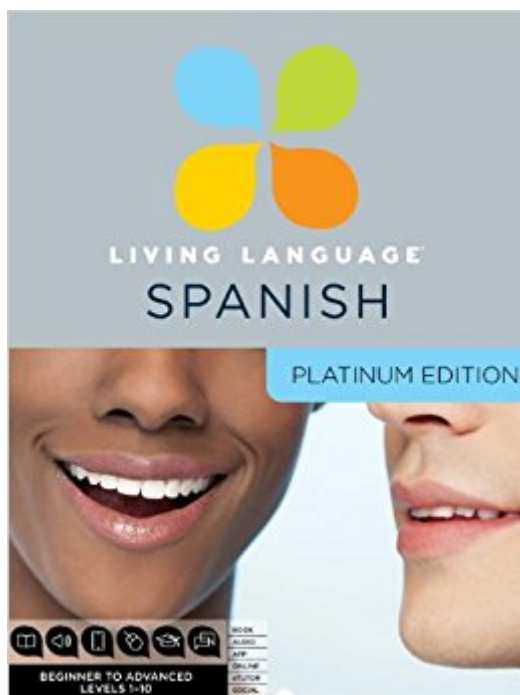


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Living Language Spanish, Platinum Edition: A Complete Beginner Through Advanced Course, Including 3 Coursebooks, 9 Audio CDs, Complete Online Course, Apps, And Live E-Tutoring



Synopsis

For over 65 years, millions have learned with Living Language®. Now it's your turn. Based on the Living Language Method®, Platinum Spanish gives you, the flexibility to fit language learning into your life. You choose where, when, and how you learn.

3 BOOKS: 46 lessons, additional review exercises, culture notes, an extensive glossary, and a grammar summary • plus a bonus notebook.

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ONLINE COURSE: Access all of your language content in a rich, interactive experience that allows you to learn at home or wherever you and your laptop go.

E-TUTOR: Schedule tutoring sessions and get personal support, answers, and encouragement from language experts at no additional cost.

ONLINE COMMUNITY: Practice, share tips, get advice, and receive feedback from language experts, native speakers, and other users.

INSIDE THE PACKAGE YOU'LL FIND: The code required to access the Apps, Online Course, and e-Tutor. Check out Living Language's exclusive forums once you've registered as a Platinum user.

To learn more visit www.livinglanguage.com.

THE LIVING LANGUAGE METHOD® At the core of Platinum Spanish is the Living Language Method®, based on linguistic science, proven techniques, and over 65 years of experience. Our four-point method teaches you the whole language so you can express yourself, not just recite memorized words or scripts.

Build a Foundation Start speaking French immediately using essential words and phrases.

Progress with Confidence Build on each lesson as you advance to full sentences, then actual conversations.

Retain what You've Learned Special recall exercises move your new language from short-term to long-term memory.

Achieve Your Goals Don't just mimic or memorize. Develop practical language skills to speak in any situation.

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"The Living Language Platinum series has dragged the world of language learning into the 21st century."-Newsday

This is by far the best product for learning beginner Spanish! I highly recommend it to anyone seriously interested in the Spanish language!

The included online e-tutoring sessions are fantastic. This is an incredible value. If you have high speed Internet and want to learn Spanish, this along with a USB headset is a must buy.

I listen daily while I drive my truck and feel confident I can be understood in normal activities. Still don't think I can carry on a steady conversation ! But the program is very good !

Great

This year my son started Rosetta Stone's Spanish. At the same time I got this set, so there will be some comparison.1) COST - obviously paying \$125 for this program vs. \$500 for Rosetta Stone is a huge bonus for me.2) LEARNING PROCESS - This system focuses on reading through chapters with exercises and listening to audio files to support the chapters. The content in the audio files is just like the book. Where audio files help the most is if you don't know how to pronounce the words it helps to hear it and hit rewind over and over again.Rosetta stone, requires a computer as it uses

visual queues (pictures), audio files and in version 3.x it lets you speak into a mic and measures if you are speaking the word correctly or not. I tried this with the Chinese lesson once - which Chinese has different tones of the same word - the program allowed me to continue even though my pronunciation was off. Thus this feature becomes worthless on some levels. Having lived in foreign countries, learning a language comes through repetition. Since we all have MP3 players and can take them wherever we are, then this system works fine for replaying the phrases and words over and over again. Thus for the impatient person who doesn't want to spend the time practicing, then maybe not only is this program not for you but learning a language in general is not for you. Similar to learning the guitar...I know a bunch of chords but I can't play songs by memory without practice, practice, practice.3) TRAVELLING - The Essentials book, has a Spanish-English and English-Spanish glossary in the back. The book is thin enough and light enough you could throw it in a bag and take it with you when travelling.4) PROGRESSION - this system starts with teaching you basic conversational Spanish and getting around a place. Rosetta starts a lot more rudimentary with teaching you words like boy, girl, car, shoe, etc. Rosetta focus on progressing the learner through learning vocabulary, whereas this one starts building conversation and proper grammar right off the back. For me this was a lot more functional and practical of an approach.5) OTHER TOOLS - when I first tried to login online the tools were non-existent, with some items "coming soon". I thought this was a bit of a joke since this company has supposedly been doing this since 1946!! At this time, for this program, the tools, resources, and forums are weak. Just google "Spanish speaking forum" and you'll find sites with a lot more activity.6) THE BOOK - one more note on the book...its only in a print, paperback format. In today's day and age, I'd expect a PDF or ebook format. Their site clearly states they don't offer the ebook version. Any company who doesn't look to leverage technology of the mobile user is short-sighted.OVERALL - A thorough system that gives you what you need to learn Spanish and get along if you are travelling or dealing with other Spanish speaking people. The lack of tools or leveraging mobile versions of the book are stupid in my opinion, but better than being tied to a computer like Rosetta forces a user.

This course hits on every aspect of learning. You get 3 very nice textbooks, the audio cd's, an online course that reinforces what you learned in the book, a language forum on the website where they answer questions, mobile phone and tablet apps, and e tutoring. It also comes with a notebook that you can write down your notes, questions, and vocab words that aren't sticking in your brain for later review. The e-tutoring is a 30 minute tutorial with an actual tutor online, and you have no more than 3 people in a session total. These tutoring sessions are planned to coincide with wherever you

are in the books, so that you are going over relevant information to that unit. What is great about this course is you can study no matter where you are. At home, in the car, on your phone or tablet, or on your laptop or desktop. However, I would recommend doing this course at home like a proper college course, and listening to Pimsler or Learn in Your Car Spanish in your car. Overall the material is excellent and well thought out. It is a good mix of vocabulary and grammar study and is a great course to get a good base in Spanish. It won't get you fluent but no one course will do that. The material you get for the price can't be beat.

This comes with audio CD's for you to listen to which helps with pronunciation, three levels of workbooks (essential, intermediate, and advanced), and a notebook. The notebook is not really necessary as it's just lined paper, but it fits inside the box and will help you keep your notes with kit. I have had some trouble with one of the CD lessons skipping to the next partway through the instructions so I'll contact the company and see if they'll issue a replacement CD. It is also supposed to come with an app for my phone but it hasn't been released yet that I've noticed. I do like the online version of the program. You have flash cards that you click on to fluctuate between English and Spanish and you can also click on the card to hear it pronounced. After you have mastered a particular card, you can send it to "Mastered" where it won't keep popping up and you can just study those cards you haven't memorized yet. eTutor access seems pretty neat but I haven't used it yet. This is a 30 minute online session for three people at a time and states that "Students can engage in conversation with the tutor, ask questions, and practice their new language -- students will be able to hear but not see one another." It sounds like a good idea but since I have Spanish speaking families at my church, I haven't needed to work with anyone online. I believe that this program does a good job teaching Spanish by using audio (listening to CD / online course), visual (online course / workbooks), and kinesthetic (filling in workbooks / clicking through flash cards) approaches.

The books are very helpful and well-written. However, the package should have contained an access code for one-line access to flash cards, games, and on-line conversations. However, the code was not included. At this writing, after twice having written Living Language support, I have not been able to secure an access code.

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