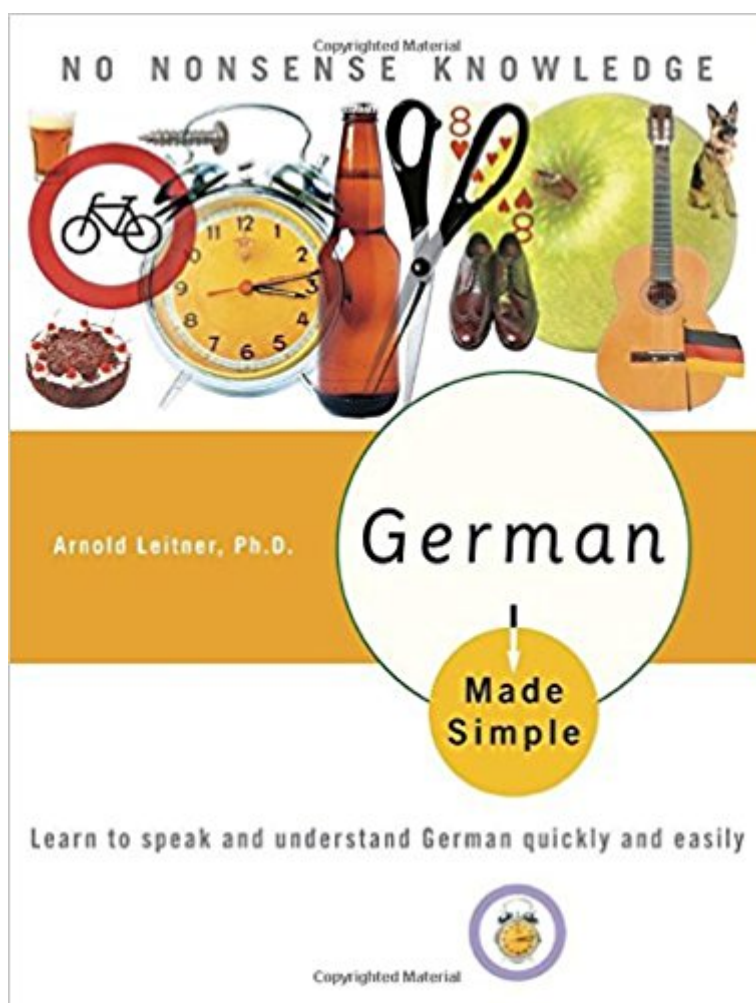


The book was found

German Made Simple: Learn To Speak And Understand German Quickly And Easily



Synopsis

Learning German Has Never Been Easier! Whether you are studying the language in school, planning a trip to Germany or Austria, or trying to learn the basics of the language closest to English, German Made Simple is the perfect book for any self-learner. Void of all nonessentials and refreshingly easy to understand, German Made Simple includes:

- Basics of German grammar
- Modern German vocabulary
- German pronunciation guide
- German reading exercises
- German economic information
- Common German expressions
- Review exercises
- Complete answer key
- German-English dictionary

Book Information

Paperback: 309 pages

Publisher: Made Simple Press; Revised edition (May 16, 2006)

Language: English, German

ISBN-10: 0767918606

ISBN-13: 978-0767918602

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.8 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 127 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #226,553 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #126 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > German #1022 in Books > Education & Teaching > Studying & Workbooks > Study Guides #2031 in Books > Textbooks > Test Prep & Study Guides

Customer Reviews

Arnold Leitner, PhD, is an accomplished multilingual scholar (German, Italian, Portuguese) with extensive experience in devising instructional literature and in teaching German as a foreign language. He is an instructor of German at the College of Economics in Tamsweg, Austria.

However, there are some issues. I have a good friend in Germany with whom I Skype at least once a week. I have read several sections of the dialogues in the book to her, in both English and German. Sometimes she will nod her head, but quite often she also says, "that's not how we say that." It's kind of like we native English speakers will react when we hear a non-native speaker say something that he/she obviously learned in a book or class. Of course, it depends on what your aim

in learning a language is. If you just want to be understood - and of course native speakers of a language will usually allow for the fact that their language is not yours - then that's OK. As my German friend says, the dialogues ARE understandable. So you will be understood when you use the German taught in this book, but you might not understand when the other party responds. Or you can face the frustration that I often feel when I try to speak to someone in their native language - and they answer me in good English! Man, that is really a bummer!

I think this is a GREAT book for learning German. I have taught German to high schools with a school-approved text book for many years. I have recently begun teaching adults using this text. It explains topics well; exercises are relevant. One review said that it's not 'useful' German; I disagree. True, it's not a book that will teach you catch phrases if you're traveling to Germany next week (but seriously, English is so prevalent now, that's hardly a real concern), but it is great for teaching the structure and grammar of the language - better than anything else I've seen - if you desire to become fluent. Of note: my most recent student used it in conjunction with Rosetta Stone, and found this text to be very helpful in explaining some of the 'why' and 'how' that are missing from full immersion materials.

Some things about this book are good, like the pace at which one is able to learn. The idea that a student is compelled to search for words and phrases is also good, but I just ran into Exercise 35: What a mess! It says "describe the picture." Now, unless I have lost my mind or my eyesight, there is no picture in the entire chapter, chapter 10 that is. I looked back and forth and I thought perhaps the picture is one that is described, but none exists. I cannot "write at least ten sentences where the things are" and then write the same amount of sentences about "where the things in the room should be." I am mystified at this section of the text. I have also found that certain words are part of sentences in the chapters, but they are not in the vocabulary in the back? Either I have lost my mind, or the "revision" of the older text is quite bad. Still, not entirely a bad text.

We are learning German for the summer. The title is completely accurate. The way the book is laid out and the explanations really make this an easy way to learn. My kids and I are having no problems being able to read and speak some German. We are just beginning but so far we are having a ton of fun! The book starts with describing related German and English words. Some examples are Mann-man, Haus-house, Onkel-uncle, kalt-cold. The book then moves into German letters and sounds in words and sentences. The next chapters involve Mr. Clark being taught

German by Mr. Muller and so we follow along and are taught as well. The book includes the answer key and glossary for vocabulary. The book also contains exercises and a review at the end of the chapters. I chose German and my kids are interested in learning Italian so I am buying the Italian Made Simple book. We are learning and we are having fun. The best part is that my kids are excited to continue and learn other languages and we will be using another Made Simple book!

Would have given this a five star if it had an accompanying CD. Great progression of German grammar. Good for intermediate and advanced learners. Loved the exercises in each chapter. Very relevant scenarios for learning and vocabulary building. Of all the German studying aids I have used, I like this one the best. Just wish they had an audio.

I chose four stars not five because there could be some improvement. I use this book for teaching with my adult Sr. students. They remarked that they would have liked to see some questions pertaining to the reading which begins every chapter. They would also like to see a table which would outline cases (functions) in a sentence. They like the continuity of the stories with Mr. Clark and Mr. Mueller, and answer key in the back. I would recommend it to another teacher who could guide the student(s). This would be better than having the student to try to use it alone.

I purchased this book after completing all 5 levels of the Rosetta Stone German program. After completing all 5 levels, I was able to converse fairly well in German, but my grammar was not very good. Presently, I am about 1/3 through this book, and I must say, this book has done a great job of answering the grammar questions I had, which were not covered in Rosetta Stone. If you are serious about learning German, this is a good tool, especially in conjunction with a software program.

No matter how much I try to make myself like this book, I just can't. The learning method does not flow well at all, and can seem confusing at times. At one moment, you feel that you are being introduced to some great concepts, turn the page, and you will find examples that have nothing to do with what you read the previous page. And as others have said, the book has a bad habit of introducing new words without meaning. Many times I found a new word, and had to go back a couple of pages (or even chapters) to find it on one of the many incomplete vocabulary lists. In some instances, these lists were completely useless to the chapter that they were introduced in. If you can get past the unorthodox method of learning, then maybe this book works for you. But if you

are looking for a well structured book, I suggest that you look elsewhere.

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