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GREAT RESOURCES
TO LEARN

FRENCH

FOR FIRST-TIME LEARNERS



BEST ON-THE-GO RESOURCES

TOP PICKS FROM PERFECTLYFLUENT.COM

When you are starting to learn a language, one of the biggest challenges can be finding the time to do it regularly. And regularity is key if you want to make progress and not forget what you learn after just a few days. These tools are easy to use when you have 10-15 minutes to spare: on your daily walk, in your bed before falling asleep, in a queue or simply on your coffee break. And you'd be amazed how effective they can be!



PIMSLEUR

The Pimsleur Method is the most user-friendly, effortless and effective way to start learning a language. Its 30-minute audio episodes will get you speaking from day 1 by training your ear and pronunciation and making you memorize simple everyday phrases by prompting you to repeat them at defined intervals. You'd be surprised how quickly you start saying these phrases (and pronouncing them right!) Quizzes and flashcards at the end of each lesson help you retain what you've learned!



MEMRISE

Memrise is one of the best apps for learning vocabulary, and even its free version offers a good range of content. It uses a highly effective spaced repetition method to firmly plant the seed of a new word in your brain, and then "grow" that word until you memorize it for good. You can set your learning goal to just 5 words a day - but I'm sure you'd want to learn more, as this app is highly addictive! It's game-like interface makes it easy to practice and play whenever you have a spare minute.



CoffeeBreak
French

COFFEE BREAK

Coffee Break French is the absolute gem of podcasts for French learners. It will take you from the very basics to the advanced level through engaging 15-20 minute episodes. Each episode has quite a lot of English being spoken to explain the French content (less so in the more advanced episodes), but this helps you a great deal with properly understanding the language structure, pronunciation, and even French culture. And it's a lot of fun just listening to the hosts! Listen to it when you brush your teeth or do dishes - and learn tons!



TRAIN YOUR PRONUNCIATION

TOP PICKS FROM PERFECTLYFLUENT.COM

One of the toughest things about French may be its pronunciation... And so many foreigners struggle with it, getting frustrated with not being understood - sometimes after months or even years of taking French classes! To master French pronunciation, you should start working on it as early as possible, training your ear and trying to learn the correct way of pronouncing those French sounds from the very beginning. These tools can help you!



FORVO

Forvo is a free online pronunciation dictionary. You can type in any word in French, and will hear it pronounced by a native speaker. So you will always know how to pronounce a word correctly and will hopefully no longer find yourself in an embarrassing situation caused by mispronouncing something! This site also provides you with a list of most useful words and phrases in French, and even has an app for kids!



THE MIMIC METHOD

This incredible resource is a top-notch method to get you to speak French without sounding like a foreigner. As the creator of this method says, "the key to becoming conversationally fluent in French is to focus on French pronunciation first, everything else second". This method teaches you how to avoid common pronunciation mistakes and actually master French sounds, so you can also understand much better what you hear when talking to native speakers.



ROCKET FRENCH

This fun and comprehensive resource offers you everything you need to learn French from home. Its highly functional app helps you get conversational very fast. A unique feature of this tool is that it checks your pronunciation through a built-in recorder - and actually catches when you pronounce a word wrong, getting you to practice it until it's correct! Its flashcard and quiz system is great for memorizing what you've learned. And simple yet useful dialogues teach you vocab that real French speakers actually use!



SUPERPOWER TOOLS

TOP PICKS FROM PERFECTLYFLUENT.COM

And now it's time for some seriously powerful tools that take language learning to a whole other level and engage you in a way that makes learning almost effortless yet incredibly effective. These tools use unique approaches that are based on immersion - from the comfort of your own couch.



FRENCH UNCOVERED

Learn to speak French like a local through this unusual and very effective method of learning the language through a story. You will be immersed in adventures of the protagonists and will learn vocabulary, grammar, and proper pronunciation along the way. The learning will happen almost in the background, and the unique way the instructors break down all aspects of the French language will make this journey surprisingly easy and engaging. You'll be amazed how quickly you'll grasp French!



FRENCHPOD 101

This is one of the more comprehensive online options for French learners that offers short video and audio lessons organized in "pathways" that are easy to follow and progressively guide the learner through different aspects of vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. The lessons are mostly 5-10 minutes in length (easy to complete on a short break or during daily commute), and offer real, applicable language that you will be able to use in your daily life.



MONDLY

This cool app helps you "play your way to a new language." It's been designed by combining principles of neuroscience with cutting edge technologies and uses a combination of course materials, augmented reality, and chatbots to help learners master a new language. The app currently supports 41 languages that can be used in any combination. This means that you don't necessarily need to learn French from English. Instead, you can learn it through Spanish, Russian, Thai or whatever other combination best suits your needs.



AND FOR DESSERT - PRACTICING!

TOP PICKS FROM PERFECTLYFLUENT.COM

Nobody is learning a language just to know grammar rules and remember a few hundred words, right? If you are studying French, it's to be able to speak to the locals, express yourself in a language, and sound like a native, n'est-ce pas? These tools will get you closer to this goal. They will give you real opportunities to practice French and get corrections and tips from native speakers.



TANDEM

Some people compare **Tandem** to Tinder for language learners - it's a chat app where you can find native speakers in any part of the world (including close to where you live), and have easy conversations (with an integrated translation app) in your target language. A great thing about Tandem's users is that they are there truly to practice a language (you'll get connected to people who want to learn your native language), and you'll find some great chat partners who can help you better communicate in French!



ITALKI

This online language school has more than 10,000 native language teachers who offer one-on-one classes online, and the prices often start from as low as US\$5 an hour! You can try a few different teachers before settling on one, and pick the schedule that works for you. Lessons on this platform are for all ages and all levels. You can choose among different types of courses too: speaking lessons, business language, language exams and more. And you pay per hour, so there's no long-term commitment or high upfront costs.



BUSUU

Among the language learning apps, **Busuu** is perhaps less known than Rosetta Stone or Babbel, but it's so much more user-friendly and effective (and also much cheaper). The app has short 5-10 minute lessons covering vocabulary, grammar and key cultural concepts, and progressively guides you from a novice level to B2. And the best part is that after each lesson you have to do a task (written or oral) that gets reviewed and corrected by native speakers!