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Living Language Russian, Complete Edition: Beginner Through Advanced Course, Including 3 Coursebooks, 9 Audio CDs, And Free Online Learning



Synopsis

Russian, Complete Edition is a unique multimedia course that takes you from a beginner to an advanced level in one convenient package. At the core of Russian, Complete Edition is the Living Language Method, based on linguistic science, proven techniques, and over 65 years of experience. Our method teaches you the whole language, so you can express yourself, not just recite memorized words or scripts. Millions have learned with Living Language. Now it's your turn.

3 Books: 46 lessons, additional review exercises, culture notes, and a grammar summary plus a bonus notebook

9 Audio CDs: Vocabulary, dialogues, audio exercises, and more listen while using the books or use for review on the go

Free Online Learning: Visit our Language Lab (www.livinglanguage.com/languagelab) for flashcards, games, and interactive quizzes for each lesson

To learn more visit livinglanguage.com

The Living Language Method Build a Foundation Start speaking Russian immediately using essential words and phrases. Progress with Confidence Build on each lesson as you advance to full sentences, then actual conversations.

Retain what You've Learned Special recall exercises move your new language from short-term to long-term memory.

Achieve Your Goals Don't just mimic or memorize. Develop practical language skills to speak in any situation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I picked this up at the bookstore expecting it to be too simple because of already completing several other courses (see my other reviews). Every course is different and seeing things from different angles helps a lot. I was wrong. The first of three booklets (essential) covered mainly stuff I already was familiar with and knew cold but was explained in much more detail than any of the other courses. The intermediate book was extremely useful. The course starts with a topic and introduces new words associated with the topic, then uses the words in numerous well chosen phrases, then the phrases are used in sentences related to the topic, finally the last section related to the topic contains a couple of dialogs covering the topic. The topics receive a fairly thorough coverage. The topics, such as going to the doctor, shopping, etc. have many more sentences and words than any of the other courses so prepares you end up better prepared to handle the situation. It may have less topics but the topics covered are usually in depth enough that you might be able to get by. Not just a snap shot of the topic. Another strength is that it gives complete conjugations for many words, with recordings to match. This is something I have not seen in any other course yet except for just a couple of verbs. For example, they will have all conjugations (at least present and past tense) of verbs like to eat, to drink, to have breakfast, to have lunch to have dinner, etc. By complete I mean (I eat, you (fam) eat, he/she/it eats, we eat, you (plural and formal) and they eat in the present tense, followed by all of the past tense conjugations, I found this very helpful. It drills the daylights out of the most basic of words. The recordings are very clear. I would say this course has the most detailed explanations of any course I have seen. If I had to start from scratch with Russian knowing what I know now, I would do the audio courses like Pimsleur and Michel Thomas (and/or maybe Rosetta Stone if you have the \$\$\$) followed by this course as it really is complete on the subjects it covers. This course is absolutely worth the money. And it is cheap (inexpensive).

It is great for driving to work, there are a few places that they give the wrong translations. I have a decent understanding starting off, and I am sure if you did not you would get it eventually, but there are times that the words they use to translate aren't as good as they could be. They also don't really tell you what the words mean, so much as the phrase itself most of the time. Still a great tool if you are trying to learn the language.

This course will give you an excellent foundation in Russian grammar along with a decent vocabulary enough for everyday communication. Unfortunately, Living Language is somewhat guilty of false advertising when they say it will bring you to an advanced level. Nevertheless, the quality of the books and the audio is excellent, so its a solid start to get you to an intermediate level.

A must-have CD's to have a good start in familiarizing with sound and pronunciation. I copied all CD's onto my iPod. Vocabulary, phrases and conversations are included in 3 books.

The best books of russian. I love the way to learn with these books.

I like the book and the CDs. Very useful information. But for me you have to use this with another immersion program too.

This introductory complete Russian instruction package seems like the perfect way for me to prepare myself for a Russian course I plan to take next year at university. It is probably quite a bit more than I would need, actually, which means that when I finish finding my feet with the help of formal instruction, I expect that I will be in a strong position to continue developing. In addition, the price was reasonable!

I bought the whole series of three volumes. Pros: Comprehensive CD's that make it possible to do much study without reference to the book. Real-life situations with emphasis on conversation. Good-looking. On-line tools. Plenty of repetition and drill. Cons: Practice comes mostly through short sentences and gets kind of dry. I would have liked much more text with engaging stories for reading practice. Its organization is odd. In some ways it proceeds carefully step-by-step, but in other ways beginners are left to figure things out for themselves, and much information important to the beginner is tucked away in summaries in the back of the book. There is no dictionary of words used for reference, which would be very helpful. On the other hand, there is an empty notebook for the student's use which is slick, but unnecessary. It has a surprising number of typos. Summary: For those who prefer to learn through reading and with grammar systematically presented up-front, this approach will be frustrating. For those who just like to dive in, and have the trust that it will all eventually become clear, this could be a good choice.

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