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Living Language French, 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 French 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.
- 9 AUDIO CDS: Vocabulary, dialogues, audio exercises, and more listen with the books or use for review on the go.
- iPhone® AND iPad® COMPATIBLE APPS: Vocabulary flashcards, audio conversations, grammar notes, and interactive games all at your fingertips.
- 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 French 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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Customer Reviews

I just started the course and will update as I progress. This system is a very standard approach to learning a language. You start with the basics and slowly work up. The set comes with audio CDs, workbooks/texts, and online access to live tutors, forums, and online games/lesson reinforcements. When I was looking for a course, I felt it was important to have something that explains the grammar. I looked into Rosetta Stone French but found that I got unnecessarily confused by simple things like tu vs. vous because I was not quite perceptive enough to pick up on the subtle differences between pictures. These subtleties are explained as you go in living language. I tried the online tutor for an orientation session and was the only student (there can be up to 3) so we also did some basic lesson. It will take me awhile to get over the awkward feeling of watching a stranger (they can only hear you, not see you, unless you let them) but I find that this is a very promising modality. I have wireless high speed internet and I don't think it would work well with anything less. Else-wise, if you are looking for a 'novel' approach, this is clearly not it. If you like learning languages in a very straightforward manner, this is a good option. It's got enough to get you started.

I have not made it through the entire course by any means, but my impression is that this is based on the most common method of language education in primary schools, including three books that are combination textbook and workbook. The books are in three levels: essential, intermediate, and advanced. There are 9 CDs in all, three for each level. It would be impossible for me to really compare such a system to something like Rosetta Stone, which seems to be the default method everyone compares to now, but Rosetta Stone is based on an immersion method that does not involve learning basic things like spelling or grammar. One is just thrown into an immersive environment to sink or swim, pretty much as we all are as babies, so there has to be something to be said for that. If, however, you feel it is important to learn the basics of the new language with reference to the old language, this may be a better approach.

I love this Living Language French. I've only just started it, but the approach is simple to follow and easy to grasp the language with audio and visual queues. I haven't tried the online community yet, but I'm sure that interacting with other "students" will be a helpful addition to learning. I can't compare this to Rosetta stone, as I've personally never tried it, but this is an immersive, fun way to learn the language. After you get through a lesson there are little games and quizzes to test your comprehension and learning. I like that it starts out right away with learning useful phrases and words. So if you're planning to take a trip to a place that is predominantly French-speaking, you can at least get the basics in before you go. You can also take the lesson with you on your smartphone with flashcards, audio conversations and more. the perfect thing for a long flight! :) I'm hopeful that soon I'll be able to confidently say "Je parle la Francais!" and mean it! I really enjoy this learning approach - once I am through with my French lesson, I'll be moving on to Spanish with the Living Language system.

Platinum French reminds me of every French class I took in high school, with its listen, repeat, write approach to language. While that has been the textbook approach in academia for decades, it falls far short of the Rosetta Stone standard in today's language marketplace. Which is really too bad, since the eTutor could have been fleshed out to help fill that gap. None of which is to say that Platinum French is bad. It is, rather, an attempt to teach you reading, writing, and grammar, in addition to verbal - which is a very different means than most modern immersion-style language programs, which tend to focus solely on conversational fluency. So if your goal is a more well-rounded language approach, especially written language, Platinum French is worth the money. If you're looking for simple fluency for travel, there are better (and quicker) guides.

I have not finished this by any means, but I have found it to be very effective for me with the multiple ways of learning. I have used it with my iPod, online on my computer, and through the books and CD's, and in all three of these, you listen, repeat and write. The lessons are both topical "Family" and include Grammar, like the proper uses of the different forms of french words, and spelling helps. The app and computer games help to reinforce the point of the lessons. I did have a snafu with the app, and customer service wasn't great, but an update has since fixed the app, and it works great now. All in all, I think it's a great product.

I only use this in my car and I don't drive a lot so I'm progressing VERY slowly. I like the voices of the speakers and the pause/ repeat format which has really helped my pronunciation. I recommend

to,those who already know some French. I am brushing up 50 yrs! after 12 yrs of school study. If I didn't have this background I would definitely need to be seeing the words while they are saying them. French pronunciation is so different from what we americans would guess when we read the words!

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