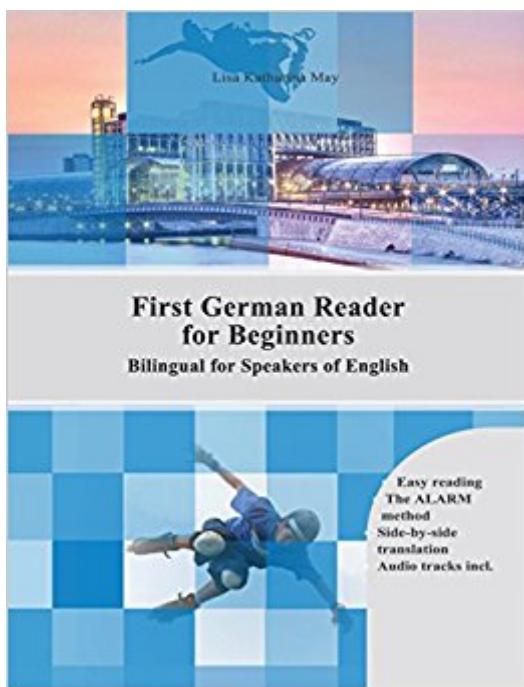


The book was found

First German Reader For Beginners: Bilingual For Speakers Of English (Graded German Readers Book 1)



Synopsis

The book consists of Elementary and Pre-intermediate courses with parallel German-English texts. The author maintains learners' motivation by funny stories about real life situations such as meeting people, studying, job searches, working etc. Method ALARM (Approved Learning Automatic Remembering Method) utilize natural human ability to remember words used in texts repeatedly and systematically. The author had to compose each sentence using only words explained in previous chapters. The second and the following chapters of the Elementary course have only 29 new words each. Audio tracks are available inclusive on www.lppbooks.com/German/

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This German reader is excellent practice for a beginner reading German. I started off learning German on Duolingo, but I grew very tired of that after a couple months. It was a nice kick-starter though. After that I studied strictly grammar for a few months which included small amounts of reading within the book. Due to the lack of reading practice, I reached a point where I

had to refer back to different grammar rules (some simple ones) more often than I would like. I realized I was greatly in need of more practice with all of the grammar I was learning. I have a few older German readers in hard copy and some German texts, but I still wasn't quite ready to read them and I was referring to a dictionary far too often. So, I checked out this German reader and it was exactly what I needed. It helps you build your vocabulary with simple stories and gives you the practice you need to solidify that grammar foundation. The layout and the method used in these readers (3 volumes) is perfect. I have all three downloaded on my Kindle. I feel very confident that after I complete all of these readers, I will be well prepared for the old German readers made up of selections from classic German literature, and also ready to dive into Grimm's *Märchen*.

"First German Reader for beginners bilingual for speakers of English" so far seems to be a fairly decent product to use during the developmental stages of learning German. As someone who is very much into finding the best ways to help others learn, I'm always interested in putting together the best ways for me to learn something. Now, understand that there is no one single product or even one single approach that is sufficient for learning any subject, whether it's language or computer technology or re-keying a door lock, but an often-overlooked method is to start from the beginning, just like you did in learning your own native language. The point of this book is to start you off, as an adult, as though you were in elementary school, and bring you along from that point. For me, this works very well, especially when paired with something like Michel Thomas's language learning system. Anyhow, this product arrived in a very timely manner, was very reasonably priced as far as anything language-learning goes, and I would definitely do business with this seller again.

I purchased this book as a tool to use with my students who, along with other similar books, have improved their vocabulary dramatically. I would recommend this to anybody who would like to start learning German from a very basic level. I took one star off because of the messy pronunciation guide. A complete novice completely unfamiliar with the sound of German and with no access to audio of the alphabet would be pronouncing it incorrectly, were he/she to use this as his/her only guide. The letter 'c' is pronounced 'tseh' (not 'say') and the letter 'ä', when spelling out a word, is pronounced 'ess-tset' (that is the German letter 's' ('ess') and 'z' ('tset)). Also, the pronunciation of the letter 'u' is shown in the book to be pronounced 'ueh' (huh?) and 'ü' is shown to be pronounced 'uyuh'... There are much easier ways of indicating German sounds for English speakers, so I'm not sure what the author was thinking when she wrote this chapter. So, anybody

wanting to know how to pronounce the German alphabet, please don't use this as a reference. This is the only negative thing I have to say about this book and would recommend it to anyone.

First off I must say I really enjoyed this book and the few other volumes after. I have used other vocabulary lists before, but for me it's hard to recall the words unless I read them in context, or use them in real life frequently. Let's face it, it's just not very fun memorizing lists. The ALARM method (Approved Learning Automatic Remembering Method) is so good because you start easy and slowly add more words while repeating words you have already learned. Another tip for learning (not in this book) is the method memory competitors recall utilizing visualization and/or association. Think of a child reading a brightly colored children's book, or think of a word and associate it with something that will help you remember. Here's a German example, the word *Teil* which means part or section. Now visualize a kitchen floor with blue tiles. Think of each tile as a different section. The blue will help you remember it's a masculine noun (technically it can be neuter noun too but that's beside the point). Barry Farber, who learned 25 languages, has a good book on the subject called "How to Learn Any Language." I have studied German in the past and I found the text easy to jump right into. I would not recommend this book for an absolute beginner though and my suggestion is to have a good grammar nearby. German grammar is a bit more complicated than English and the beginner will have a hard time knowing why a pronoun takes a certain form in a particular case. My plan is to go through and make some notes around the text showing which cases are being used, and using colored highlighters to mark words' genders. There are audio files of the text on the publisher's website. The sound quality is really bad and sounds like someone recorded the files on a laptop. The stories are read slowly, to the point it sounds almost robotic and you never get a chance to hear a real accent and intonation. Obviously as you progress in your learning will start to pick it up, especially from radio, movies, or other media. I ordered the First German Reader Volumes 1-3, but the site only has audio for Volume 1 and the Second German Reader. I also noticed the website doesn't even show the other volumes, just the First and Second books. Note that not all of the translations are literal, and in some cases paraphrasing is used. I found some new German words being introduced that weren't in the vocabulary section. I also found that vocabulary is in England English as opposed to American English. Some examples are *centre* instead of *center*, *queue* instead of *line* (funny enough another translation of the same word is *snake*), and *favourite* instead of *favorite*. Usually it's easy to figure out but be aware. In sum, it's a fun book series that you can take out on the couch and sit back and learn. Do a story or two a day every day and go back and review later for retention. I was considering picking up the Arabic or Russian sets but the

text doesn't have the accents (and vowels in Arabic) that are so vital to beginners.

The main difference I've found between this and other readers, is that I actually like reading this one. As odd as that sounds, most readers pick obscure texts that I'd really rather not read in English, much less German. Here the author starts easy with short sentences, that move into small conversations, that move into full stories. The sense of progression is great, and I honestly want to continue with the next chapter. Amazing book overall!

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