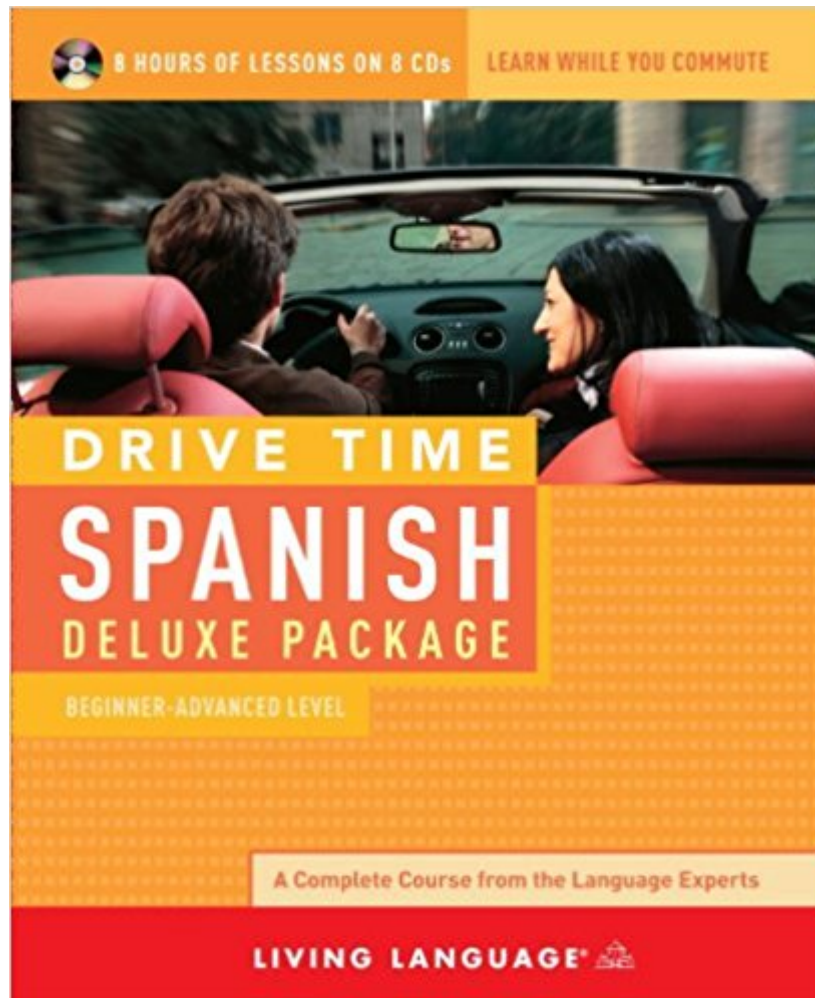




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Drive Time Spanish: Beginner-Advanced Level



Synopsis

Â Everything You Need to Learn Spanish, Simply and ConvenientlyÂ Drive Time Spanish: Beginnerâ “Advanced Level is the easiest way to learn Spanish vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, conversation, and even culture without a book. This innovative program includes eight hours of lessons on eight CDs that you can use anywhere and anytime. Learn while you're commuting to work, running errands, taking a trip with the family, or even while jogging or working out! Drive Time includes: Â Conversational lessons on eight compact discsA specially designed "On-Ramp to Spanish" to get you speaking and build your confidence with simple words and phrases right from the startPlenty of warm-up exercises, simple explanations, examples, and real conversational practiceA CD of more than 500 essential Spanish words to expand your vocabularyA 128-page listener's guide with vocabulary lists, dialogue scripts, and a grammar summary for referenceÂ There's just no better or more complete system of hands-free language learning!

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (111 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Like others have said, it jumps from easy words to ridiculously hard sentences. Also, you start learning to count from 20, which is okay since I know how to count in Spanish, but someone learning might want to be able to count from 1.

As a total novice to spanish and having just bought a house in Mexico I needed help. I just wouldn't sit down to the computer based training (Rosetta Stone), but worked diligently commuting to work

each day with the CDs. Although, as others have said, there is a lot to cover in just four CD's, with repetition and lots of work it was incredibly helpful. Just the right mix of grammar, vocabulary and conversation.

I travel frequently to Nicaragua and I'm always looking for ways to improve on my Spanish language skills. I bought this four CD set as it was promoted for learning Spanish during your drive time. I found that there is just way too much information that is pushed at you in the last two CD's -- way more than I can absorb even after listening and re-listening to them. Additionally, the course doesn't repeat the phrases or sentences a second time -- miss it the first go round and you've lost out because the narrator doesn't repeat anything. This course should have been spaced out over six or more CD's and more time should be given to the review of material already presented.

I'll admit - languages come easily to me. So I figured that learning Spanish in the car wouldn't be too hard, and that I could pick up the written portions as I went along (I mostly wanted tourist-oriented dialogue, anyway). Disc 1 was great. They presented words - repeated 3 times with time for you to repeat, then sentences, then variations on the same sentence. By the end, you understand how to form a basic sentence, ask a basic question, and give an answer. This format was great! Then disc two starts. Every word is only said once. Some of them are never even used in following examples. There's no theme (The first disc was focused on describing a car/van and objects you see while driving). You learn the alphabet, then conjugate a verb, then learn some random "work" vocabulary, then a little about the weather, then how to ask for directions - all in less than an hour. I'm really trying to keep up with this, but I feel like I'm just parroting sounds rather than learning a language - there isn't enough repetition for my brain to start making the connections and finding the patterns that happen when you truly start to understand a new language.

My Spanish had become quite "rusty" and I decided to do a refresher. If I was a newcomer to the language I would have been totally confused. Some of the pronunciations were very difficult to follow. Would certainly not recommend it.

The first CD of the four, was very simplistic, repetitiously describing a few things one might see while out on the road. But at least it gave plenty of opportunities for correct pronunciation and repetition. The other three CD's were a textbook being read: an overload of information, fast speaking, and one opportunity to repeat. Furthermore, the version of Spanish being taught is from

Spain, quite different from what I have always been taught here in Southern California, which is never stated on the package. I have never been more disappointed with a product. .

Essentially useless. The first CD was great, it left great expectations about the rest of the set. Listened to it about 10 times before moving onto the second of 8 CDs. Somehow, between when the first CD was removed from the player and when the second was inserted, I was supposed to have learned all sorts of things about conversational Spanish on my own. The narration immediately dove into a compete conversation, and then the narrators went deep into grammar, simultaneously throwing all sorts of verbs at the listener in 1st, 2nd and 3rd person instead of keeping it simple. This was intermixed with all sorts of nonsense about diphthongs, conjugated past participles and as much other idiocy as they could possibly muster to make the entire endeavor as much of a waste of time as humanly possible. By third CD when they introduced the differences in dialect between continental Spain and Castilian Spain, I had gone thumbs down on the whole package. Here I am in Southern California, trying to learn some basic Spanish before returning to school, and they are going to address regional dialects in Spain by the 3rd CD in this set? If you want to learn Spanish, look elsewhere. The people that made this program were clearly more interested in demonstrating to themselves how smart and fluent they were in Spanish than they were in actually teaching the listener anything. All so sad after such a nice start. It reminded me of the movie Cowboys & Aliens, that started out so great, but became so BAD once the aliens arrived. Unfortunately for Drive Time Spanish, the aliens arrived after only one CD.

I previously purchased Michele Thomas Language Booster in German and within 30 days my understanding of the language improved and I was able to form rudimentary sentences, etc. This, however, is not a very people friendly course. It is not designed in a way that assists in the natural learning process. The editors just 'throw' facts at you without putting the individual words in sentences or giving you enough practice and repeat time. I found it very frustrating and rather useless.

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