

Matthias Rammelmeyer: 'Zur Darstellung der Deklination im Russischunterricht', *Zielsprache Russisch* (1981/4), 113–137.

Matthias Rammelmeyer: 'Beispiele und Übungen zur Formenbildung des Nomens im Russischen', *Zielsprache Russisch* (1982/1), 9–18.

In the first of his two articles, Rammelmeyer gives a linguistically well-founded description of the inflection of Russian nouns for the needs of teaching Russian, mainly on the university-level. Therefore, he aims at a description which is as precise as possible but which nevertheless serves

other purposes. In contrast to popular grammars of Russian he proposes to use a phonological notation (which, in reality, is more morphonological, for he writes, for example, "s'ostrá"), his main argument being the simplification which can thus be arrived at. In this description, the formation of a word-form runs through several steps: the first step is a phonological transcription of the lexical entry, then follows a segmentation into stem and desinence. If we have the stem, we can, in most cases anyway, simply choose the appropriate ending from a table. The last step is to go back to the level of graphemes, where the main problem is, of course, the writing of /o/, which can correspond to *o*, *e*, or *ë*. The author stresses the fact that the switching between the two levels does not require in itself additional learning from the student because he just has to use those writing rules which he has to learn anyway. The second article gives exercises and illustrations for every step of the proposed description.

Although not everyone will possibly accept all of Rammelmeyer's linguistic views and solutions, his two articles nevertheless show, once more, that an application of linguistic methods and results in a field such as teaching is not only possible but very fruitful, indeed.

S. KEMPGEN