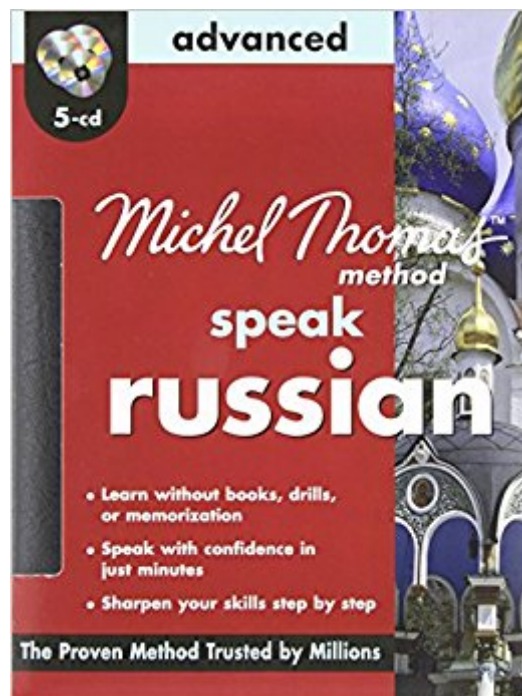




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Michel Thomas Method Speak Russian Advanced



Synopsis

Experience the language learning method millions around the world have come to trust to learn Russian. Unlike most language learning systems, the Michel Thomas Method enables you to naturally and intuitively develop the building blocks for language comprehension. You can learn at your own speed--listening, speaking, and thinking through the language. Guided by a language instructor and native speakers, Michel Thomas Method Speak Russian Advanced CD takes you through an interactive lesson with two other learners. By the end of the program, you'll have an advanced vocabulary, polished conversation skills, and the confidence to speak in Russian.

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Customer Reviews

Natasha Bershadski has taught Russian for fifteen years at King's College London, University College London, London School of Economics, Middlesex University, and the Foreign Office. Michel Thomas was head of the Michel Thomas Language Centers and taught languages for more than 50 years, primarily in New York, Beverly Hills, and London. Over a period of 25 years he developed a unique and revolutionary learning system that made him the world's leading language teacher. He has taught celebrities, diplomats, dignitaries, academics, and business executives.

I took the beginner's course and now have used this advanced version. While this version certainly has some shortcomings, I would in general highly recommend this course and, more important, its general approach to learning another language. The approach is comfortable and embeds in the

mind a natural way to learn a language. While a complicated language, Russian becomes digestible and achievable, using the approach of this method. A perspective is taught that a learner can apply to areas of the language that are not covered by the course. The result is (for me, at least) huge inroads being made on learning this language effectively. I credit that to the method taught here. The shortcomings: while the Advanced course covers a great amount of ground, I wish it covered other areas, too: conversational exchanges, more of the grammar (especially since what is presented is outstandingly effective), vocabulary (because, while the grammar is complex, you aren't going anywhere without an extensive vocabulary), and more of the day-to-day language expressions that are essential. That said, I highly recommend this course. It's effective and it works!!

having used the Michele Thomas method to learn Dutch, French, and Spanish, and to brush up on my German, on a lark I started the Russian series. Like the Dutch, this is not taught by Michele himself, but by his students. The instructor is not quite as good as he was, but she gets the basic drift of his way of teaching. Although it has been almost 40 years since I studied Russian in school, she helps bring out the basics of the language. For anyone wanting to get a basic exposure to a language, there is nothing better than this method. Hands down, no arguments.

I have been studying Russian for about 18 months and found this program very useful. The approach is excellent and very effective. This is not advanced material, and if you are a beginner, you can very much benefit from the words and sentence construction. The teacher has an outstanding speaking voice, and her two students make the same common mistakes that other others make when they attempt to learn this difficult language. The program is very well planned and executed, and indeed, is enjoyable learning.

I'll never give a language program less than 4. I usually prefer a 5, but the style that I am used to just was not there. For all those out there who have tried Living Language, this program may not be to your liking. All the Living Language programs I ever tried have a systematic approach where one will remember something after every study, long or short. This particular program just has a teacher with a couple of students who just seem to jump around from one thing to another: related or not. But even as I give this program a 4, after the fact I found on Youtube two Russian programs that rate greater than 5. One is by Vera Norwood, and the other is by Natasha Brown.

First, if you completed the Russian foundation course then you absolutely need to continue with this

"Advanced course". Here are the good points:*

- * Clear, not-too-fast pronunciation by the teacher
- * More grammar, especially the accusative case (finally!) Now you can correctly conjugate direct object nouns. Perfective and imperfective verbs are introduced.
- * Some more vocabulary
- * Nice pace which builds on earlier material

As with the foundation course, there are still some negative points:*

- * Vocabulary is spotty. For instance, you'll learn the word for "breakfast" but not "lunch" or "dinner". You'll learn the word for "tomorrow" but not "today", or "yesterday".
- * Essential vocabulary is missing. You still won't be able to say "hello", or "goodbye". You won't be able to count to 10. You won't be able to tell the time, or say what day or month it is.
- * The grammar doesn't advance very far. You only learn the accusative case, not the dative, prepositional, genitive or instrumental cases. It's true that the prepositions "v" and "na" are introduced, but the nouns added to them in this course don't need to change. In general this is not true. The prepositional and dative cases are very often used in Russian so this is a big omission.
- * I found the explanation of the imperfective and perfective verbs a bit brief and confusing. After finishing the course I don't feel confident to correctly decide which one to use in different situations.

I definitely recommend getting this course in order to build on the last course, but I don't agree that this course should be entitled "Advanced Russian". It really should be "upper beginner". The course really needs a builder course for the grammar and a vocabulary course to fill in the holes. I feel this course is easier than the Pimsleur course because in the Pimsleur course the grammar used jumps around, from simple to very difficult, and you'll be scratching your head why the words are conjugated as they are. But the Pimsleur course does have all the essential vocabulary that's missing from this Michel Thomas course.

THIS IS A WONDERFUL PRODUCT. I HAVE BOTH MICHEL THOMAS AND PIMSLEUR RUSSIAN PRODUCTS THAT I PURCHASED FROM AND THEY ARE BOTH WONDERFUL. THEY COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER BECAUSE THE METHODS AND VOCABULARY ARE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT AS WELL AS THE TEACHING METHODS. MICHEL THOMAS GIVES YOU A LITTLE MORE GRAMMAR RULES. ALSO WITH MICHEL THOMAS THERE IS A TEACHER AND TWO STUDENTS INTERACTING. THE TEACHER IS A NATIVE RUSSIAN I ASSUME BUT SHE HAS THE MOST WONDERFUL ENGLISH ACCENT WHEN SHE SPEAKS ENGLISH. SHE IS UNBELIEVABLY ANIMATED AND A PLEASURE TO LISTEN TO (BOTH HER RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH) AS YOU INTERACT WITH HER. I TRULY RECOMMEND BOTH MICHEL THOMAS AND PIMSLEUR.

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