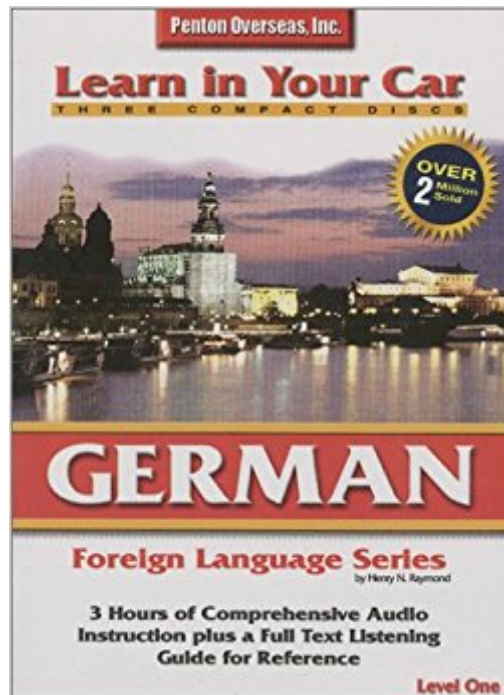




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German Level One (Learn In Your Car) (German Edition)



Synopsis

Listeners learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of a new language without the need of a textbook. Convenient to use while driving, working out... or anywhere!

Book Information

Series: Learn in Your Car

Audio CD

Publisher: Penton Overseas; abridged edition edition (March 22, 2005)

Language: German

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Customer Reviews

Look ma, no textbooks! The Learn in Your Car series treats you like a child--in the best possible way--starting with one-word phrases ("please," "good-by"), counting exercises, and simple nouns ("bus," "train") designed to imitate a child's learning process. First you hear the words in English, then they are repeated slowly in clear, unaccented pronunciations. The method is extremely effective for those who don't know a thing, or for those who want to brush up by testing themselves when the English words are spoken. The tapes emphasize the building blocks of communicating in a foreign country rather than rote phrases that only apply on the tape and not in real-life exchanges. Level 1 painlessly covers basic verb forms, essential prepositions, near future and past tenses, as well as shopping, hotel reservations, and other travel-related situations. The series includes French, German, Italian, Russian, Japanese, and Spanish in three levels that can be purchased individually or in boxed sets. Each level contains two 90-minute cassettes (or CDs) and an accompanying booklet (not for use behind the wheel) with helpful explanations and scripts for the lessons. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I really like this approach. I got just enough of the basics (in 3-4 weeks) so that I could travel to

Germany and get along in the markets, restaurants, museums, hotels and navigate the transportation systems. They basically go through small phrases, building to longer phrases. They give you the German phrase, then the english translation, then the German phrase again. This is perfect if you're just sitting in traffic commuting to/from work (yes, people may think you're strange as you talk to yourself in the car... but hey, I had fun with it). I'm 57 yo and was worried that "old dogs can't learn new languages". I can tell you... yes you can! I probably didn't learn it as fast as a young pup, but learning how to count, how to greet people, where is this/that, market phrases, is not that tough... the brain seems to be wired to accept new languages. I'm not sure you could get to full conversational proficiency with this method, but you can certainly learn enough to get around on a sightseeing trip. The one drawback if you mostly conduct this training in the car is that you don't see any written German... you only learn the sounds of words/phrases. So, it might take you a while to figure out what you're "reading" in Germany. There is a booklet that has the phrases written down, in order, in English and German... but, if you're driving, you're (hopefully) not reading the booklet at the same time. I went through 1.5 levels of the Spanish lessons when I had a 45 minute commute to/from work, a few years ago. I think it took me about 2 months to really feel comfortable enough to move through a disk (three disks per level). I would make a point of ordering lunches in Spanish at Chipotle and Baja Fresh. The cashiers are great at helping you... they can tell that you're learning and will work with you.. they slow down, but ask you more questions. After 1.5 levels I still couldn't follow spanish TV at all, but I think if I would have stuck with it, by level three I think I would be following at least 50% of spanish TV (I changed jobs and no longer had a long commute... didn't find a way to incorporate "sitting/listening" hour into my new daily schedule).

At first I was ready to throw it away...BUT DON'T STOP THERE! Why did I want to pitch it? Because I didn't read the little booklet first! I popped in the CD and they went right to work and I went right to berserk! Dumb! SO HERE IS THE GREAT STUFF! You have the full script word by word when you start. The word is first in English and then it is spoken in German 2 times, each time giving you time to repeat the word as best you can. At first my best was pretty choppy. I'm now actually getting the hang of it. Next you go to joining 2 words and it works the same way. WHAT REALLY HELPED ME WAS TO: write the sounds following the German words in the little booklet. (Phonetically really helps me.) I need to hear, say and write it down like I think it sounds to me. You'll find things coming together like the letter W is pronounced like our V. The V sounds like an F (to me anyway). I have now memorized the most important things such as: Where is the bathroom? How much does it cost? (or just) How much? Good morning. Good afternoon, Good evening, Good

night, etc. My trip is coming up and I'll be able to amuse the Germans with my accent and mistakes. But as I understand it, they love to hear people visiting trying out the language. THE CD GOES WHEREVER I GO NOW. I have really caught on more than I ever thought I would ((I've always been a zero in learning other languages (I had to drop Spanish or I'd flunk and ruin my GPA (40 years ago)...but now I can say, I'm actually learning!)) Not bad at my age! I bought used and it was in perfect condition. Thank you, Goodwill!

I used the Penton Overseas LIYC series for French last year, and it was extremely helpful. I was able to have conversations with people we met in France based on what I learned using the CDs. I bought the German version this year in advance of a trip to Germany. The CDs are very helpful to pick up some useful words and phrases, particularly those related to travel and dealing with merchants. I do not have the time or ambition to spend hours in front of my PC trying to learn a language, so the format of this program was optimal for my objective. I spend around an hour and a half in the car each day and using these CDs for a few weeks helped me learn what I needed to know for the trip. I've never spoken a word of German before, and it is definitely a tough language to learn, but this product is a good way to start.

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