

# SOLT Serbian Module 1 Lesson 1

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Artisan	ЖИЗНЬ
<i>Brush Stroke</i>	<i>жизнь</i>
<i>Graceful Script</i>	<i>жизнь</i>
Kids Hand	ЖИЗНЬ
Mechanical Pencil	ЖИЗНЬ
Mech. Pen. Wide	ЖИЗНЬ
Old Cyrillic	ЖИЗНЬ
Showtime	ЖИЗНЬ

Sound and Script

During this lesson, the students will be able to accomplish Sound and Script. Under this Terminal Learning objective, the students will learn five tasks: identify the alphabet, produce vowel sounds, produce consonant sounds, produce stress and intonation, and recognize cognates. At the end of the lesson, the students will be able to:

1. **Identify the alphabet.** This task will include:
  - Recognize each character of the target language alphabet
  - Properly identify the characters by name
  - Properly identify and pronounce the character's phonetic sound
  - Write printed and cursive letters of the alphabet
  
2. **Produce vowel sounds.** This task will include:
  - Recognize vowels
  - Produce vowel and diphthong sounds
  - Recognize the vowel position in the writing system
  - Produce vowel-consonant combinations
  
3. **Produce consonant sounds.** This task will include:
  - Recognize consonants
  - Identify consonants in an alphabetical order and by group
  - Pronounce voiced and voiceless consonants
  - Apply the rules for the consonants when reading and writing
  - Identify palatalization of consonants
  
4. **Produce stress and intonation.** This task will include:
  - Separate words into syllables
  - Apply syllabification and stress
  - Contrast stress and intonation
  - Pronounce stress and intonation
  - Dialects
  
5. **Recognize cognates.** This task will include:
  - Identify cognates
  - Pronounce cognates
  - Write cognates

This is an introductory course to modern standard Serbian that uses a novel approach to teaching a foreign language – a multi-media method that actually makes it fun to learn a language.



Modern standard Serbian constitutes the official language in the Republic of Serbia with its provinces Vojvodina and Kosovo and the Republic of Monte Negro. The rest of the world officially refers to the Serbian Language as Serbo-Croatian Language. However, after the war of 1990-1995 the Republic of Yugoslavia split into six separate republics. Local authorities of each republic declared separate languages: Serbian - spoken in Serbia (Vojvodina and Kosovo) and Monte Negro; Bosnian – spoken in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatian – spoken in Croatia; Slovenian – spoken in Slovenia; and Macedonian – spoken in Macedonia.

### Serbo-Croatian Language

Yugoslavia had three official languages: Serbo-Croatian, Slovenian, and Macedonian. Serbo-Croatian was the dominant language, spoken by about 75 percent of the population, reflecting the dominance of the Serbs (36 percent) and the Croats (20 percent) in the ethnic makeup of the country. The two groups utilized different written languages, with the Serbs using the Cyrillic alphabet. Slovenian and Macedonian are closely related to Serbo-Croatian. The Yugoslav constitution guaranteed freedom of religion and the separation of church and state, and about half the population belonged to the Serbian or

another Orthodox church; another 30 percent were Roman Catholic (mostly Croats and Slovenes), and about 10 percent were Muslim. Mass communication in Yugoslavia was controlled by the state, but the Yugoslav press retained a degree of independence. Comprehensive social welfare, including health and retirement insurance was provided by the government.

There are approximately 16 million inhabitants of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Monte Negro and Serbia. Most people are Muslims who lived in or are refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croats, Montenegrins, and Serbs. Serbo-Croatian constitutes, along with the Slovenian language, the western group of the South Slavic branch of the Slavic languages. It has three main dialects: Cakavian, spoken primarily on the Adriatic islands and along the coast; Kajkavian, spoken in northwest Croatia and forming a transition to Slovenian; and Stokavian, spoken in the rest of the territory. Beside three main dialects, Serbo-Croatian also has three sub-dialects ekavian, jekavian and ikavian. Ekavian sub-dialect is spoken in Serbia, Vojvodina, and Slovenia. The jekavian is spoken in Bosnia, Central Croatia and Monte Negro. Lastly, ikavian is used along the Adriatic coast-Dalmatia. The difference between the three sub dialects is in the pronunciation of the sound “e” (as in “end” or “the”) in a word. For instance:

<u>Ekavian</u>	<u>Jekavian</u>	<u>Ikavian</u>	English
mleko	mlijeko	mliko	milk
lepo	lijepo	lipo	beautiful

The modern literary language was developed during the 19th century. The most important event in its history was the 1850 “Vienna Agreement,” a compromise between Croatian and Serbian literary figures and intellectuals that established the Stokavian dialect as the basis of a united literary language.

The literary language has two major varieties: western, or Croatian, which is written in the Latin alphabet; and eastern, or Serbian, written primarily in the Cyrillic alphabet. A third standard is developing in Sarajevo and the rest of Bosnia. The differences between the varieties are almost entirely in vocabulary, with a few differences in syntax. The varieties have essentially identical sound systems. The literary language is notable for its vowel system. The vowels **a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, and **u**, may be long or short (referring to the length of the vowel’s sound) and may have rising or falling intonation. Thus the written word “sela” may have four different pronunciations and meanings, depending upon whether the first vowel is long or short and whether it has rising or falling intonation. Serbo-Croatian has preserved most of the cases from Common Slavic (the parent language of all the Slavic languages): nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, instrumental, and vocative. The locative case from Common Slavic has merged with the dative. Verb forms consist of a present tense, two future tenses, a past (perfect) tense, and a pluperfect tense. The literary language, especially in the eastern variant, has preserved two other past tenses from Common Slavic: imperfect and aorist.

**Tip of the day**

The Serbian language has 30 (thirty) letters. Its alphabet is called the Cyrillic alphabet. In the Cyrillic alphabet, each letter represents one sound.

Аа Бб Вв Гг Дд Ђђ
Ее Жж Зз Ии Јј Кк
Лл Љљ Мм Нн Њњ Оо
Пп Рр Сс Тт Ћћ Уу
Фф Хх Цц Чч Џџ Шш

**Serbian Alphabet**

### The Serbian Alphabet

The following list contains the Serbian alphabet. Listen carefully to the instructor read each letter and its pronunciation. After listening a few times, try to pronounce each letter imitating the sound.

Instructor's reading:

Letters	Pronunciation	Serbian word	Description of Pronunciation
Аа	А	авион	<b>a</b> as in <i>father</i>
Бб	Бе	брод	<b>б</b> as in <i>brother</i>
Вв	ве	вино	<b>в</b> as in <i>wine</i>
Гг	Ге	грожђе	<b>г</b> as in <i>great</i>
Дд	Де	дрво	<b>д</b> as in <i>day</i>
Ђђ	Ђе	ђурђевак	<b>ђ</b> as in <i>general</i>
Ее	Е	енциклопедија	<b>e</b> as in <i>help</i>
Жж	Же	жаба	<b>ж</b> as in <i>pleasure</i>
Зз	Зе	зима	<b>з</b> as in <i>zone</i>
Ии	И	инструктор	<b>и</b> as in <i>be</i>
Јј	Је	јабука	<b>ј</b> as in <i>yogurt</i>
Кк	Ка	колач	<b>к</b> as in <i>cake</i>
Лл	Ел	ловац	<b>л</b> as in <i>late</i>
Љљ	Ељ	љубав	<b>љ</b> ( <i>no equivalent</i> )
Мм	Ем	мама	<b>м</b> as in <i>mother</i>
Нн	Ен	нога	<b>н</b> as in <i>nose</i>
Њњ	Ењ	њушка	<b>њ</b> ( <i>no equivalent</i> )
Оо	О	оловка	<b>о</b> as in <i>open</i>
Пп	Пе	прозор	<b>п</b> as in <i>pride</i>
Рр	Ер	ракета	<b>р</b> as in <i>radio</i>
Сс	Ес	сунце	<b>с</b> as in <i>son</i>
Тт	Те	тата	<b>т</b> as in <i>take</i>
Ђђ	Ђе	ђуп	<b>ђ</b> as in <i>choice</i>
Уу	У	уво	<b>у</b> as in <i>boot</i>
Фф	Еф	филм	<b>ф</b> as in <i>fame</i>
Хх	Ха	хлеб	<b>х</b> as in <i>hill</i>
Цц	Це	ципела	<b>ц</b> as in <i>boats</i>
Чч	Че	чамац	<b>ч</b> as in <i>church</i>
Џџ	Џе	џеп	<b>џ</b> as in <i>jungle</i>
Шш	Еш	шаргарепа	<b>ш</b> as in <i>shave</i>



### Exercise 1

Look at the map of the continents and study the labels in Serbian. On the list of continents, underline the letters, which look exactly like English. Circle the letters, **which are not part** of the English alphabet.

Европа, Азија, Африка, Аустралија, Северна Америка, Јужна Америка, Антарктика.

### Exercise 2

Listen to the instructor read the names of the continents in Serbian. Listen again and pronounce the names of the continents to yourself.

Европа, Азија, Африка, Аустралија, Северна Америка, Јужна Америка, Антарктика.



### Exercise 3

Now work in pairs. Take turns in reading the names of the continents in Serbian.

### Exercise 4

To have a better idea of how letters sound in words, pronounce after your instructor the following:

тата – *father*

лекар – *doctor*

капетан – *captain*

џемпер – *sweater*

пасош – *passport*

долар – *dollar*

катастрофа – *catastrophe*

датум – *date*

радио – *radio*

радар – *radar*

парк – *park*

бомба – *bomb*

концерт – *concert*

војник – *soldier*

### Exercise 5

Your instructor will read 15 words in Serbian. Fill in the missing letters for each word.

1. Је\_ан
2. д\_н
3. до\_ар
4. про\_есор
5. о\_ицир
6. ст\_иц
7. сто\_ица
8. ч\_век
9. о\_овка
10. о\_ледало
11. про\_ор
12. вр\_та
13. г\_нерал
14. ру\_ак
15. к\_ига

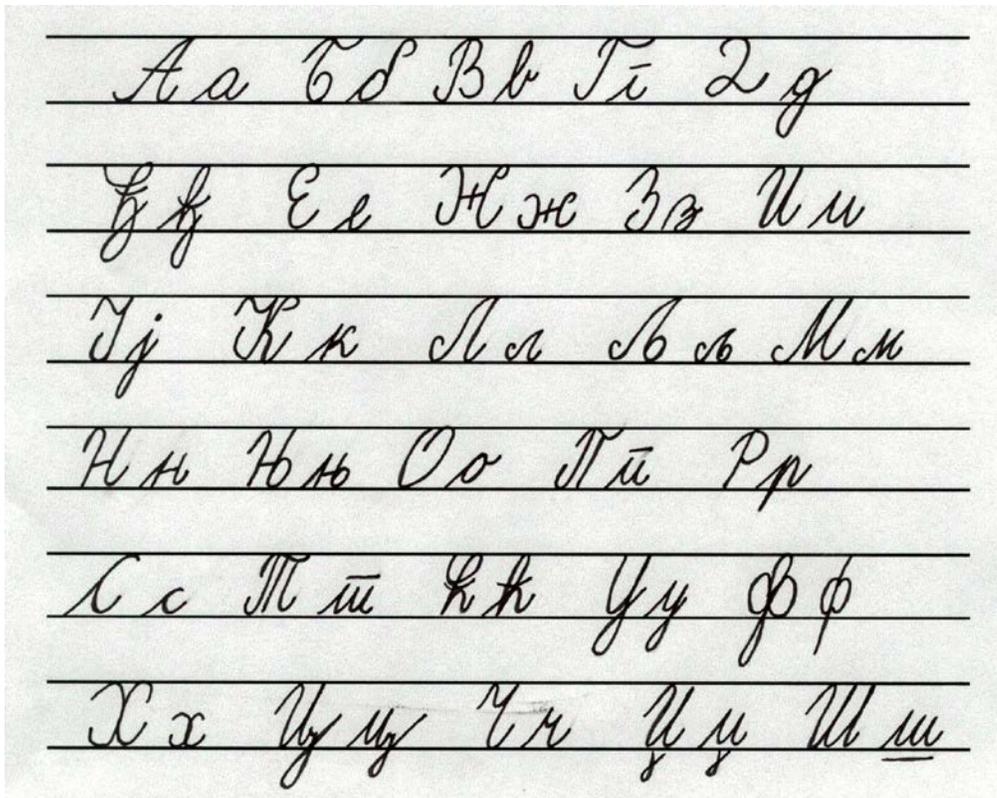
### Exercise 6

Can you spell and pronounce these words in Serbian? Listen to the pronunciation to hear the right answers from your instructor.

мама – тата – ауто – дан – шаргарепа – деца – нос

### Serbian Cursive Writing

The Serbian cursive writing style is not so different from that of English. An example below shows a calligraphic version of Serbian cursive.



#### Exercise 7

In the space provided, practice writing the letters.

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### Exercise 8

Imagine how your name would look like written in Cyrillic. Write your name in Cyrillic, then, practice writing the names of your family members in Cyrillic. Use cursive writing.

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### The Cyrillic and Latin Alphabet

Please note that mostly Serbs use the Cyrillic alphabet. However, most newspapers, magazines, official documents, travel instructions in the FR of Yugoslavia are still written using the Latin (Roman) alphabet. If you are in the Republic of Srpska, you will notice that many traffic directions are written in Cyrillic. A combination of the Cyrillic and Latin alphabets may also be seen in the names of buildings or shops. In this course we will be concentrating mostly on the Cyrillic alphabet. However, from time to time we will be practicing the Latin alphabet as well.

Here is the list of the Cyrillic alphabet and corresponding letters in the Latin alphabet.

Cyrillic: Аа Бб Вв Гг Дд Ђђ Ее Жж Зз Ии Јј Кк Лл

Latin: Aa Bb Vv Gg Dd Đđ Ee Žž Zz Ii Jj Kk Ll

Cyrillic: Љљ Мм Нн Њњ Оо Пп Рр Сс Тт Ћћ Уу Фф

Latin: Llj Mm Nn Nnj Oo Pp Rr Ss Tt Ћć Uu Ff

Cyrillic: Хх Цц Чч Џџ Шш

Latin: Hh Cc Čč Dždž Šš

\*The order of letters in the Latin alphabet is different than in the Cyrillic alphabet. The order is not followed here for the purpose of the comparison between these two alphabets.

### Exercise 9

Study the images below. Here are some good examples of titles written in both, Cyrillic and Latin. Can you tell what is written in the Cyrillic and what in the Latin alphabet? Show your answers to your instructor.



### Exercise 10

Work in pairs. You will be given a pack of cards with the Serbian letters. One at a time each student should pull out a card from the pack and show it to the rest of the class. The student to whom the card is shown names the letter.

**Exercise 11**

Listen to the instructor read the following geographical names and repeat reading the list written in both, the Cyrillic and Latin alphabet. Write the English equivalent for each word.

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Африка Afrika       | 8. Москва Moskva        |
| 2. Бостон Boston       | 9. Азија Azija          |
| 3. Београд Beograd     | 10. Индија Indija       |
| 4. Панчево Pančevo     | 11. Америка Amerika     |
| 5. Русија Rusija       | 12. Швицарска Švicarska |
| 6. Француска Francuska | 13. Флорида Florida     |
| 7. Сарајево Sarajevo   | 14. Лондон London       |

**Tip of the day**

The Serbian language has 5 vowel sounds. They are indicated by the following letters: **a**  
– **e** – **и** – **o** – **y**



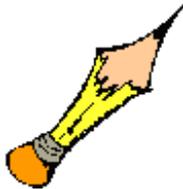
авион



енциклопедија



инструктор



ољовка



уво

**Exercise 12**

Look at the map of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia given below and study the names of Yugoslavian cities. Underline the vowels.



<http://www.odci.gov>

**Exercise 13**

The following table contains a list of the cities in Yugoslavia written in the Latin alphabet. The vowels are missing. Please fill in the correct vowels. If you are not sure, look again at the map of Yugoslavia.

1. B \_ \_ g r \_ d
2. P \_ nč \_ v \_
3. N \_ v \_ S \_ d
4. P \_ ž \_ r \_ v \_ c
5. Vr \_ nj \_

**Exercise 14**

Listen to the instructor pronounce some words. Write down the words that you hear.

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**Exercise 15**

Listen to the instructor read the Serbian alphabet. Repeat after listening.

А Б В Г Д Ђ Е Ж З И Ј К  
Л Љ М Н Њ О П Р С Т Ћ У  
Ф Х Ц Ч Џ Ш

**Short and Long Vowels**

The vowels in Serbian are either long or short in duration. A long vowel is pronounced by prolonging a short vowel. A short bar ( ¯ ) over the vowel indicates length.

**Examples:**            **luk** (onion)            **lūk** (arch)  
                         **grad** (hail)            **grād** (city)  
                         **žena** (woman)        **žēna** (of women)

**Tip of the day**

There are twenty-five consonants in the Serbian language.

They are: **б в г д ђ ж з ј к л љ м н њ п р с т ћ ф х ц ч џ ш**. Refer to the section *Grammar Notes* to find more about consonants.

**Exercise 16**

The following words contain the letters: **ч, ћ, ђ, ц, љ, њ, џ**. Listen to your instructor and try to imitate the sound.

<b>четка</b> (brush),	<b>ципела</b> (shoe)	<b>цреп</b> (tile)	<b>чест</b> (frequent)
<b>чин</b> (rank)	<b>ћутање</b> (silence)	<b>ћебе</b> (blanket)	<b>ћон</b> (sole)
<b>џокеј</b> (jockey)	<b>џез</b> (jazz)	<b>љубазан</b> (kind)	<b>људождер</b> (cannibal)
<b>Њујорк</b> (New York)	<b>њушкати</b> (sniff)	<b>Вашингтон</b> (Washington)	

**Exercise 17**

Let's practice spelling. Look at the list of some common first and last names in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Spell each name before pronouncing it. Listen to your instructor read them.

Male	Female	Last Names
Милан	Весна	Петровић
Драган	Нада	Поповић
Радован	Радмила	Попадић
Милош	Љиљана	Ђорђевић
Дејан	Гордана	Живојиновић
Зоран	Даница	Мирковић
Владо	Снежана	Манојловић

**Exercise 18**

Underline the consonants in the previous exercise (first and last names).

**Exercise 19**

Look at the list of the first and last names. Some consonants are missing. Do you know what they are? Listen to the instructor say the names.

1. Ве\_ \_ а
2. Ми\_а\_
3. Гор\_ \_ ана
4. По\_ади\_
5. Да\_и\_а
6. Зора\_
7. Ра\_о\_ан
8. С\_е\_ана
9. Ђорђе\_ић
10. Дра\_ан
11. Ра\_ми\_а
12. Пе\_ро\_ић
13. На\_а

### Tip of the day

In Serbian, the stress can fall on any syllable except the last. In a two-syllable word the stress is usually on the first syllable. In a three-syllable word the stress may be on the first or the second syllable.

**MA**ma (mom)      **VO**da (water)      le**PO**ta (beauty)

**Ma**gija (magic)      kul**TU**ra (culture)      **Av**ion (airplane)

( ` ) This is the accent marking symbol for a short stressed syllable

( ´ ) This is the accent marking symbol for a long stressed syllable

Please note that these symbols are not used in everyday-written Serbian. However, you can find them in dictionaries and grammars.

### Exercise 20

Your instructor will read to you the following words separated into syllables. Pay attention to how the words are pronounced considering the stress. After listening, pronounce each word aloud.

**o**-лов-ка      **пе**-ро      **ра**-дост      **су**-тра      **зи**-ма      **ле**-то  
де-ца      пи-ја-ца      про-фе-сор      суп-руг      шко-ла      мо-да

### Dialects

There are two major dialects spoken in the FR of Yugoslavia: **ekavski** (ekavian) and **ijekavski** (jekavian). They are distinguished by the use of the vowels in words. **Ekavski** is spoken in Serbia while **ijekavski** is spoken in Montenegro and in the former Yugoslav provinces: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Southern Dalmatia.

#### Ekavski:

lep (pretty)  
cvet (flower)  
mleko (milk)  
rešenje (decision)

#### Ijekavski:

lijep  
cvijet  
mlijeko  
rješenje

**The rule:** ekavian long e = jekavian **ije**  
ekavian short e = jekavian **je**

**Note:** Here, in this Serbian language course, we will be using ekavian most of the time.

**Exercise 21**

Listen to your instructor reading the words in ekavian and jekavian dialects. Pay attention to how the words are pronounced.



**Exercise 22**

Imagine that your partner is speaking ekavian and you jekavian. Use the words from the previous lesson. Your partner will say the word in the ekavian dialect. You will say the same word in jekavian.



**Exercise 23**

The following words are written in the jekavian dialect. Rewrite them in the ekavian dialect.

Compare your work with your partner.

1. bijelo 2. lijepo 3. gnijezdo 4. mjesto 5. spriječiti 6. mliječni 7. snježni
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**Tip of the day**

Although English and Serbian do not belong to the same group of languages, we can find many cognates, i.e. the words that are very similar and have the same meaning in both languages.

*hotel*

*student*

*film*

*era*

**Excercise 24**

Study the list below and try to guess English equivalents of the following Serbian cognates.

импотенција, туризам, песимизам, психологија, хронологија, пасив,  
филозофија, дуализам, мелодија

**Exercise 25**

Your instructor will read to you cognates. Write each cognate in Cyrillic.

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**Exercise 26**

Based on your knowledge from the previous exercises, provide English equivalents for the following cognates.

1. ликер
2. епилог
3. медицина
4. епоха
5. епиграм
6. мадрац
7. епископат
8. компјутер
9. фармација

**Vowels** (*Pronunciation rules*)

The vowel sound **A** is pronounced like the English sound **a** in *father*. The tongue lies flat, the lips and teeth are wide open and the jaw is dropped.

**A:** тама – *darkness*                      датум – *date*                      дан - *day*

The vowel sound **E** is pronounced like the English sound **e** in *help*. The tongue is slightly arched towards the soft palate, the lips are drawn back and the teeth are open slightly less than for the **A**.

**E:** село– *village*                      месо– *meat*                      месец – *moon*

The vowel sound **И** is pronounced like the English sound **e** in *be*. The front part of the tongue is raised toward the hard palate, the lips are relaxed and the teeth are slightly open.

**И:** пиво – *beer*                      слика - *picture*                      крило - *wing*

The vowel sound **O** is pronounced like the English sound **o** in *four*. The back of the tongue is arched toward the soft palate, the lips are rounded, and the teeth are open.

**O:** сто – *table*                      бол – *pain*                      мост – *bridge*

The vowel sound **У** is pronounced like the English sound **oo** in *roof*. The back of the tongue almost touches the soft palate, the lips are rounded and slightly open, and the teeth are also slightly open:

**У:** кућа – *house*                      дух– *spirit (ghost)*

### Consonants

Most of the consonants in Serbian have their **equivalent** in English.

<b>Б</b> as in брат, <i>brother</i>	брада, <i>beard</i>	брдо, <i>hill</i>
<b>В</b> as in вино, <i>wine</i>	време, <i>time/weather</i>	врата, <i>door</i>
<b>Г</b> as in година, <i>year</i>	нога, <i>leg</i>	
<b>Д</b> as in добар, <i>good</i>	да, <i>yes</i>	дан, <i>day</i>
<b>Ж</b> as in the English sound <b>S</b> in <i>pleasure</i>	живот, <i>life</i>	жут, <i>yellow</i>
<b>З</b> as in зима, <i>winter</i>	зона, <i>zone</i>	
<b>Ј</b> as in јаје, <i>egg</i> ,	јесен, <i>autumn</i>	јогурт, <i>yogurt</i>
<b>К</b> as in колач, <i>cake</i>	краљ, <i>king</i>	
<b>Л</b> as in лако, <i>easy</i>	лето, <i>summer</i>	
<b>М</b> as in млеко, <i>milk</i>	месо, <i>meat</i>	мама, <i>mother</i>
<b>Н</b> as in нос, <i>nose</i>	нешто, <i>something</i>	
<b>П</b> as in писмо, <i>letter</i>	понос, <i>pride</i>	
<b>Р</b> as in брдо, <i>hill</i>	брз, <i>fast</i>	трг, <i>market</i>
<b>С</b> as in сунце, <i>sun</i>	снег, <i>snow</i>	сладолед, <i>ice cream</i>
<b>Т</b> as in тата, <i>daddy</i>	трава, <i>grass</i>	
<b>Ф</b> as in јефтино, <i>cheap</i>	фаза, <i>phase</i>	
<b>Х</b> as in храна, <i>food</i>	ходник, <i>corridor</i>	
<b>Ш</b> as in школа, <i>school</i>	пушка, <i>rifle</i>	

The following Serbian consonants **don't have equivalent** in English

**Ђ** is a combination of the sounds **d** and **j** pronounced together. This sound is similar to the English sound soft **g** in the word *general*, although much softer. The tongue touches the front side of the alveolar ridge and the air is released while the vocal cords vibrate:

ђурђевак, *lily of the valley*

ђаво, *devil*

**Љ** is a combination of **l** and **j** pronounced as one. The tongue touches the alveolar ridge and the air is released on the sides of the tongue until it is pulled downward and the sound is totally pronounced:

љубав, *love*

људи, *people*

**Њ** is a combination of the sounds **n** and **j** pronounced as one. The tongue covers the entire hard palate and touches the upper front teeth. It is quickly pulled down while the air is being released through the nose and then through the mouth exactly as it is done to pronounce the **n**:

његов, *his*

њушка, *snout*

**Ћ** is similar to the English sound **ch** in *choice*, but it is somewhat softer. The sound is a combination of the sounds **t** and **j** pronounced as one. The tongue touches the hard palate thus stopping the flow of air and then releases it through a small ditch in the tip of the tongue:

ћелав, *bold*

ћуп, *jar*

**џ** is pronounced like **ts** when pronounced quickly – *cats, pets*. The tongue touches both the upper teeth and the alveolar ridge, and then it pulls quickly to create a combination of the sounds **t** and **s**:

џигарета, *cigarette*

цвет, *flower*

**Ч** sound is actually a combination of the sounds **т** and **ш**, pronounced as a single sound. The tongue is pressed against the alveolar ridge but it does not touch the teeth:

четка, *brush*    чај, *tea*

мачка, *cat*

**џ** is a voiced **ч**. It is a combination of the sounds **d** and **ж** pronounced as one. The tongue is pressed against the alveolar ridge and then pulled a little backward as the air is being released and the sound is created:

џеп, *pocket*

џунгла, *jungle*

џип, *jeep*

### Voiced and Voiceless Consonants

Similar to English, some consonants in Serbian are voiced and some are voiceless.

The voiced consonants are: **б д з њ ж џ в г**  
**л љ м н њ ј** (and vowels)

The voiceless consonants are:

**п т с ц ћ ш ч ф к х**

You already know the rule in Serbian that every letter has its own sound. There is only one exception of that rule. If the letter **д** comes before the letters **с, ш**, the pronounced letter **д** sounds like **т**.

градски (city's)                      одштета (indemnity)  
београдски (Belgrade-)

**Palatalization of consonants:** When the voiced and voiceless consonants come together in a word, certain changes occur. Here are only a few examples:

<b>б</b> becomes <b>п</b>	before <b>ц</b>	врабац (sparrow)	<b>but</b>	врапци ( <i>plural form</i> )
<b>д</b> becomes <b>т</b>	before <b>к</b>	редак (rare)	<b>but</b>	ретки
<b>з</b> becomes <b>с</b>	before <b>к</b>	полазак (departure)	<b>but</b>	поласци
<b>п</b> becomes <b>б</b>	before <b>џ</b>	топ (gun)	<b>but</b>	тобџија (gunner)

Note that many of these changes occur in the following situations:

- plural of the nouns (војник/војници, отац/очеве, бубрег/бубрези...)
- the Comparison of adjectives (благ/блажи, млад/млађи...)
- the Dative case (снаха/снаси, рука/руци...)
- the Vocative case (јунак - Јуначе!)
- Imperative (брисати – Бриши!)

You will have the opportunity to learn more about these changes through the lessons.

### Cognates

Serbian words ending in:		correspond to the English words ending in:	
- ција	толеранција компетенција резиденција информација реформација	- ance/ence   - tion	<i>tolerance</i> <i>competence</i> <i>residency</i> <i>information</i> <i>reformation</i>
- изам/ - ист	оптимизам оптимист национализам	- ism/ - ist	<i>optimism</i> <i>optimist</i> <i>nationalism</i>

Some cognates differ in the **ending**, yet the similarity is obvious:

	националист идеализам идеалист комунизам комунист		<i>nationalist</i> <i>idealism</i> <i>idealist</i> <i>communism</i> <i>communist</i>
- ив	актив	- ive	<i>active</i>
- гија	аналогија геологија педагогија алергија	- gy	<i>analogy</i> <i>geology</i> <i>pedagogy</i> <i>allergy</i>
- ик	антисептик антибиотик	- ic	<i>antiseptic</i> <i>antibiotic</i>
- екс	комплекс	- ex	<i>complex</i>
- тор	модулатор	- tor	<i>modulator</i>
- ика	физика аритметика козметика	- ics/ic	<i>physics</i> <i>arithmetic</i> <i>cosmetics</i>
- ија	професија процесија	- ion	<i>profession</i>

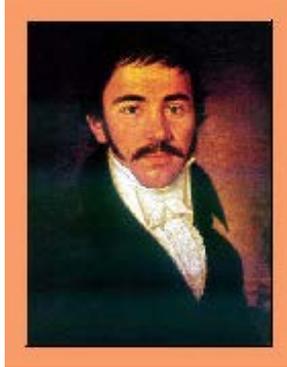
### Simple rules for using capital letters

The following rules apply for the use of capital letters in Serbian:

1. a capital letter is used at the beginning of each new sentence
2. a capital letter is used in personal names
3. a capital letter is used only for the first word in geographical names  
\* **exception:** names of the countries and cities
4. a capital letter is used for the first word in the names of holidays, organizations and book titles

# CAPITAL LETTERS

авион	airplane
Азија	Asia
Антарктика	Antarctic
Аустралија	Australia
Африка	Africa
бомба	bomb
брод	ship
војник	soldier
генерал	general
дан	day
датум	date
долар	dollar
дрво	tree
Европа	Europe
енциклопедија	encyclopedia
инструктор	instructor
Јужна Америка	South America
капетан	captain
катастрофа	catastrophe
књига	book
концерт	concert
лекар	doctor
љубав	love
мама	mother
нога	leg
оловка	pencil
официр	officer
парк	park
пасош	passport
радар	radar
радио	radio
ракета	rocket
ручак	lunch
Северна Америка	North America
тата	father



**Вук Стефановић Караџић**  
(1787 – 1864)

The Cyrillic alphabet was developed in the 9<sup>th</sup> century for the use of Eastern Orthodox Slavs. The Cyrillic Alphabet was named for St. Cyril, although there is some dispute as to whether this is the alphabet he invented or not. Cyril was a Greek monk who, with his brother Methodius brought written language to Christian converts in the mid-9th century. The Cyrillic alphabet is based on the Greek characters. With modifications, it constitutes the modern Serbian and Russian alphabets.

The man who made the major contribution to Serbian linguistics was Vuk Stefanovic Karadzic. He introduced phonetic spelling and invented new letters to complete the Cyrillic alphabet.

**Activity 1**

Look at the following list of logos of some American and European cars. The instructor will read the names to you in a random order, relatively fast. Circle the logos of the names you think you heard.

**Activity 2**

**A.** Now listen to the instructor slowly read the previous list of car models again. Write them down in the space provided.



**B.** Compare your answers with your partner and then practice reading the logos.



a. \_\_\_\_\_



б. \_\_\_\_\_



ц. \_\_\_\_\_



д. \_\_\_\_\_



e. \_\_\_\_\_

Activity 2 (continued)



ф. \_\_\_\_\_



г. \_\_\_\_\_



### Activity 3

Imagine that you are invited to the headquarters of a Yugoslav-American Company in Belgrade to attend a celebration. You have the opportunity to meet your Yugoslav colleagues during a cocktail party. They give you their business cards. Some of your classmates will play the role of these individuals.

- A. Read the business cards given below.  
B. Write down the names of places from your newly met colleagues.

Интертелекомуникације Владимир Петровић Директор Београд Немањина 7 Тел: 011-378-983 Факс: 011-387-968 e-mail: vpetrovic@itk.globenet.com	Интертелекомуникације Милан Радуловић Програмер Београд Теразије 25 Тел: 011-458-956 Факс: 011-458-348 e-mail: mradulovic@itk.globenet.com	Интертелекомуникације Јелена Максимовић Секретарица Панчево Његошева 19 Тел: 011-253-347 Факс: 011-253-366 e-mail: jmaksimovic@itk.globenet.com
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Activity 3 (continued)

Интертелекомуникације  Петар Николић Заменик директора  Лесковац Николе Тесле 25  Тел: 031-454-563 Факс: 031-454 -768 е-mail: pnikolic@itk.globenet.com	Интертелекомуникације  Весна Лазић Преводилац  Београд 28. јула  Тел: 011-378-421 Факс: 011-387-451 е-mail: vlazic@itk.globenet.com	Интертелекомуникације  Драган Поповић Менаџер  Нови Сад 1. маја  Тел: 021-234-534 Факс: 021-234-511 е-mail: dpopovic@itk.globenet.com
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**Activity 4**

Listen to the instructor. Now the award ceremony begins. Listen to the voice reading the names of the company award recipients. Look at the business cards again and mark those with the names of the people who received an award.



**Activity 5**

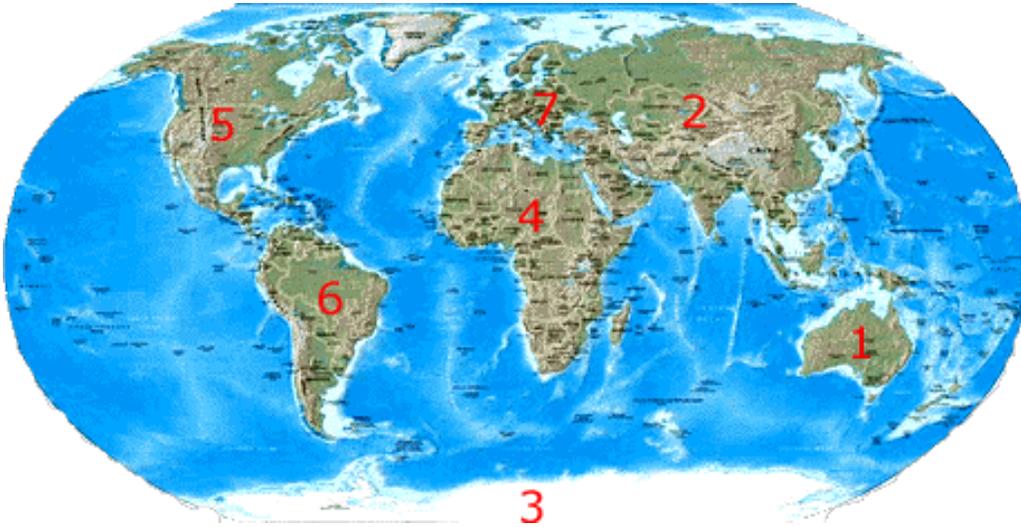
After the ceremony, come to your new friends and congratulate them using their last names and the titles: **господине** (Mr.) **госпођо** (Ms.)

**Example:**

**Честитам вам, господине Петровић.** (*Congratulation, Mr. Petrovic*)

**Activity 6**

Here is a map of continents. Please, write the name of each continent in Serbian.



1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_



### Activity 1

Take turns reading the following biographical names with your classmate. Can you tell which name was the most difficult to read?

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Џорџ Вашингтон  | 6. Генерал Ајзенхауер |
| 2. Абрахам Линколн | 7. Бенџамин Франклин  |
| 3. Џон Кенеди      | 8. Мерилин Монро      |
| 4. Волт Дизни      | 9. Мартин Лутер Кинг  |
| 5. Мухамед Али     | 10. Бил Клинтон       |

### Activity 2

Below are two popular Serbian tongue twisters. First read them slowly and then as fast as you can. Ask your instructor for help, if you need it.

риба риби реп гризе (*a fish is biting other fishes tail*)

на врх брда врба мрда (*on the top of the hill a willow tree is shaking*)

### Activity 3

You want to exit the premises. Read the following signs. What do you think, which one is for you?





#### Activity 4

Guess the meaning from context. Read the job announcements below and provide English equivalents for the underlined advertised positions.

#### Огласи за посао:

##### Тражимо:

Талентованог доктора физике

\_\_\_\_\_

Менаџера

\_\_\_\_\_

Веб дизајнера

\_\_\_\_\_

Административног менаџера

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Activity 5

Match the following words written in the Cyrillic alphabet with those written in the Latin alphabet.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. датум | a. vino  |
| 2. крило | b. sto   |
| 3. сто   | c. dan   |
| 4. месец | d. kuća  |
| 5. кућа  | e. život |
| 6. четка | f. krilo |
| 7. вино  | g. mesec |
| 8. колач | h. četka |
| 9. живот | i. kolač |
| 10. дан  | j. datum |



**Activity 1**

Listen again to the sounds of the Serbian letters looking and without looking at the Alphabet table. Read the letters from the top and the other way around.



**Activity 2**

You will hear letters in a random order. Circle those that you hear.

1. б 2. д 3. г 4. к 5. р 6. ч 7. л 8. и 9. њ 10. м 11. ц 12. ф 13. о 14. п

**Activity 3**

Here is the list of some words in Serbian. Pronounce the letters in each word and then read the word.

сунце – љубав – ракета – чамац – енциклопедија – јабука – Африка – Аустралија – Европа – мама – огледало – Београд - филм

**Activity 4**

Write in Serbian cursive the words from the list of the Serbian alphabet. Pronounce each word while you write.

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**Activity 5**

Write down the words you hear. There are 13 words altogether.

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**Activity 6**

Practice consonants. Write down the words that you hear.

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**Activity 7**

Can you recognize these cognates? Listen to the recording and pronounce the cognates you hear. Listen to this activity as many times as you need, then provide the English equivalents.

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