

Table of Contents

Introduction	6
1. Alphabet	8
2. Essential Words & Phrases	9
3. Basic Needs	21
4. Help	24
5. Legal Procedures & Documents	25
6. Using Numbers	28
7. Feelings & Emotions	37
8. Giving Support	42
9. Language & Communication	44
10. Around the house	48
11. Places & Navigation	55
12. Health	59
13. Food	66
14. Clothing	70
15. Money	73
16. Work & Employment	75
17. Children	78
18. Education	82
19. Animals	87
20. War in Ukraine	89
About the Author	92
About Ukrainian Lessons	93
More from Ukrainian Lessons	94



Introduction

Welcome! **Ласкаво просимо!** Laskávo prósymo!

This is the first phrase you could say to Ukrainians when you meet them at the borders, immigration centers, humanitarian organizations, or at your home. Even if you do not pronounce it perfectly yet, and even if it is the only phrase you know, **it will make a difference**. It will show your care, hospitality, and support of Ukraine.

This phrasebook is packed with words and expressions like that. It will not provide you with everything you need to start speaking in Ukrainian right away. However, it will equip you with the **essentials**, give you **ideas of what to say or ask** and hopefully inspire you to **continue learning the language**.

Here are some things to consider before you start using the phrasebook.

1. This book consists of **20 chapters/topics** that you should familiarize yourself with on the previous page. Once you know which topics are included, you will be able to quickly find one when you are in a particular situation and need to communicate with Ukrainians.
2. Usually, I try not to use Latinized Ukrainian in my teaching because it does not reflect correct pronunciation. This time speed of communication is more important than quality. That is why I included **transliterations** of all words and phrases on the right side of the charts.

Please keep in mind that this is a **transliteration** and **not** a phonetic transcription. It means it is not always the exact way to pronounce the word, it is just the Ukrainian alphabet in Latin characters.

I used the official Ukrainian governmental guidelines of transliteration to Latin characters. The only exception is the first *Alphabet* chapter – it has a phonetic transcription of all letters.

3. You can access my **audio recordings** of all the words and phrases if you follow the links or QR codes at the beginning of each chapter. These are useful if you have some time to practice before you actually communicate with Ukrainians.

A good exercise would be to try and read the phrase in Ukrainian out loud, then listen and check with my audio, then repeat with corrections. You can also record yourself and compare the result with my voice.

4. In most of the chapters, the **formal forms** of Ukrainian were used (**ви, ваш**). These forms are used when talking to people you do not know or who are not your close friends or family of the same age.

In chapter 8, *Giving Support*, I provided both formal and informal forms so that you could support your close friend as well as people you do not know well. In chapter 17, *Children*, there are only **informal forms** (**ти, твоя**) as we use them with kids.

5. Among the lists of expressions, you will find boxes with some **grammar info** or useful **links to free resources** that will help you expand certain topics.

If you have any **feedback**, tips, or suggestions for phrases to include in the second edition of the book, feel free to email me at anna@ukrainianlessons.com.

Glory to Ukraine! **Слава Україні!** Sláva Ukraїni!

Anna Ohoiko
Founder of UkrainianLessons.com



1. Alphabet



Link to audio: ukrainianlessons.com/ph-alphabet

А а	[a]	like a in start	Н н	[en]	like n in no
Б б	[be]	like b in best	О о	[o]	like o in port
В в	[ve]	like v in van	П п	[pe]	like p in park
Г г*	[he]	close to h in hike	Р р	[er]	close to r in rug
Ґ ґ	[ge]	like g in go	С с	[es]	like s in stop
Д д	[de]	like d in dog	Т т	[te]	like t in stop
Е е	[e]	like e in test	У у	[u]	like oo in pool
Є є	[je]	like ye in yet	Ф ф	[ef]	like f in fat
Ж ж	[zhe]	like s in vision	Х х	[kha]	like wh in who
З з	[ze]	like z in zoo	Ц ц	[tse]	like ts in lots
и	[y (i)]	close to i in did	Ч ч	[che]	like ch in chess
І і	[i]	like ee in meet	Ш ш	[sha]	like sh in short
Ї ї	[ji]	like ye in yield	Щ щ	[shcha]	like shch in fresh cherries
Й й	[jot]	like y in yes	ь	[mjakyj znak]	makes the previous consonant soft
К к	[ka]	like k in key	Ю ю	[ju]	like you in you
Л л	[el]	like l in lemon	Я я	[ja]	like ya in yard
М м	[em]	like m in mom			

Learn how to **pronounce each letter in detail** with more examples at:
ukrainianlessons.com/alphabet



2. Essential Words & Phrases



Link to audio: ukrainianlessons.com/ph-essential

Hello!	Добрий день!	Dóbryi den!
Hi! (informal)	Привіт!	Pryvít!
Good morning!	Доброго ранку!	Dóbroho rángu!
Good evening!	Добрий вечір!	Dóbryi véchir!
Yes	Так	Tak
No	Ні	Ni
Excuse me; Sorry	Вибачте	Výbachte
Please	Будь ласка	Bud láska
Thanks!	Дякую!	Diákui!
Thank you very much!	Дуже дякую!	Dúzhe diákui!
You are welcome.	Будь ласка.	Bud láska.
My name is...	Мене звати...	Mené zvatý...
What is your name?	Як вас звати?	Yak vas zvatý?
Nice to meet you!	Дуже приємно!	Dúzhe pryíemno!
Likewise! (nice to meet you)	Взаємно!	Vzaiémno!
Please come in.	Заходьте, будь ласка.	Zakhódte, bud láska.
Please sit down.	Сідайте, будь ласка.	Sidáite, bud láska.
I don't know.	Я не знаю.	Ya ne znáiu.
Of course.	Звичайно.	Zvycháino.
No problem.	Без проблем.	Bez problém.
Have a good trip!	Щасливої дороги!	Shchaslývoi doróhy!
Take care.	Бережіть себе.	Berezhít sebé.
All the best.	На все добре.	Na vse dóbre.
Goodbye!	До побачення!	Do pobáchennia!



family	сім'я	simiá
wife	дружина	druzhýna
husband	чоловік	cholovík
child	дитина	dytýna
children	діти	díty
daughter	дочка	dochká
son	син	syn
mother	мати	máty
father	батько	bátko
grandmother	бабуся	babúsia
grandfather	дідусь	didús
sister	сестра	sestrá
brother	брат	brat
cousin (female)	двоюрідна сестра	dvoiúridna sestrá
cousin (male)	двоюрідний брат	dvoiúridnyi brat
aunt	тітка	títka
uncle	дядько	diádko

days of the week	дні тижня	dni týzhnia
Monday	понеділок	ponedílok
Tuesday	вівторок	vivtórok
Wednesday	середа	seredá
Thursday	четвер	chetvér
Friday	п'ятниця	piátnytsia
Saturday	субота	subóta
Sunday	неділя	nedília

You can also learn **days of the week and months** in the episode #15 of Ukrainian Lessons Podcast:
ukrainianlessons.com/episode15



4. Help



Link to audio: ukrainianlessons.com/ph-help

help	допомога	dopomóha
to help	допомагати	dopomaháty
Help!	Допоможіть!	Dopomozhít!
We need help here.	Тут потрібна допомога.	Tut potríbna dopomóha.
What happened?	Що сталося?	Shcho stálos?
Can I help you?	Вам потрібна допомога?	Vam potríbna dopomóha?
May I help you?	Я можу вам допомогти?	Ya mózhu vam dopomohtý?
How can I help you?	Як я можу вам допомогти?	Yak ya mózhu vam dopomohtý?
I want to help you.	Я хочу вам допомогти.	Ya khóchu vam dopomohtý.
Please wait here.	Будь ласка, зачекайте тут.	Bud láska, zachekáite tut.
I will come back.	Я повернусь.	Ya povernús.
You can trust me.	Ви можете мені довіряти.	Vy mózhete menií doviriáty.
Don't worry.	Не хвилюйтесь.	Ne khvyliúites.
I will wait here with you.	Я почекаю тут з вами.	Ya pochedáiú tut z vámy.
I am getting somebody who can help.	Я знайду когось, хто зможе допомогти.	Ya znaidú kohós, khto zmózhe dopomohtý.
Somebody will come and help you.	Хтось прийде і допоможе вам.	Khtos pryidé i dopomózhe vam.



About Ukrainian Lessons



This phrasebook was brought to you by UkrainianLessons.com — a cozy educational platform that provides good-quality modern materials for learning Ukrainian. It was created by Anna Ohoiko shortly after the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity in 2014. Since then, the UL team has been providing various materials and support for Ukrainian learners with blog posts, books, videos, infographics, and their structured podcast courses — Ukrainian Lessons Podcast and 5 Minute Ukrainian.

We are also proud to host the most active Ukrainian learners community on Facebook — a group where everyone can ask questions, practice Ukrainian and share their favorite materials. You can join this friendly community at ukrainianlessons.com/fbgroup.

“I am so happy to have stumbled upon this site/podcast! It is wonderful that the Ukrainian Lessons Podcast is working to address that inaccessibility by providing the free podcast & an abundance of resources to further our language and cultural learning.

Lilly F from the United States

“I think the Ukrainian language is the most beautiful of all the Slavic languages due to its musicality and rhythm... I feel lucky to come across Anna's way of teaching it! It is friendly and very well focused on securing the steps one by one as I am progressing through the entire course. And the best part is that it doesn't stop at the basics... It gets gradually more difficult as you go... Lovely! I would recommend everyone to subscribe to the premium membership. It justifies its value 100%... better when you leave your українські friends amazed by your progress in their beautiful language.

Luis A. Zapata from Peru

“On my first visit to Kyiv, I felt confident in my already obtained basic skills in Ukrainian and was even slightly complimented in a souvenir shop. I owe a good deal a huge credit to ukrainianlessons.com and Anna. She takes you into this language, gradually enhancing new words and grammar.

Wilhelm Fuchs from Germany

“You can find it all here in a most palatable and well-prepared mix — grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, language functions — all served up engagingly with a serving of cultural knowledge topping it up like a spoonful of сметана! It doesn't get any better than this!

Христина Сікорська from Winnipeg, Canada



More from Ukrainian Lessons



Ukrainian Lessons Podcast

Are you looking for a well structured and easily accessible Ukrainian language course that can easily fit into your life? Ukrainian Lessons Podcast is exactly what its name says: Lessons of Ukrainian in the format of a podcast. This means you can enjoy learning Ukrainian with a real teacher from the comfort of your car, on your morning jog, or while cooking. Give it a go — all the lessons are free — and if you enjoy it and want to dig deeper, subscribe to the premium membership to receive PDF lesson notes and digital flashcards.

Find out more at ukrainianlessons.com/thepodcast or look for Ukrainian Lessons Podcast in your podcast app.



5 Minute Ukrainian

This series of mini-lessons is all about conversations. Each episode of 5 Minute Ukrainian contains a short dialogue that you will listen to at a natural and slow speed. Then your host Anna will teach you some essential phrases for that particular situation. Apart from the dialogues, there are also useful vocabulary boosters and grammar point episodes. You can also subscribe to receive comprehensive lesson notes with exercises and flashcards.

Find out more at ukrainianlessons.com/fmu or look for 5 Minute Ukrainian in your podcast app.



1000 Most Useful Ukrainian Words Book

If you are looking for a huge vocabulary boost at the beginning of your Ukrainian learning journey, check out this resource. It provides you with 1000 Ukrainian words and examples of using them in simple sentences — all with English translations. There is also a set of digital flashcards that can be used with the Anki app to learn these words quicker with audio and pictures.

Find out more at ukrainianlessons.com/1000words



Easy Ukrainian Book (intermediate & advanced level)

If you already have some progress in Ukrainian and looking for an immersive experience, check out this book. It is an easy read with exercises, vocabulary lists, and audio. Its fun story is about Beatrice from Spain and Brian from the USA who are going to have an unforgettable summer in Ukraine... Available as paperback or ebook — whichever format you choose, you get free audio!

Find out more at ukrainianlessons.com/cossack



Since the beginning of the brutal Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, people around the world **#StandWithUkraine** and put enormous effort into supporting the refugees.

This phrasebook is for **everyone helping Ukrainian people** — at the borders, at immigration centers, at humanitarian organizations, in their homes, or at a distance.

It includes **20 practical chapters** of the most important Ukrainian words and phrases to facilitate communication and demonstrate care.

Additional links to expand certain topics make this book an excellent basis for further Ukrainian learning.



Anna Ohoiko is a Ukrainian language specialist, teacher, podcast host, and founder of UkrainianLessons.com. Her mission is to make learning Ukrainian easy, exciting, and accessible in any part of the world.



UkrainianLessons

Ukrainian Lessons — is a cozy educational platform that provides good-quality modern materials for learning Ukrainian. Visit our website and explore a wide range of resources such as books, videos, infographics, blog posts, and structured podcast courses — Ukrainian Lessons Podcast and 5 Minute Ukrainian.



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