
Why do YOU want to *Try* *Russian* ?

Tell us in up to 200 words why you think Russian sounds interesting / fun / worth studying. We would like to publish the best contributions on our website for school students:

www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk

The site is full of interesting facts about Russia which we hope will inspire you to find out more.

Send your contributions to:

info@scotlandrussiaforum.org



THE SCOTLAND-RUSSIA FORUM

Scottish charity no. SC038728

Summerhall

1 Summerhall

Edinburgh EH9 1PL

UK

tel. +44 (0)131 560 1486

email info@scotlandrussiaforum.org

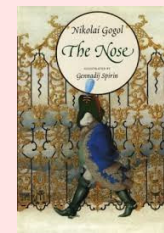
 @ScotRussiaForum

 The Scotland-Russia Forum

www.scotlandrussiaforum.org

www.findoutaboutrussia.co.uk (information about Russia for school students)

WHY Try Russian?

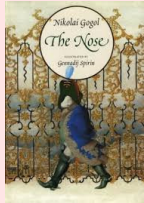


These are some of our reasons
— what are yours?

10 Reasons to *Try Russian*

It's interesting...

1 Read about the romantic Dr Zhivago, the Nose who lives a life of its own, the murderer Raskolnikov or the scary witch Baba Yaga.



2 Learn about the writers of those stories and other famous Russians. People like the first man in space Yuri Gagarin, and the first woman Valentina Tereshkova. Or scientists, musicians, ballet dancers...



3 Explore Russia! Russia is the largest country in the world, 5700 miles from one end to the other and covering 11 time zones. If you get on the train in Moscow you will travel from Europe, through the forests of Siberia, and finish your journey a week later in East Asia just across the sea from Japan.



4 Russian history is an important and little understood part of European history. Worth finding out about, dramatic and often gory.



An amazing language...

5 Make friends. Russians are very keen on the Internet (Russian is the 2nd most used language on the net) and keen Skypers so it's easy to stay in touch.

6 You CAN learn Russian. It is a European language and is in the same linguistic group as the Slavonic languages of EU members such as Poland and the Czech Republic. The UK Foreign Office reckon it takes about as long to learn as German. It is also a very beautiful language, pronunciation is straightforward, and there is no tricky verb 'to be'.

7 Russian is not a "minority language". It is one of the official UN languages, and has the highest number of native speakers in Europe, the 8th highest in the world.



Your career...

8 The UK does much less business in Russia than many of its European neighbours so there is potential to catch up – even in current political circumstances. Scottish companies are particularly active in oil-related business with Russia and Scottish textiles are among other popular imports. So are Irn Bru and whisky!



9 Political developments in Russia make business difficult but have woken Britain up to the fact that the UK needs more people who speak Russian and understand the country.

Enjoy!

10 Russian food – have you tried borsch (beetroot soup – much better than it sounds), blini (Russian pancakes), Russian cheesecake and tea with lemon or runny jam (yum)?

