

Сорок первый урок

41

Грамматика: 41.А: Verbs With the Root м-ня
41.Б: Это...
41.В: Близнец
41.Г: Разбери́й-...ся в чём
41.Д: Попало
41.Е: Как насчёт...?

41.А Verbs Like {подни+[◀] / подня+[◃]} and {пойм+[◂] / поня+[◃]}

Let's try to clear up a rather nasty (but extremely important) group of double-stem verbs. We've actually seen—and even drawn attention to—all of the verbs discussed below before, but they constitute such an important group that it's worth re-visiting them yet again.

41.А.1а Present/Imperative Stem: Consonant + ним-[◂] or Vowel + йм

In the present/imperative stem the letter **м** is always found. The exact form of the stem depends on the last letter of the *prefix*. (There are no un-prefixed forms of this verb).

If the prefix ends in a consonant (**под-**, **от-**, **с-**, etc.) then the rest of the stem is **ним-[◂]**, with shifting stress in the “present tense” – (all these prefixed forms are perfective, so they actually carry a future meaning). Recall that this shifting is an exception: Only *vocalic* stems are supposed to have shifting stress in the present tense. We also see “unexpected” shifting stress in the present tense in the consonant stem **мог+[◂]**.

If the prefix ends in a vowel (**по-**, **за-**, **на-**, etc.) then the rest of the “present tense” stem is **йм-**. The one exception to this is the prefix **при-**, where the cluster **ийм** > **им** (i.e., the **й** drops out and the **и** from the prefix itself remains). And throw in shifting stress in the present (perfective future) of the stem **прим+[◂]** just for the heck of it – but not in the other verbs whose prefix ends in a vowel. So, there's no shifting stress with **пойм+[◂]**, **займ+[◂]**, etc. Got that?

41.А.1б Past/Infinitive Stem: **ня** (and bizarre stress)

In the past/infinitive stem there is **ня** everywhere, regardless of whether the prefix ends in a vowel or a consonant. The stress is crazy.

First the easy part: the infinitive has fixed stress on the **-я́ть**, again regardless of the final letter of the prefix: **приня́ть**, **по́нять**, **подня́ть**, **сня́ть**, **заны́ть** *оссуру*, **обня́ть** *hug*.

In the past tense, there is shifting stress in all forms, i.e., the feminine form is always stress on the ending **-ла́**. The tricky is knowing where the stress falls in the non-feminine forms. If the prefix ends in vowel, the non-feminine forms have stress on the first syllable (which is actually part of the prefix): **по́нял~по́няла́~по́няли**, **приня́л~приня́ла́~приня́ло~приня́ли**. So, we'll mark shifting stress above the first syllable (for the past tense) and fixed on the **я́** (for the infinitive): **по́ня+[◃]**.

If the prefix ends in a consonant, the stress in the non-feminine forms tends to fall on the **я́** (**подня́л~подня́ла́~подня́ли**, **отня́л~отня́ла́~отня́ло~отня́ли**), though it's possible to hear Russians put stress on the prefix in the masculine, neuter and plural (**о́тнял~о́тняла́~о́тняло~о́тняли**). We'll put a single shifting stress on the **я́** (which indicates both past and infinitive stress): **подня́+[◃]**.

And this gets really nasty when the verb contains the verbal suffix **-ся**. Trust us, you don't want to know the gory details.

Here are the all the forms for four of this important (but rather nasty) verb type:

| | Prefix in Consonant + ним ^{<} / ня ^{>} | | Prefix in Vowel + йм ^{<} / ня ^{>} | |
|-------------|---|---|--|--|
| | { сним ^{<} / сня ^{>} } <i>rent; take off; photograph</i> | { подним ^{<} / подня ^{>} } <i>lift</i> | { пойм ^{<} / поя ^{>} } <i>understand; grasp</i> | { прим ^{<} / приня ^{>} } <i>accept; take (shower; medicine)</i> |
| “Present” я | сниму́ | подниму́ | пойму́ | приму́ |
| она́ | снѐмет | поднѐмет | поймѐт | прѐмет |
| они́ | снѐмут | поднѐмут | поймут | прѐмут |
| Past он | снял | подня́л (<i>either</i>) | поя́л | прѐнял |
| она́ | сняла́ | подня́ла | поя́ла | прѐняла́ |
| они́ | сняли | подня́ли (<i>either</i>) | поя́ли | прѐняли |
| Infın | снять | поднять | понять | принять |
| Imper | сними́/те! | подними́/те! | пойми́/те! | прими́/те! |

Task for you: Look at the meanings of these verbs and try to decide exactly what the root **(н)им~ня** means. Our best guess is *take*.

All of the above forms are *perfective*. The imperfective is formed by with the suffixed **-нима́й-** (regardless of whether the perfective has **ним** or **йм** in the stem).

| Imperfective | Perfective |
|--------------|---|
| снима́й+ | { сним ^{<} / сня ^{>} } |
| поднима́й+ | { подним ^{<} / подня ^{>} } |
| принима́й+ | { прим ^{<} / приня ^{>} } |
| понима́й+ | { пойм ^{<} / поя ^{>} } |
| обнима́й+ | { обним ^{<} / обня ^{>} } <i>hug</i> |
| занима́й+ | { займ ^{<} / заня ^{>} } <i>occupy</i> |



For each sentence give the forms requested

- (I / you / who) will lift the heavy suitcase
- (He / she/ we) lifted the bricks.
- (He / we / ya'll) will not understand the lecture.
- Take off you coat!
- (I / he / she) takes a shower every morning.
- (I / she / they) will take a shower in the evening.

| |
|---|
| 41.Б Это ... <i>It's [Phrase] that...</i> |
|---|

To place special emphasis on exactly *who [subject], what [object], where, etc.*, take unchanging **это** followed by the noun or preposition phrase in whatever case is required (i.e. as if the noun were in its original place and not at the front following **это**).

Generally, this **это** construction is “marked,” i.e., you can’t just start a conversation with it. Often this is used to contradict a previous statement, which can optionally be expressed with **а не (я / его / краную / в Москвú, etc)**.

The closest translation in English is *It's [phrase]...; It was [phrase]...*

Note that you do not need any form of **ко́рый** or **кто** in these sentences, as you sometimes do in English.

| | |
|---|---|
| Это Ни́на слома́ла ви́дик (а не я). | <i>It was Nina who broke the VCR (and not me).</i> |
| Это Ма́шу он лю́бит (а не Ни́ну). | <i>It's Masha (whom) he loves (and not Nina).</i> |
| Это ей все хотя́т отомсти́ть. | <i>It's her (whom) everyone wants to get revenge on.</i> |
| Это от Ко́ли он получи́л письмо́. | <i>It was from Kolya (that) he got the letter.</i> |
| Это к тебе́ она́ ревну́ет му́жа. | <i>It's on account of you (that) she is jealous of her husband.</i> |
| Это в Москвú они́ уеха́ли (а не в Ло́ндон). | <i>It was to Moscow (that) they went (and not to London).</i> |

(Earlier, we saw another way of placing emphasis, with the word **и́менно**. In many respects these two are quite similar.)

Это Са́шу я ви́дел вчера́ на конце́рте. ≈ И́менно Са́шу я ви́дел вчера́ на конце́рте.

41.В Using the Noun **Близне́ц** *Twin*

The *end-stressed* noun **близне́ц** 'twin' can be used in several ways:

- 1) After the nouns **брат-** / **сестра́-**. (Include a hyphen!). Note that there is no special feminine form; just decline **близне́ц** as if it were masculine animate.

Это его́ брат-близне́ц.

That's his twin brother.

Я не зна́ла, что у Со́ни есть сестра́-близне́ц.

I didn't know that Sonya had a twin sister.

Я не зави́дую его́ бра́ту-близне́цу.

I don't envy his twin brother.

Мы ви́дели Ни́нину сестру́-близнеца́.

We saw Nina's twin sister.

- 2) Without a noun, in the plural.

Они́ близнецы́.

They're twins.

Я ви́дел близнецов.

I saw the twins.



Переведите на русский

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. It's Vera I suspect. | 2. It's Nina who's crazy. |
| 3. It was Natasha I was offended by, and not by you. | 4. Do you know Vadik's twin brother? |
| 5. It was Princeton she graduated from. | 6. It's hard to believe, but Masha and Vera are twins. |

41.Г Разбира́й+...ся в чём *Have knowledge of / experience in*

The verb phrase **разбира́й+...ся в + prepositional** (which we'll be looking at soon), indicates that a *person has (or lacks) expertise in a particular field*. It can refer to either a concrete item (**компью́теры, маши́ны**) or an intellectual pursuit (**матема́тика, поэ́зия**).

Извини́, я в компью́терах совсе́м не разбира́юсь.

Sorry, I don't know anything about computers.

Надо спроси́ть Лэ́ну. Она́ здо́рово разбира́ется в футбо́ле.

We should ask Lena. She knows soccer inside out.

Мой брат-близне́ц разбира́ется в маши́нах.

My twin brother is a grease-monkey.

Я ра́ньше разбира́лась во францу́зской ку́хне.

I used to know French cooking pretty well.

Он разбира́ется в поэ́зии.

He knows poetry quite well.

Ты разбира́ешься в матема́тике?

Are you a math guru?

41.Е Как насчёт чего / кого?

The phrase **как насчёт** *how about, as far as X is concerned* acts like a preposition and takes the *genitive*.

+ Я не знаю, что ей подарить. – Как насчёт юбки? + *I don't know what to get her. – How about a skirt?*

+ Кто может нам помочь? – Как насчёт Юры? + *Who can help us? – How about Yura?*

Как насчёт can be used to make a suggestion (often to eat something):

Как насчёт торта? *How about some cake?*

Как насчёт чая? (*Can't use чью here for some reason.*) *How about some tea?*

We should warn you that **как насчёт** is rather colloquial. Some “purists” may not approve of it, but normal people use it all the time.



Переведите на русский

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. My sister really knows Russian verbs! | 2. He talks with anyone who happens to be around. |
| 3. How about three? (<i>We know the genitive of this!</i>) | 4. How about (some) ice cream? |
| 5. Borya drinks with whoever happens to be around. | 6. He calls at any time. |
| 7. Are you a chess guru? | 8. I am no expert in modern art (искусство) |



Упражнение 1 Ответьте на вопросы по рассказу:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5. Опишите *describe*

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.



Упражнение 2

Переведите на русский

1. It was Vera who ruined everything!
2. Take off your coat!
3. Who's the owner of the store on the corner?
4. He went up to the second floor.
5. My roommate is a Russian grammar guru.
6. How about some strong black coffee?
7. I like redheads.