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# Conversational Cajun French 1 (French Edition)





Conversational Cajun French I, introduces the Cajun language to the reader. This companion CD, narrated by Whatley, provides the crucial pronunciation necessary to learn this beautiful, and until now, elusive, language.

Authors Randall P. Whatley and Harry Jannise, Cajuns who speak fluent Cajun French, originally developed this handbook for a series of informal conversational Cajun French classes for the LSU Union in Baton Rouge.

This is a review for the Conversational Cajun French two CD set. This is a pronunciation guide which follows along with the book sold separately. This material has a lot of words which are purely Cajun, such as the names for local fish and shellfish and is very valuable for a French learner who is trying to avoid European French pronunciation while learning. I gave it 4 stars instead of five. This was not because of the material nor its organization. I subtracted the fifth star due to recording quality since there is a muffled sound with loss of high frequencies so that some words are hard to distinguish. For the serious beginner I'd recommend cross referencing with Reverend Jules Daigle's CDs and book. Unlike Watley's slim and portable book, Daigle's book is one of those big thick hardbacks, hard to put into a carry-on bag so Watley is better for practice while traveling. Of course the best way to learn pronunciation, once a person learns a basic vocabulary is to talk to a French speaker, but people don't go around with signs on their heads identifying themselves as members of minority language communities. I've noticed though, as I've started to learn, I've started to meet more Cajun French speakers who are willing to help out with corrections. This practice among speakers is good for the community as well, since people get 'rusty' if they don't speak their language enough. There are native French speakers all along the Gulf Coast from Houston to Pensacola and beyond but they are becoming more isolated and getting older every day.

Cajun was spoken by my mother as a child but lost through the years from being punished when speaking it in school as well as it simply just fading away over the years. She is no longer around and I live all the way in the Pacific Northwest and very unlikely to run into a Cajun who speaks the language. This is a great tool to give me the basics. It really is best when accompanied by the CD's. Second time I bought this book and initially came with cassette tapes. Lost the book and had to replace it.

Very good and very informative it didn't explain that the book in this audio CD did not come together

you have to order them separately

Excellent product

Needs the written text as a companion.

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