

## Performance Spanish (Tell Me More)

Friday, 04 January 2008

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Price: \$399 for 10 Levels

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Ok, well, not infinite, but 2000 hours of instruction is a lot by any measure, and 10,000 exercises is even more. And those lessons are distributed over 10 levels of advancement. So what this means is that if you're in this for the long haul, committed and REALLY want to learn Spanish well - to the point of fluency and mastery, then this is the perfect software for you and it will take you very far indeed.

Can You Handle It?

And if you're looking doubtful at this point, wondering if you can commit that much time, we swear to you these lessons and activities are so fun and addictive there's not even a sliver of a doubt you'll be able to do it. Imagine being sad to be away from your Spanish lessons. Imagine pining for your next lesson! Yes, we can hardly believe it ourselves but this is how good it is. It's so very rare that learning a language is this much fun, so much so that if you've been turned off by previous language courses then Tell Me More will soon put you right.

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Additional Features

Speaking of previous language instruction, this software is built to automatically customize the lessons and difficulty levels according to how well you're doing. This means if you are a bit more advanced than beginner then you'll be quickly brought up to that level. Likewise if you're more in the intermediate range. Obviously this is a very good feature and makes it ready-to-use for anyone, of any level of Spanish familiarity.

Earlier we mentioned the microphone headset. You can't really learn a language without being able to speak it, so the ability to know when you are speaking and pronouncing correctly is essential. Tell Me More comes with very high quality speech-recognition technology called S.E.T.S (Spoken Error Tracking System) which provides instant feedback and makes oral practice a breeze. Most Spanish learning software lacks a speech recognition component, so it's a very welcome feature. We feel it should be an integral part of any language learning software.

The Online Course

We should mention something about the "online" part of this course. Basically, this is a weekly 30 minute lesson which involves watching a news broadcast about a current event, then doing grammar and vocabulary exercises which are part of the broadcast. So you are in essence "tuning in" to currently unfolding news and practicing your skills with a highly relevant topic. Normally you'd have to be in a classroom to get this sort of lesson, so to see it as part of a software package is quite neat.

Our Rating

There are many other features of this course which warrant recommendation, such as the 24/7 live support and the fact that you can download lessons to your iPod, MP3 player, etc. However, we'll end our review by also noting that, unlike many other software packages, Tell Me More has a list of positive reviews, testimonials and accolades - including seven awards, so we're not the only ones highly recommending this product.

We give this product a rating of 100%. It can't get any better than this.