

What do you know about  
Bulgarian language?

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Let's begin!

1. What type of alphabet do the  
Bulgarians use?

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a. Latin

b. Cyrillic

c. Greek

d. Bulgarian

# That's correct!

The usage of the Cyrillic script in Bulgaria was made official in 893. Cyrillic is derived from the Greek uncial script, augmented by letters from the older Glagolitic alphabet, including some ligatures.

А а	Б б	В в	Г г	Д д	Е е	Ж ж	З з	И и	Й й
К к	Л л	М м	Н н	О о	П п	Р р	С с	Т т	У у
Ф ф	Х х	Ц ц	Ч ч	Ш ш	Щ щ	Ъ ъ	Ь ь	Ю ю	Я я
<i>А а</i>	<i>Б б</i>	<i>В в</i>	<i>Г г</i>	<i>Д д</i>	<i>Е е</i>	<i>Ж ж</i>	<i>З з</i>	<i>И и</i>	<i>Й й</i>
<i>К к</i>	<i>Л л</i>	<i>М м</i>	<i>Н н</i>	<i>О о</i>	<i>П п</i>	<i>Р р</i>	<i>С с</i>	<i>Т т</i>	<i>У у</i>
<i>Ф ф</i>	<i>Х х</i>	<i>Ц ц</i>	<i>Ч ч</i>	<i>Ш ш</i>	<i>Щ щ</i>	<i>Ъ ъ</i>	<i>Ь ь</i>	<i>Ю ю</i>	<i>Я я</i>



That's not right!

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Please go back and try again!



## 2. Are there grammatical cases in the Bulgarian language?

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a. No, there are not.

b. Yes, there are in nouns, adjectives and pronouns.

c. Yes, but only in some pronouns.

d. Yes, but only in nouns.

That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!



# That's correct!

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The Bulgarian personal pronoun and interrogative and relative pronouns for people have forms for nominative, accusative and dative case.



3. How many verb tenses are there in Bulgarian language?

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a. 3

b. 7

c. 12

d. 9



That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!



That's not right but...

**Did you know**

Bulgarian has 3 synthetical verb tenses  
(present, aorist and imperfect).

Please go back and try again!



# That's correct!

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The Bulgarian language has 9 verb tenses: present, aorist, imperfect (synthetic) and future, perfect, pluperfect, futurum exactum, futurum preteriti, futurum exactum preteriti (analytic).



4. How many grammatical genders are there in Bulgarian language?

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a. 2 genders: masculine and feminine

b. 3 genders: masculine, feminine and neuter

c. There are no grammatical genders in Bulgarian language.

That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!



## That's correct!

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Usually, the grammatical gender and the gender of the person which the word refers to coincide. For example, жена [ʒɛna] (woman) in Bulgarian is in feminine grammatical gender. However, there are some exceptions for words that can be both in masculine and feminine gender and refer to both men and women, for example роднина [rɔdnina] (relative).



5. How many grammatical numbers are there in Bulgarian language?

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a. 3 numbers: singular, dual and plural

b. 2 numbers: singular and plural

c. 4 numbers: singular, dual, trial and plural

That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!





# That's not right but...

**Did you know**

In Old Slavonic there are singular, dual and plural numbers. In Modern Bulgarian there are only residual forms for some nouns from the old dual number. They are doublets of the plural forms. For example: крило [krilo] (wing) has two plural forms: крила [krila] (wings) (from the old plural form) and криле [krile] (wings) (from the old dual form)

Please turn back and try again!



That's correct!

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The Modern Bulgarian language has only two grammatical numbers but in Old Slavonic there were three – singular, dual and plural.



## 6. What are the vowels in Bulgarian?

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a. e (/ɛ/), и (/i/), а (/a/), ъ (/ɤ/), о (/ɔ/), у (/u/)

b. e (/ɛ/), и (/i/), а (/a/), о (/ɔ/), у (/u/)

c. и (/i/), а (/a/), у (/u/)

d. e (/ɛ/), е (/ɛŋ/), и (/i/), а (/a/), ъ (/ɤ/), о (/ɔ/), у (/u/)

That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!



That's correct!

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The mid back unrounded vowel ɤ (/ɤ/) is unique for the Bulgarian language amongst the other Slavic languages.



7. Is the Bulgarian a pro-drop language?

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a. Yes.

b. No.

That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!



# That's correct!

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For example, the subject in some sentences can be omitted as the verb form is conjugated in the specific person (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>) such as:  
ИДВАМ [idvam] (I'm coming) rather than  
АЗ ИДВАМ [az idvam] (I'm coming).





8. The Bulgarian language has unique reflexes from \*tj and \*dj. What are the reflexes?

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a. ч [tʃ] and ж [ʒ]

b. щ [ʃt] and жд [ʒd]

c. c [ts] and dz [dz]

d. None of the above.

That's not right!

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Those are the reflexes in East Slavic languages.

Please turn back and try again!



That's not right!

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Those are the reflexes in Polish.  
Please turn back and try again!



That's correct!

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You can find those reflexes in words as  
свещ [svɛʃt] (candle) and прежда  
[prɛʒda] (yarn).



That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!



## 9. Is there a definite article in the Bulgarian language?

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a. No, there is not.

b. Yes, there is. It is placed before the word it defines.

c. Yes, there is. It is placed after the word it defines.

That's not right!

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There is a definite article in the  
Bulgarian language.

Please turn back and try again!



That's not right!

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Please turn back and try again!





# That's correct!

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The definite article in the Bulgarian language is a morpheme so it is glued to the word it defines after the inflection.

For example: **macata** [masata], table-the  
(the table)



10. Bulgarian language is part of the Balkan sprachbund (Balkan language area). Which of the following is **NOT** a Balkan-related feature?

a. The postposed definite article.

b. Direct and indirect objects can be cross-referenced (doubled).

c. Loss of the infinitive.

d. Vocabulary with origin from Proto-Slavic language.

# That's not right!

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The postposed definite article is a Balkan feature.

For example: maca**ta** [masata],  
table-the (the table)

Please turn back and try again!



# That's not right!

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The doubled objects are influenced by the Balkan languages. It is done by combining a clitic (weak) pronoun with a strong pronoun or noun.

For example: **Него го** видях вчера. [nɛgo go vidyah vʃɛra], Him.LONG him.SHORT saw-I yesterday (I saw him yesterday.)

**Георги го** видях вчера. [gɛorgi go vidyah vʃɛra], George him.SHORT saw-I yesterday (I saw George yesterday.)

Please turn back and try again!



## That's not right!

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The loss of the infinitive is a Balkan feature.

For example: Искам да ям. [iskam da yam] (I want to eat.)

Please turn back and try again!



# That's correct!

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The Bulgarian language originates from Old Slavonic as do the other Slavic languages. That is why they have common vocabulary.

For example: From the Old Slavonic \*korva (cow) now in Slavic languages there are:

- крава [krava] (Bulgarian)
  - корова [karova] (Russian)
  - krowa [krova] (Polish)
- etc.



That's all!

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Thank you! 😊