

PLAN FOR EMERGENCIES



Be realistic! You don't need to prepare for meeting the Russian mafia. Actually, we are certain that you will never need anything explained here, but still... problems happen.

Remember that foreigners are easy to recognize in a crowd and attract attention. For example, thieves may steal a purse on the Metro, or a suitcase at the airport. If something *украли (has been stolen)* from you, that means there occured *преступление (a crime)*, and this is the domain of *полиция (the police)*. In order to call *полиция*, you need to dial 02. And maybe it would even be better to ask someone: «Вызовите полицию» (call the police).

Probably, the worst thing that can happen is *ограбление* (a robbery). It is highly unlikely that the *ограбление* could happen in the daytime, at a busy spot. Do not walk at night on empty streets and you won't need to call *полиция* and say: «Произошло ограбление» (there was a robbery).

If you see fire somewhere, everything is simple: scream «Пожар!» (Fire) and run away! When there is пожар, call 01.

The worst situations are related to the health. Be careful, every winter a lot of people fall on slippery streets and get ушиб (bruise) or even nepenom (fracture). Another danger comes from сосульки (icicles) - pieces of ice on roofs. They look beautiful, but they can be dangerous for life. Pay attention to warnings: «Осторожно, сосульки!» (Be careful, icicles) An emergency situation is not the most convenient time to practice your Russian. Don't forget that you can always ask for help saying: «Помогите» (Help!) от «Мне нужна помощь» (I need help).

It is quite possible that you will want to receive the help of *переводчик (an interpreter)*. In large cities it is usually not a problem to find someone who speaks English especially among young people. In complex situations, when communicating with officials, say: «Я не понимаю по-русски» (I don't understand Russian) and «Мне нужен переводчик» (I need an interpreter).

The phones of emergency services are easy to remember. From city phones: 01 – *пожарная* (*the fire department*), 02 – *полиция* (*the police*), 03 – *скорая* (*the ambulance*). From a mobile phone you will need to dial 010, 020, 030 or 112 — a unified emergency number. Emergency service operators only speak Russian, but you may get lucky and an operator who understand English will respond.

TALKING TO RUSSIANS

Focal Dialogue

Peter lost his guard! He left his suitcase unattended at a Moscow airport and left to get a coffee. When Peter had his coffee and returned, his suitcase was already gone...

Here is a dialogue between Peter and a passing Stranger:

| Р Помогите, пожалуйста |
|--|
| Help, please |
| S Да-да, конечно |
| Yes,——— sure |
| Мне нужна помощь |
| I need help |
| вызвать скорую? |
| [Are] you— unwell? [Should I] call up—— an ambulance? |
| Р Нет!— Вызовите— полицию! |
| No!—— Call up—— the police! |
| S Полицию? — А что произошло? |
| The police?— And what happened? |
| Р Чемодан——— украли |
| The suitcase— [has been] stolen |
| Б Да что Вы говорите!? Ай-ай-ай! |
| What are— you—— talking!?—— Oh-oh-oh! |
| Р Я плохо говорю по-русски. Вы говорите по-английски |
| I— badly— speak—— Russian.— [Do] you speak —— English? |
| S Нет |
| No [I don't] |
| Мне нужен переводчик! |
| l need——— an interpreter! |
| |

There is no doubt that the suitcase was stolen by «Russian mafia». Let's hope that this will be the worst to happen with Peter in his trip... and a good lesson.

Learning to Know Russian! For your safety and comfort in Russian-speaking countries.

This TEXT NOTE is an integral part of the "Travellers' Notes" learning program. The approach, design and efficiency of the program are intended to change your opinion about your own language learning abilities.

TEXT NOTE CONTEXT REPETITION TELLING
TO ENABLE THE FULL POTENTIAL AND GET MAXIMUM EFFECT FROM THE PROGRAM, FOLLOW THE SIMPLE "HOW TO USE" INSTRUCTIONS.

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