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Annelies Mertens, Lonely Planet Phrasebooks
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Annelies Mertens, Lonely Planet Phrasebooks : Dutch: Lonely Planet Phrasebook before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dutch: Lonely Planet Phrasebook:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Inadequate at bestBy reliable consumerWe lived in Holland 24 years ago and at the time I could speak a little of the language. I thought that I would learn to speak Dutch again because we make a lot of trips to Holland. Most of the Dutch speak some English but it is their contry that I am visiting and I wanted to speak their language. I wanted a small phrasebook that could slip in my pocket for a quick reminder reference. Most phrasebooks have some sort of sectioning of words or phrases that are often used together. Such as

food and restaurant phrases together or lodging phrases together. Like the others, this book has those divided sections. However the amount of information given in the various sections is not enough. I tried looking up the words that I needed in the index but it is so small and limited that it renders the book not helpful at all. I went to a bookstore where I could actually look at the phrasebook and made a better purchase. It wasn't as inexpensive but it was a better choice for me. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Greatest investment I have ever made By Wayne The book came in almost brand new condition, and in a very short time. This book has been one of the greatest investments I have made in my life. Although by itself it is not enough to truly learn a language it really "kick-started" my Dutch. I used the book extensively when I visited my Cousin in Belgium over the summer. And although I still had not learned the language well enough to truly interact when natives were speaking with each other, I was able to do simple things such as shopping and ordering in a Restaurant without resorting to English. With more practice and study you should be able to reach a high beginner to maybe low intermediate level in a language with just this book and a Dictionary. 17 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Very handy and a good starting point By Joel Porter This is a well organized phrasebook with useful language content and enjoyable cultural asides, for example explaining the origins and celebration of Sinterklaas. I would not hesitate to recommend it to someone interested in learning Dutch or simply visiting the Netherlands for a short time, particularly if they plan on traveling outside of Amsterdam. Key features: * Short introduction to Dutch grammar. This should be read to gain an understanding of the basic structure of the Dutch language, but bear in mind this is a very brief grammar introduction included to familiarize readers to the content that follows. * Both Flemish (Belgian Dutch) and Dutch versions of common words are noted where differences exist. * A culinary dictionary dedicated solely to food and dining related words. * Well organized, color coded sections with side labels for quick reference. * Included English-Dutch and Dutch-English dictionary in the back. The entries do mention whether the Dutch word is a 'de' (gendered) or 'het' (neuter) noun, indicated by a gray 'n' for neuter words. Overall this phrasebook serves its purpose well. There are a few instances of words that are not commonly used and some phrases in the social section that are rarely used in English, let alone Dutch, particularly on the pick up lines and romance pages. However these are easily spotted and fun to read aloud to a Dutch friend for a laugh. Some advice on using this or any phrasebook: You're not going to have time once you're in a situation to flip through and find what you need unless it's simply looking up a word, so review the applicable section for an upcoming situation ahead of time. Finally, bear in mind that almost everyone in the Netherlands understands at least basic English, and the majority both understand and speak English quite well. This is particularly true in Amsterdam, where many people will speak English to you by default. You will also find most menu cards in Amsterdam to be in English. However this is not to say you will not encounter plenty of Dutch on other signage and in other situations, making this book handy to have in any situation.

Canals, coffee shops and kunst (art) - let this phrasebook guide you past tulips and clogs to some real conversation. Dutch is not as hard as they say, and this book proves it. Go on, doe maar! (give it a go!). Open this phrasebook and dive into the culture of both the Netherlands and Belgium. Our phrasebooks give you a comprehensive mix of practical and social words and phrases in more than 120 languages. Chat with the locals and discover their culture - a guaranteed way to enrich your travel experience.

National Geographic Traveler, September 2006 'Lonely Planet Phrasebooks. Portable, pocket-size, cheap, and available for almost any country you might want to visit...' From the Publisher Who We Are At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travelers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do * We offer travelers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages. * We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are. * When we update our guidebooks, we check every listing, in person, every time. * We always offer the trusted filter for those who are curious, open minded and independent. * We challenge our growing community of travelers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world. * We tell it like it is without fear or favor in service of the travelers; not clouded by any other motive. What We Believe We believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world.