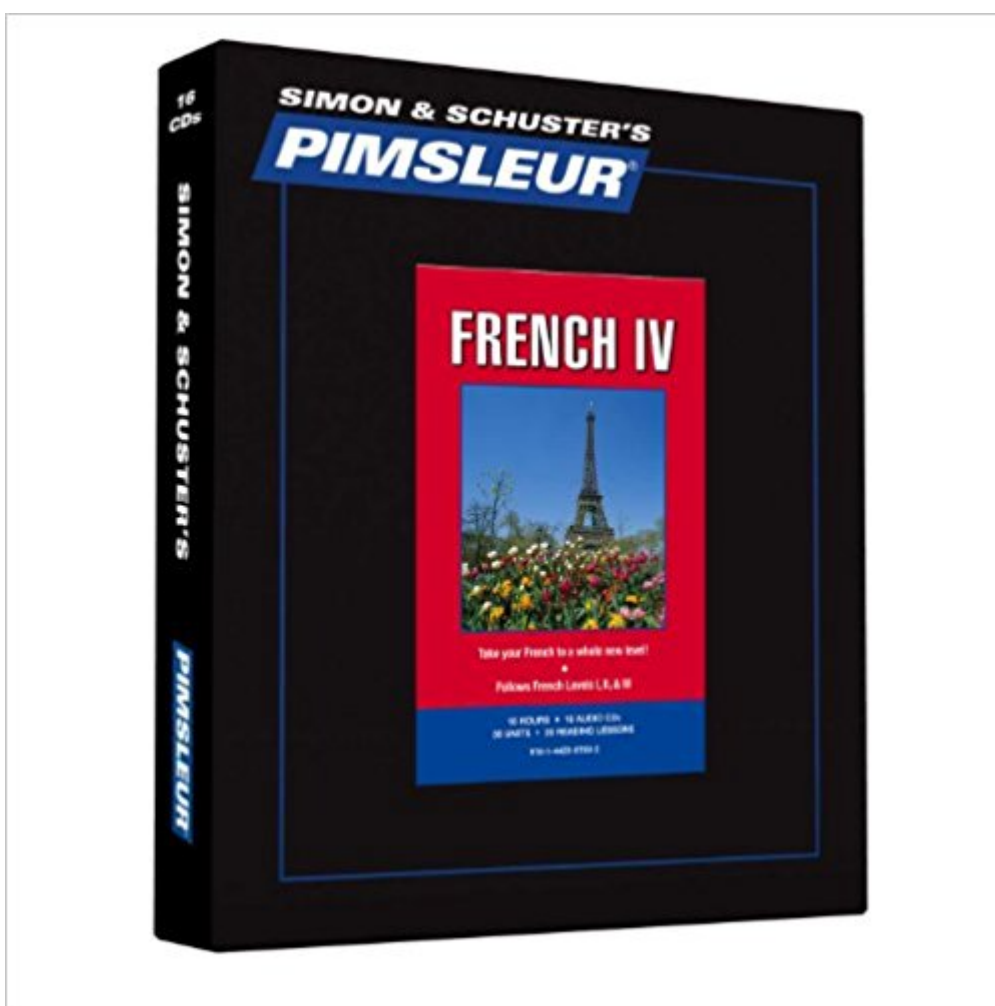


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# Pimsleur French Level 4 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand French With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



## Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn French Whether you want to travel, communicate with friends or colleagues, reconnect with family, or just understand more of what's going on in the world around you, learning French will expand your horizons and immeasurably enrich your life. The best part is that it doesn't have to be difficult or take years to master. Thirty minutes a day is all it takes, and we get you speaking right from the first day. Pimsleur courses use a scientifically-proven method that puts you in control of your learning. If you've tried other language learning methods but found they simply didn't stick, then you owe it to yourself to give Pimsleur a try.

Why Pimsleur?

- Quick + Easy
- Only 30 minutes a day.
- Portable + Flexible
- Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life.
- Proven Method
- Works when other methods fail.
- Self-Paced
- Go fast or go slow
- It's up to you.
- Based in Science
- Developed using proven research on memory and learning.
- Cost-effective
- Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers.
- Genius
- Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn.
- Works for everyone
- Recommended for ages 13 and above.

What's Included?

- 30, 30-minute audio lessons
- 60 minutes of reading instruction to provide you practice reading French
- in total, over 17 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers
- a Reading Booklet and User's Guide

What You'll Learn Builds upon skills taught in Pimsleur's French Levels 1-3. You'll be speaking and understanding French with near-fluency and with a broad range of conversational skills. In Level 4 the pace and conversation moves more rapidly, accelerating exposure to new vocabulary and structures, and approaching native speed and comprehension. You'll learn to speak about your professional and personal life, needs, likes and dislikes, and to create complex sentences discussing the past, present, future, conditional and subjunctive. A few of the topics included in French Level IV - Business: Traveling for business, attending a conference, booking and canceling train tickets, looking for and buying a house in France. - Personal life: Discussing where you've lived, what you enjoy, going through hard times, marriage and divorce, raising teenagers, missing loved ones, moving. - Activities: Reading, hiking, gardening, skiing, going to the theater, watching TV, walking around, doing home renovations. - Shopping: trying on and buying various items of clothing, asking for colors and sizes, buying gifts and souvenirs, going to the open-air and the flea market, haggling over prices, negotiating a discount, discussing shipping options. - Vacationing: going to the beach or swimming pool, sampling foods, preparing a picnic, boating, dealing with crowds. - Dealing with Unforeseen Events: feeling ill, calling a doctor, losing or

forgetting personal items, being caught in a strike, witnessing a crime, falling in love. - The French Character: Learn to think like a French person, using irony and sarcasm, making huffing sounds, showing nonchalance and disinterest, and expressing nostalgia and fatalism. After Lesson 30, a short story broken down into 20 manageable segments (over one hour) is provided for practice reading French. The Pimsleur Method We make no secret of what makes this powerful method work so well. Paul Pimsleur spent his career researching and perfecting the precise elements anyone can use to learn a language quickly and easily. Here are a few of his secrets:

- The Principle of Anticipation In the nanosecond between a cue and your response, your brain has to work to come up with the right word. Having to do this boosts retention, and cements the word in your mind.
- Core Vocabulary Words, phrases, and sentences are selected for their usefulness in everyday conversation. We don't overwhelm you with too much, but steadily increase your ability with every lesson.
- Graduated Interval Recall Reminders of new words and structures come up at the exact interval for maximum retention and storage into your long-term memory.
- Organic Learning You work on multiple aspects of the language simultaneously. We integrate grammar, vocabulary, rhythm, melody, and intonation into every lesson, which allows you to experience the language as a living, expressive form of human culture.
- Learning in Context Research has shown that learning new words in context dramatically accelerates your ability to remember. Every scene in every Pimsleur lesson is set inside a conversation between two people. There are no drills, and no memorization necessary for success.
- Active Participation The Pimsleur Method + active learner participation = success. This method works with every language and every learner who follows it. You gain the power to recall and use what you know, and to add new words easily, exactly as you do in English.

The French Language French is spoken by 55 million speakers in France, 3 million in Belgium, 1.5 million in Switzerland, 6.5 million in Canada, and 5 million in former French and Belgian colonies. It is an official language in 44 countries and an official language of the United Nations. An estimated 50 million people around the world speak French as a second language. Tech Talk - CDs are formatted for playing in all CD players, including car players, and users can copy files for use in iTunes or Windows Media Player.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. Paul Pimsleur devoted his life to language teaching and testing and was one of the world's leading experts in applied linguistics. After years of experience and research, Dr. Pimsleur developed The Pimsleur Method based on two key principles: the Principle of Anticipation and a scientific principle of memory training that he called "Graduated Interval Recall." This Method has been applied to the many levels and languages of the Pimsleur Programs.

Many years ago I could speak French with almost native equivalency, but that ability has faded. I looked at everything online and finally chose Pimsleur Level 4. If you jump in at this level you will need a substantial background in conversational French. If you are still learning grammar you might want to start at a less advanced level. Also the lessons are not very helpful with expanding vocabulary, at least not enough vocabulary to re-enter the French speaking work force. For that you will need to read, so this is not one-stop shopping. This program is helpful in retraining you, or continuing to train you, to think and speak in French rather than translating. I noticed as I went through the lessons that my tempo and my accent (!) steadily returned. Many of you know that as Americans, a considerable effort is required to overcome our native accent, and these lessons are most helpful with that in particular. Although this program appears expensive, there are many discs with 2 lessons on each, so it is actually quite reasonable. Recommended for those who are required to speak French well for whatever reason, and who will supplement vocab with reading papers, books, magazines, etc. The casual tourist might find this level overkill.

I am a language aficionado (or aficionada, to say it more correctly for a female!). I have done CD

courses for French, Spanish and Italian and Pimsleur is far and away the very best. When you do a Pimsleur course you really learn it to that level. One thing I have never found anywhere are advanced courses, so when I saw that now Pimsleur has made French IV and V, Italian IV and Spanish IV (and V?), I was thrilled. I'm mid-way through this French 4 course and it is wonderful. It actually gets into teaching you the subjunctive in Pimsleur's own easy to grasp way. Also this course has lots more vocabulary. I guess they figure we can handle it now that we know the structure of the language. It's just a brilliant method where you don't have to memorize anything.

I worked my way up to Pimsleur Level IV after completing Levels I, II, and III. Pimsleur is the method that I recommend to anyone wishing to learn a language. The lessons are presented in a supported way through simulated, guided conversations with plenty of practice for new words. This practice is essential to learn the language well. I received a compliment from a native French speaker with regard to my accent, as high praise as anyone could receive! I listen to these as I drive, and would rarely have the time to sit through a lesson on a computer, as other systems attempt to teach a language. I complained about the Level III lessons lasting only 27-28 minutes (when they are supposed to be 30 minutes), but these lessons last for 32 minutes on average. I purchased the Pimsleur Method Gold Approach, which was licensed to another company by Simon & Schuster, but I no longer see those listed for sale. The only differences were in the Gold Approach, the CDs came packaged in a cardboard box the size of a musical box set, rather than a bulky plastic binder, and it did NOT include the reading booklet, and I had to contact the company to have them email it to me. I went with the Gold Approach because it was considerably cheaper than the Simon & Schuster version.

This is the most useful language approach I know. It should be made clear, though, that I-III are just a warm up and that the pace in terms of comprehension and speaking picks up considerably in IV. I'm in Paris now, trying on my French and being occasionally pleasantly surprised at my semi-automatic--read "learned"--responses. It still requires lots of time and great patience--thirty minutes a day don't make you fluent!

I love the Pimsleur courses, and have purchased them all on . This is the latest and most advanced of the series, and it keeps me on my toes, to say the least. I listen to the CDs during my exercise walks, and the pace is quick, allowing a fairly brief amount of time to respond. I have to hit the repeat button a lot! The story scenes flow naturally, and some are pretty funny. Because of that, I

listen to each CD 4-5 times, until my response just flows quickly from my mouth, to my surprise! I took two years of French in school, so I am familiar with many of the words and can visualize them as I listen. Take the time to review the included booklet - it will make things much clearer. And I can't deny it - it is a tremendous confidence builder.

I have used Pimsleur for multiple languages, and I am never disappointed. Pimsleur is perfect for learning on the go. (I listen to it in my car on the way to school.) It is formatted to engrave the vocabulary and phrases into the listener's head. It specifically pinpoints proper pronunciation which has helped me greatly with developing the French accent. My favorite thing about this program is that it eases the listener in by teaching just a little at a time while rebuilding on previous knowledge. This serves to make the learning process stress-free and the listener look forward to the next lesson. Other French curriculums teach from textbooks, which are perfect for learning spelling and grammar. However, I have learned that the key to learning foreign languages is to start out verbally/orally. Pimsleur is the way to go to learn foreign languages.

I had completed French I-III a few years ago and was thrilled to see they came out with a French IV. The info is up-to-date and full of new information. I would say the beginning programs are more repetitive than this version, which allows for the introduction of so much more material. I've completed programs in Italian, Castilian Spanish, Danish, Czech, and Greek and highly recommend the Pimsleur method.

Having tried a LOT of other audio CD learning systems, this is by far the most effective (and expensive, unfortunately). Without a lot of free time at home, I do most of my learning on a 30-minute drive to and from work. This works perfectly for that, and the lessons are excellently arranged to build your vocabulary and your proper syntax/grammar without feeling repetitive.

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