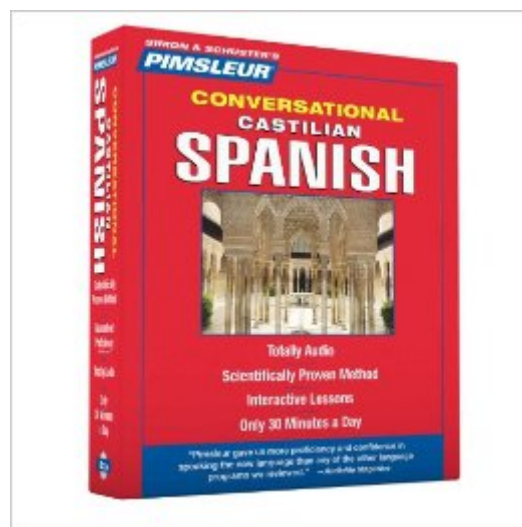


The book was found

Pimsleur Spanish (Castilian) Conversational Course - Level 1 Lessons 1-16 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand Castilian Spanish With Pimsleur Language Programs



Synopsis

Pimsleur® equals success. Just one 30-minute lesson a day gets you speaking and understanding like no other program. This course includes Lessons 1-16 from the Castilian Spanish Level 1 program - 8 hours of audio-only effective language learning with real-life spoken practice sessions. Each lesson provides 30 minutes of spoken language practice, with an introductory conversation, and new vocabulary and structures. Detailed instructions enable you to understand and participate in the conversation. Practice for vocabulary introduced in previous lessons is included in each lesson. Topics include: greetings, numbers, meals, shopping, telling time, scheduling activities, and asking and giving directions. The emphasis is on pronunciation and comprehension, and on learning to speak Castilian Spanish. Readings begin in Lesson 11. The Castilian Spanish Language In the United States, the term "Castilian" or "Castilian Spanish" usually refers to the dialect that is the official language of Spain, where it's used in television and radio broadcasts. It is understood throughout the country, although there are marked regional differences. The difference between Castilian Spanish as spoken in Spain and Spanish as spoken in the Americas (now called Latin American Spanish) is due to the diminishing contact between Spain and the Americas over the centuries and to the influence of local languages in the Americas. These two main variants of Spanish are mutually intelligible; the difference between them is comparable to that between British English and American English. Pimsleur's Castilian Spanish teaches the official dialect as spoken by the majority of Spanish-speakers in Spain. Spanish is the official language of twenty-one countries and is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. Spanish is the first language of more than 350 million people, more than any other language except Mandarin Chinese. Additionally, Spanish is a common second language --- the most studied after English, and the third most commonly used on the Internet after English and Mandarin. 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

The Castilian Spanish discs deliver what is promised and they arrived on time and in excellent condition. We already have some knowledge of Latin American Spanish, which helps, but there are enough differences in Castilian Spanish to make the course valuable - especially in pronunciation. We are up to Lesson five so far. One tip: add a Castilian Spanish-English dictionary to your library to build your vocabulary. Gracias.

I already speak Spanish OK--read not great--and found it well done and great for in-car practice in preparation for an upcoming trip to Spain. However, spending a couple hundred buck for the next half of the series just wasn't worth it. But it really is well done.

This is an excellent way to learn Castilian Spanish from 30 half hour audio lessons where you listen and repeat words/phrases, or answer questions in Spanish. Each lesson builds on previous ones to reinforce the learning. I wonder if the reviewer who said there are no native Spanish speakers has listened to the whole course, as there is plenty of Spanish dialogue, by a variety of native speakers. There is also emphasis on pronunciation of new words/phrases by breaking down the words so that each part is heard clearly. This is helpful as native speakers often run words into each other. There are 'reading lessons' from about half way through the course which are lists of words and are really just pronunciation guides. Very helpful if you don't have a real live Spanish teacher. Apparently it is intentional that there is no written version of the audio lessons as this encourages audio learning, which is the natural way to learn a language. I would have liked a written copy as I find it helpful to see the words as well as hear them, but am typing one up for myself as a way of extending my learning. My only gripe is that there is only one set of 30 lessons for Castilian Spanish, while there are several sets for Latin-American Spanish, each building on the last. I have checked with Pimsleur who say there is no demand for more of the Castilian Spanish. So if you buy this course and want to do more, please contact Pimsleur to request more Castilian Spanish. That aside, I am very happy

with my purchase and highly recommend this course. UPDATE: This review refers to the Pimsleur 30 lesson audio CD/MP3 which I bought direct from Pimsleur. Contact Pimsleur here: <http://www.pimsleur.com/request-new-language-program> to request more Castilian Spanish lessons.

The Pimsleur method is excellent. One must be diligent to tackle learning a language in this manner, but the speakers have been outstanding. The method works!

Easy to follow, provided solid learning that was useful on my recent trip to Madrid.

I have been using this for a few months now. I decided to go with Pimsleur because they seem to be one of the very few companies that offer a course in learning Castilian, as opposed to Latin American, Spanish. "Why on earth does it matter to you which variety you learn?" you are no doubt wondering. Consider, dear reader, this simple question: "If you could learn English again from scratch, which would you prefer to learn -- American or British English?" Of course you'd want to learn to speak like a Brit! The accent, to us Yanks, is so much cooler. I've been listening to people speak with a Latin American accent all my life, there's nothing great about it. That LISP -- on the other hand!!! Que interesante! (Forgive the lack of accents or upside-down punctuation marks.) In other words, to bring this pointless, rambling, and discursive review to a close, I'm hoping to impress the pretty Mexican or Colombian girls of NW Chicagoland by speaking with one of those lordly, proper Spanish accents. I am almost finished with this introductory course and plan on springing for the whole thing.

This is a great course. Loved doing it. Very well laid out. Obvious that a lot of research has gone into the study of how people learn most effectively.

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