

# Двадцать третий урок Lesson Twenty-three

<b>Dialogues:</b>	A: "You're drinking my vodka"; Б: "You're drinking my milk"; В: "You're drinking my juice"; Г: "You're feeding my horse"
<b>Grammar:</b>	Tag questions 2 <sup>nd</sup> conjugation and consonant mutation (cont'd): Labials The notion of Case The Nominative Case The Accusative Case of nouns, possessives, and <i>этот</i> - Forms; - Uses - Masculine first names in <i>-{A}</i> Case and word order

## Диалогы

### А. Ты пьёшь мою водку! *You're drinking my vodka!*

<b>Володя:</b>	1	Что же ты делаешь?	<i>What the heck are you doing!?</i>
<b>Лёна:</b>	2	Ты слепой, что ли? Водку пью.	<i>Are you blind or something? I'm drinking vodka.</i>
<b>Володя:</b>	3 4	Я не слепой. Ты пьёшь мою водку! <b>Вон</b> стоит твоя водка. <b>Дура!</b>	<i>I'm not blind. You're drinking my vodka! Your vodka is (standing) over there. Idiot!</i>
<b>Лёна:</b>	5	Ой, извини ради Бога.	<i>Oh, I'm really sorry.</i>
<b>Володя:</b>	6	Ничего.	<i>Don't worry about it.</i>

### Б. Ты пьёшь моё молоко! *You're drinking my milk!*

<b>Лиза:</b>	7	Что же ты делаешь?	<i>What the heck are you doing!?</i>
<b>Костя:</b>	8	Ты слепая, что ли? <b>Молоко</b> пью.	<i>Are you blind or something? I'm drinking milk.</i>
<b>Лиза:</b>	9 10	Я не слепая. Ты пьёшь моё молоко! <b>Вон</b> стоит твоё молоко. <b>Дурак!</b>	<i>I'm not blind. You're drinking my milk! Your milk is (standing) over there. Idiot!</i>
<b>Костя:</b>	11	Ой, извини ради Бога.	<i>Oh, I'm really sorry.</i>
<b>Лиза:</b>	12	Ничего.	<i>Don't worry about it.</i>

### В. Ты пьёшь мой сок! *You're drinking my juice!*

<b>Сева:</b>	13	Что же ты делаешь?	<i>What the heck are you doing!?</i>
<b>Зина:</b>	14	Ты слепой, что ли? <b>Сок</b> пью.	<i>Are you blind or something? I'm drinking juice.</i>
<b>Сева:</b>	15	Я не слепой. Ты пьёшь мой сок! <b>Вон</b> стоит твой сок. <b>Дура!</b>	<i>I'm not blind. You're drinking my juice! Your juice is (standing) over there. Idiot!</i>
<b>Зина:</b>	16	Ой, извини ради Бога.	<i>Oh, I'm really sorry.</i>
<b>Сева:</b>	17	Ничего.	<i>Don't worry about it.</i>

### Г. Ты кормишь мою лошадь! *You're feeding my horse!*

<b>Кира:</b>	18	Что же ты делаешь?	<i>What the heck are you doing!?</i>
<b>Родя:</b>	19	Ты слепая, что ли? Лошадь <b>кормлю</b> .	<i>Are you blind or something? I'm feeding (my) horse.</i>
<b>Кира:</b>	20 21	Я не слепая. Ты кормишь мою лошадь! <b>Вон</b> стоит твоя лошадь. <b>Дурак!</b>	<i>I'm not blind. You're feeding my horse! Your horse is (standing) over there. Idiot!</i>
<b>Родя:</b>	22	Ой, извини ради Бога.	<i>Oh, I'm really sorry.</i>
<b>Кира:</b>	23	Ничего.	<i>Don't worry about it.</i>

## Словарь

2	слепой (note: end-stressed)	<i>blind</i>
2	... что ли?	<i>... or something? (a tag question)</i>
3	вон	<i>(over) there</i>
4	дура	<i>idiot; fool (said about a woman)</i>
8	молоко	<i>milk (cognate)</i>
10	дурак	<i>idiot; fool (said about a man)</i>
14	сок	<i>juice</i>
19	корми+	<i>feed</i>



### 23.A Tag Questions: ...что ли?

Ты слепой, что ли? (2)

The phrase **что ли** following questions adds incredulity (didn't think you'd see that word today, did you?), something like *or something?*



Listen and repeat:

Ты шутишь, **что ли**?

*Are you joking (or something)?*

Ты слепой, **что ли**?

*Are you blind (or something)?*

Ты не понимаешь, **что ли**?

*Don't you understand? Can it really be that you don't understand?*

Она американка, **что ли**?

*Is she an American? (I thought she was French.)*



Express incredulity about the following. Use the **ты** form. (Don't worry if your answer doesn't match exactly):

Example: Your roommate is studying AGAIN ⇒ Ты **ОПЯТЬ** занимаешься, что ли?

1. Your friend is drinking YOUR vodka.
2. Your roommate says she has a date with Brad Pitt (ha ha).
3. You think you see cigarette smoke coming from your 10-year-old brother's room.
4. Your roommate is ironing his pants AGAIN.
5. You think you smell beer on your conservative roommate's breath.
6. Your roommate refuses to bathe.

## 23.Б More Consonant Mutations: Labial Consonants (б, в, м, п, ф)

The verb **корми́+** (*feed*) is the third example of an inserted 'л' in the 1<sup>st</sup> sg Present. We previously saw 1) **б>бл** (**люби́+** {U} → **я люблю́**) and 2) **в>вл** (**гото́ви+** {U} → **я гото́влю**). All three consonants (**м, б, в**) are pronounced using the lips, and are referred to as **labial consonants**. The other labials are 'п' and 'ф'. (We won't see any verbs with 'ф' this year, but they also > **фл** in the я-form of the present tense.)

LABIAL MUTATIONS	EXAMPLE: 2 <sup>nd</sup> conj., 1sg pres. tns.	NO MUTATION: Remaining pres. tns.
б > бл	люби́+{U} → люблю́	люби́шь ... любя́т
в > вл	гото́ви+{U} → гото́влю	гото́вишь ... гото́вят
м > мл	корми́+ {U} → кормлю́	ко́рмишь ... ко́рмят
п > пл	купи́+{U} → куплю́	ку́пишь ... ку́пят

To review other mutations, see Lesson 19.



Chameleon:

- |  |           |         |
|--|-----------|---------|
| 1. корми́+ ло́шадь / я                 | 2. он     | 3. они́ |
| 4. люби́+ смотре́ть телеви́зор         | 5. вы     | 6. я    |
| 7. гото́ви+ обе́д                      | 8. По́ля  | 9. мы   |
| 10. купи́+ ( <i>will buy</i> ) молоко́ | 11. Же́ня | 12. я   |

## 23.B The Notion of Case (or How to Write a Ransom Note in Russian)

If you kidnapped someone named Tanya and wanted to send a ransom note (in English) using words cut out of a newspaper, you could use any of the following instances of the word “Tanya”:

- (1) **Tanya** prefers double-stem verbs.
- (2) Only no-talent singers respect Tanya.
- (3) I dreamt about **Tanya** again last night.

Each time it’s simply T-a-n-y-a. The reader of the ransom note couldn’t tell whether ‘Tanya’ had been the subject of the sentence [sentence (1)], the direct object of a verb [sentence (2)], or the object of a preposition [sentence (3)].<sup>1</sup>

Russian kidnapers are not as lucky. For each of the three examples above (plus a few more), the form/ending of **Таня** - which is a **noun** - is different. So if the Russian kidnapers snatched Tanya and they wanted to write (in Russian): “We will harm Tanya if you don’t pay us,” - where Tanya is the direct object of the verb ‘harm’ - they would have to find a sentence in the newspaper in which Tanya was *also* a direct object. In the other two sentences (subject of the sentence or object of preposition) Tanya would have a different ending. This is what is known as **Case** - the function (subject/direct object/object of preposition, etc.) of a noun (along with its modifiers) appears as part of the word.<sup>2</sup>

There are six Cases in Russian, which we will not enumerate for you at this time (we like to maintain an element of surprise). A great deal of this course from now on will focus on these Cases, both their forms and uses.

So ...

## WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CASE!

### 23.Г The Nominative Case (Именительный Падёж)

So, what Case have nouns, pronouns, etc. been in all this time? Usually they’ve been in the Nominative Case, whose main function is to indicate the subject of the sentence. We’ve already learned the Nominative forms in both the singular and the plural, e.g., **моя любимая книга, твой старшие сёстры**. The “dictionary form” of nouns that we talked about in before is actually the Nominative Case.

Also, remember the *location* endings we learned Chapter One? This is called (not surprisingly) the Locative or Prepositional Case. We will learn more forms and uses of this Case later.

Now let’s look at the Accusative Case, which is used to mark direct objects (among other things).

<sup>1</sup> Actually, there is one possible form of ‘Tanya’ in English that the kidnapers could not use: “**Tanya’s** hair is really from one of those spray cans.” (unless they cut out the ‘s’.)

<sup>2</sup> The only place English distinguishes Case with varying forms is in personal pronouns: *he* vs. *him* vs. *his*; *she* vs. *her* vs. *her(s)*; *I* vs. *me* vs. *my/mine*, etc.

## 23.Д The Accusative Case (Винительный Падёж) of Nouns

### 23.Д.1 Forms

#### Accusative Case: Singular Nouns, Possessives, **Этот**

NOMINATIVE	ACCUSATIVE
<b>MASCULINE</b>	
<b>-∅ (Same as Nominative) (consonant / -Ь)</b>	
мой сок Мйшин фотоаппарát наш словáрь этот карандаш	мой сок Мйшин фотоаппарát наш словáрь этот карандаш
<b>NEUTER</b>	
<b>-{O} (Same as Nominative) (-o / -ë (rare for nouns) / e)</b>	
моё мýло на́ше пй́во Са́шино печéнье это здáние	моё мýло на́ше пй́во Са́шино печéнье это здáние
<b>FEMININE</b>	
<b>-{U} (-y / -ю)</b>	
моя́ газéта на́ша вóдка Ма́шина спáльня эта́ фотогра́фия	мою́ газéту на́шу вóдку Ма́шину спáльню эту́ фотогра́фию
<b>FEMININE NOUNS IN -Ь</b>	
<b>-∅ (Same as Nominative) (always -Ь) (Modifiers take -{U})</b>	
моя́ мать на́ша мышь Юрина́ дверь эта́ лóшадь	мою́ мать на́шу мышь Юрину́ дверь эту́ лóшадь

We saw the Accusative of Feminine nouns in the 'Telephone' dialogue: “**Мóжно Гáлю / Вéру?**” We still have not had Feminine Accusative Adjectives, so we can't yet say “*I want cheap Russian vodka*”.

Remember: the 3<sup>rd</sup> person possessives NEVER change form, even with nouns in the Accusative Case: **его́/её́/их сок, мýло, вóдку, мать**



**IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT MASCULINE NOUNS IN THE ACCUSATIVE:** The Accusative of Masculine nouns is the same as the Nominative ONLY for *inanimate* nouns, i.e., a thing – as opposed to a person or animal. *Animate* Masculine nouns (people and animals) get their own special ending. So, at this point we do not know how to say “*I loathe my Russian professor*”. We'll cover this in Chapter 4. Hopefully by then your feelings will have changed.





Put the following nouns/phrases into the Accusative:

Example: Кто видит (this here book)? ⇨ Кто видит эту книгу?

1. Кто видит...? (juice, vodka, Misha, Misha's dog, my book, Vika, beer, that sofa, this photograph, Sveta's mother, Kolya)
2. Я люблю (our refrigerator, his magazine, that song, Vera, his sister, this pencil, their wine, Borya, her horse, your-sg milk, Seryozha)

## 23.E Case and Word Order

Compare the English sentences: “Lassie bit Timmy” “Timmy bit Lassie”

Obviously these sentences have different meanings. In English the meaning is revealed by *word order*. Changing the word order changes the meaning of the sentence. In English normally you have Subject > Verb > Direct Object. The form of a noun in English doesn't change if it's the subject versus the Direct Object versus the object of a preposition, etc. So, if we cut out the word ‘Timmy’ and asked you whether he had been the subject (the ‘biter’ or the Direct Object (the ‘bitee’), you couldn't tell.

Since in Russian you can tell the function of the noun by the form of the word (its Case), the order in which the words appear is not as important. So, for the single English sentence “Masha loves Gena”, you can have several equivalents in Russian:

Маша любит Гену. Маша Гену любит. Гену любит Маша. Гену Маша любит. Любит Маша Гену. Любит Гену Маша.	=	Masha loves Gena.
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Is there *any* difference in meaning when you change word order? The answer is yes: Different word orders normally result from emphasizing different elements of the sentence. But the “rules” pertaining to word order in Russian can be quite complex, and we won't spend a lot of time focusing on this question.

To be honest, in speech the most common word order in Russian is Subject > Verb > Object, just as in English. In writing, however, many ‘strange and exotic’ word orders occur all over the place. So, you are going to need to “bust out” of the Subject > Verb > Object mindset.

**Exercise 1**

Identify the case of the nouns and modifiers in the sentences. Be careful! There is not always going to be Subject-Verb-Direct Object word order:

Example: Мíша лóбит Мáшу.  
*Nom Acc*

Лóшадь кóрмит Лéна.  
*Acc Nom*

1. Сáша читáет кнiгу.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Мой кот их собáку не лóбит.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Вéру Мiша не вiдит.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Вéра Мiшу не вiдит.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Молокó кот пьёт.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Мáша обéд готóвит.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Пáша вiдит мышь.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Пáшу вiдит мышь.

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Ёра стáтью (*article*) читáет.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Винó пьёт Вiтя.

\_\_\_\_\_





Rewrite as in the example. Don't forget to change the possessive pronoun.

Example: Вон лежѣт твоѧ кнѣга, вѣдишь? ⇨ Да, я вѣжу моѣ кнѣгу.

1. Вон лежѣт моѧ газѣта, вѣдишь? (*Think about what possessive to use!*)

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2. Вон лежѣт твоѣ печѣнье, вѣдишь?

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3. Вон лежѣт егѣ собѧка, вѣдишь?

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4. Вон лежѣт твоѣ письмѣ, вѣдишь?

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5. Вон лежѣт Мѣшин фотоаппарѧт, вѣдишь?

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6. Вон лежѣт Лѣдина мышь, вѣдишь?

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## Exercise 3

Put the nouns in the Accusative. (*You don't know most of these nouns, but it makes no difference – you know the forms*):

1. Гѧля вѣдит (моѧ грѣша *pear*) \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Мѣша кѣрит (марихуѧна) \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Кѣля глѧдит (Кѣрино плѧтье *dress*) \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Оксѧна гѣтѣвит (зѧвтрак *breakfast*) \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Павѣртти поѣт (ѧрия) \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Лѣна кѣрмит (твоѧ лѣшадь) \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Кто лѣбит (егѣ дочь) \_\_\_\_\_?