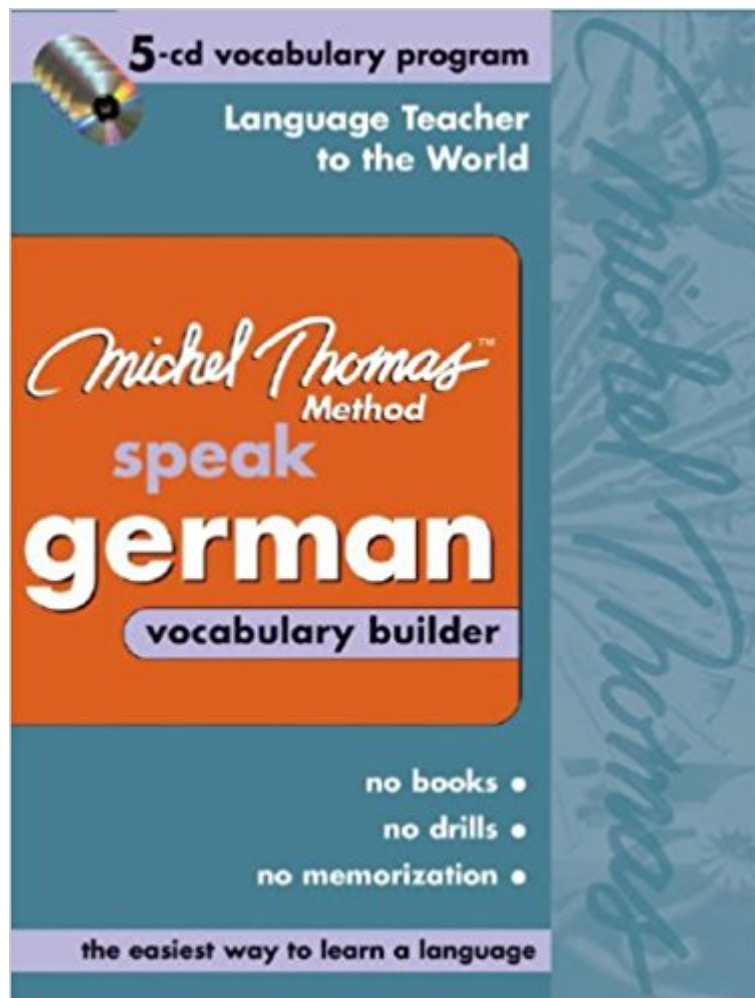




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Michel Thomas German Vocabulary Builder: 5-CD Vocabulary Program (Michel Thomas Series)



Synopsis

In just six hours, you can enrich your German vocabulary with the Michel Thomas method. You already know and trust the Michel Thomas method for learning a new language--no books, no writing, no drills. And nothing to memorize--ever! Now the next generation of Michel Thomas-method teachers is ready to help you become confident in your new language. In Michel Thomas Speak German Vocabulary Builder, Rose Lee Hayden uses the foundation Michel Thomas created to enhance your German vocabulary. You build on what you learned in previous courses by hearing correct pronunciations from two native speakers and get plenty of opportunities for practice. With Hayden's direction--and Michel's successful methodology--you can learn 1,000 German words and phrases and feel even more comfortable communicating in your new language. Includes five 70-minute audio CDs in a faux leather zippered case

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

Rose Lee Hayden is Michel Thomas's most trusted and experienced teacher. Over a period of twenty-five years Michel Thomas developed a unique and revolutionary learning system that made him the world's leading language teacher.

There are no perfect language instruction products, because there is no single path that can accommodate all learners. Key variables in choosing a product: 1) your language aptitude, 2) your

experience in language study, 3) your goal (e.g., do you want to speak fluently, or do you wish to quickly learn how to translate simple text?). All these variables point to different learning tools. This is my first Michel Thomas product, and I was struck by: 1) The beautiful elocution of the instructor. She is a language goddess. 2) The very rich assortment of mnemonic devices offered. Very useful to beginners lacking formal terms of language study. 3) The pleasant, playful tone of the instruction. Keeps the material from becoming wearing. So why only four stars? Because I want to caution that people with strong language backgrounds will find the rate of progress along the Michel Thomas path agonizingly slow. This vocabulary cluster of CDs is the second set in the over all course, I believe, and the instructor only now introduces the accusative case (which she presents as "the victim of the verb"). People who have studied other inflected languages will be bright blue from impatience by this point, and will be ready to kiss a hard-core page that simply lists prepositions and the cases they require, with examples. In sum, if you aren't well versed in language structure and want a friendly, easy-to-absorb entry into German, this method may be perfect for you. If you want to get a quick handle on German and have a good background, the MT method is too slow.

The introduction to this series owns up to the fact that learning vocabulary is different than learning structure. As such, it uses a Michel Thomas style (i.e. relax, think through and hit the pause button), but new items come much faster and more frequently than the original Michel Thomas courses. Sometimes four or five new vocabulary items will be introduced just before you are prompted with "How would you say?" Be prepared to review and redo twice as often as you had to with the original Michel Thomas CDs. The volume of new material is of a different scale. This series also provides more concerning the "Du" form than the original Michel Thomas courses. If you are interested in vocabulary, check out the free version of a computer flash card program at [...] . As Barry Farber would say, learning a language is a "multi-track attack." If you have done the other Michel Thomas CDs, and are a fan of his approach, this should be one of the "tracks" in your attack.

I am a believer in Michel Thomas' language courses, this vocabulary builder follows the same methodology as his language course. If you are trying to learn German this is the best method because it uses logic and builds on what you already know.

First off it's probably a good thing for you to know that the instructor on this course is not Michel Thomas himself, but was made after his passing and the material is presented by a British woman, Marion O'Dowd. Also it's refreshing that the two student speakers in the course are native Germans

and not the bumbling, pronunciation-challenged beginners like have been used in the past. This course makes a good attempt at filling in a lot of the missing pieces from the MT series as a whole such as covering the use of nouns and the related accusative, dative, and genitive cases. It's curious though that they refer to them in this course by other made-up names like the "victim of the verb rule", the "belonging situation" (genative), and the "mit-von-zu situation". Why not just call them what they really are? In any case, this course is not for beginners. I wouldn't even try to attempt this course unless: a) you already have a STRONG understanding of German sentence structure and grammar, or b) you have first thoroughly digested the previous three of Michel Thomas' series (the basic and advanced courses, and the Language Booster course). Falling into the latter, I found this course to be very densely packed with new vocabulary. It made my head spin the first few times I listened to it to wrap my head around so much new stuff to try and remember at once. Since I persevered and have now listened to it umpteen times, I feel it has done an exemplary job of increasing my understanding of the language. It seems that a lot more forethought went into putting together this series, compared to Michel's previous products which tended to rehash and overlap the same things over and over between the different series. I am eagerly awaiting future Michel Thomas/Marion O'Dowd expansions. For what it's worth if you're wondering where to go after completing all of the Michel Thomas' series, I think a great product and next step is Langenscheidt's book series "Basic German Vocabulary" and the accompanying workbook "Grundwortschatz Deutsch". It's a great way to increase your vocabulary in a step-by-step manner with example sentences and exercises for each word. The books are out of print now but you can still readily find them on . I won't go into them further but be sure to go and check out the reviews of these books.

Michel Thomas Vocabulary Builder upholds the quality set by the previous language releases and I do recommend this one. If you really want to improve your vocabulary while studying the Michel Thomas way, this is a must.

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