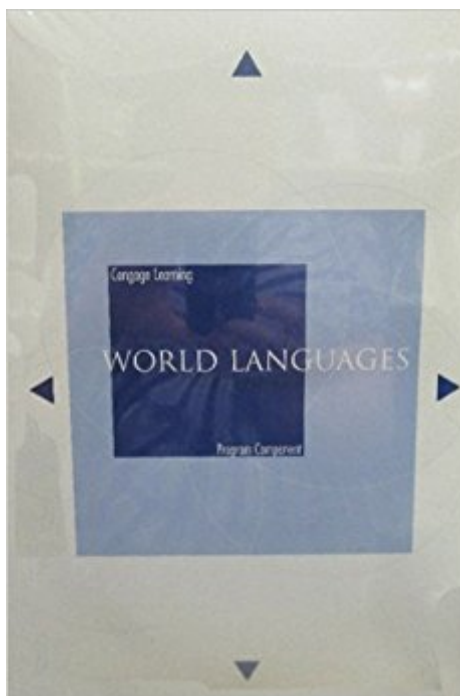


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Contacts: French - Student Activities Manual (SAM), 8th Edition



Synopsis

Contains the listening, pronunciation, and speaking practice that corresponds to the listening activities in the SAM (Student Activities Manual).

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin; 8 edition (2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618395881

ISBN-13: 978-0618395880

Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 6.5 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 67 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,082,198 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Languages > Language Instruction > French #281 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Reference #955 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > French

Customer Reviews

Jean-Paul and Rebecca M. Valette are widely respected modern language authors for college and high school programs. A native of France, Jean-Paul Valette is a full-time writer. Rebecca Valette is a professor emeritus of Romance Languages at Boston College and past president of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF). In 2006, the Valettes were honored by the French government and named Officier and Commandeur dans l'ordre des Palmes Academiques for their outstanding contributions in promoting French language and culture in the United States. Rebecca M. Valette is a professor emeritus of Romance Languages at Boston College and past president of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF).

The "Contacts" textbook for French, by Valette and Valette, is an excellent textbook for classroom use and home study. The book has a full glossary in the back and also conjugations of many regular and irregular verbs. The accompanying In-text CD is very useful, although similar information can also be found on-line. The "Notes Culturelles" and dialogues contain good language, with many modern usages in French. The pronunciation sections are also very helpful. The book is well-organized and useful to both teachers and students. In addition, the Table of Contents provides a good outline, so that various structures, such as French numbers, present-tense, imperative verbs,

passee compose, and other forms can be found with ease.

I like the way that Valette organizes the material. Each Leçon (chapter) begins with a short story, and expands on various topics. It is thorough, and I'd recommend it for highschool to college students. There is a glossary at the back, and the publisher has a website that contains quizzes and flashcards, and links. Some of the links and details are outdated, because the version I got was very old, but I expected that. I am sure a newer version is up to date. But, the organization was very intuitive for me and the book explains little colloquial things as well, from time to time, so very helpful.

I had 18 hours of college French, bought this for a community college refresher class. Just wish we had this type of text back in the day (74-76). Good for beginners for sure. What amazes me is that young college students were buying the same book for over \$200 from the school bookstore! Okay, theirs were new, but my copy is in great condition. And the same condition as theirs.

If you are purchasing this for a class, I highly recommend that you purchase the package from the school's bookstore. I tried to purchase all of the "parts" on Amazon and because the descriptions are sketchy I ended up spending more trying to get all that I needed for the class than I would have. For instance they split the CD that normally comes with the book separately, and they split the SAM CDs from the student manual. When the SAM CDs arrived they had been opened and were missing half the CD's (ordered from Amazon), although Amazon is fixing it with no fuss, the shipping time means that I will not have the CD's in time for class, and I have to HOPE the next ones they send are complete!

Good book, as far as I can tell. Informative and reasonably engaging. You're definitely better off learning from a serious textbook like this one, instead of trying to use one of those books that say you can learn a language without any effort.

If you are purchasing this for a class, I highly recommend that you purchase the package from the school's bookstore. I tried to purchase all of the "parts" on Amazon and because the descriptions are sketchy I ended up spending more trying to get all that I needed for the class than I would have. For instance they split the CD that normally comes with the book separately, and they split the SAM CDs from the student manual. When the SAM CDs arrived they had been opened and were missing half the CD's (ordered from Amazon), although Amazon is fixing it with no fuss, the shipping time means that I will not

have the CD's in time for class, and I have to HOPE the next ones they send are complete!

Progressives extremely slowing. Focuses on simple vocabulary instead of instruction on how to use the vocabulary to form sentences

This book would have cost me \$240.00 new. I paid five bucks. It was in great condition. I think I got a pretty good deal.

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