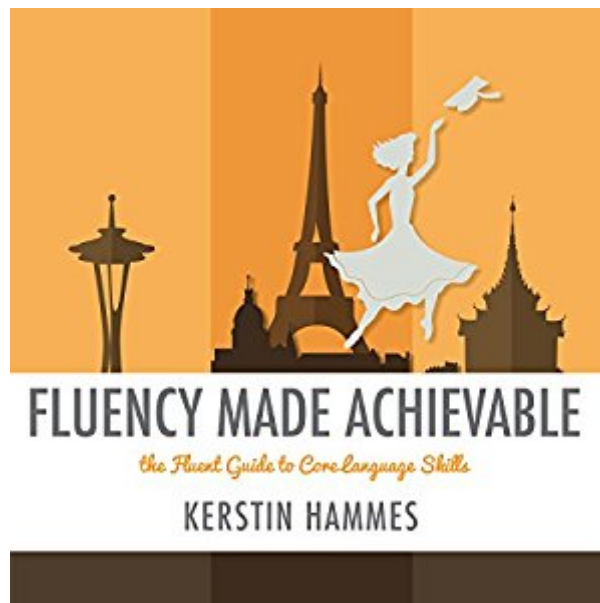




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Fluency Made Achievable: A Simple Practice Plan For Training Core Language Skills



Synopsis

We all know this problem: Learning a new language can be difficult and frustrating at times. You spend hours with the book and CD set, or watching foreign movies, and when you open your mouth it feels like it's done no good. But what you really want is to build your confidence and skills evenly, with fun and varied exercises that leave you ready to face all learning situations. *Fluency Made Achievable* introduces the listener to one of the secrets of long-term success in language learning: the balance of core learning skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Written by a language tutor who has experienced her fair share of language learning successes and frustrations, *Fluency Made Achievable* will inspire listeners to try out new types of exercises with fresh motivation. The exercise suggestions make it easy for learners to go straight to practicing core skills in a targeted way. This entertaining audiobook is guaranteed to help every independent language learner and language tutor evaluate their progress so far, and with the handy 3-week Study Plan this book can make a difference to your learning routines in less than a month.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I just purchased this book a few hours ago and it's a quick read (for me, it was less than two hours); short and concise. This is an excellent piece of work and one that I think language learners should begin with before they even start learning a language (even though I say this, it's still very useful for those of us who have already been at work trying to learn a language). Hammes gives straight to the point suggestions on how to best utilize one's time when working on languages and how to spread their learning over all four of the main skills rather than focusing heavily on one skill at the expense of the others. This is very important not only because it brings about balance to the learner, but it

also (in my opinion) enables one to gain more confidence. The more areas a person works on, the more growth they're able to see and the more growth they see, the more they'll be encouraged to continue towards their objective. This book is also refreshing for me because, while it does talk about results in language learning, it doesn't follow the current trend of searching for "language hacks" and trying to reach fluency overnight. More than anything, this book stresses effective study methods and how to use variety so one is not bored and also so the learner is well rounded in whichever language(s) they're learning. There's even a supplemental chart for writing out language goals and objectives over a certain course of time. I've already downloaded, printed, and wrote out my objectives for the remainder of this month, so almost immediately, I've gained something from this book. I'm glad I bought this. I only wish it had been out years ago, but better late than never.

This book a veritable goldmine of advice on language learning. I am not sure how I came across this little book but I am sure glad I did. Kerstin has provided learners of any language some wonderful tips and exercises to really improve their skills. I started learning French a year ago and if I had read this book sooner I am sure I would be far more advanced than I am now. This book is full of great explanations and exercises covering all four language skills (reading, writing, listening and the goal of most learners - speaking). The book is divided into 3 sections with the first section providing an outline of the 4 skills and some exercise to determine which are your strengths and weaknesses in the language. In addition she provides a learning guide to find the time to improve the skills. Section 2 is devoted to specific exercises in each core area, and for me was the most important section of the book. The author provides 4 or 5 tips on each language skill of which I have highlighted just about every one of them. These are practical, useful skills targeting specific skill acquisition - not just general motherhood statements. And that is what I loved about this book, the down to earth practicality on virtually every page in section 2. And unlike many polyglots who seem wedded to a particular method of learning Kerstin encourages a must-faceted approach. If you read this book and then follow the exercises I fail to see how you couldn't become fluent. Section 3 contains some short interviews with other polyglots which are interesting but very superficial but may provide the reader with some enthusiasm to check them out. I have read quite a few language learning books in the past year and cannot praise this book highly enough. Easily the best value investment so far in my quest to become fluent in a second language.

But don't be fooled by its small size - this guide is quick because it wastes no time. It is distilled, refined, concentrated. It tells you what you **must** do to become truly fluent in your chosen

language, it mentions excellent resources, and it dismisses any possible excuses by showing you how to correct critical weaknesses in brief sessions. Yes, it clearly defines procedures that will take a great deal of effort on your part, but the process is accurately described, quick to read, easy to understand. Its "no-nonsense" style is pleasant and informal -- the author speaks as if she were an old friend giving heartfelt advice, rather than a disinterested instructor. This guide is good for beginners as well as experienced students who feel stuck at a certain level. Recommended!

I really enjoyed this book and found it quite helpful :) I will definitely go through this book again and note the tips that I found most helpful. I would recommend this to anyone looking for some direction or guidance in their language studies.

Just finished reading this book (it literally took me only 2 hours). It is well written and provides easy, to the point tips on how to build your language skills. I liked the structure: 4 sections focusing on the core language skills, i.e. listening, reading, writing and speaking, and found the exercises extremely meaningful to brush up any foreign languages and achieve fluency. My most favorite part are the interviews (will steal the idea) with professionals who share their methods for language acquisition. I'm really looking forward to delving into the exercises and start seeing results. Well done Kerstin!

I just finished the book and I will recommend it to all my clients who are learning French. This is a very practical approach with a plan and tips that will convince any language learners. I like the way readers can assess their current level on the four language skills and then adapt the proposed plan to their level. Also, the interviews with language experts are precious. Enjoyed it very much.

Kerstin lays it out in her book what it takes to learn a language. You need a plan, time and some hard work. She covers the four areas that everyone knows: Listening, Reading, Speaking & Writing. She gives some good examples and recommendations. Finally, she interviewed some popular language learners out there for their perspective too. If you get a chance, check out Kerstin's blog as she covers interesting topics all the time. -Shawn

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