



Idioms About Mind and Brain

(flashcard set)

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Project "Proper Russian"

How to Use Vocabulary Cards

Dear learner,

You are looking at a set of vocabulary cards that I designed for you and other learners of the Russian language. Memorizing new words is a big part of learning a new language. I hope these cards will help you to expand your vocabulary.

Each card contains the following information:

- A word in Russian
- Its IPA transcription
- Grammatical properties of the word
- An English translation of the word
- A picture to illustrate the word

For different words, I put different grammatical properties. For nouns, I put gender, because memorizing the gender of a noun is critical for correct word usage. For adjectives, I put gender, too. Masculine is the default gender for adjectives in all Russian dictionaries, so most adjectives in my cards are masculine. I decided to keep the gender notation for adjectives because I want you to remember other genders, too. For verbs, I put their aspect, i.e. perfective or imperfective.

The illustrations should help you to memorize the words easier. When you associate a word with an image, your memory retains the new information longer.

You downloaded the set as a PDF. Now you can print it out and cut them into actual cards. For many people, including me, having a physical object to touch promotes memorization. You can shuffle the cards, pin them to your cork board, and use them the way you would use usual flash cards. Close the left part of the card with your palm so that you could only see the picture - can you recall a word? Do you remember its grammatical properties? If you want to add word usage, context, or any other notes, you can use the back of the card.

I wholeheartedly recommend spaced repetition. Spaced repetition is a technique that incorporates increasing time intervals between each review of a flashcard. In this method, newly introduced and more difficult flashcards are shown more frequently, while older and less difficult flashcards are shown less frequently. The use of spaced repetition has been shown to facilitate memorization.

And lastly, have fun. When you enjoy studying and learning, your memory cooperates.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at eugenia@properrussian.com.

Sincerely yours,
Eugenia Vlasova
ProperRussian.com

ГОЛОВА НЕ ВАРИТ

/gətə'va nɪ'vʌrɪt/

noun, feminine

lit. one's head doesn't cook; one's mind doesn't work, not to think straight



ЛОМАТЬ ГОЛОВУ

/tə'madʲɪ 'gɔtəvʊ/

verb, imperfective

to scratch one's head; rack one's brain



МОЗГИ НАБЕКРЕНЬ

/mez'gʲɪ nəbɪ'krɛnʲɪ/

noun, masculine, plural

(lit. one's brain is askew), insane, out of one's mind



НА СВОЮ ГОЛОВУ

/nə svə'ju 'gɔtəvʊ/

adverb

to one's misfortune, to bring something upon oneself



ПУДРИТЬ МОЗГИ

/'pudrɪtʲɪ mez'gʲɪ/

verb, imperfective

lit. to powder one's brain; to mess with one's head, to lie



СЛОМЯ ГОЛОВУ

/stɛ'mʲɪə 'gɔtəvʊ/

adverb

very fast, rapidly

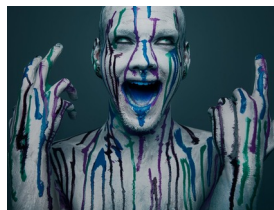


УМ ЗА РАЗУМ ЗАХОДИТ

/'um zɛ 'razʊm zɛ'xodɪt/

noun, masculine

(lit. mind goes beyond intelligence) to lose one's marbles; rack one's brains



УМА НЕ ПРИЛОЖУ

/'ʊ'ma nɪ prɪ'tɛ'zʊ/

verb, perfective, future, first person

(lit. I can't make my mind working) I have no idea, I can't think of anything



УМУ НЕПОСТИЖИМО

/'ʊ'mu nɪ'pəsɪ'tʲɪ'zɪmə/

adverb

(literally, not conceivable for the mind) mind-boggling, inconceivable

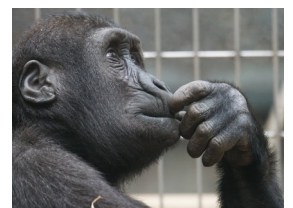


ШЕВЕЛИТЬ ИЗВИЛИНАМИ

/ʂɪvɪ'lʲɪtʲɪ ɪ'zvɪlʲɪ'nəmɪ/

verb, imperfective

lit. to move one's gyri, to use one's brain, to think hard



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