

LESSON 3.1

Lesson 3.1 – Russian letters (part 3 : same sound, different writing) / Voiced and voiceless consonants

- I. **The Russian alphabet (part 3) : letters that sound like English letters but are written differently**
- II. **Voiced and unvoiced/voiceless consonants**

The Russian alphabet (part 3) : letters that sound like English letters but are written differently

В / в – This letter is pronounced « v » in Russian.

Example :

Ваза (vaza) – vase

П / п – This letter is the Russian P.

Example :

Парк (park) – park

У / у – This letter is pronounced « oo » in Russian.

Example :

Суп (soop) – soup

Й / й – This letter is called « short i » and is pronounced « y », like in the word « boy ».

Example :

Йога (yoga) – yoga

Ф / ф – This letter is the consonant F in Russian.

Example :

Кофе (kofye) – coffee

Г / г - This letter is pronounced like the letter **G** in « get ».

Example :

Газ (gas) - gas

Pay attention to the pronunciation of the letter **з** here ! It is pronounced « s ».

Voiced and unvoiced/voiceless consonants

In Russian, the consonants are divided into two groups : voiced consonants and voiceless (unvoiced) consonants. Voiced consonants make our vocal cords vibrate when we pronounce them, whereas unvoiced ones do not.

The consonant **з** is a voiced consonant ; and at the end of a word, a voiced consonant becomes voiceless, which means that you have to pronounce it like its voiceless counterpart, the consonant **с**.