

Russian Pronunciation & Accents

Some integrations, additions, and modifications (2023)

13.12. Let us also consider what happens in syntagmata like the following ones, with grammemes immediately followed by initially stressed lexemes. Some phonemic changes also occur, due to stress reduction, as we are going to see.

So, we can certainly find: твоё мнение, theoretically $\text{'/tva'jom 'nɛniji/}$, which becomes /tvajam'nɛniji/ [tvɛjɛm'nɛniji] (with /ja^\#/ , different from both '/ja^\#/ and '/jaC/ , with word-internal '/ja/ , normally becoming /ji/). In addition, anything like [tvɛjɔm-'nɛniji] would give the impression of emphasis (almost like $\text{'/tva"jom 'nɛniji/}$, as in the other cases, too).

13.13. The same pattern happens to occur in -оя, -ои forms, /a'ja, -a'ji/ . Indeed, they can all be neutralized (grammatically, too) as /aja-/ , when immediately followed by an initially stressed word. Certainly, for native speakers the 'ungrammatical' transformations (or phonic neutralizations) seen are no problem at all, *ie* they generally do not even realize producing those differences, by using unified forms, but they might detect something foreign in hearing them spoken by foreigners.

However, in non-neutral accents, we can actually find the $\text{'/ajo '$-/}$ pattern, in addition to *neutral* $\text{/aja'$-/}$, seen, also as *mediatic* $\text{/aji'$-/}$, or *traditional* $\text{/aje'$-/}$, which may sound rather 'foreign' to neutral speakers.

13.14. Further useful examples: моё сердце '/ma'jɔ 'ʂertsɨ/ → /maja'ʂertsɨ/ [mɛjɛ-ʂertsɨ], or моя книга '/ma'jak 'niga/ → /majak'niga/ [mɛjɛk'nigɔ], or мои дома '/ma'ji 'doma/ → /majid'oma/ [mɛjɨ'dʌɔmɔ] (obviously different from мой дом '/moi 'dom/ → /moi'dom, mai-/ [moi'dʌɔm, mɛi-]).

Let us add: один дом '/a'din 'dom/ → /aɖin'dom/ [ɨdʒɨn'dʌɔm], одна книга '/ad-'nak 'niga/ → /adnak'niga/ [ɨdnɛk'nigɔ], or вокруг дачи '/vak'ruk 'datʃi/ → /vakruk'datʃi/ [vɛkrug'datʃɨ], or позани дома '/paza'di 'doma/ → /pazaɖid'oma/ [pɛzɔɖɨ'dʌɔmɔ].

13.15. Let us also consider further forms of *neutral* он: его $\text{'/ji'vo '$-/}$ → $\text{/jiva'$-/}$, or even её: $\text{'/ji'jo '$-/}$ also often becoming → $\text{/jija'$-/}$ (or *mediatic* $\text{/jiji'$-/}$, *traditional* $\text{/jije'$-/}$).

However, oscillations and composite usages are rather frequent, also depending on speech speed or carefulness, including possible colloquial 'solutions'.

Modern Russian intonation (fig 13)

fig 13. (Modern) Neutral Russian: intonation.

