

## SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

*The Case Book for Russian* is unusual because it focuses on a single important issue confronting learners of Russian: the use of grammatical cases. Rather than targeting a specific audience (for example, second-year students) and giving a smattering of information on a variety of topics, this book is a thorough, comprehensive analysis of a single, but absolutely essential feature of Russian grammar, empowering learners to achieve complete mastery of case usage. *The Case Book for Russian* departs from standard textbook approaches in other ways as well. It demonstrates that proficiency-based materials can be successfully implemented while actually enhancing rather than compromising the acquisition of grammar. This book and its analysis draw upon a large database of naturally-occurring Russian sentences, presenting the reader with real native Russian rather than stripped-down textbook examples. Just as *The Case Book for Russian* refuses to feed its users unnaturally simplified samples of Russian, it also avoids offering sterile rules. This book focuses instead on explaining coherent groupings of motives that drive case use, on the understanding that Russian uses its six cases to produce a potentially infinite number of sentences, and learners will need to recognize novel as well as commonplace uses. Because *The Case Book for Russian* is so unlike most textbooks, a guide for its use might be of value to readers. The following suggestions for integrating this book into Russian language programs are offered in the confidence that readers will make their own more specific (and possibly more creative!) adjustments.