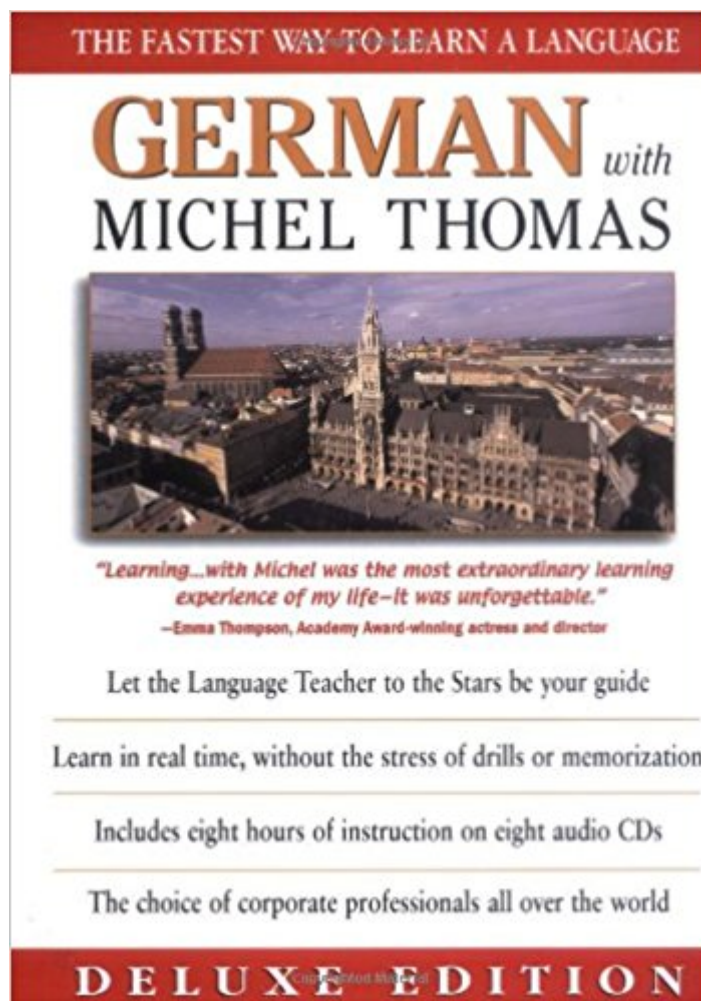


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# German With Michel Thomas



## 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 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

No books. No writing. No drills. And nothing to memorize--ever! With his unique program, Michel Thomas has taught French, Italian, Spanish, and German to celebrities, corporate leaders, and school children--with immediate and amazing results. Now, the Language Teacher to the Stars invites you to join his class! So effortless, natural, and stimulating is Michel's system for learning, once you get started you won't want to stop. You will learn in real time--fully understanding as you go along, turning words into short sentences, and then building them into longer, more complex sentences, until you are conversing in a foreign language. Immediately, you

will feel the excitement of understanding and expressing yourself in German. Michel will have you formulating your own thoughts and sentences from the very beginning, even if you have never succeeded in learning a language before. This Deluxe Edition contains eight hours of instruction on 8 CDs. Starting as a beginner, you can progress to a level of language proficiency that will enable you to converse naturally and communicate comfortably in a wide variety of situations. Michel has used this very method to teach celebrities such as Mel Gibson, Woody Allen, Barbra Streisand, Emma Thompson, Warren Beatty, and Princess Grace of Monaco. At home or in the car – in any place and at any time – you can learn from a world-class language teacher and become one of Michel's star students today! "Michel Thomas has developed a truly revolutionary method of language instruction. All you have to do is follow his lead: no memorization, homework, or stress. I was amazed by my success using Michel's method." -- Warren Keegan, Professor of Business at Pace University in New York

Michel Thomas (New York, NY) is head of the Michel Thomas Language Centers and has been teaching languages for more than 50 years. He has taught his revolutionary language program all over the world.

I thoroughly enjoyed this German CD course. I completed all 8 CD's straight through without having to repeat any part, and found at the end I had a pretty good command of the material presented. Michel Thomas is an excellent, obviously very experienced presenter of the German language. Focusing mainly on German sentence structure, word order and the verb system, the course progressively builds up sentences of increasing complexity by expansion and substitution. The students must logically construct their own sentences based on prompting by the teacher. Specifically the course tackles the use of conjugated and modal verb constructions, subordinate clauses, separable verbs, and other basics of German. The result is that the course pretty much accomplishes what it sets out to do -- teach a basic chunk of the German language thoroughly in real time without the need for rote memorization, written homework or drills. At first I was somewhat leery of the professor-student interactive approach, listening to the students struggle through pronunciation and sentence formation is at times tedious. However, I soon realized that the struggle is part of the course. Commonly made mistakes were corrected and emphasized as they occurred again pretty much in real time. I wished they would have used all 74 minutes available on each CD (could of had almost 2 hours of additional recorded material on the same 8 CD's!) My only regret is that the course comes to an end! I really hope to see level 2, 3, etc. courses developed using the

same format. Obviously, there is a lot more German to learn, but this is an excellent start. The course is especially effective with listening-focused (aural) learners.

Michel Thomas' German language CDs are excellent. I am a 38 yr old physician from New York and I love studying languages. This is my first time using the Michel Thomas CDs and I am VERY impressed. Prior to using the CDs, I had been studying German on my own using the Learn to Speak German computer program by The Learning Company (also highly recommended). Using this software program, I had amassed quite a large vocabulary and also a decent understanding of how the sentence syntax works. But I had trouble putting my vocabulary to work when I actually wanted to speak a sentence in German. The Michel Thomas CDs really helped me to make a big "leap" forward with my German. The CD's not only added to my vocabulary, but they also enabled me to think in German and to speak sentences much more fluently than before. And more than that, the CD's are really fun to use. After each CD, I had finished each CD, I just couldn't wait to start the next one. Don't bother with the introductory 2 CD set...you'll regret it. Get the 8 CD set! I'm only sorry that there is not a second series of 8 CDs that picks up after the first one. I'd buy it in a second! And another comment. A few other reviewers have mentioned that they thought Michel Thomas was "drowning in his own saliva" as he speaks. I simply don't know what they are talking about. In the end, these are great CDs and his method of teaching a language is excellent. I have really improved my German and I had a great time doing it! Highly recommended if you are serious about learning German. Go for it!

After purchasing the introductory (2 CD) set, I bought this set through .com. Thomas introduces the structure of German sentences in the most painless way imaginable-you don't even realize you're learning grammar until he gives you the terminology after you've already learned how it works. Thomas teaches German by leading two students (you are the third) through a series of sentence building exercises. His handling of auxiliary verbs (will, must, can, etc.) makes them not only easy to understand, but useful as well (because using these "handles" allows you to use the infinitive form of whatever other verb is in the sentence). Two (minor) quibbles: 1. Despite Thomas' insistence that you are not to take notes or attempt to memorize, one of the students on the recording (the woman) is clearly writing things down and referring to her notes before she responds, because several times she pronounces "Sie" (pronounced "Zee") as "sigh" and "die" (pronounced "dee") as the English "die," something she wouldn't be doing if she were trying to repeat what she'd heard. This mispronunciation is distracting and appears to frustrate Thomas. 2. Early on in the recordings, there




is an audible beep where you are supposed to stop the CD and try to figure out the response to Thomas' sentence formation questions, but these quickly disappear (and without warning), and with Thomas' pauses in his speech it is sometimes difficult to tell when you should stop the CD and attempt to translate what you are hearing. Overall, I found this program very easy to follow. The other two students seemed slow to me-so much so that I felt like yelling at them on occasion-but I wonder now if that was not deliberate, to make me feel as though I was progressing more rapidly than the "rest of the class." Regardless of its minor flaws, however, this is THE set to buy if you know no German and want to get a good start on understanding the language.

Brought back German, hadn't used since I was stationed in Germany

I learned more German in this eight-hour course than in well over 100 hours of audio courses from Learn-in-your-car, Pimsleur, Foreign Service Inst, Living language, and some less known. This course is very pleasant to hear, is conducted solely by one person, and the entire course is one conversation, rather than the boring followed by characteristic of other tapes. Mr. Thomas breaks down the language with his own observations, and makes sense of those subjects (like the dreaded verb) that seem to defy precise definition in other courses. While you won't pick up a huge vocabulary, it's learning how to use the words that sets this course apart from the rest. I already have the next set on order!

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