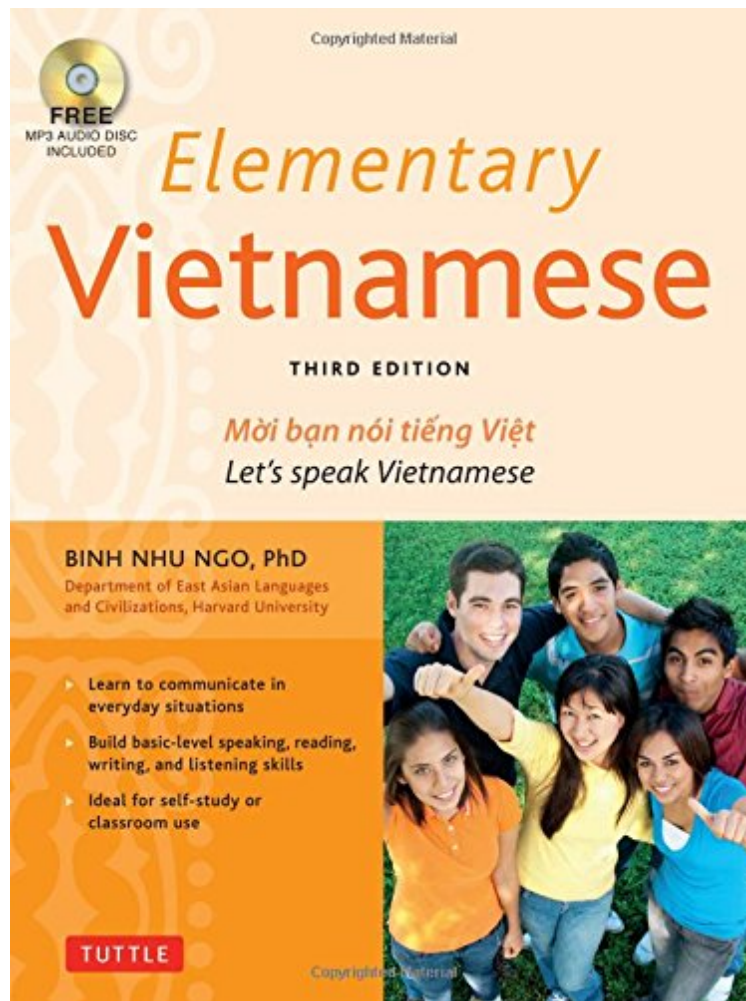


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*Binh Nhu Ngo Ph.D.*

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**Binh Nhu Ngo Ph.D. : Elementary Vietnamese: Moi ban noi tieng Viet. Let's Speak Vietnamese. (MP3 Audio CD Included)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Elementary Vietnamese: Moi ban noi tieng Viet. Let's Speak Vietnamese. (MP3 Audio CD Included):

30 of 30 people found the following review helpful. Audio CD is a plus. By N. Trinh I'm Vietnamese, but I consider English as my primary language. I know how to speak Vietnamese with my parents, but I think that's because they've grown accustomed to my broken sentence fragments. Plus, I forget basic words sometimes (like the Vietnamese word for college, Spanish, pregnant etc.) So when I saw this book, I thought "what the hey I got summer vacation to tackle this." The book starts off easy for me, but boy does it get progressively harder. The book teaches you Vietnamese

grammar (preposition, adverbs, etc.). Sad thing is I barely understood what a preposition meant, so I found myself skimming those parts. The conversational text and vocab list in the book are a lot more handy for me since they are accompanied by audio (~8 hrs worth). The bonus of the audio CD is that you can pop it into the computer and drag the MP3 files (1 GB) to your desktop for transfer to an iPod or something. The negative (or positive to some) is the exercises in the book. I don't think there are answer keys for them so you will have to judge for yourself the correctness of your answer. Overall, I think this is a good beginner book for myself. The audio CD is a lot more beneficial than the grammar lessons, but hey I'm not trying to write a dissertation in Vietnamese or anything like that. I'm just trying to retain my heritage. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I'm just an everyday normal girl who wanted to learn a new language for fun, but this books makes it very hard for ...By KkOk123My viet friend understands it very well, but it starts off talking about the anatomy of your tongue and how you make certain sounds. I'm just an everyday normal girl who wanted to learn a new language for fun, but this books makes it very hard for you to learn from 0. it throws a totally new word at you and then uses it in a sentence in purely Vietnamese so you can't understand how it's being used. It doesn't always explain the context of the words either as my friends said "yeah it means that, but in \*this\* way". Unless I had an actual teacher to guide me through the book and explain to me, I think this book was a waste of my time and money. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Best Available Source Materials for Learning Vietnamese By Pangloss This text has the most complete overview of the Vietnamese language that I have found. You can use as little or as much of this information as you like. From a structural grammar point of view, the first few chapters on pronunciation are a scholarly work, and some parts are tedious. I recommend that you immerse yourself in it, but if that's not your cup of tea, then skip it. Every text book must begin with a point of view. This book was written for students at Harvard. Another VN text I have uses the setting of business people, working for multinational corporations, visiting Hanoi. Imagining myself a college student again is a stretch, but not as big a stretch as imagining myself working for a multinational corporation with offices in Hanoi. I am a medical doctor with many Vietnamese patients. I have not been able to find a text tailored to my needs, and don't really think that I will. This text teaches Northern Vietnamese. Even those from South Vietnam will tell you that "proper" Vietnamese is Northern Dialect. I think this view is as sad as it is common. But this is the framework we have. All VN language programs I have found begin by teaching Northern Dialect. Because Northern Vietnamese has more complex tone structure, it is probably more practical than learning Southern Dialect first. Seek out and use other sources. Take about a year to do the three levels of Rosetta Stone and talk with their on line instructors. Read simple books for Vietnamese children. Get a dictionary. Visit a Vietnamese grocery store and pick up Vietnamese language magazines (reading the ads is really helpful!). Get books in translation of stuff that you know pretty well already; I got a copy of the Bible in Vietnamese. Learn songs in Vietnamese (karaoke helps). I have found Professor Ngo's text to be extremely helpful. If I ever teach Vietnamese, this is the book I will use. The format of Dialogue-Vocabulary-Grammar-Drills has a familiar and friendly feeling. It will challenge the learner, however, and is better suited to the fairly serious student.

This is a complete Vietnamese language course designed for college or high school level classroom use or selfstudy. Since its publication in 1998, Elementary Vietnamese has become the leading book for anyone wishing to learn Vietnamese, and an invaluable resource for people traveling, studying or working in Vietnam. This beginner Vietnamese book was originally developed for classroom use at Harvard University, where it has been field-tested for many years. This revised Third Edition has been thoroughly updated to reflect recent developments in Vietnamese speech patterns and culture over the past decade. The main focus of Elementary Vietnamese is to assist learners in developing basic skills in listening, speaking, writing and reading the language. It serves a secondary function as a general introduction to modern Vietnamese society and culture, with dialogues, cultural notes, exercises and readings drawn from contemporary life and popular media there. Elementary Vietnamese is designed for effective self-study as well as for use in a college-level classroom. Features of the Third Edition include: Many hours of new audio recordings by native Vietnamese speakers. Innovative pronunciation drills to help you to achieve near-native pronunciation ability. New usage examples, cultural notes, and exercises along with photos showing life in Vietnam today. A guide for instructors ("New Edition Notes") detailing changes made in the Third Edition. The MP3 audio recordings which accompany this book are of native Vietnamese speakers. These recordings cover: All dialogues, narratives and vocabulary. Grammar and usage notes. Everyday Vietnamese idioms and expressions. A unique set of pronunciation drills to help you speak like a native. Commonly-used proverbs, to help you speak and understand colloquial Vietnamese.

"This is a superbly constructed textbook written by an experienced teacher for the benefits of beginning learners of Vietnamese. Professor Ngo is to be congratulated on his outstanding achievement; he has indeed produced a powerful tool in the area of learning resources for Southeast Asian languages." Nguyen Dinh Hoa, Professor Emeritus of Linguistics and Foreign Languages, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale "It comes with a mp3 CD, which is super important because Vietnamese is a tonal language and the tones can be subtle to untrained ears." I'm Not the Nanny blog About the Author Dr. Binh Nhu Ngo is the Director of the Vietnamese Language Program in the

Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University and has been teaching Vietnamese there since 1992. He was born and educated in Hanoi, and earned his Ph.D. in linguistics from the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. He has taught Vietnamese and linguistics at Moscow University, and since 1992 he has taught at the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) and at a number of universities and colleges in the United States. He has served as the Vice-President of the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages (COTSEAL) and represents Harvard University at the Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese Abroad (GUAVA). His other books include *Speak Read Vietnamese* (Simon Schuster) and *Continuing Vietnamese* (Tuttle).