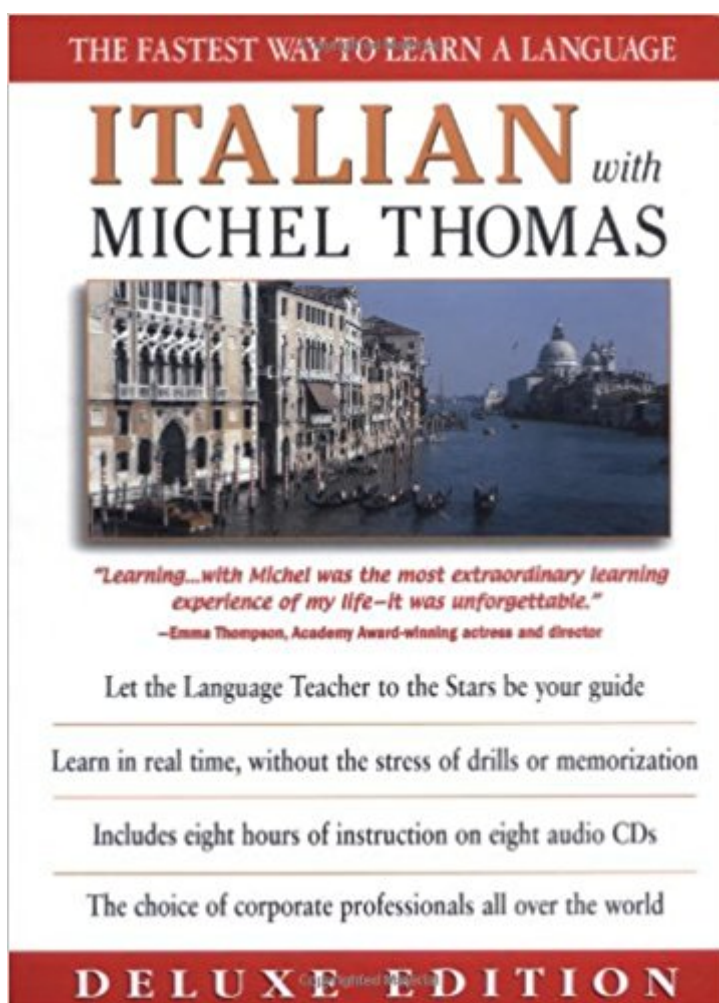


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Italian With Michel Thomas (Deluxe Language Courses With Michel Thomas)



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 Italian 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 Italian. 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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Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

"Ideal for any business traveller who needs to be able to get around confidently." -- Sunday Business "A great way to learn; it's fast and it lasts". -- The Daily Telegraph "Five minutes into the first CD, you already feel like you're winning." -- Time Out "Michel Thomas is a precious find indeed." -- The Guardian "Thomas makes it simple" -- Sunday Times "Michel's methods will teach you effectively and easily" -- Daily Star "Hugely inspiring" -- Red "A compelling teacher ... you really do remember what you're learning" -- Italia! 'Remarkably effective, addictive even' -- London Evening Standard 20080805 "Excellent for learning ... This entirely audio course is easy to use and

quickly results in some useful ability in the new language. Great for the car." -- Adventure Travel 20080805 "Moving along at a relaxed, slow pace, punctuated by amusing anecdotes and jokes from the teacher, the new words, phrases and language rules are gently introduced and reinforced through subtle repetition without ever being tedious. In fact, despite a distinct emphasis on non-work, the course proves very effective and enjoyable, and its format is ideal for learning anywhere you like. So, if you only want to learn to speak the language, this course is highly recommended." -- Top Real Travel Product, Real Travel 20080601 --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

No books. No writing. No drills. And nothing to memorizeâ€”ever! With his unique program, Michel Thomas has taught French, Italian, Spanish, and German to celebrities, corporate leaders, and school childrenâ€”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 timeâ€”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 Italian. 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 carâ€”in any place and at any timeâ€”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

I love Michel Thomas and his method, it's super easy to learn. He is a master teacher and it's surprising how quickly you learn and are able to understand. I have been watching Italian TV shows and am able to follow along really well. After trying a few other types of language learning CDs, I can say that this is by far my favorite and the most effortless. I will be ordering more in other languages. The only reason I didn't rate this five stars is because one of the CDs was scratched

and I couldn't hear two of the lessons. Still an amazing value!

I've always wanted to learn Italian, but never found the time. Now, with Michel Thomas and his easy method, I can sit back and just listen and learn. Great way to learn.

First, let me say that I have to concur with many of the comments I have seen from other reviewers. For instance, the "want" and "wont" issue on Disk 3 is indeed irritating - the "student" heard the same thing I did, and it is Mr. Thomas' accent that is the problem. Also at times I found the "students" to be incredibly dumb - how many times does one need the stress explained for the future tense?? Part of my impatience may be because I actually studied Italian in university classes, have worked in Italy briefly and have been singing in Italian for twenty-eight years, so some of their difficulties seemed odd to me. On the other hand, with all the other Italian language tape/CD sets and even in my school classes, I didn't get the real distinction that I now understand much better in terms of when to say *ho parlato* and when to say *parlavo*, *parlerebbe*, and so on. Mr. Thomas' approach at least helped clarify this form, and in that case I consider it worthwhile listening to these CD's once in a while. I am eager to try some of the other courses recommended by the online reviewers and have so far been very disappointed in the lack of availability of those which stress listening skills rather than speaking skills. I am perfectly able to say literally anything I wish to in Italian, with nearly native pronunciation and always clear comprehension on the part of my Italian audience. What I cannot do is understand the reply without asking them to repeat it three times and slow down.

This isn't a bad adjunct to another learning course (I would highly recommend the Pimsleur Method), but although you are certainly drilled in elaborate verb structures, you can finish the eight-disc course without even finding out the Italian for "yes" and "no," how to order a meal, or how to ask for the bathroom. (Oddly enough, for all the insistence on the correct form of the verbs, Michel Thomas allows his two-person class to say "Yes" instead of "Sì" as they struggle to respond. And, frankly, his own accent does get irritating. It is sometimes a strain to understand his English (at one point, the female student apologizes for misunderstanding him; well, so did I), which makes you wonder about his Italian pronunciation, as he is not a native speaker. If you already know some Italian, or intend to supplement this with a LOT of other studying, this is probably a good buy, but if you simply want to function while traveling, knowing a few more Italian pleasantries and everyday words will get you farther than verb tenses you will probably never be called upon to use, unless you want to live there - in which case, you will still need a lot more study.

On a positive side these CDs contain some good suggestions for accelerated learning of foreign languages (I have purchased sets for Italian, Spanish, French and German). By learning some essential rules of the language, and discovering associations with what you already know, will help you in assimilating a lot of new material rapidly. As such, the program may be ideal if you are planning to go to a country where this foreign language is spoken and you need to learn how to express your basic needs and find your way around - and don't have much time to learn it. At the beginning of CDs, it is also appropriately mentioned that you will learn much faster if you are in a relaxed (and open) state of mind. I have just about every available audio program for the above foreign languages, and I have found this one the least relaxing, mainly because I found it tormenting listening to two people struggle with pronouncing new words. The experience was like learning to speak English language from a person who is stuttering. God knows, if you're having difficulty learning foreign languages and pronouncing foreign words, maybe you even enjoy this method - but even for that purpose I'd rather recommend Pimsleur Programs, or Learn in Your Car series. If you intend to listen to language learning CDs for extended period of time, you may find it more enjoyable listening to CDs with native speakers. There are NO native foreign language speakers on Michel Thomas CDs. At the beginning of the CDs, when the two students are introduced - it is said that soon you can come to identify with those students. Personally, I think, you'd make faster progress if you start identifying with native speakers. As far as the language learning CDs in the same price range go, I have found Behind the Wheel series of CDs infinitely more appealing.

I took a six-week evening course in Italian before I got these CDs. The class required a lot of memorization of words without the ability to create any meaningful sentences. The CDs are much better. You are not taught random words, counting, etc. In a very logical, easy to grasp, progressive manner you are taught phrases and sentence structure. You are guided in a very uncomplicated way through verbs and tenses. He discourages trying to memorize, and amazingly, you don't have to. It's so logical, it just sticks in your brain. The two students on the CD are annoying at times, but it actually helps you to learn and remember because you're correcting them and urging them on. I definitely recommend these CDs.

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