

Title: The Application of Speech Act Theory in the Russian Language Classroom  
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Speech Act Theory is a topic which has interested Slavic linguistics for the last twenty years. To that end, researchers have analyzed the structure of Russian requests and cultural issues related to speech acts such as requests in Russian (Belyaeva 1987, 1990) (Ermakova 1990) (Mills, 1991, 1992) (Owens 2002). These articles address in various degrees the cross-cultural nature of speech acts and how Russian speech acts differ from those in other languages. One aspect of the research on speech acts that has not been thoroughly explored is its pedagogical application. In my presentation I will focus on the speech act of requests, discussing how an instructor of Russian might apply aspects of the linguistic research in such a way as to help students acquire both the linguistic form and the culturally appropriate use of this speech act.

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