

Десятый урок Lesson Ten

Dialogue: "Even my ears hurt"
Grammar: 'Phrasal' verbs
 Omitting obvious possessives
 The verb *hurt*
 The verb *be* in the past tense
Spelling/Sounds: Voiced and voiceless consonants

Диалог

Dialogue

Даже уши болят *Even my ears hurt*

(Таня runs into Витя, who isn't looking very sharp)

Таня:	1	Привёт, Витя! Как дела?	<i>Hey, Vitya, what's up?</i>
Витя:	2	Ой! Я плохо себя чувствую.	<i>Ugh! I don't feel well.</i>
Таня:	3	Что с тобой?	<i>What's wrong with you?</i>
Витя:	4 5	Живот болит. Голова болит. Всё болит. Даже уши болят.	<i>My stomach hurts. My head hurts. Everything hurts. Even my ears hurt.</i>
Таня:	6	Болят уши! Ну ты даешь! Как это?	<i>Your ears hurt! You are really something. How is that possible?</i>
Витя:	7	Я был в Т.И. ¹ вчера.	<i>I was at T.I. yesterday.</i>
Таня:	8	Всё ясно.	<i>Enough said. (lit.: Everything is clear)</i>

Словарь

Vocabulary

2	я плохо себя чувствую	<i>I don't feel well (lit.: I badly myself feel)</i>
3	что с тобой?	<i>what's (wrong) with you?</i>
4	живот	<i>stomach</i>
	болит	<i>hurts; aches (3sg; only 3rd person is used with this verb)</i>
	голова	<i>head</i>
	даже	<i>even</i>
5	уши	<i>ears (sg. is ухо)</i>
	болят	<i>hurt; ache (3pl)</i>
6	ну ты даешь!	<i>you're really something (lit.: well, you give – this is an extremely common and colloquial expression. It's almost impossible to translate.)</i>
6	как это?	<i>how is that possible; what do you mean?</i>
7	вчера	<i>yesterday</i>
8	ясно	<i>clear; understandable</i>

¹ Most Russians recognize Latin letters and use them in abbreviations for which there is no Russian equivalent, e.g., IBM PC, www, NB, SOS.

10.A “Phrasal” Verbs

Я плóхо себя чýвствую (2)

The verb *feel* (*sick, well*) consists of 2 parts – чýвствую² *feel* and себя *self*. Leaving out **себя**, which a lot of American students tend to do, is like saying *Everyone was laughing John* instead of *Everyone was laughing at John*. (Actually, this phrasal verb requires a third component, an adverb, e.g., **плóхо, хорошó**)

Also note: In English we would most likely say *I don't feel well*, while in Russian it's much better to say *I feel bad(ly)*.

10.B Omitting Obvious Possessive Pronouns

Живóт бо́лит, головá бо́лит, úши бо́лят (4-5)

In Russian possessive pronouns (*my, his, your*) are often omitted, especially when it's obvious whose stomach / head / sister / husband / is being described.

10.B The Verb *hurt*

головá бо́лит; úши бо́лят (4-5)

The verb *hurt* has the same verb conjugation as *be* (in a lying position):

VERB	3 RD SG: -{И}Т	3 RD PL: -{А}Т
<i>be</i> (in a lying position)	леж <u>И</u> Т	леж <u>А</u> Т
<i>hurt</i>	бол <u>И</u> Т	бол <u>А</u> Т

This verb is used only in the 3rd person to indicate that a part of the body hurts. To ask someone else if anything hurts them, use the following construction:

У ТЕБЯ́ + БОЛ <u>И</u> Т/БОЛ <u>А</u> Т + BODY PART(S) (as we saw in Lesson 1)			
	У тебя́ <i>by you</i>	бол <u>И</u> Т <i>hurts</i>	головá? <i>head</i> = <i>Does your head hurt?</i>
		Бо́лят <i>hurt</i>	úши. <i>ears</i> = <i>My ears hurt.</i>
Что <i>what</i>	у тебя́ <i>by you</i>	бол <u>И</u> Т? <i>hurts?</i>	= <i>What hurts (you)?</i>

² This is the 1st person singular form. The form changes for other persons. More on conjugation in Lesson 16.



Use the body parts list below to form sentences according to the example. (*The new body parts listed are not active vocab, yet.*)

Example: живóт ⇒ У тебя бо́лит живóт? Да, живóт бо́лит.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1. рука́ (<i>arm</i>) | 2. у́ши | 3. живóт | 4. голова́ |
| 5. но́ги (<i>legs</i>) | 6. глаз (<i>eye</i>) | 7. плéчи (<i>shoulders</i>) | 8. нога́ |
| 9. нос (<i>nose</i>) | 10. го́рло (<i>throat</i>) | 11. ру́ки (<i>arms</i>) | 12. у́хо |

10.Г The Verb *be* in the Past Tense

я был (7)

Unlike in the Present Tense, there **is** a form of the verb *be* in the Past. The ‘stem’ is **бы+**, onto which is added either **-л / -ла́ / -ло / -ли** depending on the gender and number of the subject. Note that the stress moves to the end only for the **Feminine**:

Past Tense of *be*

SINGULAR			PLURAL
MASCULINE (я, ты, он)	FEMININE (я, ты, она́)	NEUTER (оно́)	(ALL GENDERS) (мы, вы*, они́)
БЫЛ	БЫЛА́	БЫЛО	БЫЛИ

* The plural form of verbs is used with **вы**, even when it’s Formal-singular.



Transform the sentences as in the example, supplying the correct form of ‘to be’ in the Past Tense:

Example: Мой о́тец (Нью-Йо́рк) ⇒ Вчера́ мой о́тец был в Нью-Йо́рке.
Ма́ша (ресто́ран) ⇒ Вчера́ Ма́ша была́ в ресто́ране.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Моя́ жена́ (Филадельфия) | 2. Наш сын (Москва́) |
| 3. Бо́ря (Трэнтон) | 4. Я (Masc) (клуб) |
| 5. Его́ родители (Россия́) | 6. Мы (Га́рвард) |
| 7. Ты (Fem.) (Петербу́рг) | 8. Они́ (Калифо́рния) |
| 9. А́ня (Пари́ж) | 10. Зо́я и Ле́ва (Детро́йт) |
| 11. Вы (ресто́ран) | 12. Я (Fem) (Нью-Йо́рк) |
| 13. Она́ (Чика́го – <i>think!</i>) | 14. Их де́ти (Прин́стон) |

Final installment on the Russian sound system 😊

10.Д Voiced (Vibrating) and Voiceless (Non-Vibrating) Consonants

10.Д.1 The ‘throat test’

Close your eyes, put your fingers on the sides of your throat and pronounce the sound б over and over. Pay attention to the movement of your lips, teeth, and tongue. You should feel a vibration near your vocal chords. Now quickly switch to a series of the sound п. Everything (lips, teeth, tongue) should be exactly the same, except that the vibration is gone. ‘Vibrating’ consonants are referred to as **Voiced** consonants, non-vibrating as **Voiceless**. There are 6 such Voiced/Voiceless pairs: (do the ‘throat test’ with the other 5 pairs – it’s the most fun you’ll have this lesson):

VOICED	б / б ^b	в / в ^b	г ³	д / д ^b	ж ⁴	з / з ^b
VOICELESS	п / п ^b	ф / ф ^b	к ³	т / т ^b	ш ⁴	с / с ^b

Why are we telling you all this? In some cases a voiced consonant will be pronounced voiceless, and vice versa, a voiceless consonant will be pronounced like its voiced counterpart. These assimilations occur automatically for Russian speakers (actually, except for language teachers, the vast majority of Russians are not aware of these sound changes), but for English speakers they must be learned and practiced. English also has some instances of devoicing: *have to* is normally pronounced – and occasionally written – ‘hafta’, where ‘v’ devoices to [f].

10.Д.2 Where devoicing / voicing occurs

1) Devoicing (voiced > voiceless)

A voiced consonant loses its vibration:

- at the end of a word
- Directly preceding one or more voiceless consonants (including prepositions that end in a voiceless consonant, which are pronounced together with the following word):

(Hardness / softness of the consonant plays no role. Final soft voiced consonants devoice – and remain soft)



Listen and repeat

	AT THE END OF A WORD	DIRECTLY PRECEDING 1 OR MORE VOICELESS CONSONANTS
Б > [П]	хлеб (<i>bread</i>), гроб (<i>coffin</i>), голубь (<i>dove</i>), скорбь (<i>grief</i>)	rare
В > [Ф]	Чехов (the writer), Горбачёв, кровь (<i>blood</i>), любовь (<i>love</i>)	второй (<i>second</i>), в Принстоне, завтра (<i>tomorrow</i>), Достоёвский, всё
Г > [К]	враг (<i>enemy</i>), снег (<i>snow</i>), диалог, друг (<i>friend</i>)	rare

³ Remember: neither **гъ** nor **къ** occur in Russian.

⁴ Recall that ‘ж, ш’ are inherently hard consonants.

	AT THE END OF A WORD	DIRECTLY PRECEDING 1 OR MORE VOICELESS CONSONANTS
Д > [Т]	Ленинград, обед (<i>lunch</i>), город (<i>city</i>), тетрадь (<i>notebook</i>), лошадь (<i>horse</i>)	вóдка
Ж > [Ш]	муж, багаж (<i>baggage</i>), нож (<i>knife</i>) Recall that both ж and ш are permanently hard consonants, and so а ь has no influence on pronunciation: ложь (<i>lie</i>), настежь (<i>wide open</i>)	лóжка (<i>spoon</i>)
З > [С]	джаз (<i>jazz</i>), майонез (<i>mayonaise</i>), мороз (<i>frost</i>), князь (<i>prince</i>), связь (<i>connection</i>)	францúзский (<i>French</i>)

2) Voicing (voiceless > voiced)

A voiceless consonant becomes voiced directly preceding one or more voiced consonants. Voicing occurs MUCH less frequently than devoicing.



Listen and repeat

Ф > [В]	афгáнец (<i>Afganistani</i>)
К > [Г]	рюкзáк (<i>backpack</i>), экзáмен (<i>exam</i>)
С > [З]	сдéлать (<i>to do/make</i>), бейсбóл, прóсьба (<i>favor</i>)
Т > [Д]	футбóл, баскетбóл
Ш > [Ж]	волшбá (<i>magic, arch.</i>)

These two rules (Voiced > devoiced and vice versa) can be simplified into a single rule for your convenience:

In a group of consonants, the *final* consonant determines the voicing for the whole cluster.

Exceptions (what did you expect?)

Before в^(b) voiceless consonants DO NOT become voiced:



Listen and repeat

твой – voiceless ‘т’ does not become voiced [д] before the ‘в’

швéды (*Swedes*) – (voiceless ‘ш’ does not become voiced [ж] before the ‘в’^b)

квóта (*quota*) – (voiceless ‘к’ does not become voiced [г] before the ‘в’)

свой (*one’s own*) – (voiceless ‘с’ does not become voiced [з] before the ‘в’)

**Exercise 1** Fill in the correct form of the verb *hurt*:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Живóт _____ . | 2. Плéчи (<i>shoulders</i>) _____ . |
| 3. Ёши _____ . | 4. Нога́ (<i>leg</i>) _____ . |
| 5. Голова́ _____ . | 6. Но́ги _____ . |

**Exercise 2** Fill in the correct form of the **past tense** of *be*:

- Где ты _____ ? (*talking to your brother*)
- Где ты _____ ? (*talking to your wife*)
- Где вы _____ ?
- Мíша _____ в клубе.
- Вéра вчера́ _____ в Трénтоне.
- Мы _____ в Москвё.
- Он _____ в Пíттсбурге.
- Они́ _____ в ресторáne.
- Я _____ в Нью-Йóрке. (*give appropriate form*)

**Exercise 3** Circle any consonant that is not pronounced the same way it is written and then indicate correct pronunciation (*Not all words contain 'misleading' consonants*):

Example: Ч ё х о (в) /ф/

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Л Ю Б Ё В Ъ _____ | 2. Т Е Б Ё _____ |
| 3. Х Л Е Б _____ | 4. Р Ю К З Ё К _____ |
| 5. М У Ж _____ | 6. В Ё Д К А _____ |
| 7. С П А С _____ | 8. В Т О Р Ё Й _____ |
| 9. А Р Б Ё З _____ | 10. Т В О Ё _____ |



Exercise 4 Translate into Russian:

1. – What’s wrong with you? – I don’t feel well.

2. Where’s my coat? Did you happen to see my coat?

3. – Coffee please.
– Here you go.
– Thank you.
– You’re welcome.
