

# THE BERLITZ METHOD®



## **EXPERIENCE WITH A CONTEMPORARY TWIST - THE BERLITZ METHOD® IN PRACTICE**

Maximilian Berlitz's students first experienced this innovative method in 1878: exclusive learning in the target language - without any translation into their native languages!

This "direct method" continues to be the basis for our method today. But over the years our method has continually evolved to include new developments in didactics. Today, for example, the Berlitz Method® is supplemented by an individual needs analysis and the use of new media.

- Your personal experience and needs are integrated into each course.
- Our main focus is on active speaking, which automatically breaks down speech inhibitions while increasing fluency and motivation.
- You learn grammar naturally and in context - just as you did when you learned your mother tongue.
- Because course content is always linked to real-life situations, you learn quickly and with long-term results.
- Whether listening, reading, writing, or speaking, at Berlitz you learn with all senses.

**Berlitz**®

A Global Education Company

### **HOW DOES YOUR BERLITZ LANGUAGE TEACHER DESIGN YOUR TRAINING?**

Your ultimate goal is to communicate and think in a new language with native speaker fluency. To achieve this goal, and to make the communication as authentic as possible, all Berlitz language teachers are native speakers. Whether using new words, phrases or grammatical structures, you will be communicating in your target language from day one. Reading and writing are more of secondary importance and these skills are generally best practiced through homework.

You are actively involved at every step, thereby, giving your course an interactive workshop feeling. Communication takes place not only with your teacher, but also with the other students, and of course, only in the new language. Through role plays and real-life simulations, you will actively use your new skills.

### **HOW IS MY LESSON STRUCTURED?**

The learning process is divided into three phases. First, new words are presented to you in context. In the next phase you engage in controlled practice exercises, in which you receive immediate feedback and corrections from your teacher. This second phase is designed to improve your linguistic accuracy and pronunciation.

In the third phase, the focus is on practicing your new skills through free-speaking activities. Your teacher will provide you with real-life contexts and will limit the amount of corrections. These “less-controlled” exercises – errors included! – are crucial for improving your fluency while simultaneously reducing your speech inhibitions.

### **HOW DO I LEARN GRAMMAR?**

At Berlitz, we believe that the real question is: “How do I internalize grammar?”

If you want to speak a language successfully, knowing all the grammar rules by heart is secondary to applying those rules appropriately and automatically. Therefore, we do not waste time in class memorizing rules. Instead you learn to understand grammar in context and use it as a means of communication.

### **HOW CAN I GET THE MOST OUT OF EACH CLASS?**

- Maintain a positive attitude and always keep your language goal in focus.
- Come to class regularly and participate actively.
- Do not be afraid to make mistakes! Mistakes are an inevitable and important part of learning a language successfully.

## **HOW CAN I ENHANCE MY OWN LEARNING PROGRESS?**

THE FOLLOWING TEN TIPS WILL HELP YOU ACCELERATE YOUR LEARNING PROCESS:

1. Complete your homework thoroughly and regularly.
2. Try to avoid doing your homework under time pressure – we even recommend taking short breaks between exercises.
3. The more new information is reviewed, the better it is remembered. Therefore, divide the time for completing your homework into smaller blocks and allow enough time for revision.
4. Homework should include written work, but should not only be limited to written exercises.
5. Set yourself the goal of learning ten new words per text. Rather than memorizing these as individual words, try to learn the new vocabulary as a part of a sentence and in a larger context.
6. Buy yourself a good thesaurus. This will be an important tool as you expand your language horizons.
7. Read texts from the lessons out loud at home. This is a great way to train your pronunciation.
8. Always speak in the target language during the course and remain in the target language when speaking with other course participants.
9. If you are already an advanced language user, read authentic texts from magazines or newspapers, watch television, or listen to the radio in the target language.
10. Use every opportunity to communicate in your new language. Even when you are alone, practice speaking out loud. The golden rule of language learning is: study the language exactly as you plan to use it.

## **THE BERLITZ METHOD® – ALSO PERFECT FOR BUSINESS SEMINARS**

As in our language courses, Berlitz applies a contemporary, practical and suitable methodology in all our business seminars.

### **GOAL-ORIENTED TRAINING**

Both the content of our seminars and the methods used are aligned to your individual learning goals.

### **MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION**

The ultimate goal of every training is to actively involve participants through exercises, real-life simulations, and case studies.

### **THEORY IN PRACTICE**

Proven theories and techniques build the foundation for our trainings. However, optimal and sustainable success is truly achieved by applying these theories, techniques and skills to your work and daily life.