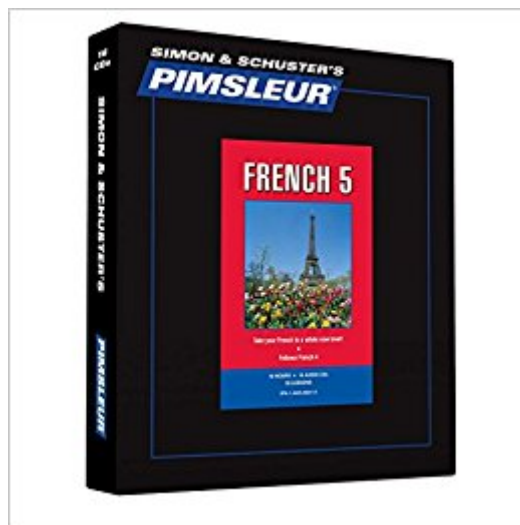


The book was found

Pimsleur French Level 5 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand French With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



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
- 75 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

French Level 5 is designed to be taken after Pimsleur's French Level 4. Thirty 30-minute lessons totaling 15 hours of spoken French language learning, plus 75 minutes of reading practice. French Level 5 builds upon skills taught in Pimsleur's French Levels 1-4. You'll be speaking and understanding French with near fluency and with a broad range of conversational skills. In Level 5 the pace and conversation moves quite rapidly, accelerating exposure to new vocabulary and structures, approaching native speed and comprehension. You'll learn to speak more in-depth about your personal life and emotional state, and be able to create complex sentences using a mix of tenses and moods.

A few of the topics included in French Level 5:

- Travel and leisure: weather phenomena, geography, temperatures, the environment;
- Home life: real estate, furniture, appliances, clothing and laundry, cleaning, car maintenance, parties and celebrations;
- Family and relationships: getting along, planning a future together, breaking up, boyfriends and girlfriends, reconnecting;
- Body and health: body parts, pain, symptoms and cures, sleeping and waking, bad habits;
- Personal life and emotions: empathy, regret, hope, trust and distrust, sharing, bullying and name-calling, growing older, recognizing and finding happiness.

Reading Lessons in the form of a short story are included after Lesson 30. 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

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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.

I felt compelled to write a review after reading Oivavoi's. I agree totally in what he says in the review. Funny enough I also went to the same school in the South of France last year. I was tested into their *avancé* (the highest level). I had been doing the Pimsleur French course before, during and after the course. Whilst my grammar isn't perfect, I speak French well with almost no foreign accent, and I credit a large part to Pimsleur. I have also done Michel Thomas, Rocket French, Behind the Wheels, How Real French People Speak French, classes at Alliance Francaise, etc etc, nothing comes close to Pimsleur. Michel Thomas would have been good if it didn't have the teacher and student format, some of the questions the female student asks would drive one to insanity, it also gets very old when you repeat the lessons. Like the reviewer, I put a lot of effort in my French, for my passion, not for work, I go to Paris 3 times a year to do classes, I spend about an hour reading French books and watch the French news. Whenever I am in the car and before I go to bed, I listen to Pimsleur. I speak French daily with my French friends in Colorado, sometimes I speak to myself in French! Pimsleur is very good but do not mistake it for magic. You need to really make some effort and do other supplementary stuff if you want to speak decent French. Only Pimsleur alone or anything alone will not achieve what you want to achieve, if you are serious about learning the language. I would always be a Pimsleur fan, I also have their Mandarin course, it is good. As someone who already speaks another dialect of Chinese, I can attest to its quality, this is good for non-Chinese people who want to start learning Mandarin.

If you are considering purchasing Level 5 of the Pimsleur French series, most likely you are already

familiar with this program and Dr. Pimsleur's theories about learning new languages. As that information is available online, I won't reprise it here. I can, however, briefly share my experience. Several years ago when I was living in Paris, I enrolled in beginner's French classes at the Alliance Francaise, three afternoons a week for two months. While I am glad that I took the classes, the main problem is that you spend most of the class speaking French with your fellow classmates -- none of whom are native speakers. Hearing French spoken with Chinese, Russian, Italian or American accents is not helpful. The Pimsleur programs focus almost 100% on hearing and speaking languages without the use of written materials. This forces you to learn the language differently, more slowly but more thoroughly. I now find myself thinking in French, rather than thinking in English and translating it to French in my mind. Although my spoken French is still rudimentary, I can get by on my own, having simple conversations with ordinary people at the grocery, the train station, the cafe, etc. I am told my accent is pretty good, and not obviously American. I have never tried any other self-study programs, so I can't compare the Pimsleur system to others. All I can say is that I find the program works for me, and I recommend it to others. Even people who are already speaking at a conversational level can benefit by improving their pronunciation.

Pimsleur teaches a language the way we learned as children, i.e., by hearing and repeating. When you think about it, we were all fairly fluent in our native tongues before we ever opened a grammar book.

I usually don't write reviews on . But this time I'm doing it, because I am so happy with having done the Pimsleur course in French. I have now finished level I to V, and this is a review of all the five levels seen as a whole (I also posted this review on the Level I CD). To put it simple: This WILL teach you French. Trust me. It will. Just do it. Don't think too much, and take the plunge. In some months, you will speak French.-----Some background on my personal story with French: Six months ago I came to France because of my work, speaking no French at all. I needed to learn French in record time in order to do my job, and embarked on a very intensive French learning journey. After 2 months, I could understand most of what was going on around me. Now after 6 months, I have no problems reading French novels/newspapers or watching movies, and my spoken French is fully functional ("fluency" is a word that is often misused, in my opinion). As of late I also have a French girlfriend, and our conversations flow without the language getting in the way. It needs to be said that such a progress is probably not to be expected for everyone, at least not without the full immersion experience. However, I think that Pimsleur deserves much of the credit for

my progress. During my first month in France I did an intensive language school in the south of France for one month, with 8 hours instruction a day. In the evenings, I did Pimsleur. After this month I moved to Paris. I didn't do any more language classes, but once a week I had a private lesson with a private tutor who has a stellar reputation. I also continued doing Pimsleur. In addition, I started reading everything I could in French. I started out with a graded and easy-to-read textbook. I continued with comic books *À la recherche du Nécromancien*, which I knew almost by heart, so it was easy to follow. Then I started reading the Harry Potter books on my kindle, which made it easy because I could check the essential words I didn't understand on the pop up-dictionary. As you see, my French studies have not depended entirely on Pimsleur. I was very blessed to have my work pay for both the 1 month immersion course and my private tutor. But I know this: Out of these 4 elements, which ones would I keep if I could keep only two? The immersion course, Pimsleur, the private tutor or the reading material? There is no doubt in my mind: If I had to keep only two, I would keep Pimsleur and the reading material. The immersion course and the private tutor were both very expensive. Still, I know that I learnt more from doing the Pimsleur courses and from reading. That is actually quite an endorsement! Both the immersion course and my tutor are considered to be some of the best there is, and often cater to professionals, diplomats etc. But Pimsleur actually taught me more. (at the immersion course, a couple of my fellow students asked why I seemed to be making such progress. I told them: Pimsleur. They started using it as well, caught up with me, and soon all three of us were ahead of the class. So it's not only me) What is the reason that Pimsleur actually taught me so much? I have some experience learning languages (French is my 5th language), so I think I might have an answer. My experience in learning languages is that the difficult thing is acquiring what some call the "language core". In a way, this is the mechanics of the language. It is the fundamentals of how the language works, basically. It is about the most basic grammar (not the difficult technical stuff). It is also about the very fundamental vocabulary needed to express things. When one gets this down, the rest will often come more easily (the rest being vocabulary, a more complete and correct grammar, etc). This is what Pimsleur gives you. When learning other languages in the past, it took me much more time to reach a satisfactory level. The reason was that I struggled in the beginning with learning formal grammar, trying to acquire a big vocabulary right away, etc. Two things happened: 1) I got frustrated 2) I forgot half of what I learnt. Pimsleur, however, focuses on the basics. As you can see from the other reviews here, it focuses on repetition, repetition, repetition. And this works. It sticks. Pimsleur will not give you a large vocabulary, but it will give you a functional language core. After doing all the 5 levels of French, my guess is that most learners will have a functional core in French. This means that when one speaks,

one will be able to put together the words that one knows in a functional way, and that this process will be more or less intuitive (one doesn't have to consciously "translate" first). Assuming one does one lesson a day, that means 5 months (maybe somewhat longer if one has to repeat the lessons more than once). That's not too bad, or what? But as mentioned, I am also very glad that I did so much reading in French. This is important for two reasons: 1) It gives you a larger vocabulary, 2) It gives you an intuitive "feel" for the language, how it actually works (refer back to what I wrote about the language core). In my experience, and this is also something they emphasised at the immersion school I attended, it is actually important to read out loud, and not just read silently. Maybe it is for the same reason that Pimsleur emphasises that one has to repeat out loud. Most people learn language aurally (through hearing) as well as visually, so reading out loud makes it easier to remember words etc. Plus, reading can be fun. Doing flashcards etc in order to learn vocabulary is not fun (not for me, at least). So what have I learnt from this process about learning French? In case it might be useful to others as well, I've tried to concentrate it into some "advice for future French learners" in six points:-----1) Start by doing Pimsleur 1, all the 30 lessons. Don't worry too much about understanding what's going on with the grammar. 2) After completing Pimsleur 1, get this French reader:

http://www..com/Easy-French-Reader-Roussy-Sales/dp/0071428488/ref=pd_sim_14_2?ie=UTF8&refRID=1Y1HG2DBTBKVC4MXGD4. It is the one I used, and it is excellent. It has recently come out in a new edition, but based on the reviews for the new version it seems like the publishers still need to figure out some problems with the audio recordings (supposed to be in an app). So it might be smart to hold out getting the new version until they sort out the audio thing. The new version can be found here:

http://www..com/Easy-French-Reader-Premium-Third/dp/0071850171/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1437819130&sr=8-1&keywords=easy+french+reader. The great thing about this reader is that it starts out very easily. I think most people should be able to get through the first parts after having done Pimsleur I. So, just spend some time starting to read. 3) Then, keep on doing Pimsleur level 2 & 3 etc, and keep on reading in the reader alongside, until you've finished it or you get tired of it. Remember to read out loud. 4) When you're ready to move on from the reader, get some comics in French that you already know and love. I read Asterix, which I devoured as a kid. But any comic will do. Read the comics out loud for yourself, use a dictionary if necessary. Reading comics is a great way to learn language, because you understand more of what's going on because of the pictures, plus that it's mostly dialogue (therefore, you don't have to struggle with the difficult literary grammatical tenses in French. Save that for later). And keep on doing Pimsleur (level 4 by now,

maybe?).5) Keep on doing Pimsleur (you might have reached level 5 at this point?). Get yourself a kindle with a touch screen (if you don't own one), and buy French versions/translations of some books you already know and love, and where the story will pull you through in spite of language difficulties. I used Harry Potter, but any reasonably easy book will do. Start reading, with the help of the pop up dictionary. At first, you might find it a bit difficult that most novels are written in a past tense that is purely literary, and almost not used in spoken French: The *passé simple* (more or less similar to the *passé composé* in spoken French). This, however, is something one quickly gets used to. And finish the Pimsleur course, and revise some of the lessons if you find it helpful.6) AFTER having done all this, most people should have some basic French up and running. I think so. At this point, it could be a good idea to study grammar more formally. Having done the Pimsleur courses and having done some reading, most people will already have an intuitive understanding for French grammar. But working through a grammar book will nevertheless put things in place, and make it easier to understand and use the language. My advise would be to use this book:

http://www..com/Grammaire-Progressive-Du-Francais-Intermediaire/dp/2090381248/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1437820410&sr=8-1&keywords=grammaire+progressive+du+francais. This book is all in French, on a intermediate level, but after Pimsleur + reading it shouldn't be a problem. It does a great job of explaining grammar concepts, and the exercises are excellent. Be sure to get the extra book which contains the answers to the exercises as well, though.-----Will this learning strategy work for everyone? Probably not. People are different, and we learn in different ways. This worked for me, though, and I think it should work for a good number of people. Some people might feel that they just have to start off with grammar right away. I think it is easier to learn formal grammar at a later stage, but suit yourself;) If so, there is also a beginner version of the grammar book I mentioned:

http://www..com/Grammaire-Progressive-Du-Francais-Debutant/dp/2090381140/ref=pd_sim_14_2?ie=UTF8&refRID=1BDPTX6NVKXK3SV9ZTMB (haven't tried it, but it gets good reviews). Another option would be to find a simple book about French grammar in English and read it early on, just in order to understand what's "going on" grammar-wise. Others, again, will maybe want to use a fast track for getting to some kind of "survival French" *à l'usage de* *à l'usage de* like for a short vacation in France. An example: This is a proper French sentence *Est-ce que vous aimeriez dîner avec moi ce soir?* (would you like to have dinner with me tonight). However, most French people would also understand you if you said it like this: "Vous, moi *à l'usage de* *à l'usage de* restaurant?" If basic survival French is your goal, then there are faster ways of getting there than by

using Pimsleur (vocabulary flash cards, parleurs, quick introductions to colloquial French, etc). However, if the goal is to really learn to speak the language, I honestly think Pimsleur is the best place to start. Let me finish off this rather long review by explaining why I took the time to write it: I hope that as many people as possible will buy Pimsleur packages. That way, Pimsleur will have an incentive to make even more Pimsleur courses. My French girlfriend has now started to learn Norwegian for example (my native language), and I've given her Pimsleur Norwegian 1 as a gift. However, Pimsleur only has this one level for Norwegian... so I really hope Pimsleur will put out levels II and III. And if there's any doubt, I don't have anything to do with the company that makes these courses. I'm just a very satisfied customer. (one tip though: There's no need buying the CDs, it is often cheaper to buy the MP3 packages directly from the Pimsleur website. They often have sales and reductions on their website as well)---- and to all French learners out there: Good luck! Bon courage ! The French language is actually quite cool.

What is missing in Pimsleur from Level 1-4 is grammar. Level 5 fixes it, but I still need to look at a grammar book to understand the conjugation, especially of irregular verbs. Level 5 also picks up important items which are missing in Level 1-4. If you finish Level 1-4, you will need Level 5.

My opinion is that Pimsleur is very good. I bought this one because the library didn't have it yet.

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