

**ukrainian  
institute**

# The roots of the Ukrainian language

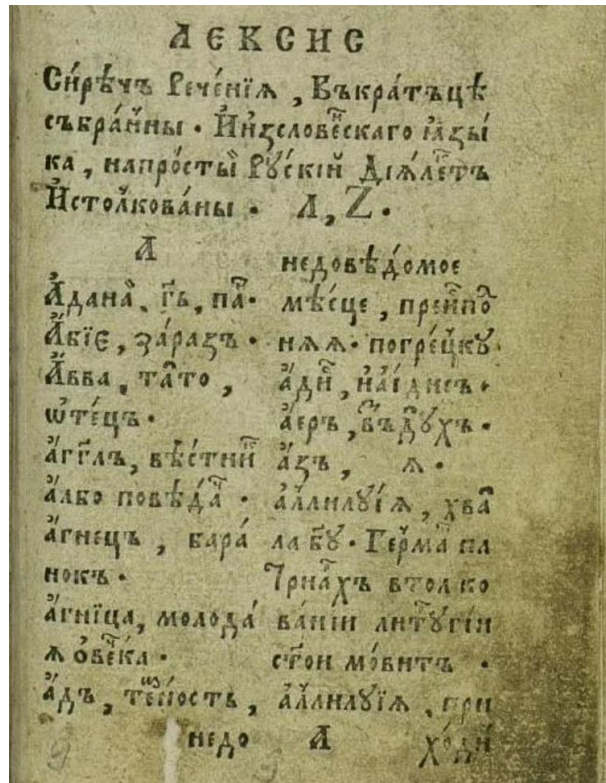
Ukrainian is one of the oldest languages in the world. Its roots go back to the Indo-European language that existed in the 4th and 5th millennium before the Christ.

10 language groups were formed from the Indo-European language. Germanic, Romance, Indian and Slavic are the largest. That is why Ukrainian has many words founded in other European languages. Modern Slavic languages, including Ukrainian, arose from the so-called Proto-Slavic language.



# The roots of the Ukrainian language

From the 6th century, the Proto-Ukrainian period begins, which lasts approximately until the 11th century. The major features of the Ukrainian language as a system appeared at the end of the 11th through the mid-12th century.





# Ivan Kotlyarevskyi and Taras Shevchenko

The release of the first three parts of the poem 'Aeneid' by Ivan Kotlyarevskyi in 1798 was an important milestone for the Ukrainian language. Kotlyarevskyi proved that Ukrainian can be a living and beautiful literary language. Another turn in the history of the new Ukrainian literary language and literature was the publication of the collection 'Kobzar' by Taras Shevchenko in 1840.

Just as 'Shakespeare's language' is the basis of modern English, 'Shevchenko's language' is the basis of modern Ukrainian.



# Ukrainian classics

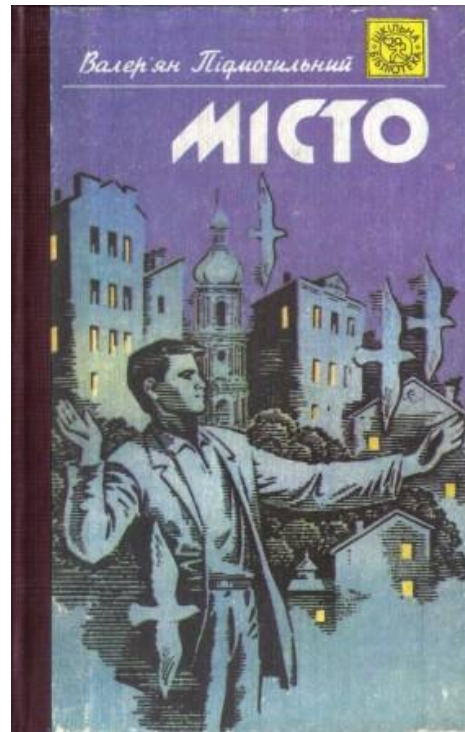
The period from the beginning of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century formed the golden age of Ukrainian classical literature. Issues such as social inequality, the history of Ukrainian resistance, and women's emancipation became central topics for writers like Ivan Franko, Marko Vovchok, Mykhailo Kotsiubynskyi, Lesia Ukrainka, and Olha Kobylianska



# Ukrainian literature at the beginning of the XX century

In the 1920s and 30s, Ukrainian literature and language thrived alongside European cultures. Writers shifted the focus of Ukrainian literature from rural themes to urban settings, with Kharkiv becoming a cultural hub.

This generation, known as the 'Executed Renaissance' faced repression, with many artists executed by the Soviets.



## 'Executed Renaissance'

Famous representatives of the 'Executed Renaissance,' such as Mykhailo Semenko, Mykola Khvylovyi, Yuriy Yanovskyi, and Valerian Pidmohylnyi, shifted the focus of Ukrainian literature from the village to the city, making Kharkiv the centre of the modern Ukrainian language.



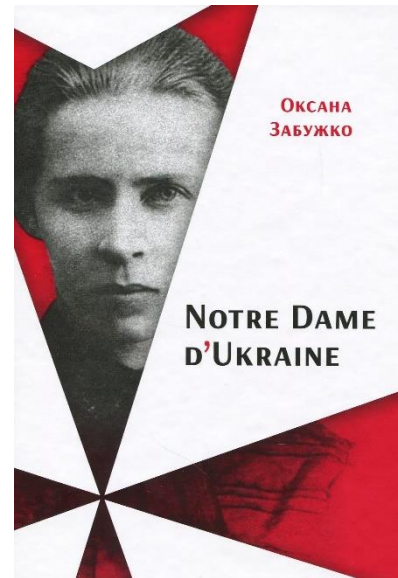
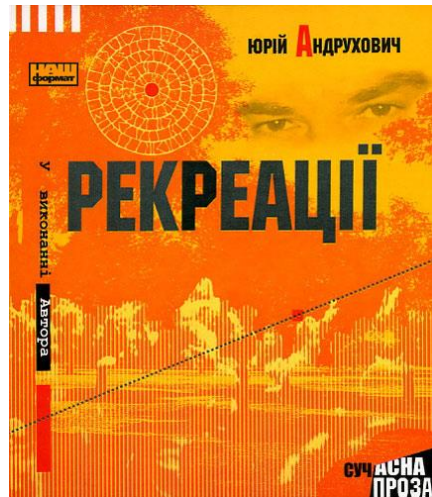
## Soviet Union period

Ukrainian writers have always been actively involved in public life. The works of Lina Kostenko, Valerii Shevchuk, Vasyl Symonenko, Ivan Drach, Yevhen Hutsalo, and many others are full of socio-political themes and criticism of Soviet policies and decisions.



# Modern Ukrainian

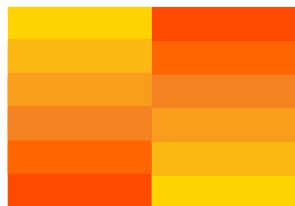
The modern Ukrainian language is represented by writers Serhiy Zhadan, Yuriy Andrukhovych, Oksana Zabuzhko, and Taras Prokhasko.



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