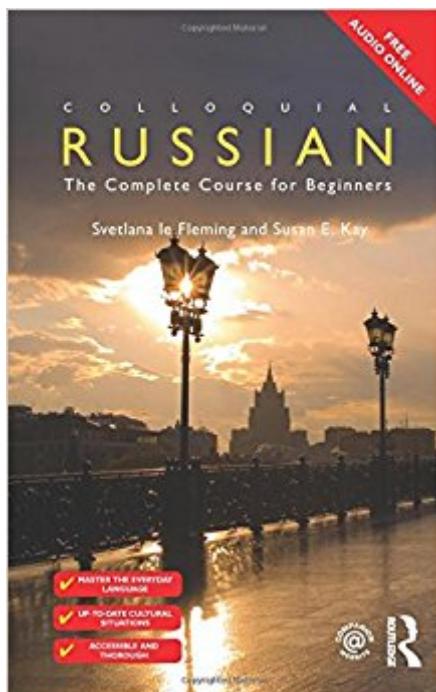


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Colloquial Russian: The Complete Course For Beginners (Colloquial Series (Book Only))



Synopsis

Colloquial Russian: The Complete Course for Beginners has been carefully developed by an experienced teacher to provide a step-by-step course to Russian as it is written and spoken today. Combining a clear, practical and accessible style with a methodical and thorough treatment of the language, it equips learners with the essential skills needed to communicate confidently and effectively in Russian in a broad range of situations. No prior knowledge of the language is required. Colloquial Russian is exceptional; each unit presents a wealth of grammatical points that are reinforced with a wide range of exercises for regular practice. A full answer key, a grammar summary, bilingual glossaries and English translations of dialogues can be found at the back as well as useful vocabulary lists throughout. Key features include: A clear, user-friendly format designed to help learners progressively build up their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills Jargon-free, succinct and clearly structured explanations of grammar An extensive range of focused and dynamic supportive exercises Realistic and entertaining dialogues covering a broad variety of narrative situations Helpful cultural points about life in Russia An overview of the sounds of Russian Balanced, comprehensive and rewarding, Colloquial Russian is an indispensable resource both for independent learners and students taking courses in Russian. Audio material to accompany the course is available to download free in MP3 format from www.routledge.com/cw/colloquials. Recorded by native speakers, the audio material features the dialogues and texts from the book and will help develop your listening and pronunciation skills.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Excellent beginner, but could have more Russian - English dialogues such as those found in RUSSIAN for BEGINNERS Duff/DMITRI. Dialogs are difficult but the improvizations are excellent. I also had a good tutor helping me through the course with this book.

As a foreign language teacher, I am always picky when choosing materials to teach myself a new foreign language. I was pleasantly surprised with this book. Many books just spend a lot of time repeating random words or tediously try to explain the very complicated Russian grammar BEFORE you even get to start speaking the language. What I liked about this book is that it teaches you these things but through a realistic, written dialogue. They use many cognants (words that sound the same in both langauges) to start you off and have a handy vocab key next to the dialogue in case you cannot figure something out. The grammar and reading comprehension activities following the dialogue are thorough. I also like how the chapters of the book are divided up by theme or topic rather than grammatical concepts. You will, however, get much more out of the book if you have the accompanying cds.

Reasonable starter for a difficult language, although there are a few things which I wonder about. For one thing, when teaching phonetics of each letter via an example word, they do not follow alphabetical order. However, it seems to be a thorough beginner course and the subject matter is relevant and reasonably topical as to day to day life in Moscow.

A must buy for a Russian class. It is working so far.

I've had to modify my original review for this book, from good to not-so-good-after-all. I bought the book because one of my children expressed an interest in learning Russian and the texts I'd used when I began to learn all seemed rather musty to me. I've had several colloquial French language books and they were all excellent, so I bought this colloquial Russian book for my offspring. I glanced through it and it seemed fine. But... when we actually began to work through it, this is what we found: the basic grammar is OK. Some of the vocabulary isn't really colloquial at all and is in some places a little odd (for example, using the verb "to know" instead of the verb "to like"). In other places the book becomes utterly unusable. In Unit 3 there's a section of text that's actually

early-intermediate level and there's no translation and no glossary. So if you don't already speak Russian you have no way to know what the text is saying. And this is in a book supposedly for beginners with no previous knowledge of the language. This type of problem reoccurs throughout the textbook and is, in my opinion, a fatal error. So I can't recommend this book to anyone who doesn't already speak Russian to a reasonable degree.

This is an excellent book for those learning Russian, ideally to be followed by the *Colloquial Russian - 2*. I rate on about the same par as the *Penguin Russian Course*. However, with the audio, this book does provide an additional learning enhancement.

The course is good, at least in the paper books, but the formatting on the Kindle versions is awful. There are spaces in the middle of words — Russian words, so it's hard to tell what is what without a dictionary. Even with the translation right there.

perfect

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