

Девяностый урок

90

Диалог:	Работал над дипломной работой <i>I worked on my senior thesis</i>
Грамматика:	90.A: Нёту
	90.B: Papers
	90.B: Freshman, Sophomore, etc.
	90.Г: Study a subject
	90.Д: Good/Bad teacher
	90.E: Department chairman
	90.Ё: Test, Exam, Quiz

Работал над дипломной работой

I was working on my Senior Thesis

		(В столовой накануне первого дня весеннего семестра)	<i>(In the dining hall on the eve of the first day of the spring semester)</i>
Витя	1	Как у тебя прошли каникулы?	<i>How was your break?</i>
Лёня	2 3	Какие каникулы? Я был здесь всё время. Работал над дипломной работой .	<i>What break? I was here the whole time, working on my senior thesis.</i>
Витя	4	А я думал, что ты только третьекурсник .	<i>But I thought you were just a junior.</i>
Лёня	5	Нет, я уже четверокурсник .	<i>No, I'm already a senior.</i>
Витя	6	А какая у тебя специальность?	<i>What's your major?</i>
Лёня	8	Политология.	<i>Political Science. (Politics)</i>
Витя	9 10 11 12	Я тоже собираюсь изучать политологию. Как ты думаешь, стоит слушать курс Политика 348? Я слышал, что Нелсон хороший преподаватель .	<i>I'm also planning on studying Politics. What do you think, is it worth it taking Politics 348? I heard that Nelson is a really good teacher.</i>
Лёня	13 14 15 16	Он мой научный руководитель . Да, вообще он хороший преподаватель, но он очень занят. В этом году он заведующий кафедрой политологии.	<i>He's my advisor. Yeah, in general he's a good teacher, but he's really busy. This year he's the chair of the Political Science department.</i>
Витя	17	А курс очень трудный?	<i>Is the course very difficult?</i>
Лёня	18 19 20	Полно домашней работы. Три сочинения по десять страниц. Много чтения – по 500 страниц в неделю.	<i>A lot of homework. Three papers – 10 pages each. A lot of reading – 500 pages a week.</i>
Витя	21	Ничего себе! А контрольные есть?	<i>Wow. (That's something.) Any exams / quizzes?</i>
Лёня	22 23	Нёту . Вообще курс хороший, но я советую тебе не отставать.	<i>Nope. In general it's a good course, but I advise you not to fall behind.</i>

Словарь

	накануне + <i>genitive</i>	<i>on the eve of</i>
3	дипломная работа	<i>senior thesis</i>
4	третьекурсник	<i>junior (See grammar for complete list.)</i>
9	изучай- + <i>accusative</i>	<i>study (subject in depth)</i>
12	преподаватель	<i>teacher (in the sense of a pedagogue)</i>
13	научный руководитель	<i>academic advisor</i>
15	заведующий (-ая) кафедрой	<i>department chairman</i>
18	полно + <i>genitive</i>	<i>a lot of; no shortage of</i>
19	чтение	<i>reading</i>
22	нёту + <i>genitive</i>	<i>expresses lack of existence – very colloquial, if not substandard</i>

90.A	Нéту
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A quite colloquial (and some would say substandard) form of **нет** is **нéту**. **Нéту** is only used when indicating that something does not exist. You cannot use it as the opposite of **да**. Of course, **нéту** is followed by the genitive:

Нéту здесь мéста.

There ain't no room here.

У него нéту дéнег.

He doesn't have any money.

We actually saw this in the story «Лев,» where Katya regrets that a certain type of apple is not available in Leningrad, saying «**Таких здесь нéту...**» In the story this use of **нéту** is probably intended to inform the reader that Katya is not (particularly well) educated. Still, many educated people use **нéту**, just as you will hear students and faculty here use *ain't*.

Образовáние Education

90.B	Paper For a Course
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There's no 100% exact equivalent to *a paper* (something you write for a class) in Russian, but **сочинéние по dative** probably comes closest, especially for a literature paper. (This is because the noun **сочинéние**, as you can see, is a nominalization from the verb **сочини́й+ compose**. The idea is that for literature you are not simply reporting facts, but rather *composing* ideas. For history or sociology, etc., in theory, you don't compose ideas, but present arguments based on facts.) In any case, there are two other terms for *paper* worth knowing:

курсовáя рабóта по + dative *term paper (one or two per term is standard)*

У меня в éтом семéстре две курсовéе рабóты.

I have two term papers this semester.

О чём ты собираéшься написáть курсовúю рабóту по истóрии?

What are you planning on writing your paper for history on?

диплóмная рабóта *senior thesis*

Я надéюсь закончить диплóмную рабóту к началу слéдующей недели.

I hope to finish my senior thesis by the beginning of next week.

Она *рабóтает над диплóмной рабóтой по мéньшей мéре шесть часóв в день.

She works on (her) senior thesis at least six hours a day.

Note the verb phrase **рабóтай+ над + instrumental** *work on a paper*.

90.В Freshman, Sophomore, etc.

In addition to saying **Я учусь на первом курсе**, etc., you can use the following nouns (male ~ female):

первокурсник ~ первокурсница
второкурсник ~ второкурсница
третьекурсник ~ третьекурсница
четверокурсник ~ четверокурсница
*пятикурсник ~ пятикурсница

*University/institute lasts five years in Russia.

Recall that the masculine form (e.g. **второкурсник, третьекурсник**) is used for all males as well as mixed groups; the feminine (e.g. **второкурсница, третьекурсница**) is used only for all females.



Переведите на русский:

- I'm working on a Russian literature paper.
- Vova is a freshman and his girlfriend is a senior!
- What are you writing your English literature term paper on?
- All sophomores show off all the time.
- It's hard to believe that she's already a fifth-year student.
- I have three term papers this semester.
- Seniors must write a senior thesis.
- My professor really liked my paper on Pushkin.

90.Г Study a Subject Изучай- что / Занимай-...ся чем

Another *study* verb (actually verbs)!

We still have not learned how to say *I'm studying Russian (I am taking a course in Russian)*. It turns out (surprise! surprise!) that there are several ways of expressing this (rather simple) notion. We'll learn this one:

изучай+ + accusative

Я изучаю русский язык в Принстоне.

I'm studying Russian at Princeton.

Он десять лет изучал математику.

He studied math for ten years.

This verb implies deep, serious study (which certainly applies to each of you).

To express the idea of *right now, at the moment I'm studying Russian; doing my Russian homework*, use:

занима́й+...ся + *instrumental*

В да́нный момен́т я занима́юсь ру́сским языко́м. *At the moment I'm studying Russian.*
 Чем ты занима́ешься? *What are you studying?*

90.Д Good / Bad Teacher Хоро́ший (плохо́й) преподава́тель

To say that someone (e.g., a professor) is a *good / bad teacher*, use the noun **преподава́тель**. **Преподава́тель** is used (along with a *masculine* adjective) for both men and women:

Мой профе́ссор ру́сского языка́ – о́чень плохо́й преподава́тель! *My Russian professor is a very bad teacher.*
 Она́ хоро́ший преподава́тель. *She's a good teacher.*
 Я слы́шал, что Петро́ва - о́тлично́й преподава́тель. *I heard that Petrova is an excellent teacher.*



Переведите на русский:

1. I have been studying (*present tense*) Russian for 2 years.
2. Don't bother him. He's studying.
3. My physics professor is a fantastic teacher.
4. He studied Russian history for five years.
5. Do you think it's worth studying this question?
6. They say that Ивано́ва is a good teacher.
7. What are you studying at the given moment?
8. Vera's daughter is an average teacher.

90.E Department Chair Заведу́ющий ка́федрой + *Genitive*

Chairperson of an academic department is **заведу́ющий (заведу́ющая) ка́федрой + *genitive of department***. What the heck is up with **ка́федрой**? What case is that? First, the nominative is **ка́федра**, which translates as *academic department*. **Ка́федра** is actually a subdivision of **факульте́т**. Each **факульте́т** is divided into several **ка́федра**. (This is yet another example of why it's almost impossible to give exact equivalents of many educational terms.)

Anyway, that doesn't explain the case on **ка́федрой**, which, as you can now detect, is *instrumental*. It turns out that the word for *chairperson* **заведу́ющий** is (as you should recognize) a present active participle from the verb **заведо́ва+ run; manage**, which takes, you guessed it, the instrumental case. Precisely *why* this verb takes instrumental is another story.

For reasons you don't want to know (i.e., I have no idea), you can't use **заведу́ющий** with **факульте́т**.

Я вчера́ до́лго разгова́ривал с заведу́ющим ка́федрой эконо́мики. *I had a long talk yesterday with the chair of the Economics department.*
 Его́ те́тя – заведу́ющая ка́федрой францу́зского языка́. *His aunt is the chair of the French department.*

Also, in the dialogue, we had **научный руководитель** *academic advisor*.

Лілія сейчас у своего научного руководителя.	<i>Lilya is at (with) her advisor right now.</i>
Как зовут твоего научного руководителя?	<i>What's your advisor's name?</i>

90.Ė Test, Exam, Quiz

Translating *exam, test, quiz* raises a few problems, which we have been side-stepping until now. In Russia there is just one **экзамен** per semester, given at the end of the course. During the semester students take **контрольные работы**. Often the word **работа** is ellipted – just **контрольная** is said.)

There's no exact word for *quiz*, perhaps **маленькая контрольная работа** comes closest.

Quite understandably, students often use **экзамен** when they really should say **контрольная работа**. And, to be honest, we ourselves probably used **экзамен** too often in the textbook last year. It can be a hard habit to break.

Recall that the subject of the exam (Russian, Economics, Statistics) is expressed with **по + dative**. This applies to both **контрольная работа** and **экзамен**:

Завтра у меня контрольная по геологии.	<i>I have a geology exam tomorrow.</i>
В этом курсе будет шесть контрольных работ.	<i>There will be six tests in this course.</i>
Когда ты будешь сдавать экзамен по истории?	<i>When are you going to take your history exam?</i>



Переведите на русский:

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|--|---|
| 1. I have a French exam tomorrow. | 2. The history final is on Wednesday. |
| 3. Everyone loves the chairman of the math department. | 4. His exams are always very difficult. |
| 5. My advisor ruined his life by drinking. | 6. I have to studying for a Russian exam. |
| 7. The chairman of the economics department went to Princeton. | 8. This semester I have five final exams. What a nightmare. |

The Times They Are A Changing

The educational system in Russia, which was extremely uniform under the Soviet system, has undergone major changes over the past few years. Where there were just a few universities (**университет**) before, and most institutions of higher learning were called institutes (**институт**), many “institutes” have recently renamed themselves “universities” - it's considered more prestigious. Terminology and practices have also changed in nearly every other area of education. We have tried to present “standard” terms, but you should not be shocked to hear Russians use different words for *department, advisor, test*, etc. This shouldn't shock you, given Princeton's “proprietary” terminology: things like *JP, Senior Thesis, PDF, Politics* (instead of *Political Science*), *precept*, not to mention *Dean's Date* come to mind.



Упражнение 1 Write 6 sentences – 1 each on points Б-Ё

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

 Упражнение 2 Переведите на русский

1. My ex-boyfriend is a freshman at Princeton.
2. I studied Chinese for 6 years.
3. Everyone says that Ivanov is a fantastic teacher, but I doubt it.