



COMPLETE SERBIAN MASTER COURSE

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SERBIAN GRAMMAR



Chapter I

Cultural, literary and linguistic background

Serbian belongs to the Slavonic group of languages, which, along with the Romance and Germanic languages, is one of the three largest groups of the Indo-European family of languages.

The Slavonic group of languages includes Polish, Czech and Slovak (belonging to the western group of Slavonic languages), Ukrainian, Belarus and Russian (belonging to the eastern group of Slavonic languages) and Slovenian, Serbian, Croatian, Bosnian, Bulgarian and Macedonian (belonging to the southern group of Slavonic languages).

In the sixth and seventh centuries, various Slavonic tribes, some of which were to become the Serbian nation, migrated from the north – Russia, Byelorussia and the Ukraine, where they shared the land with the eastern Slavs – and travelled to the Balkan peninsula and the region of Pannonia. At the time Bulgaria and the Byzantine Empire both wanted to occupy this region. The Slavs, themselves pagans, were also caught between the Western, Catholic, and the Eastern, Orthodox religions. In the ninth century, Serbian rulers, struggling for power, converted to Christianity and were baptised by priests from the Byzantine Empire. Different tribes joined together under the common Christian religion.

In the twelfth century, the founder of the most significant medieval Serbian dynasty, Stefan Nemanja, expanded his lands to include Kosovo and, further, to what is now the Montenegrin coast. Appointing his middle son, Stefan Nemanjić, a son-in-law of the Byzantine imperial family, to replace him, Nemanja joined his youngest son, Sava, a monk in the Orthodox faith, to become a monk himself. Stefan Nemanjić managed, through clever running of the state, to fend off Serbia's enemies. He managed to maintain good relations with both the West and the East and in the thirteenth century he received a royal crown from the Pope, which gave him the title of Stevan Prvovenčani, the 'first-crowned king' of Serbia.

His father, Stefan Nemanja, and brother, Sava, built the monastery of Hilandar on Mount Athos in Greece, which became the most prestigious

school for Serbian monks. This monastery is of great importance in the development of the Serbian church and Serbian culture.

With the appointment of Sava (who was proclaimed a saint upon his death) as archbishop in Nicaea, the centre for Greeks in Asia Minor, the links between the Serbian nation and the Orthodox tradition were further strengthened. On Sava's instruction the Byzantine code of church laws and rules for use by the clergy, as well as many medical and scientific writings, were translated. He founded the first Serbian hospitals (in Hilandar and Studenica) and was the founder of Serbian literature, having written, with his brother Stefan Nemanjić, the first original Serbian literary work, the *Vitae of St Simeon* (The Life of Stefan Nemanja, their father and founder of the dynasty). (St Sava's remains were burnt by the Turks four centuries later in Belgrade, where the temple of St Sava now stands.)

Although Sava's brother, Stefan Nemanjić, had been crowned by the Pope, he was under the influence of his brother and father and wanted to unify the Serbian state under the Orthodox religion. The Nemanja dynasty gradually succeeded in uniting all the Serbian lands and gave to their country a strong and united church, the Serbian Orthodox Church. Culturally very active, the kingdom and church had their own Slavonic liturgy and language (based on Old Slavonic). The translation of important Byzantine scrolls, liturgies, church laws, literary and architectural works was pursued and highly respected.

The Nemanja dynasty continued to rule the state, and under the rule of Stefan Dušan (1331–1355), its boundaries expanded southward to include not only Macedonia and Albania, but regions of the Byzantine Empire too. It covered the area from the Sava and Danube rivers down to the Gulf of Corinth, and became the leading power of the Balkan peninsula. And as Dušan elevated the Serbian archbishopric to the level of a Patriarchate, he was crowned the 'Emperor of the Serbs and Greeks'.

Dušan ruled the state and set up all the major state systems and judiciary based on the Byzantine model. And since some of his territories were under the rule of custom and had never been under Byzantine law, he adopted an entire code of laws, under the name of *Dušan's Code*, in an attempt to unify the territories and bridge the gap between the impoverished and the wealthy.

And, as had the rulers before him, Dušan also emulated Byzantine architecture and art, and the many monasteries and churches built in the Serbian state at the time are examples of a distinct Serbian Byzantine style in both these fields.

The Serbs were eventually conquered by the Turks in the fifteenth century. An event in history that is taken to mark the fall of the great Serbian Empire was the battle at Kosovo Polje in 1389. The lands were divided between the Turkish warlords, who recognised each religious

group as an administratively separate community, even though, in many ways, the Serbian nation was placed under pressure to abide by Muslim social order. From the middle of the fifteenth century to the beginning of the nineteenth century, during the Ottoman rule, great migrations of Serbs took place. Throughout this time, the Serbian Orthodox Church did much to give the Serbs a sense of unity and continuity. In two of the most important migrations that took place during this period the people were led by their patriarchs. When the Turkish government dissolved the Patriarchate of Peć in 1766, church authority was re-established with the Greek archbishops, thus gaining an international position. In 1832, the Serbian Church became autonomous. It did not unify into a Serbian Patriarchate until 1920 when the Serbs were united into one state.

After the elimination of the Patriarchate of Peć, the Turkish pashalic of Belgrade became the centre of Serbian culture and tradition. In 1804 the Serbs there rebelled against the janissaries and Turkish landowners. Led by Đorđe Petrović, known as Karađorđe, the rebels liberated the whole pashalic.

However, the war with the Turks continued, and in 1815 the new Serbian leader, Miloš Obrenović, signed a peace treaty with the Turks that brought an end to the struggle against the Turks in that area. The Serbs organised a state with a legal structure and a strong army, and, though still a client state of the Ottoman Empire, it had its autonomy.

The state expanded to include territories already liberated by Karađorđe.

While the Serbian people were fighting for an independent state from 1835 to 1878, their rulers were aware that they needed a massive action plan in order to recover their people and culture from the backwardness caused by centuries of slavery under the Turks. By the end of the 1830s the principality had its own constitution, followed by a *Civil Code* as Prince Miloš laid down the foundations of democracy by distributing land to the peasants. State management, culture and education were institutionalised, and in 1882, elementary education became obligatory. The Serbian Association of Scholars was founded as well as the National Museum and the Academy of Arts and Sciences. The Great School, founded in 1863, became a university in 1905. The economy and trade developed and the beginnings of industrialisation and banking also appeared. Talented people were sent to universities throughout Europe, returning as knowledgeable and well-educated Europeans. This striving for scientific and scholarly advancement continued later in the Republic of Yugoslavia. Among the scholars of these times was Nikola Tesla (the late nineteenth–early twentieth-century inventor in the field of electricity, a Serb originally from Croatia who later moved to the United States), and other experts in their field.

In 1918 the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes was created. From 1929 it was called Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia emerged from the Second World War with a completely new social structure. Led by the president of the state, Josip Broz Tito, it was initially a 'people's republic' and then a 'socialist republic', consisting of six republics (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia) and two autonomous provinces, Vojvodina and Kosovo. In the Yugoslavia prior to the war, the Serb, Croat and Slovene people were free to express and share their culture and faith. Postwar Yugoslavia saw a suppression of freedom in culture, also open expression of religious practice was not looked upon favourably.

Following Tito's death in 1980 and under pressure from the autonomous provinces (particularly Kosovo, which sought to be granted the status of a republic) Yugoslavia began to disintegrate into its constituent republics. A bloody civil war broke out in 1991, and the country was divided into separate states, with many Serbs living outside Serbia and Montenegro, the two states which remained together.

The language of the Slavs who migrated to the Balkans in the sixth and seventh centuries also underwent changes. As the Slavonic tribes migrated, the language of the southern Slavs changed from that spoken by the eastern Slavs. Though the languages remained essentially similar, the differences became distinctive when the south Slavs reached the Balkans and the Pannonia region, at which time some tribes travelled southeast, while others moved southwest. The differences in the interrogative pronoun 'What?' is a handy label for laying down the basic differences in what were to become the different languages and dialects spoken in the region today. Those who travelled southwest used **kaj/ kaj** or **ѡа/ѡа** to say 'What?' Those Slavs travelling southeast used the interrogative **што-шта/što-šta**.

When in the ninth century the Moravian ruler asked the Byzantine Emperor to send missionaries to convert the Slavs of the region to the Christian faith, the latter responded by sending the brothers Constantine (later called Cyril when he became a monk) and Methodius. They were asked to translate, on the basis of their knowledge of the Slavonic language spoken by a Macedonian tribe in the Salonika area, the most important Byzantine religious books. The language had no written form and the brothers had to invent one. The language which they created and translated into, Old Church Slavonic, was the first of the Slavonic languages to be used in literary and liturgical spheres.

In order to translate the works, the brothers used the Greek alphabet as the basis on which they invented letters to represent the sounds of the Slavonic language. Glagolitic, the alphabet invented by Cyril, had forty letters, a letter for each of the sounds. This alphabet was soon replaced by the Cyrillic alphabet, consisting of the Greek alphabet of

the period with fourteen letters added. In cultural terms, the invention of the alphabet was of great significance.

Slavic monasteries on Athos were among the main centres of translation. Translation constantly developed and enriched the literary Serbian Church Slavonic as many Slavic authors developed and practised the art of creating new words to express the abstract concepts they were translating into literary works.

Church Slavonic, with its local variants, facilitated further dissemination of the Orthodox faith. The works translated from Greek were quickly shared by all the countries of the Orthodox Slavic world and the languages of these countries, particularly Russian Church Slavonic, had a strong influence on Serbian Church Slavonic at the end of the eighteenth century.

During the rule of Karađorđe, many educated Serbs from Austria moved into Serbia. Among them was Dositej Obradović, a great scholar who spoke Latin, Greek, German, French, Italian and Russian. As soon as he heard of the liberation from the Turks, he returned to Serbia and met with Karađorđe. He believed that people had to be educated and enlightened. As Church Slavonic, which was interspersed with Russian, was too far removed from the living language of the people (most of whom were not able to understand the texts) Dositej wanted to bridge the gap between this church language and the people's language. Having been exposed to the European Enlightenment, he insisted that the written language be understood by everybody, including the uneducated. Soon the Russian literary language was no longer used by Serbian authors and Church Slavonic was used only in theological and liturgical books. Dositej became the minister of culture and fought to have schools built and for both men and women to attend.

The great Serbian philologist Vuk Karadžić (1787–1864) played a crucial role in the development of the alphabet. He travelled around the country, collecting folk stories and sayings, and incorporated this spoken language into the written literary form. He attempted to create a completely phonetic alphabet, where one sound of the spoken language was represented by one symbol in the written form. With this in mind, he discarded some symbols he felt did not correspond to a particular sound, and introduced six new ones, in accordance with the principle, 'a letter for every sound':

ђ њ љ ћ ђ џ ј

Ѣ ѣ ѣ ѣ ѣ ѣ

In 1818 he wrote the Serbian dictionary in the language spoken by the people. However, Karadžić's own language was of the Ijekavian dialect, spoken in western Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina,

and Montenegro and among Serbs in Croatia and Dalmatia. The literary language until then was the Ekavian Štokavian dialect, spoken in the northeastern regions, as that was where the most significant cultural, political and economic centres of the Serbs were located. The Serbs from these areas were not prepared to give up their Ekavian for an Ijekavian dialect, and Serbia and Vojvodina retained their dialect. The Croats and Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina, on the other hand, accepted his reforms completely, as did the Serbs living in Montenegro.

In spite of these differences, Karadžić's reforms paved the way for a spontaneous development of the literary language through its relationship with the spoken word. The language expanded as new words were created from existing roots and nuances of meaning acquired. Words of Latin and Greek origin were adopted as the Serbian language became increasingly cosmopolitan. During the twentieth century, many French and English words were also adopted.

In the meantime, the Croats, who had during the fourteenth century, while under the influence of the western world and Catholicism, adopted the Latin alphabet, had in the nineteenth century, added letters for palatal and palatalised consonants from Czech and Polish. Now this alphabet, too, was phonetic (with the exception of *lj*, *nj* and *dž*, where two letters represent one sound).

By the nineteenth century, realising that their languages had a lot in common, the Croats and Serbs unified their languages under the name of Serbo-Croatian. However, wanting secession from Yugoslavia, during the twentieth century, Croatian linguists began to emphasise the differences between the languages, proclaiming Croatian as a separate language. New words were coined to prove that differences existed. With the break-up of Yugoslavia at the end of the twentieth century came the fragmentation of the unified language, Serbo-Croatian. The Croatian language quickly developed as a separate language in relation to Serbian, with new words speedily introduced to mark its differences. Serbian, on the other hand, remained unchanged.

Chapter 3

Alphabet

The Cyrillic alphabet, **ћирилица/ćirilica**, and the Latin alphabet, **латиница/latinica**, are the two alphabets in use in Serbian. They both contain the same thirty letters, though not in the same order.

The Cyrillic alphabet, **ћирилица/ćirilica**, is based on Greek and was adopted by the Serbs during the Byzantine era. The Latin alphabet, **латиница/latinica**, adopted by the Serbs living in the western parts of the country, in what was to become Croatia, in the fourteenth century, is the same as the one used in English, with the addition of five new letters and eight new sounds.

The Cyrillic alphabet:

Italics			Latin equivalent	
А	а	<i>A, a</i>	A	Assam
Б	б	<i>Б, б</i>	B	bench
В	в	<i>В, в</i>	V	victim
Г	г	<i>Г, г</i>	G	good
Д	д	<i>Д, д</i>	D	desk
Ђ	ђ	<i>Ђ, ђ</i>	Đ	due
Е	е	<i>Е, е</i>	E	let
Ж	ж	<i>Ж, ж</i>	Ž	pleasure
З	з	<i>З, э</i>	Z	Zen
И	и	<i>И, и</i>	I	he
Ј	ј	<i>Ј, ј</i>	J	yoyo
К	к	<i>К, к</i>	K	club
Л	л	<i>Л, л</i>	L	liver
Љ	љ	<i>Љ, љ</i>	Lj	million
М	м	<i>М, м</i>	M	man
Н	н	<i>Н, н</i>	N	no
Њ	њ	<i>Њ, њ</i>	Nj	minion
О	о	<i>О, о</i>	O	operate
П	п	<i>П, п</i>	P	pen
Р	р	<i>Р, р</i>	R	Ferrero
С	с	<i>С, с</i>	S	stop
Т	т	<i>Т, т</i>	T	top
Ћ	ћ	<i>Ћ, ћ</i>	Ć	tube
У	у	<i>У, у</i>	U	room
Ф	ф	<i>Ф, ф</i>	F	futon
Х	х	<i>Х, х</i>	H	Henry
Ц	ц	<i>Ц, ц</i>	C	lots
Ч	ч	<i>Ч, ч</i>	Č	chocolate
Џ	џ	<i>Џ, џ</i>	Dž	juke-box
Ш	ш	<i>Ш, ш</i>	Š	shoulder

Note: There are two possible forms of Cyrillic **г** (the letter g) – one with a crossbar, one without. There are also two possible forms of Cyrillic **д** (the letter d) – one with a 'tail' going up: *ђ*, and one with a 'tail' going down: *g*.



Нашао сам пса.

Нашао сам пса./Našao sam psa.

I found the dog.

It is important that the cursive or hand-written Cyrillic form is learnt properly. The letters are distinctive in form, and each is connected to another in an elaborate manner. Note the crossbar above Г (G), П (P), Т (T). A horizontal bar is often written under Ш (Š) as well.

The Latin alphabet:

		Cyrillic equivalent	
A	a	А	Assam
B	b	Б	bench
C	c	Ц	lots
Č	č	Ч	chocolate
Ć	ć	Ћ	tube
D	d	Д	desk
Dž	dž	Џ	juke-box
Đ	đ	Ђ	due
E	e	Е	let
F	f	Ф	futon
G	g	Г	good
H	h	Х	Henry
I	i	И	He
J	j	Ј	yoyo
K	k	К	club
L	l	Л	liver
Lj	lj	Љ	million
M	m	М	man
N	n	Н	no
Nj	nj	Њ	minion
O	o	О	operate
P	p	П	pen
R	r	Р	Ferrero
S	s	С	stop
Š	š	Ш	shoulder
T	t	Т	top
U	u	У	room
V	v	В	victim
Z	z	З	Zen
Ž	ž	Ж	pleasure

Note: The hand-written forms of the Latin letters, with the addition of **Ž ž, Đ đ, Ć ć, Č č** and **Š š**, are the same as those used in English. The English letters **q, w, x** and **y** do not exist in the Serbian alphabet.

Chapter 4

Pronunciation

Every letter is pronounced.

Consonants are pronounced similarly to English, with the following exceptions:

- 1 The four consonants written as in English but with only one pronunciation as compared to several in English, are:

ц/c is never pronounced as in 'carry' but always as in 'Tzar'

г/g is never pronounced as in 'giant', but always as in 'good'

й is never pronounced as in 'jade' but always as in 'yes'

с/s is never pronounced as in 'season' or 'shower', but always as in 'see'

- 2 The eight consonants which do not appear in English are:

ђ đ due

ж ž pleasure

љ lj million
(The two sounds which form this letter are pronounced simultaneously, and not separately.)

њ nj minion
(The two sounds which form this letter are pronounced simultaneously, and not separately.)

ћ ć chase

ч č chocolate

џ dž juke-box

ш š champagne

- 3 The *dental* sounds, where the tongue is pressed against the back of the teeth, are **т/т**, **д/д**, **з/з**, **с/с**, **ц/ц**, **р/р**, **л/л** and **н/н**.
- 4 The letter **т/т** is dropped before the letter **ц/ц** – **отац/отас** (nominative) – **оца/оса** (genitive). Both **т/т** and **д/д** are usually dropped when they occur between two consonants of which the first may be **с/с**, **ш/ш**, **з/з**, **ж/ж**, followed by **б/б**, **к/к**, **л/л**, **љ/љ**, **м/м**, **н/н** or **њ/њ**.

болестан (m) – **болесна** (f) **bolestan** (m) – **bolesna** (f) ill
жалостан (m) – **жалосна** (f) **žalostan** (m) – **žalosna** (f) sad

- 5 The consonant **р/р** can occur:
- on its own: **оркестар/orkestar** (orchestra), **осигурати/osigurati** (to insure), **Оливера/Olivera** (female name, Olivera);
 - before or after another consonant: **наградити/nagraditi** (to award), **преглед/pregled** (review, examination);
 - between two consonants: **мртав/mrtav** (dead), **пргав/prgav** (short-tempered), etc., where it acts as a vowel.
- 6 The following are some of the consonant clusters that can stand together at the end of a word in modern Serbian. The first four of these are considered in traditional Serbian to be the only consonant clusters with which a word can end:

-ст	-st	храст/hrast	oak
-шт	-št	плашт/plašt	sheet
-зд	-zd	грозд/grozd	grape
-жд	-žd	вожд/vožd	duke
-рк	-rk	парк/park	park
-нц	-nc	принц/princ	prince
-нт	-nt	матурант/maturant	graduate
-ск	-sk	диск/disk	disc

- 7 All vowels are pronounced:

а	a	Assam
е	e	set
и	i	she
о	o	occult
у	u	room

4.1 Consonants

Consonants

Consonants are divided into two basic categories depending on the degree of obstruction or restriction in the airflow during articulation of the consonant within the mouth cavity:

- (a) Obstruent consonants – formed with restricted air flow:
all consonants excluding those under (b)
- (b) Resonant consonants – formed with the air flowing uninterruptedly from the vocal cords to the mouth or nose in a continuous sound, similar to vowels:

в/v, р/r, ј/j, л/l, љ/lj, н/n, њ/nj, м/m

Further classification is based on the movement of the lips or the position of the tongue inside the mouth in relation to the teeth and the palate when air flows into the mouth and through the throat:

- 1 Labial consonants: **б/b, п/p, ф/f** are formed with the lips pressed against each other or the upper teeth pressed against the lower lip.
- 2 Dental consonants: **д/d, т/t, з/z, с/s, ц/c, н/n, р/r, л/l** are formed with the tongue pressing against the teeth.
- 3 Palatal consonants: **ђ/đ, ђ/đ, ч/č, ђ/đž, ж/ž, ш/š** are formed with the tongue pressed against the palate.
- 4 Velar consonants: **г/g, к/k, х/h** are formed with the tongue pressed further back against the palate, creating a more guttural sound.

The twenty-five consonants are classified in the following groups:

- 1 Voiced and unvoiced.
- 2 Soft (palatal and palatalised) and hard (non-palatal and non-palatalised).

Not all consonants can stand next to each other and there are certain rules applicable to the clustering of consonants. In such instances, either consonants mutate or a fleeting *a* is introduced to separate them. Mutation of consonants occurs through consonantal assimilation or contraction.

4.1.1 Voiced and unvoiced consonants

When in pronouncing a consonant, the vocal cords are tense and vibrating, the consonant is said to be *voiced*. When the vocal cords are

relaxed and are not vibrating, the consonant is said to be *unvoiced* or *voiceless*. Of the twenty-five consonants, fourteen form pairs in which the only difference between the two consonants forming the pair is that one is voiced and the other is not.

- 1 Voiced consonants: б/б г/г д/д ж/ж з/з и/и
- 2 Unvoiced (voiceless) consonants: п/п к/к т/т х/х ш/ш с/с ч/ч

A *voiced obstruent* consonant cannot stand in front of an unvoiced consonant in one word. Should this occur, the voiced consonant is replaced by its unvoiced partner:

сладак (m) – **слатка** (f) **sladak** (m) – **slatka** (f) sweet

тежак (m) – **тешка** (f) **težak** (m) – **teška** (f) heavy

Equally, an unvoiced consonant cannot stand in front of a voiced obstruent consonant in one word. When it does, the unvoiced consonant is replaced by its voiced partner:

сват – **свадба** **svat** – **svadba** wedding guest – a wedding

Thus, when a group, or cluster, of two or more of the fourteen consonants above come together in one word, the last consonant determines whether the cluster becomes voiced or voiceless.

There are exceptions to this rule. The letter д/д does not change to its unvoiced partner т/т in spelling, though it does in pronunciation when standing before a с/с or a ш/ш, with words prefixed with **над/ nad-**, **од/od-**, **пред/pred-**, **под/pod-**, etc., or with the suffixes **-ски/ski** or **-ство/stvo**:

одштета **odšteta** compensation

градски **gradski** city

председник **predsednik** president

Of the remaining consonants, seven are voiced and have no unvoiced partner:

ј/ј **л/л** **љ/љ** **р/р** **м/м** **н/н** **њ/њ**

while three are unvoiced:

х/х **ф/ф** **ц/ц**

4.1.2 Soft and hard consonants

The distinction between soft and hard consonants is whether or not in the formation of the consonant the tongue is raised to the palate.

Those consonants during the formation of which the tongue is raised to the palate:

ц/ц ч/ч ђ/ђ џ/џ ш/ш ж/ж ј/ј

are referred to as *palatal* consonants and are said to be *soft*.

Although the consonant **ц/ц** is not pronounced as soft, it acts as a soft consonant in declensional endings.

The *dental* consonants **т/т, д/д, н/н** and **л/л**, which although *hard* consonants as they are formed with the tongue pressing against the teeth, are softened when the letter **ј**, formed with the tongue pressing against the palate, is added to them and the two are spoken simultaneously. These consonants then become palatalised:

ћ/ћ ђ/ђ њ/њ љ/љ

All the remaining consonants are said to be hard.

4.1.3 Consonantal assimilations

Consonantal assimilation occurs when, in specific linguistic conditions, certain consonants regularly replace certain other consonants. This can occur in the following conditions:

- 1 When two or more consonants from the group of voiced and unvoiced consonants come together, the whole cluster will be either voiced or unvoiced, in agreement with the last consonant. (See Section 4.1.1 Voiced and unvoiced consonants.) The alternations that occur are as follows:

п/п alternates with **б/б**

т/т **д/д**

к/к **г/г**

с/с **з/з**

ш/ш **ж/ж**

ћ/ћ **ђ/ђ**

ч/ч **џ/џ**

- 2 When the hard consonants **с/с** or **з/з** occur before the soft consonants **љ/љ** and **њ/њ**, they are replaced by their own palatal (softened) equivalent (see Section 4.1.2 Soft and hard consonants):

мрзети – мржња **mrzeti – mržnja** to hate – hatred

мислити – мишљење **misлити – mišljenje** to think – opinion

- 3 When the letter **б/b** is preceded by **н/n**, the latter often changes to **м/m**:

стан – стамбен **stan – stamben** flat – residential

4.1.4 Consonantal contractions

Consonantal contractions are applied when, in forming a word out of two words or adding a prefix to a word, double consonants occur. In Serbian one word (with certain exceptions) cannot contain double consonants:

пет – пет +	pet – pet +	five – five + ten – fifty
десет – педесет	deset – pedeset	
без – без +	bez – bez +	without – without +
звучан – беззвучан	zvučan – bezzvučan	sound – soundless

This rule also applies to words with a fleeting **a**: when a fleeting **a** drops out, **т/t** (or **д/d**) and **ц/c** can come together, becoming just **ц/c**:

отац – отаца – ц =	otac – otaca – c =	father
тс – оттца – оца (gen.)	ts – ottca – oca (gen.)	
судац – судаца – ц =	sudac – sudaca – c =	judge
тс – судца – суца (gen.)	ts – sudca – suca (gen.)	

It does not, however, apply to adjectives in the superlative beginning with **j**, in which case the double **j** remains:

најјачи **najjači** strongest
најјужнији **najjužniji** southernmost

Consonantal contractions also occur with consonants **т/t** and **д/d**, which are usually dropped when they occur between any of the following two consonants, of which the first may be **с/s**, **ш/š**, **з/z**, **ж/ž** followed by **б/b**, **к/k**, **л/l**, **љ/lj**, **м/m**, **н/n** or **њ/nj**:

частан (m) – часна (f)	častan (m) – časna (f)	honourable
жалостан (m) – жалосна (f)	žalostan (m) – žalosna (f)	sad

This rule does not apply to words ending in the suffixes **-ство/stvo** or **-штво/štvo**:

становништво	stanovništvo	population
мноштво	mnoštvo	multitude

4.1.5 Fleeting a

Although many consonant clusters do occur at the end of a word – **бицикл**/*bicikl* (bicycle), **филм**/*film* (film), **диск**/*disk* (disc), **дигирент**/*dirigent* (conductor), etc. – the following consonant clusters are traditionally considered to be the only clusters that can occur at the end of a word:

-ст -st

-шт -št

-зд -zd

-жд -žd

A word ending in any other combination of consonants will generally have a fleeting a inserted before the final consonant.

This insertion of the fleeting a occurs in the nominative singular and genitive plural of many nouns:

ловац ловac hunter (m nom. sg.)

ловца ловca hunter (m gen. sg.)

ловаца ловaca hunters (m gen. pl.)

девојка devojka young girl (f nom. sg.)

девојака devojaka young girls (f gen. pl.)

as well as in the formation of various tenses, including the past tense masculine singular participle ending -ao:

1	рек + л	rek + l	(he) said (see Section 4.1.6 Change of л/l to o)
2	рекал	rekal	
3	рекао	rekao	

1	плак + л	plak + l	(he) cried (see Section 4.1.6 Change of л/l to o)
2	плакал	plakal	
3	плакао	plakao	

The fleeting a occurs in the prepositions **с**/s (with) in the instrumental, and (off) in the genitive case, and **к**/k (towards) in the dative case, where the preposition **с**/s has to have the form **ca/sa** before a word beginning with **с**/s, **з**/z, **ш**/š or **ж**/ž, and the preposition **к**/k has to have the form **ka/ka** before a word beginning **к**/k or **г**/g, to avoid double consonants occurring:

са сином	sa sinom	with (my) son
са шунком	sa šunkom	with ham
ка Крагујевцу	ka Kragujevcu	towards Kragujevac
ка кући	ka kući	towards (the) house

4.1.6 Change of л/l to o

The letter л/l changes to o at the end of a word in the following instances:

- 1 All masculine singular active past participle endings:

чекати/čekati (to wait) радити/raditi (to work)					
Masculine		Neuter		Feminine	
чекао	čekaο	чекало	čekalo	чекала	čekala
радио	radio	радило	radilo	радила	radila

- 2 A few adjectives in the masculine singular:

топло/toplo (warm) (neuter form) дебело/debelο – (fat) (neuter form)					
Masculine		Neuter		Feminine	
топаο	topao	топло	toplo	топла	topla
дебеο	debeο	дебело	debelο	дебела	debela

- 3 Masculine nouns **угаο/ugao**, **део/deo**, **сто/sto**, **во/vo** and the feminine noun **со/so** end in o in the nominative singular, while the letter л/l appears in the nominative plural and other cases:

угаο (nom. sg.)	ugao (nom. sg.)	corner
углови (nom. pl.)	uglovi (nom. pl.)	
угла (gen. sg.)	ugla (gen. sg.)	

сто (nom. sg.)	sto (nom. sg.)	table
столови (nom. pl.)	stolovi (nom. pl.)	
стола (gen. sg.)	stola (gen. sg.)	
део (nom. sg.)	deo (nom. sg.)	part
делови (nom. pl.)	delovi (nom. pl.)	
дела (gen. sg.)	dela (gen. sg.)	
во (nom. sg.)	vo (nom. sg.)	ox
волови (nom. pl.)	volovi (nom. pl.)	
вола (gen. sg.)	vola (gen. sg.)	
со (nom. sg.)	so (nom. sg.)	salt
соли (nom. pl.)	solī (nom. pl.)	
соли (gen. sg.)	solī (gen. sg.)	

When a masculine noun ends in **-ao**, this is usually an example of fleeting **a** (as in **угао/ugao**, all of the other forms of which have **угл/ugl** – see above). There are also examples of masculine nouns ending in **-eo** in the nominative singular which have **ел/el** in all the forms, such as **део/deo** (see above).

- 4 Nouns ending in the suffix **-лац/lac**, where the **л/l** is retained in the nominative singular and genitive plural but is replaced by **о** in all other instances, as **л/l** changes to **о** at the end of a syllable which precedes a syllable beginning with **ц/c**:

гледалац (nom. sg.)	gledalac (nom. sg.)	member of the
гледалаца (gen. pl.)	gledalaca (gen. pl.)	audience, viewer
гледаоцу (dat. sg.)	gledaocu (dat. sg.)	
мислилац (nom. sg.)	misilac (nom. sg.)	thinker
мислилаца (gen. sg.)	misilaca (gen. sg.)	
мислиоце (acc. pl.)	mislioce (acc. pl.)	

When the **л/l** is not final, it is not replaced by the **о**:

чекала **čekala** (she) waited

топла **topla** warm (f)

4.1.7 **j** changes

The letter **j** and its effect on other consonants is of particular importance in Serbian. The letter **j** is a soft sounding consonant. In the past whenever this letter followed another consonant, certain changes occurred.

The letter j is used in forming the following:

- сладак – слађи** **sladak – slađi** sweet – sweeter

- НОСИТИ – НОШЕН** **nositi – nošen** to carry – carried

ослободити – ослобођен	osloboditi – oslobođen	to liberate – liberated
------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------

$$d + j = \hbar \qquad d + j = \bar{d}$$

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| ослобођен – ослобођење | oslobođen – oslobođenje | liberated – liberation |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|

кап – капља **kap** – **kaplja** a drop

- љубав – ljubav – love – with love
с љубављу s ljubavlju

д/д + j changes to **ћ/ћ**

$$\tau/t + j \quad \hbar/c$$

л/л + j лб/lj

$$H/n + j \qquad Hb/nj$$
$$\frac{3}{z} + j \quad \text{ж/з}$$

c/s **+ j** **ш/š**

п/р + j плъ/рlј

б/Ь + j бль/Ьlj

В/в + j Вль/vlj

м/м + j мль/mlj

к/k	+ j	changes to	ч/č
х/h	+ j		ш/š
г/g	+ j		ж/ž
ст/st	+ j		шћ/šć
зд/zd	+ j		жд/žd

There are, however, some nouns and adjectives in which **j** does not affect the preceding **с/s** or **з/z** consonant:

коза – козји	koza – kozji	goat – goat's (concerning a goat)
клас – класје	klas – klasje	ear of grain – ears of grain

4.1.8 Effects of **е/e** and **и/i** on **к/k**, **г/g** and **х/h**

The following consonant replacements:

к/k	to	ч/č
г/g		ж/ž
х/h		ш/š

occur before the letter **е** in the vocative case:

војник – војниче	vojnĭk – vojniče	soldier
Бог – Боже	Bog – Bože	God
дух – душе	duh – duše	ghost

or before the **-е-** endings in the present tense:

пећи	peći	to bake
пек + е =	pek + e =	stem + present tense -е- ending
печем	pečem	1st p.sg. but
пекү	peku	stem + 3rd p.pl. -ү/u ending
вүћи	vući	to pull
вүк + е =	vuk + e =	stem + present tense -е- ending
вүчем	vučem	1st p.sg. but
вүкү	vuku	stem + 3rd p.pl. -ү/u ending

стрићи	strići	to shear
стриг + е =	strig + e =	stem + present tense -e- ending
слажем	strižem	1st p.sg. but
стригу	strigu	stem + 3rd p.pl. -y/u ending

The following consonant replacements:

к/k to **ц/c**

г/g **з/z**

х/h **с/s**

occur before the letter **и/i** in the following instances:

- 1 In the plural declension of masculine and neuter nouns in all cases except masculine genitive and accusative and neuter nominative, genitive and accusative:

војник – војници **vojnik – vojnici** soldier

бубрег – бубрези **bubreg – bubrezi** kidney

дух – дуси **duh – dusi** ghost

- 2 In the singular declension of feminine nouns ending in these consonants in the dative and locative cases:

рука – рүци **ruka – ruci** arm

нога – нози **noga – nozi** leg

There are, however, many exceptions to this rule, where the final consonant does not change:

бака – баки **baka – baki** grandmother

Анка – Анки **Anka – Anki** Anka (woman's name)

Олга – Олги **Olga – Olgi** Olga (woman's name)

Београђанка – Београђанки **Beograđanka – Beograđanki** a woman from Belgrade

Босанка – Босанки **Bosanka – Bosanki** a Bosnian woman

фризерка – фризерки **frizerka – frizerki** a hairdresser (other female occupational names also do not change)

патка – патки **patka – patki** a duck

3 In the imperative:

секу – сеци! **seku – seci!** cut!

4.2 Vowels

In addition to the five vowels:

а е и/i о у/u

the letter **p/r** in Serbian behaves as a sixth vowel sound when it is found placed between two consonants:

хрт hrt greyhound

трг trg market square

The pronunciation of vowels in Serbian always remains constant, regardless of the letters preceding or following them, and it is important that vowels are pronounced correctly because of the different vowel endings, all of which denote a particular meaning:

честитамо čestitamo we congratulate

честитате čestitate you (pl.) congratulate

4.2.1 Length and stress

Depending on its pronunciation, a vowel may be either long or short. In Serbian, all vowels may be both. The distinction is important in words only differentiated by the length of the vowel:

г^рад gr^âd city

гра^д grad hail

4.2.2 Vowel mutations

Vowel mutations generally occur with soft consonants, where the vowels **o** and **e** interchange. These changes are evident in the following instances:

1 With possessive adjectives, the **-ов/ov** ending is replaced by an **-ев/ev** ending when the preceding consonant is soft:

човеков sat **čovekov sat** a man's watch

водичев ауто vodičev auto a guide's car

- 2 The suffix **-овати/ovati** changes in some instances to **-евати/evati** when the preceding consonant is soft:

бичевати bičevati to whip

бичовати bičovati (though this form is also possible)

- 3 In the instrumental case, where masculine and neuter singular nouns generally take the **-ом/om** ending, after a soft consonant the ending changes to **-ем/em**, except with most foreign words, where the **-ом/om** ending remains in use:

са мајмунџом sa majmunom with a monkey

са слонићем sa slonićem with a little elephant

са Раџом sa Radžom with Raj

Chapter 6

Verbs

Verbs are words used to indicate the following:

- 1 that someone or something is at a particular moment in time carrying out a certain action:

**Милена фарба
косу.**

**Milena farba
kosu.**

Milena is dyeing
her hair.

- 2 that something is happening:

Наоблацило се.

Naoblačilo se.

Clouds have gathered.

- 3 that someone or something is in a certain condition or state:

**Свако јутро
спавам до 8 сати.**

**Svako jutro
spavam do 8 sati.**

Every morning I sleep
until 8 o'clock.

Depending on the type and nature of the activity, verbs can be divided into:

- 1 Transitive verbs – verbs which can take a direct object:

**Ана је понела
торбу са собом.**

**Ana je ponela
torbu sa sobom.**

Anna took her
bag with her.

- 2 Intransitive verbs – verbs which do not take a direct object:

**Сви смо заједно
отишли у биоскоп.**

**Svi smo zajedno
otišli u bioskop.**

We went all together
to the cinema.

Depending on the duration of the action which a verb denotes, verbs can have two aspects:

- 1 Imperfective verbs indicate a lasting action in the past, the present or the future:

На мору се купамо сваког дана.	Na moru se kupamo svakog dana.	At the seaside we bathe (ourselves) every day.
купати	kupati	to bathe (imperfective)
На мору ћемо се купати сваког дана.	Na moru ćemo se kupati svakog dana.	At the seaside we will bathe every day.

- 2 Perfective verbs indicate a past complete action or a future complete action:

Окупао се пре изласка.	Okupao se pre izlaska.	He had a bath before going out.
окупати	okupati	to bathe (perfective)
Окупаће се пре изласка.	Okupaće se pre izlaska.	He will have a bath before going out.

A verb consists of two parts: a stem and an ending. Each verb has two stems, an *infinitive stem* and a *present tense stem*. With some verbs the two stems are identical, but with most they differ. All the verbal forms are formed from these two stems, reflecting their conjugation and tense.

Verbs are given in the dictionary in the infinitive. The infinitive of a verb does not reflect *number*, *person* or *gender*. In English, the infinitive consists of two words: the word 'to' plus the verb itself: 'to buy, to drive, to read', etc. This is not the case in Serbian where the infinitive consists of the stem of the verb, to which one of several endings is added: **купити/kupiti** (to buy), **доћи/doći** (to come), **треснути/tresti** (to shake).

There are three main types of conjugations, depending on the infinitive ending. In addition to the above, the time of the action, whether it took place in the past or present, or is to take place some time in the future, is indicated by the *tense* of the verb. Tenses covered in this book include the perfect (past) tense, the present tense, the future tense, future II and the aorist tense. The present and aorist consist of a single verb; the remaining tenses are compound tenses, formed from the main verb and an auxiliary verb.

Он воли фудбал.	On voli fudbal.	He likes football. (present)
Волео је позориште.	Voleo je pozorište.	He liked the theatre. (past)

Serbian verbs conjugate. This means they change form depending on the person or persons performing the action, and sometimes on the gender, if it is expressed by the verb. A verb conjugation consists of a singular and a plural form, referred to as *number*, of the 1st person (I), 2nd person (you) and 3rd person (he, she, or it) in the singular, and in the plural, 1st person (we), 2nd person (you) and 3rd person (they). This is referred to as *person* and is reflected in the ending added to the basic stem of the verb. In most compound tenses, verbs also reflect whether the doer of the action is of masculine, feminine or neuter gender. This is referred to as *gender*.

Идем на море сутра.	Idem na more sutra.	<i>I'm going to the coast tomorrow. (1st p.sg.)</i>
Биле су у биоскопу са нама.	Bile su u bioskopu sa nama.	<i>They were at the cinema with us. (f pl.)</i>

When two verbs are found in a sentence, one of which is a *modal* verb (can, may, should, need to, ought to, have to, be able to), expressing an attitude, judgement, interpretation or feeling, the two verbs are linked together with the conjunction **да/da** (that/to) or by means of putting the second verb into the infinitive (see Section 6.1 Infinitives – classification):

Треба да идемо на скијање зими.	Treba da idemo na skijanje zimi.	<i>We should go skiing in the winter.</i>
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6.1 Infinitives – classification

The infinitive is the simplest form of a verb. It is the form under which a verb is listed in a dictionary. This form does not give information on the number or persons performing the action denoted by the verb nor is it part of a tense (except in the future tense).

In English the infinitive of a verb is preceded by the word 'to': 'to eat, to sleep, to go', etc., while in Serbian the infinitive consists of only one word **јести/jesti** (to eat), **спавати/spavati** (to sleep), **ићи/ići** (to go).

The infinitive form of a verb can be used in the following instances:

- (a) With modal verbs – verbs which cannot stand on their own but precede another verb (can, may, might, must, should, need to, ought to, have to, be able to) (see Section 6.18 Modal verbs):

И Морате пожурити. Morate požuriti. You must hurry.

- 2 **Треба веровати.** **Treba verovati.** One needs to believe.

In (1) the modal verb **морати/morati** (must) has been conjugated in the 2nd person plural – ‘you’ – and is followed by the infinitive. In (2) the modal verb **требати/trebati** (need to) has been conjugated in the 3rd person singular, and as the verb in the infinitive following it does not give further information on the person performing the action, in English the subject is given as ‘one’.

- (b) In forming the future tense (see Section 6.6 Future tense):

- 1 **Радници ће радити.** **Radnici će raditi.** The workers will work.
 2 **Киша ће падати.** **Kiša će padati.** Rain will fall.

All verbs in Serbian have an infinitive form. The infinitive form falls into one of three main types depending on its endings. The infinitive endings will determine how a verb conjugates through the tenses. Generally, a verb’s present tense type will depend on its infinitive ending. It is necessary to learn the infinitive of a verb as well as its endings.

The infinitive is essentially formed from the infinitive stem with the addition of **-ти/ti** or **-ћи/ći**. Due to consonantal and other assimilations that occurred in the past, we have the following infinitive endings:

When following a vowel:

-ти/ti	прљати	prljati	to dirty
	гледати	gledati	to watch
-ћи/ći	ићи	ići	to go

When following a consonant:

-ивати/ivati*	избацивати	izbacivati	to throw out
-овати/ovati*	образовати	obrazovati	to educate
-авати/avati*	обећавати	obećavati	to promise

When following either a vowel or a consonant:

-сти/sti	јести	jesti	to eat
	гристи	gristi	to bite
	гребсти	grepsti	to scratch

* The endings **-ивати/ivati**, **-овати/ovati**, **-авати/avati** are in fact suffixes used to make a verb out of another verb. Strictly speaking, the suffixes are **-ива/iva**, **-ова/ova**, **-ава/ava**, and **-ти/ti** is the ending that nearly all verbs take to form their infinitives (see Section 6.3.2 Imperfective and perfective verbs).

Some verbs have dual infinitive endings:

дићи – дигнути	dići – dignuti	to raise
подићи – подигнути	podići – podignuti	to raise
маћи – макнути	maći – maknuti	to remove
таћи – такнути	taći – taknuti	to touch
избећи – избегнути	izbeći – izbegnuti	to avoid
истаћи – истакнути	istaći – istaknuti	to emphasise
навићи – навикнути	navići – naviknuti	to get used to
означавати – означивати	označavati – oznaćivati	to mark
омогуђавати – омогуђивати	omogućavati – omogućivati	to enable

Depending on the infinitive ending, there are three main types of conjugation:

- 1 Type I conjugation – infinitives ending in: **-ати/ati**, with all endings containing the vowel **a**.
- 2 Type II conjugation – infinitives ending in: **-ати/ati**, **-ти/ti**, **-овати/ovati**, **-ивати/ivati**, **-ути/uti**, **-ети/eti**, **-сти/sti**, **-ћи/ći**, with the present tense ending containing the vowel **e**.
- 3 Type III conjugation – infinitives ending in: **-ити/iti**, **-ети/eti**, **-ати/ati**, with most endings containing the vowel **и/i**.

6.2 Infinitive and present tense stems

The infinitive stem is formed in the following manner:

- 1 In verbs which have a vowel preceding the **-ти/ti** ending, the ending is dropped:

Infinitive	Infinitive stem	Infinitive	Infinitive stem	
певати	пева	певати	peva	to sing
чекати	чека	čekati	čeka	to wait

- 2 In verbs ending in **-сти/sti** and **-ћи/ći**, in the aorist tense (see Section 6.7 Aorist tense), the 1st person singular ending **-ox/oh** is dropped:

Infinitive	Aorist	Infinitive stem	Infinitive	Aorist	Infinitive stem	
1st p.sg			1st p.sg			
сести	седох	сед	sesti	sedox	sed	to sit
доћи	дођох	дођ	doći	dođoh	dođ	to come

The present tense stem is formed by dropping the personal ending from the 1st person singular:

Present tense	Present tense stem	Present tense	Present tense stem
1st p.sg.		1st p.sg.	
певам	пева	pevam	peva
дођем	дође	dođem	dođe

While with some verbs, the infinitive stem and the present tense stem are the same, with most verbs these two stems will differ:

Infinitive	Infinitive stem	Present tense	Present tense stem
1st p.sg.			
ћутати	ћута	ћутим	ћути
ćutati	ćuta	ćutim	ćuti
пећи	пек	печем	пече
peći	pek	pečem	peče

It is recommended that both the infinitive and the present tense 1st person singular form of the verb be learnt.

6.2.1 Type I conjugation

This conjugation applies to verbs in which the infinitive always ends in **-ати/ati**. The endings of these verbs contain the vowel **a**:

Conjugation of **знати/znati** (to know) present tense

sg.	1st p.	ја	знам	ја	znam	I know
	2nd p.	ти	знаш	ти	znaš	you know
	3rd p.	он/она/ оно	зна	он/она/ оно	zna	he/she/it knows
pl.	1st p.	ми	знамо	ми	znamo	we know
	2nd p.	ви	знате	ви	znate	you know
	3rd p.	они	знају	они	znaju	they know
		оне		оне		
		она		она		

In the 3rd person plural these verbs take the ending **-ју/ju**.

The following verbs conjugate in this way:

требати – треба́м	trebati – trebam	to need – I need
требају	trebaju	3rd p.pl.
требао/требала/ требало	trebao/trebala/ trebalo	past tense (masc./fem./neut.)
морати – мора́м	morati – moram	to have to – I have to
морају	moraju	3rd p.pl.
морао	morao	past tense
имати – има́м	imati – imam	to have – I have
имају	imaju	3rd p.pl.
имао	imao	past tense
немати – нема́м	nemati – nemam	not to have – I don't have
немају	nemaju	3rd p.pl.
немао	nemao	past tense

Infinitive
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6.2.2 Type II conjugation

This conjugation applies to verbs with infinitive endings in **-ати/ati**, **-ити/iti**, **-овати/ovati**, **-евати/evati**, **-ивати/ivati**, **-ути/uti**, **-ети/eti**, **-сти/sti**, **-ћи/ći**. In this conjugation, the present tense ending contains the vowel **е**.

This conjugation also contains all the verbs which have a modified stem in the present tense:

Conjugation of **викнути/viknuti** (to shout) present tense

sg.	1st p.	ја	викнем	ја	viknem	I shout
	2nd p.	ти	викнеш	ти	vikneš	you shout
	3rd p.	он/она/ оно	викне	он/она/ оно	vikne	he/she/ it shouts
pl.	1st p.	ми	викнемо	ми	viknemo	we shout
	2nd p.	ви	викнете	ви	viknete	you shout
	3rd p.	они	викну	они	viknu	they shout
		оне		оне		
		она		она		

In the 3rd person plural these verbs take the ending **-y/u**, except for some verbs with the infinitive ending in **-ети/eti**.

- 1 In verbs with the infinitive ending in **-овати/ovati**, **-евати/evati**, **-ивати/ivati**, the first two letters of the infinitive endings change to **-уј/uj**, followed by the present tense ending:

Conjugation of **радовати/radovati** (to rejoice) present tense

sg.	1st p.	ја	радујем	ја	radujem	I rejoice
	2nd p.	ти	радујеш	ти	raduješ	you rejoice
	3rd p.	он/она/ оно	радује	он/она/ оно	raduje	he/she/it rejoice
pl.	1st p.	ми	радујемо	ми	radujemo	we rejoice
	2nd p.	ви	радујете	ви	radujete	you rejoice
	3rd p.	они	радују	они	raduju	they rejoice
		оне		оне		
		она		она		

- 2 When one of the following consonants precedes the infinitive ending **-ати/ati** (excluding those belonging to Type 1 conjugation), it changes to a soft consonant:

к/к – ч/č **г/г – ж/ž** **с/с – ш/š**
х/х – ш/š **т/т – ћ/ć** **з/з – ж/ž**

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Conjugation of **писати/pisati** (to write) present tense

sg. 1st p.	ја	пишем	ја	pišem	I write
2nd p.	ти	пишеш	ti	pišeš	you write
3rd p.	он/она/ оно	пише	on/ona/ ono	piše	he/she/it writes
pl. 1st p.	ми	пишемо	mi	pišemo	we write
2nd p.	ви	пишете	vi	pišete	you write
3rd p.	они	пишу	oni	pišu	they write
	оне		one		
	она		ona		

Sometimes a vowel is inserted into the stem:

Conjugation of **прати/prati** (to wash) present tense

sg. 1st p.	ја	перем	ја	perem	I wash
2nd p.	ти	переш	ti	pereš	you wash
3rd p.	он/она/ оно	пере	on/ona/ ono	pere	he/she/it washes
pl. 1st p.	ми	перемо	mi	peremo	we wash
2nd p.	ви	перете	vi	perete	you wash
3rd p.	они	перу	oni	peru	they wash
	оне		one		
	она		ona		

The following verbs belong to this group:

СТИЗАТИ – СТИЖЕМ	stizati – stižem	to arrive – I arrive
СТИЖУ	stižu	3rd p.pl.
СТИЗАО, СТИЗАЛА, СТИЗАЛО	stizao, stizalo, stizala	past tense (masc./fem./neut.)
(ПО)СТИЗАН	(po)stizan	passive participle
ПОМАГАТИ – ПОМАЖЕМ	pomagati – pomažem	to help – I help
ПОМАЖУ	pomažu	3rd p.pl.
ПОМАГАО	pomagao	past tense
(ПОТ)ПОМАГАН	(pot)pomagan	passive participle
КРЕТАТИ – КРЕЋЕМ	kretati – krećem	to set off, move – I set off
КРЕЋУ	kreću	3rd p.pl.
КРЕТАО	kretao	past tense
(ПО)КРЕТАН	(po)kretan	passive participle
ЈАХАТИ – ЈАШЕМ	jahati – jašem	to ride – I ride
ЈАШУ	jašu	3rd p.pl.
ЈАХАО	jahao	past tense
ЈАХАН	jahan	passive participle
ВИКАТИ – ВИЧЕМ	vikati – vičem	to shout – I shout
ВИЧУ	viču	3rd p.pl.
ВИКАО	vikao	past tense
(ИЗ)ВИКАН	(iz)vikan	passive participle
ДИЗАТИ – ДИЖЕМ	dizati – dižem	to lift – I lift
ДИЖУ	dižu	3rd p.pl.
ДИЗАО	dizao	past tense
ДИЗАН	dizan	passive participle
БРАТИ – БЕРЕМ	brati – berem	to pick – I pick
БЕРУ	beru	3rd p.pl.
БРАО	brao	past tense
БРАН	bran	passive participle

Note: When a prefix-less verb does not form a passive participle, the passive participles are cited from a prefix-bearing verb.

- 3 Some verbs in this conjugation with an **-ети/eti** ending in the infinitive have an **-еју/eju** ending in the 3rd person plural:

доспети – доспеју	dospeti – dospeju	to reach/arrive
үмети – үмеју	umeti – umeju	to know how to
үспети – үспеју	uspeti – uspeju	to succeed
смети – смеју	smeti – smeju	to dare/be allowed to

- 4 A vowel may be inserted in the present tense stem of verbs with an infinitive ending in **-рети/reti** and **-лети/leti**:

млети – мељем	mleti – meljem	to grind
мељу	melju	3rd p.pl.
мleo	mleo	past tense
(из)мељен	(iz)meljen	passive participle

- 5 Some verbs with an infinitive ending in **-ети/eti** or **-ати/ati** may have an **м/m** or **н/n** inserted in the present tense stem:

почети – почнем	početi – počnem	to begin
престати – престанем	prestati – prestanem	to stop
үзети – үзем	uzeti – uzmem	to take/get

- 6 Verbs ending in **-нути/nuti** lose the **y/u**:

метнути – метнем	metnuti – metnem	to put/place
погинүти – погинем	poginuti – poginem	to die
кренүти – кренем	krenuti – krenem	to set off/move

- 7 Some verbs with an infinitive ending in **-сти/sti** may have a **т/t** or **д/d**, often with an **н/n** inserted in the present tense stem:

јести – једем	jesti – jedem	to eat
срести – сретнем	sresti – sretnem	to meet
сести – седнем	sesti – sednem	to sit
пасти – паднем	pasti – padnem	to fall
украсти – украдем	ukrasti – ukradem	to steal
плести – плетем	plesti – pletem	to knit

- 8 Some verbs with infinitives in **-сти/sti** and **-ети/eti** may also have **с/s, з/z, п/p** or **б/b** inserted in the present tense stem:

превести – превезем	prevesti – prevezem	to transport
превезу	prevezu	3rd p.pl.
превезао	prevezao	past tense
превежен	prevežen	passive participle
однети – однесем	odneti – odnesem	to carry away
однесу	odnesu	3rd p.pl.
однео	odneo	past tense
однет	odnet	passive participle

- 9 Some verbs with infinitives ending in **-ти/ti** are also in this conjugation. With those verbs, a **j** is inserted before the **e** ending of the present tense stem and in the formation of the passive participle:

убити – убијем	ubiti – ubijem	to kill
убију	ubiju	3rd p.pl.
убио	ubio	past tense
убијен	ubijen	passive participle
пити – пијем	piti – pijem	to gain
пију	piju	3rd p.pl.
пио	pio	past tense
(по)пијен	(po)pijen	passive participle
добити – добијем	dobiti – dobijem	to gain
добију	dobiju	3rd p.pl.
добио	dobio	past tense
добијен	dobijen	passive participle

Some verbs that insert this **j** have a **в/v** in the passive participle:

чүти – чүјем	čuti – čujem	to hear
чүју	čuju	3rd p.pl.
чүо	čuo	past tense
чүвен	čuven	passive participle

- 10 Verbs with infinitives ending in **-ћи/ći**. The **-ћи/ći** ending of these verbs was derived from the addition of the **-ти/ti** ending to one of the following consonants: **к/k**, **г/g**, **д/d** or **х/h** (**к/k + т/t = һ/ć**, **г/g + т/t = һ/ć**, etc.). Having undergone an assimilation in the formation of the infinitive, the original consonants reappear in the present tense stem of the verb.

In the perfect (past) tense masculine singular, an **a** is inserted before the past participle ending, while the **к/k** and **г/g** are retained:

моћи – мог + ти –	moći – mog + ti –	to be able to
могу	mogu	1st p.sg.
могао	mogao	past tense (masc.)

When **к/k** and **г/g** appear before an **e** they are usually followed by an **н/n**:

рећи – рек + ти –	reći – rek + ti –	to say/tell
рекнем	reknem	1st p.sg.
рекао	rekao	past tense

стићи – стиг + ти –	stići – stig + ti –	to arrive
стигнем	stignem	1st p.sg.
стигао	stigao	past tense

помоћи – помог + ти –	pomoći – pomog + ti –	to help
помогнем	pomognem	1st p.sg.
помогао	pomogao	past tense

However, these consonants may still undergo further changes when conjugated either in the present tense or in the other tenses:

- (a) When preceding an **e**:

к/k – **ч/č**

рећи – рекнем –	reći – reknem –	to say
речен	rečen	passive participle

- (b) When preceding an **и/i**:

к/k – **ц/c**

г/g – **з/z**

вући – вуќ + ти – вүци!	vući – vuk + ti – vuci!	to pull imperative
лећи – легнем – лези!	leći – legnem – lezi!	to lie down imperative
помоћи – помогнем – помози!	pomoći – pomognem – pomozi	to help imperative

6.2.3 Type III conjugation

This conjugation applies to verbs in which the infinitive ends in **-ити/iti**, as well as in **-ети/eti** and **-ати/ati**. The endings of these verbs contain the vowel **и/i** in the present tense:

Conjugation of **говорити/govoriti** (to speak) present tense

sg.	1st p.	ја	говорим	ја	govorim	I speak
	2nd p.	ти	говориш	ти	govoriš	you speak
	3rd p.	он/она/ оно	говори	он/она/ оно	govori	he/she/it speaks
pl.	1st p.	ми	говоримо	ми	govorimo	we speak
	2nd p.	ви	говорите	ви	govorite	you speak
	3rd p.	они	говоре	они	govore	they speak
		оне		оне		
		она		она		

In the 3rd person plural these verbs take the ending **-е**.

The following are some verbs with an **-ити/iti** ending in this conjugation:

учити – учим –	učiti – učim –	to study
уче	uče	3rd p.pl.
учио	učio	past tense (m)
учен	učen	passive participle
хвалити – хвалим –	hvaliti – hvalim –	to praise
хвале	hvale	3rd p.pl.

хвалио	hvalio	past tense (m)
хваљен	hvaljen	passive participle
плашити – плашим –	plašiti – plašim –	to scare
плаше	plaše	3rd p.pl.
плашио	plašio	past tense (m)
плашен	plašen	passive participle
радити – радим –	raditi – radim –	to work/do
раде	rade	3rd p.pl.
радио	radio	past tense (m)
рађен	rađen	passive participle

The following are some verbs with an **-ети/eti** ending in this conjugation:

желети – желим –	želeći – želim –	to desire
желе	žele	3rd p.pl.
желео	želeo	past tense (m)
жељен	željen	passive participle
живети – живим –	živeti – živim –	to live
живе	žive	3rd p.pl.
живео	živeo	past tense (m)
(пре)живљен	(pre)življen	passive participle
мрзети – мрзим –	mrzeti – mrzim –	to hate
мрзе	mrze	3rd p.pl.
мрзео	mrzeo	past tense (m)
(о)мржен	(o)mržen	passive participle

The following are some verbs with an **-ати/ati** ending in this conjugation:

бројати – бројим –	brojati – brojim –	to count
броје	broje	3rd p.pl.
бројао	brojao	past tense (m)
(од)бројан	(od)brojan	passive participle

трчати – трчим –	trćati – trćim –	to run
трче	trče	3rd p.pl.
трчао	trčao	past tense (m)
(пре)трчан	(pre)trčan	passive participle
држати – држим –	držati – držim –	to hold
држе	drže	3rd p.pl.
држао	držao	past tense (m)
држан	držan	passive participle
постојати – постојим –	postojati – postojim –	to exist
постоје	postoje	3rd p.pl.
постојао	postojao	past tense (m)

Note: When a prefix-less verb does not form a passive participle, the passive participles are cited from a prefix-bearing verb.

6.3 Types of verbs and aspects

6.3.1 Transitive and intransitive verbs

The following types of verbs exist, depending on the type and nature of the activity:

- 1 Transitive verbs take a direct object:

Милош је купио	Miloš je kupio	Miloš <i>bought</i> a TV.
телевизор.	televizor.	

- 2 Intransitive verbs do not take a direct object:

Сваког дана	Svakog dana	Every day we <i>get up</i> at
устајемо у исто	ustajemo u isto	the same time.
време.	vreme.	

- 3 Some verbs may be used both transitively and intransitively:

Он гледа кроз	On gleda kroz	He <i>is looking</i> through
прозор.	prozor.	the window.

Пас гледа мачку.	Pas gleda mačku.	The dog <i>is looking at</i>
		the cat.

Не волим брзо да једем.	Ne volim brzo da jedem.	I don't like to eat quickly.
Не једем хлеб са месом.	Ne jedem hleb sa mesom.	I don't eat bread with meat.

6.3.2 Imperfective and perfective verbs

Most Serbian verbs have two aspects, each reflecting the duration of the action or state described by the verb. One verb in the pair reflects the imperfective aspect and the other the perfective. The imperfective verb has its own infinitive, set of tenses and participles, and so does the perfective verb.

- 1 The imperfective aspect indicates that the action or state expressed by the verb may be of unlimited duration, may still be in progress, or may be a repetitive, habitual action.

Пијем пиво без пене.	Pijem pivo bez pene.	I drink beer without a head (froth).
Редовно читам новине.	Redovno čitam novine.	I read the papers regularly.

There are two kinds of imperfective verbs:

- (a) Durative verbs – the action of these verbs is continuous and uninterrupted with no foreseen completion:

Петар пише писмо својој мајци.	Petar piše pismo svojoj majci.	Peter is writing a letter to his mother.
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- (b) Iterative or frequentative verbs – the action of these verbs is interrupted or repeated frequently or at regular intervals:

Ана узима лек на сваки сат.	Ana uzima lek na svaki sat.	Anna takes her medicine every hour.
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Imperfective verbs are generally used in the present tense. They can also be used in the past tense if the action lasted for a longer period of time or was repetitive.

Imperfective verbs are sometimes formed by the addition of a suffix to a perfective verb, or an infix to the infinitive stem:

- (a) With the infix **и/i**:

<i>Perfective</i>	позвати – позовем	pozvati – pozovem	to invite
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<i>Imperfective</i>	позивати – позивам	pozivati – pozivam	to call
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- (b) With the suffix **-ва/va**:

<i>Perfective</i>	дати – дам	dati – dam	to give
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<i>Imperfective</i>	давати – дајем	davati – dajem	
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- (c) With the suffix **-ава/ava**:

<i>Perfective</i>	извинити (се) – извиним (се)	izviniti (se) – izvinim (se)	to apologise
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<i>Imperfective</i>	извињавати (се) – извињавам (се)	izvinjavati (se) – izvinjavam (se)	
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Before this suffix, the following hard consonants soften:

б/б – бљ/blj

н/n – њ/nj

сн/sn – шњ/šnj

ст/st – шт/št

т/t – ћ/ć

д/d – ђ/đ

л/l – љ/lj

м/m – мљ/mlj

п/p – пл/plj

сл/sl – шљ/šlj

в/v – вљ/vlj

зн/zn – жњ/žnj

с/s – ш/š

з/z – ж/ž

If the perfective verb ends in **-ати/ati**, there is no consonant softening.

- (d) With the suffix **-ива/iva** added to an **-ити/iti** verb:

<i>Perfective</i>	средити – средим	srediti – sredim	to tidy up, organise
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<i>Imperfective</i>	сређивати – сређујем	sređivati – sređujem	
<i>Perfective</i>	обогатити – обогатим	obogatiti – obogatim	to enrich
<i>Imperfective</i>	обогаћивати – обогаћујем	obogaćivati – obogaćujem	

Before this suffix, the following hard consonants soften:

т/t –	ћ/ć
д/d –	ђ/đ
л/l –	љ/lj
м/m –	мљ/mlj
п/p –	пљ/plj
сл/sl –	шљ/šlj
в/v –	вљ/vlj
зн/zn –	жњ/žnj
с/s –	ш/š
з/z –	ж/ž
ст/st –	шћ/šć
зд/zd –	жд/žd
ф/f –	фљ/flj

(e) With the suffix **-ја/ја:**

<i>Perfective</i>	убити – убијем	ubiti – ubijem	to kill
<i>Imperfective</i>	убијати – убијам	ubijati – ubijam	
<i>Perfective</i>	састати се – састанемо се	sastati se – sastanemo se	to meet, get together
<i>Imperfective</i>	састајати се – састајемо се	sastajati – sastajemo se	(1st p.pl)

(f) With the suffix **-ова/ova:**

<i>Perfective</i>	купити – купим	kupiti – kupim	to buy
<i>Imperfective</i>	куповати – купујем	kupovati – kupuјem	

Some imperfective forms are created from perfective verbs, where the vowel before the infinitive ending changes to **-a-**. In these cases, the following root consonants soften:

т/t – ħ/ć

ст/st – шт/št

в/v – вљ/vlj

д/d – ђ/đ

з/z – ж/ž

в/v – вљ/vlj

<i>Perfective</i>	снимити – снимим	snimīti – snimim	to record
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<i>Imperfective</i>	снимати – снима́м	snimati – snimam	
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<i>Perfective</i>	наместити – наместим	namestiti – namestim	to fix, set up
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<i>Imperfective</i>	наме́штати – наме́штам	nameštati – nameštam	to furnish, set up
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Some imperfective forms end in **-ати/ati** while the perfective form ends in **-нути/nuti**:

<i>Perfective</i>	крeнyти – крeнeм	krenuti – krenem	to move, set off
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<i>Imperfective</i>	крeтати – крeћeм	kretati – krećem	
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<i>Perfective</i>	гyрнyти – гyрнeм	gurnuti – gurnem	to push
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<i>Imperfective</i>	гyрати – гyрам	gurati – guram	
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<i>Perfective</i>	зaтeгнyти – зaтeгнeм	zategnuti – zategnem	to tighten
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<i>Imperfective</i>	зaтeзати – зaтeжeм	zatezati – zatežem	
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Stems ending in hard consonants soften.

Some imperfective forms end in **-ати/ati** or **-ити/iti** while the basic perfective form ends in **-ети/eti**, **-сти/sti** or **-ћи/ći**. These perfective forms may have a stem ending in any one of the following

consonants which disappear in the perfective infinitive but reappear in the present tense of the perfective and imperfective forms, including the imperfective infinitive: -м/m, -н/n, -т/t, -д/d, -к/k, -х/h.

Perfective	заузети – заузmem	zauzeti – zauzmem	to occupy
Imperfective	заузимати – заузимам	zauzimati – zauzimam	to be in the process of occupying
Perfective	сести – седнем	sesti – sednem	to sit
Imperfective	седати – седам	sedati – sedam	to be in the process of sitting

- 2 The perfective aspect indicates that the action or state expressed by the verb is completed or of limited duration and is perceived as a completed whole. Perfective verbs are generally used in the past tense or the future tense (or the infinitive):

Попила сам чашу коњака пре јела. **Popila sam čašu konjaka pre jela.** I drank a glass of cognac before my meal.

Прочитала сам добру књигу прошле недеље. **Pročitala sam dobru knjigu prošle nedelje.** I read a good book last week.

Добро је попити чашу млека пре спавања. **Dobro je popiti čašu mleka pre spavanja.** It's good to drink a glass of milk before going to sleep.

Perfective verbs cannot be used in the present tense to express present action, but only to describe a subject's desire in the present to carry out an action that is to be completed in the future. In the present tense they are used after the conjunctions **да/da** (that/to), **што/što** (that/to), **ако/ako** (if) and **кад/kad** (when):

Хоћу да прочитам ту књигу. **Hoću da pročitam tu knjigu.** I want to read that book.

These verbs can be used after the same conjunctions in the past and future tenses as well:

Окренуо се да погледа шта се догодило. **Okrenuo se da pogleda šta se dogodilo.** He turned around to take a look at what happened.

Зажалиће што су отишли с њим. **Zažaliće što otišli s njim.** They will regret that they had gone with him.

Perfective verbs are sometimes formed by adding a prefix (most of which are prepositional) to an imperfective verb, which becomes the basic verb, while the newly formed verb becomes a compound verb:

<i>Imperfective</i>	јести – једем	jesti – једем	to be eating
<i>Perfective</i>	појести – поједем	pojesti – поједем	to complete eating
<i>Imperfective</i>	бринүти – бринем	brinuti – brinem	to worry, be concerned
<i>Perfective</i>	забринүти – забринем	zabrinuti – забринем	to start worrying
<i>Imperfective</i>	ћүтати – ћүтим	ćutati – ćutim	to be silent
<i>Perfective</i>	үћүтати – үћүтим	ućutati – ućutim	to become silent

Every verb with a prefix added to it will become a new verb, which might then have a new, corresponding imperfective partner, in which case these two verbs become an aspectual pair. Thus, although there already exists the original imperfective verb to which the prefix had been added, the resulting prefixed perfective and its new aspectual partner may be independent of the original verb:

<i>Imperfective</i>	ставити	staviti	to put, place
<i>Perfective</i>	поставити	postaviti	to lay out
<i>Imperfective</i>	постављати	postavljati	to be laying out

Some prefixes may change the meaning of the verb:

<i>Imperfective</i>	писати – пишем	pisati – pišem	to write
<i>Perfective</i>	пописати – попишем	popisati – popišem	to list, make an inventory
<i>Imperfective</i>	пописивати – пописујем	popisivati – popisujem	
<i>Perfective</i>	записати – запишем	zapisati – запишем	to note down
<i>Imperfective</i>	записивати – записујем	zapisivati – zapisujem	
<i>Perfective</i>	преписати – препишем	prepisati – prepíšem	to copy

Imperfective **преписивати – преписујем** **prepisivati – prepisujem**

Certain compound verbs have different stems for each aspect. Amongst these are the derivatives of **ићи/ići** (to go):

Perfective **доћи – дођем** **doći – dođem** to come

Imperfective **долазити – долазим** **dolaziti – dolazim**

Perfective **отићи – одем/отидем** **otići – odem/otidem** to go

Imperfective **одлазити – одлазим** **odlaziti – odlazim**

Perfective **изаћи – изађем** **izaći – izađem** to go/
come out

Imperfective **излазити – излазим** **izlaziti – izlazim**

and the aspectual pairs of imperfectives ending in **-лагати/lagati** and perfectives ending in **-ложити/ložiti**:

Perfective **сложити – сложим** **složiti – složim** to fold

Imperfective **слагати – слажем** **slagati – slažem**

Perfective **предложити – предложим** **predložiti – predložim** to suggest

Imperfective **предлагати – предлагајем** **predlagati – predlažem**

Some verbs have one form that can express both aspects depending on the context:

видети **videti** to see

чути **čuti** to hear

доручковати **doručkovati** to have breakfast

ручати **ručati** to have lunch

вечерати **večerati** to have supper

ићи **ići** to go

контролисати **kontrolisati** to control

телефонирати **telefonirati** to telephone

While others express only the imperfective aspect:

бити	biti	to be
имати	imati	to have
држати	držati	to hold
морати	morati	must
становати	stanovati	to live, dwell

Some verbs could be said to form an aspectual pair with a completely different verb where they have become a pair only through their meaning:

<i>Perfective</i>	рећи/казати – кажем	reći/kazati – kažem	to say/tell
<i>Imperfective</i>	говорити – говорим	govoriti – govorim	to speak

6.4 Present tense

6.4.1 Formation of the present tense and its use

The present tense indicates that the action is being carried out at the present time. There is only one present tense in Serbian and it is formed with imperfective and perfective verbs, though with the latter it is used almost exclusively after the conjunctions **да/da**, **што/što**, **ако/ako**, **кад/kad**, to make a sort of subjunctive (see Section 6.3 Types of verbs and aspects).

The present tense is formed by the addition of personal endings to the present tense stem. Personal endings reveal what person and number is performing the action of the verb:

Present tense personal endings

sg.	1st p.	I	-м	-m
	2nd p.	you	-ш	-š
	3rd p.	he/she/it	–	–
pl.	1st p.	we	-мо	-mo
	2nd p.	you	-те	-te
	3rd p.	they	-е/-у/-ју	-e/-u/-ju

The vowel preceding these endings belongs to one of three conjugations. Each conjugation differs slightly, and this is reflected in the final endings of each verb (see Sections 6.2.1–3 for types of conjugations). The personal endings for 1st person singular and plural, and 2nd person singular and plural remain unchanged in all the conjugations. The 3rd person singular and plural endings may differ with each conjugation:

- 1 Endings for verbs in Type I conjugation, infinitives ending in **-ати/ati**, with all endings containing **a**:

Type I conjugation present tense personal endings				
sg.	1st p.	I	-ам	-am
	2nd p.	you	-аш	-aš
	3rd p.	he/she/it	-а	-a
pl.	1st p.	we	-амо	-amo
	2nd p.	you	-ате	-ate
	3rd p.	they	-ају	-aju

Verbs with the vowel **a** preceding any personal ending will have a **-ју/ju** ending in the 3rd person plural:

Infinitive	Present tense stem	Present tense	
		1st p.sg.	3rd p.pl.
причати	прича-	причам	причају
pričati	priča-	pričam	pričaju
читати	чита-	читам	читају
čitati	čita-	čitam	čitaju

- 2 Endings for verbs in Type II conjugation, infinitives ending in **-ати/ati**, **-ти/ti**, **-овати/ovati**, **-ивати/ivati**, **-ути/uti**, **-ети/eti**, **-сти/sti**, **-ћи/ći**, with all endings containing **e**:

6 Verbs

Type II conjugation present tense personal endings

sg.	1st p.	I	-ем	-em
	2nd p.	you	-еш	-eš
	3rd p.	he/she/it	-е	-e
pl.	1st p.	we	-емо	-emo
	2nd p.	you	-ете	-ete
	3rd p.	they	-ү (eյү)	-u (eյu)

Verbs with the vowel *e* preceding any personal ending will have an *-y/u* ending in the 3rd person plural:

Infinitive	Present tense stem	Present tense	
		1st p.sg.	3rd p.pl.
казати (з – ж)	каже-	кажем	кажү
kazati	kaže-	kažem	kažu
прати	пере-	перем	перү
prati	pere-	perem	peru
үмети	үме-	үмем	үмејү
umeti	ume-	umetm	umeju

- 3 Endings for verbs in Type III conjugation, infinitives ending in **-ати/ati**, **-ити/iti**, **-ети/eti**, with all endings containing **и/i**:

Type III conjugation present tense personal endings

sg.	1st p.	I	-им	-im
	2nd p.	you	-иш	-iš
	3rd p.	he/she/it	-и	-i
pl.	1st p.	we	-имо	-imo
	2nd p.	you	-ите	-ite
	3rd p.	they	-е	-e

Verbs with the vowel **и/i** preceding any personal ending will have an **-е** ending in the 3rd person plural:

Infinitive	Present tense stem	Present tense	
		1st p.sg.	3rd p.pl.
радити	ради-	радим	раде
raditi	radi	radim	rade
живети	живи-	живим	живе
živeti	živi	živim	žive

It is worth learning the combination of vowels preceding the personal endings for the 1st person singular and the 3rd person plural for all three types of conjugations as each is typical of its group:

- а/у читам, читају а/у čitam, čitaju**
- е/у үмем, үмеју е/у umem, umeju**
- и/е живим, живе и/е živim, žive**

The verb **бити/bititi** (to be) has two forms in the present tense:

- A short form:

Present tense short form of бити/bititi (to be)				
sg.	1st p.	I am	ја сам	ja sam
	2nd p.	you are	ти си	ti si
	3rd p.	he/she/it is	он/она/ оно је	on/ona/ ono je
pl.	1st p.	we are	ми смо	mi smo
	2nd p.	you are	ви сте	vi ste
	3rd p.	they are	они/оне/ она су	oni/one/ ona su

This is the more frequently used form. When the subject is known, or has already been mentioned in a preceding sentence, the personal pronoun is generally omitted. It can be omitted because the verbal

endings will, in most instances, indicate person and number, while any nouns or adjectives referring to the subject will also indicate gender. The personal pronoun may in those instances be included for emphasis:

Она је моја сестра. Она је моја sestra. She is my sister.
Врло је лепа. Vrlo је lepa. She is very pretty.

2 A long form:

Present tense long form of **бити/bititi** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	I am	јесам	jesam
	2nd p.	you are	јеси	jesi
	3rd p.	he/she/it is	јест(е)*	jest(e)*
pl.	1st p.	we are	јесмо	jesmo
	2nd p.	you are	јесте	jeste
	3rd p.	they are	јесу	jesu

* 3rd p. sg. is also used to mean 'yes' **јесте/jeste**.

This form is quite restricted in its use and is generally only used when the verb occurs as the first word of a sentence or phrase, often in posing a question, when it is followed by the interrogative enclitic **ли/li**. It is also used in response to a question, often on its own, denoting an affirmative response:

Јеси ли била на пијаци данас? – Јеси ли била на pijaci Have you been to the market today? – Јесам. danas? – Jesam. Yes, I have.

Јесмо ли се договорили? – Јесмо ли се договорили? – Јесмо. Jesmo li se dogovorili? – Jesmo. Have we reached an agreement? – Yes, we have.

When the 3rd person singular is followed by the interrogative enclitic **ли/li**, it has a different form: **је ли/je li**. The **је** here looks like the enclitic form of 'to be', but is not in fact an enclitic.

Although the personal pronoun is generally omitted with the long form, as it is already included in its formation, it can also be used:

Ми нисмо Енглези, Ми нисмо Englezi, We're not English, али они јесу. ali oni jesu. but they are.

6.4.2 The negative present tense

The negative form of the present tense is formed by placing the negative particle **не/ne** before the verb. The two words are written separately. The only exceptions to this rule are the negative forms of the verbs **бити/bitī** (to be), **имати/imatī** (to have) and **хтети/hteti** (to want), where the two are written together.

Negative form of **бити/bitī** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	нисам	nisam	I am not
	2nd p.	ниси	nisi	you are not
	3rd p.	није	nije	he/she/it is not
pl.	1st p.	нисмо	nismo	we are not
	2nd p.	нисте	niste	you are not
	3rd p.	нису	nisu	they are not

Не идем у град. **Ne idem u grad.** *I'm not going to town.*

Ја нисам инжењер. **Ja nisam inženjer.** *I'm not an engineer.*

Negative form of **имати/imatī** (to have)

sg.	1st p.	немам	nemam	I have not
	2nd p.	немаш	nemaš	you have not
	3rd p.	нема	nema	he/she/it has not
pl.	1st p.	немамо	nemamo	we have not
	2nd p.	немате	nemate	you have not
	3rd p.	немају	nemaju	they have not

For negative forms of **хтети/hteti**, see Section 6.6 Future tense.

6.4.3 The interrogative present

The following are ways in which to ask a question in the present tense:

- (a) By beginning the sentence with the verb, followed by the interrogative particle **ли/li**:

Волите ли пасуљ? **Volite li pasulj?** *Do you like beans?*

- (b) By beginning the sentence with **да ли/da li** followed by the verb:
Да ли волите пасуљ? *Da li volite pasulj?* Do you like beans?
- (c) By beginning the sentence with **је**, followed by the interrogative particle **ли/li** and the verb:
Је ли волите пасуљ? *Je li volite pasulj?* Do you like beans?

6.4.4 The negative interrogative present tense

This is formed by placing **зар/zar** before the negative form of the verb:

Зар не идемо у град? *Zar ne idemo u grad?* Are we not going to town?

Зар нисте инжењер? *Zar niste inženjer?* Are you not an engineer?

6.5 Past tense (perfect tense)

The main past tense in use today is the perfect tense. The imperfect and the pluperfect tenses are rarely in use in the spoken language and are not included in this book, while the aorist is covered in Section 6.7 Aorist tense.

The perfect tense corresponds to all the English past tenses: the simple past (I spoke), the continuous past (I was speaking), the habitual past (I used to speak) and the pluperfect (I had spoken).

6.5.1 Formation of the perfect tense and its use

The perfect tense is a compound tense formed using the short form* of the present tense of the verb **бити/bitī**, which reflects person and number and which becomes the auxiliary verb to the main verb and acts as an enclitic:

Present tense short form of **бити/bitī** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	I am	сам	sam
	2nd p.	you are	си	si
	3rd p.	he/she/it is	је	je
pl.	1st p.	we are	смо	smo
	2nd p.	you are	сте	ste
	3rd p.	they are	су	su

* The long form can also be used in forming the past tense, when used for emphasis.

and the main verb which has a past adjectival participle ending (see Section 9.8 Verbal adjectives) (also referred to as the indeclinable active past participle, the past participle, etc.) which agrees with the gender of the subject. Thus, this tense shows person, number and gender.

The formation of the past adjectival participle will depend on the infinitive ending of the verb concerned. Generally, it is formed by replacing the **-ти/ti** infinitive ending of the verb with an **-о/o** or **-л/l** to which the corresponding gender and number ending is added. The masculine singular ending is **-о/o**, the feminine singular ending is **-ла/la**, and the neuter singular ending is **-ло/lo**. The plural endings are **-ли/li** (masculine), **-ле/le** (feminine) and **-ла/la** (neuter):

Singular			Plural		
Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
-о/o	-ла/la	-ло/lo	-ли/li	-ле/le	-ла/la

Thus, the perfect tense, i.e. past tense, of the verb **почети/ročeti** (to start) would be:

sg.	1st p.	Ја сам почео/ почела	or	Почео/почела сам
		Ја sam ро́чео/ ро́чела		Ро́чео/Ро́чела sam
	2nd p.	Ти си почео/ почела		Почео/почела си
		Ти si ро́чео/ро́чела		Ро́чео/ро́чела si
	3rd p.	Он је почео/ Он је ро́чео		Почео је/ Ро́чео је
		Она је почела/ Она је ро́чела		Почела је/ Ро́чела је
		Оно је почело/ Оно је ро́чело		Почело је/ Ро́чело је
pl.	1st p.	Ми смо почели/ Ми smo ро́чели		Почели смо/ Ро́чели smo (m)
		Ми смо почеле/ Ми smo ро́челе		Почеле смо/ Ро́челе smo (f)

pl.	2nd p.	Ви сте почели/ Vi ste počeli	Почели сте/ Počeli ste (m)
		Ви сте почеле/ Vi ste počele	Почеле сте/ Počele ste (f)
3rd p.		Они су почели/ Oni su počeli	Почели су/ Počeli su (m)
		Оне су почеле/ One su počele	Почеле су/ Počele su (f)
		Она су почела/ Ona su počela	Почела су/ Počela su (n)

The verb **бити/biti** (to be) has its own past tense, made with an auxiliary and a participle, like any other verb. (Since the past adjectival participle denotes gender and number, the subject, especially if a pronoun, is often omitted.)

Perfect (past) tense of **бити/biti** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	Ја сам био/ била	or	Био/ била сам	I	have been/ was
		Ја sam bio/ bila		Bio/ bila sam		
	2nd p.	Ти си био/ била		Био/ била си	You	have been/ were
		Ti si bio/bila		Bio/bila si		
3rd p.		Он је био/ Он је bio		Био је/ Bio је	He	has been/ was
		Она је била/ Она је bila		Била је/ Bila је	She	has been/ was
		Оно је било/ Оно је bilo		Било је/ Bilo је	It	has been/ was
pl.	1st p.	Ми смо били/ Mi smo bili		Били смо/ Bili smo	We (m)	have been/ were
		Ми смо биле/ Mi smo bile		Биле смо/ Bile smo	We (f)	have been/ were
	2nd p.	Ви сте били/ Vi ste bili		Били сте/ Bili ste	You (m)	have been/ were

		Ви сте биле/ Vi ste bile	Биле сте/ Bile ste	You (f)	have been/ were
pl.	3rd p.	Они су били/ Oni su bili	Били су/ Bili su	They (m)	have been/ were
		Оне су биле/ One su bile	Биле су/ Bile su	They (f)	have been/ were
		Она су била/ Ona su bila	Била су/ Bila su	They (n)	have been/ were

Био сам у биоскопу. **Bio sam u bioskopu.** I (m) was at the cinema.

Деца су била у школи. **Deca su bila u školi.** The children have been to school.

Почела сам да једем. **Počela sam da jedem.** I (f) have started to eat.

Ви сте почели да радите. **Vi ste počeli da radite.** You (pl.) have started to work.

The auxiliary verb **бити**/**biti** must always be used in forming the perfect tense. It acts as an enclitic and must take second place, in accordance with the word order rule (see Section 13.1 Order and importance of enclitics).

Below are examples of verbs in the perfect tense which have endings other than **-ти**/**ti** in the infinitive.

The stems of infinitives ending in **-ћи**/**ći** are either with **-к**/**k** or with **-г**/**g**. In both cases, the past adjectival participle ending is added directly to the **-к**/**k** or **-г**/**g** stem, with the fleeting **a** inserted before the participle in the masculine singular. Where there is a **-сти**/**sti** infinitive ending, the stem and ending need to be looked at and learnt separately.

(плести, plesti)	(плетем, pletem)	плео/pleo плела/plela	to knit
(провести, provesti)	(provedem, provedem)	провео/proveo провела/provela	to spend
(срести, sresti)	(сретнем, sretnem)	срео/sreo срела/srela	to meet
(помоћи, pomoci)	(помогнем, pomognem)	помогао/pomogao* помогла/pomogla	to help

(рећи, reći)	(рекнем, rekнем)	рекао/rekao* рекла/rekla	to say
(моћи, moći)	(могу, mogu)	могао/mogaо* могла/mogla	to be able to

* Note the fleeting **a** in the masculine singular between the **-к/k** or **-г/g** and the past adjectival participle ending **-о/o**, alternating with the **-л/l** in the past adjectival participle feminine and neuter singular and plural endings.

Среle су се у граду.	Srele su se u gradu.	They (f, pl.) met in town.
Одмах си им помогла.	Odmah si im pomogla.	You (f) immediately helped them.
Ја сам му рекао.	Ja sam mu rekao.	I (m) told him.

With **ићи/ići** and its derivatives (**доћи/doći**, **наћи/naći**, **изаћи/izaći**, **поћи/poći**, **отићи/otići**, **проћи/proći**, **ући/ući**, etc.) the present tense **-д/d** or **-ћ/đ** is replaced with **-ш/š** to which the past adjectival participle endings are added (see Section 6.17 **Ићи/ići** and its derivatives):

(ићи, ići)	(идем, idem)	ишао/išao (m) ишла/išla (f)	to go
(доћи/doći)	дођем/dođem	дошао/došao* дошла/došla	to come
(наћи/naći)	нађем/nađem	нашао/našao* нашла/našla	to find
(изаћи/izaći)	изађем/izađem	изашао/izašao* изашла/izašla	to exit
(поћи/poći)	пођем/pođem	пошао/pošao* пошла/pošla	to set off
(отићи/otići)	отиђем/otiđem	отишао/otišao* отишла/otišla	to leave
(проћи/proći)	прођем/prođem	прошао/prošao* прошла/prošla	to pass
(ући/ući)	уђем/uđem	ушао/ušao* ушла/ušla	to enter

* Note the fleeting **a** in the masculine singular between the **-ш/š** and the past adjectival participle ending **-о/o**, alternating with the **-л/l** in the past adjectival participle feminine and neuter singular and plural endings.

**Дошао сам код
бабе у посету.**

**Došao sam kod
babe u posetu.**

*I (m) came to visit
my grandmother.*

**Дечаци су нашли
новчаник у парку.**

**Dečaci su našli
novčanik u parku.**

*The boys found a
wallet in the park.*

**Ти си отишла у
школу са мојом
сестром.**

**Ti si otišla u školu
sa mojom sestrom.**

*You (f) went to
school with my sister.*

If there are two or more subjects and they are of different gender, the past adjectival participle ending added to the main verb will be in the masculine plural:

**Он и она су се
срели у парку.**

**On i ona su se
sreli u parku.**

*He and she met in
the park.*

**Драган и Наташа су
отишли на море.**

**Dragan i Nataša
su otišli na more.**

*Dragan and Nataša
have gone to the coast.*

6.5.2 The negative perfect tense

The negative form of the perfect tense is formed using the negative form of the verb **бити/bitī**, followed by the main verb with its active past participle ending. The negative forms are not enclitics.

Negative form of **бити/bitī** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	нисам	nisam	(I) am/have not
	2nd p.	ниси	nisi	(you) are/have not
	3rd p.	није	nije	(he/she/it) is/has not
pl.	1st p.	нисмо	nismo	(we) are/have not
	2nd p.	нисте	niste	(you) are/have not
	3rd p.	нису	nisu	(they) are/have not

**Нису ишли заједно
у биоскоп.**

**Nisu išli zajedno
u bioskop.**

*They didn't go
together to the
cinema.*

**Гојко није могао
да дође.**

**Gojko nije mogao
da dođe.**

Gojko couldn't come.

**Није било довољно
шећера у кафи.**

**Nije bilo dovoljno
šećera u kafi.**

*There wasn't enough
sugar in the coffee.*

The negative form can also be preceded by **joш/još** (still, as yet) for emphasis:

Joш им ниси помогла.	Još im nisi pomogla.	You still haven't helped them.
Ja joш ништа нисам рекао.*	Ja još ništa nisam rekao.*	I still haven't said anything.* (nothing)

* Note the double negative. (See Section 6.15 Formation of the negative.)

6.5.3 The interrogative perfect tense

In addition to using interrogative (question) words (why, how, where, when, etc.):

Зашто ниси гледао куда идеш?	Zašto nisi gledao kuda ideš?	Why didn't you look where you were going?
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the interrogative form of the past tense is used in forming a yes/no type question when using either one of the two interrogative constructions:

- 1 By conjugating the long form of **бити + ли/bitи + li**:

Je ли разговарала са наставником?	Je li razgovarala sa nastavnicom?	Has she spoken to the teacher?
Jesмо ли се договорили?	Jesmo li se dogovorili?	Have we agreed?
Jeste ли се поздравили?	Jeste li se pozdravili?	Did you say your goodbyes (hellos)?
Jесу ли вам дали новац за карте?	Jesu li vam dali novac za karte?	Did they give you the money for the tickets?

- 2 By beginning the question with **да/da** followed by interrogative enclitic **ли/li** and the short form of **бити/bitи**:

Да ли си се јавила мами?	Da li si se javila mami?	Did you call your mother?
Да ли је био код лекара?	Da li je bio kod lekara?	Has he been to the doctor?
Да ли су вам дали новац за карте?	Da li su vam dali novac za karte?	Did they give you the money for the tickets?

6.5.4 The negative interrogative perfect tense

The interrogative form of the negative perfect tense is created by using the word **зап/zar** at the beginning of the sentence, followed by the

negative form of the auxiliary verb. Although neither functions as an enclitic, the word order must be followed where enclitics appear:

Зар није био код лекара?	Zar nije bio kod lekara?	<i>Has he not been to the doctor?</i>
Зар се нисмо договорили?	Zar se nismo dogovorili?	<i>Have we not agreed?</i>
Зар се нисте поздравили?	Zar se niste pozdravili?	<i>Did you not say your goodbyes (hellos)?</i>

Future tense

6.6 Future tense

6.6.1 Formation of the future tense and its use

The future tense is used to express an action which is to take place some time in the future. Like the past tense, it is a compound tense, formed from two verbs: the short form of the present tense of the verb **хтети/hteti** (to want) (which then acts as an auxiliary verb and takes on the meaning ‘will’) and the main verb in its infinitive form. As in the past tense, the auxiliary verb is an enclitic and as such must follow the word order (see Chapter 13 Enclitics).

Present tense short form of **хтети/hteti** (to want)

sg.	1st p.	ћу	ћу	I will
	2nd p.	ћеш	ћеš	you will
	3rd p.	ће	ће	he/she/it will
pl.	1st p.	ћемо	ćemo	we will
	2nd p.	ћете	ćete	you will
	3rd p.	ће	ће	they will

Although it does not indicate gender, the auxiliary verb indicates both person and number. This will often lead to the omission of the subject, especially if it is a pronoun:

Вечерас ћу доћи у Лондон.	Večeras ću doći u London.	<i>Tonight I will come to London.</i>
Сутра ћемо звати шефа.	Sutra ćemo zvati šefa.	<i>Tomorrow we will call the boss.</i>

Мајка ће знати да си дошао.	Majka će znati da si došao.	Mother will know that you have come.
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Only when at the beginning of a sentence or clause can the future tense also be formed by placing the infinitive first and annexing the auxiliary verb to it. In order to do this, the infinitive ending is replaced by the auxiliary, thus forming one word. This applies to infinitives ending in **-ти/ti**:

звати – зва + ћу	zva-ti – zva + ću	to call – I will call
знати – зна + ћу	zna-ti – zna + ću	to know – I will know
Зваћемо сестру сутра.	Zvaćemo sestru sutra.	We will call (our) sister tomorrow.
Знаће мајка да си дошао.	Znaće majka da si došao.	Mother will know that you have come.

With infinitives ending in **-сти/sti**, the **c/s** becomes **ш/š**, before the auxiliary is added to the verb:

Ја ћу јести у ресторану.	Ja ću jesti u restoranu.	I will eat in the restaurant.
Јешћу у ресторану.	Ješću u restoranu.	I will eat in the restaurant.

With infinitives ending in **-ћи/ći**, the two words remain separate and the auxiliary takes second place:

доћи	doći	to come
ићи	ići	to go
Доћи ћу у Лондон вечерас.	Doći ću u London večeras.	I will come to London tonight.
Ићи ћеш сада на спавање.	Ići ćeš sada na spavanje.	You will go to sleep now.

When sentences begin with a group of words acting as a unit and independent of the main sentence, the infinitive of the main verb will follow this unit and act as the first word in the word order. The auxiliary will either follow it as an enclitic (with verbs ending in **-ћи/ći**) or be attached to it, having replaced the infinitive ending **-ти/ti**:

У девет сати ићи ћеш на спавање.	U devet sati ići ćeš na na spavanje.	At nine o'clock you will go to sleep.
Кад прође киша, сијаће сунце.	Kad prođe kiša, sijaće sunce.	When the rain stops, the sun will shine.

The future tense can also be formed by using the auxiliary of the verb **хтети/hteti** and connecting it to the main verb in the present tense with the conjunction **да/da**:

Ја ћу да дођем у Лондон вечерас.	Ја <i>ću da dođem u</i> London <i>večeras</i>.	<i>I will come to London tonight.</i>
Ти ћеш да идеш сада на спавање.	Ти <i>ćeš da ideš sada</i> na <i>spavanje</i>.	<i>You will go to sleep now.</i>

When this construction of the future tense is used in the affirmative, the subject, even if a pronoun, is often, though not always, included:

Он ће да дође код мене вечерас.	Он <i>će da dođe kod</i> mene <i>večeras</i>.	<i>He will come to my place tonight.</i>
Вечерас ће да дође код мене.	Večeras <i>će da dođe</i> kod mene.	<i>Tonight (he) will come to my place.</i>

6.6.2 The negative future

When a negative is formed in the future tense, the auxiliary verb **хтети/hteti** is negated:

Negative form of **хтети/hteti** (to want)

sg.	1st p.	нећу	neću	I will not
	2nd p.	нећеш	nećeš	you will not
	3rd p.	неће	neće	he/she/it will not
pl.	1st p.	нећемо	nećemo	we will not
	2nd p.	нећете	nećete	you will not
	3rd p.	неће	neće	they will not

This negative form of the short form of **хтети/hteti** is not an enclitic and can therefore stand in first position.

When forming the negative of **хтети/hteti** (**нећу/neću**), it is important to note that only the short form (and *never* the long form) is negated, and so **не хоћу/ne hoću** would never be used.

Ја нећу да дођем у Лондон вечерас.	Ја <i>neću da dođem u</i> London <i>večeras</i>.	<i>I will not come to London tonight.</i>
Ти нећеш да идеш сада на спавање.	Ти <i>nećeš da ideš sada</i> na <i>spavanje</i>.	<i>You will not go to sleep now.</i>

6.6.3 The interrogative future

The interrogative future expressed with affirmative meaning can be formed in two ways.

- 1 The first form includes the auxiliary verb and either the infinitive or the present tense of the main verb. In either case, the conjunction **да/da** followed by the interrogative enclitic **ли/li** is placed before the main verb:

Да ли ћеш ићи сада на спавање?	Da li ćeš ići sada na spavanje?	Will you go to sleep now?
Да ли ће Ана певати?	Da li će Ana pevati?	Will Anna sing?

When the main verb is in the present tense, another conjunction **да/da** precedes it:

Да ли ћеш да идеш сада на спавање?	Da li ćeš da ideš sada na spavanje?	Will you go to sleep now?
Да ли ће Ана да пева?	Da li će Ana da peva?	Will Anna sing?

- 2 The second form of the interrogative future includes the long form of the verb **хтети/hteti** which replaces the conjunction **да/da**, and is also followed by the interrogative enclitic **ли/li** to which is added either the infinitive or the present tense of the main verb:

Хоћеш ли ићи сада на спавање?	Hoćeš li ići sada na spavanje?	Will you go to sleep now?
Хоће ли Партизан играти овог месеца?	Hoće li Partizan igrati ovog meseca?	Will Partisan play this month?

When the main verb is in the present tense, the conjunction **да/da** precedes it:

Хоћеш ли да идеш сада на спавање?	Hoćeš li da ideš sada na spavanje?	Will you go to sleep now?
Хоће ли Партизан да игра овог месеца?	Hoće li Partizan da igra ovog meseca?	Will Partisan play this month?

Since, in addition to its role as an auxiliary verb in the creation of the future tense, the verb **хтети/hteti**, when used in its long form, i.e. **хоћу/hoću**, **хоћеш/hoćeš**, etc., means ‘to want’:

Хоћу да идем у Лондон сутра. **Hoću da idem u London sutra.** *I want to go to London tomorrow.*

as contrasted with:

Ићи ћу у Лондон сутра. **Ići ću u London sutra.** *I will go to London tomorrow.*

this might cause confusion in the formation of the interrogative when using the long form as it might not be clear whether the question refers to a future action or to a person's willingness to perform that action. The future reference may thus be inferred more easily in the interrogative with the use of the infinitive of the main verb rather than the present tense:

Хоће ли играти наша екипа? **Hoće li igrati naša ekipa?** *Will our team play?*

Хоће ли да игра наша екипа? **Hoće li da igra naša ekipa?** *Does our team want to play?*

However, this is not always a reliable method of understanding intention and it would be best to draw the meaning from the context itself.

6.6.4 The negative interrogative future

The negative interrogative is expressed with the use of the word **зар/zar** before the auxiliary verb:

Зар нећеш ићи сада на спавање? **Zar nećeš ići sada na spavanje?** *Will you not go to sleep now?*

Зар неће да игра наша екипа овог месеца? **Zar neće da igra naša ekipa ovog meseca?** *Will our team not play this month?*

Here also, there might be some ambiguity in the meaning with regard to the future of the action or the willingness of the subject to perform it, and again the meaning should be drawn from the context.

6.7 Aorist tense

In the spoken language, this tense is generally replaced by the perfect tense (the past tense). It is still, however, in use in the written form of the language, mainly for stylistic reasons.

6.7.1 Formation of the aorist tense and its use

The aorist tense is used in the following instances:

- 1 To indicate an action or situation which was carried out or completed immediately prior to this moment in which it is described:

Ево га, стиже. Evo ga, stiže. Here he is, *he has arrived.*

Само што се вратисмо! Samo što se vratismo! We've only just *got back!*

- 2 To indicate an action or situation which occurred in the past. Though not necessarily completed, this action was terminated at a specific time in the past. It is often used in a narrative sense:

Хтедох да му платим али ми није дао. Htedoh da mu platim ali mi nije dao. *I wanted to pay him but he didn't let me.*

Коначно написах писмо брату. Konačno napisah pismo bratu. *I've finally written a letter to my brother.*

- 3 To indicate an action or situation which will be carried out in the immediate future:

Сачекај нас, одосмо по кључеве. Sačekaj nas, odosmo po ključeve. Wait for us, *we're off to get the keys.*

The aorist form of the verb **бити/bitī** (to be) is equivalent to the English 'would':

Aorist tense of **бити/bitī** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	(ја) бих	(ja) bih	I would
	2nd p.	(ти) би	(ti) bi	you would
	3rd p.	(он/а/о) би	(on/a/o) bi	he/she/it would
pl.	1st p.	(ми) бисмо	(mi) bismo	we would
	2nd p.	(ви) бисте	(vi) biste	you would
	3rd p.	(они) бише	(oni) biše	they would

For further use, see Section 6.9 The conditional.

As the aorist is used to express terminated and/or completed actions, it is generally formed from perfective verbs by the addition of the following endings, indicating person and number:

(a) -ти/ti infinitives				(b) -сти/sti or -ћи/ći infinitives			
sg.	1st p.	-х	-h	sg.	1st p.	-ох	-oh
	2nd p.	—	—		2nd p.	-е	-e
	3rd p.	—	—		3rd p.	-е	-e
pl.	1st p.	-смо	-smo	pl.	1st p.	-осмо	-osmo
	2nd p.	-сте	-ste		2nd p.	-осте	-oste
	3rd p.	-ше	-še		3rd p.	-оше	-oše

Endings in (a) replace the **-ти/ti** endings of the infinitives and follow the vowel:

			To take	To return	To write
Infinitive			узети	вратити	написати
			uzeti	vratiti	napisati
			үзе-ти	врати-ти	написа-ти
			uze-ti	vрати-ti	napisa-ti
sg.	1st p.	(ја)	үзех	вратих	написах
		(ja)	uzeh	vratih	napisah
	2nd p.	(ти)	үзе	врати	написа
		(ti)	uze	vрати	napisa
	3rd p.	(он/она/ оно)	үзе	врати	написа
		(on/ona/ ono)	uze	vрати	napisa
pl.	1st p.	(ми)	үзесмо	вратисмо	написасмо
		(mi)	uzesmo	vratismo	napisasmo
	2nd p.	(ви)	үзесте	вратисте	написасте
		(vi)	uzeste	vratiste	napisaste
	3rd p.	(они/one/ она)	үзеше	вратише	написаше
		(oni/one/ ona)	uzeše	vратиše	napisaše

Endings in (b) are added to the original stem of the infinitive (before assimilation occurred from **-ти/ti** to **-ћи/ći** as well as to **-сти/sti** endings). These endings follow the consonant:

			To be able to	To say/tell	To leave	To scratch
Infinitive			моћи	рећи	поћи	загребсти
			моći	reći	poći	zagrepsti
			мог-ти	рек-ти	по-ид-ти	загреб-ти
			mog-ti	rek-ti	po-id-ti	zagreb-ti
sg.	1st p.	(ја)	могох	рекох	пођох	загребох
		(ја)	mogoh	rekoh	pođoh	zagreboh
	2nd p.	(ти)	може	рече	пође	загребе
		(ти)	može	reče	pođe	zagrebe
	3rd p.	(он/она/ оно)	може	рече	пође	загребе
		(on/ona/ ono)	može	reče	pođe	zagrebe
pl.	1st p.	(ми)	могосмо	рекосмо	пођосмо	загребосмо
		(mi)	mogosmo	rekosmo	pođosmo	zagrebosmo
	2nd p.	(ви)	могосте	рекосте	пођосте	загребосте
		(vi)	mogoste	rekoste	pođoste	zagreboste
	3rd p.	(они/one/ она)	могоше	рекоше	пођоше	загребоше
		(oni/one/ ona)	mogoše	rekoše	pođoše	zagreboše

In the 2nd and 3rd person singular, sound changes occur in some of the verbs before the ending -e:

-к/k changes to **-ч/č**

-г/g changes to **-ж/ž**

-х/h changes to **-ш/š**

A few verbs, although ending in **-ти/ti**, have dual aorist forms, with and without an added **д/d**:

		To want	To know	To have
Infinitive		хтети hteti	знати znati	имати imati
sg.		хте-ти hte-ti	зна-ти zna-ti	има-ти ima-ti
	1st p.	(ja)	знах znaħ	имах imaħ
	2nd p.	(ti)	зна zna	има ima
	3rd p.	(on/ona/ ono)	зна zna	има ima
pl.		хте-смо hte-smo	зна-смо zna-smo	има-смо ima-smo
	1st p.	(mi)	знасте znaste	имасте imaste
	2nd p.	(vi)	знаше znaše	имаше imaše
	3rd p.	(oni/one/ ona)	знаше znaše	имаше imaše

Хтедоше лопови да нас опљачкају док смо спавали.	Htedošē lopovi ḑa nas opljačkaju dok smo spavali.	The thieves <i>wanted</i> to rob us while we were sleeping.
Одмах знадох о чему се ради.	Odmah znadoh о čemu se radi.	<i>I knew</i> immediately what it was about.
Рекоше нам да се пазимо.	Rekoše nam da se pazimo.	<i>They told</i> us to take care.

6.7.2 The negative aorist

The negative particle **-не/ne** is placed before the verb in the aorist.

Ја не одох у Лондон ове године.	Ја не одох у London ове године.	<i>I have not gone</i> to London this year.
Ти не рече кад се враћаш.	Ти не рече кад se враћаш.	<i>You have not said</i> when you will be back.
Не могосмо да им помогнемо.	Не могосмо da im pomognem.	<i>We were not able</i> to help them.

6.7.3 The interrogative aorist

The interrogative aorist expressed in an affirmative meaning can be formed in two ways:

- 1 With the use of conjunction **да/da** followed by the interrogative enclitic **ли/li** and the verb in the aorist tense:

Да ли хтедосте да останете на вечеру?	Da li htedoste da ostanete na večeru?	<i>Did you want</i> to stay for dinner?
--	--	--

- 2 With the interrogative enclitic **ли/li** preceded by the verb in the aorist tense:

Хтедосте ли да останете на вечеру?	Htedoste li da ostanete na večeru?	<i>Did you want</i> to stay for dinner?
Пођосте ли у биоскоп синоћ?	Pođoste li u bioskop sinoć?	<i>Did you go</i> to the cinema last night?

6.7.4 The negative interrogative aorist

Future II

The negative interrogative can also be formed in two ways:

- 1 With the use of **зар/zar** followed by the the negative particle and the verb in the aorist tense:

Зар не хтедосте да останете на вечеру?	Zar ne htedoste da останете на веџеру?	<i>Did you not want to stay for dinner?</i>
---	---	---

- 2 With the use of the interrogative enclitic **ли/li** preceded by the negative particle and the verb in the aorist tense:

Не хтедосте ли да останете на вечеру?	Ne htedoste li da останете на веџеру?	<i>Did you not want to stay for dinner?</i>
--	--	---

6.8 Future II

6.8.1 Uses of future II

Also referred to as the future exact, this tense is mainly used to express an action which may take place before or simultaneously with another action in the future:

Деца ќе те волети ако им бџдеш доносио колаче.	Deca ќе te voleti ako im budeš donosio kolače.	<i>The children will love you if you keep bringing them cakes.</i>
---	---	--

This tense is usually introduced by one of the following conjunctions expressing time or condition: **кад/kad** (when), **ако/ako** (if), **док/dok** (until), **пошто/pošto** (after), **чим/čim** (as soon as), **да/da** (to be).

Јави се чим бџдеш стигао.	Javi se čim budeš stigao.	<i>Call as soon as you arrive.</i>
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------

The present tense of a perfective verb only can replace the future II when these conjunctions are used:

Јави се чим стигнеш.	Javi se čim stigneš.	<i>Call as soon as you arrive.</i>
-----------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------------------

Деца ќе те волети ако им донесеш колаче.	Deca ќе te voleti ako im doneseš kolače.	<i>The children will love you if you bring them cakes.</i>
---	---	--

The future II can also be used to express an action which has taken place in the past, expressing the historical present of a verb used in the passive. The verb in this instance has a passive participle ending and there are no conjunctions introducing the tense:

Крајем те године, он бјуде постављен за председника државе.	Krajem te godine, on bude postavljen za predsednika države.	At the end of that year, he was appointed as president of the country.
--	--	--

6.8.2 Formation of the future II

This tense is formed using the present perfect of **бити/bitī** (see Section 6.16 Present perfect of **бити/bitī**) as an auxiliary, and the main verb with a past participle ending:

Future II of **писати/pisati** (to write)

sg.	1st p.	бјудем писао	budem pisao
	2nd p.	бјудеш писао	budeš pisao
	3rd p.m	бјуде писао	bude pisao
	f	бјуде писала	bude pisala
	n	бјуде писало	bude pisalo
pl.	1st p.	бјудемо писали	budemo pisali
	2nd p.	бјудете писали	budete pisali
	3rd p.m	бјуду писали	budu pisali
	f	бјуду писале	budu pisale
	n	бјуду писала	budu pisala

6.9 The conditional

6.9.1 Uses of the conditional

The conditional is used when expressing an action which is dependent upon another action taking place. That which is expressed in the main clause depends – is conditional – on that which is expressed in the subordinate (if) clause.

6.9.2 Formation of the conditional

The conditional

Conditional sentences consist of two clauses:

- 1 A main clause, containing a main verb with either:
 - the auxiliary short form of the future tense of **хтети/hteti** (will) (see Section 6.6 Future tense):
Ja ћу певати. Ja ću pevati. I will sing.
 - or
 - the auxiliary short form of the aorist tense of **бити/bitī** (would) (see Section 6.7 Aorist tense):
Ja бих певала. Ja bih pevala. I would sing.
- 2 A subordinate clause containing a main verb and beginning with:
 - **ако/ako** (if)
 - **кад(а)/kad(a)** (were/should)and
 - the present perfect form of **бити/bitī** (see Section 6.16 Present perfect of **бити/bitī**):
Ако будеш дошао Ako budeš došao If you come
 - or
 - the aorist tense form of **бити/bitī**:
Кад би дошао Kad bi došao Should you come
 - or
 - **да/da** (have had), followed by a verb in the past, present or future, with or without an auxiliary:
Ja бих певала Ja bih pevala I would have sung had you come.
да си дошао. da si došao.

The sentence can begin either with the main clause, in which case the clauses are not separated by a comma, or the subordinate clause, which would be followed by a comma:

Ja ћу певати ако будеш дошао.	Ja ću pevati ako budeš došao.	I will sing if you come.
Ако будеш дошао, ја ћу певати.	Ako budeš došao, ja ću pevati.	If you come, I will sing.
Ja бих певала кад би дошао.	Ja bih pevala kad bi došao.	I would sing should you come.
Кад би дошао, ја бих певала.	Kad bi došao, ja bih pevala.	Should you come, I would sing.

There are three types of conditionals in Serbian.

Type 1 – the realisable conditional

Type 1 conditional sentences refer to an action or situation in the future which, dependent on the fulfilment of the condition, is realisable. This type of conditional sentence has four forms, in all of which the verb in the main clause is in the future tense. In the first two forms, the subordinate clause begins with **ако/ako** (if), in the third with **уколико/ukoliko**, and in the fourth form, the particle **ли/li** as a second position enclitic is introduced.

- 1 In the first form, the verb in the subordinate clause is in the present tense:

Ако дођеш,	Ako dođeš,	<i>If you come, you will</i>
добићеш поклон.	dobićeš poklon.	<i>get a present.</i>

- 2 In the second form, the verb in the subordinate clause has the present perfect form of **бити/biti** (see Section 6.8 Future II) as an auxiliary to the verb with a past participle ending (see Section 6.5 Past tense):

Ако будеш дошао,	Ako budeš došao,	<i>If you come, you'll</i>
добићеш поклон.	dobićeš poklon.	<i>get a present.</i>

- 3 In the third form, the subordinate clause begins with **уколико/ukoliko**, and the verb in it is in the present or future II:

Уколико стигнеш	Ukoliko stigneš	<i>If you arrive on</i>
на време, добићеш	na vreme,	<i>time, you will get a</i>
поклон.	dobićeš poklon.	<i>present.</i>

Уколико будеш	Ukoliko budeš
стигао на време,	stigao na vreme,
добићеш поклон.	dobićeš poklon.

- 4 In the fourth form, the particle **ли/li** follows the the verb in the present or future II in the subordinate clause, thus replacing **ако/ako**:

Стигнеш ли на	Stigneš li na	<i>If you arrive on</i>
време, добићеш	vreme, dobićeš	<i>time, you will get a</i>
поклон.	poklon.	<i>present.</i>

Будеш ли стигао	Budeš li stigao
на време, добићеш	na vreme,
поклон.	dobićeš poklon.

Type 2 – the potentially realisable conditional

In Type 2 conditional sentences, although realisable, the action or final outcome is weakened, where **када/kada** (were/should) as well as **ако/ako** (if) are used, implying ‘by any chance’. In this type of conditional, the speaker is expressing a desire for something to happen, and not necessarily a belief that it will happen. The subordinate clause begins with **када/kada** or **ако/ako** and the verb in both the subordinate and the main clause has a past participle ending, as well as the auxiliary form of the verb **бити/bitī** in the aorist tense:

**Када би дошао,
добило би поклон.**

**Kada bi došao,
dobio bi poklon.**

*Were (should) you
to come, you would
get a present.*

**Ако би се потукли,
нико не би победио.**

**Ako bi se potukli,
niko ne bi pobedio.**

*Were they to
have a fight,
neither would win.*

**Кад би знао колико
га воли, био би
пресрећан.**

**Kad bi znao koliko
ga voli, bio bi
presrećan.**

*Were he to know
how much she
loved him, he'd be
very happy.*

**Ако бисте дошли,
ишли бисмо у
биоскоп.**

**Ako biste došli,
išli bismo u
bioskop.**

*If you were to
come, we would go
to the cinema.*

Type 3 – the unrealisable conditional

This conditional is used when speaking about past events, speculating on how the action or situation would have turned out had the condition been fulfilled, thus implying that it had not been fulfilled. It can be used to express reproach or regret. In this type of conditional, the subordinate clause begins with **да/da** (have had). The verb in the subordinate clause is generally in the past tense, while the verb in the main clause has a past participle ending and the auxiliary form of the verb **бити/bitī**:

**Да си знао, добио
би поклон.**

**Da si znao, dobio
bi poklon.**

*Had you known,
you would have got
a present.*

**Да сте дошли,
отишли бисмо
у биоскоп.**

**Da ste došli, otišli
bismo u bioskop.**

*Had you come, we
would have gone to
the movies.*

The aorist of the verb **бити/bitī** acts as an auxiliary verb in constructing some forms of the conditional:

Aorist of **бити/biti** (to be)

sg.	1st p.	(ja) бих	(ja) bih	I would
	2nd p.	(ти) би	(ti) bi	you would
	3rd p.	(он/а/о) би	(on/a/o) bi	he/she/it would
pl.	1st p.	(ми) бисмо	(mi) bismo	we would
	2nd p.	(ви) бисте	(vi) biste	you would
	3rd p.	(они) бише*	(oni) biše*	they would

* Third person plural in the conditional is **-би/bi**.

On its own, it is equivalent to the English ‘would’ and can also be used with other verbs and conjunctions to indicate the following:

- 1 A readiness or willingness to do something:

Да ли бисте ми помогли? **Da li biste mi pomogli?** *Would you help me, please?*

Свако би хтео парче. **Svako bi hteo parče.** *Everyone would want a piece.*

- 2 To express habitual action:

Жене би остајале код куће. **Žene bi ostajale kod kuće.** *The women would stay at home.*

Деца би се играла у дворишту. **Deca bi se igrala u dvorištu.** *The children would play in the yard.*

- 3 In polite expressions (**желети/želeti** (to desire), **хтети/hteti** (to want), **волетати/voleti** (to like)):

Желео бих чашу воде, молим вас. **Želeo bih čašu vode, molim vas.** *I would like a glass of water, please.*

Хтели бисмо да резервишемо собу. **Hteli bismo da rezervišemo sobu.** *We would like to book a room.*

- 4 In expressions of should and ought (**требати/trebati**):

Требало би да кренемо. **Trebalo bi da krenemo.** *We should (ought) go (set off).*

Not **требали би да кренемо/trebali bi da krenemo**.

Требало би да се упишете. **Trebalo bi da se upišete.** *You should (ought to) sign in.*

Not **требали би да се упишете/trebali bi da se upišete.**

- 5 As a reason for an action (with conjunction **да/da**) – ‘in order to/for’:

Она ће све урадити да би њен син био срећан. **Ona će sve uraditi da bi njen sin bio srećan.** *She will do anything in order for her son to be happy.*

Отишао је да би је заборавио. **Otišao je da bi je zaboravio.** *He left in order to forget her.*

- 6 To indicate ‘could’ (**моћи/moći**):

Могла би јој рећи. **Mogla bi joj reći.** *You could tell her.*

Могли бисте да се окупате. **Mogli biste da se okupate.** *You (pl.) could take a bath.*

When forming a question, the aorist of **бити/bit**i can be preceded by **да ли/da li**:

Да ли бисте дошли? Da li biste došli? *Would you come?*

Or it can be followed by the interrogative enclitic **ли/li**:

Бисте ли дошли? Biste li došli? *Would you come?*

It can also be preceded by the emphatic **зар/zar** in first position when asking a question:

Зар бисте дошли? Zar biste došli? *Would you really come?*

Or by the negative particle **не/ne**:

Не бисте ли дошли? Ne biste li došli? *Would you not come?*

6.10 Imperative

The imperative is a form of the verb used to give orders, to make suggestions, to give advice or to invite.

6.10.1 Use of the imperative

The imperative form is used in four different situations:

- 1 When the speaker gives a command to the listener. In this instance, ‘you’ (sg.) or ‘you’ (pl.) is implied:

Донеси ми чашу воде, молим те. **Donesi mi čašu vode, molim te.** Please (you) bring me a glass of water.

This form can be negated with **не/ne** placed before the verb, which is usually an imperfective:

Не доноси ми чашу воде, молим те. **Ne donosi mi čašu vode, molim te.** Please (you) do not bring me a glass of water.

- 2 When the speaker gives a command to him or herself plus one or more listeners, the English equivalent of 'let us . . .' is implied:

Прошетајмо пса. **Prošetajmo psa.** Let's walk the dog.

Хајдемо по чашу воде. **Hajdemo po čašu vode.** Let's get a glass of water.

This type of imperative cannot be negated.

- 3 **Нека/нека** (let) is used when a command or permission is being given to a third person:

Нека ми донесе чашу воде. **Neka mi donese čašu vode.** Let him bring me a glass of water.

Нека га послушају! **Neka ga poslušaju!** Let them listen to him!

This type can be negated, usually with an imperfective verb:

Нека ми не доноси чашу воде. **Neka mi ne donosi čašu vode.** Let him not bring me a glass of water.

- 4 When a command or advice is given 'not to do something'.

Немој да плачеш! **Nemoj da plačesh!** Don't cry! (you, sg.)

Немојте да га будите! **Nemojte da ga budite!** Don't wake him up! (you, pl.)

6.10.2 Formation of the imperative

- 1 In the 2nd person singular and plural, the imperative is formed by dropping the final vowel (-y/u or -e/e) of the 3rd person plural of the present tense and adding the imperative ending.

The imperative ending can be one of two types, depending on the 3rd person plural present tense ending.

- (a) If the final vowel is preceded by the consonant -j/j:

Они певају. **Oni pevaju.** They are singing.

the following applies:

- i The final vowel is dropped for the 2nd person imperative singular:

Певај! **Pevaj!** Sing! (you)

- ii For the 2nd person imperative plural **-te/te** is added to the 2nd person singular:

Певајте! **Pevajte!** Sing! (you, pl.)

- (b) If the 3rd person plural ending is **-e/e** or **-y/u**:

Они раде. **Oni rade.** They are working.

the following applies:

- i The final vowel is dropped for the 2nd person imperative singular and replaced by **-и/i**:

Ради! **Radi!** Work! (you)

- ii For the 2nd person plural **-te/te** is added to the 2nd person singular:

Радите! **Radite!** Work! (you, pl.)

- 2 When the 1st person plural is implied, the imperative ending **-мо/мо** is added to the 2nd person singular imperative form:

2nd sg. **Ради!** **Radi!** Work! (you)

1st pl. **Радино!** **Radimo!** Let's work!

- 3 When a command is being given to a third person, the conjunction **нека/нека** is used along with the 3rd person (singular or plural) form of the present tense:

3rd p.sg. **Он ради.** **On radi.** He is working.

Pres.

imperative

Нека ради! **Neka radi!** Let him work.

- 4 When expressing a negative imperative using the **немој/немој** (do not) form, the following applies:

- i The form **немој/немој** (do not) is used for the 2nd person singular:

Немој да излазиш **Nemoj da izlaziš** Don't go out
касно! **kasno!** late!

- ii The form **немојте/nemojte** is used for the 2nd person plural:

Don't go out late!

Don't let us go
out late!

Reflexive verbs are used with the reflexive pronoun **ce/se** (see Section 8.2 Reflexive pronouns), the short form of the pronoun **ceŕe/sebe**. This pronoun is an enclitic and must follow the enclitic word order whenever and wherever it is used (see Section 13.1 Order and importance of enclitics).

1 Transitive verbs (verbs that take the accusative case and cannot stand on their own but must have a direct object):

can be followed by **ce/se** instead of the direct object:

Мајка је купала себе. **Majka je kupala sebe.** Mother bathed herself.

2 When two or more subjects have a reciprocal relationship expressed in English with ‘each other’ or ‘one another’, the two can be expressed as the subject while the reflexive pronoun **ce/se** denotes a relationship of reciprocity:

Волеџи се значи поштовати се.	Voleti se znaēi poštovati se.	To love one another means to respect each other.
--	--	--

- 3 The short form of the reflexive pronoun **се/се** is also used to form a passive, impersonal voice from an active verb when the subject of the sentence is in the 3rd person singular or plural, or is not known (see Section 6.12 Impersonal verbs):

Зна се да иде у 5 сати.	Zna se da ide u 5 sati.	(It) is known that he/she is going at 5 o'clock.
--	--	--

This passive form is also used when indicating that something is done regularly (in which case an imperfective verb is used):

Заливање баште се обавља сваког јутра.	Zalivanje bašte se obavlja svakog jutra.	Watering of the garden is <i>done</i> every morning.
---	---	--

- 4 Some verbs are reflexive although their meaning indicates neither passivity nor reflexivity:

бојати се	bojati se	to be afraid, scared
плашити се	plašiti se	to be afraid, scared
борити се	boriti se	to struggle, fight
радовати се	radovati se	to be happy, look forward to something
догодити се	dogoditi se	to happen, occur
десити се	desiti se	to happen, occur
надати се	nadati se	to hope
смејати се	smejati se	to laugh
чүдити се	čuditi se	to wonder
коцкати се	kockati se	to gamble

6.12 Impersonal verbs

When a statement is being made in which the subject is not present or known, the verb is said to be impersonal. In English this is reflected with the use of 'One says . . .', 'One thinks . . .', 'People feel . . .', 'It is said . . .', 'It is thought . . .', 'It is believed . . .', etc.

In Serbian, this impersonal meaning is expressed by either:

- Using the 3rd person neuter singular of a verb to which the reflexive pronoun **се/се** is added (if the verb does not already carry it). The pronoun 'it' (neuter singular) is implied:

Говори се да ме више не волиш.	Govori se da me više ne voliš.	<i>It is said (people say) that you don't love me any more.</i>
Верује се да се убица крије у селу.	Veruje se da se ubica krije u selu.	<i>It is believed that the killer is hiding (himself) in the village.</i>
Улази се у зграду кроз главна врата.	Ulazi se u zgradu kroz glavna vrata.	<i>One enters the building through the main door.</i>

A verb in the past tense, followed by the reflexive **се/се**, is also used to indicate an impersonal meaning:

Плесало се и пило се на забави.	Plesalo se i pilo se na zabavi.	<i>There was dancing and drinking at the party.</i>
--	--	---

- 2 The impersonal meaning is also conveyed with the verb **бити/biti** (to be) in any tense in the 3rd person singular and an adverb (with the neuter singular pronoun 'it' implied). This is added to the logical subject in the dative case (see Section 7.3.3 Dative case). The reflexive **се/се** does not occur in this form:

Жао ми је што га нисте видели.	Žao mi je što ga niste videli.	<i>I'm sorry that you did not see him. (it is sorry to me)</i>
Било ми је жао што га нисте видели.	Bilo mi je žao što ga niste videli.	<i>I was sorry that you hadn't seen him.</i>
Биће ми жао што га нећете видети.	Biće mi žao što ga nećete videti.	<i>I will be sorry that you won't see him.</i>
Драго ми је да сте дошли.	Drago mi je da ste došli.	<i>I'm glad that you came. (it is gladdening to me)</i>

6.13 Auxiliary verbs

The auxiliary verbs used for forming various tenses are the short forms of the verbs **бити/biti** (to be) and **хтети/hteti** (to want). All auxiliary verbs are enclitics (see Chapter 13 Enclitics) and must follow the enclitic word order. They indicate person and number, while the main verb they accompany will, depending on the tense, generally only express number.

- 1 The past tense (see Section 6.5 Past tense) is formed using the short form of **бити/biti** as an auxiliary to the main verb which has a past participle ending:

Ja sam gledala taj филм. **Ja sam gledala taj film.** I saw that film.

- 2 The future tense (see Section 6.6 Future tense) is formed using the short form of **хтети/hteti** as an auxiliary to the main verb, which is given in the infinitive:

Ja ћу гледати тај филм. **Ja ću gledati taj film.** I will see that film.

or, by using it with the present tense of the main verb and the conjunction **да/da**:

Ja ћу да гледам тај филм. **Ja ću da gledam taj film.** I will see that film.

- 3 The future II (see Section 6.8 Future II) is formed using the present perfective aspect form of **бити/biti** as an auxiliary to the main verb which has a past participle ending:

Једног дана, када будем живео на југу Француске **Jednog dana, kada budem živeo na jugu Francuske** One day (in the future), when I'm living in the South of France

- 4 Certain forms of the conditional (see Section 6.9 The conditional) are formed using the aorist (see Section 6.7 Aorist tense) of **бити/ biti** as an auxiliary to the main verb which has a past participle ending:

Кад бих гледала тај филм, рекла бих ти. **Kad bih gledala taj film, rekla bih ti.** If I were to see that film, I would tell you.

In forming the negative of any of these tenses, the negative marker will be applied to the auxiliary verb and not to the main verb:

нисам гледала	nisam gledala	I did not see
нећу гледати	neću gledati	I will not see
не будем гледала	ne budem gledala	I will not see
не бих гледала	ne bih gledala	I would not see

6.14 Formation of the interrogative

There are several ways in which a question may be asked. Question forms to which a 'yes/no' reply is expected are given under (a), (c), (d) and (e), while question forms using question-words are given under (b).

- (a) In everyday conversation, raised intonation at the end of the sentence may be sufficient:

Из Београда сте? Iz Beograda ste? You're from Belgrade?

- (b) An interrogative word may be placed at the beginning of a sentence, followed by the verb:

Где идеш?	Gde ideš?	Where are you going?
Шта куваш?	Šta kuvaš?	What are you cooking?
Зашто журите?	Zašto žurite?	Why are you hurrying?
Ко долази?	Ko dolazi?	Who is coming?

- (c) When an interrogative word is not used, then the interrogative particle **ли/li** must be used. In the present tense, it will take second position in the sentence and will be preceded by the verb:

Идеш ли?	Ideš li?	Are are you going?
Куваш ли?	Kuvaš li?	Are you cooking?
Журите ли?	Žurite li?	Are you hurrying?

- (d) The particle **ли/li** may also be preceded by the conjunction **да/da**, followed (perhaps much later) by the verb:

Да ли стварно тамо идеш?	Da li stvarno тамо ideš?	Are you really going there?
Да ли журите?	Da li žurite?	Are you hurrying?
Да ли је ово банка?	Da li je ovo banka?	Is this the bank?

- (e) In the present tense, the particle **ли/li** may be preceded by the verbal **је/je** (3rd person singular of the verb **бити/bititi** (to be)), followed by the verb:

Је ли идеш?	Je li ideš?	Are you going?
Је ли журите?	Je li žurite?	Are you hurrying?
Је ли је ово банка?	Je li je ovo banka?	Is this the bank?

Note: With this use, the verbal **је/je** is not an enclitic.

- (f) Negative questions are formed by introducing the conjunction **зар/zar** followed by the negative form of the verb:

Зар не идеш?	Zar ne ideš?	Are you <i>not</i> going?
Зар не журите?	Zar ne žurite?	Are you <i>not</i> hurrying?
Зар није ово банка?	Zar nije ovo banka?	Is this <i>not</i> the bank?

When used at the end of a sentence, **зар не/zar ne** invites confirmation or negation of what is stated:

Идеш, зар не?	Idesh, zar ne?	You are going, aren't you?
Жүрите, зар не?	Žurite, zar ne?	You are hurrying, aren't you?
Ово је банка, зар не?	Ovo je banka, zar ne?	This is the bank, isn't it?

- (g) As does the conjunction **да/da** followed by the present tense. This form is used more as a suggestion or an offer:

Да идем?	Da idem?	Shall I go?
Да пожүрим?	Da požurim?	Shall I hurry up?
Да дођем?	Da dođem?	Shall I come?

- (h) **Зар/zar** is also used as an emphatic or to express surprise, often expressed in English by 'really':

Зар идеш?	Zar ideš?	Are you really going?
Зар жүрите?	Zar žurite?	Are you really hurrying?
Зар је ово банка?	Zar je ovo banka?	Is this really the bank?

- (i) The particle **ли/li** is also used following modal verbs (see Section 16.18 Modal verbs) and itself is followed by the conjunction **да/da**:

Могү ли да идем?	Mogu li da idem?	Can I go?
Треба ли да им күвам?	Treba li da im kuvam?	Ought I to cook for them?
Смем ли да дођем?	Smem li da dođem?	May I come?

For interrogatives in the various tenses, see under each separate tense.

6.15 Formation of the negative

Negation is expressed by using the negative particle **не/ne**, which can be used independently or as a prefix.

Independently, the negative particle **не/ne** can be used in two ways:

- 1 To mean 'no', in which case it is generally accented:

Идете ли ү биоскоп вечерас?	Idete li u bioskop večeras?	Are you going to the cinema tonight?
Не, не идемо.	Ne, ne idemo.	No, we are not.

2 To mean negation:

- with all verbs, excluding **бити/biti** (to be), when inserted before the verb in the present tense and the aorist. Although written separately, the two words are pronounced as one:

Не знам колико је сати.	Ne znam koliko je sati.	<i>I don't know the time.</i>
Не жели да разговара.	Ne želi da razgovara.	<i>(He/she) doesn't wish to talk.</i>
Не пољубисмо се до јуче.	Ne poljubismo se do juče.	<i>We hadn't kissed until yesterday.</i>

- with the verb **бити/biti** (to be) in the aorist when used as an auxiliary to mean the equivalent of the English 'would' or in forming the conditional:

Не бих знала колико је сати.	Ne bih znala koliko je sati.	<i>I wouldn't know the time.</i>
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------------

He/ne can also be used as a word prefix, when it is generally accented:

1 It can be prefixed to nouns, adjectives or adverbs:

неспоразум	neporazum	misunderstanding
немогућност	nemogućnost	impossibility
нељубазан	neljubazan	impolite
незабораван	nezaboravan	unforgetful

2 And only with the verbs **бити/biti**, **хтети/hteti** (to want) and **имати/imati** (to have):

- with **бити/biti** (to be) in the present tense and when used as an auxiliary in forming the past tense, where it becomes **ни/ni** and is prefixed to the short form of **бити/biti**. The accent falls on the prefixed negative and the form is no longer an enclitic:

Нисам знала колико је сати.	Nisam znala koliko je sati.	<i>I didn't know the time.</i>
Није желео да разговара.	Nije želeo da razgovara.	<i>(He/she) didn't wish to talk.</i>

- with **хтети/hteti** (to want) in the present tense and when used as an auxiliary in forming the future tense. **He/ne** is prefixed to the short form of the verb which is no longer an enclitic, as the **не/ne** carries the stress:

Нећу знати **Neću znati koliko** *I won't know the*
колико је сати. **je sati.** *time.*

Неће да **Neće da** *(He/she) does not*
разговара. **razgovara.** *want to talk.*

- when the verb **имати/imati** (to have) is negated, **не/ne** is prefixed to the verb and replaces the initial **-и/i**. The accent falls on the prefixed negative.

Немам кључ. **Nemam ključ.** *I don't have the key.*

Немају кола. **Nemaju kola.** *They don't have a car.*

Negation of **имати/imati** occurs only in the present tense. In all other tenses, the auxiliary verb is negated while the original form of **имати/imati** remains and acts as a main verb in accordance with the tense formation:

Нисам имала кључ. **Nisam imala ključ.** *I didn't have the key.*

Неће имати кола. **Neće imati kola.** *They won't have a car.*

As **имати/imati** can mean 'the existence of' something, **немати/nemati** can also mean 'the non-existence of' something. It can only have this meaning when used in the present tense:

У пекари нема **U pekari nema** *There is no milk in*
млека. **mleka.** *the bakery.*

When the past or future of this meaning is expressed, the verb **бити/biti** replaces **имати/imati**, or its negation, and the negation is formed by prefixing the auxiliary verb of the required tense:

Неће бити млека **Neće biti mleka** *There will be no milk*
у пекари. **u pekari.** *in the bakery.*

Није било млека **Nije bilo mleka** *There was no milk in*
у пекари. **u pekari.** *the bakery.*

The present tense **нема/nema** (there is not), the future tense **неће бити/neće biti** (there will not be) and past tense **није било/nije bilo** (there was no) call for the genitive case.

Intensified negation

The negative particle **ни/ni** is often used to emphasise and intensify the meaning of the word immediately following it:

Није нас ни **Nije nas ni** *He didn't even*
сачекао. **sačekaо.** *wait for us.*

Нећемо их ни погледати.	Nećemo ih ni pogledati.	We won't even look at them.
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------------

Нисам му ни реч рекао.	Nisam mu ni reč rekao.	<i>I didn't say a single word to him.</i>
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where the following would be equally correct, but not as intensified:

Није нас сачекао.	Nije nas sačekaо.	<i>He didn't wait for us.</i>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------

Нећемо их погледати.	Nećemo ih pogledati.	We won't look at them.
-----------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------

Нисам му реч рекао.	Nisam mu reč rekao.	<i>I didn't say a word to him.</i>
----------------------------	----------------------------	------------------------------------

Although **ни/ni** need not ordinarily be included in negating a sentence, if one or more negative pronouns/adverbs are in a sentence, the verb has to be negated with **не/ne** (with **ни/ni**- if there is an auxiliary **сам/sam**, **си/si**, **је/je**, **смо/smo**, **сте/ste**, **су/su**). If there is a **ни/ni** of intensified negation, the verb of the sentence also has to be negated.

Нико нас не чека.	Niko nas ne čeka.	No-one is waiting for us.
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Никоме ништа не говорим.	Nikome ništa ne govorim.	<i>I don't say anything to anyone.</i>
---------------------------------	---------------------------------	--

Нико их неће погледати.	Niko ih neće pogledati.	No-one will look at them.
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------

Нико нас није ни позвао.	Niko nas nije ni pozvao.	No-one even called us.
---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------

This is often referred to as the 'double negative rule'.

The true double negative

Unlike the preceding 'double negative rule', the true double negative involves the use of two negatives which equate to an affirmative:

Нећу да не спавам.	Neću da ne spavam.	<i>I don't want to not sleep.</i>
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Не жели да не зна.	Ne želi da ne zna.	<i>He/she doesn't want to not know.</i>
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Нема особе која није купила тај производ.	Nema osobe koja nije kupila taj proizvod.	<i>There isn't a person who hasn't bought that product.</i>
--	--	---

6.16 Present perfective aspect of бити/bitī

The verb **бити/bitī** (to be) has two present tense forms. One has been already covered in the present tense (Section 6.4), and the other is the present of the perfective aspect of this verb:

Present of the perfective aspect of бити/bitī (to be)		
	Singular	Plural
1st p.	будем/budem	будемо/budemo
2nd p.	будеш/budeš	будете/budete
3rd p.	буде/bude	буду/budu

This form of **бити/bitī** is used in constructing the future II (see Section 6.8 Future II) in a subordinate clause, when an action is conceived as being completed at a precise time in the future. The conjunctions **кад/kad** (when) and **ако/ako** (if) when referring to an action taking place in the future would always be followed by this form of **бити/bitī** rather than the short form of **хтети/hteti** used as an auxiliary in forming the regular future (see Section 6.6 Future tense):

**Ако буде падала
киша, остаћемо
код куће.**

**Ako bude padala
kiša, ostaćemo
kod kuće.**

*If it rains, we'll stay
at home.*

**Кад будеш завршио
домаћи, купићу
ти сладолед.**

**Kad budeš završio
domaći, kupiću
ti sladoled.**

*When you finish your
homework, I'll buy
you an ice-cream.*

This form is also found with **да/da** + present tense:

**Треба да будемо
задовољни с
оним што имамо.**

**Treba da budemo
zadovoljni s onim
što imamo.**

*We should be happy
with what we've got.*

6.17 Ићи/ići and its derivatives

The verb **ићи/ići** (to go) has an irregular present tense and an irregular past tense.

In the present tense, **-ћи/ći** is replaced by **-д/d** to which the present tense endings are added:

6 Verbs

The present tense of **ићи/ићи** (to go)

	Singular	Plural
1st p.	идем idem	идемо idemo
2nd p.	идеш ideš	идете idete
3rd p.	иде ide	иду idu

**Наша деца воле
да иду у школу.**

**Naša deca vole
da idu u školu.**

Our children like *going*
to school.

**Не идем на посао
у понедељак.**

**Ne idem na posao
u ponedeljak.**

I'm not *going* to work
on Monday.

In the past tense, the **-ћи/ћи** is replaced by **-и/и** to which the past participle endings **-о/о**, **-ла/ла**, **-ло/ло**, **-ли/ли**, **-ле/ле**, **-ла/ла** are added:

The past tense of **ићи/ићи** (to go)

	Singular			Plural		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
1st p.	ишао	ишла	ишло	ишли	ишле	ишла
2nd p.	ишао	ишла	ишло	ишли	ишле	ишла

**Ишли смо заједно
у школу.**

**Išli smo zajedno
u školu.**

We *went* to school
together.

**Зашто си ишао
тамо?**

Zašto si išao tamo?

Why did *you go*
there?

Verbs derived from **ићи/ићи**, many of which have prefixes added to the basic form, with or without the initial **и/и**, behave in a similar manner

in the present tense. With these verbs the **-ћи/ći** ending is generally replaced by **-ћ/đ** rather than **-д/d**, to be followed by the present tense endings. The past tense endings remain the same as for **ићи/ići**:

Infinitive			Present tense	Past tense
			1st p.	Masculine
доћи	doći	to come, to go up to	дођем dođem	дошао došao
отићи	otići	to leave, to go from	одем/отидем odem/otidem	отишао otišao
поћи	poći	to set off, to go off	пођем pođem	пошао pošao
проћи	proći	to pass by, to pass through	прођем prođem	прошао prošao
прићи	prići	to come towards	приђем priđem	пришао prišao
наћи	naći	to find	нађем nađem	нашао našao
наићи	naići	to come upon	наиђем naiđem	наишао naišao
обићи	obići	to go around, to tour	обиђем obiđem	обишао obišao
заћи	zaći	to go behind	зађем zađem	зашао zašao
ући	ući	to come into, to go into, to enter	уђем uđem	ушао ušao
изаћи	izaći	to come out of, to go out of, to exit	изађем izađem	изашао izašao

6.18 Modal verbs

Modal verbs (can, may, should, need to, ought to, have to, be able to), express an attitude, judgement, interpretation or feeling, and are usually linked to another verb with the conjunction **да/da** (that/to).

- 1 Many modal verbs in Serbian are formed from the verb **требати/ trebati** (to need).

Present tense of **требати/ trebati** (to need)

sg.	1st p.	требам	trebam	I need
	2nd p.	требаш	trebaš	you need
	3rd p.	треба	treba	he/she/it needs
pl.	1st p.	требамо	trebamo	we need
	2nd p.	треbate	trebate	you need
	3rd p.	требају	trebaju	they need

- (a) **Треба да/ treba da** + the present tense is used to express the equivalent of 'to need to/to have to/should':

Треба да идемо. Treba da idemo. We need to go.

- (b) **Требаће да/ trebaće da** + the present tense is used to express the equivalent of 'will need to/will have to/should':

Требаће да идемо. Trebaće da idemo. We will need to go.

- (c) **Требало је да/ trebalo je da** + the past tense is used to express the equivalent of 'needed to/should have':

Требало је да смо отишли. Trebalo je da smo otišli. We should have gone.

- (d) **Требало би да/ trebalo bi da** + present tense is used to express 'ought to':

Требало би да разговарамо с њом. Trebalo bi da razgovaramo s njom. We ought to talk to her.

The verb following **да/da** corresponds to the subject in the present tense.

- (e) **Требало би да/ trebalo bi da** + past tense is used to express 'ought to have':

Требало би да смо разговарали с њом. Trebalo bi da smo razgovarali s njom. We ought to have talked to her.

The verb following **да/da** corresponds to the subject in the past tense.

All the forms of **требати/trebat** – **треба да/treba da**, **требаће да/trebaće da**, **требало је да/trebalo je da** and **требало би да/trebalo bi da** – remain in the 3rd person singular (3rd person singular *neuter* is used with the past tense formation), while the verb following **да/da** agrees with the subject.

In addition to its use as a modal verb, **требати/trebat** is used when expressing a need for something. The logical subject of the verb **требати/trebat** is in the dative case and represents the person who *needs* something, while the object, or person, *needed* is in the nominative case and is the grammatical subject of the sentence:

Њој треба кључ.	Njoj treba ključ.	She <i>needs</i> the key. (The key is needed by/ necessary to her.)
Требају нам нова кола.	Trebaju nam nova kola.	We <i>need</i> a new car. (A new car is needed by/necessary to us.)

Although this verb has a regular conjugation, it is often used in the 3rd person singular. And since the subject of the sentence is not the person by whom the object is needed, but the object itself (in the above sentences the subjects are ‘the key’ and ‘the car’), the verb agrees in gender and number with it in all the tenses.

The past tense is formed using **треба/treba** + the past participle (needed):

Требали су јој кључеви за кола.	Trebali su joj ključevi za kola.	She <i>needed</i> keys for the car.
Требала су нам нова кола.	Trebala su nam nova kola.	We <i>needed</i> a new car.

The future tense is formed using **треба/treba** + **ће/će** (will need):

Требаће јој кључеви за кола.	Trebaće joj ključevi za kola.	She <i>will need</i> keys for the car.
Требаћете ми.	Trebaćete mi.	I <i>will need</i> you (pl.).

The adjective **потребан/potreban** (necessary) can replace the above. It is used with the auxiliary verb **бити/bit** (to be):

Потребан јој је кључ за кола.	Potreban joj je ključ za kola.	She <i>needs</i> a key for the car.
Потребна су нам нова кола.	Potrebna su nam nova kola.	We <i>need</i> a new car.

In the past tense, this adjective is used with the auxiliary verb **бити/bit** along with the past tense form of that verb, which will agree in gender and number with the subject:

**Потребан јој је
био кључ за кола.**

**Potrebna joj je
bio ključ za kola.**

She needed a key
for the car.

**Потребна су нам
била нова кола.**

**Potrebna su nam
bila nova kola.**

We needed a new
car.

- 2 **Моћи/моћи** (to be able to, can), when used as a modal verb, is followed either by the conjunction **да/da** and the main verb, or the infinitive of the main verb.

Present tense of **моћи/моћи** (to be able to, can)

sg.	1st p.	могу	mogu	I can
	2nd p.	можеш	možeš	you can
	3rd p.	може	može	he/she/it can
pl.	1st p.	можемо	možemo	we can
	2nd p.	можете	možete	you can
	3rd p.	могу	mogu	they can

**Могу да купе
карте преко
интернета.**

**Mogu da kupe
karte preko
interneta.**

They can buy the
tickets over the
internet.

**Могу купити карте
преко интернета.**

**Mogu kupiti karte
preko interneta.**

It is used in the past tense:

**Могли су да купе
карте преко
интернета.**

**Mogli su da kupe
karte preko
interneta.**

They could have
bought the tickets
over the internet.

And the future tense:

**Моћи ће да купе
карте преко
интернета.**

**Moći će da kupe
karte preko
interneta.**

They will be able
to buy the tickets
over the internet.

SERBIAN ENGLISH GLOSSARY



BASIC CONCEPTS. PART 1

1. Pronouns

I, me	ја	ja
you	ти	ti
he	он	on
she	она	ona
it	оно	ono
we	ми	mi
you (to a group)	ви	vi
they (masc.)	они	oni
they (fem.)	оне	one

2. Greetings. Salutations. Farewells

Hello! (fam.)	Здраво!	Zdravo!
Hello! (form.)	Добар дан!	Dobar dan!
Good morning!	Добро јутро!	Dobro jutro!
Good afternoon!	Добар дан!	Dobar dan!
Good evening!	Добро вече!	Dobro veče!

to say hello	поздрављати се	pozdravljati se
Hi! (hello)	Здраво!	Zdravo!
greeting (n)	поздрав (м)	pozdrav
to greet (vt)	поздрављати	pozdravljati
How are you? (form.)	Како сте?	Kako ste?
How are you? (fam.)	Како си?	Kako si?
What's new?	Шта има ново?	Šta ima novo?
Goodbye! (form.)	Довиђења!	Doviđenja!
Bye! (fam.)	Здраво!	Zdravo!
See you soon!	До скорог виђења!	Do skorog viđenja!
Farewell! (to a friend)	Здраво!	Zdravo!
Farewell! (form.)	До виђења!	Do viđenja!
to say goodbye	опраштати се	oprašati se
Cheers!	Здраво!	Zdravo!
Thank you! Cheers!	Хвала!	Hvala!
Thank you very much!	Хвала лепо!	Hvala lepo!
My pleasure!	Нема на чему	Nema na čemu
Don't mention it!	Никакав проблем!	Nikakav problem!
It was nothing	Нема на чему	Nema na čemu
Excuse me! (fam.)	Извини!	Izvini!
Excuse me! (form.)	Извините!	Izvinite!
to excuse (forgive)	извинити	izviniti

to apologize (vi)	извињавати се	izvinjavati se
My apologies	Извињавам се	Izvinjavam se
I'm sorry!	Опростите!	Oprostite!
to forgive (vt)	опраштати	oprašati
It's okay! (that's all right)	У реду је!	U redu je!
please (adv)	молим	molim
Don't forget!	Немојте да заборавите!	Nemojte da zaboravite!
Certainly!	Свакако!	Svakako!
Of course not!	Наравно да не!	Naravno da ne!
Okay! (I agree)	Цлажем се!	Clažem se!
That's enough!	Доста!	Dosta!

3. How to address

Excuse me, ...	Извините, ...	Izvinite, ...
mister, sir	господине (м)	gospodine
madam	госпођо (ж)	gospođo
miss	госпођице (ж)	gospođice
young man	младићу (м)	mladiću
young man (little boy)	дечаче (м)	dečače
miss (little girl)	девојчице (ж)	devojčice

4. Cardinal numbers. Part 1

0 zero	нула	nula
1 one	један	jedan
2 two	два	dva
3 three	три	tri
4 four	четири	četiri
5 five	пет	pet
6 six	шест	šest
7 seven	седам	sedam
8 eight	осам	osam
9 nine	девет	devet
10 ten	десет	deset
11 eleven	једанаест	jedanaest
12 twelve	дванаест	dvanaest
13 thirteen	тринаест	trinaest
14 fourteen	четрнаест	četrnaest
15 fifteen	петнаест	petnaest
16 sixteen	шеснаест	šesnaest
17 seventeen	седамнаест	sedamnaest
18 eighteen	осамнаест	osamnaest
19 nineteen	деветнаест	devetnaest

20 twenty	двадесет	dvadeset
21 twenty-one	двадесет и један	dvadeset i jedan
22 twenty-two	двадесет и два	dvadeset i dva
23 twenty-three	двадесет и три	dvadeset i tri
30 thirty	тридесет	trideset
31 thirty-one	тридесет и један	trideset i jedan
32 thirty-two	тридесет и два	trideset i dva
33 thirty-three	тридесет и три	trideset i tri
40 forty	четрдесет	četrdeset
41 forty-one	четрдесет и један	četrdeset i jedan
42 forty-two	четрдесет и два	četrdeset i dva
43 forty-three	четрдесет и три	četrdeset i tri
50 fifty	педесет	pedeset
51 fifty-one	педесет и један	pedeset i jedan
52 fifty-two	педесет и два	pedeset i dva
53 fifty-three	педесет и три	pedeset i tri
60 sixty	шездесет	šezdeset
61 sixty-one	шездесет и један	šezdeset i jedan
62 sixty-two	шездесет и два	šezdeset i dva
63 sixty-three	шездесет и три	šezdeset i tri
70 seventy	седамдесет	sedamdeset
71 seventy-one	седамдесет и један	sedamdeset i jedan

72 seventy-two	седамдесет и два	sedamdeset i dva
73 seventy-three	седамдесет и три	sedamdeset i tri
80 eighty	осамдесет	osamdeset
81 eighty-one	осамдесет и један	osamdeset i jedan
82 eighty-two	осамдесет и два	osamdeset i dva
83 eighty-three	осамдесет и три	osamdeset i tri
90 ninety	деведесет	devedeset
91 ninety-one	деведесет и један	devedeset i jedan
92 ninety-two	деведесет и два	devedeset i dva
93 ninety-three	деведесет и три	devedeset i tri

5. Cardinal numbers. Part 2

100 one hundred	сто	sto
200 two hundred	двеста	dvesta
300 three hundred	триста	trista
400 four hundred	четиристо	četiristo
500 five hundred	петсто	petsto
600 six hundred	шестсто	šeststo
700 seven hundred	седамсто	sedamsto
800 eight hundred	осамсто	osamsto
900 nine hundred	деветсто	devetsto

1000 one thousand	хиљада	hiljada
2000 two thousand	две хиљаде	dve hiljade
3000 three thousand	три хиљаде	tri hiljade
10000 ten thousand	десет хиљада	deset hiljada
one hundred thousand	сто хиљада	sto hiljada
million	милион (м)	milion
billion	милијарда (ж)	milijarda

6. Ordinal numbers

first (adj)	први	prvi
second (adj)	други	drugi
third (adj)	трећи	treći
fourth (adj)	четврти	četvrti
fifth (adj)	пети	peti
sixth (adj)	шести	šesti
seventh (adj)	седми	sedmi
eighth (adj)	осми	osmi
ninth (adj)	девети	deveti
tenth (adj)	десети	deseti

7. Numbers. Fractions

fraction	разломак (м)	razlomak
one half	једна половина	jedna polovina
one third	једна трећина	jedna trećina
one quarter	једна четвртина	jedna četvrtina
one eighth	једна осмина	jedna osmina
one tenth	једна десетина	jedna desetina
two thirds	две трећине	dve trećine
three quarters	три четвртине	tri četvrtine

8. Numbers. Basic operations

subtraction	одузимање (с)	oduzimanje
to subtract (vi, vt)	одузимати	oduzimati
division	дељење (с)	deljenje
to divide (vt)	делити	deliti
addition	сабирање (с)	sabiranje
to add up (vt)	сабрати	sabrati
to add (vi)	збрајати	zbrajati
multiplication	множење (с)	množenje
to multiply (vt)	множити	množiti

9. Numbers. Miscellaneous

digit, figure	цифра (ж)	cifra
number	број (м)	broj
numeral	број (м)	broj
minus sign	минус (м)	minus
plus sign	плус (м)	plus
formula	једначина (ж)	jednačina
calculation	израчунавање (с)	izračunavanje
to count (vi, vt)	бројати	brojati
to count up	избројати	izbrojati
to compare (vt)	упоређивати	upoređivati
How much?	Колико?	Koliko?
sum, total	збир (м)	zbir
result	резултат (м)	rezultat
remainder	остатак (м)	ostatak
a few (e.g., ~ years ago)	неколико	nekoliko
little (I had ~ time)	мало	malo
the rest	остало (с)	ostalo
one and a half	један и по	jedan i po
dozen	туце (с)	tuce
in half (adv)	напола	napola
equally (evenly)	подједнако	podjednako
half	половина (ж)	polovina

time (three ~s)

пут (м)

put

10. The most important verbs. Part 1

to advise (vt)	саветовати	savetovati
to agree (say yes)	слагати се	slagati se
to answer (vi, vt)	одговарати	odgovarati
to apologize (vi)	извињавати се	izvinjavati se
to arrive (vi)	долазити	dolaziti
to ask (~ oneself)	питати	pitati
to ask (~ sb to do sth)	молити	moliti
to be (vi)	бити	biti
to be afraid	плашити се, бојати се	plašiti se, bojati se
to be hungry	бити гладан	biti gladan
to be interested in ...	интересовати се	interesovati se
to be needed	бити потребан	biti potreban
to be surprised	бити изненађен	biti iznenađen
to be thirsty	бити жедан	biti žedan
to begin (vt)	почињати	počinjati
to belong to ...	припадати	pripadati
to boast (vi)	хвалисати се	hvalisati se

to break (split into pieces)	ломити	lomiti
to call (~ for help)	звати	zvati
can (v aux)	моћи	moći
to catch (vt)	хватати	hvatati
to change (vt)	променити	promeniti
to choose (select)	бирати	birati
to come down (the stairs)	спуштати се	spuštati se
to compare (vt)	упоређивати	upoređivati
to complain (vi, vt)	жалити се	žaliti se
to confuse (mix up)	бркати	brkati
to continue (vt)	наставити	nastaviti
to control (vt)	контролисати	kontrolisati
to cook (dinner)	кувати	kuvati
to cost (vt)	коштати	koštati
to count (add up)	сабирати	sabirati
to count on ...	рачунати на ...	računati na ...
to create (vt)	направити	napraviti
to cry (weep)	плакати	plakati

11. The most important verbs. Part 2

to deceive (vi, vt)	обманути	obmanuti
to decorate (tree, street)	украшавати	ukrašavati
to defend (a country, etc.)	бранити	braniti
to demand (request firmly)	захтевати, тражити	zahtevati, tražiti
to dig (vt)	копати	kopati
to discuss (vt)	расправљати	raspravljati
to do (vt)	радити	raditi
to doubt (have doubts)	сумњати	sumnjati
to drop (let fall)	испустити	ispustiti
to enter (room, house, etc.)	ући	ući
to excuse (forgive)	опростити	oprostiti
to exist (vi)	постојати	postojati
to expect (foresee)	предвидети	predvideti
to explain (vt)	објашњавати	objašnjavati
to fall (vi)	падати	padati
to fancy (vt)	свиђати се	svidati se
to find (vt)	наћи	naći
to finish (vt)	завршавати	završavati
to fly (vi)	летети	leteti
to follow ... (come	пратити	pratiti

after)

to forget (vi, vt)	забрављати	zaboravljati
to forgive (vt)	опраштати	oprašati
to give (vt)	давати	davati
to give a hint	наговестити	nagovestiti
to go (on foot)	ићи	ići
to go for a swim	купати се	kupati se
to go out (for dinner, etc.)	изаћи	izaći
to guess (the answer)	одгонетнути	odgonetnuti
to have (vt)	имати	imati
to have breakfast	доручковати	doručkovati
to have dinner	вечерати	večerati
to have lunch	ручати	ručati
to hear (vt)	чути	čuti
to help (vt)	помагати	pomagati
to hide (vt)	крити	kriti
to hope (vi, vt)	надати се	nadati se
to hunt (vi, vt)	ловити	loviti
to hurry (vi)	журити се	žuriti se

12. The most important verbs. Part 3

to inform (vt)	информисати	informisati
to insist (vi, vt)	инсистирати	insistirati
to insult (vt)	вређати	vređati
to invite (vt)	позвати	pozvati
to joke (vi)	шалити се	šaliti se
to keep (vt)	чувати	čuvati
to keep silent	ћутати	ćutati
to kill (vt)	убити	ubiti
to know (sb)	знати	znati
to know (sth)	знати	znati
to laugh (vi)	смејати се	smejati se
to liberate (city, etc.)	ослободити	osloboditi
to look for ... (search)	тражити	tražiti
to love (sb)	волети	voleti
to make a mistake	грешити	grešiti
to manage, to run	руководити	rukovoditi
to mean (signify)	означавати	označavati
to mention (talk about)	спомињати	spominjati
to miss (school, etc.)	пропустити	propustiti
to notice (see)	запазити	zapaziti
to object (vi, vt)	приговарати	prigovarati

to observe (see)	посматрати, гледати	posmatrati, gledati
to open (vt)	отворити	otvoriti
to order (meal, etc.)	наручити	naručiti
to order (mil.)	наређивати	naređivati
to own (possess)	поседовати	posedovati
to participate (vi)	учествовати	učestvovati
to pay (vi, vt)	платити	platiti
to permit (vt)	дозвољавати	dozvoljavati
to plan (vt)	планирати	planirati
to play (children)	играти се	igrati se
to pray (vi, vt)	молити се	moliti se
to prefer (vt)	давати предност	davati prednost
to promise (vt)	обећати	obećati
to pronounce (vt)	изговарати	izgovarati
to propose (vt)	предлагати	predlagati
to punish (vt)	казнити	kazniti

13. The most important verbs. Part 4

to read (vi, vt)	читати	čitati
to recommend (vt)	препоручивати	preporučivati
to refuse (vi, vt)	одбити	odbiti

to regret (be sorry)	жалити	žaliti
to rent (sth from sb)	изнајмити	iznajmiti
to repeat (say again)	поновити	ponoviti
to reserve, to book	резервисати	rezervisati
to run (vi)	трчати	trčati
to save (rescue)	спасити	spasiti
to say (~ thank you)	рећи	reći
to scold (vt)	грдити	grditi
to see (vt)	видети	videti
to sell (vt)	продавати	prodavati
to send (vt)	послати	poslati
to shoot (vi)	пуцати	pucati
to shout (vi)	викати	vikati
to show (vt)	показати	pokazati
to sign (document)	потписати	potpisati
to sit down (vi)	сести	sesti
to smile (vi)	осмехнути се	osmehnuti se
to speak (vi, vt)	говорити	govoriti
to steal (money, etc.)	красти	krasti
to stop (for pause, etc.)	зауставити се	zaustaviti se
to stop (please ~ calling me)	прекинути	prekinuti

to study (vt)	студирати	studirati
to swim (vi)	пливати	plivati
to take (vt)	узети	uzeti
to think (vi, vt)	мислити	misliti
to threaten (vt)	претити	pretiti
to touch (with hands)	дирати	dirati
to translate (vt)	преводити	prevoditi
to trust (vt)	веровати	verovati
to try (attempt)	пробати	probati
to turn (e.g., ~ left)	скренути	skrenuti
to underestimate (vt)	потцењивати	potcenjivati
to understand (vt)	разумети	razumeti
to unite (vt)	ујединити	ujediniti
to wait (vt)	чекати	čekati
to want (wish, desire)	хтети	hteti
to warn (vt)	упозорити	upozoriti
to work (vi)	радити	raditi
to write (vt)	писати	pisati
to write down	записивати	zapisivati

14. Colours

colour	боја (ж)	boja
--------	-----------------	------

shade (tint)	нијанса (ж)	nijansa
hue	тон (м)	ton
rainbow	дуга (ж)	duga
white (adj)	бео	beo
black (adj)	црн	crn
grey (adj)	сив	siv
green (adj)	зелен	zelen
yellow (adj)	жут	žut
red (adj)	црвен	crven
blue (adj)	плав	plav
light blue (adj)	светло плав	svetlo plav
pink (adj)	ружичаст	ružičast
orange (adj)	наранџаст	narandžast
violet (adj)	љубичаст	ljubičast
brown (adj)	браон	braon
golden (adj)	златан	zlatan
silvery (adj)	сребрни	srebrni
beige (adj)	беж	bež
cream (adj)	крем	krem
turquoise (adj)	тиркизан	tirkizan
cherry red (adj)	боја вишње	boja višnje
lilac (adj)	лила	lila
crimson (adj)	гримизан	grimizan

light (adj)	светао	svetao
dark (adj)	таман	taman
bright, vivid (adj)	јарки	jarki
coloured (pencils)	обојен	obojen
colour (e.g. ~ film)	у боји	u boji
black-and-white (adj)	црно-бели	crno-beli
plain (one-coloured)	једнобојан	jednobojan
multicoloured (adj)	разнобојан	raznobojan

15. Questions

Who?	Ко?	Ko?
What?	Шта?	Šta?
Where? (at, in)	Где?	Gde?
Where (to)?	Куда?	Kuda?
From where?	Одакле?	Odakle?
When?	Када?	Kada?
Why? (What for?)	Зашто? Због чега?	Zašto? Zbog čega?
Why? (~ are you crying?)	Зашто?	Zašto?
What for?	Због чега?	Zbog čega?
How? (in what way)	Како?	Kako?
What? (What kind of	Какав?	Kakav?

...?)

Which?	Који?	Koji?
To whom?	Коме?	Kome?
About whom?	О коме?	O kome?
About what?	О чему?	O čemu?
With whom?	С ким?	S kim?
How many? How much?	Колико?	Koliko?
Whose?	Чији? Чија? Чије?	Čiji? Čija? Čije?

16. Prepositions

with (accompanied by)	са	sa
without	без	bez
to (indicating direction)	у	u
about (talking ~ ...)	о	o
before (in time)	пре	pre
in front of ...	испред	ispred
under (beneath, below)	испод	ispod
above (over)	изнад	iznad
on (atop)	на	na

from (off, out of)	из	iz
of (made from)	од	od
in (e.g. ~ ten minutes)	за	za
over (across the top of)	преко	preko

17. Function words. Adverbs. Part 1

Where? (at, in)	Где?	Gde?
here (adv)	овде	ovde
there (adv)	тамо	tamo
somewhere (to be)	негде	negde
nowhere (not anywhere)	нигде	nigde
by (near, beside)	код	kod
by the window	код прозора	kod prozora
Where (to)?	Куда?	Kuda?
here (e.g. come ~!)	овамо	ovamo
there (e.g. to go ~)	тамо	tamo
from here (adv)	одавде	odavde
from there (adv)	оданде	odande
close (adv)	близу	blizu

far (adv)	далеко	daleko
near (e.g. ~ Paris)	у близини	u blizini
nearby (adv)	у близини	u blizini
not far (adv)	недалеко	nedaleko
left (adj)	леви	levi
on the left	слева	sleva
to the left	лево	levo
right (adj)	десни	desni
on the right	здесна	zdesna
to the right	десно	desno
in front (adv)	спреда	spreda
front (as adj)	предњи	prednji
ahead (the kids ran ~)	унапред	unapred
behind (adv)	иза	iza
from behind	отпозади	otpozadi
back (towards the rear)	унатраг	unatrag
middle	середина (ж)	sredina
in the middle	у средини	u sredini
at the side	са стране	sa strane
everywhere (adv)	свуда	svuda

around (in all directions)	око	oko
from inside	изнутра	iznutra
somewhere (to go)	некуда	nekuda
straight (directly)	право	pravo
back (e.g. come ~)	назад	nazad
from anywhere	однекуд	odnekud
from somewhere	од негде	od negde
firstly (adv)	прво	prvo
secondly (adv)	друго	drugo
thirdly (adv)	треће	treće
suddenly (adv)	изненада	iznenada
at first (in the beginning)	у почетку	u početku
for the first time	први пут	prvi put
long before ...	много пре ...	mного pre ...
anew (over again)	поново	ponovo
for good (adv)	заувек	zauvek
never (adv)	никад	nikad
again (adv)	опет	opet
now (adv)	сада	sada
often (adv)	често	često
then (adv)	тада	tada

urgently (quickly)	хитно	hitno
usually (adv)	обично	obično
by the way, ...	узгред, ...	uzgred, ...
possible (that is ~)	могуће	moгуће
probably (adv)	вероватно	verovatno
maybe (adv)	можда	možda
besides ...	осим тога ...	osim toga ...
that's why ...	због тога ...	zbog toga ...
in spite of ...	без обзира на ...	bez obzira na ...
thanks to ...	захваљујући ...	zahvaljujući ...
what (pron.)	шта	šta
that (conj.)	да	da
something	нешто	nešto
anything (something)	нешто	nešto
nothing	ништа	ništa
who (pron.)	ко	ko
someone	неко	neko
somebody	неко	neko
nobody	нико	niko
nowhere (a voyage to ~)	никуд	nikud
nobody's	ничији	ničiji
somebody's	нечији	nečiji

so (I'm ~ glad)	тако	tako
also (as well)	такође	takođe
too (as well)	исто, такође	isto, takođe

18. Function words. Adverbs. Part 2

Why?	Зашто?	Zašto?
for some reason	из неког разлога	iz nekog razloga
because ...	зато што ...	zato što ...
for some purpose	због нечега	zbog nečega
and	и	i
or	или	ili
but	али	ali
for (e.g. ~ me)	за	za
too (excessively)	сувише, превише	suviše, previše
only (exclusively)	само	samo
exactly (adv)	тачно	tačno
about (more or less)	око	oko
approximately (adv)	приближно	približno
approximate (adj)	приближан	približan
almost (adv)	скоро, замало	skoro, zamalo
the rest	остало (с)	ostalo

the other (second)	други	drugi
other (different)	другачији	drugačiji
each (adj)	свак	svak
any (no matter which)	било који	bilo koji
many, much (a lot of)	много	mnogo
many people	многи	mnogi
all (everyone)	сви	svi
in return for ...	у замену за ...	u zamenu za ...
in exchange (adv)	у замену	u zamenu
by hand (made)	ручно	ručno
hardly (negative opinion)	једва да	jedva da
probably (adv)	вероватно	verovatno
on purpose (intentionally)	намерно	namerno
by accident (adv)	случајно	slučajno
very (adv)	врло	vrlo
for example (adv)	на пример	na primer
between	између	između
among	међу	među
so much (such a lot)	толико	toliko
especially (adv)	нарочито	naročito

BASIC CONCEPTS. PART 2

19. Weekdays

Monday	понедељак (м)	ponedeljak
Tuesday	уторак (м)	utorak
Wednesday	среда (ж)	sreda
Thursday	четвртак (м)	četvrtak
Friday	петак (м)	petak
Saturday	субота (ж)	subota
Sunday	недеља (ж)	nedelja
today (adv)	данас	danas
tomorrow (adv)	сутра	sutra
the day after tomorrow	прекосутра	prekosutra
yesterday (adv)	јуче	juče
the day before yesterday	прекјуче	prekjuče
day	дан (м)	dan
working day	радни дан (м)	radni dan

public holiday	празничан дан (м)	prazničan dan
day off	слободан дан (м)	slobodan dan
weekend	викенд (м)	vikend
all day long	цео дан	ceo dan
the next day (adv)	сутрадан	sutradan
two days ago	пре два дана	pre dva dana
the day before	уочи	uочи
daily (adj)	свакодневни	svakodnevni
every day (adv)	сваки дан	svaki dan
week	недеља (ж)	nedelja
last week (adv)	прошле недеље	prošle nedelje
next week (adv)	следеће недеље	sledeće nedelje
weekly (adj)	недељни	nedeljni
every week (adv)	недељно	nedeljno
twice a week	два пута недељно	dva puta nedeljno
every Tuesday	сваког уторка	svakog utorka

20. Hours. Day and night

morning	јутро (с)	jutro
in the morning	ујутру	ujutru
noon, midday	подне (с)	podne
in the afternoon	поподне	popodne

evening	вече (с)	veče
in the evening	увече	uveče
night	ноћ (ж)	noć
at night	ноћу	noću
midnight	поноћ (ж)	ponoć
second	секунд (м)	sekund
minute	минут (м)	minut
hour	сат (м)	sat
half an hour	пола (ж) сата	pola sata
a quarter-hour	четврт сата (ж)	četvrt sata
fifteen minutes	петнаест минута	petnaest minuta
24 hours	двадесет четири сата	dvadeset četiri sata
sunrise	излазак (м) сунца	izlazak sunca
dawn	свануће (с)	svanuće
early morning	рано јутро (с)	rano jutro
sunset	залазак (м) сунца	zalazak sunca
early in the morning	рано ујутру	rano ujutru
this morning	јутрос	jutros
tomorrow morning	сутра ујутру	sutra ujutru
this afternoon	овог поподнева	ovog popodneva
in the afternoon	поподне	popodne
tomorrow afternoon	сутра поподне	sutra popodne

tonight (this evening)	вечерас	večeras
tomorrow night	сутра увече	sutra uveče
at 3 o'clock sharp	тачно у три сата	tačno u tri sata
about 4 o'clock	око четири сата	oko četiri sata
by 12 o'clock	до дванаест сати	do dvanaest sati
in 20 minutes	за двадесет минута	za dvadeset minuta
in an hour	за сат времена	za sat vremena
on time (adv)	на време	na vreme
a quarter to ...	четврт (м)	četvrt
within an hour	у року од сат времена	u roku od sat vremena
every 15 minutes	сваких петнаест минута	svakih petnaest minuta
round the clock	цео дан и ноћ	ceo dan i noć

21. Months. Seasons

January	јануар (м)	januar
February	фебруар (м)	februar
March	март (м)	mart
April	април (м)	april
May	мај (м)	maj
June	јун (м), јуни (м)	jun, juni

July	јули (м)	juli
August	август (м)	avgust
September	септембар (м)	septembar
October	октобар (м)	oktobar
November	новембар (м)	novembar
December	децембар (м)	decembar
spring	пролеће (с)	proleće
in spring	у пролеће	u proleće
spring (as adj)	пролећни	prolećni
summer	лето (с)	leto
in summer	лети	leti
summer (as adj)	летњи	letnji
autumn	јесен (ж)	jesen
in autumn	у јесен	u jesen
autumn (as adj)	јесењи	jesenji
winter	зима (ж)	zima
in winter	зими	zimi
winter (as adj)	зимски	zimski
month	месец (м)	mesec
this month	овог месеца	ovog meseca
next month	следећег месеца	sledećeg meseca
last month	прошлог месеца	prošlog meseca

a month ago	пре месец дана	pre mesec dana
in a month (a month later)	за месец дана	za mesec dana
in 2 months (2 months later)	за два месеца	za dva meseca
the whole month	цео месец	ceo mesec
all month long	током целог месеца	tokom celog meseca
monthly (~ magazine)	месечни	mesečni
monthly (adv)	месечно	mesečno
every month	сваког месеца	svakog meseca
twice a month	два пута месечно	dva puta mesečno
year	година (ж)	godina
this year	ове године	ove godine
next year	следеће године	sledeće godine
last year	прошла година	prošla godina
a year ago	пре годину дана	pre godinu dana
in a year	за годину дана	za godinu dana
in two years	за две године	za dve godine
the whole year	цела година	cela godina
all year long	током целе године	tokom cele godine
every year	сваке године	svake godine
annual (adj)	годишњи	godišnji

annually (adv)	годишње	godišnje
4 times a year	четири пута годишње	četiri puta godišnje
date (e.g. today's ~)	датум (м)	datum
date (e.g. ~ of birth)	датум (м)	datum
calendar	календар (м)	kalendar
half a year	пола (ж) године	pola godine
six months	полугодиште (с)	polugodište
season (summer, etc.)	сезона (ж)	sezona
century	век (м)	vek

22. Time. Miscellaneous

time	време (с)	vreme
moment	часак (м)	časak
instant (n)	тренутак (м)	trenutak
instant (adj)	тренутан	trenutan
lapse (of time)	раздобље (с)	razdoblje
life	живот (м)	život
eternity	вечност (ж)	večnost
epoch	епоха (ж)	epoha
era	ера (ж)	era

cycle	циклус (м)	ciklus
period	период (м)	period
term (short-~)	рок (м)	rok
the future	будућност (ж)	budućnost
future (as adj)	будући	budući
next time	следећи пут	sledeći put
the past	прошлост (ж)	prošlost
past (recent)	прошли	prošli
last time	прошлог пута	prošlog puta
later (adv)	касније	kasnije
after (prep.)	после	posle
nowadays (adv)	у данашње време	u današnje vreme
now (adv)	сада	sada
immediately (adv)	одмах	odmah
soon (adv)	ускоро	uskoro
in advance (beforehand)	унапред	unapred
a long time ago	одавно	odavno
recently (adv)	недавно	nedavno
destiny	судбина (ж)	sudbina
memories (childhood ~)	успомене (ж мн)	uspomene
archives	архив (м)	arhiv

during ...	за време ...	za vreme ...
long, a long time (adv)	дуго	dugo
not long (adv)	кратко	kratko
early (in the morning)	рано	rano
late (not early)	касно	kasno
forever (for good)	заувек	zauvek
to start (begin)	почињати	počinjati
to postpone (vt)	одложити	odložiti
at the same time	истовремено	istovremeno
permanently (adv)	стално	stalno
constant (noise, pain)	константан	konstantan
temporary (adj)	привремен	privremen
sometimes (adv)	понекад	ponekad
rarely (adv)	ретко	retko
often (adv)	често	često

23. Opposites

rich (adj)	богат	bogat
poor (adj)	сиромашан	siromašan
ill, sick (adj)	болестан	bolestan

well (not sick)	здрав	zdrav
big (adj)	велики	veliki
small (adj)	мали	mali
quickly (adv)	брзо	brzo
slowly (adv)	споро	sporo
fast (adj)	брз	brz
slow (adj)	спор	spor
glad (adj)	весео	veseo
sad (adj)	тужан	tužan
together (adv)	заједно	zajedno
separately (adv)	одвојено	odvojeno
aloud (to read)	гласно	glasno
silently (to oneself)	у себи	u sebi
tall (adj)	висок	visok
low (adj)	низак	nizak
deep (adj)	дубок	dubok
shallow (adj)	плитак	plitak
yes	да	da
no	не	ne
distant (in space)	удаљен	udaljen
nearby (adj)	близак	blizak

far (adv)	далеко	daleko
nearby (adv)	близу	blizu
long (adj)	дуг, дугачак	dug, dugačak
short (adj)	кратак	kratak
good (kindhearted)	добар	dobar
evil (adj)	зао	zao
married (adj)	ожењен	oženjen
single (adj)	неожењен	neoženjen
to forbid (vt)	забранити	zabraniti
to permit (vt)	дозволити	dozvoliti
end	крај (м)	kraj
beginning	почетак (м)	početak
left (adj)	леви	levi
right (adj)	десни	desni
first (adj)	први	prvi
last (adj)	последњи	poslednji
crime	злочин (м)	zločin
punishment	казна (ж)	kazna
to order (vt)	наредити	narediti
to obey (vi, vt)	потчинити се	potčiniti se

straight (adj)	прав	prav
curved (adj)	крив	kriv
paradise	рај (м)	raj
hell	пакао (м)	pakao
to be born	родити се	roditi se
to die (vi)	умрети	umreti
strong (adj)	снажан	snažan
weak (adj)	слаб	slab
old (adj)	стар	star
young (adj)	млад	mlad
old (adj)	стар	star
new (adj)	нов	nov
hard (adj)	чврст	čvrst
soft (adj)	мек, мекан	mek, mekan
warm (tepid)	топао	topao
cold (adj)	хладан	hladan
fat (adj)	дебео	debeo
thin (adj)	танак, сувоњав	tanak, suvonjav
narrow (adj)	узак	uzak
wide (adj)	широк	širok
good (adj)	добар	dobar

bad (adj)	лош	loš
brave (adj)	храбар	hrabar
cowardly (adj)	кукавички	kukavički

24. Lines and shapes

square	квадрат (м)	kvadrat
square (as adj)	квадратан	kvadratan
circle	круг (м)	krug
round (adj)	округао	okrugao
triangle	троугао (м)	trougao
triangular (adj)	троугласт	trouglast
oval	овал (м)	oval
oval (as adj)	овалан	ovalan
rectangle	правоугаоник (м)	pravougaonik
rectangular (adj)	правоугаон	pravougaon
pyramid	пирамида (ж)	piramida
rhombus	ромб (м)	romb
trapezium	трапез (м)	trapez
cube	коцка (ж)	kocka
prism	призма (ж)	prizma
circumference	кружница (ж)	kružnica

sphere	сфера (ж)	sfera
ball (solid sphere)	кугла (ж)	kugla
diameter	пречник (м)	prečnik
radius	полупречник (м)	poluprečnik
perimeter (circle's ~)	периметар (м)	perimetar
centre	центар (м)	centar
horizontal (adj)	хоризонталан	horizontalan
vertical (adj)	вертикалан	vertikalan
parallel (n)	паралела (ж)	paralela
parallel (as adj)	паралелан	paralelan
line	линија (ж)	linija
stroke	црта (ж)	cрта
straight line	права линија (ж)	prava linija
curve (curved line)	крива (ж)	kriva
thin (line, etc.)	танак	tanak
contour (outline)	контура (ж)	kontura
intersection	пресек (м)	presek
right angle	прав угао (м)	prav ugao
segment	сегмент (м)	segment
sector	сектор (м)	sektor
side (of triangle)	страна (ж)	strana
angle	угао (м)	ugao

EXPERIENCE SERBIAN CULTURE



Get to know Serbia up close

The awe-inspiring view from the lookout above the largest canyon in Europe. The thrill of rafting down a turbulent river. The sound of a trumpet that's "felt in the stomach". A sip of local wine. Relaxation in healing spa water. A monumental fresco from an Orthodox monastery. Prehistoric figurines. A stranger who addresses you as "brother" and "friend". This is what you will experience in Serbia.

From here, the roads lead to cities, villages, spas, rivers, monuments and festivals. Embark on an unforgettable journey to picturesque regions of immeasurable natural beauty. Meet an authentic culture that has been thriving for centuries. Feel safe and enjoy sincere hospitality.

Discover Serbia through taste, sound and touch.

Serbia in an experience.

01

**Vivid
Cities**

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**My
Danube**

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**Cultural
Mosaic**

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**Exciting
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**Place to
Meet**

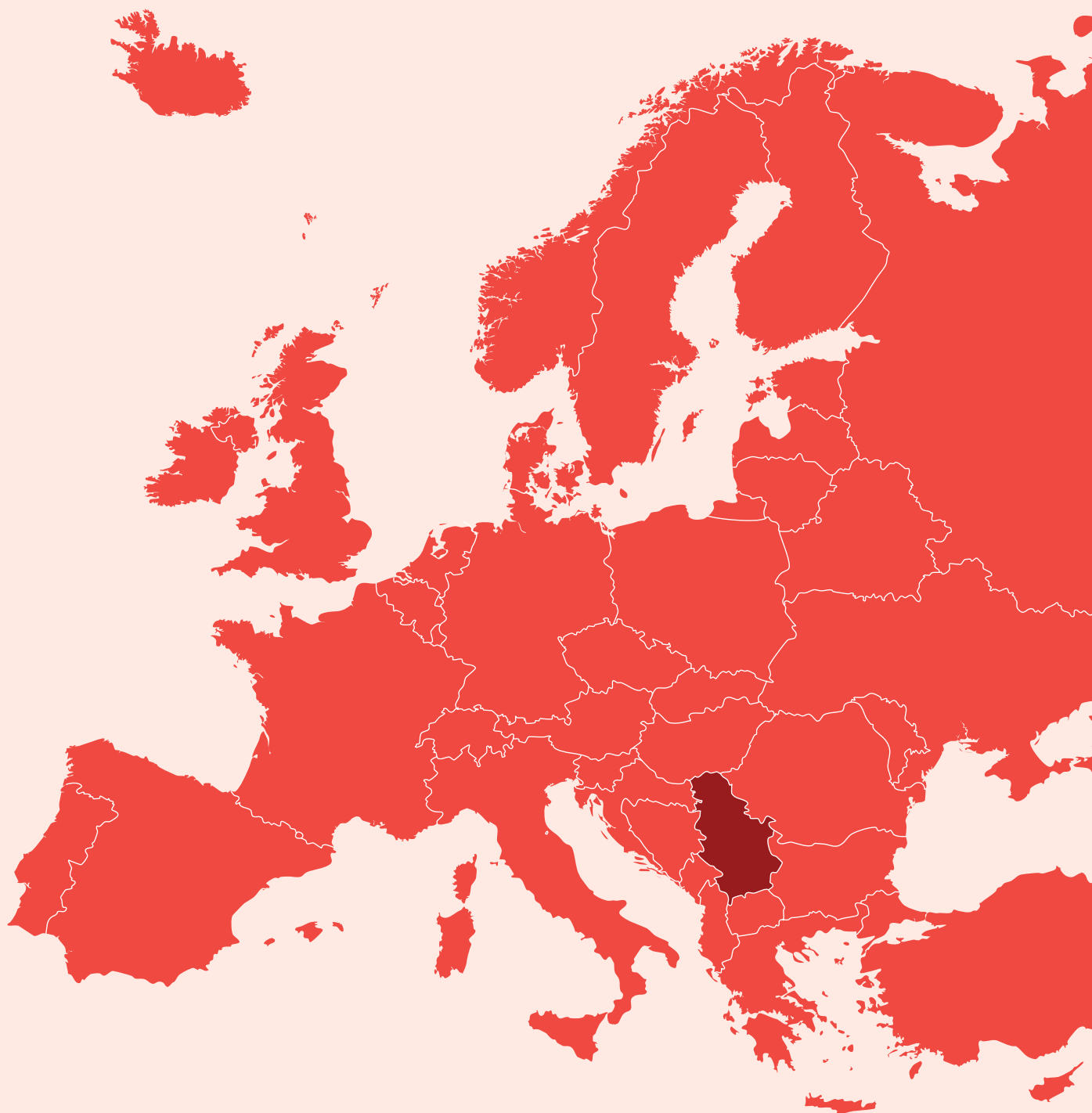
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06

**Interesting
facts**

48-49





Position

**Central and
South-East
Europe**

Surface

88,499
square kilometers

Population

6.909
million

Air Serbia

**Connects
the world with
Serbia**

Experience!

Vivid Cities

Numerous nations and civilizations have influenced today's appearance and spirit of Serbian cities.

From metropolitan Belgrade at the confluence of the Sava and the Danube, through Novi Sad, the European Capital of Culture in 2022, to Niš in the south, Serbian cities are places where life flows for hundreds and thousands of years.

If the opportunity arises, get to know some of the many lovely cities and towns that nurture a special way of life.



Belgrade

There is something exciting and intriguing about Belgrade. In Belgrade, the Sava river surrenders to the mighty Danube, and the Pannonian plain slowly begins to “wave” and grow into hills and mountains. Located at the crossroads of cultural influences, Belgrade is a city that never rests. The secret of its charm is in its acceptance of various, sometimes opposing ideas and world views.

You'll recognise the spirit of Belgrade on its streets, in its architecture, monuments, parks, and above all in the hospitality and openness of its people.



01



02



03

Kalemegdan

Kalemegdan is the largest city park and home to the Belgrade Fortress. A walk through Kalemegdan offers the opportunity to learn the history of this celebrated stronghold that stretches from the Roman era to the modern day. Here you can also find the Victor Monument, Belgrade Zoo, the Military and Natural History Museums, Ružica Church and St. Petka's Chapel – all with magnificent views of the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers. At the foot of the Kalemegdan Fortress, right next to the Sava river, there is Beton Hala, the old customs warehouses, now replete with numerous excellent restaurants.



04

Knez Mihailova Street

Knez Mihailova Street in the city centre is not only a shopping zone, but also the guardian of the city's identity, with a series of important buildings, each of which carries a part of Belgrade's story. The central pedestrian zone and the surrounding streets are full of restaurants, cafes, galleries and boutiques, with musicians and street performers completing the fantastic atmosphere.



05

- 01 Avala tower
- 02 Sava river
- 03 Knez Mihailova street
- 04 Kalemegdan
- 05 Victor monument

Temple of Saint Sava

On the Vračar plateau stands one of the largest Orthodox churches in the world. Dedicated to the founder of the Serbian Orthodox Church, Saint Sava Cathedral is built in the Serbo-Byzantine style and can accommodate more than 10,000 visitors at one time. Inside the temple, a grand mosaic of almost 15,000 square metres leaves a special impression.



01



02

Kosančićev venac

Soak up the charm and unique ambience in the oldest preserved area of the city. In this former administrative, spiritual and economic centre of the renewed Serbian state, in leafy streets lined with traditional Balkan architecture and European styles of the 19th and 20th centuries, you can find St. Michael's Orthodox Church, the Residence of Princess Ljubica, the Museum of Applied Arts and the “?” traditional tavern.

New Belgrade

It is fascinating how many layers, attractions and history a place called “New” can contain. After the Second World War, the left bank of the Sava gave rise to a new urban area inspired by the spirit of Le Corbusier and ideas of modernity and “Esprit Nouveau”, that faithfully reflected the aesthetics and values of this new epoch.

The Palace of Serbia, the “Sava” Congress Centre, the Museum of Contemporary Art and the “Belgrade Arena” sports arena are prime examples of monumental buildings in New Belgrade. In the last few decades, this part of the city has further transformed into a modern business district buzzing with cutting edge hotels, shopping malls and office buildings.



03

Natural attractions

Belgrade's location on two large rivers, alongside an artificial lake and close to a mountain, means the city offers numerous opportunities for outdoor activities.

Following the course of the Danube and Sava, on foot or by bicycle, along landscaped walkways, you can get to know numerous attractions: Belgrade Waterfront, the Danube promenade, the Great War Island, the Belgrade Fortress and the Dorćol neighbourhood.

Ada Ciganlija, an artificial lake known as the "Belgrade Sea", is the perfect place for sunbathing, walking, swimming and cycling, as well as for practicing many other sports.

When the people of Belgrade see Avala, they know they have returned home. This mountain is recognisable from a distance by the monumental Avala Tower and it offers an unforgettable view of the surroundings.



04

Skadarlija

Dating from the first half of the 20th century, the old bohemian quarter still enchants with its romantic atmosphere. In the restaurants and traditional kafanas, you can enjoy the specialties of Serbian cuisine and music, preserved in almost unchanged form.

Zemun

Once the frontier of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and now an integral part of the city of Belgrade, Zemun is a story of cobbled streets, quays, alases (river fishermen), the smell of the old and the new. Built on man-made hills, Zemun is famous for Gardoš, also known as Millennium Tower.

There are numerous bars, floating "splavs" and restaurants along the river promenade.



05



06

- 01 Temple of Saint Sava
- 02 Kosančićev venac
- 03 Genex tower
- 04 Zemun
- 05 Avala
- 06 Skadarlija

Novi Sad

In Novi Sad, people live calmly and without hurry. And that's how you should get to know the city – by taking leisurely strolls through its elegant streets and parks, alongside its underground corridors and river beaches that conceal lovely restaurants and coffee bars, to the galleries, museums and the remarkable Petrovaradin fortress overlooking it all. Whatever they do, they do it with chill. In Novi Sad, slow is elegant.

The second largest city in Serbia was the European Capital of Culture for 2022.

The wide plain through which the Danube casually flows is fertile ground for the creation of an open-minded city, in which the monuments of different cultures and religions are harmoniously entwined.



City Hall

The City Hall is an impressive Neo-Renaissance building with four domes and a tower located on today's Freedom Square (Trg slobode).

Roman Catholic Church of the Name of Mary

The Roman Catholic Church of the Name of Mary, a neo-Gothic style cathedral, is 73 metres high, making it the tallest place of worship in the city. The church has an organ that is still played today.



Fruška Gora National Park

Fruška Gora National Park, near Novi Sad, combines spirituality, vineyards, thermal waters and exceptional conditions for a wide range of outdoor activities.



Cathedral Church of St. George

The Cathedral Church of St. George is the most important and largest Orthodox church in Novi Sad. The interior of the church is decorated with stained glass, which contributes to the general impression of splendour.



Petrovaradin Fortress

Petrovaradin Fortress was built by the Habsburg monarchy in response to the constant danger from the Ottomans. The fortress has an Upper and a Lower Town. The Clock Tower dominates the Upper Town.



Synagogue

The Synagogue was built in the Art Nouveau style and is one of the four synagogues that exist in Serbia today.



Dunavska Street

Dunavska Street is one of the oldest streets in the pedestrian zone. A great number of passages hide shops, souvenir stores, ice cream parlours and restaurants.



Štrand

The Štrand is a popular city beach on the Danube, packed full of life during the hot summer months.

Niš

If you want to feel the true spirit of southern Serbia, you need to visit Niš. Life with “merak” (taking pleasure from the small things in life) needs to be experienced to be fully understood.

Numerous historical traces date back to the era of ancient Rome, symbolic monuments give testimony to the dramatic events, but nothing has prevented the people of Niš from developing a special art of enjoying life and living in the moment.

In the centre of Niš, there is a grand fortress that was built bit by bit across the centuries by the Romans, Byzantines and the Serbs, with its final touches provided by the Ottomans in 1730.

Roman Emperor Constantine the Great was born in Naissus, today's Niš, and he is known for passing the Edict of Milan, by which Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. The remains of a luxurious suburb from the time of his reign can be seen at the archaeological site of Mediana, dating from the 4th century.



01



02

01 Niš Fortress

02 Archeological site Mediana,
mosaic, detail, 4th century

Suva Planina mountain, the Nišava river and the Sićevočka and Jelašnička gorges seem to have been created for an action film. Indulge in rafting, paragliding, hiking and many other activities.

In the Sićevočka gorge there is the “St. Petka” Hydroelectric Power Plant, built at the beginning of the 20th century according to the principles of Nikola Tesla and his colleague Đorđe Stanojević, which still supplies Niš with electricity to this day.



03

There is a monument to Serbian heroes from the First Serbian Uprising on Čegar Hill. In revenge, the Ottomans built a terrifying Skull-Tower from the skulls of Serbian rebels. The Crveni Krst (Red Cross) Concentration Camp and the Bujanj Memorial Park preserve the memory of the victims of the Second World War.

- 01 Čegar Hill
- 02 Meze
- 03 Suva Planina Mountain
- 04 Bujanj Memorial Park



01



02

The people of Niš know how to make a real feast every day. The famous breakfast food “burek” is not only a great start to the day but also a fine end to an exciting night. Gastronomic excitement coming right up! “Meze” is a starter of hot and cold local specialties of cheese, peppers, beans and vine leaves, amongst others. Leave room for grilled meat specialties done in local Niš way.



04