praise for your good work.

6. Він дістав добру роботу. (Він діс-ТАВ ДОБ-ру ро-БО-ту.)

He got a good job.

7. Добра робота, ти сама в собі є нагородою! ДОБ-ра ро-БО-то, ти са-МА в СО-бі є на-го-РО-дою.)

Good work, you yourself is also a reward.

8. Доброю роботою він здобув собі й добре ім'я (ДОБ-ро-ю ро-БО-то-ю він здо-БУВ со-БІ й ДОБ-ре і-М'Я.)

By good work he made himself a good name.

9. При добрій роботі й добре працювати. (При ДОБ-рій ро-БО-ті й ДОБ-ре пра-цю-ва-ТИ.)

It is pleasure (good) to work at good work.

10. В часі війни є добрі роботи. (В ча-СІ вій-НИ є ДОБ-рі ро-бо-ТИ.)

There are good jobs in time of war.

11. Є тепер багато добрих робіт. (Є те-ПЕР ба-ГА-то ДОБ-рих ро-БІТ.)

At present there are many good jobs.

12. Добрих робіт тепер нема. (ДОБ-рих ро-БІТ те-ПЕР не-МА.)

There are no good jobs now.

13. Тепер прийшов кінець добрим роботам. (Те-

ПЕР прий-ШОВ кі-НЕЦЬ ДОБ-рим ро-бо-ТАМ.)

Now the good jobs have come to an end.

14. Війна принесла добрі роботи. (Вій-НА при-НЕС-ла ДОБ-рі ро-бо-ТИ.)

The war gave us good jobs.

15. Добрі роботи, хай би ви все були! (ДОБ-рі ро-бо-ТИ, хай би ви все бу-ЛИ!..)

Good jobs, may you always exist!

16. Робітників заспокоєно добрими роботами.

(Ро-БІТ-ни-ків за-спо-КО-є-но ДОБ-ри-ми ро-бо-ТА-ми.)

The workers were quieted down with good jobs.

17. Робітники працюють при добрих роботах. (Ро-БІТ-ни-ки пра-ЦЮ-ють при ДОБ-рих ро-бо-ТАХ.)

The workers are working at good jobs.

In the same way are declined other adjectives with feminine nouns. If the adjective accompanies a masculine noun, it acquires masculine case endings. If it is associated with a neuter noun, it acquires neuter case endings.

Examples of adjectives with masculine and neuter case endings:

**SINGULAR**

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Добрий доктор (док) | 1. добре дерево (де) |
| 2. доброго доктора     | 2. доброго дерева    |
| 3. доброму докторові   | 3. доброму дереву    |
| 4. доброго доктора     | 4. добре дерево      |
| 5. добрий докторе      | 5. добре дерево      |
| 6. добрим доктором     | 6. добрим деревом    |
| 7. добрім докторі      | 7. добрім дереві     |
| доброму докторові      | доброму дереві       |

**PLURAL**

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. добрі доктори (то) | 1. добрі дерева (де)  |
| 2. добрих докторів    | 2. добрих дерев (рев) |
| 3. добрим докторам    | 3. добрим деревам     |
| 4. добрих докторів    | 4. добрі дерева       |
| 5. добрі доктори      | 5. добрі дерева       |
| 6. добрими докторами  | 6. добрими деревами   |
| 7. добрих докторах    | 7. добрих деревах     |

Of course, if the adjective has a soft consonant in its ending, it retains its softness also in all its case endings. One of such adjectives is *siNe* (blue). Here are some examples of how it is declined:

Синій пояс, синього пояса, сині пояси, синіх поясів, синя шапка, синьої шапки, сині шапки, синіх шапок, синє перо, синього пера, сині пера, синіх пер, тощо.

Poyas (po) means belt, shapka (shap) — cap, and pero (ro) — pen.

## LESSON TWENTY TWO

### Of buying and pronouns

I am walking with Mr. Brown. All of a sudden Mr. Brown turns to me and says, "Look, a man fell down." I take a look and add, "And he broke his arm."

I did not say, "And the man broke his arm." I substituted for the words "the man" a little word — he. Such little words that substitute either nouns or adjectives are known as pronouns. There is a big number of them. There are such pronouns as I, you (singular), he, she, it, we, you (plural), and they. They are pure substitutes for nouns. Such pronouns as this, these, that and those, known as demonstrative, are used for pointing out at objects or persons. And such pronouns as my, your, his, her, its, our, your (plural), and their denote possession. By their function they are very closely related to adjectives.

Here are examples of some of the pronouns in general use:

1. Я купив собі плащ. (Я ку-ПИБ со-БІ плащ.)  
I bought myself a coat.



2. Ти купив собі шапку. (ШАП-ку.)  
You bought yourself a cap.
3. Він купив собі черевики. (че-ре-ВИ-ки.)  
He bought himself shoes.
4. Вона вшила собі блузку. (Во-НА ВШИ-ла со-БІ БЛЮЗ-ку.)  
She made herself a blouse.
5. Ми купили собі потрібні книжки. (Ми ку-ПИ-ли со-БІ пот-РІБ-ні книж-КИ.)  
We bought ourselves the necessary books.
6. Ви купили собі все, що вам потрібне? (Ви ку-ПИ-ли со-БІ все, що вам пот-РІБ-не?)  
Did you buy everything that you need?
7. Вони купили собі все, що їм потрібне. (Во-НИ ку-ПИ-ли со-БІ все, що їм пот-РІБ-не.)  
They bought themselves all what they need.
8. Я виную себе. (Я ви-НУ-ю се-БЕ.)  
I blame myself.
9. Ти винуєш себе. (Ти ви-НУ-єш се-БЕ.)  
They blame themselves.
11. Це моя книжка, а то твоя. (Це мо-Я КНИЖ-ка, а то тво-Я.)  
This is my book, and that is yours.
12. Я маю свою книжку, а ти свою. (Я МА-ю сво-Ю КНИЖ-ку, а ти сво-Ю.)  
I have my own book, and you have yours.

13. Вона має свою книжку, а він мою. (Во-НА  
МА-є сво-Ю КНИЖ-ку, а він мо-Ю.)  
She has her own book, but he has mine.
14. Ми маємо свої книжки, а вони свої. (Ми МА-  
є-мо сво-Ї книж-КИ, а во-НИ сво-Ї.)  
We have our books and they have theirs.
15. Наші книжки тут, а ваші там. (НА-ші книж-  
КИ тут, а ВА-ші там.)  
Our books are here and yours are there.
16. Своя хата — ліпша як чужа палата. (Сво-Я  
ХА-та ЛІП-ша як чу-ЖА па-ЛА-та.)  
One's own house is better than somebody's  
palace.
17. Його жінка купила собі капелюх. (Йо-го ЖІН-  
ка ку-ПИ-ла со-БІ ка-пе-ЛЮХ.)  
His wife bought herself a hat.
18. Я бачив його там. (Я БА-чив йо-ГО там.)  
I saw him there.
19. Я бачив їх коло їх авта. (Я БА-чив їх КО-ло  
їх АВ-та.)  
I saw them by their car.
- 

Correct on page 80 thus:

9. Ти винуєш себе. (Ти ви-НУ-єш се-БЕ.)  
You blame yourself.
10. Вони винують себе. (Во-НИ ви-НУ-ють се-БЕ.)  
They blame themselves.

## LESSON TWENTY THREE

### Declension of Pronouns

As we know, pronouns are very useful little words. As we use them in almost every sentence, we should know more about them, especially about their case endings. No doubt, you have noticed in Lesson Twenty Two how simply Ukrainians render such English pronouns as myself, yourself, himself, itself, ourselves, and themselves. For all persons, both singular and plural, they use “sobee” in dative and locative cases, “sebe” in accusative case, and “soboyu” in instrumental case. Here are some more examples of how it is used:

1. Він збудував собі хату. (Він збу-ду-БАВ со-БІ ХА-ту.)

He built himself a house.

2. Ми запрягли себе до роботи. (Ми за-ПРЯГ-ли се-БЕ до ро-БО-ти.)

We have harnessed ourselves to work.

3. Ти зактив собою світло. (Ти за-КРИВ со-БО-ю СВІТ-ло.)

You have covered with yourself the light.  
(You are standing in the way of light.)

4. Добра робота носить у собі й собі нагороду.  
(ДОБ-ра ро-БО-та НО-сить у СО-бі й со-БІ на-го-РО-ду.)

Good work carries within itself also its own reward.

NOTE: Dative: so-BEE, loc. SO-bee.

Now let's take a look at the declension of personal pronouns:

### **Singular**

1. Я, від мене, мені, мене, —, мною, на мені.  
(від МЕ-не, ме-НІ, ме-НЕ, на МЕ-ні.)
2. Ти, до тебе, тобі, тебе, —, тобою, у тобі.  
(до ТЕ-бе, то-БІ, те-БЕ, то-БО-ю, у то-БІ.)
3. Він, від нього, йому, його, —, ним, на нім, на ньому.  
(від НЬО-го, його-МУ, його-ГО, на НЬО-му.)
4. Вона, до неї, їй, їй —, нею, у ній.  
(НЕ-ї, ї-Ї, НЕ-ю.)
5. Воно, (the same as No. 3)

### **Plural**

1. Ми, до нас, нам, нас, —, нами, у нас. (НА-ми)
2. Ви, від вас, вам, вас, —, вами, на вас. (ВА-ми)
3. Вони, до них, їм, їх, —, ними, у них (НИ-ми)

**Possessive pronouns are declined thus:**

### **Singular**

Masculine forms of "my", "your", and "his"

1. Мій, мого, моєму, мого, —, моїм, на моїм, на мойому.  
(МО-го, мо-Є-му, мо-ЇМ, на мо-ЙО-му.)

2. Твій, твого, твому, твого, —, твоїм, на твоїм, на твоїому.  
(ТВО-го, ТВО-му, тво-їМ, тво-їО-му).
3. Його, (for all cases).

### **Singular**

Feminine forms of “my”, “your”, and “her”

1. моя, моєї, моїй, мою, —, моєю, на моїй.  
(мо-Я, мо-Є-ї, мо-Ю, мо-Є-ю, мо-їЙ.)
2. твоя, твоєї, твоїй, твою, —, твоєю, на твоїй.  
(тво-Я, тво-Є-ю, тво-їЙ, тво-Ю.)
3. Її, (for all cases)

### **Singular**

Neuter forms of “my”, “your”, “its”

1. моє — мо-Є (same as masculine).
2. твоє — тво-Є (same as masculine).
3. його — його-ГО, (same as masculine)

### **Plural of “MY”**

(same for all genders)

1. мої, моїх, моїм, мої, моїх, —, моїми, на моїх.  
(мо-ї, мо-їХ, мо-їМ.)
2. твої, твоїх, твоїм, твої, твоїх, —, твоїми, на твоїх.  
(тво-ї, тво-їХ, тво-їМ, тво-ї-ми.)
3. їх (same for all cases).

### **Declension of “our”, “your”, “their”**

1. Наша книжка, нашої, нашій, нашу, —, нашою, на нашій. (НА-ша КНИЖ-ка, НА-)

2. Ваша книжка, вашої, вашій, вашу, —, вашою, на вашій. (ВА-)
3. їх книжка (invariable).

### **Masculine Forms**

1. Наш хлопець, нашого хлопця, нашому, нашого, —, на наших. (НА-)
2. Ваш, вашого, вашому, вашого, —, вашим, на наших. (ВА-)
3. Їх (invariable).

### **Neuter Forms**

1. Наше слово, (same as masculine).
2. Твоє слово (same as masculine).
3. Їх (invariable).

### **Declension of Relative Pronouns**

#### **WHO**

1. Хто, кого, кому, кого, —, ким, на кім, на кому. (ко-ГО, ко-МУ).

#### **WHICH**

1. Що, чого, чому, що, —, чим, на чім, на чому. (чо-ГО, чо-МУ, чо-му).

Such other relative pronouns as *kotriy*, *kotra*, *kotre*, *yakiy*, *yaka*, and *yake* (*kot-RIY*, *ya-KIY*) are declined like similar adjectives. In fact, they are declined like the following demonstrative pronouns:

## THIS

### Masculine form

1. Цей, цього, цьому, цього — це, — , цим, на цьому. (ЦЬО-)

### Neuter form

1. Це (same as above, like masculine).

### Feminine form

1. Ця, цеї - цієї, цій, цю, — , цею - цією, у цій. (ЦЕ-ї, ці-Є-ї, ЦЕ-ю).

## THESE

(Same for all genders)

1. Ці, цих, цим, цих, ці, — , цими, на цих. (ЦИ-)

## THAT

### Masculine form

1. Той, того, тому, того - той, — , тим, на тім, на тому. (ТО-)

### Neuter form

1. Те (same as masculine).

### Feminine form

1. Та, тої - тієї, тій, ту, — , тою - тією, на тій. (ТО-ї, ті-Є-ї, ті-Є-ю).

## THOSE

(All genders)

1. Ті, тих, тим, тих - ті, — , тими, на тих. (ТИ-)

## DECLENSION OF "ALL"

### Masculine form

1. Весь, всього, всьому, весь - всього, — , всім,

на всім, на всьому. (ВСЬО-)

**Feminine form**

2. Вся, всеї - всієї, всій, всю, — , всею - всією, на  
всій. (ВСЕ-ї, всі-Є-ї, ВСЕ-ю)

**Plural**

1. Всі, всіх, всім, всіх - всі, — , всіми, на всіх.  
(ВСІ-)

**WHOSE?**

**Masculine form**

1. Чия, чиеї, чийй, чию, — , чиею, на чийй,  
на чийм.

**Feminine form**

1. Чия, чиеї, чийй, чию, — , чиею, на чийй.

**Neuter form**

1. Чие (same as masculine).

Of course, you don't need to learn all the case endings by heart. Learn them, as you hear them, or find them in books.

**LESSON TWENTY FOUR**

It is possible in some languages to give a very accurate description of a thing in one word. For instance, instead of saying "a small book" we could say "a booklet". But that is as far as we can describe a book in English. In Ukrainian we can go much further in this respect. When a Ukrainian sees just an ordinary book he calls it "knizhka" (book). A small book is



“knizhechka”. A big book is “kniha”. But a big, untidy book he calls “knizheshche”. And, in regard of some other names, he can go even much, much further. He can say the word “dyeevchina”, for example, in some twenty different ways. And each change of the word has a different shade of meaning. Now let us take a glance at this word in its many forms: dyeevchina — a girl, dyeevchinka — a small girl, dyeevchinoNka — a sweet, lovely girl, dyeevcha — a young, 'teen girl, dyeevchatko — a small, sweet and fine girl, dyeeva — a maid or virgin, dyeeviTSYA — a dignified name for a girl, dyeevka — a maid, or common, peasant girl, dyeevicheNka — a sweet girlie, dyeevchur — a boy-like girl (tomboy), dyeevchiniSko — a rough, vulgar girl, dyeevchinishche — a huge, vulgar girl, etc. We can say in as many ways the word “khlopeTS” (boy) in Ukrainian.

Such forms of words that denote either smallness or endearment and beauty are known as diminutives. Augmentatives are such forms of the words that denote hugeness or vulgarity. Such languages as Ukrainian, Russian, Polish, and Spanish are very rich in diminutives. In Ukrainian even many verbs, adjectives, adverbs and other parts of speech have diminutive forms

of endearment. In addition, there are special forms of words used in talking only to very small children. Here are some of such words: monyo — milk, papa — bread, patsyee — to sleep, khodunyee — to walk, yeetsee or hamu to eat, tsyobtsee — booties, etc.

Of course, Ukrainians use diminutives and augmentatives only in very intimate talks. Of all the Ukrainian authors only the stories of Marko Vovchok (Maria Markovich) are thickly interspersed with various forms of words of endearment. And so are Ukrainian folk songs, especially the love songs. Before you start using Ukrainian words of endearment you better read a few Ukrainian books and live among Ukrainians for at least a few months. In the meantime use only the ordinary forms of Ukrainian words.

## **LESSON TWENTY FIVE**

### **How to talk and write Ukrainian**

Our method was to tell you in English all that was essential about the language of Ukrainians. If you have studied this book diligently, no doubt, you have learned all the basic principles that underlie Ukrainian. By now you know a few hundred Ukrainian words. It is not much. Yet you already know most of the words that are in daily use.

You have already noticed that the word order in Ukrainian sentences is to a great degree the same as in English. Of course, due to the richness of Ukrainian nouns in case endings, words can be juggled in Ukrainian sentences very freely. This way Ukrainians can express even some of the finest shades of meaning. The fine shades of meaning are also expressed by the various forms of diminutives and augmentatives. Due to such facts, Ukrainian can be regarded as one of the richest languages of the world.

When you start speaking Ukrainian, by all means, speak as slowly as possible, pronouncing your words clearly, without any slurring. Each letter of the Ukrainian words has to be pronounced clearly and distinctly. In speaking Ukrainian move your lower jaw up and down, as if you were biting off every syllable. Keep the tip of your tongue at the base of your upper teeth, touching them lightly. In speaking Ukrainian let your tongue touch your palate and the upper teeth not as firmly as in English. In addition, loosen up the tenseness in your lips. Also loosen up the tenseness in your tongue. In speaking Ukrainian keep your mouth almost as wide open as for singing.

And, above all, remember that there is as much of the heart in Ukrainian as of the brain. If you want to gain sympathy and friends among Ukrainians, speak to their hearts. Ukrainians are known above all as a very kind-hearted, musical, and hard-working people.

## **T H E   E N D**

### **USEFUL HANDBOOKS:**

At this stage buy yourself E. Shklanka's Ukrainian Primer, which contains a very valuable Ukrainian-English word list, and James N. Krett's Ukrainian-English and English-Ukrainian Dictionary. You may obtain them at any Ukrainian book store. There are such stores in New York, Detroit, Toronto, Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Edmonton.

My "Key to the Ukrainian Language" (20 cents) can also help you at this stage in your study of Ukrainian.

—H.E.

