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Perfect Italian With The Michel Thomas Method



Synopsis

You learned your own language naturally and enjoyably: now you can learn Italian in the same way. You'll stick with it because you'll love it. Use the unique method perfected over fifty years by the celebrated psychologist and linguist Michel Thomas. Michel Thomas teaches you through your own language, so there's no stress, and no anxiety. He builds it up, step by step, and you don't move on until you've absorbed and understood the previous point. And, as Michel Thomas said, "What you understand, you know; and what you know, you don't forget." With parallels to the way you learned your own language, each language is learned in "real-time" conditions. There is no need to stop for homework, additional exercises or vocabulary memorization. The "virtual" classroom situation on the recording lets you learn with others. You enjoy their success, and you learn from their mistakes. The students on the recordings are not reading from scripts and they have received no additional instruction or preparation - just the guidance you hear on the recording. You, as the learner, become the third student and participate actively in the class.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've become a fan of the Michel Thomas method - the explanations of the imperfect and subjunctive tenses were worth the cost of the course all by themselves. Others have commented on Mr. Thomas' accent/voice but once I got used to it, it didn't trouble me at all. In fact, his approach is very patient, helpful and encouraging. However, in the last set of CDs with this level, another instructor is used and she has an annoying habit of spelling out words in Italian which really slowed down the

pace of the lesson and drove me nuts. It just seemed to me that at this level one should be able to spell, especially given the invariability of sounds in Italian. Her pronunciation is also off - often times when she pronounced a verb ending in "e" she said it as if it ended in "i". Having studied using multiple other courses and self study, I can't say how it would have been to start studying just with this or if these courses, in and of themselves, would have gotten me closer to fluency. There is very little vocabulary included. Finally, I wouldn't recommend using these while driving. There are only brief pauses when responses are required and if you can't stop and pause the CD on your own (which is distracting when driving), you might not have time to get the answer in. That is counter to what Mr. Thomas recommended which is to stop and think it through before you speak.

Michel Thomas is the best at teaching conversational language -we've used him for Italian, German, and Spanish. His approach requires no homework or memorization and is designed to build your verbal skills. He uses two students who are also learning and become part of your class, so you can hear them (a male and female because some words are different depending on whether they are said to, about, or by a male or female), So you also hear them trying to repeat the words and their efforts make you feel better if you didn't get it exactly right the first time. Thomas also serves as a great refresher if your going to visit a country and want to practice again before you go. Unlike traditional classes where you start out reading and doing homework and feel very little progress after weeks of effort, with Michel Thomas, even after just the first CD, you feel like you have made progress because you've been speaking and making complete sentences. Note that since there is no writing or reading, this is designed to teach you to communicate verbally. If you are trying to pass some type of competency exam, you'll need to add books and other types of computer aids, if you want to learn to read and write fluently.

I wish I had taken his class when he was alive. He taught in Los Angeles a number of years ago. I am so sorry I didn't take his class. He's great. These Michel Thomas tapes (all the courses) are quite good. It's a real classroom setting. I found that unlike other tape, the material really sticks with me.

Great program, makes learning Itslian easy. It's presented in bite sized pieces.

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