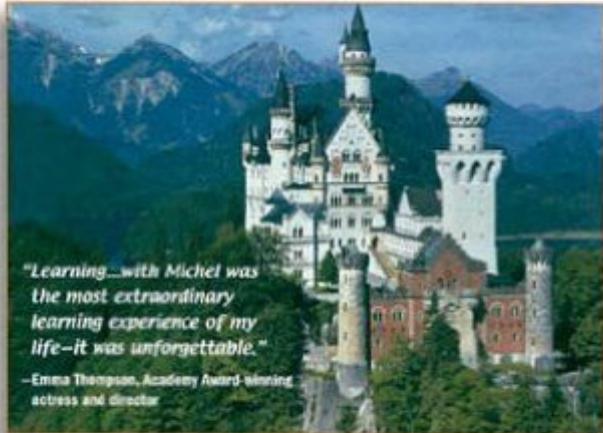


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# Speak German With Michel Thomas (Speak... With Michel Thomas)

THE FASTEST WAY TO LEARN A LANGUAGE

## Speak German with *MICHEL THOMAS*



*"Learning...with Michel was the most extraordinary learning experience of my life—it was unforgettable."*

—Emma Thompson, Academy Award-winning actress and director

Let the Language Teacher to the Stars be your guide

Learn in real time, without the stress of drills or memorization

Includes two hours of instruction on two audio CDs

CONVERSE IN GERMAN IN JUST HOURS!



## **Synopsis**

Anyone can learn a language with Michel Thomas--The World's Greatest Language Teacher. No books. No writing. No drills. And nothing to memorize--ever! With his unique program, Michel Thomas has taught celebrities, corporate leaders, and schoolchildren--with immediate and amazing results. Now the Language Teacher to the Stars invites everyone to join his class! Using Speak German with Michel Thomas, listeners learn in real time--fully understanding as they go along, turning words into short sentences, and then building them into longer, more complex sentences, until they are conversing in German. Michel will have listeners formulating their own thoughts and sentences from the very beginning, even if they have never succeeded in learning a language before. Michel has used this very method to teach celebrities such as Mel Gibson, Woody Allen, Barbra Streisand, Warren Beatty, and Princess Grace of Monaco.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I purchased the 2 CD set (Speak German with Michel Thomas) to play in my car on the way to work, and found it easy to follow. Although I have little prior experience with German, I have many German clients, and Thomas' pronunciation and inflection seem very close to theirs. I found myself mastering the vocabulary he presented quickly (more quickly, in fact, than the two students on the CD). Thomas introduces sentence structure as an exercise in getting your point across rather than a grammar lesson. One caveat: The 2 CD course is a bit short on vocabulary, and introduces only about 60 German words or so. Go for the 8 CD set (German with Michel Thomas).

I finished the 8 cd set and really liked it. One thing that was different from other language programs is hearing how the American and English students pronounced the german words with Michel correcting them. I actually found this more helpful with my pronunciation than hearing only native speakers, I don't know why that is, maybe allowed me to notice similar problems with my pronunciation and I sure miss it now that I've moved on to a different program. I learned more in the first 3 cds than 2 half semesters at community college.

This is an excellent 2 hour introductory course to German. You will hear what German sounds like and learn a bit about sentence construction - but set your course expectations accordingly. This 2 hour course is simply designed to provide you with a brief 'glimpse' of what German is like. You will not really learn all that much; a few phrases and words - but you'll know what you are getting yourself into. If you like what you hear you can then purchase the full 8 hour introductory course with Michel Thomas (note that the 2 hour introduction course is simply the first 2 hours of the 8 hour course). My recommendation is that for those of you who really think that you want to learn German, purchase the full 8 hour course straight away and get on with it! For those of you who are unsure and really just want to hear a bit of German to see if you like it, then go for the 2 hour introductory course and take it from there. Michel takes you through sentence construction and vocabulary step-by-step as you learn with two other students. You really start to like Michel and his teaching methods. Michel's approach is really good - but again, set your expectation accordingly. There will be no instant grasp of the language; if you want to learn a language you must put the time and effort into it - this is just one of many approaches.

I must say that I have never tried to learn German, but I took four years of Spanish in high school and learned less functional Spanish than I did in about 12 hours with these CD's. I only have the 2 CD set not the 8 CD set, but I wish I had purchased the full set and will do so as soon as I can find the money. I don't think you can learn it straight through, how I did it was listening to the CD's repeatedly so that I could absorb more. He does not focus on nouns instead he focuses more on functional vocabulary, pronunciation and basic grammar. He begins with a simple sentence: Was wollen Sie? What do you want? and continuously builds on this adding new words and removing old words so you never learn a word without a sentence or a way to use it. He does have a slight saliva problem, but after about 45 minutes you no longer notice it. Somebody said that the CD's were worthless and "Mann kann hier kein gut Deutsch lernen!" Well maybe I can't MASTER german

using these CD's, aber ich erlernte viel, um Sie zu verstehen (I learned enough to understand you).

This was a great course (8 CDs). I was stationed in Germany for three years, but never had this mastery. Mr. Thomas teaches you how to put sentences together in a logical manner. You not only understand how, but also why. Some folks criticized the male student as irritating. I found the female student more distracting. In a course that is supposed to be purely oral, she was pronouncing some words as an English-speaker would read them. Since she had never heard the words pronounced that way, she must have been reading. But, in fairness, this was infrequent and really amounts to nitpicking. I liked this course so much that I just bought Mr. Thomas' Spanish course.

Finally, learn a language like a child - by speaking it. No idiotic drills or memorization. And you don't have to be a "rules engineer" trying to think of complex grammatical rules while simultaneously trying to speak - a method which we've all experienced to be an abysmal failure. Also, Michel has a way of building complex structures, simply, while ignoring vocabulary - which you can and do learn as a "byproduct."

My wife and I are learning German slowly. We are about half-way through the second CD. Mr. Thomas continually adds more vocabulary and grammatical rules with each lesson. I think it is a good purchase.

This cd course is excellent. I simply cannot understand the people who have given it poor reviews. I own the 8 CD set and I absolutely love it. I have listened to the CDs 3 times and my ability to speak and think in German has greatly improved. And they are fun too. I wholeheartedly disagree with some of the negative reviews. I don't find Michel Thomas having excessive saliva sounds. I don't find the cd move along too slow. I don't find them to be scripted. Some people will never be satisfied and find fault in everything. If you are a beginner in German, get this CD set. It is completely different from all the other books and tapes that you may have and really enjoyable. It is well worth it. I subsequently purchased his Advanced German CDs which I am using now and still having a great time and learning a lot of German.

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