

A Taste of Ukrainian

1. Introduction

If you are thinking of learning Ukrainian, these materials are intended to give you a taste of the language, and to provide some basic information about Ukraine – in Ukrainian!

Whether you are a sixth-former or a student considering taking a Ukrainian course as part of your university degree, or just want to learn some Ukrainian so you can understand and speak with your friends or family, these materials will give you a taste of what it's like to start learning this fascinating and beautiful language.

If you are a teacher of Ukrainian, these resources are intended to supplement class materials at beginners level (A1 /A2) and to provide a basic cultural context to learning Ukrainian.

An important message for potential learners: although the Ukrainian alphabet (which uses the Cyrillic script) is different from, say, English, it is not difficult to learn, and, once you are able to make out Ukrainian words, you will find that you can use your knowledge of other languages (as well as a dictionary) to help you understand simple written texts.

In addition to this introduction, the resource has the following four units:

2. The Ukrainian Language

- 2.1 Notes
- 2.2 Slide show "Getting started"
- 2.3 Slide show "Understanding words"

3. About Ukraine

- 3.1 Notes
- 3.2 Slide show “About Ukraine” (for reading practice)
- 3.3 Slide show “About Ukraine” (for listening and speaking practice, with a teacher)

4. Visiting Ukraine

- 4.1 Notes
- 4.2 Slide show “Visiting Ukraine”

5. Ukrainian Festival Food

- 5.1 Notes
- 5.2 Slide show “Ukrainian Festival Food”.

The supporting notes for each unit consist of suggestions as to how to use the materials, brief explanations of the grammar in the texts (with links to relevant pages in “Read Ukrainian” for learners who would like a more comprehensive overview), the texts of the slides, where appropriate, and vocabulary lists.

These resources have been created by Marta Jenkala, Senior Teaching Fellow in Ukrainian at the UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES), as part of the JISC-funded FAVOR Project (Finding a Voice through Open Resources).

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