

Language Generator 12—Love, Dislike, and Hate

In Russian you can use the verb “любить” to say that you love or like something or someone. You can negate it to say you dislike. To express a stronger feeling there is “ненавидеть” which means “to hate”. The English like versus love distinction (as in “Do you like him or do you love him?”) has no direct equivalent in Russian.

Subject and Verb	Translation	Direct Object	Notes
Я (не) ¹ люблю	I love (not)	чай	When the direct object is a person or a concrete thing, use the accusative case.
Мы (не) ¹ любим	We love (not)	шоколад	
Ты (не) ¹ любишь	Thou lovest (not)	рыбу	
Вы (не) ¹ любите	You love (not)	курицу	
Он/Она/Оно (не) ¹ любит	He/She/It loves (not)	тебя	
Они (не) ¹ любят	They love (not)	его	
Он (не) ¹ любил	He loved (not)	Анну	
Она (не) ¹ любила	She loved (not)	Ивана	
Оно (не) ¹ любило	It loved (not)	папу	
Они (не) ¹ любили	They loved (not)	маму	
Любишь ли ² ты	Doest thou love	вопросы/вопросов ¹	Use the genitive case for abstract direct objects of negated verbs.
Любите ли ² вы	Do you love	эту войну/этой войны ¹	
Я ненавижу	I hate	сомнения/сомнений ¹	To say how someone feels about an activity use a verb in the infinitive. This verb can have direct and indirect objects. Adverbs and prepositional phrases can describe its action. The only part of a complete sentence it cannot have is a subject.
Мы ненавидим	We hate	читать	
Ты ненавидишь	Thou hatest	читать Библию	
Вы ненавидите	You hate	изучать	
Он/Она/Оно ненавидит	He/She/It hates	изучать Библию	
Они ненавидят	They hate	работать	
Ненавидишь ли ² ты	Doest thou hate	разговаривать с людьми	
Ненавидите ли ² вы	Do you hate	страдать	
		помогать другим	
		проповедовать	

¹Use the optional “не” to say “to love not” which means “to dislike”. If the direct object is an abstract noun, it is frequently put in the genitive case rather than the usual accusative.

²The particle “ли” is used mainly in written Russian to indicate a question. In spoken Russian question inflection usually suffices. Beginners can use the written form when speaking until they learn the inflection.

Word order is flexible. For example, the thing loved or hated can be placed between the subject and verb:

Я вопросов не люблю. I dislike questions.

With proper inflexion the statements made with this generator can be turned into questions. You can choose to start with either a positive or a negative statement in order to indicate which answer you are expecting:

Вы любите детей? You like children, don't you?
Вы не любите детей? You don't like children, do you?