

LESSON NOTES

Russian Alphabet Made Easy #1

True Friends: A and Ka

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VOCABULARY

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
как	kak	how	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Как Вы себя чувствуете? <i>Kak Vy syebya chuvstvuyete?</i> "How do you feel?" (asking condition)	Как у тебя дела? <i>Kak u tyebya dyela?</i> "How are you?"
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GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson are the Russian characters А (a) and К (Ka)

Basisc of Russian Alphabets

The Russian alphabet contains 33 letters. Russian is largely phonetic. This means words are usually pronounced exactly like they're written. Also, if you look at all the characters you will notice that many are exactly the same as English letters. Based on this similarity to English to tackle the Russian writing system, you can separate the letters into four types:

True Friends: These are letters which look and sound just like English letters.

False Friends: These look like English letters you're familiar with, but sound different.

New Friends: They might look scary, but you'll warm up to them easily. These are letters you haven't seen before, but they have familiar sounds.

Strangers: They look different from anything you've seen before and don't have similar sounds to English either.

First letter: А (A)

It's pronounced "A". That's why this is a True Friend -- it looks like an English "A" and it sounds like an English "A".

Both printed and handwriting versions of "A" look the same as A in English.

Second letter: К (Ka)

Russian "K" is just like the English. It always makes the hard K sound.

Sample word.

- как (How)