

Russian verbs of motion:

An Introduction to determinate and Indeterminate verbs.

Russian verbs of motion:: An Introduction to determinate and Indeterminate verbs.

Abstract

This programmed textbook introduces Russian imperfective verbs of motion. The text explains the verbs and includes questions in the text with blanks for the student to fill in. The answers are found on the following pages. The book is devoted primarily to five major Russian verbs of motion (those of locomotion and conveyance) in their determinate and indeterminate forms, with one section on some other pairs of indeterminate-determinate verbs of motion. A final test, for which answers are available, completes the course. An appendix of verb definitions and a short bibliography are included. (CHK)



Note

This course was formatted by Eric Streit (eric@yojik.eu) using the docbook format from the pdf scanned documents found on:

<http://sites.google.com/site/soyouwanttolearnalanguage/languagee-books> .

The Russian part was checked by Gulnara Streit (my wife). You can find the pdf, epub versions on <http://www.yojik.eu/> .

Version: 4 July 2011

Table of Contents

Conjugation patterns of the verbs of locomotion and conveyance	v
1. Introduction	1
2. Verbs of motion	4
3. The determinate	6
4. The indeterminate verbs of motion	11
5. Some other verbs	18
6. Test	24
7. Answers	27
8. Appendix	29

List of Tables

1. Indeterminate imperfective	v
2. Determinate imperfective	v

Conjugation patterns of the verbs of locomotion and conveyance

Table 1. Indeterminate imperfective

	to ride	to go on foot, to walk	to carry	to carry by vehicle	to lead, to conduct
Infinitive	ездить	ходить	носить	возить	водить
Present	Я ёзжу	хожу	ношу	Зожу	вожу
	Ты едешь	ходишь	носишь	водишь	водишь
	он едет	ходит	носит	возят	зодит
	мы ездим	ходим	носим	возим	водим
	вк ездите	ходите	носите	возите	водите
	они ездят	ходят	носят	возят	водят
Past	M. ездил	ходил	носил	возил	водил
	F. ездила	ходила	носила	возила	водила
	N. ездило	ходило	носило	возило	водило
	PL. ездили	ходили	носили	возили	водили
Imperative	езди, -те	ходи, -те	носи, -те	вози, -те	води, -те

Table 2. Determinate imperfective

	to ride	to go on foot, to walk	to carry	to carry by vehicle	to lead, to conduct
Infinitive	ехать	идти	нести	везти	вести
Present	Я еду	иду	несу	везу	веду
	Ты едешь	идёшь	несёшь	везёшь	ведешь
	он едет	идёт	несёт	везёт	ведет
	мы едем	идём	несём	везём	ведём
	вы едете	идёте	несёте	везёте	ведёте
	они едут	идут	несут	везут	ведут
Past	M. ехал	шёл	нёс	вёз	вёл
	F. ехала	шла	несла	везла	зела
	N. ехало	шло	несло	везло	вело
	PL. ехали	шли	несли	везли	вели
Imperative	(попе)	иди, -те	неси, -те	вези, -те	веди

Introduction

As you already know, Russian verbs exist in pairs -- imperfective and perfective. In Russian it is necessary to have at your command both verbs, the imperfective and the perfective, to express all the possibilities of a **verbal idea**. The imperfective and the perfective verbs are basically identical in meaning, but differ in aspect. To express the verbal idea of "writing" in English we need only one verb "to write". The Russian language has two verbs, the imperfective писать and the perfective написать. Both mean "to write".

Perfective verbs generally express the notion of completion. For example, the perfective verb написать "to write" is used in the past tense below expressing the notion of a completed action.

Я написал эту книгу.	I wrote this book.
----------------------	--------------------

Imperfective verbs describe an action without reference to its completion. imperfective verbs are used when expressing a progressive action, repetition, or simply naming the action. Considering only the past tense of the imperfective verb писать "to write", you might find the following:

Я писал весь день.	I was writing all day. (progressive)
Я писал каждый день.	I wrote every day. (repetition) I would write every day. I used to write every day.
Я хорошо писал по-русски.	I wrote Russian well. (naming the action)

This opposition between imperfective and perfective verbs is superficially adequate for most verbs in most contexts.

Я писал	progressive repetition naming the action	я написал	completion
---------	--	-----------	------------

Before we start with the "verbs of motion" translate this sentence into English.

RUSSIAN: Я написал эту письмо.

ENGLISH:

Answer:

ENGLISH: I wrote this letter. (a completed action)

That was simple. The perfective verb tells you it is a completed action. O.K., translate this one.

RUSSIAN: Я писал маме.

ENGLISH:

Answer:

ENGLISH:

- I was writing Mother (when you called),
- I wrote Mother (every day).
- I would write to Mother (every morning before school).

The three translations above point out the problem with imperfective verbs -- they can be interpreted in several ways. All you know when you see an imperfective verb is that the emphasis is **not** on a completed action.

This is an important point to know about Russian verbs: perfective verbs carry an intrinsic meaning of completion, while imperfective verbs have no intrinsic meaning. The problem with imperfective verbs is one of interpretation.

Where do you suppose you would look for hints on interpreting the meaning of an imperfective verb?

Answer: Look at the rest of the sentence or paragraph.

Looking at the rest of the sentence for clues is the normal approach. Since imperfective verbs may have several meanings (interpretations), it is necessary to know the sentence context as well as the possible meanings of the imperfective verb. From now on we shall deal with imperfective verbs only.

What are the three basic meanings of the imperfective verbs?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Answer:

1. progressive action
2. repeated action
3. naming the action

Now, in the sentences below **choose the best meaning for the imperfective verbs** according to the context of the sentences; progressive, repeated, or naming.

1. Я писал отцу три раза. I wrote to Father three times.
2. Я читал всё утро. I read (was reading) all morning.
3. Я говорил по-русски. I spoke (used to speak) Russian.

Answer:

1. repeated action
2. progressive action
3. naming the action

The last answer, "naming the action" occasionally gives the student some trouble. This meaning, of imperfective verbs is used to simply state the verb without reference to any quality of action or time.

Below are listed some English sentences that name the verb.

1. I like to play.
2. My dog limps.
3. Most people sneeze.

4. He reads Russian.

5. We eat to live.

None of these verbs truly tie themselves to the notions of progression or repetition.

Verbs of motion

In Russian certain verbs have two imperfective forms. These verbs are called the "verbs of motion", because they state the basic types of motion — going on foot, going by vehicle, flying, swimming, crawling, etc.

There are only thirteen of these verbs, but they play a large role in both the spoken and written language. For our purposes, only the verbs of going, carrying, and leading are used. If you are curious, all of the verbs of motion are listed in the Appendix in the back.

The two imperfective forms of these verbs present alternate views of going, carrying, swimming, etc. In general, a Russian needs only two verbs to express all possibilities of a verbal idea — the imperfective and the perfective.

verbal idea "writing"	
imperfective	perfective
писать	написать

To express a verbal idea in all possible ways for a verb of motion you need three verbs — the perfective verb and two imperfective verbs called the indeterminate and the determinate.

verbal idea "going on foot"	
imperfective	
indeterminate	determinate
ходить	идти

Now look at the card that comes with this booklet. This card is titled *CONJUGATION PATTERNS OF THE VERBS OF LOCOMOTION AND CONVEYANCE*.

These are the five verbs used throughout this text for examples, practice exercises, and tests. You may use this card anytime you wish as a reference, "cheat sheet", or bookmark. Of course, if you going to learn Russian you will eventually have to memorize them, but in this text it is not obligatory.

There are in Russian two verb-pairs with the general meaning of "to go", "to come", or "to travel", The verbs *ходить-идти* mean "to go on foot", and the verbs *ездить-ехать* mean "to go by vehicle or some means of conveyance".

In English we use the verb "to go" much more generally than the Russians. The English sentence "I am going to town" has two counterparts in Russian.

- Я иду в город. I am going to town (on foot).
- Я еду в город. I am going to town (by vehicle).

A similar distinction is made for *носить-нести* "to carry on foot" and *возить-везти* , "to carry by vehicle, to transport".

	On Foot	By Vehicle
to go	ходить -- идти	ездить -- ехать
to carry	носить -- нести	возить -- везти

This is a simple exercise to help you start to discriminate between "going on foot" and "going by vehicle". **Place a check beside the correct response.**

		On Foot	By Vehicle
1.	going across the room		
2.	going to Florida		
3.	carrying my friend to the movies		
4.	going into the kitchen		
5.	carrying the book upstairs		
6.	carrying the refrigerator back to town		
7.	going to the country		
8.	carrying the newspaper next door		
9.	carrying the family home		
10.	going through the library		

Answer:

	On Foot	By Vehicle
1.	X	-
2.	-	X
3.	-	X
4.	X	-
5.	X	-
6.	-	X
7.	-	X
8.	X	-
9.	-	X
10.	X	-

Now with the aid of your card translate the two sentences into English.

1. Я несу книгу в класс.
2. Я везу деньги (money) в банк.

Answer:

1. I am carrying the book to class (on foot).
2. I am carrying the money to the bank (by car).

The verbs of motion have two imperfective forms. They are called the _____ and the _____.

The determinate

Answer: indeterminate and determinate (either order)

First let's take up the determinate imperfective. The most common determinate verb is идти "to go on foot". As you can see on the card, идти, along with all imperfective verbs, has a present tense, a past tense, an imperative, and an infinitive. You can also form a future tense with the present tense forms of the verb быть "to be" plus the infinitive form.

One note of caution. If you are going to rely on that card, you will probably be making a mistake. There are about twenty prefixes that can be added to these verbs to form new verbs — approximately 100 verbs, and all are in common use! It wouldn't hurt to write them out for practice right now.

Now that you know the forms of the imperfective determinate verb идти let us see how to use it. Since a determinate verb is a subcategory of an imperfective verb, we shall start with our definition of an imperfective verb.

What are the three meanings of an imperfective verb?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Answer:

1. progressive action
2. repeated action
3. naming the action

The determinate verb describes a motion in progress at a given time — a progressive motion. The determinate roughly correlates with the English progressive tenses.

I am going to the movies.	A motion in progress in the present tense.
He was going home.	A motion in progress in the past tense.

NOT:

I go to school.	A repeated (habitual) action.
They went home every day.	A repeated (habitual) action.
The baby walks now.	Naming the motion (action) without reference to time.

The determinate imperfective verb roughly corresponds to the English progressive forms. **Which of the following sentences in English would be translated into Russian using the verb идти**

DEFINITION: A determinate verb describes an action in progress at a given (specific) moment in time.

Mary goes to church. (page 18)

Bobby usually comes to work late. (page 19)

Here comes Harry! (page 17)

Your Answer: Here comes Harry!

Correct. "Here comes Harry" is an action in progress at a specific moment in time. In English we do not always use the progressive form "is coming" to express a progressive action.

Turn to page 20.

18 (from page 16)

Your Answer: Mary goes to church.

That's not it. "Mary goes to church" is a repeated action. Doesn't the English imply that she goes to church regularly (or at least occasionally)? To express the idea of an action in progress at a specific moment we would have to change this sentence to:

Mary is going to church (right this moment).

Return to page 16 and select the correct answer.

19 (from page 16)

Your Answer: Bobby usually comes to work late.

Very unlikely. The adverb "usually" implies something that takes place repeatedly. To express the idea of an action in progress at a specific moment in time we would have to change the sentence to read:

Bobby is coming to work late (today).

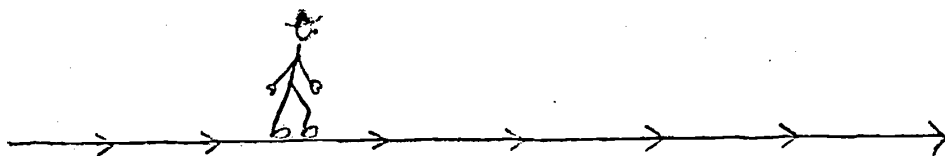
Return to page 16 and select the correct answer.

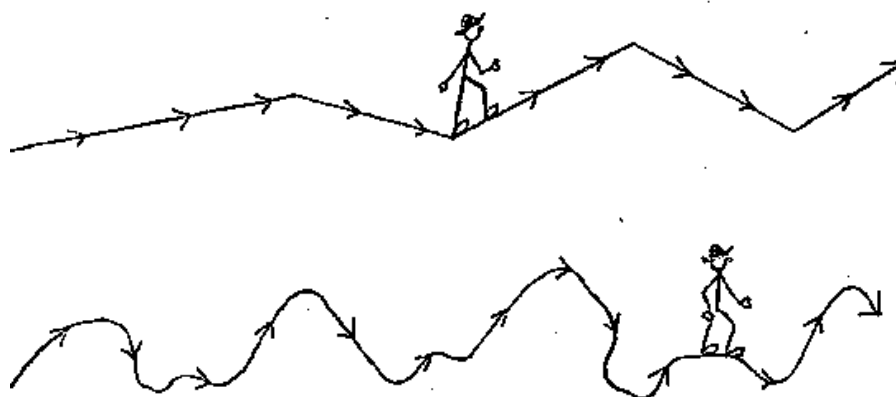
Whenever determinate verbs of motion are discussed, the notion of a definite direction is brought up. A favorite textbook definition is: "Determinate verbs of motion describe an action in progress at a given time in a definite direction.

- I am going to the movies.
- He is coming home.
- Olga is coming into the room.

Although direction is sometimes a handy way of looking at determinate verbs, it can cause some con-fusion. The phrases "to the movies", "home", and "into the room" really say more about destination than direction. The point is this: if you can see (visualize in your mind's eye) a motion in progress, then whoever or whatever is moving at any given moment can only be moving In one direction. This is self-evident. A better way to look at determinate motion is to visualize a simple progressive motion along a line. This line is not necessarily straight. Turn to the next page and consider the drawings of determinate motion.

All of the motions below can be expressed by the determinate verb of motion.





All of the above motions can be expressed by the determinate verb of motion.

Ольга шла мимо дома.	Olga was walking past the house.
----------------------	----------------------------------

Using the definition "motion in progress along a line at a specific moment", are you able to visualize in your mind's eye Olga's walking along a line (in the past)? It is a concrete image. A simple act of motion progressing along a line at the moment you visualize it. In this case, I saw in my mind's eye Olga walking in a fairly straight line on a sidewalk running past a house. In this sentence I don't know her destination, but I do visualize her moving in some direction. Here are two sentences with a determinate verb expressing a progressive motion along a line at a specific moment in time.

Which sentence has the more crooked line of motion?

- Иван идёт туда в кино. Ivan is going there to the movies.
- Собака идёт зигзагами к дому. The dog zigzagged toward the house.

Answer. Your choice . It all depends on how you visualize it. A determinate verb expresses the action along a line irrespective of how intricate the line is.

Did you notice the adverb туда "there" in the sentence Иван идёт туда в кино? Until now you have always used там in Russian for the concept "there". Russian has two adverbs for the concept of "where", "there", and "here". These adverbs have specific uses in Russian, and they are not interchangeable.

The adverb где "where" (you already know this one) refers only to location — where someone or something is located. The adverb куда "where" is used when motion is involved. Куда really means "whereto". In English we now generally use the adverb **where**, to mean both location and motion-to. Not too long ago we had the same opposition in English as the Russians have. The adverb **whither** was used with motion-to, and where referred only to location. You are familiar with words of Ruth: "Whither thou goest, I shall go" Notice the difference in the following sentences.

Где Иван?	Куда идёт Иван?
Where is Ivan?	Where is Ivan going?

Go to the next page.

Can you fill In the "blanks below?"

где	=	where	куда	=	where (whither)
здесь	=	here	сюда	=	_____(____)
там	=	there	туда	=	_____(____)

Answer:

- куда = where (whither)
- сюда = here (hither)
- туда = there (thither)

The adverbs где, здесь, and там are used for location; and куда, сюда, and туда are used with verbs expressing motion.

Choose the correct form.

1. Иван, (куда/где) ты идёшь? Ivan, where are you going?
2. Ольга, (куда/где) ты работаешь? Olga, where do you work?
3. Вы тоже шли (туда/там)? Were you going there also?
4. Он живёт (сюда/здесь). He lives here.
5. Она была (сюда/здесь) в комнате. She was here in the room.

Answer:

1. куда
2. где
3. туда
4. здесь
5. здесь

Now, will you write a definition of determinate verb?

Answer: Determinate verbs express a simple progressive motion along a line at a given (specific) moment in time. (It is not necessary to have the same words as mine.)

Does this motion have to be visualized as a straight line?

Answer: NO.

Is a stated direction necessary for determinate verbs? _____

Answer: NO.

Many Russian sentences can be generated without a stated direction. For example:

Поезд идет быстро.	The train is going fast.
Вор идёт!	A thief is coming!

Fill in the blanks with the correct adverb (куда, где, туда, там, сюда, or здесь).

1. ____ твоя мама живёт? Where does your mother live?
2. Я иду ____ . I am going there.
3. Ольга шла ____ . Olga was coming here,
4. ____ автомобиль? Where is the car?
5. Пётр стоял ____ Peter was standing there.

Answer: 1.

1. Где
2. туда
3. сюда
4. Где
5. там

This completes the section on determinate verbs of motion using the verb идти.

Turn the page when you are ready to start the next section on the indeterminate verbs.

The indeterminate verbs of motion

Before we start on the indeterminate verbs of motion, there is one more point of grammar paralleling the kind of choice we must make between куда and где. Two prepositions в and на + locative express location. This is something you have been doing all along.

When в or на governs the locative case: в means "in, at", and на means "on, at".

Где Иван?	Where is Ivan?
Он в библиотеке.	He's in the library.
Он на концерте.	He's at the concert.

In sentences with verbs of motion, a question is generally a куда-question. A куда-question asks, "whereto?" The same prepositions в and на may be used to answer a куда-question. In this case в means "in, to", and на means "on, to". In answering куда-questions, в and на govern the accusative case — в or на + accusative.

- Куда идёт Иван? Where is Ivan going?
- Он идёт в театр. He is going to the theater.
- Он идёт на концерт. He is going to the concert.

Choose the correct form.

1. Моя тарелка (на кухне/на кухню).
My plate is in the kitchen.
2. Я иду (на уроке/на урок).
I am going to class.
3. Люди читают (в библиотеке/в библиотеку).
People read in the library.
4. Отец шёл (в городе/в город).
Father was going to town.
5. Я видел его (на футболе/на футбол).
I saw him at the football game.

Answer:

1. на урок
2. в библиотеке
3. в город
4. на футболе.

There is one other pair of adverbial forms meaning "home" used the same way — дома (location) and домой (destination or direction).

Translate the answers to the following questions into Russian using either дома or домой.

Где Иван?

He is at home. _____

Куда идёт Иван?

He is going home. _____

Answer.

1. Он дома.
2. Он идёт домой.

Fill In the blanks below.	
Location	Motion
где	_____
здесь	_____
там	_____
дома в + locative	_____ + _____
на + locative	_____ + _____

Answer:

Location	Motion
где	куда
здесь	сюда
там	туда
дома	домой
в + locative	в + accusative
на + locative	на + accusative

Since indeterminate verbs are Imperfective verbs, **what are the three basic actions expressed by imperfective verbs?**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Answer:

1. progressive action
2. repeated action
3. naming the action

If determinate verbs of motion express a progressive (a simple progressive motion along a line at a given moment), then **indeterminate verbs express _____ and _____.**

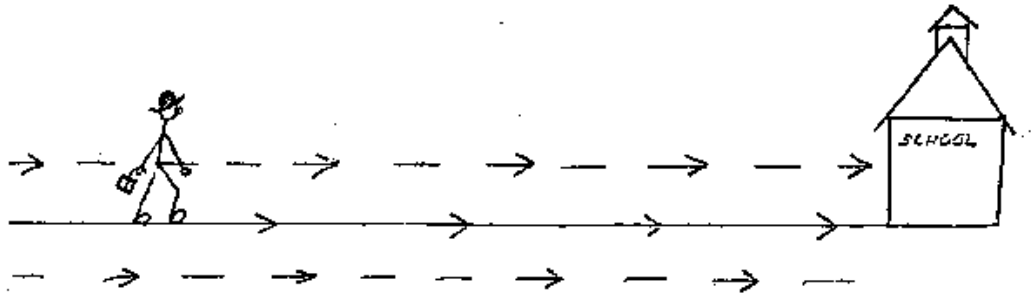
Answer: repeated action (motion) and naming the action (motion)

To put repeated motion and naming the action into the same sort of definition as the determinate one, let us say that an indeterminate verb may describe:

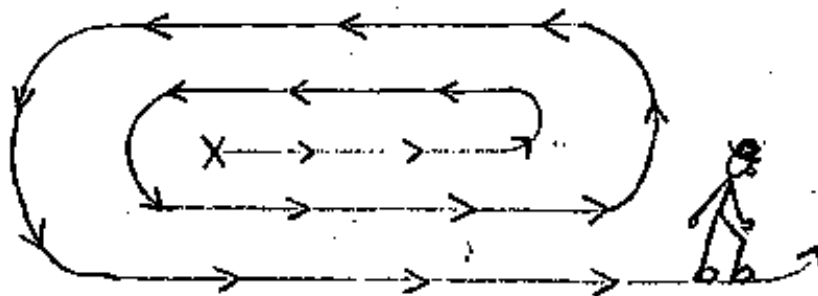
1. motion non-progressively along a line
2. motion with no relation to the line

The repeated or habitual actions when translated into repeated or habitual motions can be thought of as non-progressive motion along a line. Using the indeterminate verb ходить (the partner of the determinate verb идти), turn to the next page and look at the sentences describing non-progressive motion along a line.

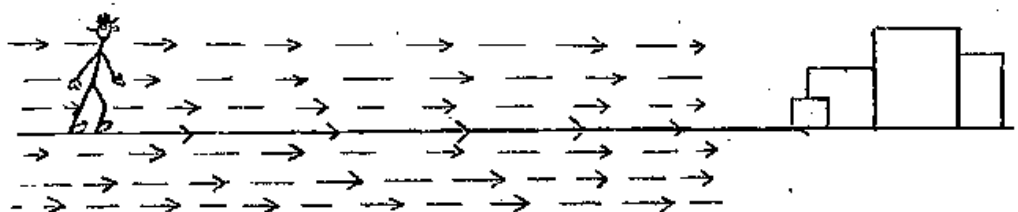
1. Repeated motion: хожу в школу три раза в неделю. I go to class three times a week.



2. Repeated motion: Я ходил по комнате. I was walking around the room.



3. Habitual motion: Мой брат ходит в город. My brother goes to town.



Now at the sentence below. **Select the best answer.**

Зина _____ в школу.

- a: идёт page 42
- b: ходит page 40
- c: either идёт or ходит page 41

Your Answer: (b) зина ходит в школу. Zina goes to school.

"Zina goes to school" is a non-progressive motion considered as a repeated action or habitual action. It certainly can be interpreted in this way. But can't you also say Зина идёт в школу "Zina is going to school" (a progressive motion along a line at a given moment in time)? This also correct.

The problem is there is not enough information in the rest of the sentence to give you only one possible interpretation. The sentence can be visualized in more than one way.

Most often a sentence with an indeterminate verb of motion will have adverbial clues for repeated or habitual actions.

Can you think of any adverbs or adverbial phrases that will help you visualize the motion as being repeated or habitual?

Turn to page 43 and you will see some that I thought of.

41 (from page 39)

Your Answer:

- Зина идёт в школу. Zina is going to school.
- Зина ходит в школу. Zina goes to school.

You are absolutely right. There was not enough information in the rest of the sentence to be sure of any one single interpretation. The sentence can be visualized in more than one way.

More often than not a sentence with an indeterminate verb will have adverbial clues for repeated or habitual motions.

Can you think of any adverbs or adverbial phrases that will help you visualize the motion as being repeated or habitual?

Turn to page 43 and . you will see some that I thought of.

42 (from page 39)

Your Answer: (a) Зина идёт в школу. Zina is going to school.

"Zina is going to school" describes a simple progressive motion along a line at a given moment in time. This is correct as far as it goes. What about Зина ходит в школу "Zina goes to school" (an habitual or repeated motion)? This is also possible.

The problem is there is not enough information in the rest of the sentence to give you only one possible answer. The sentence can be visualized more than one way.

Most often a sentence with an indeterminate verb of motion will have adverbs or adverbial clues for repeated or habitual actions. Can you think of any adverbs or adverbial phrases that will help you visualize the motion as being repeated or habitual? Turn to page 43 and you will see some that I thought of.

The indeterminate
verbs of motion

Here is my list of adverbial clues or cues that can assist you in choosing the indeterminate from.

всегда	always
никогда	never
два раза	twice
три раза	three times
пять раз	five times
много раз	many times
каждый день	every day
каждую неделю	every week
часто	often
обычно	usually
обыкновенно	generally
от времени до времени	from time to time

In the three sentences below the forms of the determinate идти can not be used.

What are the cues in the sentences that make the forms of the indeterminate ходить the only choice?

1. Он всё время ходил взад и вперед по комнате.

He continuously walked back and forth about the room.

2. Я хожу на лекции по вторникам.

I go to lectures on Tuesdays.

3. Ольга редко ходила в класс.

Olga rarely came to class.

Answer:

1. всё время "continuously" and взад и вперед "back and forth"

2. по вторникам "on Tuesdays"

3. редко "rarely"

These clues help you determine that the sentences express a repeated or habitual action. Therefore, the indeterminate verb is called for. An indeterminate verb expresses a non-progressive motion along a line — motion back and forth along that line or motion several times along that line. Since a non-progressive motion can be a back-and-forth motion, the indeterminate verb is sometimes used in the past tense to describe a completed round trip (having gone somewhere and returned).

Где ты был сегодня утром.	Where were you this morning?
Я ходил в банк.	I went to the bank (and returned).

This round-trip notion easily falls into the definition of what Indeterminate verbs can do, that is, indeterminate verbs express

Answer: motion non-progressively along a line. (At this point any definition using the idea of repeated, habitual, or back-and-forth motion is correct.)

"Motion non-progressively along a line" is only half of the definition of indeterminate verbs. Can you fill in the blank below?

An indeterminate verb may describe:

1. motion non-progressively along a line
2. _____

Answer: motion having no relation to the line (or any words to that effect).

Indeterminate verbs may also express motion without any reference to a line. This is simply naming the action, a general description of the motion.

Люди ходят.	People walk.
Рыбы плавают.	Fish swim
Птицы летают.	Birds fly.

Translate the following sentence into Russian.

- I love to walk. _____

Answer: я люблю ходить. "I love to walk."

Since the motion is simply described with no relation to a line, the indeterminate verb of motion ходить is required. Let us do one more.

Translate this sentence into Russian.

Our baby can walk. _____.

NOTE: The English modal verb "can" is not translated.

Answer: Наш ребёнок ходит. "Our baby can walk."

Write a definition of an indeterminate verb.

An indeterminate verb expresses:

1. _____
2. _____

Answer: An indeterminate verb expresses: (1) motion non-progressively along a line, and (2) motion having no relation to a line.

Now write a definition of a determinate verb.

A determinate verb expresses _____.

Answer: A determinate verb expresses a simple progressive motion along a line at a given moment in time.

Circle the correct form:

1. Мы часто (ходим/идём) в театр.
2. Я встретил его на улице; он (ходил/шёл) в банк.

3. Мы (ходим/идём) в гости (as guests) сегодня вечером.
4. Он начал полнеть (to gain weight), потому что он мало (ходит/идёт).
5. Она (ходит/идёт) в библиотеку почти каждый день.

Answer:

1. ходим
2. шёл
3. идём
4. ходит
5. ходит

We have now covered the basic uses of the determinate and indeterminate forms of the imperfective verbs of motion. In the next sections we shall apply these principles to some other verbs of motion.

Some other verbs

The indeterminate *ездить* and the determinate *ехать* act the same way as *ходить* and *идти*. The big difference is that *ездить-ехать* means to go by vehicle instead of on foot. Use the card supplied with this program to learn the conjugation patterns of both *ездить* and *ехать* then **select the correct form in each sentence below**. Be careful not to have someone walking to California or riding in the bedroom.

1. Вадим (*идёт/едет*) в деревню.
2. Я завтра (*иду/еду*) в Филадельфию.
3. Собака (*идёт/едет*) на веранду.
4. Он (*идёт/едет*) на кухню.
5. Кама (*идёт/едет*) в Лондон.

Answers:

1. едет
2. еду
3. идёт
4. идёт
5. едет

The determinate expresses a progressive motion along a line at a specific moment in time. The determinate *ехать* "going by vehicle" is shown in several examples below.

1. Куда едут все эти люди!
Where are all those people going!
2. Мы едем завтра во Флориду.
We are going to Florida tomorrow.
3. Кто едет со мной?
Who is going with me?

The indeterminate verb expresses a non-progressive motion along a line or a motion without reference to any line.

1. REPETITION

Я езжу в Одессу два раза в год.
I go to Odessa twice a year.

2. HABITUAL ACTION

Она ездит только на такси.
She only takes taxis.

3. NAMING THE ACTION

Они любят ездить.

They love to ride.

Change the determinate verb in the following sentences to the corresponding indeterminate form. Add one of the following adverbs to the altered sentence: часто, редко, всё время, каждый день, or обычно. For example:

1. Я еду в город.

Я **езжу** в город **каждый день**.

2. Я ехал в Москву.

Я ___ в Москву ___.

3. Ольга ехала на концерт.

Ольга ___ на концерт ___.

4. Мы едем домой.

Мы ___ домой ___.

5. Вы едете в кино?

Вы ___ в кино ___?

Answers:

1. езжу any of the adverbials listed
2. ездил any of the adverbials listed
3. ездила any of the adverbials listed
4. ездим any of the adverbials listed
5. ездите any of the adverbials listed

Not only do you have to pay attention to the correct choice between determinate and indeterminate, but also you must note whether the verb in the sentence means on foot or by vehicle. It is necessary to memorize the following oppositions.

On Foot		By Vehicle	
indeterminate	determinate	indeterminate	determinate
ходить	идти	ездить	ехать
носить	нести	возить	везти

Another pair of indeterminate-determinate verbs of motion that we shall take up is водить-вести "to lead". Водить-вести can mean "to lead on foot" or "to lead by vehicle". With водить-вести it makes no difference.

The Indeterminate

1. Пётр водит своего брата в парк каждый день.

Peter leads his brother to the park every day.

2. Я водил сестру в школу только два раза, в неделю.

I led (took) my sister to school only twice a week.

The Determinate

1. Мама видела, как я вёл сестру туда сегодня утром.

Mother saw me leading (taking) my sister there this morning.

2. Брат шёл по улице и вёл за руку маленькую сестру в парк.

The brother was walking along the street leading his little sister by the hand to the park.

Complete the following using the verbs

- Куда вы идёте? Я (вожу/веду) дочку к доктору.
- Куда вы едете? Я (вожу/веду) дочку к доктору.

Answers:

- веду
- веду

Don't get confused with the idea of "on foot" or "by vehicle". Remember that it makes no difference with водить-вести. The choice is the same for both sentences -- the determinate verb, action progressing along a line.

The verbs носить-нести "to carry on foot" are similar to ходить-идти "to go on foot". However, the verbs носить-нести take a direct object, that is, they carry something or someone.

- Я несу книгу в библиотеку. I am carrying the book to the library.

Replace the verbs ходить or идти in the following sentences with the correct form of носить or нести plus a direct object. For example:

1.	Мама идёт домой	Мама несёт пакет домой.
2.	Я хожу в школу каждый день.	Я _____ в школу каждый день.
3.	Ольга шла на кухню.	Ольга _____ на кухню.
4.	Она часто ходила на кухню.	Она _____ часто на кухню.
5.	Я иду в банк.	Я _____ в банк.

Answers:

- несёт пакет
- ношу plus a noun in the accusative case.
- несла plus a noun in the accusative case.
- носила plus a noun in the accusative case.
- несу plus a noun in the accusative case.

Using your definitions of the determinate and indeterminate, select the proper verb form from the following sentences.

1. Куда вы (носите/несёте) этот пакет?
2. Я (ношу/несу) его на почту.
3. Когда я видел его на улице, брат (носил/нёс) большую книгу.
4. Он всегда (носил/нёс) свою шляпу в руке.
5. Он (носит/несёт) её книги каждый день.

Answers:

1. несёте
2. несу
3. нёс
4. носил
5. носит

The verbs **возить-везти** "to carry by vehicle" is used exactly like **носить-нести**.

носить-нести	=	to carry ON FOOT, WALKING
возить-везти	=	to carry BY VEHICLE, RIDING

The determinate form expresses motion in progress at a given moment in time, a progressive motion along a line.

Я несу хлеб домой.	I am carrying the bread home. (ON FOOT, WALKING)
Я везу хлеб домой.	I am carrying the bread home. (BY VEHICLE, RIDING)

The indeterminate form expresses a motion non-progressively along a line (repeated or habitual motion), and motion with no reference to a line (a naming of the motion).

- Я возил хлеб домой два паза.

I carried the bread home twice. **REPEATED MOTION**

- Я возил хлеб домой каждый день.

I carried the bread home every day. **HABITUAL MOTION**

- Я люблю возить хлеб домой.

I like to carry the bread home. **NAMING THE ACTION**

The verbs **возить-везти** "to carry by vehicle" also take a direct object. **Underline the direct object in the following sentences and translate the sentences into English.**

1. Я везу деньги в банк.
2. Мама всегда возит мою сестру на футбол.

3. Отец вёз мою кровать на дачу. (to the country house).
4. Кой брат везёт лошадь на выставку (to the fair).

Answers:

1. **деньги**: I am taking the money to the bank by vehicle (car).
2. **мою сестру**: Mother always takes my sister to the football game (by car).
3. **мою кровать**: Father was taking (by car) my bed to the country house.
4. **лошадь**: My brother is taking (his) horse to the fair.

Now supply the correct form (the indeterminate or the determinate) of the verbs возить-везти "to carry by vehicle".

1. He drove us around the city yesterday in his car.
Он _____ нас вчера по городу в своем автомобиле.
2. The bus was taking the children to school.
Автобус _____ детей в школу.
3. Drive carefully with this box; there is glass in it.
_____ этот ящик осторожно; там стекло!
4. This bus takes children to school every morning.
Этот автобус _____ детей в школу каждое утро.
5. In front of us was a truck, which was carrying some kind of machines.
Впереди нас ехал грузовик, который _____ какие-то машины.

Answers:

1. возил
2. вёз
3. Везите
4. возит
5. вёз

When you use the verbs водить-вести "to lead". It makes no difference whether you are leading on foot or by vehicle, the same verb is used. The verbs водить-вести also take a direct object, that is, you **lead** someone or something.

Circle the correct forms and underline the direct object.

1. Every day she takes her children to the park.
Она каждый день (водит/ведёт) своих детей в парк.
2. She was going to the park and leading her child there.
Она шла в парк и (водила/вела) туда своего ребёнка
3. Lead me; it's so dark in here!

(Водите/Ведите) меня; тут так темно!

4. I am taking my daughter to the doctor.

Я (воху/веду) мою дочь к доктору.

5. The guide was leading us along a narrow mountain path.

Гид (водил/вёл) нас по узкой горной тропинке.

Answers:

1. водит своих детей

2. вела . . . своего ребёнка

3. Ведите меня

4. веду мою дочь

5. вёл нас

Take a break, and then take the final test!

Test

1. Write a definition of imperfective verbs with three example sentences.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

2. Write a definition of the determinate imperfective with one example sentence.

(1) _____

3. Write a definition of the indeterminate imperfective including three example sentences.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

4. Select the correct form.

- Мы часто (ходим/идёи) в театр.
- Куда вы (ходите/идёте)?
- Он всегда вы (носи/нёс) свою шляпу в руке.
- Кой отец любил (ездить/ехать) верхом. .(on horseback)
- Этот автобус (возит/везёт) туристов по городу.
- Я вчера встретил (met) Андрея, когда он (ходил/шёл)в библиотеку.
- Куда вы едете? Я (вожу/везу) детей в школу.
- Если ты будешь (ездить/ехать) быстро, ты не опоздаешь (will not be late).
- Ольга (ходила/шла) очень быстро и не видела меня.
- Он стал плохо видеть; ему нужно (he needs)(носить/нести) очки ("carry" in this sentence means "wear").

- Вера вчера (носила/несла) книгу домой.
- Сейчас я дома. Я уже (ходил/шёл) в банк.
- Каждую неделю брат (водит/ведёт) старого человека в город.
- Завтра я (хожу/иду) в кино.
- Ольга (носила/несла) газеты в класс два раза в неделю.
- Гид сейчас (водит/ведёт) туристов з музей.
- Я часто (вожу/везу) маму в лавку.
- Этот молодой человек любит (водить/вести) девушки В сад.
- Родители (ездыт/едут) сейчас на футбол.
- Сегодня сестра (ходит/идёт) домой.

5. Circle the correct form.

- a. Я живу (на квартире/на квартиру).
- b. Сейчас я иду (дома/домой)
- c. Он читает книги (в библиотеке/в библиотеку).
- d. Он ехал (на концерте/на концерт).
- e. Иван любит ездить (в деревне/в деревню).
- f. (Где/Куда) вы работаете?
- g. Мой отец шёл (в саду/в сад).
- h. Ольга спит (sleeps) (там/туда).
- i. (Где/Куда) вы идёте?
- j. Сестра идёт (здесь/сюда).

6. Select the correct form.

- a. Разговор в поезде: Куда вы(идёте/едете)?
- b. Я (иду/еду) в Чикаго.
- c. Ольга (несёт/везёт) свою книгу в комнату.
- d. Пётр (несёт/везёт) семью (family) в деревню.
- e. Я (ношу/всжу) газеты в читальню каждый день.
- f. Отец (нёс/вёз) диван в город.
- g. Сестра (ехала/шла) на кухню
- h. Кто (идёт/едет) в лавку.

-
- i. Брат хочет (идти/ехать) в Европу.

ј. Мама (несла/везла) молоко в спальню.

Answers

1. KEY PHRASES: progressive action, repeated action, habitual action, naming the action, the action spoken of in general terms, no emphasis on the completion of the action. (three example sentences)
2. The determinate expresses a progressive motion along a line at a given (specific) moment in time. (one example sentence)
3. The indeterminate expresses a non-progressive motion(repeated, habitual, back-and-forth) along a line, and a motion with no reference to any line (naming the action, speaking of the action in general terms).(three example sentences).

4.

a.	ходим	I	k.	несла	D
b.	идёте	D	l.	ходил	I
c.	носил	I	m.	водит	I
d.	ездить	I	n.	иду	D
e.	возит	I	o.	носила	I
f.	шёл	D	p.	ведёт	D
g.	везу	D	q.	вожу	I
h.	ехать	D	r.	водить	I
i.	шла	D	s.	едут	D
j.	носить	I	t.	идёт	D

5. Circle the correct form.

- a. на квартире
- b. домой
- c. в библиотеке
- d. на концерт
- e. в деревне
- f. Где
- g. в сад
- h. там
- i. Куда
- j. сюда

6. Select the correct form.

- a. едете
- b. еду
- c. несёт
- d. везёт

- e. ношу
- f. вѣз
- g. шла
- h. идѣт
- i. ехать
- j. несла

Appendix

1.	идти	ходить	go, walk
2.	бежать	бегать	run
3.	ползти	ползать	crawl
4.	лезть	лазить (лазать)	climb
5.	плыть	плавать	swim
6.	лететь	летать	fly
7.	ехать	ездить	go, ride
8.	вести	водить	lead
9.	гнать	гонять	drive
10.	нести	носить	carry
11.	везти	возить	convey
12.	тащить	таскать	drag
13.	катить	катать	roll

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Foote, I. P. Verbs of motion. In Dennis Ward (Ed.) Studies in the modern Russian language. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1967.

Forsyth, J. A grammar of aspect. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1970.

Murphy, A. B. Aspectival usage in Russian. Oxford, England: Pergamon Press, 1965.

Stilman, L. Russian verbs of motion. New York: Columbia University Press, 1951.

Stilman, G. & Harklins, W. E. Introductory Russian grammar.

Waltham, Massachusetts: Blaisdell Publishing Company, 1964.