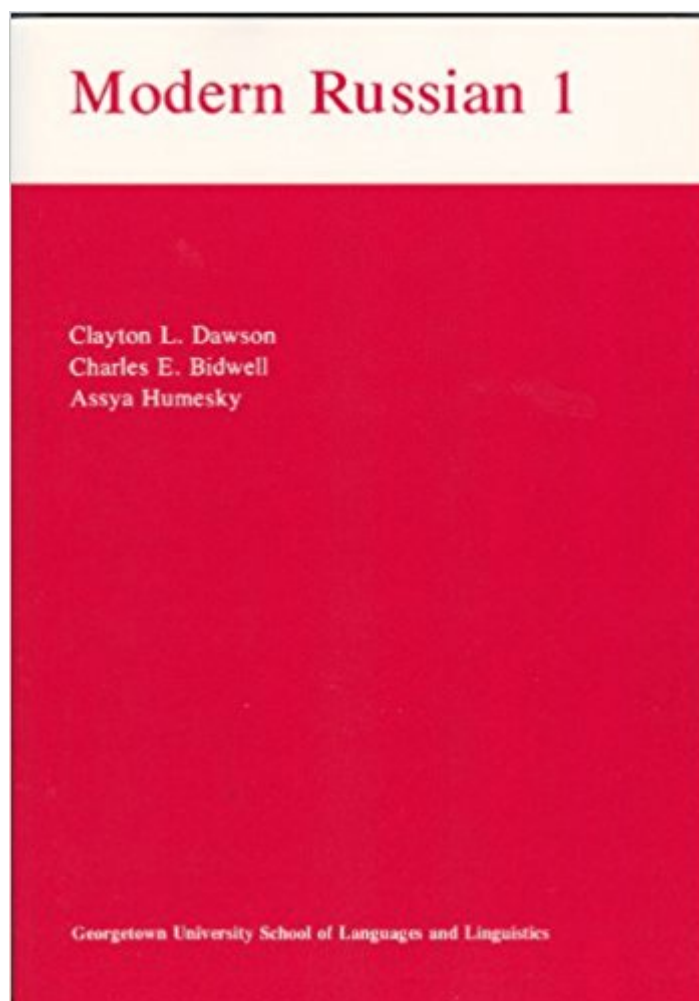


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Modern Russian Vol. 1 CDs, Text & Manual (Russian Edition)



Synopsis

This course emphasizes the fundamentals of spoken Russian and is the course of choice in hundreds of American universities. It's easy to get started learning Russian with this course, for the first 5 lessons emphasize listening and repeating and a parallel English equivalent is provided for each conversation. In the pauses provided in the recording, you repeat the phrases and dialog provided by native speakers of Russian. Carefully-constructed exercises give you pronunciation practice and experience using a variety of basic sentence structures. Reading and writing are introduced gradually and only after you become familiar with the language through listening to the recordings. All the Russian words are printed in the Cyrillic alphabet, but English translations are given for the dialogs. Notes explain points of cultural differences and of usage and style. Re-issued on 28 audio CDs (28 hours), with a 480-page text and instructor's manual. Product No. AFB101D.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I was a student at Georgetown U's School of Languages and Linguistics in the 70s, this volume and Modern Russian II were the core of the Russian program. I did not take Russian course but was interested in Russian so I bought the book and went to the language lab on my own to teach myself Russian. The course is so effective that 30 years later without using Russian I can still remember the key sentences and dialogues. I got the two volumes recently to refresh my knowledge. Although vocabulary and dialogues reflect the Soviet era, the structure of the language doesn't change - the noun and verb forms are still the same. Impediments to comprehension by your listener are not vocabulary but incorrect pronunciation or incorrect use of grammar which can

make what you say difficult to comprehend or totally incomprehensible. These books help ensure you don't have those problems. There is no better way to learn Russian on your own. All facets of the language are explained clearly and drilled effectively so that they become natural to the learner and thus give you the confidence to use the language - one of the great problems of learners, overcoming embarrassment in using the language. The extensive nature of the drills also help the learner with comprehension - another great problem for learners: you can learn to say things perfectly but if you can't understand what is said to you, it doesn't matter too much whether you can speak correctly or not, you don't know what to say or how to respond. There are 28 CDs (28 hr) for Volume I and 36 CDs (28.5 hr) for Volume II so that gives the learner extensive practice and drill in internalising the language. I have extensive experience in learning hard languages (Mandarin, Japanese, Arabic) and I have never seen a better structured course with such extensive drills to help the student internalise the language. The structure is a model for all language courses to follow. Drills may not be fun but if one REALLY wants to learn a language well with confidence, in this case Russian, there is no better way.

This package has it ALL. Great detail in the written and oral approach. The included book explaining the grammar and the repetitions in the exercises make it a must have. If you want to learn Russian, this is the package you must have.

If you're serious about learning Russian independently, I can tell you without fear of contradiction that this course is the best way to go about it! The book consists of 18 lessons, each of which contains one or (usually) 2 dialogues to illustrate sentence structure and sample conversation, followed by extensive grammar sections. This course does an excellent job of helping the learner navigate and master the extremely intricate structure of Russian grammar. Each new grammatical point is first explained, then illustrated, and then extensive drills are devoted to practicing it, to "program" it into the learner's memory so that constructing Russian sentences becomes second nature. If you go through this course thoroughly (which should take you around seven or eight months), you will have mastered Russian verb tenses and conjugation as well as noun and adjective declension in all six cases. Best of all, it comes with a massive amount (over 28 hours) of audio material which is absolutely indispensable to learning to speak and understand Russian. I recommend going through each lesson on the CDs at least four times to master it. Don't even consider buying the book without the audio, except on the off-chance that you have a Russian spouse who doesn't mind spending many hours a week giving you lessons! Potential buyers of this

course should be aware that it was prepared and first published in the 1960s and so contains many sentences suited to the USSR of that period, such as "There is no electricity at the collective farm yet" and "Khrushchev vacations at Odessa." But this in no way makes it any less effective at teaching grammar or basic Russian vocabulary. There is also a Modern Russian II course available, with the same amount of audio and a textbook structured just like this one, for those wishing to bring their Russian to a higher level after finishing this course.

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