

## CHAPTER 5

# Telling Stories and Reacting to Them

*Рассказывание историй и реакции на них*

By the end of this chapter, you should be able to react more naturally, connect ideas, tell short stories, and soften or frame your opinions in more spontaneous Russian. This chapter functions as a fluency capstone, so it emphasizes reactive speech and storytelling rather than a separate reading section.

## PART A: FILLER WORDS

### РАЗДЕЛ А: СЛОВА-ПАРАЗИТЫ

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
типа	like / kind of	1. Он типа забыл свой телефон дома. (He, like, forgot his phone at home.) 2. Это типа новая мода. (This is, like, the new trend.)	"Типа" is a colloquial filler word often used by younger people in informal speech. It can be translated as "like" or "kind of" and is used to soften or approximate the meaning of a statement.
ладно	okay	1. Ладно, давай сделаем это. (Okay, let's do it.) 2. Ладно, давай попробуем ещё раз. (Fine, let's try again.)	"Ладно" is a versatile word used to agree, express consent, or signal understanding in various contexts. It can mean "okay," "fine," "all right," or "sure," depending on the situation.
то есть	that is	1. Он придет в среду, то есть через два дня. (He will arrive on Wednesday, that is, in two days.) 2. Она очень умная, то есть она отлично справляется с учебой. (She is very smart, that is, she excels in her studies.)	"То есть" is used to provide clarification or further explanation of a previous statement. It can be translated as "that is," "in other words," or "meaning." It helps to clarify or rephrase information for better understanding.

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
вроде бы	like / sort of	<p>1. Вроде бы, он обещал прийти. (Like, he promised to come.)</p> <p>2. Это вроде бы интересно. (This is sort of interesting.)</p>	"Вроде бы" is a filler phrase used to express uncertainty, approximation, or hesitation. It can mean "like" or "sort of" and is often used in casual conversation.
так сказать	so to speak	<p>1. Это, так сказать, наша семейная традиция. (This is, so to speak, our family tradition.)</p> <p>2. Он был, так сказать, душой компании. (He was, so to speak, the life of the party.)</p>	"Так сказать" is used to introduce a figurative or approximate expression and is similar to the English phrase "so to speak." It adds a layer of informality to the speech.
значит	it means / so	<p>1. У тебя нет времени, значит, я сделаю это сам. (You don't have time, so I'll do it myself.)</p> <p>2. Она не ответила, значит, ей это неинтересно. (She didn't respond, which means she's not interested.)</p>	"Значит" in Russian often means "so" or "therefore," connecting ideas logically. It can clarify or confirm something, as in "So, you're not coming?" In casual speech, it also acts as a filler, like "well" or "I mean," keeping the flow of conversation. Its exact nuance depends on the context, but it usually draws a conclusion or emphasizes what follows.
ну вот	well, there you go / so	<p>1. Ну вот, я сказал тебе, что она придет. (Well there you go, I told you she would come.)</p> <p>2. Ну вот, он опять опоздал. (So, he's late again.)</p>	"Ну вот" is used to indicate that something has reached its conclusion or has just happened. It often conveys a sense of inevitability, completion, or mild resignation, depending on the context. For example, if something goes wrong, someone might say "ну вот" to express frustration or acceptance of the situation. In other cases, it could be used to mark the end of a task or event. The tone can vary from neutral to slightly emotional, depending on how it's said.
Уф	ugh / oof	<p>1. Уф, как жарко сегодня. (Ugh, it's so hot today.)</p> <p>2. Уф, я так устал после работы. (Oof, I'm so tired after work.)</p>	"Уф" is an interjection used to express a feeling of discomfort, exhaustion, or frustration. It's similar to "Ugh" or "Oof" in English and is often used in response to a challenging or unpleasant situation.

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Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
скажем так	let's say / so to speak / let's put it like this	<p>1. Этот ресторан не совсем дешевый, скажем так, но качество еды и обслуживания того стоят. (This restaurant is not exactly cheap, let's say, but the quality of food and service is worth it.)</p> <p>2. Она не является экспертом в этой области, скажем так, но обладает достаточными знаниями, чтобы помочь вам. (She is not an expert in this field, so to speak, but she has enough knowledge to help you.)</p>	The phrase "скажем так" is used to introduce an example, rephrase a statement, or present an idea in a slightly different manner. It often serves to simplify, clarify, or soften what is being said.
кстати	by the way	<p>1. Кстати, ты знал, что у нас есть занятия завтра? (By the way, did you know we have classes tomorrow?)</p> <p>2. Кстати, я забыла сказать, что я поеду в отпуск на следующей неделе. (By the way, I forgot to mention that I'm going on vacation next week.)</p>	"Кстати" is a versatile phrase used to introduce a related topic or additional information that may not be directly connected to the main conversation, but is relevant or worth mentioning.

## PART B: TRANSITIONAL EXPRESSIONS

### РАЗДЕЛ Б: ПЕРЕХОДНЫЕ ВЫРАЖЕНИЯ

#### B.1 Summarizing expressions

##### Б.1 Обобщающие выражения

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
собственно говоря	actually / strictly speaking / in fact	<p>1. Собственно говоря, это не было его идеей. (Strictly speaking, it wasn't his idea.)</p> <p>2. Собственно говоря, эта работа требует много времени и усилий. (In fact, this job requires a lot of time and effort.)</p>	"Собственно говоря" is a phrase used to introduce a statement that sums up or clarifies what has been discussed, often bringing attention to the most important point. This phrase is used when the speaker wants to emphasize the essence or main idea of what they're saying. It's common in both formal and informal contexts and signals that the speaker is getting to the crux of the matter.
короче говоря, короче	in short / to get to the point	<p>1. Короче, он не придет на вечеринку. (In short, he won't come to the party.)</p> <p>2. Короче говоря, мы должны принять решение как можно скорее. (To sum up, we need to make a decision as soon as possible.)</p> <p>3. Короче говоря, этот проект будет стоить нам дороже, чем мы думали. (In brief, this project will cost us more than we thought.)</p>	"Короче говоря" and "короче" are both used to summarize or cut to the chase, but they differ slightly in tone and usage. "Короче говоря" literally means "in short" or "to put it briefly" and is used to summarize or conclude a thought more formally or clearly. "Короче" is a more casual, shortened version, often used in spoken Russian to cut straight to the point without extra details. It's like saying "so" or "long story short" in English.
грубо говоря	roughly speaking	<p>1. Грубо говоря, мы можем сократить затраты, уменьшив количество работников. (Roughly speaking, we can cut costs by reducing the number of employees.)</p> <p>2. Грубо говоря, эта профессия не для слабаков. (To put it bluntly, this profession is not for the faint-hearted.)</p>	"Грубо говоря" is a phrase used to introduce a simplified or rough version of something that might not be entirely accurate or detailed, but conveys the main idea. It translates to "roughly speaking" or "to put it bluntly." This phrase is often used when the speaker wants to generalize or express something without going into fine details, usually to make the concept easier to understand. It's used in both informal and formal settings and suggests that the explanation is not precise but gives the overall picture.

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
в общем	in general / to summarize / to sum up	<p>1. В общем, я думаю, что нам нужно продолжать работать над этим проектом. (To summarize, I think we need to keep working on this project.)</p> <p>2. В общем, я бы не советовал ему ехать туда в это время года. (In general, I wouldn't recommend him to go there at this time of the year.)</p>	<p>"В общем" is a common Russian phrase that can be translated as "overall," "in general," or "basically." It is often used to summarize or give a general idea of something without going into specific details. It can also be used to introduce a conclusion or to wrap up a series of thoughts. In informal speech, it can also function similarly to "anyway" or "so" to move the conversation forward. It's versatile and widely used in both casual and more formal contexts.</p>
в основном	basically / typically, generally / essentially	<p>1. В основном, мы работаем с клиентами из США и Канады. (Generally, we work with clients from the US and Canada.)</p> <p>2. В основном, они путешествуют за границу летом. (Typically, they travel abroad in the summer.)</p>	<p>"В основном" translates to "mostly" or "primarily" and is used to indicate the main or predominant part of something while acknowledging that there may be exceptions. It highlights the majority or the key aspect of a situation or fact. This phrase is commonly used when the speaker wants to focus on the central or general trend while leaving room for minor variations or outliers. It's often used in both formal and informal speech.</p>
в целом	overall	<p>1. Он не справился с заданием, но в целом проделал хорошую работу. (He didn't complete the task, but overall did a good job.)</p> <p>2. В целом, я доволен своей жизнью и достиг того, чего хотел. (Overall, I am satisfied with my life and have achieved what I wanted.)</p> <p>3. Этот фильм не был идеальным, но в целом понравился мне. (This movie wasn't perfect, but overall I enjoyed it.)</p>	<p>"В целом" translates to "on the whole" or "overall" and is used to express a general or complete view of something, considering all aspects. It's similar to "в общем" but often implies a broader perspective or a more holistic evaluation. This phrase is commonly used in formal and informal contexts when summarizing or evaluating a situation while taking all factors into account, emphasizing the total picture rather than focusing on specifics.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
по сути	in fact / essentially / in essence	<p>1. Этот фильм, по сути, является историей о любви и самопожертвовании. (This movie is, in essence, a story about love and self-sacrifice.)</p> <p>2. Мы рассмотрели все аспекты проблемы, и по сути остается только принять решение. (We have considered all aspects of the problem, and essentially all that remains is to make a decision.)</p>	<p>”По сути” translates to ”essentially” or ”in essence” and is used to highlight the core or main idea of something, stripping away unnecessary details. This phrase is often employed to get to the heart of a matter or simplify a complex situation to its most fundamental aspect. It’s a versatile phrase that can be used in both formal and informal speech, particularly when summarizing or explaining the most important point of a discussion or concept.</p>

## B.2 Causal expressions

### *Б.2 Причинные выражения*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
соответственно	correspondingly / therefore / so	<p>1. Он отлично говорит по-испански, соответственно, он может работать с испаноязычными клиентами. (He speaks Spanish fluently, so he can work with Spanish-speaking clients.)</p> <p>2. Мы не можем позволить себе такие траты, соответственно, нам придется найти другой способ решения проблемы. (We can’t afford such expenses, consequently, we’ll have to find another way to solve the problem.)</p>	<p>”Соответственно” is used to indicate that something follows logically or is a direct consequence of what was previously mentioned. It connects cause and effect or highlights that one thing aligns with another. This phrase is common in both formal and informal contexts when explaining relationships between events or actions, pointing out how one thing leads to another or matches a specific situation.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
так как	since / because	<p>1. Он не пришел на встречу, так как был занят на работе. (He didn't come to the meeting because he was busy with work.)</p> <p>2. Мы выбрали этот отель, так как он находится недалеко от центра города. (We chose this hotel because it's located near the city center.)</p>	<p>"Так как" is used to explain the reason or cause of something. It introduces a clause that provides justification or an explanation for the statement that follows. This phrase is often used in both formal and informal contexts to indicate why something happens or why a particular decision is made. It helps to establish a cause-and-effect relationship in speech or writing.</p>
благодаря	thanks to...	<p>1. Благодаря своей настойчивости и трудолюбию, она добилась успеха в карьере. (Thanks to her persistence and hard work, she achieved success in her career.)</p> <p>2. Мы получили отличный отзыв от клиента благодаря нашей эффективной работе. (We received a great review from our client thanks to our effective work.)</p>	<p>"Благодаря" is used to indicate that something positive happened as a result of a specific factor or action. It typically introduces the reason behind a favorable outcome or success. This phrase is commonly used in both formal and informal contexts to give credit or acknowledge the cause of a beneficial result. It implies that the outcome wouldn't have been possible without that particular cause or factor.</p>
ради	for	<p>1. Я приехал сюда ради тебя. (I came here for you.)</p> <p>2. Я остался допоздна ради проекта. (I stayed late for the project.)</p>	<p>"Ради" is used to express that something is done with a specific purpose or benefit in mind, often involving sacrifice or effort. It implies that the action is motivated by the desire to achieve a goal, benefit someone, or accomplish something important. This phrase is commonly used when talking about making decisions or taking actions that prioritize a particular outcome or individual. It is frequently seen in both formal and informal contexts, highlighting motivation or purpose.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
ради того, чтобы	in order to	<p>1. Я готов приехать в город ради того, чтобы посетить этот музей. (I'm willing to come to the city in order to visit this museum.)</p> <p>2. Он готов рисковать ради того, чтобы достичь своей цели. (He is willing to take risks in order to achieve his goal.)</p> <p>3. Мы подготовили сюрприз ради того, чтобы поздравить его с днем рождения. (We prepared a surprise in order to congratulate him on his birthday.)</p>	<p>"Ради того, чтобы" is used to express the intention behind an action. It emphasizes that something is being done with a specific goal in mind, often implying that the action may require effort or sacrifice. This phrase is commonly used in both formal and informal speech to clarify the reasoning behind a decision or action, focusing on the desired outcome or purpose.</p>
зависит от того	it depends on	<p>1. Успех вашего проекта зависит от того, насколько хорошо вы продумали все детали. (The success of your project depends on how well you have thought through all the details.)</p> <p>2. Зависит от того, на какой поезд мы успеем, мы приедем домой либо вечером, либо поздно ночью. (Depending on which train we catch, we'll arrive home either in the evening or late at night.)</p>	<p>"Зависит от того" is used to indicate that the outcome or result of something is contingent upon a specific condition or factor. It introduces a variable or circumstance that determines what will happen next or how a situation will develop. This phrase is frequently used in both formal and informal speech when explaining that something is not fixed and can change depending on external influences or conditions.</p>

## B.3 Context-setting expressions

### *Б.3 Выражения, задающие контекст*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
при этом	while at the same time	<p>1. Он смог решить проблему, при этом не потратив много ресурсов. (He managed to solve the problem without spending a lot of resources.)</p> <p>2. Он очень занят, при этом всегда находит время для семьи. (He is very busy, but at the same time, he always finds time for his family.)</p>	<p>"При этом" is used to highlight an additional or simultaneous aspect of a situation. It is often employed to connect two related but contrasting or complementary pieces of information. This phrase is useful in both formal and informal speech when you want to draw attention to something that occurs concurrently or in contrast to the main point.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
до сих пор	still	<p>1. Я читал эту книгу в детстве, но до сих пор помню, какой она была интересной. (I read this book in my childhood, but I still remember how interesting it was.)</p> <p>2. Я работал в этой компании несколько лет назад, но до сих пор общаюсь с коллегами. (I worked for this company a few years ago, but I still keep in touch with my colleagues.)</p> <p>3. Она переехала в другой город много лет назад, но до сих пор ностальгирует по родному городу. (She moved to another city many years ago, but she still feels nostalgic about her hometown.)</p>	<p>”До сих пор” is used to describe something that has continued up to the present moment. It emphasizes that a certain action, state, or condition, which began in the past, is ongoing or has not yet changed. This phrase is often used in situations where there is an expectation that something might have ended but hasn’t. It is common in both formal and informal speech when discussing ongoing situations or events.</p>
при том что	knowing that / taking into account that / despite that	<p>1. Она добилась успеха в карьере, при том что у нее не было формального образования. (She achieved success in her career, despite the fact that she didn’t have a formal education.)</p> <p>2. Этот продукт был довольно дорогим, при том что качество оставляло желать лучшего. (This product was quite expensive, despite the fact that the quality left something to be desired.)</p> <p>3. Он сдал экзамены на отлично, при том что у него было очень мало времени на подготовку. (He aced his exams, despite the fact that he had very little time to prepare.)</p>	<p>”При том что” is used to introduce a contrasting or unexpected situation. It highlights a surprising or contradictory element, often emphasizing that two seemingly opposing facts coexist. This phrase is used to draw attention to a nuance or an exception in the context of what has been previously mentioned. It’s common in both formal and informal conversations when explaining contrasts or contradictions.</p>
потихонечку	little by little	<p>1. Она начала учиться новому языку, потихонечку изучая новые слова и правила. (She started learning a new language, gradually studying new words and rules.)</p> <p>2. Мы ремонтировали квартиру потихонечку, каждый день делая небольшие улучшения. (We were renovating the apartment gradually, making small improvements every day.)</p>	<p>”Потихонечку” translates to ”slowly” or ”little by little” and is used to describe doing something gradually, with care, or in a relaxed, unhurried manner. It conveys a sense of gentle progress or effort made over time without rush. This phrase is often used in informal contexts when talking about taking small steps toward a goal or making progress in a subtle, steady way.</p>

## B.4 Clarifying expressions

### Б.4 Уточняющие выражения

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
само по себе	in and of itself	<p>1. Этот факт, сам по себе, не означает, что он виновен. (This fact, in and of itself, doesn't mean he is guilty.)</p> <p>2. Красота этой музыки в том, что каждая нота, каждый аккорд, звучит прекрасно сам по себе. (The beauty of this music is that every note, every chord sounds beautiful in and of itself.)</p> <p>3. Этот материал, сам по себе, не очень интересен, но в контексте нашего исследования может быть полезным. (This material, in and of itself, is not very interesting, but in the context of our research it can be useful.)</p>	<p>"Само по себе" is used to indicate that something exists or functions independently, without external influence or connection to other factors. It emphasizes that the subject has its own intrinsic qualities or value, regardless of its context or any other circumstances. This phrase is often used in discussions to clarify that something is being considered in isolation, without taking related elements into account. It is commonly used in both formal and informal settings.</p>
видно	apparently / is visible	<p>1. С этой смотровой площадки видно весь город, и панорама просто потрясающая. (From this observation deck, you can see the whole city, and the panorama is simply stunning.)</p> <p>2. По его лицу видно, что он очень устал и хочет отдохнуть. (You can tell from his face that he is very tired and wants to rest.)</p>	<p>"Видно" is used to express that something is evident or can be easily understood or observed. It implies that the speaker is making an observation based on what is visible, apparent, or logically deduced. This phrase is often used to describe situations where the conclusion is obvious without the need for further explanation. It is common in both formal and informal contexts when pointing out something that is clear to everyone involved.</p>
на самом деле	in reality / in fact	<p>1. Этот продукт заявляется как полностью органический, но на самом деле содержит некоторые химические добавки. (This product is advertised as fully organic, but in reality, it contains some chemical additives.)</p> <p>2. Она говорила, что все в порядке, но на самом деле была очень расстроена. (She said everything was fine, but in reality, she was very upset.)</p>	<p>"На самом деле" is used to introduce a clarification or correction, often when the reality of a situation differs from what might be assumed or expected. It emphasizes the truth or the real state of affairs, contrasting with appearances or misunderstandings. This phrase is frequently used in both formal and informal contexts when someone wants to set the record straight or provide more accurate information.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
именно	specifically / precisely / exactly	<p>1. Я искал именно эту книгу, но не мог ее найти в магазинах. (I was looking precisely for this book, but couldn't find it in stores.)</p> <p>2. Именно поэтому мы решили остаться дома в выходной день. (That's precisely why we decided to stay home on the weekend.)</p> <p>3. Он выступал несколько раз на этой сцене, но именно в этот раз его выступление было особенно впечатляющим. (He performed several times on this stage, but it was specifically this time that his performance was particularly impressive.)</p>	<p>"Именно" is used to emphasize that something is specific or exact, often to clarify or confirm a particular detail. It highlights accuracy and is commonly employed to stress that what is being referred to is the correct or intended version of something. This phrase is used in both formal and informal speech to underscore the importance or precision of the subject being discussed.</p>
всего лишь	just / merely	<p>1. Это всего лишь маленький подарок, но я надеюсь, что тебе он понравится. (This is just a small gift, but I hope you like it.)</p> <p>2. Я не думаю, что это была серьезная травма, всего лишь ушиб. (I don't think it was a serious injury, just a bruise.)</p>	<p>"Всего лишь" is used to minimize or downplay the significance of something, emphasizing its smallness or simplicity. It suggests that what is being referred to is not as important or substantial as it might seem. This phrase is often used in both formal and informal contexts to convey that something is modest or limited in scope.</p>
вот так	like this	<p>1. Вот так случайно мы встретились после долгих лет разлуки. (That's how we accidentally met after many years of separation.)</p> <p>2. Он сделал магический трюк, и вот так исчез из нашего видения. (He performed a magic trick, and just like that, he disappeared from our sight.)</p>	<p>"Вот так" is used to demonstrate or emphasize the way something is done or how something happened. It often highlights a specific action or result and can be used to draw attention to the manner in which something occurred. This phrase is common in informal speech and is frequently used to explain or show something in a straightforward manner.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
хотя бы	at least	<p>1. Хотя бы однажды в жизни стоит посетить этот замечательный город. (At least once in a lifetime, it's worth visiting this wonderful city.)</p> <p>2. Мне нужно хотя бы чуть-чуть поспать, чтобы собраться с силами. (I need to get at least a little bit of sleep to regain my strength.)</p> <p>3. Если уж не можешь ничего сделать, то хотя бы не мешай другим работать. (If you can't do anything, at least don't interfere with others' work.)</p>	<p>"Хотя бы" translates to "at least" and is used to express a minimum requirement or expectation. It implies that while the speaker may desire more, they would be satisfied with the bare minimum. This phrase is often used to indicate a fallback option or a reduced demand and can be employed in both formal and informal contexts to set a lower limit on expectations or desires.</p>
конкретно	specifically	<p>1. Я хочу знать конкретно, что вам не нравится в этом проекте. (I want to know specifically what you don't like about this project.)</p> <p>2. Меня интересует конкретно этот проект. (I am specifically interested in this project.)</p>	<p>"Конкретно" translates to "specifically" or "precisely" and is used to focus on a particular detail or aspect of something. It emphasizes clarity and exactness, often when distinguishing something from a general statement or providing a more focused answer. This word is used when the speaker wants to pinpoint a certain point or be more detailed about what they are referring to. It's common in both formal and informal speech, helping to clarify or narrow down the subject.</p>
иначе говоря	in other words	<p>1. Она специалист в области искусственного интеллекта, иначе говоря, эксперт по AI. (She is a specialist in artificial intelligence, in other words, an AI expert.)</p> <p>2. Все билеты были распроданы, иначе говоря, на концерт невозможно попасть. (All the tickets were sold out, in other words, it is impossible to get into the concert.)</p>	<p>"Иначе говоря" translates to "in other words" and is used to rephrase or clarify something that was just said, often making it simpler or more understandable. This phrase is typically employed when the speaker wants to explain the same idea in a different way for better comprehension. It's common in both formal and informal speech and helps to emphasize or restate an important point in a clearer way.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
стоит сразу сказать	it's worth saying right away	<p>1. Стоит сразу сказать, что эта работа будет требовать много времени и усилий. (It's worth saying right away that this job will require a lot of time and effort.)</p> <p>2. Стоит сразу сказать, что я не согласен с этой идеей. (It's worth saying right away that I don't agree with this idea.)</p>	<p>"Стоит сразу сказать" translates to "It's worth mentioning right away" or "I should say right off the bat." This phrase is used to introduce an important point or clarification early on in the conversation, emphasizing that what follows is significant and should be noted from the beginning. This phrase helps set the tone or prepare the listener for key information, often to avoid misunderstandings or set expectations. It's common in both formal and informal speech, especially when laying out the groundwork for a discussion.</p>

## B.5 Qualifying expressions

### *Б.5 Ограничительные выражения*

Use these expressions when you want to soften a claim, mark a statement as personal rather than absolute, or leave room for uncertainty. They are especially useful when you want to sound thoughtful instead of overly blunt. / Используйте эти выражения, когда хотите смягчить мысль, показать, что это личная оценка, а не абсолютный факт, или оставить место для сомнения. Они особенно полезны, когда вы хотите звучать вдумчиво, а не слишком резко.

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
если честно, честно говоря	to be honest / honestly	<p>1. Если честно, я не очень хорошо знаю этого человека. (To be honest, I don't know this person very well.)</p> <p>2. Если честно, я не ожидал, что это будет настолько интересно. (Honestly, I didn't expect it to be so interesting.)</p>	<p>"Если честно" and "честно говоря" are both phrases used to express sincerity or honesty in Russian. While they seem similar, they have subtle differences. "Если честно" translates to "if I'm being honest" and is often used to introduce a personal opinion that might differ from what others expect. For example, "Если честно, мне этот фильм не очень понравился" ("Honestly, I didn't really like this movie"). "Честно говоря" means "honestly speaking" and emphasizes that what follows is a sincere or even unexpected admission. For example, "Честно говоря, я не ожидал, что он согласится" ("Honestly, I didn't expect him to agree"). Both are common in informal conversations and signal openness or a candid remark.</p>
как бы	sort of / kind of	<p>1. Мы как бы уже обсудили этот вопрос. (We kind of already discussed this matter.)</p> <p>2. Я бы не назвал его экспертом, но он как бы знает свое дело. (I wouldn't call him an expert, but he sort of knows his stuff.)</p>	<p>"Как бы" is often used to express uncertainty, approximation, or to soften a statement. It can imply that something is not exactly as stated but is close or similar to it. For example, saying "Он как бы устал" translates to "He's kind of tired," suggesting that he is somewhat tired but perhaps not completely exhausted.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Sentences	Nuances and Context
можно сказать, что...	you could say / it could be said	<p>1. Можно сказать, что это был лучший отпуск в моей жизни. (You could say it was the best vacation of my life.)</p> <p>2. Можно сказать, что он эксперт в этом вопросе. (You could say that he's an expert on this topic.)</p>	<p>"Можно сказать, что..." translates to "You could say that..." or "It can be said that..." and is used to introduce a statement that may not be an absolute truth but is a reasonable or acceptable interpretation. It's often employed when the speaker wants to soften a statement, leaving room for other interpretations or nuances. This phrase adds a level of modesty or flexibility to a claim and is commonly used in both formal and informal conversations when offering an opinion or summarizing a situation.</p>
быть может...	it's possible that...	<p>1. Быть может, он забыл позвонить, но лучше перезвонить ему, чтобы уточнить. (It's possible that he forgot to call, but it's better to call him back to make sure.)</p> <p>2. Быть может, этот план не сработает, но мы должны попробовать. (Perhaps this plan won't work out, but we should still try.)</p>	<p>"Быть может..." translates to "Perhaps..." or "Maybe..." and is used to express uncertainty or possibility. It's a softer way to introduce a suggestion or a thought that might not be definitive. This phrase adds a sense of tentativeness or openness to other possibilities, making it a polite way to suggest something without sounding too assertive. It's commonly used in both formal and informal contexts when the speaker wants to leave room for doubt or other interpretations.</p>
мне кажется	I think / it seems that	<p>1. Мне кажется, что сегодня будет хорошая погода, и мы сможем пойти на прогулку. (It seems to me that the weather will be nice today, and we can go for a walk.)</p> <p>2. Мне кажется, что этот проект нужно начать сначала. (I think that we need to start this project from scratch.)</p> <p>3. Мне кажется, что ты правильно выбрал профессию. (I think that you chose the right profession.)</p>	<p>"Мне кажется" translates to "It seems to me" or "I think" and is commonly used to express a personal opinion or feeling in a polite and non-assertive way. It softens the speaker's statement, making it less direct or absolute, and leaves room for the possibility that others may disagree. This phrase is frequently used in everyday conversations to offer thoughts or impressions without sounding too strong or definitive, making it a polite way to share one's perspective.</p>

## PART C: REACTIONS

### РАЗДЕЛ В: РЕАКЦИИ

#### C.1 Expressions of surprise or awe

##### В.1 Выражения удивления и восхищения

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
невероятно	unbelievable / incredible	<p>Person 1: Я совершил свой первый прыжок с парашютом сегодня.</p> <p>Person 2: Невероятно! Это должно было быть удивительным опытом!</p> <p>Person 1: I completed my first skydiving jump today.</p> <p>Person 2: Incredible! That must have been an amazing experience.</p>	<p>”Невероятно” translates to ”incredible” or ”unbelievable” and is used to describe something that is hard to believe due to its extraordinary or surprising nature. It can refer to something either extremely good or shocking, depending on the context. This phrase is commonly used in both formal and informal speech to express amazement or disbelief about an event, fact, or quality that exceeds normal expectations.</p>
обалдеть!	no way / wow	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что узнал, что наша команда вышла в полуфинал.</p> <p>Person 2: Обалдеть! Это потрясающие новости!</p> <p>Person 1: I just found out that our team made it to the semifinals.</p> <p>Person 2: Oh my God! That’s amazing news!</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я наконец-то закончил написание диссертации и защитил ее на отлично.</p> <p>Person 2: Обалдеть! Это большое достижение!</p> <p>Person 1: I finally finished writing my dissertation and defended it with honors.</p> <p>Person 2: Amazing! That’s a huge achievement!</p>	<p>”Обалдеть!” is an informal exclamation that translates to ”Wow!” or ”Unbelievable!” and is used to express strong surprise, amazement, or admiration. It conveys a sense of being stunned or overwhelmed by something impressive or shocking. This phrase is typically used in casual conversations when reacting to something unexpected or astonishing, often in a positive way, but it can also be used to express disbelief in a neutral or negative context.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
не может быть!	no way!	<p>Person 1: Я выиграл в лотерею миллион долларов!</p> <p>Person 2: Не может быть! Это просто невероятно.</p> <p>Person 1: I won a million dollars in the lottery!</p> <p>Person 2: No way! That's incredible.</p>	<p>"Не может быть!" translates to "It can't be!" or "No way!" and is used to express disbelief or surprise about something that seems impossible or highly unlikely. This phrase is common in informal speech when reacting to unexpected news or situations that are hard to accept or believe. It conveys a strong emotional response, often indicating shock or amazement.</p>
ничего себе, ни фига себе	wow	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что узнал, что наша компания получила огромный заказ от крупного клиента.</p> <p>Person 2: Ничего себе! Это здорово! У нас будет много работы, но и много денег.</p> <p>Person 1: I just found out that our company received a huge order from a major client.</p> <p>Person 2: No way! That's awesome! We will have a lot of work, but also make a lot of money.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я наконец-то нашел потерянные ключи от дома.</p> <p>Person 2: Ни фига себе! Я думал, что ты их навсегда потерял. Очень хорошо, что ты их нашел.</p> <p>Person 1: I finally found the lost keys to the house.</p> <p>Person 2: No way! I thought you lost them for good. It's great that you found them.</p>	<p>"Ничего себе" and "ни фига себе" are both informal exclamations used to express surprise, astonishment, or disbelief, similar to saying "Wow" or "No way" in English. "Ничего себе" is more neutral and widely used, while "ни фига себе" is more slangy and stronger in tone, with a bit of an edgier feel. Both phrases are often used when reacting to something unexpected, impressive, or shocking. They are common in everyday, informal speech and convey a sense of being taken aback by what has just been seen or heard.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
кто же знал?	who could have known? / who could have foreseen this?	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что узнал, что наша фирма обанкротилась. Person 2: Кто же знал? Все выглядело так хорошо.</p> <p>Person 1: I just found out that our company went bankrupt. Person 2: Who could have foreseen this? Everything looked so good.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что узнал, что наш знакомый собирается жениться. Person 2: Кто же знал? Он всегда говорил, что не готов к браку.</p> <p>Person 1: I just found out that our acquaintance is getting married. Person 2: Who could have guessed? He always said he wasn't ready for marriage.</p>	<p>"Кто же знал?" is used to express surprise or the idea that an outcome was unpredictable or unexpected. It suggests that no one could have anticipated the situation or result. This phrase is often used to reflect on an unforeseen event, implying that it was impossible to foresee or prevent. It's commonly employed in informal speech, especially when reacting to unexpected circumstances with a sense of inevitability or resignation.</p>
я и не ожидал этого	I didn't expect that	<p>Person 1: Представляешь, они решили переехать в другую страну. Person 2: Правда? Я и не ожидал этого.</p> <p>Person 1: Can you imagine, they decided to move to another country. Person 2: Really? I didn't expect that.</p>	<p>"Я и не ожидал этого" is used to express surprise about an unforeseen outcome. It conveys that the speaker was unprepared for a certain event or reaction and did not anticipate what happened. This phrase can be used in both formal and informal settings when discussing unexpected situations, whether they are positive, negative, or neutral.</p>
я вот не знал об этом	I didn't know about that	<p>Person 1: Она уже несколько лет работает в этой компании. Person 2: Я вот не знал об этом. Я думал, что она недавно начала.</p> <p>Person 1: She's been working at this company for several years. Person 2: I didn't know about this. I thought she started recently.</p>	<p>"Я вот не знал об этом" is used to express surprise or realization about something previously unknown. It conveys that the speaker has just learned new information and is acknowledging their lack of prior awareness. This phrase is common in informal speech when reacting to unexpected or new knowledge.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
ВОТ ЭТО ДА...	wow... that's something...	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Представляешь, мой начальник уволился без предупреждения. Person 2: Вот это да... Я не ожидал такого поворота событий.</p> <p>Person 1: Can you imagine, my boss quit without warning. Person 2: Wow... I didn't expect such a turn of events.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я нашёл старую фотографию нас всех вместе, когда мы были детьми. Person 2: Вот это да... Сколько же лет прошло.</p> <p>Person 1: I found an old photo of all of us together when we were kids. Person 2: Wow... So many years have passed.</p>	<p>"Вот это да..." is used to express amazement, disbelief, or strong surprise. It conveys a sense of being impressed or stunned by something unexpected. The phrase can be used in both positive and negative contexts, depending on the situation, and is commonly heard in informal conversations when reacting to surprising news or events. It often reflects the speaker's emotional response to something that catches them off guard.</p>
ну и ну	well, well wow	<p>Person 1: Мы продали дом за неделю. Person 2: Ну и ну! Это рекорд!</p> <p>Person 1: We sold the house in a week. Person 2: Well, well! That's a record!</p>	<p>"Ну и ну" is an expression of surprise or astonishment. It conveys disbelief or amazement, often in reaction to something unexpected, impressive, or shocking. This phrase is typically used in informal speech and reflects the speaker's strong emotional response to an event or situation that is hard to process or understand. It can be used in both positive and negative contexts, depending on the tone and situation.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
Боже мой / О Боже / Господи	oh my God	<p>Person 1: Я только что получил очень высокий счет за медицинские услуги. Person 2: О Боже, сколько ты должен заплатить?</p> <p>Person 1: I just received a very high bill for medical services. Person 2: Oh my God, how much do you have to pay?</p>	<p>”Боже мой,” ”О Боже,” and ”Господи” are exclamations used to express strong emotions such as surprise, shock, frustration, or even despair, similar to ”Oh my God” or ”Dear Lord” in English. These phrases convey an emotional reaction to something overwhelming, unexpected, or hard to believe.</p> <p>”Боже мой” is a bit more formal or neutral, while ”О Боже” and ”Господи” are often used in moments of heightened emotion. They are common in both formal and informal speech, typically reflecting the speaker’s emotional intensity in the given moment.</p>
здорово	great	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что получил повышение на работе! Person 2: Здорово, поздравляю тебя!</p> <p>Person 1: I just got a promotion at work! Person 2: Great, congratulations!</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Сегодня на улице такая прекрасная погода! Person 2: Да, здорово. Давай сходим на прогулку!</p> <p>Person 1: The weather outside is so beautiful today! Person 2: Yes, great. Let’s go for a walk!</p>	<p>”Здорово” is used to express positive feelings about something, such as excitement, approval, or admiration. It’s a common informal phrase in Russian, used when reacting to good news, an impressive action, or something that brings pleasure or happiness. It conveys enthusiasm and a positive emotional response, often used in everyday conversation.</p>

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Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
шикарно	awesome gorgeous splendid	<p>Person 1: Я только что вернулся из отпуска в Европе. Person 2: Шикарно! Какие места ты посетил?</p> <p>Person 1: I just came back from my vacation in Europe. Person 2: Awesome! What places did you visit?</p>	“Шикарно” is used to describe something impressive, elegant, or of high quality. It conveys admiration and is often employed in an informal context to express delight or praise for something that is exceptionally well done, stylish, or beautiful. The word is frequently used in everyday speech to compliment anything from an event to a piece of clothing, emphasizing its high level of appeal or excellence.

## C.2 Expressions of agreement or confirmation

### *В.2 Выражения согласия или подтверждения*

:

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
ну и правильно	that's right	<p>Person 1: Я наконец-то решил бросить курить. Person 2: Ну и правильно, давно пора.</p> <p>Person 1: I finally decided to quit smoking. Person 2: Well that's right, it's about time.</p>	“Ну и правильно” translates to “Well, that's right” or “Good for you” and is used to express agreement or approval of someone's decision or action. It conveys the idea that the speaker thinks the choice or action was the correct or reasonable one. This phrase is often used in informal speech to show support, encouragement, or affirmation, indicating that the person did the right thing in a given situation.

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
понятно	understood	<p>Person 1: Я не смогу прийти на встречу сегодня вечером. Person 2: Понятно. Мы встретимся в другой раз.</p> <p>Person 1: I won't be able to make it to the meeting tonight. Person 2: I understand. We'll meet another time.</p>	<p>"Понятно" is used to indicate that something has been comprehended or is clear. It's a versatile phrase that can be used both to confirm understanding in a conversation or to express that a situation or explanation now makes sense. In informal speech, it can also carry a neutral or sometimes resigned tone, depending on the context, especially when acknowledging something that may not be entirely pleasant or expected.</p>
да, наверное	yes most likely / yes probably	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я думаю, что мы должны перенести нашу встречу на завтра. Person 2: Да, наверное, это будет лучшим решением. Я завтра буду свободен.</p> <p>Person 1: I think we should reschedule our meeting for tomorrow. Person 2: Yeah, that's probably the best solution. I'll be free tomorrow.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я собираюсь сделать перерыв в работе и поехать в отпуск на две недели. Person 2: Да, наверное, тебе нужен отдых.</p> <p>Person 1: I'm planning to take a break from work and go on vacation for two weeks. Person 2: Makes sense, most likely you need a break.</p>	<p>"Да, наверное" translates to "Yes, probably" or "Yeah, maybe" and is used to express agreement with some degree of uncertainty or hesitation. It indicates that the speaker agrees but is not entirely sure about the statement or situation. This phrase is often used in informal speech when the speaker thinks something is likely but doesn't want to commit to a definitive answer. It reflects a mix of agreement and doubt.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
само собой / разумеется	obviously of course naturally	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что закончил написание этого доклада. Нужно его проверить перед отправкой. Person 2: Само собой. Я могу его проверить на наличие ошибок.</p> <p>Person 1: I just finished writing this report. It needs to be checked before sending. Person 2: Of course. I can check it for errors.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я думаю, что нам нужно нанять нового сотрудника для нашей команды. Person 2: Разумеется. У нас слишком много работы и нам нужна помощь.</p> <p>Person 1: I think we need to hire a new employee for our team. Person 2: Yes, absolutely. We have too much work and we need help.</p>	<p>”Само собой” and ”Разумеется” both express that something is obvious or goes without saying. ”Само собой” is more informal and is often used in casual conversation to indicate that something is so evident it doesn’t even need to be explained. ”Разумеется” is slightly more formal and conveys the same meaning, often used to emphasize that something is logically or clearly understood by everyone. Both phrases reflect a sense of inevitability or certainty about the situation.</p>
ну ясно	OK it’s clear understood	<p>Person 1: Я забыл забрать свою сумку из автобуса. Person 2: Ну ясно. Тогда давай пойдём в автовокзал и попытаемся ее найти.</p> <p>Person 1: I forgot to pick up my bag from the bus. Person 2: Understood. Let’s go to the bus station and try to find it.</p>	<p>”Ну ясно” is a common Russian phrase meaning ”well, it’s clear” or ”got it.” It’s often used to show understanding or acknowledgment of something, similar to saying ”I see” or ”makes sense” in English. The tone can vary, from a simple statement of understanding to mild resignation or indifference, depending on the situation.</p>
очевидно	obviously	<p>Person 1: Я думаю, что ему стоит уволиться и найти другую работу. Person 2: Очевидно. Он уже давно недоволен своей работой.</p> <p>Person 1: I think he should quit and find another job. Person 2: That’s clearly right. He’s been unhappy with his job for a long time.</p>	<p>”Очевидно” is used to state that something is clear or self-evident, often implying that it should be obvious to everyone. This phrase is used in both formal and informal contexts to highlight facts or conclusions that require no further explanation due to their clarity. It can also carry a slightly emphatic tone, especially when pointing out something that the speaker believes should be obvious to others.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
обязательно	definitely absolutely must	<p>Person 1: Давай встретимся как-нибудь на выходных? Person 2: Конечно! Нам обязательно нужно сходить в новую кофейню.</p> <p>Person 1: How about we meet up sometime this weekend? Person 2: Of course! We absolutely need to check out the new coffee shop.</p>	<p>”Обязательно” is used to express that something is necessary or required. It emphasizes that an action must be taken or that something will certainly happen. This phrase is common in both formal and informal speech when stressing the importance or necessity of doing something, often implying that there are no exceptions or that it’s a firm commitment.</p>
да, он такой	yeah, he’s like that	<p>Person 1: Я встретил своего нового коллегу на работе. Он очень интересный человек. Person 2: Да, он такой. Я тоже заметил, что он имеет хорошее чувство юмора.</p> <p>Person 1: I met my new colleague at work. He’s a very interesting person. Person 2: Yeah, he is. I also noticed that he has a good sense of humor.</p>	<p>”Да, он такой” is used to confirm or agree with a description or characterization of someone. This phrase can either affirm a positive or negative quality, depending on the context. It often reinforces an observation about a person’s behavior, personality, or typical actions. It’s a common phrase in informal speech, usually used when discussing someone’s traits or tendencies.</p>

### C.3 Expressions of disbelief, disagreement, or skepticism

#### *В.3 Выражения недоверия, несогласия или скептицизма*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
с какой стати...?	why on earth...?	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Можешь ли ты взять на себя мою смену на работе в выходной?            Person 2: С какой стати это должно быть моей ответственностью? У меня уже есть свои планы на выходные.</p> <p>Person 1: Can you cover my shift at work on your day off?            Person 2: Why on earth should it be my responsibility? I already have plans for the weekend.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Ты не можешь подарить мне новый телефон?            Person 2: С какой стати я должен тебе покупать телефон?</p> <p>Person 1: Can you buy me a new phone?            Person 2: Why on earth should I buy you a phone?</p>	<p>”С какой стати...?” is used to express surprise, disbelief, or indignation about someone’s actions or intentions. It challenges the legitimacy or justification of what has been said or done. This phrase is common in informal speech, especially when the speaker is questioning or rejecting a statement or behavior they find unreasonable or unwarranted.</p>
на каком основании?	on what basis?	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я думаю, что нам нужно уволить сотрудника, который только что присоединился к нашей команде.            Person 2: На каком основании? У него есть какие-то проблемы с работой?</p> <p>Person 1: I think we need to fire the employee who just joined our team.            Person 2: On what basis? Are there problems with his work?</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я думаю, что нам нужно расширить нашу компанию за границу.            Person 2: На каком основании? У нас уже достаточно работы на внутреннем рынке.</p> <p>Person 1: I think we need to expand our company overseas.            Person 2: On what basis? We already have enough work in the domestic market.</p>	<p>”На каком основании?” is used to question the justification or legal basis for something. It implies a demand for explanation, particularly when someone wants to know the reasoning or authority behind a decision or action. This phrase is commonly used in both formal and informal contexts, especially in situations involving rules, authority, or fairness.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
да ладно	come on / really?!	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я думаю, что этот фильм будет скучным.            Person 2: Да ладно, я слышал, что он очень интересный. Давай посмотрим и сами сделаем выводы.</p> <p>Person 1: I think this movie will be boring.            Person 2: Come on, I heard that it's very interesting. Let's watch it and make our own judgments.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я собираюсь сдавать экзамен завтра, но я не готов.            Person 2: Да ладно, ты же умный и способный человек. Я уверен, что у тебя все получится.</p> <p>Person 1: I'm going to take an exam tomorrow, but I'm not prepared.            Person 2: Come on, you're smart and capable. I'm sure you'll do fine.</p>	<p>"Да ладно" is used to express surprise, disbelief, or mild skepticism. It can also be used to downplay a situation or encourage someone to stop worrying or being overly serious. The tone of the phrase depends on the context, as it can convey both genuine surprise and casual reassurance. It's a common expression in informal speech, often used in friendly conversations to react to unexpected news or to show that something is not a big deal.</p>
ну ты даешь	wow / seriously? / you're kidding	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я думаю, что наш босс несправедливый человек.            Person 2: Ну ты даешь, он всегда был честным и справедливым со всеми.</p> <p>Person 1: I think our boss is an unfair person.            Person 2: You can't be serious, he has always been honest and fair to everyone.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я забыл забрать нашу дочь из школы.            Person 2: Ну ты даешь, как можно забыть своего ребенка в школе?</p> <p>Person 1: I forgot to pick up our daughter from school.            Person 2: Seriously? How could you forget your own child at school?</p>	<p>"Ну ты даешь" is used to express surprise, amazement, or sometimes disbelief at someone's actions or words. It can be either positive or negative, depending on the tone and context. This phrase is common in informal speech and is often used when someone does something impressive, unexpected, or even outrageous. It's a way of reacting to something remarkable or hard to believe.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
вообще нет	absolutely not / not at all	<p>Person 1: Ты скучаешь по нему после вашего расставания? Person 2: Вообще нет, мы совсем не подходили друг другу.</p> <p>Person 1: Do you miss him after your breakup? Person 2: Not at all, we weren't a good match for each other.</p>	<p>"Вообще нет" is used to strongly reject or deny something. It emphasizes complete disagreement or the absence of any possibility or connection to what has been said. This phrase is common in informal speech when someone wants to clearly express that there is no truth or relevance to the statement or question being addressed.</p>

## C.4 Expressions of empathy or sympathy

### *В.4 Выражения сочувствия и поддержки*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
жалко / как обидно	that's too bad / what a shame	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что узнал, что концерт отменили. Person 2: Как обидно. Ты так давно этого ждал.</p> <p>Person 1: I just found out that the concert was canceled. Person 2: What a shame. You had been looking forward to it for so long.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я снова не сдал экзамен. Person 2: Жалко. Но у тебя ещё будет возможность пересдать.</p> <p>Person 1: I failed the exam again. Person 2: That's too bad. But you'll still have a chance to retake it.</p>	<p>"Жалко" and "Как обидно" are useful everyday reactions when you want to show sympathy without sounding too dramatic. "Жалко" is brief and conversational; "Как обидно" adds a stronger sense that the situation feels disappointing or unfair. Both are more supportive than simply evaluating the situation as bad.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
всё обойдётся	everything will be fine / It will all work out	<p>Person 1: Я волнуюсь, что не смогу сдать экзамен. Person 2: Не переживай, всё обойдётся.</p> <p>Person 1: I'm worried that I won't pass the exam. Person 2: Don't worry, everything will be fine.</p>	<p>"Всё обойдётся" is used to reassure someone that a situation will resolve positively or without serious problems. This phrase conveys optimism and encouragement, suggesting that despite any current difficulties, things will turn out okay in the end. It's commonly used in informal speech to comfort or calm someone who is worried or stressed.</p>
со мной такое постоянно происходит	that happens to me all the time	<p>Person 1: Я снова потерял телефон. Person 2: Со мной такое постоянно происходит. Ты не один.</p> <p>Person 1: I lost my phone again. Person 2: That happens to me all the time. You're not alone.</p>	<p>"Со мной такое постоянно происходит" is used to express that a particular event or situation is a regular occurrence in someone's life. It often conveys a sense of frustration, resignation, or familiarity with a recurring issue or experience. This phrase is commonly used in informal speech when someone wants to highlight that they frequently deal with a certain type of problem or situation.</p>

## C.5 Expressions of interest or curiosity

### *В.5 Выражения интереса или любопытства*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
что это означает?	what does it imply? / what does it mean?	<p>Person 1: Я только что узнал, что наша фирма закрывается. Person 2: Что это означает? Нам нужно начинать искать новую работу?</p> <p>Person 1: I just found out that our company is closing. Person 2: What does this mean? Do we need to start looking for new jobs?</p>	<p>"Что это означает?" is used to ask for an explanation or clarification of something. It's a direct question commonly used in both formal and informal contexts when someone doesn't understand a concept, statement, or situation and seeks further details to grasp its meaning.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
это интересно	that's interesting	<p>Person 1: Я только что вернулся из поездки по Италии. Person 2: Это интересно. Расскажи мне больше об этом.</p> <p>Person 1: I just got back from a trip to Italy. Person 2: That's interesting. Tell me more about it.</p>	"Это интересно" is used to express that something has caught your attention or curiosity in a positive way. It's a neutral or positive remark, often signaling that the speaker finds the topic or situation engaging or worth exploring further. It's commonly used in both formal and informal conversations.
как всё это началось?	how did this begin? / how did this come to be?	<p>Person 1: В городе возникли протесты. Person 2: Как всё это началось? Из-за чего люди протестуют?</p> <p>Person 1: Protests started in the city. Person 2: How did it all start? Why are people protesting?</p>	"Как всё это началось?" is used to ask for the origin or beginning of a situation or event. It's a common question in both formal and informal contexts when someone wants to understand the background or cause of something that has unfolded. This phrase seeks clarification on the initial circumstances that led to the current state.
расскажи подробнее	tell me more / tell me in more detail	<p>Person 1: Мы планируем путешествие по Европе на месяц. Person 2: Ого! Расскажи подробнее, какие страны вы собираетесь посетить?</p> <p>Person 1: We're planning a one-month trip around Europe. Person 2: Wow! Tell me more, which countries are you planning to visit?</p>	"Расскажи подробнее" translates to "Tell me more" or "Explain in more detail" and is used to request additional information or a more detailed explanation about a topic. It's a common phrase in informal conversations when the speaker is interested in learning more or wants further clarification on something that has been mentioned.

## C.6 Expressions whose usage depends on context

### *В.6 Выражения, значение которых зависит от контекста*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
хорошо тебе	good for you / lucky you	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что получила повышение на работе!            Person 2: О, хорошо тебе! Поздравляю!</p> <p>Person 1: I just got a promotion at work!            Person 2: Good for you, congratulations!</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я только что закончил проект. Теперь можно отдохнуть.            Person 2: Хорошо тебе! У меня ещё много дел.</p> <p>Person 1: I just finished the project. Now I can relax.            Person 2: Lucky you! I still have a lot to do.</p>	<p>The phrase "хорошо тебе" in Russian can be translated to "good for you" or "lucky you" in English. It is often used to express a sense of envy, admiration, or acknowledgment that someone else is in a better or more favorable situation. The tone can range from genuinely happy for the other person to slightly envious, depending on the context and intonation.</p>
ну да	uh-huh / yeah right	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Ты забыл купить молоко в магазине.            Person 2: Ну да, извини, я забыл. Сейчас схожу и куплю.</p> <p>Person 1: You forgot to buy milk at the store.            Person 2: Yeah, sorry, I forgot. I'll go and buy it now.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Он сказал, что сам починил машину.            Person 2: Ну да, конечно.</p> <p>Person 1: He said he fixed the car himself.            Person 2: Yeah, right, sure.</p>	<p>The phrase "ну да" in Russian is an informal expression often used to convey agreement or acknowledgment, sometimes with a hint of sarcasm or doubt. It can be translated to English as "yeah, right," "sure," or simply "uh-huh."</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
бывает	it happens	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я случайно отправил сообщение не тому человеку. Person 2: Бывает.</p> <p>Person 1: I accidentally sent the message to the wrong person. Person 2: It happens.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Опоздал на встречу из-за пробок. Person 2: Бывает, не переживай.</p> <p>Person 1: I was late to the meeting because of traffic. Person 2: It happens, don't worry.</p>	<p>In Russian, the phrase "Бывает" is a versatile, informal expression. It is commonly used in everyday conversations to acknowledge that something went wrong or didn't go as planned, but without placing much blame or making a big deal out of it. The tone of the speaker largely determines whether the phrase comes off as comforting or dismissive. When said with empathy, "Бывает" is a way to reassure someone that mistakes or mishaps are normal and not worth stressing over. However, in a neutral tone, it can seem dismissive, as if brushing off the situation. It's a common way to downplay the importance of small errors and move on.</p>

## C.7 Hard-to-translate expressions

### *В.7 Труднопереводимые выражения*

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
как раз	just / exactly / precisely	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Я заказал пиццу. Person 2: Отлично! Я как раз проголодался.</p> <p>Person 1: I ordered pizza. Person 2: Great! I was just getting hungry.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Я искал книгу для тебя. Person 2: Спасибо! Это как раз то, что я хотел прочитать.</p> <p>Person 1: I was looking for a book for you. Person 2: Thank you! This is exactly what I wanted to read.</p>	<p>The phrase "как раз" is used to indicate that something happens or fits perfectly in time, context, or situation. It emphasizes that the timing, size, or condition is ideal or appropriate. This phrase is commonly used in informal speech to express that something is happening at just the right moment or in precisely the right way.</p>

Russian Phrase	English Translation	Example Dialogues	Nuances and Context
вот и всё	that's it / that's all	<p>Dialogue 1:</p> <p>Person 1: Мы закончили презентацию. Нужно что-то ещё добавить?            Person 2: Нет, вот и всё. Мы готовы.</p> <p>Person 1: We've finished the presentation. Do we need to add anything else?            Person 2: No, that's it. We're ready.</p> <p>Dialogue 2:</p> <p>Person 1: Ты собрал все документы?            Person 2: Да, вот и всё, что нужно было.</p> <p>Person 1: Did you collect all the documents?            Person 2: Yes, that's all we needed.</p>	<p>The phrase "вот и всё" is used to signal the completion of something, to conclude a conversation, or to indicate that nothing more can be added.</p>
ведь	because / you see / after all	<p>1. Ведь ты обещал помочь мне с уроками, не забыл? (You promised to help me with my homework, did you forget?)</p> <p>2. Это важно, ведь от этого решения зависит наше будущее. (This is important, after all our future depends on this decision.)</p> <p>3. Ведь она всегда была такой доброй и отзывчивой, я не могу поверить, что она нас предала. (She has always been so kind and responsive, I can't believe she betrayed us.)</p>	<p>"Ведь" is a versatile word used to emphasize something that should be obvious or already known, often serving as a reminder or justification for what is being said. It adds a persuasive tone to the statement, making the listener reflect on an underlying truth or accepted fact. This phrase is commonly used in informal speech to strengthen an argument or to point out something that might not need further explanation due to its self-evidence.</p>

## PART D: PHRASES

### РАЗДЕЛ Г: ФРАЗЫ

## D.1 Introducing a story

### Г.1 Начало рассказа

:

English Phrase	Russian Translation	Example Sentences
Let me tell you a story about...	Расскажу вам историю о...	<p>1. Расскажу вам историю о моем путешествии в Италию. (Let me tell you a story about my trip to Italy.)</p> <p>2. Расскажу вам историю о том, как мы спасли котёнка. (I'll tell you a story about how we rescued a kitten.)</p>
Something strange happened	Случилось что-то странное	<p>1. Случилось что-то странное, когда я ехал домой вчера. (Something strange happened on my way home yesterday.)</p> <p>2. В офисе случилось что-то странное утром. (Something funny happened in the office this morning.)</p>
You won't believe what happened	Ты не поверишь, что случилось	<p>1. Ты не поверишь, что случилось со мной сегодня утром! (You won't believe what happened to me this morning!)</p> <p>2. Ты не поверишь, что случилось в нашем городе вчера. (You won't believe what happened in our town yesterday.)</p>

## D.2 Setting the scene

### Г.2 Описание обстановки

:

English Phrase	Russian Translation	Example Sentences
On the same day	В тот же день	<p>1. Он получил предложение о работе и принял его в тот же день, не раздумывая. (He received a job offer and accepted it on the same day without hesitation.)</p> <p>2. Он отправил письмо в тот же день, как только получил информацию. (He sent the letter on the same day he received the information.)</p> <p>3. Мы получили результаты анализов в тот же день, когда их сдали. (We received the test results on the same day we took them.)</p>

English Phrase	Russian Translation	Example Sentences
At the moment when...	В тот момент, когда...	<p>1. В тот момент, когда я зашёл в комнату, они закончили разговор. (At the moment when I entered the room, they ended their conversation.)</p> <p>2. Я понял в тот момент, что совершил ошибку, когда было уже слишком поздно. (I realized at that moment that I had made a mistake when it was already too late.)</p>
During the day / in broad daylight	Среди бела дня	<p>1. Как можно было совершить такое преступление среди бела дня? (How could such a crime be committed in broad daylight?)</p> <p>2. Он вышел из магазина и увидел, что его машина была угнана прямо с парковки среди бела дня. (He came out of the store and saw that his car was stolen right from the parking lot in broad daylight.)</p>

## D.3 Plot twists and turns

### Г.3 Повороты и неожиданные изменения сюжета

English Phrase	Russian Translation	Example Sentences
And then, unexpectedly...	А потом неожиданно...	<p>1. Мы гуляли по городу, а потом неожиданно встретили своего давнего знакомого. (We were walking around the city, and then unexpectedly ran into an old acquaintance.)</p> <p>2. Он работал над проектом весь день, а потом неожиданно пришло вдохновение, и он закончил его за час. (He worked on the project all day, and then suddenly inspiration struck, and he finished it in an hour.)</p>
It turned out that...	И оказалось, что...	<p>1. Я собирался уехать на выходные, но оказалось, что мне пришлось работать. (I was planning to go away for the weekend, but it turned out that I had to work.)</p> <p>2. Я пытался пройти тест на права в третий раз, и оказалось, что опять его не сдал. (I tried to pass the driving test for the third time, and it turned out that I failed it again.)</p>

:

English Phrase	Russian Translation	Example Sentences
It turns out	Получается, что...	<p>1. А я и не знала, что вы с Аней учились в одной школе. Получается, вы уже пять лет знакомы? (I didn't know that you and Anna studied at the same school. It turns out you have known each other for five years already?)</p> <p>2. Когда мы познакомились, он не говорил, что у него есть жена и дети. Получается, он всё это время меня обманывал. (When we met, he didn't say that he already had a wife and children. It turns out that he was deceiving me the whole time.)</p>

## D.4 Conclusions and reflections

### Г.4 Выводы и размышления

:

English Phrase	Russian Translation	Example Sentences
It was a complete disaster	Это была полная катастрофа	<p>1. Наш пикник был испорчен дождём. Это была полная катастрофа. (Our picnic was ruined by rain. It was a complete disaster.)</p> <p>2. Проект провалился. Это была полная катастрофа. (The project failed. It was a complete disaster.)</p>
It was awful	Это было ужасно	<p>1. Когда мы застряли в лифте, это было ужасно. (When we got stuck in the elevator, it was awful.)</p> <p>2. Очнуться посреди ночи и слышать странные звуки, это было ужасно. (Waking up in the middle of the night and hearing strange sounds was awful.)</p>
I felt such relief	Я почувствовал огромное облегчение	<p>1. Когда я узнал, что все в порядке, я почувствовал огромное облегчение. (When I found out everything was fine, I felt such relief.)</p> <p>2. Когда экзамен закончился, я почувствовал огромное облегчение. (When the exam was over, I felt such relief.)</p>
Thank God, everything went well	Слава Богу, всё прошло благополучно	<p>1. Слава Богу, экзамен прошел благополучно. (Thank God, the exam went well.)</p> <p>2. Операция была сложной, но слава Богу, всё прошло благополучно. (The surgery was complicated, but thank God, everything went well.)</p>

**PART E: EXERCISES***РАЗДЕЛ Д: УПРАЖНЕНИЯ***E.1 Multiple choice***Д.1 Множественный выбор*

Choose the option that best completes each sentence. / Выберите вариант, который лучше всего завершает каждое предложение.

1. Он не пришёл на встречу, \_\_\_\_\_ был занят.  
а) кстати b) так как c) ведь d) по сути
2. \_\_\_\_\_, ты знал, что у нас сегодня урок?  
а) Грубо говоря b) Короче говоря c) Кстати d) В целом
3. Он всегда всем помогает, \_\_\_\_\_ его доброте.  
а) при этом b) по сути c) при том что d) благодаря
4. Я согласился остаться допоздна, \_\_\_\_\_ закончить проект вовремя.  
а) ради того, чтобы b) благодаря c) вроде бы d) при этом
5. Она училась в университете, \_\_\_\_\_ работала по вечерам.  
а) благодаря b) при этом c) ведь d) ради того, чтобы
6. Он опоздал на встречу, \_\_\_\_\_ у него были важные дела.  
а) так как b) в целом c) ведь d) вот и всё
7. Мне показалось, что эта презентация была довольно скучной, \_\_\_\_\_, я едва не заснул.  
а) если честно b) в основном c) всего лишь d) при этом
8. Я закончил проект. \_\_\_\_\_, я могу наконец-то отдохнуть.  
а) значит b) кстати c) хотя бы d) вообще нет
9. Этот факт, \_\_\_\_\_, не доказывает его вины.  
а) ради того, чтобы b) так как c) само по себе d) ведь
10. По его лицу \_\_\_\_\_, что он очень устал.  
а) видно b) всего лишь c) зависит от того d) при этом
11. Это \_\_\_\_\_ маленькая проблема, но она все равно требует внимания.  
а) всего лишь b) видно c) само по себе d) при этом
12. Я хочу знать, что вам не нравится в этом проекте, \_\_\_\_\_.  
а) всего лишь b) конкретно c) зависит от того d) ведь
13. Мне нужно \_\_\_\_\_ полчаса, чтобы закончить этот проект.

a) хотя бы b) видно c) до сих пор d) само по себе

14. Он сказал, что придет на вечеринку, но \_\_\_\_\_ не пришел.

a) зависит от того b) на самом деле c) само по себе d) хотя бы

15. Наш успех \_\_\_\_\_, как мы организуем свою работу.

a) ведь b) зависит от того c) всего лишь d) при этом

16. \_\_\_\_\_, что этот маршрут может быть опасен зимой.

a) Стоит сразу сказать b) Шикарно c) Обязательно d) До сих пор

17. Она переехала в другой город много лет назад, но \_\_\_\_\_ помнит родной дом.

a) видно b) всего лишь c) до сих пор d) зависит от того

18. Я спрашиваю \_\_\_\_\_, что тебе не понравилось в фильме.

a) всего лишь b) на самом деле c) конкретно d) ведь

## E.2 Fill in the blank

### Д.2 Заполните пропуски

1. Мы гуляли по городу, \_\_\_\_\_ встретили своего давнего знакомого. (and then unexpectedly)

2. Я собирался уехать на выходные, но \_\_\_\_\_ мне пришлось работать. (it turned out that)

3. \_\_\_\_\_, что случилось со мной сегодня утром! (You won't believe)

4. Я пытался пройти тест на права, и \_\_\_\_\_ опять его не сдал. (it turned out that)

5. На концерте \_\_\_\_\_, и выступление задержали. (something strange happened)

6. Я получил письмо и \_\_\_\_\_ отправил его обратно. (on the same day)

7. Ты не поверишь, \_\_\_\_\_ в нашем городе вчера. (what happened)

8. Я понял \_\_\_\_\_, что допустил ошибку. (at the moment)

9. Кандидат не подготовился к дебатам, и \_\_\_\_\_. (it was a complete disaster)

10. Иван \_\_\_\_\_, когда восстановил свои потерянные файлы. (felt such relief)

## E.3 Dialogues

### Д.3 Диалоги

Respond naturally in Russian to the following statements. / Естественно отреагируйте по-русски на следующие реплики.

For self-study, give one immediate reaction and one follow-up sentence to each prompt. Possible openings: *Кстати..., Ну вот..., Если честно..., В общем..., Получается, что....* / Для самостоятельной работы на каждый стимул дайте естественную реакцию и ещё одну фразу в продолжение. Возможные фразы для начала: *Кстати..., Ну вот..., Если честно..., В общем..., Получается, что....*

Checklist: give one natural reaction, one connecting or filler expression, and one follow-up sentence that keeps the exchange moving. / Проверьте, что у вас есть естественная реакция, одно связующее или разговорное выражение и ещё одна фраза в продолжение, которая поддерживает разговор.

1. Я забыл свои ключи дома. / I forgot my keys at home.
2. Я потерял свой телефон в метро. / I lost my phone in the subway.
3. У меня наконец-то появилась собака! / I finally got a dog!
4. Еда была хорошей, но обслуживание было ужасным. / The food was good, but the service was terrible.
5. Я случайно разлил кофе на свои новые брюки. / I accidentally spilled coffee on my new pants.
6. Я нервничаю из-за предстоящего экзамена. / I'm nervous about the upcoming exam.
7. Мой любимый ресторан закрылся навсегда. / My favorite restaurant has closed forever.
8. Я забыл важный документ дома, и теперь мне нужно вернуться. / I forgot an important document at home, and now I need to go back to get it.
9. Кажется, я выбрал неправильный поезд и теперь заблудился. / It seems I took the wrong train and now I'm lost.
10. Мы купили новый дом! / We bought a new house!
11. Я только что узнал, что мой самолет отменен. / I just found out that my flight is canceled.
12. Сегодня я встретил чрезвычайно интересного человека. / I met an extremely interesting person today.
13. Мы случайно взяли чужой чемодан в аэропорту. / We accidentally took someone else's suitcase at the airport.
14. Я случайно удалил важный файл на работе. / I accidentally deleted an important file at work.

## E.4 Storytelling

### *Д.4 Рассказ*

Develop a short spoken narrative in Russian for each prompt. Use at least one phrase from D.1, one from D.2 or D.3, and one reflection from D.4. / Составьте короткий устный рассказ по-русски по каждой из следующих ситуаций. Используйте как минимум одну фразу из Г.1, одну из Г.2 или Г.3 и одну итоговую фразу из Г.4.

Checklist: your story should have a clear opening, one turning point, and a closing reaction. / Проверьте, что в вашем рассказе есть ясное начало, один поворот сюжета и завершающая реакция.

For self-study, first jot down three brief notes: what happened at the beginning, what changed unexpectedly, and how you reacted at the end. Then tell the story twice, once slowly and once at a more natural pace. / Для самостоятельной работы сначала запишите три коротких пункта: что произошло в начале, что неожиданно изменилось и как вы отреагировали в конце. Затем расскажите историю дважды: сначала медленно, потом в более естественном темпе.

1. Расскажите о дне, который сначала казался обычным, а потом неожиданно пошёл совсем не по плану. / Tell a story about a day that seemed ordinary at first but then unexpectedly went off track.
2. Расскажите о поездке или дороге, во время которой произошло что-то странное, смешное или неприятное. / Tell a story about a trip or journey during which something strange, funny, or unpleasant happened.
3. Расскажите о ситуации, в которой вы сначала чего-то боялись или не понимали, а потом испытали облегчение. / Tell a story about a situation in which you were first afraid or confused, and then felt relief.
4. Расскажите о разговоре, после которого вы вдруг поняли что-то важное о другом человеке или о себе. / Tell a story about a conversation after which you suddenly understood something important about another person or about yourself.
5. Расскажите о моменте, когда вы сначала неправильно поняли ситуацию, а потом всё прояснилось. / Tell a story about a moment when you misunderstood a situation at first and then everything became clear.
6. Расскажите о случае, когда одно короткое сообщение или звонок полностью изменили ваш день. / Tell a story about a situation in which one short message or phone call completely changed your day.
7. Расскажите о моменте, когда вы услышали неожиданную новость и вам пришлось сразу на неё отреагировать. / Tell a story about a moment when you heard unexpected news and had to react to it right away.
8. Расскажите о ситуации, в которой сначала всё выглядело серьёзно или тревожно, а потом оказалось почти смешным. / Tell a story about a situation that at first looked serious or worrying but later turned out to be almost funny.