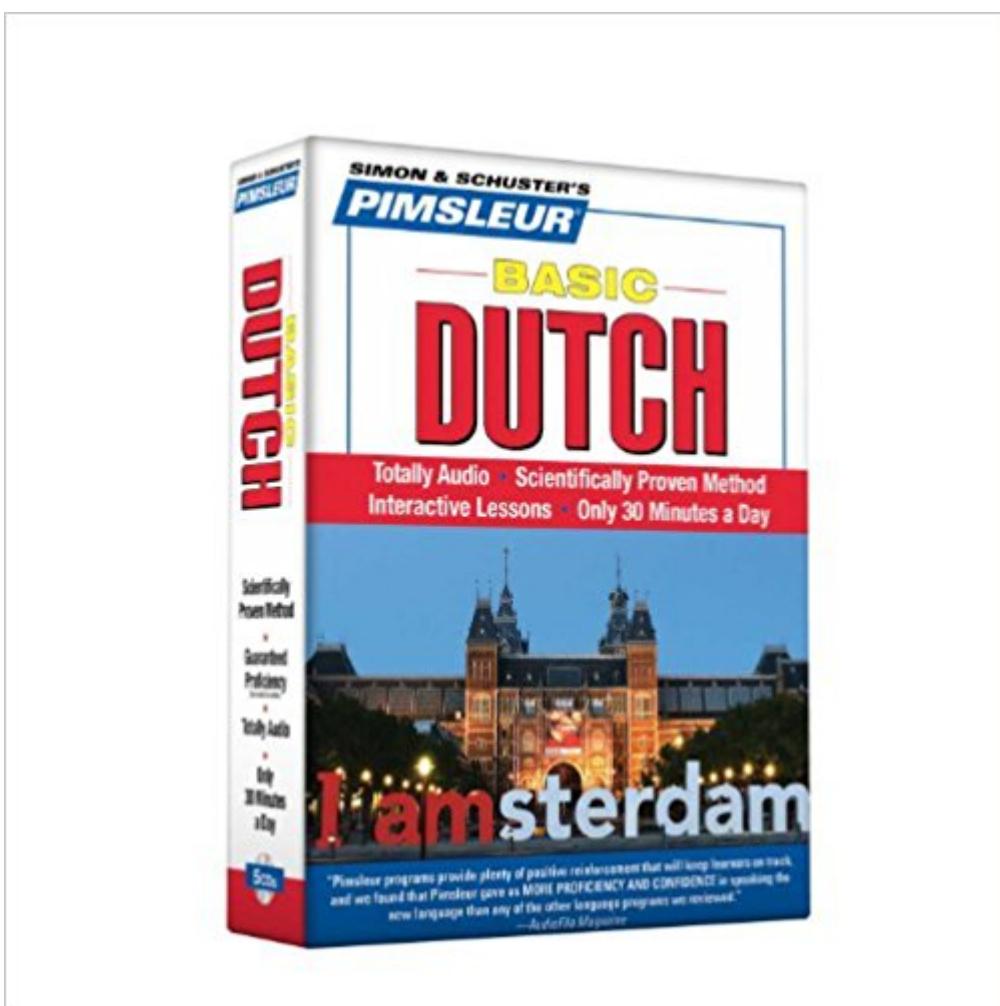


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# Pimsleur Dutch Basic Course - Level 1 Lessons 1-10 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand Dutch With Pimsleur Language Programs



## **Synopsis**

The Pimsleur® Method: the easiest, fastest way to learn a new language. Completely portable, easily downloadable, and lots of fun. You'll be speaking and understanding in no time flat! This course includes Lessons 1-10 from the Dutch Level 1 Program - 5 hours of audio-only effective language learning with real-life spoken practice sessions. Get a chance to test drive the incredibly effective and efficient, world-famous Pimsleur Level 1 Program. 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. The emphasis is on pronunciation and comprehension, and on learning to speak Dutch. The Dutch Language Dutch is the official language of the Netherlands and is one of three official languages in Belgium, where it is called Flemish. Pimsleur's Dutch teaches Standard Dutch, or "Newsreader Dutch," which is the dialect most widely spoken in the Netherlands. 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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## **Customer Reviews**

"Pimsleur programs provide plenty of positive reinforcement that will keep learners on track, and we found that Pimsleur gave us more proficiency and confidence in speaking the new language than any of the other language programs we reviewed." -- AudioFile Magazine "EXTREMELY ACCESSIBLE...each section within the lessons is short enough to hold our attention, and there is

enough repetition to teach even those who consider themselves slow learners...Pimsleur [programs] are extremely thorough and easy to use -- quite lively!" -- Boston Herald"Learn French while commuting, German while jogging, Spanish (or Russian, Italian, and Japanese) while cooking all with NO WRITTEN MATERIALS!" -- New York Daily News"Designed for the ear and not the eye...the lessons provide PERFECT 30-minute bites of work." -- St Louis Post-Dispatch"Learn to habla espaÃ±ol or parlez franÃ§ais before your next trip aboard. The interactive LESSONS CHALLENGE STUDENTS to use new words in conversation instead of memorize them." -- American Way (American Airlines inflight magazine)"I tried other language programs with little success...This is the best by far!" -- Pamela A. Mitchell, Pilot, International Society of Women Airline Pilots

Dr. Paul Pimsleur devoted his life to language teaching and testing and was one of the worldâ™s leading experts in applied linguistics. After years of experience and research, Dr. Pimsleur developed The Pimsleur Method based on two key principles:Â the Principle of Anticipation and a scientific principle of memory training that he called âœGraduated Interval Recall.â •Â This Method has been applied to the many levels and languages of the Pimsleur Programs.

My Dutch learning goals are to be fluent and to learn the Flemish (Vaalams) dialect for use in the Low Lands of Belgium. I had very little exposure to Dutch before this program. These CDs are easy to listen to. They break down pronunciation for you and repeat it several times. I listened to each CD once, which I felt was enough for me. They cover previous learning at the beginning of each CD and also throughout the entire series. So you only need to repeat a CD if you feel you need to. The strengths of this program is that you can listen to it on your commute or while doing other simple tasks. You Do Not need to pause/rewind the lesson. You can listen straight through. I liked having a male and female speaker. It makes learning Dutch simple and non intimidating. After the first lesson or two I felt like I was really learning. They break down the words and repeat often. I feel that I can understand the basics of Dutch. They cover basic sentence structure in a very natural way. I thought this series was shallow...it is mostly for travelers (for which purpose it would be highly practical!) It covered greetings, eating, drinking, basic directions, telling time (and therefore numbers) and how to ask if one speaks English/Dutch. What it covers, it does so very thoroughly, but I was hoping for a little more range. It is also a true-Dutch...no dialects, so for my purposes of learning Flemish I learned about 75%-95% of the same words etc, used in both. There are a few words and such I'll need to change out. (For instance replacing the formal 'uu' with the 'je'.) I enjoyed this series very

much and I feel it is a great confidence builder. I do not know how it will work in the 'real world' as the only person I have to practice with is a Dutch speaking American. So I have not tried it yet on the ground, but I would feel confident to do so. For travelers or others wanting a basic understanding of Dutch, or for nervous beginners, I recommend this highly. I feel I have more confidence to go on to learn more. Lastly, I would also say this is a good dollar value for the set. Enough to know if you'd like to continue or just give you the basics if that's what you want without spending hundreds of dollars.

I learn a language both by being plunged into it and also reading it at the same time. So I used this series in combination with the Lonely Planet Dutch phrase book and people in Flanders commented with surprise on how good my Flemish was. I spent a full week just before my trip immersed in the CDs and found them tremendously useful for tuning my ear to Dutch vowels and the rhythm of Dutch sentences. Time after time in Bruges, I was grateful for the Pimsleur approach because I had no problem asking for directions (and understanding them) or shopping. Now, I did need the phrase book to augment my learning, for things like getting train tickets and using taxis, but I never expected either to be comprehensive. The Pimsleur gave me the confidence to speak Nederlands wherever I went and I enjoyed the feeling of being a bit more inside the culture than if I'd used English. The repetition might annoy some people, but I found it soothing to have coffee in the morning and study, or a glass of wine at night and follow along. P.S.--the Lonely Planet book is great if you're going to Flanders because it lists variants in Nederlands between Holland and Belgium.

Heading to Amsterdam in a few weeks, so we'll see how any of this really applies. I've been through all five of these CDs and I know every word of them inside and out--it's VERY easy to learn the language this way and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I really like their approach of introducing new material while reviewing old material so you can feel like you're making progress. My main problem is I think there should be 2 or 3 more CDs in this "Basic" set. I know a few dozen Dutch phrases now, but very few of them will actually be useful, unless my trip suddenly takes a sleazy turn. Sample phrase: "Would you like to have something to drink with my at my place?" Come on. There are a few phrases that teach you how to ask directions, but there isn't much that a tourist can fall back on when it comes to navigating one's way around a store or market (no discussion of money) or ordering anything other than beer, wine or lunch--I still don't know the words for breakfast, dinner or water. Sure, I can jump up to the next set of CDs, but from what I've read, it's like moving from the

kiddie pool to the cliffs of Acapulco. Wish there was a "Basic 2" or "Intermediate." Still, you have to start somewhere, and Pimsleur is the best I've found.

This is my first Pimsleur Basic course and now I want them all! It's so fun repeating the sample speakers' words that you can forget that the chances of actually using these sentences is pretty low. For Dutch in particular, it's a good to hear the language being spoken in contexts other than cycling. (If anyone can recommend a movie or two in Dutch, please do.) One thing to consider: Pimsleur recommends avoiding trying to read the phrases they are teaching you. I beg to differ. The initial phrases you are taught can sound almost familiar to English speakers, e.g, the phrase for 'not very good' sounds like 'neet so hoot' (sort of) (I'm sure I will say 'not so hot' more than once when asked how I'm doing,) However, it's written like this: niet zo goed. Now I think that is a very useful thing to know! I would never be able to transfer even my painfully limited Dutch skills to any reading acumen whatsoever if I didn't break Pimsleur's rules. I did wait a couple of weeks, though, so that I wouldn't start seeing the words in my mind and confusing myself even further. Aside from the Pimsleur part, Dutch is a wonderful language! I thought it would be more like German. Perhaps it is more similar than I realize, but the rhythm is very different. I will probably move on through the Pimsleur series, even though my trip to Flanders and the Netherlands will be long past.

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