

1. This chapter gives you two strategies for determining the results of vowel reduction. One works from Russian orthography (p. 44), the other from a system of "basic sounds" (pp. 45-6). What are the relative pros and cons of these two strategies?
2. The following vowel letters have **two** possible realizations when unstressed:
е, я
What are their realizations and what distinguishes them?
3. Given the answer to 2, is vowel reduction a purely phonetic/phonological process? If not, what other information is involved? What does this imply about the relative "autonomy" of the various subsystems of language?
4. Discuss the rules involving the endings of nouns and adjectives. What about verbs?
5. The vowels *i* and *u* do not reduce, but *a*, *o*, and *e* do. What makes *i* and *u* different from the others?
6. Why does *ä* behave the same as *я* after *ч*, *щ*?
7. What is "basic o" and how do you know when you have one? Why do you need to know anyway? What are all the possible spellings of basic o?
8. On p. 46 Hamilton gives the transcription of *МО́ре* 'sea (nom sg)'. What would be the transcriptions of the accusative singular and locative singular of this word, also spelled *МО́ре*?
9. On the bottom of p. 46 Hamilton gives you the option of using or ignoring the special reduction rules that apply for grammatical endings. I would like instead to ask you always to give **both** variants when transcribing words where these rules apply.
10. There are two words in the homework that you couldn't possibly have transcribed correctly given the rules we have learn so far. They are: *ПÉТЛЯ*, *ПЕрÉДНЯЯ*. Why?
11. Here are some easier rules:
о, а > а > ə
я, е > i
but in designated grammatical endings basic o and я (o and a after C') > ə
12. For extra practice, transcribe the words we put stresses on in chapter 5 (p. 41 and last handout).