

French II : 3rd Edition



Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn French Whether you want to travel, communicate with friends or colleagues, reconnect with family, or just understand more of what's going on in the world around you, learning French will expand your horizons and immeasurably enrich your life. The best part is that it doesn't have to be difficult or take years to master. Thirty minutes a day is all it takes, and we get you speaking right from the first day. Pimsleur courses use a scientifically-proven method that puts you in control of your learning. If you've tried other language learning methods but found they simply didn't stick, then you owe it to yourself to give Pimsleur a try. Why Pimsleur? - Quick + Easy - Only 30 minutes a day. - Portable + Flexible - Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life. - Proven Method - Works when other methods fail. - Self-Paced - Go fast or go slow - it's up to you. - Based in Science - Developed using proven research on memory and learning. - Cost-effective - Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers. - Genius - Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn. - Works for everyone - Recommended for ages 13 and above.

What's Included? - 30, 30-minute audio lessons - 60 minutes of reading instruction to provide you practice reading French - in total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers - a Reading Booklet and User's Guide What You'll Learn Builds upon skills taught in Pimsleur's French Level 1. In the first 10 lessons you'll begin using the past tense. Structures become more complex and informal speech is introduced. Soon you'll take part in conversations about ordering meals, shopping, and local tourist attractions. As you progress, your fluency will increase as your vocabulary expands. The next 10 lessons will allow you to further combine and build upon known elements, and produce longer and more complex sentences. You'll be discussing business and social activities, expressing your interests, and talking about the weather. In the final 10 lessons you'll double your vocabulary and have several hundred structures to draw upon. You'll learn to express yourself with relative structures - faster, slower, etc. You'll be able to ask for assistance in many situations and to ask for directions to various locations. You'll explore sports and leisure activities, manage changing money and banking, and discuss travel plans. By the end of the program, you'll be speaking at a mid-intermediate level with near-native pronunciation, and you'll be comfortable meeting most social demands and limited job requirements. Reading Lessons are included at the end of Lesson 30. These lessons, which total about one hour, are designed to give you practice reading French, and to provide you with some insight into French culture with proverbs, common expressions, and a broad look at things you'll experience when visiting a French-speaking country. The Pimsleur Method We make no secret of

what makes this powerful method work so well. Paul Pimsleur spent his career researching and perfecting the precise elements anyone can use to learn a language quickly and easily. Here are a few of his secrets:

- **The Principle of Anticipation** In the nanosecond between a cue and your response, your brain has to work to come up with the right word. Having to do this boosts retention, and cements the word in your mind.
- **Core Vocabulary Words**, phrases, and sentences are selected for their usefulness in everyday conversation. We don't overwhelm you with too much, but steadily increase your ability with every lesson.
- **Graduated Interval Recall** Reminders of new words and structures come up at the exact interval for maximum retention and storage into your long-term memory.
- **Organic Learning** You work on multiple aspects of the language simultaneously. We integrate grammar, vocabulary, rhythm, melody, and intonation into every lesson, which allows you to experience the language as a living, expressive form of human culture.
- **Learning in Context** Research has shown that learning new words in context dramatically accelerates your ability to remember. Every scene in every Pimsleur lesson is set inside a conversation between two people. There are no drills, and no memorization necessary for success.
- **Active Participation** The Pimsleur Method + active learner participation = success. This method works with every language and every learner who follows it. You gain the power to recall and use what you know, and to add new words easily, exactly as you do in English.

The French Language French is spoken by 55 million speakers in France, 3 million in Belgium, 1.5 million in Switzerland, 6.5 million in Canada, and 5 million in former French and Belgian colonies. It is an official language in 44 countries and an official language of the United Nations. An estimated 50 million people around the world speak French as a second language.

Tech Talk - CDs are formatted for playing in all CD players, including car players, and users can copy files for use in iTunes or Windows Media Player.

Book Information

Series: Comprehensive (Book 2)

Audio CD

Publisher: Pimsleur; 3 edition (August 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0743506219

ISBN-13: 978-0743506212

Product Dimensions: 12.5 x 1.9 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 44 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #142,708 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Books on CD > Languages > Language Instruction > French #24 in Books > Books on CD > Reference #68 in Books > Books on CD > Nonfiction

Customer Reviews

Dr. Paul Pimsleur devoted his life to language teaching and testing and was one of the world's leading experts in applied linguistics. After years of experience and research, Dr. Pimsleur developed The Pimsleur Method based on two key principles: the Principle of Anticipation and a scientific principle of memory training that he called "Graduated Interval Recall." This Method has been applied to the many levels and languages of the Pimsleur Programs.

First, the version I received is quite different in the packaging from the illustration, but contains the same disks. I received a package labeled Pimsleur Approach French II Gold. At first, I thought I received an incorrect substitution, but I verified that this is just a different packaging of the same materials. The course itself is VERY GOOD. I would give the instructional materials and methods 5 stars. It is expensive, BUT you do get 16 CDs in each level. Since I go through each course at least 3 times before moving to the next one, this is about 50-60 hours of practice per set, so the pricing is only a couple of dollars per hour. The vocabulary introduction pacing is very good. The combination of clear enunciation by 3 of the voices, plus an "authentic" fast-talking Frenchman giving you commands helps to force you to listen, respond, and understand. Grammar is taught naturally, rather than rote conjugation of verbs. Having tried MANY other "learn in your car" courses, this is absolutely the best and most productive one I have found. Why only a 4-star review? The packaging. Unlike the illustration, the "Gold" edition has the CDs in 2 cheap paper fold-out holders, each holding 8 disks. The first 8 disks (in folder 1) were fine, but when I opened the second folder, many of the disks were literally glued into the folder, like the folder was glued in place around the CDs, but many of them weren't properly in the right positions. If I can't successfully clean the glue and paper off the disks, I will be contacting for a replacement. Note - the French I package came as shown in the illustration, and the CDs were in proper sleeves.

I am 3/4 of the way through French 2, and expect to move on to French 3 soon. A few years ago I completed Pimsleur Spanish 1 and 2 before a two week visit to Spain, and it helped me greatly. I enjoyed somewhat competently speaking a bit of Spanish when necessary, even though most of the Spaniards I visited were excellent English speakers. Now I have a week in France (the Nord and

Paris) coming up so I want to know enough French to get around. So far, so good. It's easy to fit a 30 minute lesson into a day somewhere, and the self-pacing is, for me, ideal. Plus my kids get a big laugh when they see me with earbuds in, randomly burping out some mysterious sounding phrases from my lazyboy. Two suggestions. First to prospective buyers: get a workbook and a dictionary. To look up words, and get a bit of a grasp on grammar are big helps in learning the spoken language. I think the trick is *after* the lesson, to try to record at least some of the new words and you can review them later or put them on flashcards. I also like the "501 French Verbs" for this. Just another way to get and keep this stuff in your mind. Second, a suggestion to the Pimsleur-Industrial Complex: less use of the informal tu please. I'm going to France for a scholarly conference and to see art, and I imagine many Pimsleur students are like me--middle aged and going for work. Nobody in France will address me as tu--if I know them that well we'll speak English. But I will need to address people as vous, so the more of that the better. Young people who might actually become friends with French folk and find the familiar tu of use will probably be learning it in formal classes. So I would prefer that 2nd person verbs use vous only. But that's just me. Otherwise, a great product. Wish I had learned French earlier in my life, but I do look forward to learning more of it with Pimsleur.

I had purchased Pimsleur's Conversational French I (which included the first 8 CD's of Pimsleur French Level 1 at a cheaper price) to get an introduction. I then purchased Pimsleur French Level II and had some difficulty starting it without having the full 16 CDs of the Pimsleur French Level 1. So now I'm using 9-16 of the CD's and doing great. And then I will go back to French II. Note: I also purchased Smart French - Introduction Vol. I to get all the numbers 1-100 at once (because Pimsleur gives you numbers once in a while.)

Finished Pimsleur's French I and have moved on to French II. I have tried other French language programs and have found this the most effective. I listen to these in the car on the way home after work and find it a great way to unwind and get some brain exercise at the same time.

The Pimsleur Method is one of the best ways to learn a new language. I listen to a 30 minute lesson each time I commute to and from work - it is a fantastic use of time, combined with Internet-based visual learning methods during other times of the day. Highly recommended!

Good product

Love the Pimsleur method! The CD set came as promised and in "like new" condition. A great deal compared to full retail.

This review assumes that you have already purchased and completed Pimsleur French I. French II is simply a continuation of the same structure as French I. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are introduced in the same fashion, but with a higher volume of words and constructions per unit. These courses are quite simply the best way to get to intermediate level spoken French rapidly. Once you have mastered all three levels give the Foreign Service Institute courses a go to proceed further.

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