

Nouns – Animate and Inanimate

In the Russian language, all nouns fall into two categories – animate and inanimate. The first unites human beings (including professions and places in society), animals, birds and fish. All of these words answer the question **кто это?** The second category includes objects which answer the question **что это?**

Animate

Кто это?	Who is it?
человек	a human
собака	a dog
кот	a cat
мама	mother
друг	a friend
брат	a brother
учитель	a teacher
директор	a director
студент	a student
менеджер	a manager
лев	a lion
акула	a shark

Inanimate

Что это?	What is it?
стол	a table
дом	a house
машина	a car
компьютер	a computer
сок	juice
книга	a book
лампа	a lamp
метро,	metro
билет	a ticket

Remember

Names of social groups, like **семья, группа, команда** are inanimate in Russian.