

presentation may be disconcerting both to students and teachers. It is not always clear which exercises are to be performed at which point in the study of the lesson or, indeed, whether the exercises are to be performed only after the entire unit has been mastered.

There are apparently no tapes to accompany the text, which is a distinct disadvantage to many non-native speakers who might wish to use it. Yet if the authors of this book were to correct and revise it, one could recommend it almost without reservation. As it is now, however, anyone who uses *Making Progress in Russian* will want to check and recheck the text for inaccuracies.

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SRPSKI NAROD I NJEGOV JEZIK. By *Pavle Ivić*. Belgrade: Srpska književna zadruha, 1972. 327 pp. 3 maps. 60 dinars.

These essays on the language of the Serbian people are first-rate popularization. "Our Ethnic History and Our Language" (pp. 7–82, selected bibliography pp. 83–89) sketches the areas and political formations involved, noting salient details of linguistic differentiation. "Our Dialects and the Modern Era" (pp. 90–106) outlines the kinds of complex relations that now obtain among various linguistic styles in the village, the city, and broader regions. "The Fate of Our Language as an Instrument [*orudje*] of Culture" is a cultural history of the language, subdivided into the long period from the beginning to Vuk (pp. 107–73), from Vuk to today (pp. 173–220), and the "present moment" ("Aktuelni trenutak," pp. 221–28; selected bibliography pp. 229–37).

The title and chapter headings neatly avoid naming the language, so that the prickly questions raised by the terms "Serbocroatian" and "Croatoserbian" and *slovenski* and various other possibilities can be dealt with in a careful manner in clearly structured contexts that ought to—but surely will not—soften the polemic reaction of nationalist-minded critics of various colors. Ivić is a thorough and judicious scholar, and he has deftly threaded his way through a jungle of controversial matters in a way I find remarkably evenhanded and fair. Opposing views are dealt with briefly, firmly, and, for the most part, civilly, although occasionally Ivić's irritation at the silly amateurishness of certain alleged linguistic scholars shows through clearly.

Ivić takes it for granted that his readers know the geography and the general political and cultural history of Yugoslavia. The non-Yugoslav may well find this skillfully condensed work too laconic; many names and allusions will lack meaning. One hopes for an expanded version that will provide much more detail for an international audience.

The final essay, "On Vuk's *Srpski rječnik* of 1818" (pp. 238–327), accompanied a 1966 photo-reproduction of this first landmark of modern Serbo-Croatian. This slightly revised version is a masterful analysis of the dictionary and of Vuk's work in general, and should be required reading for anyone interested in the history of Yugoslav culture or, in fact, in the theory of standard languages.

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