Title: New Textbook: *Beginner's Ukrainian with Online Interactive Workbook*
Author: Yuri Shevchuk, Columbia University

This self-teaching manual is designed to help a wide variety of learners, both independent and instructor-assisted, to develop the ability to communicate in Ukrainian in typical everyday life situations. The material is offered in small and manageable portions following the principle that *less is more*. The focus is on the basics that reflect the logic of the language. Some exceptions are ignored for the sake of simplicity. Technical terminology is avoided as much as possible so that learning Ukrainian is easily accessible to individuals without special linguistic training. For those with no experience of language learning a glossary of basic linguistic terminology is provided at the end of the book.

The textbook contains fifteen lessons. Lessons 1–3 teach the learner how to read and write in Ukrainian. Each of lessons 4–15 has the same structure: 1. A dialogue that introduces a given conversational topic, such as "Family," "Leisure," "Traveling," "Shopping," and others that are most likely to be of use in real life. In addition, each dialogue serves as an illustration of grammar explained in the respective lesson. The dialogue is limited only to the material presented in the lesson or already learned earlier. 2. English translation of the dialogue. 3. Notes on the dialogue briefly explain the grammar and vocabulary not covered in the lesson. 4. Additional vocabulary and expressions. 5. Grammar is presented in its immediate connection to the needs of everyday communication. It is introduced following the principal *from meaning to form and back to expanded meaning.* 6. Exercises aim at helping the learner to understand how the introduced material functions in real communication. The exercises are mostly interactive. 7. Questions to dialogue that revisit the lesson's main topic. 8. A scripted skit concludes every lesson. 9. A specially valuable and unique feature of this textbook is its learner's dictionary.

This is the first textbook of the elementary Ukrainian level published in North America to be accompanied by an interactive website. It offers a wealth of material to maximize a quick and effective acquisition of modern Ukrainian literary pronunciation, reading, speaking, and comprehension skills for both independent and instructor-guided learners. The website includes data that both replicate and amplify the contents of the textbook: 1) audio files with recordings of all introductory dialogues, conversational, grammar, and pronunciation drills; 2) the most important vocabulary for everyday use such as numerals, frequently used adjectives, etiquette formulas; 3) additional dialogues, texts, and much more.

A great majority of the audio exercises are designed to be interactive. The users therefore can download the files they need and monitor their progress independently by using the exercise keys provided and audio recordings by speakers from various regions, age, and gender groups of contemporary Ukraine. The Beginner's Ukrainian website can be accessed at: <www.hippocrenebooks.com/beginnersukrainian>

sy2165@columbia.edu