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About Michel Thomas

Michel Thomas (1914–2005) was a gifted linguist who mastered more than ten languages in his lifetime and became famous for teaching much of Hollywood's 'A' list how to speak a foreign language. Film stars such as Woody Allen, Emma Thompson and Barbra Streisand paid thousands of dollars each for face-to-face lessons.

Michel, a Polish Jew, developed his method after discovering the untapped potential of the human mind during his traumatic wartime experiences. The only way he survived this period of his life, which included being captured by the Gestapo, was by concentrating and placing his mind beyond the physical. Fascinated by this experience, he was determined that after the war he would devote himself to exploring further the power of the human mind, and so dedicated his life to education.

In 1947, he moved to Los Angeles and set up the Michel Thomas Language Centers, from where he taught languages for over fifty years in New York, Beverly Hills and London.

Michel Thomas died at his home in New York City on Saturday 8th January 2005. He was 90 years old.

CD 1 Track 1

Introduction; relationship of Dutch to English.

CD 1 Track 2

Similarities in sound and spelling: *welkom* = 'welcome'; *de kat zat op de mat* = 'the cat sat on the mat'; *leren* 'to learn'; *een, twee, drie* = 'one, two, three'; *water* (*w* pronounced like English 'v') = 'water'; *is* (final *s* pronounced like the 's' in English 'sun') = 'is'; *het* = 'it' (*het* is often unstressed and sounds like 'ut'; *hier* (*ie* pronounced like English 'ee') = 'here'; *warm* = 'warm'.

CD 1 Track 3

hè? is used for a question to which you expect a positive reply, like English 'is it?', 'haven't you?'

niet = 'not'; *goed* (*g* pronounced like Scottish 'ch' in 'loch'; *oe* pronounced like English 'oo'; final *d* sounds like English 't') = 'good' or 'right' (correct); *zo* = 'like that, that way'; *te* = 'too'; *heel* (ee pronounced like English 'ay') = 'very'; *dit* = 'this'; *dat* = 'that'; *wat* = 'what'.

CD 1 Track 4

daar = 'there'; *ik* = 'I'; *ik drink* = 'I drink' and 'I am drinking'; *werk* = 'work'; *ik werk* = 'I work' and 'I am working'; *nu* = 'now'; *ik doe* = 'I do' and 'I am doing'; *later* = 'later'; *ik wil* = 'I want'; *je* = 'you'; *wil je?* = 'want you? = do you want?'; *en* = 'and'.

CD 1 Track 5

The Dutch infinitive, the 'to' form of the verb, like 'to drink', always ends in *n*, and usually in *en*; *drinken* = 'to drink'; *werken* = 'to work'; *wil je drinken?* = 'want you to drink? = do you want to drink?' *eten* = 'to eat'; *doen* = 'to do'; *waar* = 'where'.

4 When you have two verbs in a sentence and the second verb is in the 'to' form (e.g., 'do you want to do this?'), the second verb goes at the end of the sentence: *wil je dit doen?* We will call the verbs that send the second verb to the end 'trigger' verbs.

CD 1 Track 6

voor (*v* pronounced like English 'f'; *oo* like English 'o' in 'for') = 'for'; *kan je?* = 'can you?, are you able to?' The final *n* of the Dutch infinitive ('to' form of the verb) is not always pronounced. *ik kan* = 'I can'; 'can' is a 'trigger' verb in Dutch, sending the next verb to the end of the sentence. *voor je* = 'for you'

CD 1 Track 7

zien = 'to see'; *ik wil het niet* = 'I want it not = I don't want it'; *ik wil het niet drinken* = 'I want it not to drink = I don't want to drink it' – words like *het* and *je* usually come before *niet*. *wil je?* is used for 'would you like?' *waarom* = 'why'; *ik zie* = 'I see'.

CD 1 Track 8

heel goed = 'very good' or 'very well'; *ik zie het niet goed* = 'I see it not good = I don't see it well'. *zijn* = 'to be'; how to pronounce the Dutch *ij* sound. *komen* = 'to come'

CD 1 Track 9

we = 'we'; *we willen* = 'we want'. For 'we', we use the whole verb, the 'to' form; *willen* = 'to want' – a 'trigger' verb; *we komen* = 'we come' or 'we are coming'. *gauw* = 'soon'; *ik kom* = 'I come' or 'I am coming'. *we eten* = 'we eat' and 'we are eating'; *wat eten we?* = 'what eat we? = what are we eating?'

CD 1 Track 10

middag = 'afternoon'; *dag* = 'day'; *vanmiddag* = 'this afternoon'; *dag* is also used to mean 'Hello' or 'Goodbye'. *gaan* = 'to go'; *we gaan* = 'we go' and 'we are going'; *ik ga* = 'I go' and 'I am going'; *ga je?* = 'go you? = are you going' or 'do you go?'; *gaan* is a trigger verb.

CD 1 Track 11

beginnen = 'to begin'; *ik begin* = 'I begin' or 'I am beginning'. *maar* = 'but'; *nu niet* = 'now not = not now'; *hier niet* = 'here not = not here'; *daar niet* = 'there not = not there'.

CD 1 Track 12

hem = 'him'; *haar* = 'her'; *helpen* = 'to help'; *me* = 'me'; the final e in Dutch words is always pronounced but not stressed. *het spijt me* = 'it pains me = I'm sorry'.

CD 1 Track 13

ik moet = 'I must / have to'; *je moet* = 'you must / have to'; *we moeten* = 'we must / have to', from *moeten* = 'to have to'; *moeten* is a trigger verb. *vinden* = 'to find' (something); *ik moet haar vinden* = 'I must / have to find her'.

CD 1 Track 14

weten = 'to know'; in Dutch you always need to indicate what it is you know or don't know, so *ik weet het* = 'I know (it)'; *we weten het* = 'we know (it)'; often the *het* is not stressed.

The word order is changed when you ask a question: *weet je?* = 'do you know?' The verb form for *je* is often different for questions, but not for *weten.*

Ik kan het niet vinden = 'I can't find it'

CD 2 Track 1

begrijpen = 'to understand' or 'to get to grips with'; how to pronounce the Dutch *ij*; *begrijpen* also requires you to say what it is you understand, so *ik begrijp het* = 'I understand (it)'; *we begrijpen je* = 'we understand you'; *ik begrijp je niet* = 'I don't understand you'.

In Dutch, unlike English, there is only one way of expressing the present tense, so there are no separate tenses as in the English 'you understand', 'you are understanding' or 'you do understand'. *Begrijp je me?* 'Do you understand me?'

CD 2 Track 2

hebben = 'to have'; *we hebben* = 'we have'; *ik heb* = 'I have'; the final *b* isn't stressed and sounds like a 'p'. *We hebben het niet voor hem* = 'we have it not for him = we don't have it for him'.

The word order changes when asking a question: *waarom heb je het niet?* = 'Why have you it not? = Why don't you have it?'; *Wat heb je?* = 'what have you (got)' or 'what do you have?' *niets* = 'nothing'; *iets* = 'something'; *ik wil niets drinken* = 'I don't want to drink anything'. *Ik heb iets* = 'I have something'

CD 2 Track 3

zeggen = 'to say or to tell'; *ik wil je iets zeggen* = 'I want to tell you something'; *wat kan je me nu zeggen?* = 'what can you tell me now?'

Keep the *niet* with the 'to' form of the verb: *ik kan het nu niet vinden* = 'I can't find it now'.

want = 'for', meaning 'because'; *want ik wil het hebben* = 'for / because I want to have it'.

CD 2 Track 4

Ik moet het gauw doen = 'I have to do it soon'

ze = 'they'; *ze* has the same verb form as *we* ('we'), i.e. the 'to' form of the verb; *ze moeten het eten* = 'they have to eat it'.

geven = 'to give'; *ik moet haar iets geven* = 'I must give her something'; *ik geef* = 'I give'; in Dutch a word cannot end in 'v' (or 'z'), so the 'v' from *geven* becomes an *f*.

kan je het zo doen? = 'can you do it like that?'

CD 2 Track 5

nodig = 'needed' or 'necessary' (the *-ig* ending is always a neutral sound); *nee* = 'no'; *ja* = 'yes'; *nee, dat is niet nodig* = 'no, that isn't necessary'; *ik heb het nodig* = 'I have it needed = I need it'; *heb je het nodig?* = 'do you need it?'

CD 2 Track 6

morgen = 'tomorrow'; *ik wil morgen hier zijn* = 'I want tomorrow here to be = I want to be here tomorrow'.

CD 2 Track 7

vandaag = 'today'; *vandaag niet* = 'today not = not today'; *ik help je vandaag niet* = 'I'm not helping you today'. *laat* = 'late'; *het is te laat vandaag* = 'it is too late today'. *hoe* = 'how'; *hoe doe je dat?* = 'how do you do that?'; *hoe laat is het?* = 'how late is it? = what time is it?'; *hoe laat wil je morgen hier zijn?* = 'what time do you want to be here tomorrow?'

CD 2 Track 8

In Dutch, events that will take place in the future are usually expressed in the present tense, so *ik doe het morgen* = 'I will do it tomorrow'; *ik wil het later doen* = 'I want to do it later'; *bellen* = 'to phone'; *ik bel je morgen* = 'I'll phone you tomorrow'.

CD 2 Track 9

blijven = 'to stay'; *we blijven niet, hè?* = 'we're not staying, are we?'; *lang* = 'long'; *hoe lang blijven we vanmiddag?* = 'how long are we staying this afternoon?'; *ik blijf* = 'I stay'; *hoe lang kan je vandaag blijven?* = 'how long can you stay today?'

CD 2 Track 10

Words ending in '-ation' in English, like 'information', end in *-atie* in Dutch, *informatie; situatie* = 'situation'; *operatie* = 'operation'; *reputatie* = 'reputation', etc. *de* = one of the words meaning 'the'; *de situatie is goed* = 'the situation is good'.

CD 2 Track 11

hij = 'he'; *hij heeft* = 'he has'; *hij heeft de inspiratie nodig* = 'he needs the inspiration'.

ze = 'she'; this is the same word as for 'they' in Dutch, but the verb ending will tell you which is meant: *ze hebben* = 'they have', but *ze heeft* = 'she has'. 'He', 'she', and 'it' have the same verb form and there is almost always a *t* at the end of it. There are a few exceptions: the trigger verbs *wil* – 'he / she / it wants', *kan* – 'he / she / it can', *heeft* – 'he / she / it has', and *is* – 'he / she / it is'.

slecht = 'bad'; *de situatie is slecht* = 'the situation is bad'.

CD 2 Track 12

If words like 'good', 'bad', 'happy', etc. are followed by another word which they describe, they have an extra 'e' on the end, which is pronounced as an unstressed 'uh': *slechte informatie* = 'bad information'; *het is een slechte situatie* = 'it is a bad situation'. In *dat is goed* = 'that is good' the 'd' sounds like a *t* but in *goede informatie* = 'good information' it sounds like a 'd' again.

een = 'a'; the same word as *een* = 'one' but pronounced differently.

morgen = 'tomorrow' and 'morning'; *goedemorgen* = 'good morning'.

CD 3 Track 1

goedemiddag = good afternoon; *al* = 'already'; *ik heb het al* = 'I have it already'.

You can use the verb *gaan* 'to go' to express the future: *ik ga het morgen doen* = 'I'm going to do it tomorrow'.

CD 3 Track 2

jullie = 'you (all)', when there are more than one of 'you'; *jullie* takes the same verb form as *we*, the 'to' form of the verb; *jullie gaan niet* = 'you (all) aren't going'; *wat gaan jullie eten?* = 'what are you (all) going to eat'? *naar* = 'to' (a place); or *naar toe* = 'to(wards)', as in *waar gaan jullie naar toe?* = 'where are you going to?'; *waar willen jullie naar toe gaan* = 'where do you (all) want to go to?'

CD 3 Track 3

hoe lang blijven ze? = 'how long will they be staying?'; *jullie blijven hier, hè?* = 'you're (all) staying here, aren't you?' – a question to which you expect a positive answer.

kunnen = 'to be able'; *we kunnen* = 'we can'; *hoe lang kunnen jullie hier blijven?* = 'how long can you stay here?'

CD 3 Track 4

blijf je hier? = 'are you staying here?'; *even* = 'just (a minute)'; *blijf even hier* = 'stay here (a minute)'; *kom even hier* = 'come here (a minute)'. *binnen* = 'inside'; *kom even binnen* = 'come inside a minute'. *wachten* = 'to wait'; *ik wacht* = 'I wait' ('I am waiting'); *wacht even* = 'wait a moment'.
weg = 'away' or (the) 'way'; *ga even weg* = 'go away (for a moment)'.

CD 3 Track 5

hij heeft het al = 'he has it already'; *ze heeft het al nodig* = 'she needs it already'; *hij geeft* = 'he gives'

CD 3 Track 6

U is the form of 'you' used in formal situations and often with older people; it is both singular and plural. Verb forms with *u* always end in a *t*: *u komt morgen* = 'you are coming tomorrow'; *werkt u hier?* = 'do you work here?'

CD 3 Track 7

The verb form of *je* also takes a *t* when it is not a question: *kan je dat doen?* = 'can you do that?', but *je kunt dat doen* = 'you can do that'. Almost all the plural forms ('we', 'you', and 'they') take the 'to' form of the verb: *we kunnen* = 'we can'; *jullie drinken* = 'you (all) drink'. But when *u* refers to more than one person it still takes the same form as *je*, i.e. with the *t*. *Je gaat naar Amsterdam* = 'you are going to Amsterdam'; *jullie kunnen het zien* = 'you (all) can see it'; *u doet het* = 'you (formal) do it'.

CD 3 Track 8

With 'he', 'she' and 'it', the formal 'you', and informal 'you' in a statement (not a question), the verb ends in *t*: *hij werkt* = 'he works'; *je gaat* = 'you go'.

CD 3 Track 9

met = 'with'; *hoe gaat het met je?* = 'how's it going with you?, how are you?' *ons* = 'us'

CD 3 Track 10

Even turns a 'can you' question into a polite request: *kunt u me even helpen?* = 'could you (formal) help me?' It goes next to the verb it belongs to.

alstublieft (formal) or *alsjeblieft* (informal) = 'if you please'; *kan je even wachten, alsjeblieft?* = 'could you (just) wait a moment please?'

CD 3 Track 11

duur = 'dear (expensive)'; *kopen* = 'to buy', with a long 'o'; *ik koop* = 'I buy'; *ze koopt* = 'she buys'; *we gaan het kopen* = 'we are going to buy it'. *te* = 'too'; *het is te duur* = 'it is too expensive'.

CD 3 Track 12

klaar = 'ready (finished)'. In Dutch, the future is expressed using the present tense: *het is morgen klaar* = 'it is (will be) ready tomorrow'.

alles = 'everything'; *niets* = 'nothing' (often pronounced *niks* in colloquial language); *ik zie niets* = 'I see nothing'.

kunnen and *willen* are special trigger verbs in which the 'he / she / it' form does not end in a *t*: *hij kan alles zien* = 'he can see everything'.

CD 4 Track 1

leuk = 'nice (pretty, fun)'; pronunciation of -*eu*; *ik vind het leuk* = 'I find it nice = I like it'; *ze zijn leuk* = 'they are nice'. *allemaal* = 'all of it', 'all of us' or 'all of them (everybody)'; *het is allemaal goed* = 'it is all good'.

CD 4 Track 2

vriend = 'friend'; *haar vriend blijft niet* = 'her friend is not staying'; *vrienden* = friends; in Dutch the plural is usually made by adding *-en*. All plural nouns are *de* words; *de vrienden* = 'the friends'. *wil je een vriend?* = 'do you want a friend?'; *hij heeft een leuke kat* = 'he has a nice cat'; *en* = 'and'

CD 4 Track 3

mooi = 'nice (beautiful)'; *een mooie dag* = 'a nice day'

CD 4 Track 4

In Dutch, to say you enjoy doing something, you say that you do it with pleasure: *graag* = 'with pleasure', or 'gladly'; *ik drink graag* = 'I like drinking'; *graag* is also sometimes used as a response to an offer, meaning '(yes,) please'; *hij doet het heel graag* = 'he likes doing it very much'; *wij helpen hem niet graag* = 'we don't like helping him'.

If the stem of the verb (what's left when you take off the *-en* ending of the whole verb) already ends in a *t*, you don't add another in the 'you' form; if the stem of the verb ends in a *d*, you don't pronounce the *t* in the 'you' form although it is there. *ze wacht niet graag* = 'she doesn't like waiting'.

CD 4 Track 5

Wil je water? = 'Do you want water?' In Dutch, if you want to stress the 'you', you say *jij* instead of *je*. *Wil jij water?* = 'do <u>you</u> want water?'; *ja, graag* = 'yes, please'. This also happens with *ze*, which becomes *zij* when it is stressed, both for 'she' and for 'they', and with *we*, which becomes *wij*. *ook* = 'too' or 'also'; *kan zij ook komen?* = 'can <u>she</u> come too?'; *ik ook* = 'me too'; *wij willen het ook* = 'we want it too'; *ik ga ook graag naar Amsterdam* = 'I also like going to Amsterdam'.

CD 4 Track 6

nee dank je or *nee dank u* = 'no, thank you'. *ik wil graag water* = 'I would like water'; but *willen jullie iets drinken?* = 'do you (all) want

something to drink?' or 'would you (all) like something to drink'; you don't add *graag* ('please') when you are asking if somebody wants something.

CD 4 Track 7

mogelijk = 'possible'; the *-lijk* ending is pronounced 'luck'; *onmogelijk* = 'impossible'; Many Dutch words can be made negative by adding *on-* at the beginning.

When you make a comparison in Dutch, you can use the word *wel* to replace the verb if the comparison is positive: *dit is niet goed maar dat wel* = 'this isn't good but that is'. If the comparison is negative, you can use *niet* instead: *dit is mogelijk maar dat niet* = 'this is possible but that isn't'.

CD 4 Track 8

huis = 'house' or 'home'; pronunciation of *ui*; *ik ga naar huis* = 'I am going home'; *thuis* = 'at home'. *ik ben* = 'I am'; *ik ben hier niet* or *ik ben niet hier* = 'I am not here'; *ben je?* = 'are you?'; *je bent* = 'you are'; *hij is* = 'he is'; *ben je morgen thuis?* = 'are you at home tomorrow?'; *wij/we zijn niet thuis* = 'we are not at home'.

CD 4 Track 9

moe = 'tired'; *ik blijf vanmiddag thuis want ik ben moe* = 'I am staying home this afternoon for (because) I am tired'. *omdat* also means 'because', but *omdat* sends the verb(s) to the end of the sentence (the *omdat* effect): *omdat het klaar is* = 'because it is ready'; *omdat hij een vriend wil hebben* = 'because he wants to have a friend'.

CD 4 Track 10

saai = 'boring'; *het is een saaie dag* = 'it is a boring day'.

CD 5 Track 1

druk = 'busy'; *ze heeft het heel druk* = 'she has it very busy = she is busy'.

CD 5 Track 2

kosten = 'to cost'; *veel* = 'much' or 'a lot'; *hoeveel* = 'how much'; *ik wil graag weten hoeveel het kost* = 'I would like to know how much it costs'; *het kost te veel* = 'it costs too much'.

CD 5 Track 3

wanneer = 'when'; *wanneer beginnen we?* = 'when do we begin?' With all of these question words (*waarom?, waar?, hoe?, wat?*), when they are not at the start of the question the verb goes to the end, like it does with *omdat*: *ik weet niet <u>wanneer</u> ze begint* = 'I don't know <u>when</u> she begins (will begin)'; *kunt u me zeggen <u>hoeveel</u> het kost?* = 'can you tell me <u>how much</u> it costs?'

CD 5 Track 4

wie = 'who?'; *wie is dat* = 'who is that?'; *ik weet niet wie het is* = 'I don't know who it is'.

CD 5 Track 5

mag ik? = 'may I?' or 'can I?'; from *mogen* = 'to be allowed to': *mag ik een koffie?* = 'may I (have) a coffee?'; *U mag het hebben* = 'you may have it'; *Mag dat?* = 'Is that allowed?'

CD 5 Track 6

vragen = 'to ask'; *ik vraag* = 'I ask'; *mag ik u iets vragen?* = 'may I ask you something?'; *de vraag* = ' the question'.

CD 5 Track 7

makkelijk = 'easy'; the ending *-lijk* can often be translated as '-able' in English (as in *mogelijk* = 'possible = do-able'); *een makkelijke vraag* = 'an easy question'; *nieuw* = 'new'; *een nieuwe vraag* = 'a new question'.

CD 5 Track 8

The Dutch often make things small, or less formal (more fun), by adding *-je* at the end: *ik heb een vraagje voor je* = 'I have a little question for you'; *huisje* = 'little house'; *katje* = 'little cat' or 'kitten'. *uit* = 'out'; *een dagje uit* = 'a (fun) day out'.

CD 5 Track 9

alles goed? = 'everything OK?'; *beter* = 'better'; *het gaat veel beter* = 'it's going much better'; *voelen* = 'to feel'; *ik voel* = 'I feel'. In Dutch, when you are talking about how you (or somebody else) feel(s), you say *ik voel me beter* = 'I feel myself better = I feel better'; *hoe voel je je?* = 'how do you feel (in yourself)?'; *hoe voelen jullie je* = 'how do you (all) feel (in yourselves)'?; *zich* = 'himself', 'herself', 'itself', 'themselves' and 'yourself' (formal); so, *hij voelt zich goed* = 'he feels (himself) well'.

CD 5 Track 10

zich wassen = 'to wash oneself'; *ik was me* = 'I wash (myself)'; *wij wassen ons* = 'we wash (ourselves)'; *ze wast zich* = 'she is washing (herself)'; *zich haasten* = 'to hurry oneself'; *wij moeten ons haasten* = 'we must hurry (ourselves)'.

CD 5 Track 11

Different pronunciations of e*en* = 'a' and ee*n* = 'one'; *geen* = 'none' (not a / not any); *ik heb geen werk maar jij wel* = 'I have no work but you do'.

CD 6 Track 1

tijd = 'time'; *ik heb geen tijd* = 'I have no time'. *honger* = 'hunger'; *ik heb honger* = 'I have hunger = I am hungry'.

CD 6 Track 2

interesse = 'interest'; *hij heeft interesse* = 'he has interest = he is interested'. *(de) kans* = '(the) chance' or 'opportunity'; *ze heeft geen kans* = 'she has no chance'.

CD 6 Track 3

Ik wil werken = 'I want to work'. Use *om te* = 'for to' in phrases like: *ik wil tijd om te werken* = 'I want time (for) to work'; *wij hebben geen tijd om het te zien* = 'we have no time (for) to see it'.

CD 6 Track 4

altijd = 'always'; *vaak* = 'often'; *het is vaak te laat om het te doen* = 'it is often too late to do it'; *belangrijk* = 'important' (*rijk* = 'rich').

CD 6 Track 5

spreken = 'to speak'; *ik spreek* = 'I speak'; *engels* = 'English'; *spreekt u Engels?* = 'do you speak English?'; *Nederlands* = 'Dutch'; *Nederland* = 'The Netherlands'; *hij spreekt geen Nederlands* = 'he doesn't speak any Dutch'.

de is used as 'the' for all plurals, words ending in *-atie*, and many other words, but there is also another word for 'the', which is *het*: *het werk* = 'the work'. All words ending in *-je* are *het* words.

CD 6 Track 6

in het Nederlands = 'in (the) Dutch'; *hoe zeg je dat in het Nederlands?* = 'How do you say that in (the) Dutch?' *het* is often contracted to *t* in speech. *leren* = 'to learn'; *ik leer* = 'I learn'.

CD 6 Track 7

zou = 'would' or 'supposed to' is also a trigger verb; *hij zou het doen* = 'he was supposed to do it'.

CD 6 Track 8

You can't use the verb *gaan* ('to go') when you're speaking about something that is 'going to be'; *gaan* can only be used to mean 'going to' when the following verb is an action verb. *Ik wil weten hoe laat het klaar is* = 'I want to know when it is (going to be) ready'.

CD 6 Track 9

als = 'if'; *ze wil vandaag werken als het mag* = 'she wants to work today if it's allowed'; *als* also has the *omdat* effect (of sending the verb to the end).

CD 6 Track 10

Amerika = 'America'; *mogen* = 'to be allowed'; *wij mogen* = 'we are allowed' (*ik mag* = 'I am allowed').

CD 6 Track 11

Ik wacht hier als je dat wil = 'I'll wait here if you want (that)'

CD 7 Track 1

als = 'if' meaning 'in case', but *of* = 'if' meaning 'whether or not'; both words have the *omdat* effect. *Ik wil weten of je nu komt* = 'I want to know if (whether) you're coming now'

CD 7 Track 2

ik wacht al lang = 'I've been waiting a long time' (note present tense). *wonen* = 'to live' (in a place); *ik woon* = 'I live'; *ik woon al lang in Nederland* = 'I've been living a long time (already) in The Netherlands'; *Engeland* = 'England'; *hoe lang ben je al in Engeland?* = 'how long have you been (already) in England?'

CD 7 Track 3

(het) jaar = '(the) year'; *jaren* = 'years'; *eeuw* = 'century' or 'ages'; pronunciation of *eeuw*; *ik ben hier al een eeuw* = 'I've (already) been here for ages'.

CD 7 Track 4

All trigger verbs send the verbs to the end; the special trigger verbs (*kunnen* 'to be able to', *willen* 'to want', *moeten* 'to have to, to must' and *mogen* 'to be allowed to') don't need a *-t* in the he / she / it form (i.e. they're the same as 'I') in the present. In the past tense they also have common forms.

CD 7 Track 5, Track 6

ik kan = 'I can'; *ik kon* = 'I could' in the sense of 'I was able to'; *ze kon* = 'she could'. The singular forms ('I', 'you', 'he / she / it') are all the same in the past tense for all the trigger verbs, as are the plural forms ('we / you (all) / they'). *gisteren* = 'yesterday'; *avond* = 'evening'; *gisteravond* = 'yesterday evening'; *goedenavond* = 'good evening'.

CD 7 Track 7

we / jullie / zij konden = 'we / you (all) / they could'; *wij konden het niet begrijpen* = 'we couldn't understand it'; *wij konden niet met haar werken* = 'we couldn't work with her'; *ik werk niet graag met jullie* = 'I don't like to work with you (all)'.

CD 7 Track 8

ze = 'she', 'they' and 'them'; *was* = 'was'. In Dutch, in general, time comes before place: *hij was gisteren in Amsterdam* = 'he was in Amsterdam yesterday'.

CD 7 Track 9

waren = 'were', for 'we', 'you (all)' and 'they'; *wanneer waren jullie daar?* = 'when were you (all) there?'

had = 'had' for 'I' 'you' and 'he / she / it'; *ik had honger* = 'I was hungry'; *hadden* = 'had' for 'we', 'you (all)' and 'they'; *jullie hadden honger* = 'you (all) were hungry'.

CD 7 Track 10

kom even hier = 'come here a moment'; *hij kon vandaag niet komen* = 'he couldn't come today'; *niet* usually comes after time phrases.

proberen = 'to try'; *ik probeer* = 'I try'; *hij gaat het later proberen* = 'he's going to try it later'.

CD 7 Track 11

wachten op = 'to wait for'; *ik wacht op je* = 'I'm waiting for you'.
moest = 'had to' for 'I', 'you' and 'he / she / it'; *ze moest op me wachten* = 'she had to wait for me'.

CD 7 Track 12

To make a real promise of something you are going to do in the future, you would use *zal* = 'shall / will', for all singular forms ('I', 'you' and 'he / she / it'); it is also a trigger verb: *ik zal je morgen helpen* = 'I shall help you tomorrow'; *wij zullen je helpen* = '<u>we</u> will help you'.

CD 8 Track 1

wilde = 'wanted': *ik wilde* = 'I wanted'; *ik wilde niets* = 'I wanted nothing'; *wij wilden hier wonen* = 'we wanted to live here'.

CD 8 Track 2

Nouns which end in *-atie* all form verbs which end in *-eren*; so, *combinatie* = 'combination', *combineren* = 'to combine'; *reparatie* = 'repair'; *repareren* = 'to repair'; *ik kon het repareren* = 'I could repair it'.

CD 8 Track 3

laten = 'to let' or 'to allow'; *laten* is a trigger verb: *laat me gaan* = 'let me go'; *ik wil het laten doen* = 'I want it to let to do = I want to have it done'.

CD 8 Track 4

schoon = 'clean'; *maken* = 'make'; *schoonmaken* = 'to make clean = to clean'; *kun je het laten schoonmaken* = 'can you have it cleaned?'

CD 8 Track 5

hij gaat niet weg = 'he's not going away'; *weggaan* = 'to away go = to go away'; *ze willen weggaan* = 'they want to go away', but *wij gaan morgen weg* = 'we are going away tomorrow'; *zonder* = 'without'; *ik wil niet zonder jullie weggaan* = 'I don't want to go away without you (all)'.

CD 8 Track 6

uitgaan = 'to go out'; *vanavond* = 'this evening'; *hij wil vanavond uitgaan* = 'he wants to go out this evening'.

CD 8 Track 7

met = 'with' but *mee* = 'with (in a verb)'; *meekomen* = 'to come along with'; *mag ik meekomen?* = 'can I come along?'; *meedoen* = 'to join in with'; *doe je mee?* = 'are you joining in?'; *hij kon gisteren niet meedoen* = 'he couldn't join in yesterday'.

CD 8 Track 8

morgenmiddag = 'tomorrow afternoon'; *aan* = 'to' or 'at'; *aankomen* = 'to arrive'; *ik kom morgen aan* = 'I am arriving tomorrow'; *ik wil morgen aankomen* = 'I want to arrive tomorrow'; *binnen* = 'in(side)'; *binnenkomen* = 'to come in'; *hij komt niet binnen* = 'he is not coming in'. All these prefixes (*weg, aan, mee, uit, binnen*) can go in front of verbs like *komen* 'to come', *doen* 'to do' or *gaan* 'to go' and have their own meaning. These prefixes are all stressed and can all be split from the verb.

CD 8 Track 9

halen = 'to fetch'; *ik haal* = 'I fetch'; *ophalen* = 'to pick up (collect)'; *ik haal ze vanavond op* = 'I'll pick them up this evening'; *herhalen* = 'to repeat'; *her-* doesn't have a meaning of its own like the other prefixes so the stress is on *-halen* and the *her-* can't be separated from the rest of the verb; *we herhalen het* = 'we are repeating it'.

CD 8 Track 10

hopen = 'to hope'; *hopen dat* = 'to hope that'; *ik hoop dat* = 'I hope that'; in *hopen dat*, the *dat* has the *omdat* effect, sending the verb to the end; *moeilijk* = 'difficult'; *ik hoop dat dit niet te moeilijk is* = 'I hope that this isn't too difficult'.

CD 8 Track 11

denken = 'to think'; *denken dat* = 'to think that'; *ik denk dat* = 'I think that'; *ik denk dat ze het al weet* = 'I think (that) she knows it already'; *zitten* = 'to sit'; *ik zit* = 'I sit'.

CD 8 Track 12

er = 'there'; *op* = 'on, on it'; *erop* = 'thereon'; *de kat zit erop* = 'the cat is sitting on it'; *erin* = 'therein'; *ze zit erin* = she's sitting in it'; *ermee* = 'with it'; *wat kan je ermee doen?* = 'what can you do with it?' *hoe gaat het ermee?* = 'how's it going with it? how are things?'

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