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Michel Thomas Speak German For Beginners: 10-CD Beginner's Program (Michel Thomas Series)



Synopsis

No passport required! The world's greatest language teacher is at your side.. "There's no such thing as a bad student--just a bad teacher."--Michel Thomas. No books. No writing. No drills. And nothing to memorize--ever! With his patented method, Michel Thomas has taught languages to top celebrities and--through his bestselling audio programs--more than a million everyday learners around the world. At the end of this ten-CD beginner's program, you will have acquired:.. A full working vocabulary. Essential comprehension skills. Complete language confidence. Don't try to memorize specific words or expressions. It is a basic principle of the Michel Thomas method that the responsibility for the student's learning lies with the teacher. With Michel Thomas as your teacher, your learning will be based on understanding--and what you understand, you do not forget!.. Included in this package:.. 10 audio CDs--including the two-CD Speak German. Get Started Kit and 2 review CDs. Program booklet. Zippered travel case. Celebrities who have learned with the Michel Thomas method:.. Princess Grace of Monaco Barbra Streisand Woody Allen Warren Beatty Bob Dylan Emma Thompson . . . and many more.

Book Information

Series: Michel Thomas Series

Audio CD

Publisher: McGraw-Hill; 1 edition (November 20, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0071479856

ISBN-13: 978-0071479851

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 1.4 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,727,364 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in [Books > Books on CD](#) > Languages > Language Instruction > German #617 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > German](#) #4321 in [Books > Reference > Foreign Language Study & Reference > Instruction](#)

Customer Reviews

Michel Thomas was head of the Michel Thomas Language Centers and taught languages for more than 50 years, primarily in New York, Beverly Hills, and London.. Over a period of 25 years he

developed a unique and revolutionary learning system that made him the world's leading language teacher..

I'm what I'd consider to be an 'intermediate' beginner. Having already purchased and tackled the Pimsleur Method CD's, I was looking for something else comprehensive and audio-based. This audio course is very unique in that in the very first CD he tells you NOT to try and memorize what's being covered (Which is quite different from all of the other 'repeat after me...' CD's I've heard). The premise is that Michel Thomas is teaching one male and one female student, and you get to be the invisible 3rd student. At first I wasn't sure this was going to be my cup of tea, but the more I listened to him the more I wanted to hear. As the CD's progress, Michel is quick to correct the students as they mispronounce words or try to get ahead of themselves. I'm now on the 3rd of 10 CD's that come with the Michel Thomas course, and I've already have come to a few conclusions:

- 1) This course will teach you to THINK in German, which is just what I was looking for. The Pimsleur Method is an excellent introductory course, but they do not force you to think and speak German on your own. The Michel Thomas method is superior for making you think on your feet and putting your own sentences together. I particularly appreciate that Michel goes back to review very frequently throughout each course, and he will purposefully try to trip you up. I actually felt bad for the 2 students that he would catch off-guard frequently throughout the courses.
- 2) As much as I like these CD's, I'm not sure I would recommend them for absolute beginners. If I hadn't already had some of the basics from the Pimsleur CD's and some books I had read, I would have not understood some of the earlier lessons. I was very grateful to have already had a good grasp of the basics before listening to these courses.
- 3) I believe another reviewer may have already stated this, but as much as I enjoy listening to Michel's voice, I would have appreciated hearing an additional native speaking German to compare and contrast. Michel's older male voice can sometimes be hard for me to understand, forcing me to go online to hear the same words from different speakers to better understand how to correctly pronounce some of the words.
- 4) Michel was GREAT at finally explaining correct sentence structure. I've read a few learn German books, but Michel had me understanding some of the basic rules of correct German grammar within the first CD.

In summary, I am VERY happy with this course. It's just the perfect step up from the Pimsleur course I was looking for. There is a LOT of info on these CD's and I'm finding myself replaying each lesson 5 or 6 times before going to the next one. It also comes in a very nice zippered leatherette carrying case. I would highly recommend this course if you're looking to take the next step up from an introductory course.

I switched on to Michel's "Speak French" set of tapes about four years ago and constantly use them as a refresher. There is profound learning in the seamless technique he employs, such as: the use of building blocks, repetition, reinforcement, association, and so on, well known pedagogical devices. The great man died at the beginning of 2005 (check out his Wikipedia entry), and I feared his wonderful teaching would fade from the scene. That fear has been put to rest. His French language recordings have become like old friends to me, and this "Speak German" series continues the legacy. He presents the German language with the aid of two neophytes, who are gradually transformed into reasonably competent speakers of the language. If you are attentive and stay with Michel's two ground rules, you, too, will get there. At times Michel is gruff, and at others gently encouraging his students with good humour. Yes, I am a big fan. Michel delivers all he promises with this remarkable teaching method.

I have been unsuccessfully tried to learn German until I found Michel Thomas. We have many German clients, and speaking that language in our company is a must. A colleague gave me the first CD to try it, since I have a long commute to work. In the beginning I was VERY skeptical, since I have tried many other courses, including lessons with a private teacher. However, since the first CD, Michel Thomas makes you speak basic phrases, and builds on top of that. I really, really recommend this course if you want to get a basic conversational level. I truly believe that anybody can learn with these CDs. My son was in the car with me, I put the CD on, and after the first 10 mins, without me telling him anything, he was trying some phrases in German as well. The only problem is that the vocabulary that you learn on the first 10 CDs is limited. You will learn about the basic structures and verbs, but you will need to reinforce what you learn with something else.

Mr. Thomas is a genius teacher. He has perfected a technique which is magical. No books, memorization or homework. Simply listen and repeat and before you know it you will have learned another language. I took French lessons from Michel Thomas privately many years ago, his lesson on CD's are exactly as he taught one on one, for a fraction of the cost I might add. Thanks to his languages on CD's I now have mastered Spanish and German. Italian is my next goal.

I am several discs into using this program and am very pleased with the improvement it has made in my German language comprehension. I enjoy the learning format these discs employ: an instructor, 2 students and putting what you learn into immediate use. Even during your 1st listen to the 1st disc you will be able to formulate sentences and understand what is being said. I don't find the

instructor's corrections of the students or the back & forth talking to be annoying as some others here have commented. This is a very worthwhile program!

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