

Двадцать первый урок

21

Песня:	Пусть бегут...
Стихотворение:	Лермонтов
Грамматика:	21.А: The Metaphorical Instrumental 21.Б: Verbs from Adjectives in ёй+ 21.В: Comparative in -ей 21.Г: Wishing Happy Birthday

This song is the probably the closest thing to “Happy Birthday” in Russian.

- 1 Пусть _____ неуклюже **пешеходы** по лужам,
 2 А _____ – _____ асфальту рекой,
 3 И неясно проходим _____ непогожий
 4 _____ такой.
 5 Ах, _____ гармошке у прохожих на виду,
 6 _____ рожденья только раз в году.
 7 Прилетит _____ **волшебник** в голубом вертолёте
 8 И **бесплатно** покажет _____,
 9 _____ рожденья **поздравит**
 10 И, наверно, **оставит** _____ в подарок _____ эскимó.

Словарь

1	неуклюжий	<i>awkward</i>
1	пешеход	<i>pedestrian</i>
1	лужа	<i>puddle</i>
2	асфальт	<i>guess</i>
3	прохожий	<i>passer-by</i>
3	непогожий	<i>inclement (weather)</i>
5	гармош/ка (е)	<i>harmonica</i>
5	на виду	<i>in front of everyone</i>
6	в году	<i>=в год (No difference in meaning between the two.)</i>
7	волшебник	<i>magician; wizard</i>
7	вертолёт	<i>helicopter</i>
8	бесплатный	<i>free (of charge)</i>
8	показывай+ // показá+	<i>show</i>
9	поздравляй+ // поздрáви+ accusative (person) + с instrumental (event)	<i>congratulate someone on; wish some (See grammar.)</i>
10	оставляй+ // остáви+ + dative	<i>leave (behind)</i>
10	в подарок	<i>as a gift</i>
10	эскимó	<i>Eskimo pie (ice cream)</i>

Михаил Юрьевич Лермонтов (1814-1841)

- 1 Белёет парус _____
 2 В тумане моря _____!..
 3 _____ далёкой?
 4 _____ кинул он в кра _____ родн _____?..
 5 _____ волны – ветер свищет,
 6 И мачта гнётся и скрипит..
 7 Увы, -- он счастья _____
 8 И не _____!
 9 _____ струя светлей лазури,
 10 _____ луч солнца золотой..
 11 А он, мятежный, просит бури,
 12 _____ есть покой.

Словарь

1	белёй+	<i>appear as white; turn white</i> (See grammar.)
1	парус (á)	<i>sail</i>
2	туман	<i>fog</i>
2	море Plural моря, морей!, морям, морях, морями	<i>sea</i>
3	далёкий	<i>distant</i>
4	кидай+ // кину+	<i>quit; leave; abandon</i>
4	край (íó)	<i>area; country; place; border</i>
4	родной	<i>native</i>
5	волна Plural волны, волн, волнах, волнам, волнами	<i>wave</i>
5	ветер	<i>wind</i>
5	свиста́+ (<i>bookish</i>) (or свисте́+) // сви́стну+	<i>whistle</i> (In modern Russian свисте́- is the standard form for whistle.)
6	мачта	<i>mast</i>
6	гну́+...ся // со-	<i>bend</i>
6	скрипе́+ // про-	<i>creak; squeak</i>
7	увы́	<i>alas</i>
7	сча́стие	= <i>сча́стье</i>

9	струя́	<i>stream</i>
9	светле́й	<i>lighter; brighter</i> (This is the comparative of the adjective све́тлый. See more in grammar explanation.)
9	лазу́рь	<i>light blue; azure</i> (You can tell the gender of this based on the form лазу́ри. What case is this? Why?)
10	луч	<i>ray</i>
10	злото́й	<i>golden</i>
11	мяте́жный	<i>rebellious</i>
11	проси́+ // по-	<i>ask for; request [noun]</i>
11	бу́ря	<i>storm</i>
12	поко́й	<i>peace; calm</i> (We've seen this root in успоко́йся, не беспоко́йся.)

21.A The “Metaphorical Instrumental”

In line two of the song we find the phrase **а вода́ – по асфа́льту реко́й** and *water (flows) like a river along the asphalt*. Why is **реко́й** in the *instrumental*?

It turns out that the instrumental case is used fairly often in writing (especially in poetry) with the meaning *like a [noun], in a [noun]-like way*. This is often referred to as the **metaphorical** use of the instrumental.

Below are some examples of the metaphorical instrumental, most of which contain nouns we have not seen yet. That's because this use of the instrumental can only be used with a small number of nouns.

По́езд пролетéл **стрелóй**.

The train flew by like an arrow.

Пти́ца **ка́мнем** упáла на зéмлю.

The bird fell like a stone.

Он закрича́л **петухóм**.

He yelled out like a rooster.

There is a famous poem by Пу́шкин that begins:

Невиди́мкою луна

Like an invisible creature the moon

Освещáет снег летúчий.

Illuminates the flying snow.

(You may recall that the feminine instrumental singular has the alternative form {О}ю, in addition to the more standard {О}й.)

The metaphorical instrumental is not “productive,” – so, for example, you cannot say *Он говори́т дурако́м* to mean *He is talking like a fool*. Instead you must use *как дура́к*.

Still, the main point of this section is that if you want to read (and understand) Russian fiction or poetry, it's quite important that you be able to *recognize* this use of the instrumental. You will see this – trust us.

21.Б The Meaning of Many Ёй-Stems: *Become/Appear (Adjective)*

In line one of the poem we find the phrase **Белёет парус одинокий...**, an approximate translation of which is *A lone white sail appears....* Let's look at the verb **белёй+** and other ёй-stems.

You can attach the suffix **-ёй+** (note that it's stressed!!) to many adjectives to give the meaning *become/turn (adjective)*. Most have a perfective in **по-**. Some examples:

Adjective		Verb	
тёмный	<i>dark</i>	темнёй+ / по-	<i>become dark</i>
светлый	<i>light</i>	светлёй+ / по-	<i>become light; bright</i>
хороший		хорошёй+ / по-	<i>become more attractive</i>
глупый		глупёй+ / по-	<i>become stupid</i>
старый		старёй+ / по-	<i>grow old</i>
толстый	<i>fat; thick</i>	толстёй+ / по-	<i>gain weight</i>
худой	<i>thin</i>	худёй+ / по-	<i>lose weight</i>
красный		краснёй+ / по-	<i>turn red; blush</i>

Some example sentences with these ёй-stems:

Лётом в Петербурге начинаёт темнеть часо́в в
о́диннадцать вёчера.

*In the summer in Petersburg it doesn't start to get
dark until around 11PM.*

Моя ба́бушка в последнее вре́мя о́чень си́льно
постаре́ла.

My grandmother has really aged recently.

Са́ша прекра́сно ви́глядит! Он о́чень похудёл.

Sasha looks great! He lost a lot of weight.

Почему́ ты красне́ешь?

Why are you blushing?

Мне ка́жется, что он с ка́ждый днё́м глупе́ет и
глупе́ет.

*It seems to me that he is getting stupider and
stupider with each passing day.*

But wait a second. In the poem **белёет** does *not* mean *turn white*, it actually means *appear/show as white*. What's going on? It turns that with some colors (and shades of light), the suffix **-ёй+** gives a meaning that is rather difficult to express in English. It's roughly equivalent to *be seen as white/red/blue/dark*. There is simply no equivalent type of verb in English. Some examples (with some unknown vocabulary – it's really hard to come up with these examples):

Сле́ва желтёет по́ле.

On the left there appears a yellow field.

Впереди́ чернело́ большо́е о́зеро.

In front a large lake appears black.

Наверху́ синёет не́бо, внизу́ зеленёет лес.

Above the sky is blue, below the forest is green.



Переведите на русский. You may need to refer back to the chart on the previous page and the examples directly above.

1. It's already getting dark.
2. There appears a lonely white sail.
3. Why are you blushing?
4. On the right there appears a yellow field.
5. His face is turning green.
6. She gained a lot of weight.
7. The sky is blue.
8. She looks good (better than before).

21.B Comparative Adjectives/Adverbs in -Ей

In line nine of the poem we find the phrase **Под ним струя светлей лазури** *Below him is a stream lighter than azure*. Let's look at the comparative adjective **светлей**.

Last year we saw that most comparative adjectives (and adverbs) are formed with the suffix **-ее** (Recall that *than* can be rendered either by **чем** or by a bare genitive of the noun):

Вера умнее и добрее, чем Нина (Нины).	<i>Vera is smarter and nicer than Nina.</i>
Я красивее моей младшей сестры.	<i>I'm more attractive than my younger sister.</i>
Там будет скучнее и холоднее, чем здесь.	<i>It will be more boring and colder there than here.</i>

The comparative of adjectives and adverbs can also be formed with the suffix **-ей**:

Моя сестра красивей, чем я.	<i>My sister is prettier than me.</i>
Сегодня он вернулся домой быстрее, чем обычно.	<i>He got home today faster than normal.</i>
Этот город старей, чем Лондон.	<i>This city is older than London.</i>

So, what's the difference between comparative in **-ее** vs. **-ей**? Not much, if anything at all. As a general rule, comparatives in **-ей** are felt to be more colloquial, and should be avoided in writing. (In fact, we should not have provided the written examples above, but wanted to show you what these forms look like.) So why did Лермонтов use **светлей** if these forms are reserved for the spoken language? In the poem, Лермонтов almost certainly uses **светлей** (as opposed to **светлее**) strictly for purposes of meter. In theory, if he "needed" an extra syllable in the line he would have used **светлее**. We'll never know.

In any case, just as with the "Metaphorical Instrumental" discussed above, the important point is to be able to *recognize* these forms. We will review comparative adjectives and adverbs in greater depth later in the course.



Переведите на русский. Use the comparative in **-ей**.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. His apartment is more cramped than mine. | 2. French citizens are more self-confident than Italian citizens. |
| 3. Her house is more luxurious than ours. | 4. It will be more comfortable there than here. |
| 5. My room is tinier than yours. | 6. This cockroach is smarter than your professor. |
| 7. It's more difficult to understand Plato than Tolstoy. | 8. His mustache is longer than my beard. |

21.Б Congratulating Someone: Happy Birthday! Merry Christmas!, etc.

In line of the song we find the phrase **с днём рождения поздравит** *he will wish (me) a Happy Birthday*. Let's examine this "congratulations/wishing" construction in more detail.

We actually saw the construction (more or less) last year in the expressions **С НОВЫМ ГОДОМ** and **С ДНЁМ РОЖДЕНИЯ**. Both of these phrases are condensed versions of the complete construction, which is:

поздравляй+ // поздравь+ *кого* (person) + с + *instrumental of event*

As you can see, it is possible to ellipst the verb, as well as the direct object. Normally, however, if the verb is included, the direct object will also appear. Some examples with various degrees of ellipsis:

С НОВЫМ ГОДОМ!

Happy New Year!

Я тебя поздравляю с новой работой!

Congratulations on your new job.

Она его поздравила с рождением сына.

She congratulated him on the birth of his son.

Поздравь жену с публикацией её новой книги.

Congratulate your wife on the publication of her new book.

С приездом (приезд=*arrival*)!

Welcome (on your arrival)!



Переведите на русский.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Merry Christmas (Рождество). 3. Wish your husband a Happy Birthday. 5. I wish y'all a Happy New Year! 7. Welcome (on your arrival)! | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Congratulations on the birth of your daughter. 4. They wished us a Happy Anniversary. (годовщина свадьбы) 6. Happy Independence Day! (день независимости) 8. Congratulate your daughter on her new job. |
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19-й урок – Домашнее задание



Упражнение 1 Переведите песню и стихотворение на английский



Упражнение 2 Переведите на русский

1. The semester flew by (пролетé+) like lightning (мóлния)
2. Why are you blushing?
3. The magician left me in the helicopter.
4. Wish your great-grandfather a Happy Birthday.
5. Do you know how to (*think!*) whistle?