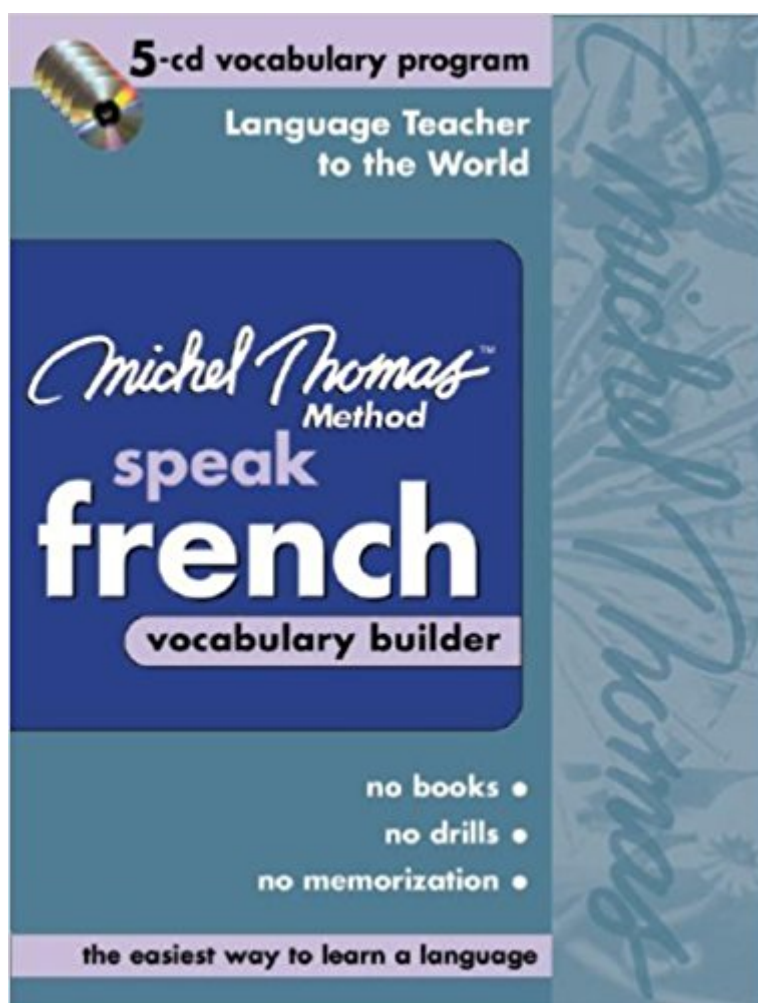


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# Michel Thomas Speak French Vocabulary Builder: 5-CD Vocabulary Program (Michel Thomas Series)



## Synopsis

In just six hours, you can enrich your French 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 French Vocabulary Builder, Rose Lee Hayden uses the foundation Michel Thomas created to enhance your French 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 French words and phrases and feel even more comfortable communicating in your new language. Includes five 70-minute audios 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.

This is Holly's review. I have studied French through high school and some college courses. My French was *basic* to say the least, but I was able to function when in

France. Friends suggested that I try Michel Thomas's course. I have a stack of French discs in my desk drawer and was not particularly interested in adding to it. However, to be nice, I said that I would try them out. I played the beginning disc in my car each day as I travelled to and from work. My car became a wonderful learning environment. I truly enjoyed Michel Thomas as the teacher, and I felt quite comfortable with the other two students. After working with the discs, I soon improved so much that I was a head of the other students. What a successful feeling that was. By the end of the beginning discs, I had surpassed all of my classroom work ! I recommended the discs to everyone that I could speak to about learning French. What a treat to have spent so much time in my car with my private French class. I decided to try the advanced discs. Wow ! Those were more difficult, but with repetition and the good teaching of Michel Thomas, once again, I was popping ahead of the two students on the disc ! Again, even more success. I was saddened to think that I had come to the end of my Michel Thomas French Discs, so I went on-line and purchased the Michel Thomas Vocabulary Builder and Booster. I have only worked with the Vocabulary Builder, and I have several comments.

1. There is absolutely no feeling of a wonderful, warm learning environment that is essential to a Michel Thomas language disc. The teacher speaks and professionals respond. It is cold and impersonal. The use of professionals to respond does not allow the listening-student to work through mistakes and catch up to the other students in the class. I personally gained so much when the student on the disc made the same mistake that I did, and the error was corrected with a thoughtful and encouraging explanation.
2. Rules of pronunciation that Michel Thomas clearly uses and emphasizes are not adhered to. For example, the "Ske" in the middle of the sentence. Other rules, such as the use of a slight hint of an "n" to announce that a negative is coming is also not adhered to, nor the sliding of the "n" to the preceding word to create a negative sentence structure.
3. The sentences are unnecessarily long and cumbersome. Michel Thomas would always build on a sentence structure and work with that structure to add and introduce a new concept, vocabulary, or verb usage. The Vocabulary Disc throws words and concepts at the student with n

I just like how Michel Thomas teaches languages. I got the Spanish CDs few years earlier, you will actually start speaking the language immediately (of course you need to practice and study). Now it's time to remember French since we haven't used it for years. I put four stars just because of they did better job in the Spanish CDs. but overall it's good.

I think this product should stop using MT as their marketing tool. This is NOT Michel Thomas method by any stretch of imagination. A lot of sentences are too long and way too boring. The instructor's comments are very irritating and I wish there was a way to mute them. The native speaking female has a very bad diction or it is the fault of the recording company? I would NOT recommend this product.

Michel Thomas is always great.

I've just completed the last, 5th CD and decided that I had to share my impressions about this course, since it is somewhat misleading - it's using the name of Michel Thomas whose courses I have and like a lot but it is distorting Michel's method. I think this course is still useful and has its pros and cons: Pros:- it covers a lot of vocabulary- the teacher's voice is clear- the complexity builds up gradually, with each CD- every sentence is said at least twice - first by a native speaker and then by the teacher Cons: (subjective)- lacks the fun of Michel Thomas courses- Many sentences are boring- Many sentences are made too long, in 2 or 3 parts - when trying to translate the second part I'd often forget the first part and therefore fail to construct the whole sentence in the allotted time (I work with this course in a car, without the pause button)- After almost any completed sentence the teacher uses some words of "encouragement" like "excellent", "very good", "you made an excellent progress", "you see how proficient in French you've become", etc. These comments have been very annoying to me and I believe they represent a really bad teaching style. I'd gladly pay the company an extra \$20 if they were able to provide me the course without those meaningless comments.- the voice of a female native speaker is dull and muffled (sounds like she suffers from the cold) - I've never heard such a bad voice in the audio courses My conclusion: it's not close to Michel Thomas courses, but it does provide a boost in vocabulary and can be useful if completed. I rate it 3 stars.

I haven't done the Michel Thomas lessons before for French. I tried the introductory course for German and didn't like it, because I found the other "students" distracting. So, I'm coming at this after having studied French in school and abroad for several years, but about ten years ago. Now I'm wanting to rebuild it. I would say I was probably at the intermediate level before fading away. I'm happy with how much I remember, and am re/learning new vocabulary. I like the complexity of sentences they use; they feel like sentences that can be used in an actual conversation. I do get frustrated with the host at times. She'll say it's time for me to say the sentence then jump into more explanation, so I pause before I need to then have to restart. There are very short gaps between

when you actually have to talk and when the native speaker talks. Since I'm driving and listening, it's not easy to always pause in time. I also like to say it again after the native speaker for extra practice, and the host jumps in almost immediately after the native speaker. So that is my only complaint - the timing of the speaker. As another reviewer pointed out, her comments can also be inane, but at other times provides pronunciation reminders. "Good job, I really heard the te at the end of that word." Ok, the compliment is dumb, but the reminder that the te at the end of the word needed to be pronounced because it was feminine was helpful.

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