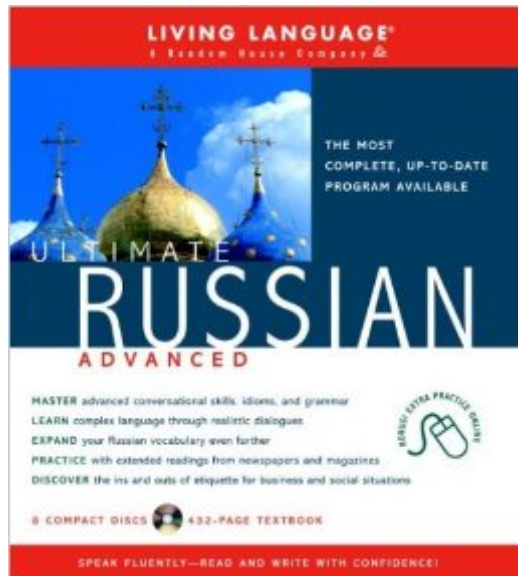


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# Ultimate Russian Advanced (CD Pkg) (Ultimate Advanced)



## Synopsis

Available September 2003 Created for the serious language-learner, our deluxe Ultimate Russian Advanced course has been revised and updated. It teaches a sophisticated level of conversation and grammar and is equivalent to two years of college study. Free additional exercises are now available on line! Perfect for the businessperson and anyone traveling or living abroad, Ultimate Russian Advanced course contains a 400+ page book with eight 60-minute CDs covering 20 lessons. Each lesson includes lively, up-to-date dialogues, vocabulary, exercises, culture notes, and detailed explanations of grammar and usage. KEY FEATURES: • Ideal for anyone planning to live or conduct business abroad • Includes extensive business vocabulary and details of business etiquette • Free extra practice on line with more than 100 additional practice sections • Updated with new vocabulary and information about culture and everyday life; and now include references to the euro • Now available on CD for ease in moving between lessons • "perfect for use in the car, at the gym, or anywhere you please"

## Book Information

Series: Ultimate Advanced

Audio CD

Publisher: Living Language; Pap/Com edition (September 16, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1400020727

ISBN-13: 978-1400020720

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 2.4 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars • See all reviews • (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,057,682 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in Books > Books on CD > Languages > Language Instruction > Russian #8433 in Books > Books on CD > General #25105 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages

## Customer Reviews

You get twenty lessons. Each one starts with a dialog that's word-for-word the same as the corresponding lesson on the CDs. The subjects, engaging enough, range over situations like "visit to an antique store", "job interview", "at the airport", "at a wedding", "at a computer show", "visit to a factory", "visit to a farm", "visit to a hospital", "TV news", "at a movie festival", "visit to St. Petersburg". Chekhov's plays they are not, but they are way more interesting than typical textbook fare, and

Chekhov won't teach you how to say "buckle your seatbelt and prepare for landing". Following each dialog you get a translation, which is usually fine but occasionally a bit loose. For example, "Kakye proizvedeniya iskusstva vam osobeno nravitsya" (p.133) is rendered "Is there any particular type of art that appeals to you". If you don't know "proizvedeniya" or "osobeno", you'll be headed for your dictionary. On the other hand, the "primechaniya" -- about a dozen or so footnotes to each dialog -- are outstanding little word vignettes that impart the kind of context and depth you won't get in any dual-language dictionary. (You know how dictionaries try to cover a word's full range by giving you about four or five English words each of which means a distinctly different thing -- which is ok if you're trying to understand what you're reading, but less useful as a guide to your own attempts at speaking Russian.) Following that, each chapter gives you a section on grammar (which will be mostly review to the likely customers for this book, but it doesn't hurt and it's presented nicely).

I bought Ultimate Russian Advanced several months ago hoping to improve my vocabulary, grammar, but most especially my listening comprehension. About the CD's: The book includes four CD's with very crisp, clear recordings of native Russians speaking to one another on topics likely to be encountered by a businessperson traveling and working in Russia, along with a few topics on cuisine, leisure and daily routines such as transportation and shopping. Each recording lasts around three minutes, and is followed by extract sentences from the dialogues that you've just listened to; after each extract sentence or phrase you have several seconds to repeat the native speaker's words and intonation. This type of exercise is very useful for boosting listening comprehension, and one's ability to repeat unfamiliar phrases. As a couple of reviewers noted, the English transcript can be a shade off in meaning from the Russian one, but overall I think the quality and content of the recordings is laudable, especially as this is to my knowledge the only textbook with listening exercises geared for an intermediate to upper-intermediate level student. About the book: I have been living in Russia for over two years and doing my best to learn the language. Frequently, when speaking with Russians, I hear what I think must be exceptions to grammatical rules, and this book has so far done a fine job of giving very practical, very straightforward explanations for many aspects of Russian grammar that had previously left me scratching my head, for example *chto-nibud'* versus *chto-to* and *chto-libo*, the difference between perfective and imperfective command forms, and many others.

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