

TRANSLITERATION

In transliterating from Ukrainian to English one must frequently use uncommon combinations of English letters to represent certain Ukrainian sounds.

These unfamiliar groupings of letters cannot be avoided, regardless of which of the several existing transliteration systems is employed, as there are only 26 letters in the English alphabet and 33 in the Ukrainian one.

The transliteration system used in LET'S SING OUT IN UKRAINIAN was selected because, with the exception of a few combinations of letters not found in English usage, the transliterations have essentially the same sounds as they do in English. This close correspondence with English usage provides the non-Ukrainian with a handy stepping-stone to correct Ukrainian pronunciation.

Particular attention should be paid to the following transliterations of frequently used Ukrainian vowels which are represented by entirely different letters in English usage:

j	has the sound of	"y"	in	boy or yellow
ja	has the sound of	"ya"	in	yard
je	has the sound of	"ye"	in	yet or yes
ji	has the sound of	"yi"	in	yield
ju	has the sound of	"yu"	in	Yukon

The following combinations also represent sounds designated by different letters in English:

kh	has the sound of	"ch"	in the Scottish word <i>Loch</i> of the Loch Ness fame
zh	has the sound of	"s"	in vision or in treasure

REFERENCE TABLE

a	has the sound of	"a"	in	<i>car</i>
b	has the sound of	"b"	in	<i>ball</i>
ch	has the sound of	"ch"	in	<i>cheese</i>
d	has the sound of	"d"	in	<i>day</i>
e	has the sound of	"e"	in	<i>edge</i> or <i>wet</i>
f	has the sound of	"f"	in	<i>fun</i>
g	has the sound of	"g"	in	<i>get</i>
h	has the sound of	"h"	in	<i>hot</i>
i	has the sound of	"i"	in	<i>machine</i>
		or "ee"	in	<i>meet</i>
j	has the sound of	"y"	in	<i>boy</i> or <i>yellow</i>
ja	has the sound of	"ya"	in	<i>yard</i>
je	has the sound of	"ye"	in	<i>yet</i> or <i>yes</i>
ji	has the sound of	"yi"	in	<i>yield</i>
ju	has the sound of	"yu"	in	<i>Yukon</i>
k	has the sound of	"k"	in	<i>kind</i>
kh	has the sound of	"ch"	in the Scottish word	<i>Loch (Ness)</i>
l	has the sound of	"l"	in	<i>look</i> or <i>ill</i>
m	has the sound of	"m"	in	<i>me</i>
n	has the sound of	"n"	in	<i>not</i>
o	has the sound of	"o"	in	<i>more</i>
p	has the sound of	"p"	in	<i>pen</i>
r	has the sound of	"r"	as in	<i>Robert Burns</i>
	a trilled Scottish	"s"	in	<i>sum</i>
s	has the sound of	"sh"	in	<i>shoe</i>
sh	has the sound of	"shch"	in	<i>Danish cheese</i>
shch	has the sound of	or "shch"	in	<i>fish chowder</i>
t	has the sound of	"t"	in	<i>top</i>
ts	has the sound of	"ts"	in	<i>its</i>
u	has the sound of	"u"	in	<i>Peru</i>
		or "oo"	in	<i>ooze</i>
v	has the sound of	"v"	in	<i>vote</i>
w	has the sound of	"w"	in	<i>win</i>
y	has the sound of	"y"	in	<i>syllable</i>
		or "i"	in	<i>ill</i>
z	has the sound of	"z"	in	<i>zone</i>
zh	has the sound of	"s"	in	<i>vision</i>
		or	in	<i>treasure</i>

' (apostrophe) indicates that the preceding letter has "soft" (palatalized) pronunciation