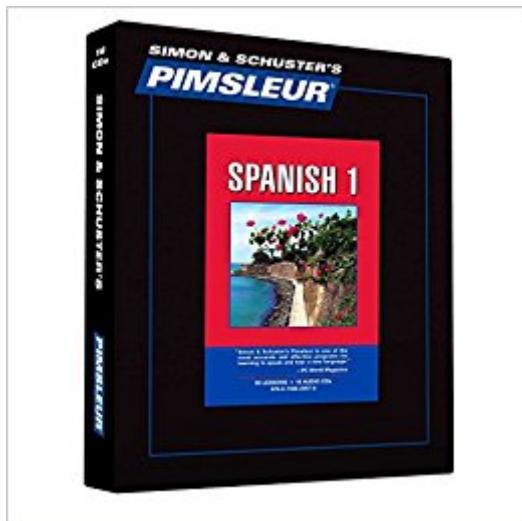


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# Pimsleur Spanish Level 1 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand Latin American Spanish With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive) (English And Spanish Edition)



## Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn Spanish Did you know that Spanish is the world's second most commonly spoken language? For Americans, it's one of the easiest to learn, and you won't find anything faster or easier than the Pimsleur® Method. Even knowing a little bit of Spanish will make travel to Latin America or Spanish-speaking countries a breeze. 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 Spanish 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 â€“ Only 30 minutes a day.
- Portable + Flexible â€“ Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life.
- Proven Method â€“ Works when other methods fail.
- Self-Paced â€“ Go fast or go slow â€“ it's up to you.
- Based in Science â€“ Developed using proven research on memory and learning.
- Cost-effective â€“ Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers.
- Genius â€“ Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn.
- Works for everyone â€“ Recommended for ages 13 and above.

**What's Included?**

- 30, 30-minute audio lessons
- 60 minutes of reading instruction to provide you with an introduction to reading Spanish designed to teach you to sound out words with correct pronunciation and accent
- in total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers
- a Reading Booklet and User's Guide

**What You'll Learn**

In the first 10 lessons, you'll cover the basics: saying hello, asking for or giving information, scheduling a meal or a meeting, asking for or giving basic directions, and much more. You'll be able to handle minimum courtesy requirements, understand much of what you hear, and be understood at a beginning level, but with near-native pronunciation skills. In the next 10 lessons, you'll build on what you've learned. Expand your menu, increase your scheduling abilities from general to specific, start to deal with currency and exchanging money, refine your conversations and add over a hundred new vocabulary items. You'll understand more of what you hear, and be able to participate with speech that is smoother and more confident. In the final 10 lessons, you'll be speaking and understanding at an intermediate level. In this phase, more directions are given in the target language, which moves your learning to a whole new plane. Lessons include shopping, visiting friends, going to a restaurant, plans for the evening, car trips, and talking about family. You'll be able to speak comfortably about things that happened in the past and make plans for

the future. Reading Lessons are included at the end of Lesson 30 to provide you with an introduction to reading Spanish. These lessons, which total about one hour, are designed to teach you to sound out words with correct pronunciation and accent.

**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 Spanish Language** Spanish is the official language of 19 Latin American nations, as well as Spain, the Dominican Republic, and Cuba. Further, it's one of the six official languages recognized by the United Nations. Pimsleur's Spanish programs teach an educated Latin American Spanish, featuring speakers from Colombia and Mexico. Students can expect to understand the lessons clearly and to be understood by Spanish speakers everywhere.

**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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Audio CD

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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.

I have a thick skull and learning new things does not come easy for me. I am completely surprised however at how well this approach is working for me, and how well I'm retaining the words in each lesson. I will recommend Pimsleur to anyone who is interested in learning a new language. I will admit that even though they recommend that you don't write anything down and just listen and repeat. I do use Google Translate to look up certain words. I understand their logic, but I'm more of a visual learner and this seems to help me know what word I'm learning. I write the words down in a notepad and as I practice throughout the day, If a word escapes me I can go to my notepad to refresh my memory. After a few times the word is forever in my head. The best part of this is the lessons overlap and even though you are on Lesson 4, you are still applying all the words you learned in lesson 1. I'm always hesitant to continue on to the next lesson until I have about 95 % material learned. You don't need to worry about that cause they continue to refresh your memory with each word. As I said, they do a great job of overlapping the lessons.

I've only completed three lessons so far but this is the best Spanish learning tool I've found. The ones I've tried before are designed for tourists planning trips to Spanish speaking countries, and I do NOT find those helpful as I am not planning any trips in the near future, so it doesn't do me any good to learn things like how to ask where my luggage is! I do better when I have written material as well as spoken material as I am a visual learner, but apparently Mr. Pimsleur believes we learn

better without it. I've lived in So. CA. for over 30 years and have taken college classes, conversational Spanish through different community programs and "learn Spanish at home" tapes/CDs and books during these years, and retained little (except how to say "Excuse me, I'm looking for my luggage"). I currently volunteer at a local food pantry and have the opportunity to practice what I've learned and I've also learned that having people to practice with is very, very helpful. For the first time, people understand me and I understand them - as long as we keep it simple - for now at least. I get so excited about what I'm learning in the lessons that I want to "break the rules" and do two or three lessons in ONE day!!! However, I have found that if I do break the rules and go over one lesson two or three days in a row that I retain more. It's physiological. As we age, our brains don't learn language as easily as we do when we are children, so naturally, it's more difficult after one is, oh, say old enough to belong to the AARP. Anyway, I highly recommend this product for those highly motivated to learn the language!

Since I travel a lot, I need a way to learn languages the easiest, most efficient, and fastest way possible. Nothing beats being able to practice with and learn from a native speaker of a language. However, when I'm driving, flying, or just don't have access to a native speaker to practice with, I still need a way to practice and learn. I tried most language programs out there and I found Pimsleur's and Michel Thomas' methods to be the most suitable for me. Here are the strong points of Pimsleur's approach: 1) It's perhaps the easiest way to learn pronunciation of all the programs out there. They teach pronunciation by saying words slowly syllable by syllable until you put together the whole word. It's especially useful if you want to learn a language like Arabic, Chinese, or any hard-to-pronounce language. 2) The program begins with a simple conversation and they keep building on it lesson by lesson. 3) The conversations are based on real life scenarios so many of the things you learn you can put to use. 4) You don't need to get a lesson 100% before moving on to the next. They're great with reviewing the contents of previous lessons while teaching you new things. So you can just keep moving on with the lessons and you'll see that by the end of lesson 3 for example, you've got most of lessons 1 and 2 down. 5) No rote repetitions are necessary with their method. No writing, note taking, etc, just listen to the CDs. 6) If you love their method, you'll be able to learn the basics of many languages easily. I used their programs to begin learning Spanish, French, German, Chinese, and Arabic. Downside of Pimsleur: 1) If you're natural at picking up foreign languages, you'll find their method very slow. 2) Even after you finish all the levels for a particular language, you're still at the beginning stages of the language, and you'll need to continue with other more advanced programs. Or better yet, with a native speaker if you can. 3) The

transcripts don't come with the program. You'll have to do a Google search for those if you want them.4) They're more expensive than many other programs.I want to emphasize that language learning is a highly individual process and other programs may end up working better for you. If you can, it's definitely worth buying the beginning version of other programs to see how much you relate to their teaching methods. To see if you like Pimsleur's approach, you can get a used copy of the Quick and Simple program for less than \$10. I found the cheapest way to get the full copy of Pimsleur's I, II, and III programs is by buying the MP3-only version on audible.com with an annual subscription. Each program costs 5 credits which comes out to be less than \$50 for each level with the annual platinum membership.

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