

WHAT IF THE MAINSTREAM METHOD WAS  
BAD,  
NOT YOU?



*LEARN ANY  
LANGUAGE IN  
11 STEPS.*

BY TABOULOT CAMILLE

These are my own views on language-learning. I am not a teacher and do not claim that I am one.

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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When reading a book, I personally like searching the name of the author on the Internet. Thus, reading feels more like a conversation than a confrontation to a monologue. You can obviously skip that introduction, but I would like to show you why I feel legitimate to publish such a guide.

I am French. That alone may help you trust my approach to language-learning as you are reading that book in English right now. I was born and raised in France and started learning English by myself when I was around ten years old. Then, I started learning it « for real » in middle-school, together with German. After high-school, I went for a bachelor's degree in *Language, Literature and History of the English-speaking world*. Today, I am studying for my master's degree.

Thus, I am a polyglot and the languages I speak are French, English, German, Spanish and Russian. I learnt English and German at school, but for the last two, I have used the method I share with you in that book. Now, we can get started!



# DID SCHOOL LIE TO YOU?

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## THE PROBLEM WITH THE MAINSTREAM METHOD

Learning a new language can be quite overwhelming, right? You are probably feeling stuck even before you really got started, and you are probably feeling that way because of school.

**Before learning a new way to learn, we must unlearn what we have been learning before.** We all had, in some degree, a bad experience with language-learning at school and the reasons for these difficulties are numerous:

- Forcing a rebellious teenager to learn a language may not be the best way to have him want to learn that language.
- Theory before practice can get boring quite fast.

## *Did school lie to you?*

- Shy students do not want to speak and thus, can't progress in their language-learning.
- A teenager wants to have a reason to learn a language and not to memorize useless vocabulary words.

The reasons for your past failures at school in German class are numerous but none of them includes you as an individual. This first chapter aims to show you that **you too can become a polyglot, no matter what grades you obtained before.**

The method I want to share with you in that book is unconventional but, from my experience, it works. I am not telling you that you will ever get the level of a native speaker, but I can promise that if you apply the plan given in that book, you will be able to enjoy content in your target language, express yourself properly both in written and oral language, and be understood.

## FOCUSING ON INDIVIDUALS RATHER THAN METHODS

I will aim to show you all along the book that learning a language does not have to be boring and that it is a « muscle » to be trained. There may be people for whom learning a language is easier, but **we are all able to do so if we are given the method that suits our own personal needs.** That is where school got mistaken, but we can't blame it for that: when fifty students sit in a room, the teacher can't provide them all with fifty different methods according to their very personal needs. That is where the « mainstream method » appears, and has you lost in an infinity of grammar rules you will probably never use.

In this book, you will learn a method, but there are things you won't learn. Here are the things I won't teach you:

- The vocabulary of the colors. Honestly, who cares? Nobody ever used the word « marron » in a first conversation with a native speaker, and neither will you.

## *Did school lie to you?*

- Netflix shows to watch in your target language. I am sorry to burst your bubble, but even though it does wonders, you do not need me for that. However, I can help you with learning grammar rules and that will be beyond useful.

- Very boring scientific terms: we are not here to make experts out of you, we want you to become fluent as easily as possible .

There are, however, things we will learn together and here are a few examples for you to have a clearer idea of what the method you will be provided with can look like:

- **The right vocabulary** to learn (spoiler alert: it is not the vocabulary of kitchen items...)

- **The importance of idioms** (,those expressions than translate very differently from one language to another)

- **How to learn an understand grammar rules**, and not only how to memorize (and forget) them.

- **Ways to make language-learning enjoyable.**

We will obviously tackle far more topics together, but I want this chapter to be a way for you to design a picture of this quite notative approach in your head.

Are you ready? Let's get started!



# CREATE A MINIMALIST PLAN

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What does it mean to create a « minimalist plan »? In my eyes, two ideas are important in that tiny phrase:

- 1) To progress, you need a plan.
- 2) This plan needs to be as simple and efficient as possible.

Usually, we are taught to learn a language in a very « thematic » (and inefficient) way. By « thematic », I mean that we are taught to learn « family-related vocabulary » first, and then « animals-related vocabulary ». To my mind, it is an aberration and there will be none of that here.

**Using a « thematic » structure means that the plan is not one: as there is an infinity of « themes » to tackle, there is no beginning nor end.**

A plan needs only two things to be efficient: a beginning, and an end.

## *Create a minimalist plan*

To be efficient, the chosen plan needs to be **minimalist**. You want to have a clear and defined idea of what you need to do and of why you need to do it without feeling overwhelmed. Feeling overwhelmed is the end of everything. Once you feel overwhelmed, you feel lost, and you quit.

We need structure to learn efficiently, but we need a simple and logical structure that has meaning for your own goal. Here is the very schematic plan I propose:

- ❖ Know your « **why** ». This can seem useless to you now, but it is exactly what will make the difference later on when you will be bored.
  
- ❖ **Emerge yourself** into the language (yes, already).
  
- ❖ Learn to **speak while saying nothing** (we will discuss that point in the dedicated chapter) and get involved in the process of language-learning.
  
- ❖ Learn **BASIC grammar** rules.
  
- ❖ **1 000 most common X words**
  
- ❖ Make it a **habit**.

- ❖ Stay **motivated**.
- ❖ **Fake it** until you make it: a smart way to cheat.
- ❖ **Test yourself**, honestly.
- ❖ **Additional tips** will be given in the end for you to go even further in your practice.

As you can tell, this whole plan never requires you to:

- Spend a ton of money on teaching programs
- Spend a ton of money on travelling
- Spend long hours everyday doing boring stuff

With that book and your own willpower, you can do wonders in your language-learning journey. Let's see how together!



# KNOW YOUR « WHY? »

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You may want to go head-first into your language-learning journey and that is a good thing as it shows you are motivated. However, you must first be fully honest with yourself: why do you want to start this journey?

Remember: in school, most students fail in foreign languages classes because they have no personal reason to be there except for being forced to in order to get their degree. You do not want to be in the same situation.

You must be crystal clear about the reasons that push you in that direction. Do you want to immigrate to another country? Do you want to be able to understand online content that is mainly in that foreign language? Do you want an asset on your resume? **None of those reasons are « bad », but you need at least one to be « good ».**

I made the mistake of simply « wanting to become a polyglot », and unsurprisingly, I failed. In this book, I am going to teach you how you can avoid the mistakes I made, and this one might be the worse of all. You need a strong

*Know your « why? »*

« why? » to stick to language-learning in spite of feeling like you are not progressing enough.

There will be hardships, but with a real « why? », you will overcome them.

Moreover, I would advise you to **write your « why? » somewhere it will be easy to find.** Right now, you may think it is a loss of time, but it may be the reason why you don't quit three month from now.

Motivation tends to disappear, especially when more urgent tasks come up and language-learning starts to become either « too difficult » or « boring ». You will thank yourself later for having taken thirty minutes before you started to get honest and write you « why? » down.

# GET EMERGED INTO THE LANGUAGE

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## AN UNCOMFORTABLE WAY TO GET COMFORTABLE

Do that before even learning a single word. Wait, what? **Is that counter-intuitive? Yes. Is that counter-productive? Absolutely not.** The problem with the mainstream method is that it is a step-by-step one. Of course, it has advantages but also a giant defect: students are never confronted with the real language.

Getting confronted with normal-paced discourse from your very first day will be intimidating for sure, but I do believe **it is the best way to get rid of your fears.** After you have experienced total lack of understanding, the smallest word you will understand in a video will feel like a gigantic accomplishment.

*Get emerged into the language*

## **LEARN LIKE A CHILD**

Did you ever think about the way children learn a language? Certainly not by learning vocabulary lists and grammar rules, right? **They listen to adults speaking all day long and, eventually, they start making associations between words and objects/notions.** As their mother points a finger at herself while saying « mom », the child understands she is « mom » and, later, he associates notions with the word « mom ».

Even though your brain is not as malleable as a child's brain anymore, you can still follow that method by adding a few adult faculties to it such as learning vocabulary and grammar rules.

## **DO NOT TRANSLATE (AT ALL)**

What I want by asking you to listen to videos you do not understand is for you to have the impossibility to translate anything. Translating is the worse thing that could happen to your language-learning journey, really. When you learnt your native language, you translated nothing, you simply **felt** that a word was right in a given context. I would like you to do the same today.



*Speak while saying nothing*

# SPEAK WHILE SAYING NOTHING

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## THE FIRST WORDS OF A BABY

That would not have crossed your mind but it is actually a very efficient way to get in touch with a foreign language. Once again, think about babies: when they start speaking, all we can hear are **unintelligible sounds**. However, the more they practice, the more intelligible those sounds become. The reason for that is the following: babies get more and more in touch with sounds and thus, they are enabled to pronounce them properly, until they become actual words.

## FROM LISTENING TO MIMICKING

We have previously seen that listening to the target language without understanding anything was a good way to **have our brains get used to that language**. Now that your brain knows more or less what sounds are used in your

target language, you are ready to reproduce these sounds. **You do not have to learn the phonetic alphabet** to do so as you are not trying to become an expert; you simply want to understand and be understood. Thus, once you have a clear idea of the sounds used in your target language (especially the ones which do not exist in your mother language), you can learn to reproduce them.

In the beginning, it may not sound the way you would like it to and that can be frustrating, but the exercise is worth it. *Practice makes perfect*, right?

## **A TASK HARDER THAN IT SEEMS**

You may feel really uncomfortable, standing alone in your shower, speaking absolute nonsense while trying to have the rhythm of your voice and the sounds you are creating match **the idea you have of the way your speech should sound**, but that is how a language is learnt.

You may feel even worse when you realize that you do not seem to be able to do something as « simple » as that, but that is not that « simple ». Do not get discouraged, the more you will **try your vocal cords, your mouth and your tongue** for that, the better it will sound.



# LEARN BASIC GRAMMAR RULES

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## «GRAMMAR» IS NOT A BARBAROUS AND BORING WORD

That is the point most students hate. Listening to a language we do not understand and speaking absolute nonsense feels awkward, but is doable. Learning a set of strict rules, however, is not what we would commonly call « fun ». Nevertheless, I need to burst your bubble and tell you that it is a step you must take in order to understand and be understood.

However, we can make grammar far funnier than it seems (I promise!). **The problem most students encounter with the word « grammar » is that it reminds them of the most boring of all the classes they ever took.** As a matter of fact, most students hate grammar. However, learning rules does not have to be a mindless task. You do not have to buy a grammar book or to cope with aspects, direct objects and the deep meaning of a modal. If I lost you here, that is normal as those things are

## *Learn basic grammar rules*

studied when you choose a foreign language as your major in university, not when you aim to be understood.

As someone who has now been studying English thoroughly for three years, I must admit that I learning by heart the value of each modal (must, shall, may &c.) of the English language did not change the way I speak very much. It helps as far as translation is concerned, but I do not think the result is worth the time for someone who wants to understand and be understood.

## **THE USELESSNESS OF PERFECTION**

Thus, I recommend you make **a list of the things that, according to you, are the most important to be learnt in your target language.** You can research, for instance, the **« main grammar rules of X language » on the Internet.**

Here are some examples of the things you may want to learn as far as grammar is concerned (keep in mind that each language differs and that you may have more things to learn in some languages than in others):

- **20 most common verbs** of X language

- **Most common irregular verbs** (if they do exist in the target language) and their conjugation.

- **3 most common tenses of X languages.**

- **The persons** (and the meaning implied by their use - in Spanish, the meaning changes if you chose to use the person before the verb)

- **Most important connecting words** (« furthermore », « as well » &c.)

- **Word order** (when it comes to German for instance, the place of the verb makes a huge difference in the overall understanding of the sentence)

- **Cases and their meaning** (once more, if you want to learn German, you will need to research genitive, nominative, accusative and dative)

- Anything Google finds after you researched « **most important grammar rules of X language.** »

Grammar does not have to be boring and I sincerely think leaning a few verbs and their conjugation is enough

## *Learn basic grammar rules*

to understand and be understood. You would probably lose your motivation by learning by heart all the irregular verbs of a language. There are probably irregular verbs you do not even know in your own mother tongue and it does not prevent you in any way from being fluent, right? Know enough grammar to express your ideas properly and in the right tense, but do not try to become an expert as fluency does not depend on complicated grammar, it depends on practice.



# 1000 MOST COMMON WORDS

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## « USEFUL », NOT « THEMATIC »

We discussed before the idea that learning a language by learning themes such as « family members » or « colors » may not be the most efficient way to become fluent. Then, what is?

I have a solution for that, and that is how I personally started learning vocabulary in Spanish: 1000 Most Common Words. On that website, you can chose between a variety of languages and learn the 1000 words most commonly used in that given language. Usually, you go through **prepositions**, **common verbs** and the **nouns you will need everyday** such as « toilets » or « car ».

## A TASK EASIER THAN IT SEEMS

I know that the idea of learning a thousand words may seem overwhelming but you must keep in mind that « a » is a word as well as « I », so do not be too scared and have a

look. Moreover, depending on the language you have chosen, **lots of « common » words might correspond to very similar words in your own mother language.** That is the case for the French word « shampoing » which looks very much like « shampoo » given the History of the two countries.

I do believe that leaning 1000 words is far more digestible than learning vocabulary lists sorted by themes (I remember learning the English vocabulary of « Trees » without even knowing the appearance of the trees referred to!) as you will know that in the end of your learning-journey, you will be able to speak properly. 1000 words may seem like a lot, but it is nothing compared to the results you will see in a few weeks.

## **ADD « EMERGENCY » SENTENCES TO THE LIST**

Moreover, I would advise you, for a little more « diversity », to look for complete sentences that website will not provide you with. These sentences are what we will call « emergency sentences » such as « Where is the closest ATM, please ? ». You will also want to learn all the words that will have you appear as **a polite person.** When

## *1000 Most Common Words*

abroad, in a situation that requires to ask for help, you may know how to ask the appropriate question, but if you forget the « please » in the end, the person may not be pleased, at all.



# MAKE IT A HABIT

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## HABITS: ACTIVITIES GETTING NATURAL

In our day and age, the power of habits is no longer to be proved and there are far too many books out there discussing that topic for me to go on and on about it. I do think, nonetheless, that a little recap may be useful. **Habits are those things we do regularly and the more we do them, the easier doing them gets.** Let me take an example: the more you choose to go for a run in the morning, the easier waking up and going for that run will get. Why did it get easier? Simply because you made it a habit by doing it enough for you not to have to think about doing it before doing it. Do you ever consider not brushing your teeth for a week? Apparently not, because you have been doing it for decades and it has now become a habit.

## MAKING LANGUAGE-LEARNING A DAILY (ENJOYABLE) ESSENTIAL

**The idea now is to make learning your target language as natural as brushing your teeth.** In the beginning, we all feel super motivated and ready to move our entire schedule to match the needs of our language-learning process. However, weeks go by and our old routines comes back. At that point, you want to make sure you have created a new routine (implying language-learning) and here are some of my tips:

- Set **a time dedicated to language learning** every day. Knowing that that particular time is dedicated to it will have you less likely to prioritize something else last minute.
- **Do it EVERY SINGLE DAY.** In order to learn a language, you need to practice regularly or you will soon have forgotten all of it. Once you are fluent, no more problem: **it is far easier to remain « fluent » than to remain « intermediate ».**

For now, especially as you are just starting, it is better to work 15 minutes a days than 2 hours every three days.

## *Make it a habit*

- **Create a ritual and make the learning process enjoyable.** You are not getting on that journey to suffer, you are here to grow. Thus, you need to make sure you do not associate language-learning with a chore but with **a self-care moment.** My advice would be to take a beverage you like (coffee for me), blankets, light a candle and then only, start your learning session.

There are obviously dozens of other ways you can implement language-learning into your daily life and make it a habit. I hope these ones inspired you to create your own little rules and rituals.



# STAY MOTIVATED

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## THE NUMBER ONE TOOL TO COPE WITH DEMOTIVATION

That one really goes hand in hand with the previous chapter: you need to make it a habit, that habit needs to be enjoyable AND you need to keep your motivation level on point. As we said before, **the first weeks are really fun as you are still caught into the motivation that created your will to take on that journey.** However, between two and five weeks after the start, I always notice that my motivation decreases:

- « Why am I doing that ? »
- « I am not learning anything... »
- « It must not be for me, maybe my teachers were right ... »

No, no and NO! That is the point **you need to go back to your « why? »**, that tiny seemingly useless thing I asked you to do in the beginning of that book. Remember? Do you remember why you started? Why did you decide to commit to a journey you knew would be hard at times?

When you got into it, you knew it was worth it and **nothing has really changed except that you are closer to your goal than you used to be!**

Thus, you need to get back the motivation you previously had and remembering your « why? » already helped you reconnect with that sense of purpose. If it appears not to be enough to bring you back on track, here are a few additional tips to boost your motivation:

- **Set a tiny and achievable goal.** For instance, tell yourself « Today, I will learn five vocabulary words! » and do it. It may seem odd at first to consider learning five words a « study session » but five words are more than zero and knowing that you are still able to make a step forward will probably **motivate you to do more.**
- **Find interesting content.** You do not have to spend your life scrolling through language-learning content in order to learn a language. I told you in the beginning of the book that I would not discuss Netflix shows with you guys but there is nothing wrong in enjoying a show in your target language. That is learning, guys.

## *Stay motivated*

- **Find a podcast you will love.** If your level allows for a podcast-session, go for it. The idea behind it is to kill two birds with one stone: you will be learning your target-language, but you will also be learning things about the topic discussed in that podcast. Thus, you will not feel like you have dedicated X amount of time to a « language-learning task » you are not sure of enjoying anymore, **you will feel rather proud you managed to do it all in such a short amount of time.**

Once more, I could go on and on with additional tips but as I want this guide to be as simple as possible, let's stop here. Once you will have dived into one of these options, I bet you will have **plethora of new ideas** yourself!



« Fake it until you make it »

# « FAKE IT UNTIL YOU MAKE IT »

A SMART WAY TO CHEAT

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## USING « SHORTCUTS » TO APPEAR MORE SKILLED THAN YOU ARE

The point I want to stress here is that you do not have to become a « perfect » speaker. Everything you want, once more, it to **be able to communicate**. To do so, you do not have to know crazy grammar rules or complicated vocabulary, but you need to learn little shortcuts that will **bring you far without taking much time or effort**. What do I mean by « shortcuts »? In my eyes, they are simple ways to « cheat » by learning things that are easy but will make a considerable difference in the way you speak. Thus, you will appear more confident and more skilled in your target language than you actually are.

# THE MOST EFFICIENT « SHORTCUTS » TO SOUND BETTER THAN YOU ACTUALLY ARE

Here are a few tips you can follow in order to sound like you are far more experimented in a language than you actually are:

- **Learn as many idioms as you can.** We referred to them earlier, « idioms » are sentences that translate very differently from one language to another. For instance, the English « It is raining cats and dogs. » translates into French « Il pleut des cordes », which means « It is raining ropes . » Obviously, if you tell an English guy that it is raining ropes, he will stare at you in a really awkward way.

Thus, I would advise learning a few of the most commonly used idioms. You do not have to learn all of them as many idioms aren't even used in everyday life or sound « awkward », but some of them may be far more useful than you think! You will sound like a native!

- **Focus on intonation.** Depending on the language you are speaking, intonation, that is to say the syllable you choose to stress, changes a lot. In some languages,

« *Fake it until you make it* »

intonation may even change the overall meaning of a word but let's focus on languages in which it does not. Intonation may help you sound more experienced as knowing where to stress a word is really tough.

For instance, French people tend to stress the last syllable of a word (not always, though) but in English, the first syllable may be stressed, just as the second one may be. I will not bore you with stressing-rules but **the more you will listen to people speaking a language, the more it will come naturally to you.**

- **Learn complex sentences by heart.** What I mean by « complex » here has nothing to do with « complicated » but refers to the grammatical term meaning « a sentence with at least two interrelated verbs. » You may be easily understood by using sentences like « I feel good today. », but you will sound more advanced if you bring two verbs in one sentence as your speech will sound more connected and fluid.

- **Learn slang and the right contexts to use it.** You obviously do not want to use slang in the context of a job interview, but if you are talking with a friend at home, I think « I wanna go to Paris next month » will seem more

« normal » than « I would like to take a train and go to Paris next month. » My example is based on a full sentence, but the choice of your words works the same way. You need, once more, to listen to as much content as you can as you will soon understand that the French teacher who taught you « Je m'appelle Sam. » (meaning « My name is Sam. ») would sound weird in France as most people would say « J'm' appelle Sam », thus not pronouncing the « Je » properly.



# TEST YOURSELF

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The fact you are not learning a language in the context of school does not mean tests are not needed. You obviously won't sit at your desk for three hours working on an essay, but there are more **realistic ways to get tested**. You must **be disciplined** with that one as no one is going to look after you to make sure you did, but if you genuinely want to make progress, tests are much needed.

## WAYS YOU CAN GET TO COMMUNICATE

As you know (obviously!), you can't speak a language alone and the main purpose of learning a language is to communicate. Thus, you need to improve your skills by talking with someone. There are **apps** dedicated to that, but there are also **parties thrown in some towns** that are dedicated to communicating in a foreign language. In my French hometown, which is far from being a big town, those parties do exist for several languages so even if you think your town is too small to have that kind of opportunity, you may

## *Test yourself*

still do a Google research, « just in case ». If apps aren't your cup of tea and your town does not throw than kind of parties, you can always contact people on **social media**; you would be surprised to see how many people are looking for someone to talk to in order to improve their own skills in your own mother language.

## **SELF-DISCIPLINE AND HONESTY**

As no teacher is going to come and ask you how you did in your conversation, **you need to be your own teacher**. That asks for real self-discipline but if you have come that far, I bet you have it. Your goal will be to know where you need to improve; maybe you realized you lacked vocabulary, and in that case you can look for specific vocabulary about the themes you would like to discuss next time.

You will see that once you have begun using what you have learnt for real, **seeing it was all useful in the end will motivate you**, in spite of the hardships you probably encountered. If you have come that far, nothing can stop you now.



# ADDITIONAL TIPS

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We have finally come to the end of our guide, and I hope you are feeling motivated to start this wonderful journey. Before I let you go and try it for yourself, I would like to give you a few additional tips you may use to be even more productive:

- If you chose to learn several languages at the same time, **choose languages belonging to different families.**

As you may now, languages tend to be interconnected given a common History or cultural exchanges. Thus, two languages may be very similar. I would advise you, in order not to get confused by grammar rules, to choose languages belonging to different families or, even better, **languages using different alphabets.**

- **If your mother tongue belongs to a family, do not think learning a language from that family will be easier** (on the contrary, it may be harder). That tip goes hand in hand with the previous one but focuses more on your mother language. Let's take Spanish and

Portuguese; they both look alike, but they are still different in many respects. Most Spanish people who tried learning Portuguese still make mistakes an English native speaker would not make as Spanish-speakers tend to implement Spanish words into the seemingly similar Portuguese language. That is a natural process, and that is why I would advise you to go for a language totally different from your mother -language.

- **Do not underestimate Pinterest.** I know that may seem quite weird as in most people's eyes, Pinterest is mostly dedicated to aesthetically pleasing pictures. However, there is a range of **aesthetic flash-cards**, **vocabulary lists** and **grammar memos** that are extremely useful. When I feel bored learning a language, I love looking for some inspiration on Pinterest as:

- That is aesthetically pleasing.
- The fact that memos have to be put on one picture only makes it digest, concise and easy to understand.

- **When in doubt, use [pons.com](https://www.pons.com).** If you are not used to language-learning, you may think that most online translators are similar; that would be a giant mistake. I tried quite a few in the past, and I do think [pons.com](https://www.pons.com) is the best one if you want to make sure your translation is

## *Additional tips*

right. With pons.com, **you can choose between a large amount of languages** and for each word, you are given **a translation that considers the different meanings of the word**. For instance, if you look for the word « interview », you will be given « job interview », but also « journalistic interview » as well as the verb « to interview ». I think pons.com is the best tool you can use to **make sure your translations enter the right context**. Moreover, **you will be given all the idioms using the word you were looking for**, and that may be useful as some point!

- **Do not forget to write.** Usually, we focus on oral skills, that is to say speaking and understanding. Sometimes, we read a bog post or two in our target language, but when do we write? Writing skills are essential, especially **if you want to be able to use a language in the context of a job interview** for instance. What are you going to do if you are asked to write a cover letter in your target language? Writing skills must be continually improved and in order to do it in a « fun » way, I would advise you to:

- Use your target language in your **diary** once or twice a week.

- Write your **goals** in your target language.
- **Write a letter to your future-self** in your target language.
- **Write a children's e-book** in your target language. You do not have to publish it and it does not have to be good, but you will be forced to **use simple vocabulary** and that alone may be challenging.
- **Write an e-mail** to a celebrity/influencer you like.
- **Write your Instagram captions** in your target language (a little « showing-off » never killed anyone!)
- **Write your grocery list** in your target language: nothing better to learn vocabulary along the way!
- If you are feeling confident enough, **write a blog post** in your target language! I can't tell you how much running a blog in English helped me improve my skills and I can only advise you to do the same!



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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I would like to use that last page to say « thank you » to the people in my life who supported me when I first said « Well, what if I wrote an Ebook? », absolutely out of the blue.

I would like to thank my mother, who always supported me in my language-learning journey (and in my living-journey altogether) even though at times, I must have been quite annoying, let's be honest.

I would like to thank my brother who supports me even though he does it in his own way, saying I am « deep into my literary stuff », which I find really funny coming from a twelve year-old boy.

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I HOPE YOU ENJOYED, CAMILLE