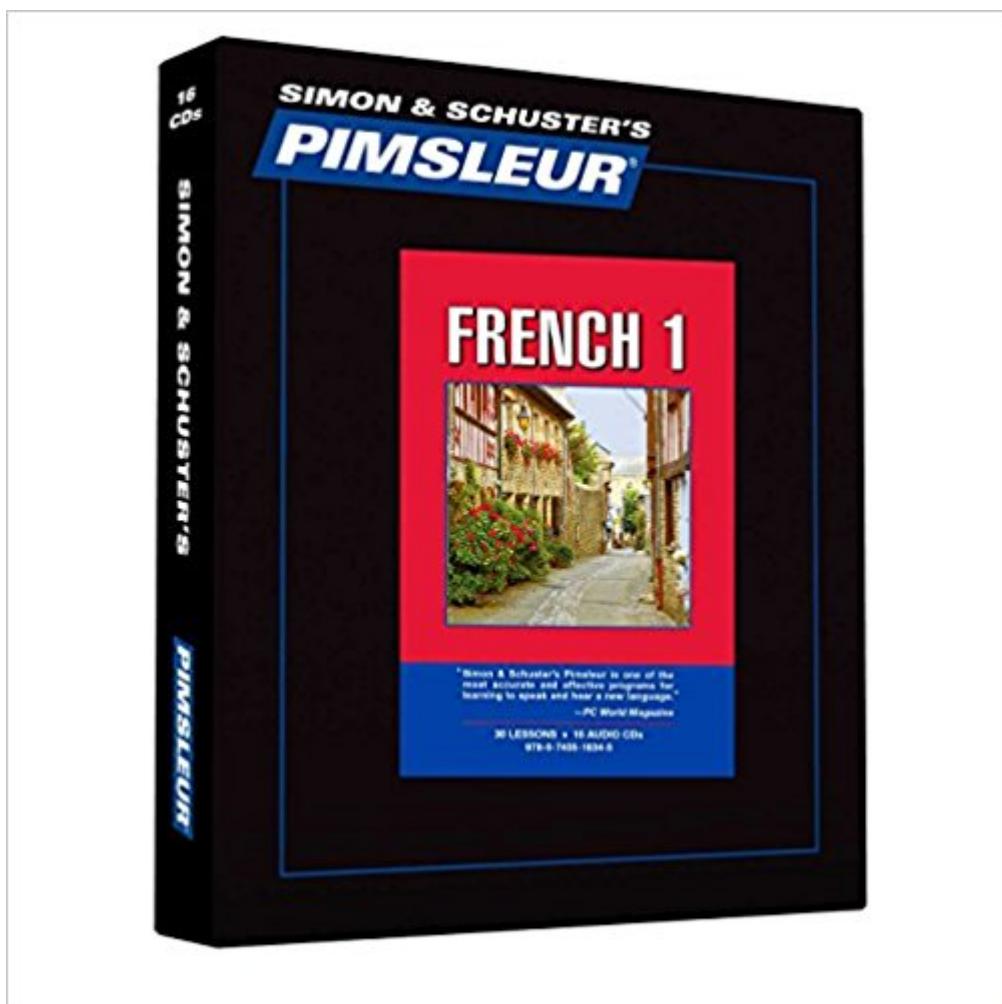


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# Pimsleur French Level 1 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand French With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



## 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 - 60 minutes of reading instruction to provide you with an introduction to reading French designed to teach you to sound out words with correct pronunciation and accent - in total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers - a Reading Booklet and a User Guide What You'll Learn In the first 10 lessons, you'll cover the basics: saying hello, asking for or giving information, scheduling a meal or a meeting, asking for or giving basic directions, and much more. You'll be able to handle minimum courtesy requirements, understand much of what you hear, and be understood at a beginning level, but with near-native pronunciation skills. In the next 10 lessons, you'll build on what you've learned. Expand your menu, increase your scheduling abilities from general to specific, start to deal with currency and exchanging money, refine your conversations and add over a hundred new vocabulary items. You'll understand more of what you hear, and be able to participate with speech that is smoother and more confident. In the final 10 lessons, you'll be speaking and understanding at an intermediate level. In this phase, more directions are given in the target language, which moves your learning to a whole new plane. Lessons include shopping, visiting friends, going to a restaurant, plans for the evening, car trips, and talking about family. You'll be able to speak comfortably about things that happened in the past and make plans for the future. Reading Lessons begin in Lesson 9 to provide you with an introduction to reading French. In addition, the combined Reading Lessons are included after

Lesson 30. These Reading Lessons, which total about one hour, are designed to teach you to sound out words with correct pronunciation and accent. 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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Audio CD

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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'm reviewing my high-school French for an upcoming trip to visit my adult daughter & grandson, who live near Montpellier. The first eight 30-minute lessons are devoted entirely to listening and speaking. Reading is introduced with lesson nine. Some lessons introduce more new words and/or grammatical rules than others and I found that I needed to listen to some lessons a second or third time before moving onto the next. Unfortunately, speaking a language is not an easy task, especially later in life. But I am finding this product helpful, and hope to survive the trip and possibly participate in a few conversations along the way without sounding like a caveman!

My husband, my 3 yr old son and I have been working on learning French for several months now. We started slow, learning words and objects (versus phrases), but the time came for us to really get into the nuts and bolts of it. Based on reviews, we bought the Pimsleur French 1 versus Rosetta Stone. We have used Rosetta Stone before (for a different language). Rosetta moves slow, but my husband and I still remember 7 words we learned from it (4 yrs ago). That said, we needed practical French phraseology to use in every day life (we didn't make it far enough in Rosetta to see if they teach that....). The Pimsleur method is great. We have been using it for a week and half faithfully as we drive my husband to work (about 15 mins at a time) and we all are LOVING it. We have almost made it thru the first lesson and speak the phrases to each other throughout the day. It teaches phrases backwards, to engage your mind, and it really works. We love it and are

thrilled.\*UPDATE\*Have been using this program faithfully for 15 minutes a day for about 6 months and have made it to lesson 6 (there are three different ages learning together) and it is great. I recommend it all the time. My mother's boss is also French and whenever my son and I see him, we are able to carry on basic conversations.

My wife and I are going to France in 4 months, and I wanted something / anything to help me with the language. I listen to a CD in the car for 30 minutes each day on way to and from work. Surprisingly, I am able to learn and repeat French phrases at will. It takes years to really master a language, but Pimsleur French is working for me. I would highly recommend. Actually, is entertaining and not drudgery to listen too. I bought a used copy, but it looks brand new.

I can not recommend the Pimsleur language program enough. I accidentally encountered it on iTunes looking for a Czech course when I learned that I would be spending a few days in the Czech republic and wanted just the basics; I downloaded lesson one thinking it would give me at least the first few sentences. While the Pimsleur program is not what you want to use if you have one car drive to learn to ask directions and order at a restaurant (although I'm not sure any program can really effectively equip you for that without time...), Pimsleur is the way to go if you want to remember what you learned and communicate naturally. With no prior knowledge of Czech I listened to only one lesson, once, during the 30-minute bus ride from Slovakia (I was touring with an orchestra and was doing a considerable amount of traveling; English, however, is my first language). Even today, 8 months later, I still sometimes find myself saying "excuse me" in Czech instead of English; while there one native of the Czech Republic commented that I had a talent for the accent. Now as I begin the French lessons, I can't praise Pimsleur enough. I am in French 3 in high school now and find that as much as I can read, I still have a horrible time creating the words myself or hearing them spoken. With the Pimsleur method after only lesson one I feel myself improving, and the grammar rules that I've been studying in class make more sense the way they're presented in Pimsleur (rather than saying "Conjugate the following verbs," it's "Notice that \_\_\_\_\_ changes the meaning in \_\_\_\_\_ way; now can you do the same for this other word?") I thought that the repetition of saying words when prompted would become boring, but everything is fit into a conversation so not only can you imagine you're actually speaking to someone (rather than just responding to prompts), but you're also programming your abilities in the language for real-life scenarios responding to questions and asking them yourself...meaning that when actually faced with the same it comes naturally! I highly recommend this program, and look forward to using it

further.

The Pimsleur series is exceptional for learning to speak the language as long one understands its limitations. The series contains 30, half-hour lessons that I listen to on the way to and from work. The method stresses repetition within each lesson and an occasional revisit of items covered in previous lessons to reinforce learning. In English, the narrator provides occasional insights into French grammar and word usage. This program's limitation is that it lacks an extensive coverage of grammar, and I suggest using a Schaum's Outline of French Grammar to assist. As an added measure, I use Rosetta Stone, which I find to be complementary. This may not be an option for all. The program comes on 30 disks, which makes it quite painful to transfer to an iPod. However, one can buy Pimsleur on iTunes, but you are limited only to level 1 as levels 2 & 3 are not available. It is less expensive to download on iTunes but one doesn't have the disks. In closing, I like the Pimsleur method and recommend it for others.

This method suits my husband's learning style so he is very happy!

I really like the Pimsleur CD set. The method is VERY repetitive which I need, as I have difficulty learning languages. My various language studies in my life (Latin, French, Spanish) have been painful. This is OK, non-threatening, and even a bit fun. Lo & behold. It might be too slow for someone with a real facility for languages. There is a reading booklet included with the CD's. I bought the set used and am really pleased.

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