

WHAT'S IN A LANGUAGE NAME?

THE CASE OF BOSNIAN, CROATIAN, MONTENEGRIN, AND SERBIAN

WINTER QUARTER 2007

Serbo-Croatian/Croato-Serbian/Serbian or Croatian/Croatian or Serbian Alphabets¹

Latin	Cyrillic	Latin Equivalent
A a	А а	a
B b	Б б	b
C c	В в	v
Č č	Г г	g
Ć ć	Д д	d
D d	Ђ ђ	đ
Dž dž	Е е	e
Đ đ	Ж ж	ž
E e	З з	z
F f	И и	i
G g	Ј ј	j
H h	К к	k
I i	Л л	l
J j	Љ љ	lj
K k	М м	m
L l	Н н	n
Lj lj	Њ њ	nj
M m	О о	o
N n	П п	p
Nj nj	Р р	r
O o	С с	s
P p	Т т	t
R r	Ћ ћ	ć
S s	У у	u
Š š	Ф ф	f
T t	Х х	h
U u	Ц ц	c
V v	Ч ч	č
Z z	Џ ѓ	dž
Ž ž	Ш ш	š

¹ From BROWNE, WAYLES and THERESA ALT. 2004. *A handbook of Bosnian, Serbian, and Croatian*. SEELRC.

Spelling

1. George Bush vs. Džordž Buš/Џорџ Буш
2. pisat ću vs. pisaću
I-will-write

Phonology

Vowels

	<u>front</u>	<u>mid</u>	<u>back</u>
<u>high</u>	i		u
<u>mid</u>	e		o
<u>low</u>		a	

Consonants²

		<u>Bilabial</u>	<u>Labio-dental</u>	<u>Dental</u>	<u>Alveo-palatal</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>
<u>obstruents</u>							
<u>stops</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	p		t			k
	<u>voiced</u>	b		d			g
<u>fricatives</u>	<u>voiceless</u>		f	s	š		h
	<u>voiced</u>		v	z	ž		
<u>affricates</u>	<u>voiceless</u>			c	č	ć	
	<u>voiced</u>				dž	đ	
<u>sonorants</u>							
<u>nasals</u>		m		n*		ɲj	
<u>liquids</u>							
	<u>laterals</u>			l*		lj	
	<u>vibrant</u>			r*			
<u>glide</u>						j	

Morphology

1. PLURAL STEM EXTENSION (rarity)
 - a. put : putevi/putovi vs. putevi
way ways ways
2. NOMINAL DERIVATION (tendency)
 - a. gledatelj vs. gledalac
spectator
 - b. profesorica vs. profesorka
female professor
3. VERBAL DERIVATION (tendency)
 - a. mobilizirati vs. mobilisati
to mobilize

Syntax

1. infinitive vs 'da' + present
Volim telefonirati. vs. Volim da telefoniram
I-like to-telephone I-like that-I-telephone
'I like to talk over the phone.'
2. particular structures
On je ovisnik o alkoholu. vs. On je zavisnik od alkohola.
he is addict about-alcohol he is addict of-alcohol
'He is an alcohol addict.'

² Based on BROWNE, WAYLES and THERESA ALT. 2004. *A handbook of Bosnian, Serbian, and Croatian*. SEELRC.

* In traditional Serbocroatistics these are treated as alveolar consonants.