



## Newbie Lesson Introductions

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\* Audio Conversation



## Formal Russian

Анна            Меня зовут Анна. А как вас зовут?  
Эрик            Эрик.  
Анна            Очень приятно, Эрик!  
Эрик            Взаимно.

## Formal Romanization

Anna            Minya zavut Anna. A kak vas zavut?  
Erik            Erik.  
Anna            Ochin' priyatna, Erik!  
Erik            Vzaimna.

## Formal English

Anna            My Name is Anna, whats your name?  
Erik            Erik.  
Anna            Nice to meet you, Erik!  
Erik            Same here.

## Vocabulary

Russian	Romanization	English	Class
меня	minya	me	pronoun
зовут	zavut	they call	verb
как		how	adverb
вас	vas	you	pronoun
очень		very	adverb
приятно	priyatno	nice	adverb

### Sample Sentences

П р и я т н о   п о з н а к о м и т ь с я . (Priyatno poznakomitsya/ Nice to meet you)

### Grammar Points

Regarding the pronunciation of some of the words in this lesson. Just as we don't stress each syllable equally in English, Russian words have different stresses on different syllables too.



For instance, take the word «compassionate» in English. We don't stress each syllable equally, only the second syllable: «com - PA - ssion - ate». The vowel sounds of the word change according to the stress. That's why spelling can be so difficult in both languages.

For example, we can see with the word *зовут* that its stress is on the last syllable, so that's why the "o" is pronounced like an "a" - the same goes for *приятно* and *взаимно* because the stresses are not on the last syllable.

However, with the word *очень* the "o" is pronounced because the accent or stress is on the first syllable. You can use this rule of thumb, although it may not work in every instance, to help you pronounce Russian words. Look for the stressed syllable.

## Cultural Insight

The phrase “За здоровье” is “cheers” in English, and the word “здоровье”, stands for “health” in English. In this case we have two letters “o” here; however, in the first syllable it is pronounced as “a”, because it is not stressed, and it goes as “o” for the second stressed syllable. So, as was heard in the conversation, it is stressed like this: “Za zdArOvie.”