

A Taste of Ukrainian

4.1 Visiting Ukraine

Unit 4 consists of these notes providing support for independent learners and teachers and a slide show (4.2) with photographs of places in Ukraine and texts (A1). Depending on the level of the learner, the slide show can be used to:

- practise reading
- practise transliteration of Ukrainian proper nouns into English (see www.ukrainianlanguage.org.uk/read/reference/translit.htm)
- learn and/or revise the basic words for places
- introduce the locative case, as, for example «Де пасаж? В Одесі» (see below)
- use the photographs to elicit more complex teacher-guided oral descriptions.

Users of the resources need to have some knowledge of the alphabet and sounds of Ukrainian: www.ukrainianlanguage.org.uk/read.

Using this resource to learn the locative case

As a learner you have probably noticed, by now, that in Ukrainian the endings of words change, depending on what their function is in the sentence (the grammatical term for this is “case”). For example, if you want to say where something is, you have to give the noun a special ending, most often the letter «і» e.g. Лондон – London, в Лондоні – in London. The endings of nouns are important as in Ukrainian the word order is flexible. To read more about this go to:

<http://www.ukrainianlanguage.org.uk/read/unit05/page5-1.htm>.

Once you have learned the names for the various places on the slides (see list below) you can say where they are, that is, you can start using the *locative case* in Ukrainian:

- if the place name ends in «а» (i.e. it’s probably a feminine noun), take the «а» off the ending and add «і» e.g. Одеса – в Одесі (other names like this: Україна, Балаклава, Ялта, Полтава, Львівщина);

- if the place name ends in a consonant (i.e. it's a masculine noun), all you have to do, usually, is to add «і» e.g. Житомир – у Житомирі (other names like this: Херсон, Кіровоград, Ужгород);
- additionally, in some masculine place names (those ending in –ів or –їв), there is a change in the vowel of the stem e.g. Львів – у Львові, Харків – у Харкові, Київ – у Києві;
- in a third type of noun (usually masculine nouns ending in –ськ or –цьк), the locative is formed by adding the ending «у» e.g. Івано–Франківськ – в Івано–Франківську (other names like this: Дніпропетровськ, Донецьк, Луцьк, Луганськ); this rule also applies to a number of short words, including Крим – у Криму.
- some place names are plural, so they take a plural ending in the locative case e.g. Чернівці – у Чернівцях (another name like this: Карпати – у Карпатах).

There is one final thing you need to know before you can make up simple sentences of the type «Сходи в Одесі» (The steps are in Odesa). In this sentence there does not appear to be a verb. This is because the verb “to be” is normally omitted in the present tense. You can read more about this in: <http://www.ukrainianlanguage.org.uk/read/unit04/page4-2.htm>

Vocabulary from the slides

All words in this list are given in their dictionary forms. In the slides and listening text they may have different endings, as required by the grammar. Students should not worry about the endings, apart from locative forms of place names, if this is introduced in class.

Nouns		Nouns (cont)	
театр	theatre	дорога	(country) road
опера	opera	море	sea
балет	ballet	пляж	beach
музей	museum	бухта	bay
будинок	building	берег	shore, bank
собор	church	ріка	river
церква	church	озеро	lake
монастир	monastery	гора	hill, mountain
магазин	shop	печера	cave
вокзал	station	поетеса	(female) poet
ратуша	town hall	Львівщина	Lviv region
університет	university		
пам'ятник	monument	Adjectives	
ринок	market	драматичний	drama(tic)
пасаж	passage, mall	чорний	black
вулиця	street	залізничний	railway
бульвар	boulevard	святий (св.)	holy, saint (St.)
міст	bridge		
сходи	steps, stairs	Polite phrases	
площа	square	Ласкаво просимо.	Welcome (<i>literally</i> – We cordially invite you)
місто	city, town	Вітаємо!	Welcome (<i>literally</i> – We greet you)
порт	port	Гостям раді.	(We're happy to) welcome guests.
фортеця	fortress	Час їхати додому.	Time to go home.
руїна	ruin(s)	До побачення.	Goodbye.
село	village, countryside	До зустрічі.	See you soon (<i>literally</i> – Till we meet again).