

### 31.3. Morphological models of verb adaptation in Russian grammar

The difference between Russian verbs in a cognate relation with English and those borrowed from Latin or through the mediation of French, English or German lies in their morphological composition. Thus, a Russian infinitive typically ends in the inflectional -ть, and this is true for all borrowed verbs, while some Russian infinitives have the features regular in other Slavic languages. Thus, the ending -чь in such verbs as мочь – can, жечь – burn and стеречь – guard correspond phonetically with a regular Polish infinitive ending -ć. And Russian verbs in -ти, for example, идти – walk, нести – carry and вести – lead, are reminiscent of the Ukrainian infinitive ending -ти.

The ending -ть follows one of the Russian verb suffixes that may consist of one vowel, for example, in the word лежать (the suffix -а-), or may be one of the following verb-specific Russian morphemes: -(о)ва-, -ыва-, -ива- or -ну-.

Table 10 summarises the models of grammatical assimilation of borrowed verbs in the Russian language. It demonstrates that despite the long attachments that make these words bulky, the number of patterns is limited. Two or three suffixes do not put the Russian speakers off using the borrowed lexemes since there are plenty of long native verbs as well. The fact that most words in Lists 255 – 263 are part of either academic or business vocabulary should be attributed to historical development rather than their complexity.

**Table 10. Derivational models for borrowed verbs in the Russian language**

	English/Russian	Root word	English suffix	Russian suffix	Russian suffix	Russian ending
<b>Model V1</b>	patent патент <u>о</u> вать	patent патент-			-ова-	-ть
No English verb suffix	ignore игно <u>р</u> ировать	ignore игно <u>р</u> -		-ир-	-ова-	-ть
<b>Model V2</b>	dictate дикт <u>о</u> вать	dict- дикт-	-ate		-ова-	-ть
English suffix -ate-	generate генер <u>ир</u> ировать	gener- генер-	-ate	-ир-	-ова-	-ть
<b>Model V3</b>	organise организо <u>в</u> ать	organ- орган-	-ise		-ова-	-ть
English suffix -ise-	standardise стандартис <u>ир</u> ировать	standard- стандарт-	-ise	-из-	-ова-	-ть
<b>Model V4</b>	amnesty амне <u>ст</u> ировать	amnest- амне <u>ст</u> -	у		-ир-	-ова-
English suffix -у-	verify верифи <u>ци</u> ровать	verif- вериф-	у	иц	-ир-	-ова-

The suffixes -ова- and -ир- play the key role in the Russification of Latin verbs, i.e. all borrowed verbs end either in -ова(ть) or -ировать. The algorithm for borrowing is as follows:

- The suffix -is(e) is always retained in borrowed verbs, and the suffix -ate is dropped.
- In Russian verbs in -ировать, the suffix -ир- is emphasised.
- In verbs in -ова(ть), the vowel -а- is emphasised.
- In verbs ending in -овывать (List 260), the stress falls on the vowel -о- of the suffix.
- The suffix -у- is used in place of -ова- in the conjugation of both borrowed and native Russian verbs, for example, организовать – я организую, ты организуешь (I organise, you organise), but the suffix -ова- remains in the forms of the past tense – я организовал.

Lists 255 – 263 present the verbs currently shared by English and Russian and the patterns of these words' derivation.