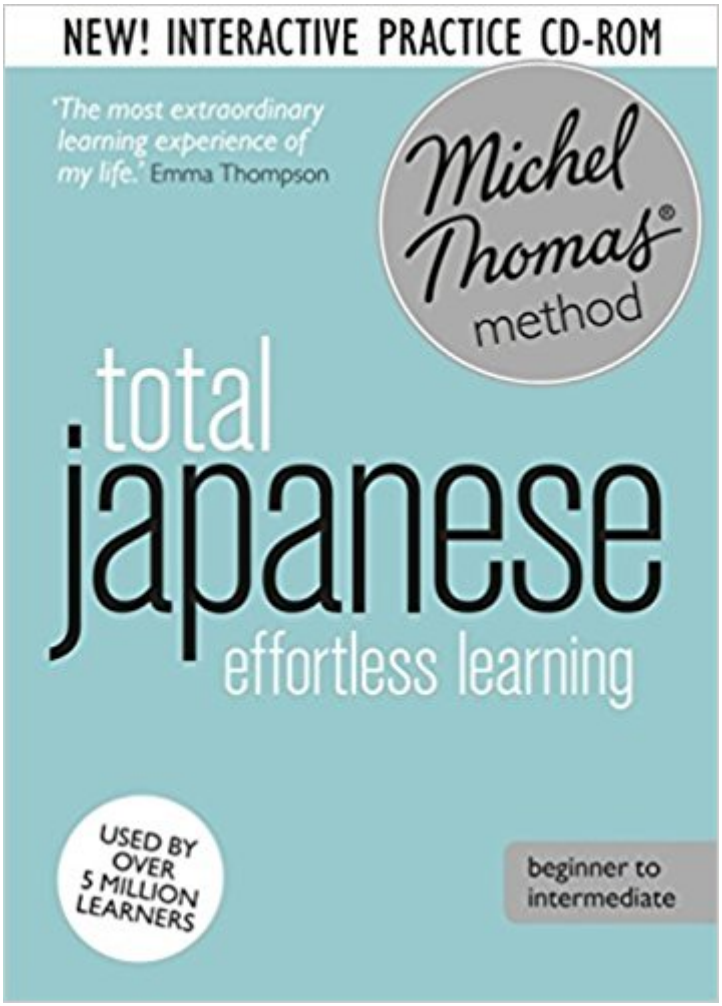
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Total Japanese Foundation Course: Learn Japanese With The Michel Thomas Method



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Synopsis

Looking for a convenient language course that fits your lifestyle and gets you speaking a new language in a matter of hours? The acclaimed audio-led Michel Thomas Method Total Japanese course, endorsed by celebrities, executives and learners worldwide, will deliver the results you want. How does it work?During the course, you will join Michel Thomas Method teachers Helen Gilhooly and Niamh Kelly, native speaker Mikiko Kurose and two students in a live lesson, learning from both their successes and their mistakes to keep you motivated and involved throughout the course. You, as the learner, become the third student and participate actively in the class. Within the very first hour you will be able to construct simple phrases by listening and thinking out answers for yourself without the pressure of writing or memorizing. You learn through your own language, so there's no stress, and no anxiety. You'll stick with it because you'll love it. Why is the method so successful? The Michel Thomas Method was perfected over 50 years by celebrated psychologist and linguist Michel Thomas. This unique method works with your brain and draws on the principles of instructional psychology. Knowledge is structured and organised so that you assimilate the language easily and don't forget it. The method breaks down the language into building blocks that are introduced sequentially in such a way that you create your response and move on to ever-more-complex sentences. There is no need to stop for homework, additional exercises or vocabulary memorization, so you progress rapidly. What's in the Course?Total Japanese with the Michel Thomas Method includes up to 8 hours of audio on CD and a practice CD-ROM with interactive activities and assessment which should be done after the course and as a means of review. *Note that the content is the same as the previously entitled Foundation course, but with the addition of a CD-ROM. Learn anywhere Don't be tied to chunky books or your computer, Michel Thomas Method audio courses let you learn whenever you want: at home, in your car, or on the move with your MP3 player.Where do I go next? Perfect Japanese follows on from the Total course with 5 hours of audio and a practice CD-ROM.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A unique and perfectly brilliant way of learning languagesÃ¢â ¬â ¢Stephen FryWorks like a dreamÃ¢â ¬â ¢Daily TelegraphThomas makes it simpleÃ¢â ¬â ¢Sunday TimesThe nearest thing to painless learningÃ¢â ¬â ¢The TimesThe most extraordinary learning experience of my lifeÃ¢â ¬â ¢Emma ThompsonMichel Thomas is a precious find indeedÃ¢â ¬â ¢The GuardianFive minutes in and you already feel like you’re winningÃ¢â ¬â ¢Time Out

Helen Gilhooly has lived and worked in Japan, and has a PGCE and an MA in Japanese. She is a university teacher trainer, language materials writer and senior director at a specialist language college in the UK. Dr Niamh Kelly is a lecturer in the Japanese Department at Dublin City University, Ireland. Michel Thomas (1914-2005) had an amazing life. Born in Poland, he spent his early years in Frenchy and then in France, where he studied psychology at the Sorbonne in Paris. When war broke out, he fought with the Resistance and suffered imprisonment in labour camps. At the end of the war he joined the US liberation army and later settled in the US where he established his world-famous language school. For more than 50 years he taught languages to the rich and famous and was the world’s most sought-after language teacher. After creating several courses of his own, he passed on his method so that other teachers might use it too.

This product does precisely what it aims to do - teach someone with no experience in another language how to get off to a good start. The method is effective - a British instructor paired with a local national to guide in pronunciation, teaching a "class" consisting of a kid too smart for his own good and a woman who just can’t seem to get it right. You, the listener, are intended to fall somewhere right in the middle. As a service member stationed in Japan the Michel Thomas method has enabled me to communicate with anyone from local store owners, to citizens, and manage to get around. The more I listen the more I learn, and therefore the more I am able communicate!

This review is not about the Michel Thomas method, which is far and above the best self-taught language learning method I have encountered so far. I have used the Michel Thomas CDs to learn a number of languages, and while the quality of instruction on this is excellent, I must say the Japanese course gets you much less farther than the French and Spanish courses.While this is no doubt in part due to the fact that it is a language with hardly any overlap whatsoever with English (unlike French and Spanish, where the number of cognates is much higher), the fact still remains that at the end of the entire Total course, you have learned no more than a dozen verbs (if that). Contrast this to Spanish or French, where you are using verbs like 'confirm', 'accept' and 'find' confidently midway through the course.I would recommend buyers and potential buyers of this course, who are expecting the same rate of progress as the more famous courses, to go in with moderated expectations. While Helen Gilhooly's teaching is first-rate, it moves a lot slower than the other languages that Michel Thomas personally taught.

I love and highly recommend this learning style. It's the best way to learn a language. It is much more natural and comprehensive than those regular audio "repeat after me" sets that rely on rote memorization.

Takes you from basics through to competent conversational knowledge - excellent package

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