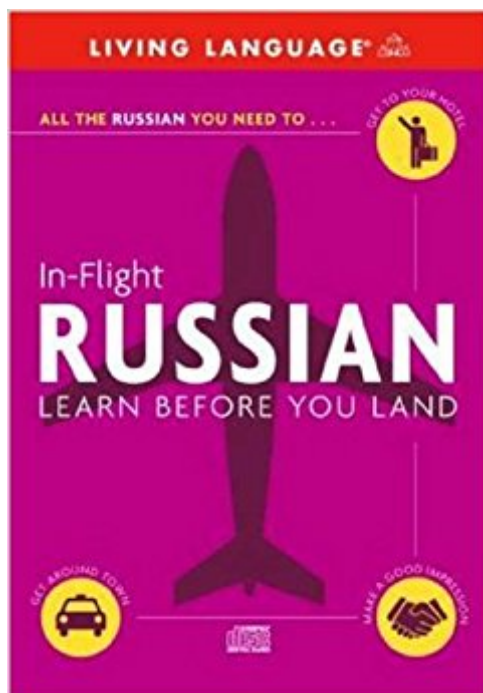


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In-Flight Russian: Learn Before You Land



Synopsis

Living Language In-Flight Russian is the perfect boarding pass to learning Russian before you land. There's no better way to make use of all that spare time on a plane than to master the essentials of a language. This 60-minute program is the simplest way to learn just enough to get by in every situation essential to both the tourist and business traveler. The program covers everything from greetings and polite expressions to asking directions, getting around, checking into a hotel, and going to a restaurant. There are even sections for meeting people and spending a night on the town. Short lessons make In-Flight Russian easy to use, and a handy pocket-sized insert is included as a cheat sheet for use on the go.

Book Information

Series: In-Flight

Audio CD

Publisher: Living Language; large type edition edition (June 26, 2001)

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Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.1 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Living Language In-Flight Russian is the perfect boarding pass to learning Russian before you land. There's no better way to make use of all that spare time on a plane than to master the essentials of a language. This 60-minute program is the simplest way to learn just enough to get by in every situation essential to both the tourist and business traveler. The program covers everything from greetings and polite expressions to asking directions, getting around, checking into a hotel, and going to a restaurant. There are even sections for meeting people and spending a night on the town. Short lessons make In-Flight Russian easy to use, and a handy pocket-sized insert is included as a cheat sheet for use on the go.

Good course for a few basic phrases. Not a full language course for sure.

Utter crap. It only repeats each phrase once and doesn't break down or explain longer phrases. There's also no help with pronunciation. Besides that, the translations are sometimes inaccurate. If you speak some Russian but maybe you're rusty, this might be an okay review of key phrases and words, but if you're starting from zero, this product won't help.

The In Flight Russian CD has some good points. The native speakers are a good touch, and they cover a fairly wide range of useful phrases. Also, the CD tracks are well organized into subject sessions (saying "hello", the airport, shopping, etc.) The shortcomings are: The accompanying phrasebook is limited to the words covered in the lesson, and they are NOT spelled in Russian, only English-phonetic (a serious flaw in my opinion). Also, the speakers on the CD only say the word once. It would be nice if they said it two or three times to help get it in your head. Some Russian phrases can sound quite confusing to American ears. I had already studied some basic Russian before my trip using a Berlitz guide, so the CD was a big help by demonstrating the correct pronunciation of certain words. This CD would be tough to use on its own, but when used as a refresher (I listen in my car) or supplemented with more thorough material, it can be useful.

I agree with J. from Richmond that only saying the Russian dialog once per lesson makes it tough to learn the correct pronunciation of the Russian words. While having each Russian expression repeated might have added somewhat to the length of the recording time it would have been well worth it to the user. And, in exchange, they certainly could have saved some recording time by largely eliminating lesson 1, which spends an inordinate amount of time explaining why one should learn a foreign language, how great this product is, yada, yada, yada. Also, even with my limited knowledge of Russian I can tell they are not accurately translating from English into Russian. For example, the English "I want a map" is translated into the Russian "I want to buy a map". Depending upon the situation that inaccuracy would mean the unaware user was saying something completely different from what he/she intended!

Just interested in getting a sense of the Russian language and tonal quality, many expensive CD's and books are on the market, for ten dollars on this product how can you miss, enough to get going, as advertised; however it is what it is, this is not the definitive study guide to living in Russia, well worth the price!

Probably the best method I have found to learn or review Russian in a short amount of time. Very concise and helpful.

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