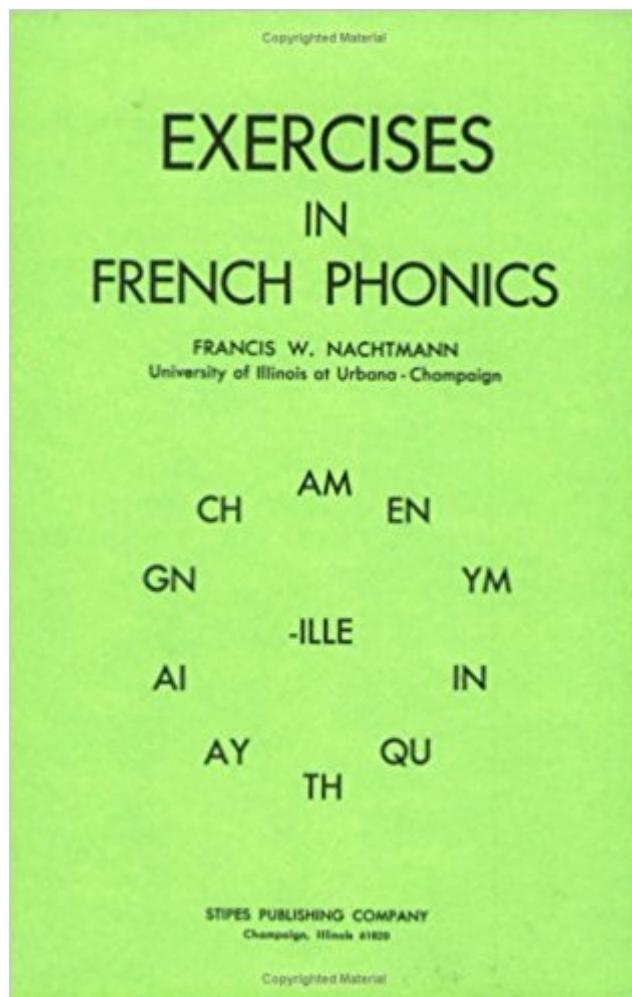


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# Exercises In French Phonics



## **Synopsis**

Exercises in French Phonics

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Exercises in French Phonics

An excellent book on French pronunciation. But as others have written, you do need a native speaker or recordings such as "Pronounce it Perfectly in French: With Audio CDs (Pronounce It Perfectly CD Series)" to help you. Or you can use the YouTube videos from the University of Michigan's Language Resource Center (search for LRC Michigan). This book, along with "Essential French Grammar (Dover Language Guides Essential Grammar)" are the two books I read over and over again.

At 79 pages this little one did more for me than few other heavier offerings with CD ROMs included. In my French studies I got to the level of being able to read an article in, say, *Le Monde*, but not being able to pronounce any of the words I just read. You can of course try memorizing the spelling of the words as well but this would not get you too far - you get overwhelmed. So what I was looking for was a book that would explain me how, knowing some rules, to pronounce a French word that I've never seen before. And this book does that excellently. To learn to understand the spoken French you will need audio supplemented material though.

I agree with the other readers that this is a very helpful resource for pronouncing French. It will

certainly help you a lot with your French pronunciation, especially if you use it along with other resources such as "Pronounce It Perfectly in French with Audio CDs (Pronounce It Perfectly CD Packages). These two products will help you improve your French accent tremendously and the resource I mentioned is well-organized and comes with a CD you can load on your iPod. Another approach that helps is getting a recording of all possible French syllables and drilling them. I don't know if anyone packages this, but you can certainly find it on UTUBE. A digital recorder is also an extremely useful tool along with reading out loud and checking this against native pronunciation. You can do this with products such as "Easy French Reader w/CD-ROM: A Three-Part Text for Beginning Students (Easy Reader Series).

This is for the classroom, not for the casual tourist. French Phonics is discussed in great detail, from an academician's point of view. I liked it because of its detail. It would be hard to easily find the pronunciation of a particular word that was troubling you. It uses the International Phonetic Alphabet, which is more correct, but more complicated, than the guide books use of the English alphabet only. As a teacher of French, I like the exactness of the way that this book treats pronunciation. An example of this is the difference between the open 'o' and the closed 'o'. Most tourists will not really understand and discern the difference, because they would be struggling with more basic concepts. This book covers the basics and the details.

This is a super way of drilling in those pesky phonetics in French. My daughter and I are learning French at home with various helps. I saw this book doing a search for The Easy French Reader (one of those various helps we are using) and I thought, that looks perfect to fine tune our pronunciation. We use a CD for that too, but this is better in that it focuses on one topic at a time and it is in book form (sometimes superior to having to deal with a CD and a computer). Yes, the book looks self-published (it isn't) with no glitzy pages, but who needs that? Just give me some good, old fashioned approaches to being able to say those French nasally words. So far, we love this method!

I've studied French for quite a few years and read aloud almost daily to improve my pronunciation, so a lot of French pronunciation has become intuitive to me. But there are still times I need to look up the pronunciation of a word in a dictionary, or have forgotten some rule about when or how a word or a combination of letters are pronounced. This little volume answers those questions precisely. In my opinion, it's a must-have book for anyone serious about learning French, whether

an advanced student like myself or a beginner.

My French writing is pretty good and my aural comprehension is excellent. My spoken French however has lagged because I was hesitant about pronunciation. Although I was taught French from an early age, I cannot ever recall having been taught systematically the rules of pronunciation. If you have picked up the basic rules along the way, this will not be a major barrier for conversational French. However, if you do not know the rules you will never be able to figure out how to pronounce the difference between (for example) ail, aile, and aille except by rote learning of every word. I have developed much more confidence in my spoken French and even received compliments from my French friends as a result...I highly recommend this book for those with a good knowledge of the language who are specifically looking to improve their pronunciation.

This book was great for learning how to pronounce French words correctly. The money spent on this book was well worth the investment as opposed to spending over \$300 on Pronunciation classes/workshops. I would have given this book 5 stars if it had a Cd to accompany it. Some words were a little difficult to pronounce even with the explanations of the sounds and the inclusion of a Cd would have helped. Overall a great book and a good investment.

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