Ukrainian

A COMPREHENSIVE GRAMMAR

Routledge

Stefan M. Pugh
and Ian Press

UKRAINIAN:
A COMPREHENSIVE GRAMMAR

Ukrainian: A Comprehensive Grammar is a complete reference guide to modern Ukrainian grammar.

It presents an accessible description of the standard language, concentrating on the patterns of use today. The authors have consulted a great number of sources, in addition to a wide range of native speakers. The result is the first reference grammar of Ukrainian published outside the Ukraine, which will be a useful work of reference for many years.

The volume is organized to enable students of the language to find the information they seek quickly and easily, and to promote a thorough understanding of Ukrainian grammar. It presents the complexities of the language in a systematic and user-friendly form.

Features include:

- detailed tables in each chapter for easy reference
- numerous examples throughout
- thorough descriptions of all parts of speech
- list of grammatical terms in English and Ukrainian
- complete descriptions of the word-formational processes of Ukrainian
- an overview of past and present changes in the language
- bibliography of works relating to Ukrainian
- full index

Ukrainian: A Comprehensive Grammar reflects the richness of the language and is an essential purchase for all students of Ukrainian.

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UKRAINIAN:
A COMPREHENSIVE
GRAMMAR

Stefan M. Pugh and Ian Press

London and New York

Publisher's Note
The publisher has gone to great lengths to ensure the quality of
this reprint but points out that some imperfections
in the original may be apparent

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PREFACE

Ukraine is – by European standards – a large country with a large population, and its international visibility has grown rapidly since the achievement of independence in 1991. Russian was the overall *lingua franca* in the Soviet Union, including, of course, Ukraine; since 1991, however, the Ukrainian language has gradually been displacing Russian in official functions and is now in the process of assuming the role of a true national language. Outside of Ukraine, the growing awareness of Ukrainian as an independent language (read: 'not Russian') has been leading people – whether students, tourists, businesspeople, or diplomats – to study the language. This phenomenon is also reflected in the recent publication of new grammars and handbooks of Ukrainian outside Ukraine, for example *Colloquial Ukrainian* (Routledge, 1994). This book, as a 'Comprehensive Grammar', can also be described as a 'reference' grammar: a book to be consulted on a wide variety of questions concerning the Ukrainian language. To our knowledge, no comprehensive grammar of Ukrainian has appeared outside of Ukraine; grammars produced in Ukraine – with the exception of some textbooks to be used in a classroom setting – are naturally written in Ukrainian, and are therefore of limited use to those who do not yet read Ukrainian.

For a language such as Ukrainian, in which there is great regional and stylistic variation, probably no one speaker will agree with every point made in the book: the authors therefore must take full responsibility for making the choices that had to be made. Even in the process of writing a grammar of a 'standard' language, it soon becomes apparent that some rules are fluid, as language itself is fluid; we recognize and indeed welcome that a book of this kind will inevitably be open to suggestions of every kind, as there will always be much more to be said about this – as every other – language.

Ukrainian is a very rich language, as are all the elements of Ukrainian culture, including literature, music, and film. Ukraine has a long literary tradition that is all but unknown to the vast majority of non-Ukrainians. To put this statement in perspective: some – if not many – of the great works of Russian literature could be named by the average citizen in London, Paris, and Washington, but it would be a rare person indeed who could name a single Ukrainian novel or poem. Of course, not a few Russian writers were born in Ukraine, such as Gogol and Akhmatova, who are counted as part of the Russian literary tradition. The richness of the literature is fed by the richness of the language: the lexicon is enormous, the grammatical and word-formational processes flexible and productive. Part of the problem with learn-

ing or teaching the Ukrainian language is the very richness that we are
describing. In terms of the lexicon, for example, the traveller will note strong
differences between East and West Ukraine: this is a function not only of the
great distances involved (approximately 900 kilometres from East to West),
but also of the perceived 'Russianness' of the East, and 'Polishness' of the
West. While Soviet rule was indeed responsible for a certain Russianization of
the language, care must be taken not to identify word 'X' or 'Y' as 'Russian',
and therefore as 'not Ukrainian'. In practice, bilingualism in Ukrainian and
Russian has led to the common use of a number of (originally Russian) words
in everyday Ukrainian: one speaker might say **телефонува́ти** 'to phone',
while another might prefer **дзвони́ти**; the first speaker might avoid **дзвони́ти**
because it looks and sounds like Russian **звони́ть**. We have made every effort
to describe Ukrainian from a neutral standpoint, *viz.* by including some
words or constructions that may be of Russian origin – if they are currently
used by a reasonable number of people.

Ukrainian: A Comprehensive Grammar is not primarily meant to teach
Ukrainian (other books are available for that), but presents the standard
language in a systematic and user-friendly fashion. We use the word 'stand-
ard' with caution here, as there is a great deal of variation in the language:
for example, often there can be more than one acceptable case ending in
a given set of nouns (Chapter 2); in the dialects one finds even greater
variation, but that must remain the subject of another study. Variation can
extend to pronunciation as well, as in all languages: the city name Льві́в
L'viv (Russian *Льво́в* L'vov), for instance, is described in 'standard' works
(for example, ULVN) as [lʲvʲiw]; this is certainly how it is pronounced in
western Ukraine, and in L'viv itself, but in other parts of the country – and
even on national radio – it can be heard to be pronounced [lʲvʲif] as well as
[lʲvʲiw]. Some might argue that the former is a result of Russian influence
(and therefore incorrect), while others might consider this variant to be a
native phenomenon.

The structure of the book is as follows: a general table of contents lists
major subdivisions of the chapters (for example, the noun, declensions, and
such), together with lists of subheadings, so that the reader can immediately
find the particular subject they are looking for. Each chapter first presents the
material (the Ukrainian verb, for example), then describes how it is used, with
examples throughout; the word-formational processes characteristic of the
major grammatical categories (verb, noun, adjective) are also described in
some detail. For individual items – such as key grammatical words or topics –
the index will be of additional help. Lists of grammatical terms (in both
English and Ukrainian) and of abbreviations used are provided at the begin-
ning of the book; abbreviations referring to sources consulted can be found at
the end of the Bibliography. Readers who are interested in furthering their
study of the language or literature are encouraged to refer to the bibliography
at the end of the book; this lists grammars, dictionaries, and other sources,

many of which were extensively consulted during the writing of this grammar.

Finally, the authors are indebted to many individuals who helped make this book possible, including Marina Kharitonova, Olena Bekh, John Sullivan, Serhij Moroz, Craig Rollo, Jennifer Pickurel, and an anonymous reader; finally, we owe many thanks to Routledge for their patience.

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INTRODUCTION

0.0   HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Ukrainian (formerly known as Little Russian) is an East Slavonic language, closely related to Belarusian (formerly known as Byelorussian, and earlier as White Russian) and Russian; all three use the Cyrillic alphabet. At the time of the Christianization of Rus' — the East Slavonic territory that stretched from Kyiv (the Ukrainian form of Kiev) in the south to Novgorod in the north – in 988, the East Slavonic group of dialects as a whole was relatively uniform, differing only slightly from region to region. The differences that today separate the three languages from one another were not brought about by internal linguistic change alone; just as important in this regard were events in the realm of political change, mostly in the form of invasions by non-Slavs and annexations by other Slavs.

THE TATARS   The first cataclysmic event of this kind was the protracted invasion and ultimate destruction of Kyiv by the Tatars in 1240. Immediate consequences of this event were the dissolution of the state, the establishment of smaller principalities on the periphery of the territory, and therefore a break in the continuity of linguistic evolution – heretofore centred on Kyiv. Tatar rule had no lasting affect on the development of local dialects, barring the adoption of a few words that were specific to Tatar material culture.

THE POLES   The eventual collapse of Tatar control over Kievan Rus' left a power vacuum, into which the Polish-Lithuanian (but primarily Polish) state entered in the course of the fifteenth century. This historical development differed markedly from the Tatar period, as Polish became a true *lingua franca* in the Ukrainian-Belarusian lands: Polish rule penetrated deeply into daily life in these regions, with the result that Polish was widely spoken. The consequences for later Ukrainian (and Belarusian) remain evident today, as a substantial proportion of the Ukrainian lexicon consists of borrowings from the Polish language. The lexicon is therefore the one component of the modern language which differentiates Ukrainian from Russian the most. Of course, there are significant differences in the phonology and morphology as well, but these are the result of gradual linguistic developments that are not as immediately obvious as is the sheer weight of thousands of Polish lexical items. It was this period more than any other that resulted in the formation of a Ukrainian language essentially as we now know it; and, as the lexical developments took place across the entire Ukrainian-Belarusian territory, modern Ukrainian is closer to Belarusian than it is to Russian.

THE RUSSIANS   Polish hegemony lasted until the middle of the seventeenth century, after which much of what is Ukraine today was brought into the Russian Empire; after a short period of independence following the Bolshevik revolution of 1917, Ukraine was made part of the Soviet Union. This entire period – which ended in 1991 – had the same linguistic effect as the Polish period (on Belarusian as well as on Ukrainian): Russian-Ukrainian bilingualism and Russo-centric political life and education throughout the twentieth century resulted in the widespread daily use of Russian lexemes in everyday Ukrainian. The proportion of Russianisms was naturally greatest in the press (as organs of the State) and the language of government and politics.

   These issues, the interaction of Polish and Russian lexicon with the native Ukrainian lexicon, as well as changes now taking place in the language, will be addressed in more detail in **0.1** below.

0.1   UKRAINIAN TODAY, THE LEXICON

The development of the linguistic component that we speak of as the 'lexicon' has been outlined above, if only very briefly, but what of the language today? Although the Polish and Russian periods can be equated, given the massive use/importation of lexemes from both languages, there is one critical difference. In the seventeenth century there was no such thing as a 'standard' language, no grammars, no prescriptive rules, no mass media; consequently, much of what had entered the language from Polish remained there, as 'Polish' words had become 'Ukrainian' words. Speakers used them in speech, later in writing; speakers today will not consciously think, as they say **Дя́кую** '(I) thank you', that this was a borrowing from Polish (Pol. *dziękuję*: ultimately from German *dank*). There was no move to purge Ukrainian of words adopted from Polish, as there was no language planning. Now, however, Ukrainian is a national language; it is the language of a large country finding its identity after centuries of being part of another, even larger, one. Thus, in the process of Ukrainianizing the nation, introducing Ukrainian as a language of instruction at all levels, as the language of State and commerce, the unasked question may be 'What *is* Ukrainian?' Some native speakers, in describing to us their active use of Ukrainian, tell us that they occasionally make conscious decisions about what particular lexeme to use: if a word (presumably) borrowed from Russian has been in use in Ukrainian (such as **спір** 'argument', compare Rus. *спор*), but a more Ukrainian variant exists (in this case **супере́чка**), he/she will now tend to use the latter. Of course, a Russianized Ukrainian, or a Ukrainian whose first language is Russian, might still use the former.

   Questions of this kind will take many years to sort out; individual lexemes of Russian origin may or may not survive, although a great many will do so

simply because (i) there have been so many, used for so many years, and (ii) because it is sometimes difficult to decide whether a particular word is actually a Russian word or one that is of common East Slavonic origin. In the case of **спір**, one can argue that the latter is the case: (i) it is attested already in the fifteenth century (as **споръ**), albeit semantically somewhat different from its modern counterpart; and (ii) it reflects the vocalic evolution of **o – i** in a closed syllable; if this word were a recent borrowing, it would be unlikely to reflect this feature. A 1997 dictionary of Ukrainian, under the English headword 'argument', gives both **суперечка** and **спір**, with the former evidently as the first choice; in the 1997 orthographic dictionary, however, the latter is absent. Future grammars and dictionaries, then, will present us with the officially 'accepted' words that make up the Ukrainian lexicon; but, as ever, what is actually used in speech or writing by an individual is a function of his/her choice.

0.1.1   SHARED EAST SLAVONIC LEXICON

A discussion of the Ukrainian lexicon begins with the historical developments outlined in **0.0**. The development of this component of the language began with a pool of lexemes shared by all of the modern East Slavonic languages. Thus, lexemes basic to all three will be more or less identical (allowing for historical phonological changes specific to each individual language); this will include kinship terms such as 'brother', 'mother', 'son', 'sister', personal and possessive pronouns 'I', 'you', and so on, 'my', 'your', 'his', and so on, lexemes denoting basic realia of life 'house', 'table', and so on. Compare (note that stresses are not marked in this Introduction):

Ukrainian	*Belarusian*	*Russian*	*Meaning*
брат	**брат**	**брат**	brother
мати	**маці**	**мать**	mother
сестра	**сястра**	**сестра**	sister
син	**сын**	**сын**	son
я	**я**	**я**	I
ти	**ты**	**ты**	you (*sg.*)
він	**ён**	**он**	he
ми	**мы**	**мы**	we
дім	**дом**	**дом**	house
стіл	**стол**	**стол**	table
Verbs:			
читати	**чытаць**	**читать**	to read
писати	**пісаць**	**писать**	to write
ходити	**хадзіць**	**ходить**	to go

Adjectives:

зелений	зялёны	зелёный	green
молодий	малады	молодой	small
старий	стары	старый	old

One of the lexical developments that further distanced Russian from the other two languages was the widespread adoption by codifiers of Russian of words, forms of words, and word-formational processes from Church Slavonic, the liturgical language of the East Slavonic (Russian) Orthodox Church. This can be explained as a result of the transfer of the seat of the Church to northern Rus' (ultimately Muscovy) during the Tatar period, as well as of Polish rule over the Ukrainian-Belarusian lands. The influence of the Orthodox Church was therefore minimal in Ukraine, while it grew in stature and societal importance in Muscovy. Although it is true that, during the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth centuries, a number of Church Slavonic grammars and dictionaries appeared in Ukraine-Belarus', they were written in order to counteract the use of the Polish literary language and the influence of the Catholic Church. But the effect was to create a kind of diglossic relationship between the language of the Church and the spoken local language: one was limited to the Church and learned writing, the other was used in everyday life. In the end, the latter took little from Church Slavonic, and Church Slavonic was not used as a source during the process of codification in later centuries.

0.1.2 POLISH LEXICON

The Polish period was, therefore, crucial for the current shape of Ukrainian, because of the role of Polish itself and because of the reduced role of Church Slavonic for a prolonged length of time. The development of the Ukrainian vocabulary can be described as two-pronged: (i) the straight borrowing of Polish lexemes that would not be perceived as specifically East Slavonic (i.e. that are somehow different), and (ii) the semantic shift of a number of lexemes that were ultimately from the same Slavonic source under the influence of the meaning of corresponding Polish forms. The following examples are but a very few that could be listed (thousands belong in the first group):

(i) **дякую, дякувати**   'thank you', 'to thank', but Rus. *спасибо,*
благодарю, благодарить. But: Ukr. **спасибі**,
'thanks' most likely shared East Slavonic, cf. Pol.
dziękuję.

  вдячний   'thankful', cf. Pol. *wdzięczny*, but Rus. *благодарный*.

  ганок   'steps', 'porch', cf. Pol. *ganek* < Ger. *Gang*, but Rus.
крыльцо.

  навіть   'even' (adv.), Pol. *nawet*; but Rus. *даже*.

  місце   'place', Pol. *miejsce*, Rus. *место* (cf. **місто** under (ii)).

умова	'condition', 'accord', 'agreement', Pol. *umowa*, but Rus. *условие*, *договор*.
дбати	'to care for, about', Pol. *dbać*, but Rus. *заботиться*.
будинок	'building', Pol. *budynek*, but Rus. *здание*.
жартувати	'to joke', Pol. *żartować*, but Rus. *шутить*.
допомагати	'to help', Pol. *dopomagać*, but Rus. *помогать*.
задоволений	'content', 'satisfied', Pol. *zadowolony*; but Rus. *довольный*.
година	'hour', Pol. *godzina*, but Rus. *час*.
треба	'It is necessary', 'One must', Pol. *trzeba*, but Rus. *надо*, *нужно* (cf. Rus. *требовать* 'to demand').
(ii) **місто**	'town', 'city', Pol. *miasto*, cf. Rus. *город* 'city', 'town', but *место* 'place'.
кордон	'border', Pol. *kordon* (*graniczny*), cf. Rus. *кордон* 'cordon', *граница* 'border'.
час	'time', Pol. *czas*, cf. Rus. *час* 'hour', *время* 'time'.
захід	'west', Pol. *zachód*; but Rus. *заход* 'sunset', *запад* 'west'.
схід	'east', Pol. *wschód* (with simplification of the initial cluster ws- > s-), cf. Rus. *сход* 'alighting', 'gathering', or 'assembly', *восход* 'rising' (*в. солнца* 'sunrise', 'east': obsolete), *восток* 'east'.

All such lexemes have long been used in Ukrainian without evoking a sense of 'Polishness' in the speaker's or listener's ear. Of course, occasionally there are lexical forms which will be more common in one area of Ukraine than another; thus, a western Ukrainian lexeme can be perceived by an easterner as a Polonism, for example, **пан** 'mister' (Mr.: compare Polish *pan*), a form that has been described in some grammars as one that is used primarily by émigrés and occasionally by western Ukrainians; it is, however, present in the latest Ukrainian dictionaries. Even a basic word like 'please' can differ from East to West: **прошу** can be used anywhere in Ukraine, but is more common in the West (compare Pol. *proszę*), *vs.* **будь ласка** in the East. Sometimes the reverse occurs: in the West a 'letter' (of the alphabet) is more often **буква** - which is the same as in Russian – than **літера**, the word encountered elsewhere in Ukrainian and in Polish. Although this might be surprising – given the geo-linguistic realities of Ukraine – the history of all languages is full of such twists and turns. Other regional differences may be more subtle (suffixation, for example), as in the word for 'snapshot', 'photo': compare West **знимка** (not based on a Polish form), East **знімок** or **знимок**; the latter may have this form under the influence of Russian **снимок**, but phonetically the Ukrainian version is different enough from the Russian that it is not markedly heard as Russian. The Russianness of a given word is only clearly felt in lexical items that either have no Ukrainian related counterpart or belong to an obviously

Soviet lexical inventory (political, (Soviet Russian) economic, and the like); this phenomenon is examined in **0.1.3**.

0.1.3   RUSSIAN LEXICON

The growth of the Russian contribution to the Ukrainian lexicon during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries can be attributed in part to the gradual industrialization of some of the regions of the Russian Empire: new industries, new products, new words. Of course, many of these new lexemes were internationalisms in any event, and represent borrowings in Russian as well; the source languages were primarily French and German, and ultimately often Latin-based. It is easy to see how this component of the Ukrainian lexicon developed, as specialist terminology in a variety of disciplines (socio-economic, political, educational, scientific) developed very quickly during the eighteenth century in Russia. Ukraine was part of the empire, ruled by Russians. Russian and Ukrainian used practically identical alphabets, and the languages were closely related: the adoption of ready-made lexemes could not have been easier. Naturally the same is true of the twentieth century, but the nature of the borrowings was different for political reasons; the following might be termed neutral borrowings, if only because they were adopted without overtly political meanings:

> **документ, матеріал, психологія, серйозний, період, делікатність, сфера, національний, максимум, проблема, інтерес, оригінальність, трагічний,** *et al.*

It is naturally difficult to determine when exactly words of this type entered the language; it is also possible that some (or even many) were used before the annexation of Ukraine by Russia, but that their semantic coloration could have changed under the influence of Russian. It is much easier to identify Russian words adopted, given, or simply used during the Soviet period (but note again that these are international in nature):

> **партійний, соціалізм, революція, пленум, культ** (as in **культ особи** 'personality cult'), **класовий, колектив, фашизм,** *et al.*

It bears repeating, however, that the influx of Russian words during the Soviet period was not entirely political, as Ukrainian-Russian bilingualism also led to the common use of neutral Russian lexemes. But the role of Russian throughout Soviet society was openly declared to be that of (i) the language of all Soviet peoples and (ii) the source language for the enrichment of the other languages of the Soviet Union. It is now no longer the language of all former Soviet citizens, but *a* language; a language that is commonly being avoided in some of the former republics with established, old literary traditions of their own (such as the Baltic states, Georgia, Armenia). It is also no longer the source language for neologisms in languages outside of the

Russian Federation – with the possible exception of Belarus'; for Ukrainian in particular, the question will be 'What will happen to Russian lexemes that once enriched the language?' A very good discussion of current debates among linguists and codifiers in Ukraine (regarding the standardization of Ukrainian with reference to all major components of the language) can be found in Pickurel (1998).

   As a final note on the role of Russian, there exists a mixed Russian-Ukrainian form of speech known as *suržyk*. Although it is thought that it originally arose as a mixed form of language among peasants, in the recent past it has been used – mainly by the young – in certain well-defined contexts, for example, in popular music, as a way of expressing irony, protest, or simply of making a statement. As a non-standard form of speech, it is not generally found in print and has no effect on Ukrainian in general; indeed, the use of *suržyk* now tends to be decreasing (Pickurel 1998: 242).

0.1.4   UKRAINIAN TODAY

In the passages above, as in the Preface to this book, we have noted that there can be great variation in Ukrainian. In the grammatical sphere, this primarily consists of the existence of variant case endings in the noun. The pronunciation of Ukrainian can also vary, according to region and individual speaker; although this can be a function of one's dialect, we also note occasional variation under the influence of Russian (as noted in the Preface regarding the realization of the city name Львів as [lʲvʲiw] or [lʲvʲif], where the second variant reflects Russian influence: compare the Russian variant [lʲvof]). The lexicon is that component of the language which can undergo the fastest transformation: before 1991, it was Russian which served as the source language; today, given the rapid attempts to transform the Ukrainian economy into a market economy, English business and advertising terminology is widely encountered in the media. Whether or not the new lexemes are retained in the language of the future remains to be seen, and may depend on the success of the market economy in the long run; English-based computer terminology is likely to remain, however, as the use of computers grows.

   Perhaps more importantly for the living spoken language is the language of the young: since Ukraine has opened up to the West, western (and especially English-language) popular culture is adopted and widely imitated. English-language teaching programmes, many of them private enterprises, are to be found in appreciable numbers in all of the large cities of the country; those who are learning the language are primarily – but not exclusively – the young. The effect that all of these factors will have on Ukrainian of the future can only be surmised, but here we may take German, which has been under the strong influence of English-language culture since the 1950s, as a point of comparison. An English speaker who peruses German popular magazines, watches German television (especially advertisements), and speaks to young

Germans cannot help but be struck by the immense number of English lex-
emes in constant use. Very often such words are no longer consciously used as
cultural markers or as an indication of 'coolness': this is a clear indication of
their transformation from English words into German words (in other words,
into true borrowings). English is 'rapidly replacing Russian as the language
of international communication' in Ukraine (Pickurel 1999: 242); this devel-
opment, alongside the use of Anglicisms/Americanisms as markers of popu-
lar culture, will in time affect at least the lexicon of Ukrainian in a significant
way. In years to come, new dictionaries of Ukrainian will attest to this aspect
of change in Ukrainian, much as new dictionaries of Russian reflect the same
phenomenon in that language.

0.2   ABBREVIATIONS USED

Abbreviations relating to sources consulted are to be found at the end of the
Bibliography.

A., acc.	accusative
act.	active
adj.	adjective
adv.	adverb
arch.	archaic
coll.	colloquial
comp.	comparative
cond.	conditional
conj.	conjugation
deadj.	deadjectival
D., dat.	dative
decl.	declension
dem.	demonstrative
dePP.	de-Prepositional Phrase
desubst.	desubstantival
det.	determinate
dial.	dialect
dim.	diminutive
f., fem.	feminine
fut.	future
G., gen.	genitive
imp., imper.	imperative
imperf.	imperfective
indecl.	indeclinable
indef.	indefinite
indet.	indeterminate

inf.	infinitive
I., inst.	instrumental
intrans.	intransitive
lit.	literally
L., loc.	locative
m., masc.	masculine
neg.	negative
n., neut.	neuter
N., nom.	nominative
num.	numeral
part.	participle
pass.	passive
PAP.	past active participle
perf.	perfective
pl.	plural
poss.	possessive
PPP.	past passive participle
PrAP.	present active participle
prep.	preposition
pres.	present
pron.	pronoun
PrPP.	present passive participle
recip.	reciprocal
refl.	reflexive
rel.	relative
sg.	singular
subst.	substantive
sup.	superlative
trans.	transitive
V., voc.	vocative

0.3   GLOSSARY OF GRAMMATICAL TERMS USED IN THIS BOOK

accusative	case of the direct object (see p. 10): **Він читáє** *кнúжку* 'He reads *the book*'.
adjective	modifies a noun, answers the question 'What is X like?', 'the *long* book', 'an *interesting* story'.
adjectival participle	an *-ing* form of a verb which means the same as 'who/which . . .', e.g., 'He phoned the man *selling* a canoe' (= 'who was selling'), a synonymous term in Slavonic grammars is 'participle'.

adverb	modifies action, answers the question 'how': 'He reads *slowly*', 'John does this *well*'
adverbial participle	see 'gerund'.
article	'*the* book' (definite); '*a* library' (indefinite).
aspiration	the puff of air which accompanies the pronunciation of sounds to varying extents, e.g. in standard English 'p' at the beginning of a word is accompanied by quite noticeable aspiration; this is *not* a feature of Ukrainian in such sounds as *p, t, k,* when they are hard, but is present to some extent in palatalized consonants.
cardinal	numeral indicating how many (one, two . . .).
case	form of a word (noun, adjective, pronoun) showing the function of that word in a sentence, expressed by an ending.
collective	a form referring to a group, e.g. of people.
conjugation	inflection of the verb by means of endings to indicate who or what is carrying out the action: 'John read*s*' (*vs.* 'I read'), **Микола читає**.
dative	case of the indirect object.
declension	set of case endings (see 'case' above).
definite	see 'article' above.
direct object	thing/person at which a verbal action is directed: 'She bought *the book*', 'We saw *John*'.
ending	element(s) added to the stem of a word: book + *s*, **книжк** + **а, пол** + **е**; an ending in Ukrainian can be 'zero': **брат** (+ *zero*).
gender	'natural' gender: distinction of sex (male-female), 'grammatical' gender: distinction of declensional types according to the ending in the nominative singular.
genitive	case of possession, often English 'of': 'the capital *of England*', '*England's* capital'.
gerund	an *-ing* form of a verb which means the same as 'when, if, because . . .', e.g., '*Looking* through the window, Joan saw just what she had been looking for' (= 'When she was looking . . .'), 'They were so tired they went to bed *without undressing*' (= a negative adverbial participle); a synonymous term is 'adverbial participle', or 'verbal adverb'.
hard	in reference to consonants: not soft/palatalized.
imperative	the verb form used to convey commands: '*Write* this down immediately!'
indefinite	see 'article'.

indirect object	recipient of the direct object (see above): 'The teacher gave the book *to the student*'.
instrumental	case expressing 'by means of', 'together with'.
interjection	a word or phrase expressing emotion: 'Oh!'
lexicon	the set of words ('lexical items') that make up the vocabulary of a language; sometimes = 'vocabulary'.
locative	case of location (*in* the city): in Ukrainian this case is used only with a preposition; in other grammars it may be referred to as the 'prepositional'.
mood	a verb form conveying the attitude of the speaker to what is being said, e.g. the 'indicative' mood conveys plain statements, as in 'I am reading a book', and the 'conditional' mood hints at an underlying condition or 'if': 'I would like to go to Kyiv'.
nominative	case of the subject (see below).
noun	object (pencil), person (John, woman), or concept (freedom).
ordinal	numeral indicating relative order ('how-manieth': 'first', 'second' . . .).
palatalization	the modification of the pronunciation of a consonant when it is almost simultaneously accompanied by a 'y'-sound, thus the variations of the *ss*, *t*, *d*, and *n* in English *issue*, *tune*, *dew*, *new*. Such 'palatalized', or 'soft', consonants are a feature of Ukrainian pronunciation.
paradigm	a set of declined or conjugated forms (e.g. the present paradigm of **ітй** 'go', is **ідý, ідéш, ідé, ідемó, ідетé, ідýть**).
participle	see 'adjectival participle' and compare 'adverbial participle'.
plural	when reference is to more than one item or person ('pencil*s*').
prefix	element added to the beginning of a word to denote an action or state different from that of the unprefixed form: 'Jack *pre*paid the bill', 'I *under*estimated him'.
preposition	grammatical word relating two things/people: a book *in* a library, the letter *from* mother; use of a preposition in Ukrainian requires that the following word occurs with a particular case ending.
pronoun	*personal* 'I', 'you', *possessive* 'my', 'your', *interrogative* 'who?', 'what?' and so on.
root	the core of a word, to which can be added prefixes, derivational suffixes, stem-marking suffixes, endings.

singular	when reference is to a single person or item, e.g. 'a pencil' (*vs.* 'pencil*s*'), or something collective or uncountable, e.g. 'foliage', 'honey'.
soft	= palatalized, see 'palatalization'.
stem	the form of a word minus the ending, e.g. **книжк-, добр-, прочитай-, говор-и-, передай-**.
stress	greater emphasis on one vowel/syllable within a word: compare the two different places of stress in English *cóntent vs. contént*.
subject	actor, thing/person carrying out the main action of a sentence: '*John* read the article'.
suffix	a word-formational element: e.g. English *-tion, -ment, -ness, -er* (the speak*er*); Ukrainian **-ик**.
tense	time as expressed by the verb (past, present, future).
verb	word expressing action: 'Louise *writes* letters'.
vocative	case of address: 'John!' Nouns in Ukrainian have a distinct form in the singular: **Іва́не!** (*vs.* **Іва́н**, in reference to Ivan).
voice	in pronunciation, a sound articulated with accompanying vibration in the throat (the vocal cords or folds), e.g. 'voiced' *z* as against 'voiceless' *s*; in the verb, the contrast between, for example, the 'active' voice in 'John sees Mary', and the 'passive' voice in 'John is seen by Mary'.
word formation	the process of building words from a given word or base form: *transform > transformation*.

0.4   UKRAINIAN GRAMMATICAL TERMS

(Note that forms are cited first of all in the nominative case, with genitive forms supplied.)

accusative	**знахі́дний відмі́нок, -ого -нка**
active voice	**акти́вний стан, -ого -у**
adjectival participle	**дієприкме́тник, -а**
adjective	**прикме́тник, -а**
adverb	**прислі́вник, -а**
adverbial participle	**дієприслі́вник, -а**
alphabet	**абе́тка, -и, алфаві́т, -у or алфа́ві́т, -у**
animates	**на́зви істо́т** (from **на́зва, -и** 'name', and **істо́та, -и** 'being')
aspect	**вид, -у**

assimilation	уподі́бнення, -я (also **асиміля́ція**, -ї); the opposite, referring to when neighbouring sounds become less like each other, is **розподі́бнення**, -я (also **дисиміля́ція**, -ї 'dissimilation')
cardinal numeral	кі́лькісний числі́вник, -ого -а
case	іме́нник, -а
combination	сполу́чення, -я
comparative (degree)	ви́щий сту́пінь, -ого -пеня
conditional	умо́вний спо́сіб, -ого спо́собу
conjugation	дієвідмі́на, -и (in the sense of a group or class)
conjugation	відмі́нювання, -я (in the sense of the changing of endings; also 'declension' in the same sense)
conjunction	сполу́чник, -а
consonant	при́голосний, -ого (adjective functioning as a noun; **звук** is understood)
dative	дава́льний відмі́нок, -ого -нка
declension	відмі́на, -и (in the sense of a group or class)
declension	відмі́нювання, -я (in the sense of the changing of endings; also 'conjugation' in the same sense – for a verb **дієвідмі́нювання** may be preferred)
demonstrative pronoun	вказівни́й займе́нник, -ого -а
ending	закі́нчення, -я
future tense	майбу́тній час, -ього ча́су
gender	рід, ро́ду
genitive	родови́й відмі́нок, -о́го -нка
gerund	дієприслі́вник, -а
hard	тверди́й (the related noun is **тве́рдість**, -ості)
imperative	наказо́вий спо́сіб, -ого спо́собу
imperfective aspect	недоко́наний вид, -ого -у
impersonal form	безосо́бова фо́рма, -ої -и
inanimates	на́зви неісто́т, (from **на́зва**, -а 'name', and **істо́та**, -и 'being')
instrumental	ору́дний відмі́нок, -ого -нка
interjection	ви́гук, -у
interrogative pronoun	пита́льний займе́нник (substitute **прикме́тник** as required), -ого -а
language	мо́ва, -и
lengthening	подо́вження, -я
letter	лі́тера, -и, бу́ква, -и
locative	місце́вий відмі́нок, -ого -нка
mixed	мі́шаний, -ого
mood	спо́сіб, спо́собу
negative pronoun	запере́чний займе́нник (substitute **прикме́тник** as required), -ого -а
nominative	називни́й відмі́нок, -о́го -нка

non-syllabic	**нескладови́й, -о́го**
noun	**іме́нник, -а**
number	**число́, -а́**
numeral	**числі́вник, -а**
ordinal numeral	**порядко́вий числі́вник, -ого -а**
part of speech	**части́на мо́ви, -и мо́ви**
particle	**ча́стка, -и**
passive voice	**паси́вний стан, -ого -у**
past tense	**мину́лий час, -ого ча́су́**
perfective aspect	**доко́наний вид, -ого -у**
person	**осо́ба, -и**
personal pronoun	**особо́вий займе́нник, -ого -а**
plural	**множина́, -и́**
possessive adjective	**присві́йний прикме́тник, -ого -а** (substitute **займе́нник** as required)
preposition	**прийме́нник, -а**
present tense	**тепе́рішній час, -ього ча́су́**
pronoun	**займе́нник, -а**
pronunciation	**вимо́ва, -и**
qualitative adjective	**я́кісний прикме́тник, -ого -а**
reflexive pronoun	**зворо́тний займе́нник** (substitute **прикме́тник** as required)
relative adjective	**відно́сний прикме́тник, -ого -а** (substitute **займе́нник** as required)
sentence	**ре́чення, -я**
singular	**однина́, -и́**
soft	**м'яки́й** (the related noun is **м'я́кість, -ості**), **-о́го**
sound	**звук, -а/-у**
speech	**мо́влення, -я**
stress	**на́голос, -у**
stressed (sound)	**наголо́шений (звук), -ого (-а/-у)**
superlative (degree)	**найви́щий сту́пінь, -ого -пеня**
syllable	**склад, -у**
tense	**час, ча́су́**
unstressed (sound)	**ненаголо́шений (звук), -ого (-а/-у)**
verb	**дієсло́во, -а**
verbal adverb	see 'gerund'
vocative	**кли́чний відмі́нок, -ого -нка**
voice	**стан, -у**
voiced	**дзвінки́й** (the related noun is **дзвінкість, -ості**)
voiceless (unvoiced)	**глухи́й** (the related noun is **глу́хість, -ості**)
vowel	**голосни́й, -о́го** (adjective functioning as a noun; **звук** is understood)
word formation	**словотві́р, -тво́ру**

0.5   BASIC GREETINGS

It is difficult to place sections on greetings and interjections thematically within the chapters of a reference or comprehensive grammar; although greetings will be found in basic textbooks or in books on the colloquial language, interjections will not always be included. Both of these elements are included here, as not all forms, phrases, and especially variants will be easily found in dictionaries, and they are rarely found together in one place in any book.

'HELLO'

Formal:	до́брий день	lit. good day
	добри́день	same as above, but slightly less formal
	до́брого ра́нку	good morning
	до́брий ве́чір	good evening
	добри́вечір	same as above (cf. добри́день)
	до́брого здоро́в'я	lit. '[I wish you] good health', often in response to one of the preceding greetings
	ви́бачте!	Excuse me (when addressing someone whose attention you would like to get; also in the sense 'sorry!' (see below), or to introduce an objection 'excuse me, but . . .')
Informal:	віта́ю!	lit. I greet, I welcome.
	приві́т!	hi
	здоро́в!	hi (quite familiar, often between men only)
On the phone:	алло́, га́лло, галло́	hello
	слу́хаю	lit. 'I'm listening' (not rude), also used by staff in shops waiting to serve a customer

'GOODBYE'

до поба́чення	until (we) see (each other again) = (*au revoir, auf Wiedersehen*: this is the most common and neutral form used)
усього́ найкра́щого!	all the best
на все до́бре!	all the best (more informal than above)
будь здоро́в!	lit. 'be healthy!', masculine
будь здоро́ва	feminine
бу́дьте здоро́ві	plural (Note that будь, бу́дьте may be replaced by бува́й (*sg.*, more familiar), бува́йте (*pl.*, or more polite *sg.*))

бува́й! бува́йте!	bye! (even more familiar without the element здоро́в)
бува́йте па!	bye! (plural, informal)
щасли́во!	cheerio!
до зу́стрічі!	until we meet again, see you next time
проща́вай(те)!	farewell! (*sg.* and *pl.*)
добра́ніч!	good night!

'THANK YOU', 'PLEASE', 'YOU'RE WELCOME', 'EXCUSE ME'

про́шу	please, You're welcome, here you are ((when handing someone something); also: Don't mention it, more Western Ukraine)
будь ла́ска	(same as above, more Eastern Ukraine)
дя́кую	thank you
ду́же дя́кую	thank you very much
не ва́рто подя́ки	don't mention it (lit. 'It's not worth thanking')
нема́ за́ що!	(same as above (lit. 'nothing to (thank me) for'))
ви́бачте (мені́)	excuse me
проба́чте (мені́)	excuse me, I'm sorry
перепро́шую	I'm very sorry

0.6   INTERJECTIONS

о	oh (in expressions of pleasure or consternation, depending on context)
ох	oh! ah! (cf. **о́хати** 'to groan', **о́хання** 'groans', 'groaning')
ах	ah (with expression of delight, enthusiasm)
ой	depends entirely on context: surprise, delight, impatience, and so on
ех	negative, introducing a critical/negative statement
ну, ну й	imparts an ironic or jesting coloration to a following word or phrase (accompanied by an appropriate intonation)
гей	hey!
го́споди!	heavens!
жах!	horrors!
ґвалт!	help!
ура́!	hurrah! hurray!
чорт!	damn (it)! hell!
геть!	(get) out! (get) away!
стоп!	stop!
бра́во!	bravo!

In practice, any vowel alone and almost any vowel in combination with certain consonants, especially **й, х, г, н, ф**, can constitute an interjection whose expressive nature is tied to context, intonation, facial expressions, and

movement of the body – thus: **a!**, **e!**, **i!**, **o!**, **y!**, **ай!**, **ей!**, **ой!**, **ій!**, **ах!**, **ех!**, and so on. Doubling of an interjection strengthens the expression of the emotion: **а-а!**, **еге-ге!**, **ну-ну!**

Other expessions of emotion will be clearly lexical (as some in the list above are), for example, **чудо́во!** 'wonderful!', and – again – dependent on the context or meaning the speaker/writer wishes to impart.