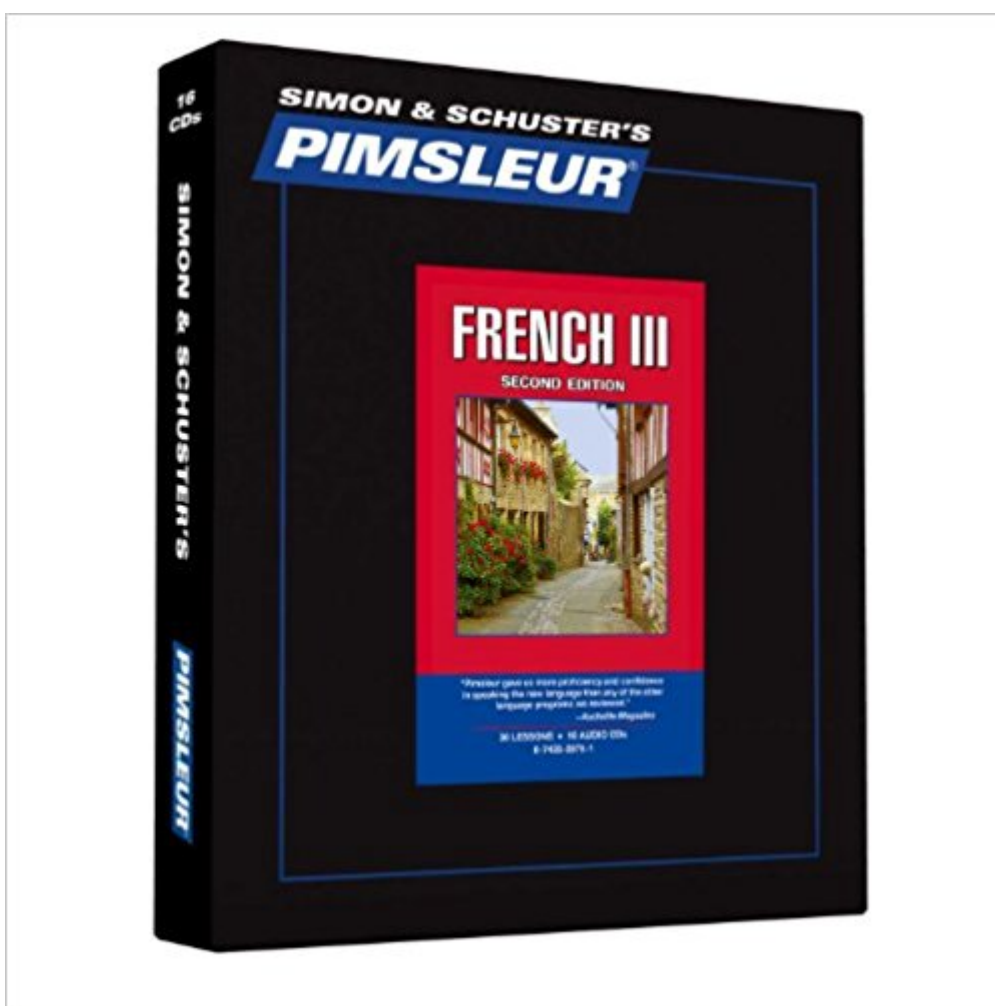


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# Pimsleur French Level 3 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand French With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



## Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn French Whether you want to travel, communicate with friends or colleagues, reconnect with family, or just understand more of what's going on in the world around you, learning French will expand your horizons and immeasurably enrich your life. The best part is that it doesn't have to be difficult or take years to master. Thirty minutes a day is all it takes, and we get you speaking right from the first day. Pimsleur courses use a scientifically-proven method that puts you in control of your learning. If you've tried other language learning methods but found they simply didn't stick, then you owe it to yourself to give Pimsleur a try.

**Why Pimsleur?**

- Quick + Easy - Only 30 minutes a day.
- Portable + Flexible - Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life.
- Proven Method - Works when other methods fail.
- Self-Paced - Go fast or go slow - it's up to you.
- Based in Science - Developed using proven research on memory and learning.
- Cost-effective - Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers.
- Genius - Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn.
- Works for everyone - Recommended for ages 13 and above.

**What's Included?**

- 30, 30-minute audio lessons
- 60 minutes of reading instruction to provide you practice reading French - in total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers
- a Reading Booklet and User's Guide

**What You'll Learn Builds upon skills taught in Pimsleur's French Levels 1 and 2.** In the first 10 lessons, you will expand your vocabulary and increase your fluency to an even higher level. You'll gain experience participating in many informal and some formal discussions on practical, social, and semiprofessional topics. You'll skillfully form longer, more complex sentences, and most importantly, you'll find yourself being understood, even by native speakers unused to dealing with foreigners. You'll be able to join in conversations eagerly, confident of being understood. In the next 10 lessons, your skills will demonstrate ever-increasing mastery of French. Speaking with grace and complete naturalness, you'll enjoy fluid conversations on many new subjects. Delving deeper into cultural norms and situations, you'll find yourself responding effortlessly, and able to choose from a wide accumulation of vocabulary and structures. In the final 10 lessons, you're nearing fluency with agile responses, and a natural sounding, near-native accent. You're able to utilize the language in subtle ways, and speak using past, present, and future tenses. Self-confidence soars as you no longer experience the language and culture as a foreigner, but as someone with a deepening insight into the French-speaking world. Reading Lessons are included at the end of Lesson 30. These lessons, which total about one hour, are

designed to give you practice reading French, to provide vocabulary and improve pronunciation. Before you know it, you'll be reading French with the ease and flexibility of a native speaker. The Pimsleur Method We make no secret of what makes this powerful method work so well. Paul Pimsleur spent his career researching and perfecting the precise elements anyone can use to learn a language quickly and easily. Here are a few of his "secrets":

- The Principle of Anticipation In the nanosecond between a cue and your response, your brain has to work to come up with the right word. Having to do this boosts retention, and cements the word in your mind.
- Core Vocabulary Words, phrases, and sentences are selected for their usefulness in everyday conversation. We don't overwhelm you with too much, but steadily increase your ability with every lesson.
- Graduated Interval Recall Reminders of new words and structures come up at the exact interval for maximum retention and storage into your long-term memory.
- Organic Learning You work on multiple aspects of the language simultaneously. We integrate grammar, vocabulary, rhythm, melody, and intonation into every lesson, which allows you to experience the language as a living, expressive form of human culture.
- Learning in Context Research has shown that learning new words in context dramatically accelerates your ability to remember. Every scene in every Pimsleur lesson is set inside a conversation between two people. There are no drills, and no memorization necessary for success.
- Active Participation The Pimsleur Method + active learner participation = success. This method works with every language and every learner who follows it. You gain the power to recall and use what you know, and to add new words easily, exactly as you do in English.

The French Language French is spoken by 55 million speakers in France, 3 million in Belgium, 1.5 million in Switzerland, 6.5 million in Canada, and 5 million in former French and Belgian colonies. It is an official language in 44 countries and an official language of the United Nations. An estimated 50 million people around the world speak French as a second language.

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

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

I have completed Pimsleur I (beginning), II (intermediate) and III (advanced) levels. I also first used and completed Rosetta Stone with which I did not learn the French as quickly as with Pimsleur. Rosetta Stone has more vocabulary but the pronunciation is more difficult to catch than Pimsleur. Rocket French is great for grammar but it will not give you the smooth understanding and speaking ability of Pimsleur. I also used the improved Foreign Service Institute (FSI) called Loquella (loquella.com). I would recommend using loquella.com first because you learn the French sounds and the letters and words they go with. Loquella gives sentences at the same time as a native speaker saying them. It has time for responses. After you complete loquella.com then go to Pimsleur. In so doing, when you hear only the audio on Pimsleur (it does not have a written down dialogue) then you will not only know the sounds but how French is written. I have a M.A. in the teaching of languages and speak fluent Spanish and read Greek, some Arabic and have studied Hebrew. I am a visual learner but in spite of this the timing increments that Pimsleur uses worked very well for me even though I am not an auditory learner. His brain research on what the human brain can absorb in specified amounts of time seems to really work. I hope this is helpful.

I have gone through Pimsleur French Levels 1 and 2, and am completing 3. I have an Audible MP3 edition of 4 waiting for me and will continue to 5 if available. I listen to a lesson a day during my morning commute -- 2 half-hour lessons per disc, and I listen to each disc twice. I've found that the

second time around, the learning really sets in. It has taken me eight months of daily lessons, repeated twice, to get to the end of Level 3. This is a purely auditory learning system, with very little in the way of explanations and nothing on grammar at all -- pure speech and listening. I find it excellent and I am slowly gaining in my ability to speak French; however, I also have a basic background in French from a thousand years ago in high school, so I'm remembering things like pronunciation, spelling, what contracted articles sound like, conjugations, and so on. I'm not sure how a complete newcomer without a basic background in French would fare with just the auditory input. I strongly recommend that if you have no background in French at all, you pick up a basic grammar text and just use it as a reference as you go along. Otherwise, what you hear would likely be purely phonetic and I think it would take much longer before the phonetics resolve themselves into actual words. Like others commenting on Pimsleur, I have often wished for transcripts (but I suspect that would jack up the price quite a bit). That said, this is an excellent system, very clear, enjoyable, and serious; challenging, but not so difficult that you lose heart. Each lesson begins with a conversation between a man and a woman, repeated twice, and the rest of the half hour lesson slowly builds up both vocabulary and syntax. Early in Pimsleur 1, they indicated that they would gradually change the instructions given in the lessons from English to French. This has intensified the experience of hearing and understanding the language. New vocabulary and phrases are repeated, explained, repeated again, and then used in varying syntax throughout the lessons. Material from previous lessons is continually brought back in, so memory is reinforced. For someone re-learning a language that he or she was once exposed to, it is an excellent way to regain some mastery. For new learners, a simple grammar text or even one of those laminated crib-sheets would allow for a fuller and more meaningful experience. Highly recommended in either case.

This course only deals with the verbs avoir and etre which is one downfall however the future and past tense are shown. Culture is enforced making this a great use in the classroom. This course unlike some helps students to form questions and make sentences negative while also enforcing aller from course two. This course is where most French II classes start. Vocab is that used in everyday life and sure to be used on a regular basis. Also great review of a French I course in high school. This will get you speaking on a low mid speaking platform and will help you start to think in the language. Allow yourself to use the vocab throughout your day in your mind. If you are a French II teacher I suggest this highly. You can use the reading guides to enforce vocab spelling. As well the vocab listening guide on the last disc is great for translation to English and French spelling tests. This course provides your students with the chance to learn culture and hear a native speak. I have

travelled to a francophone nation and I know the difference this course can make!

In preparation for a vacation to France, my wife and I purchased and labored through Pimsleur French 1, 2 & 3 (90 lessons in total). First of all, this is real work...it is not just listening to the CDs and magically you are fluent in French. But I will admit, after 90 lessons, we were able to converse moderately well in France. I will also say, that the French people genuinely appreciated our efforts to speak in their native tongue. The Pimsleur method does an excellent job of teaching pronunciation, grammar and sentence structure. After French 3, you still will not be able to 'hear' the language at the rapid pace of speech of the French, but you will be able to negotiate the language with waiters, airport personnel, train station personnel and taxi drivers. It took us at least twice and often as many as four times through each lesson to fully master the lesson.

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