

For the user

How to use the book and the online material

The basic idea behind the Delft method is simply to learn the language via texts. Classes are almost completely devoted to conversation on specific topics from these texts. You need to prepare for these classes by studying the texts thoroughly until you know them very well.

The best way to achieve this study goal is by learning the text step by step. All the materials you need are in the textbook and/or online and in the app: spoken and written texts, translations of new words, grammar, questions and exercises.

Step 1. Go to the online course and choose your language (27 languages available). Start with lesson 1: Listen to the text, phrase by phrase, while simultaneously reading along. Click on new words for translation in order to comprehend the text. Do this until you understand everything. Repeat each phrase out loud in the pause following the phrase. Step 2: Same as step 1, without pausing. Step 3 (very important): Listen, understand and repeat each phrase out loud in the pause after them without seeing the text. Step 4: Same, without pausing. Further steps online include: testing yourself by means of a dictation; exercises with grammar information and feedback.

How do you attain fluency and speaking proficiency? 1. Follow the steps mentioned above. 2. Use the questions ('Vragen') and the speaking exercises in the book to formulate answers. Do this out loud again, and try to use as many of the words from the texts as possible. Summarize the text in your own words. The final goal is to understand the SPOKEN text, to know all the words, to understand the meaning and the form of the words, and to be able to talk about it in or outside class... in Dutch. On average this may take up to 3 hours preparation per text. Please consult the more elaborated study manual 'How to study' online. Good luck!