

MEMBERS ONLY

2018



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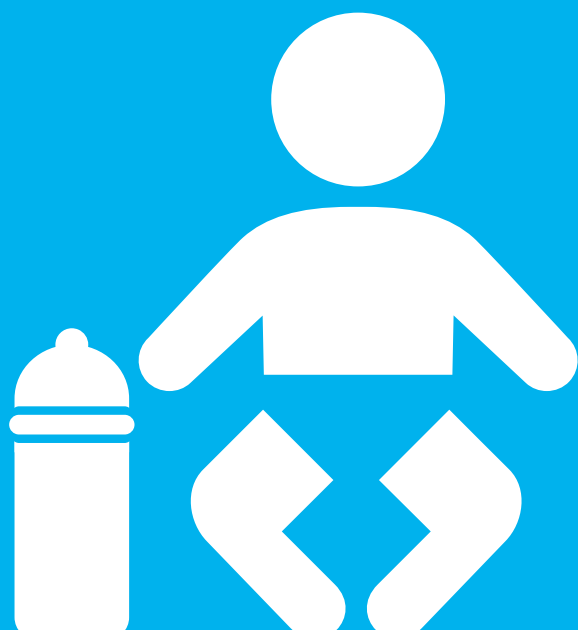
INNER CIRCLE

THIS MONTH

HOW TO BOOST YOUR OUTPUT -
SPEAKING & WRITING IN YOUR
TARGET LANGUAGE

innovative LANGUAGE.COM

The Importance of Starting Easy



Welcome to the Inner Circle, listeners.

Last time, you learned...

- All about setting goals and creating routines
- Using Alexa to further your progress

I've been keeping up with my French, and this month we're going to look at how I'm doing it.

Let's jump into this Inner Circle.

"HOW TO BOOST YOUR OUTPUT - SPEAKING & WRITING IN YOUR TARGET LANGUAGE"

You'll learn...

- 1. How I Reached My Goals & The Importance of Starting Easy**
- 2. How I'm Expanding My Language Learning in Month 2**
- 3. How to Add Language Output to Your Learning Routine**

But first, let's jump into the first part.



1

How I Reached My Goals & The Importance of Starting Easy



Before we start, just a reminder on language “input” and “output.” Input is what you take in, by listening, reading or watching video lessons. What you passively consume. Output is what comes out. So, speaking and writing. It’s what you produce.

So, last time, I promised to take 1 FrenchPod101 lesson a day with Alexa, reach 1 minute of conversation, and learn 50 French words.

And...

It was easy! I hit my goals.

I reached 1 minute of conversation in French. With all of the language input I’ve been doing, I learned plenty of phrases and words for the conversation, and I also hit my 50 word goal. I did it all through input, which was the audio lessons.

“How To Get to 1-Minute Conversations in Your Target Language”



Actually, a minute conversation isn't as hard as it seems. In fact, it's a little too easy.

Conversations follow a pattern, like "Hello. How are you? How was your weekend?" So if you prep these phrases ahead of time, a short conversation is easy. Our lessons, like the [Top 25 Questions Series](#), teach you all the common questions and phrases you need for basic conversation. If you know the most-commonly used phrases...

....you can easily handle a 1-minute conversation.

But is it really helpful to make things so easy on yourself? It is. Remember, language goals must be realistic enough to achieve. And for me personally, January was a very busy month. I didn't want to overwhelm myself.



Also, if something is easy to start, it's easy to continue.

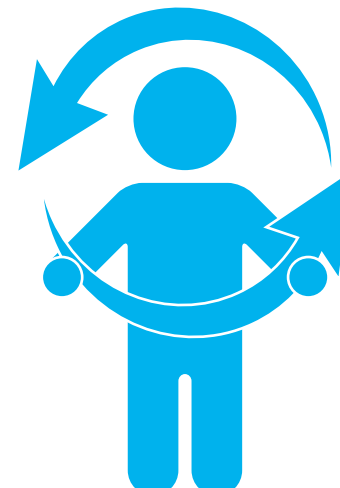
Learners that set hard, ambitious goals, tend to fail, and lose confidence and motivation. But, I also have another reason I succeeded this time. It's because of Alexa. It just made it super easy for me to consume the lessons at the dinner table with my son. My routine was locked in place, so I had no problem sticking to it every day.

Listeners, you can do the same.

Start with an easy goal, and set a routine.

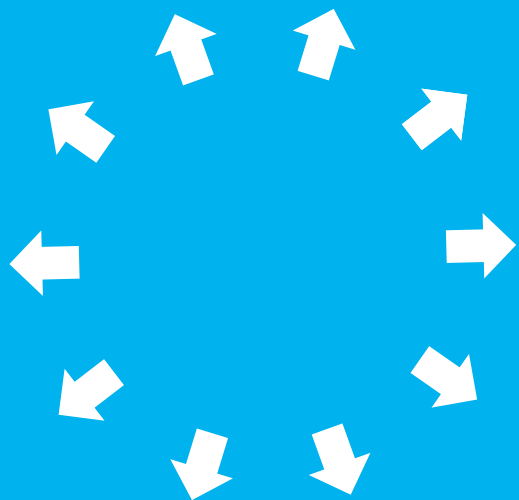
But input alone isn't enough.

Let's jump into the second part.



2

How I'm Expanding My Language Learning in Month 2



This month I want to start doing output.

Speaking and writing in French.

I've actually done some speaking, so it's time to add writing. You have to balance your learning. As much as I want to read and understand French, I want to speak and write it too.

My goal is to send 2 messages a week to my Premium *PLUS* teacher, around 100 words. I'm not setting a clear routine just yet because I want to see how it'll fit into my schedule. I have one successful routine in place and I don't want to overload myself by forcing another in.

Then I'll add a bit of input.

Reading. I like reading as a language learning tactic for two reasons.

- First, it's the one skill you can practice all the time.
- And second, a book forces you to focus.

With Alexa and listening to lessons, you're listening but you don't really know if you're 100% engaged. But with a book, you have to pay attention or you won't understand it at all. Plus, we have new extensive reading books on our Innovative Language websites that I plan on using.

Extensive Reading Books

What's extensive reading? Extensive reading is a popular learning tactic for immersing yourself in language, reading more and boosting your vocabulary. The goal is to read level-appropriate books without stopping for every word you don't know and without straining your brain. It's quantity over quality.

You're not supposed to struggle and analyze every word and grammar point.

It's meant to be fun. Skip words, and continue reading as much as possible.

We have 9 Absolute Beginner level Extensive Reading books on FrenchPod101, so my goal is to finish 5 books by the end of February. I also plan to maintain my Alexa routine and listen to a lesson every day. I'm just expanding my routines by adding output and a little bit more input.

Let's jump into the final part.



3

How to Add Language Output to Your Learning Routine

Last time, you set your small, measurable monthly goal with a deadline.

You created a routine based on your goal, and you started doing language input. So, you should be taking the language in, consuming audio lessons, watching video lessons, reading the extensive reading books or learning words with our vocabulary lists.

Your next step is to start doing output.

In other words, producing. Either by speaking the language or writing.



Producing the Language

Here's how you can start doing this with our language program.

1) Write a self-introduction to your teacher!

If you're a Premium *PLUS* student, the first thing we ask you to do is write a self-introduction and send it to your Premium PLUS teacher. Once you send it, they will review it, correct it and send you the feedback. Then you'll have a perfect self-introduction which you can use any time. You can also record yourself and send the audio to your teacher as a way to practice your speaking. They'll review your audio for mistakes and help you perfect your pronunciation.

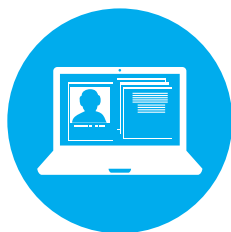
Try to send 2 or 3 recordings a week.



2) 1-on-1 Writing Practice.

Next, you can write, in general, to your teacher and practice one on one. You can send a piece of writing for review, or you can just send a message and get a conversation going.

Make it a goal to send 2 messages a week.



3) Assignments.

Premium *PLUS* members also get weekly assignments, which is another way you can practice output. Make it a goal to complete 1 assignment every week.



4) Shadow Lesson Conversations.

If you're a Premium user or a Premium *PLUS* user, shadow the lesson conversations as a way to practice speaking. In other words, listen and repeat.

5) Record Yourself.

You can also record yourself with the Voice Recorder in the Dialog tool to perfect your pronunciation by comparing it with native speakers.

6) Participate.

For writing, you can leave a comment in our lessons and our teachers will get back to you.



7) Write Words out by Hand.

Or, write out the lesson dialog by hand. This is an EXTREMELY powerful way to learn. In fact, writing things out by hand helps you remember more because it fully engages your brain! You can even apply this to our study tools by writing Vocab Lists and the Word of the Day.

You'll be shocked how fast you'll learn with this simple tactic.

What's My Next Goal?

I'll continue doing 1 FrenchPod101 lesson a day with Alexa. Next, I'll send my introduction to my Premium *PLUS* teacher, both the writing and the recording. The goal is to send her 2 messages a week. Remember, I haven't finalized that routine but each message will be 100 words long. And I want to finish 5 extensive reading books.

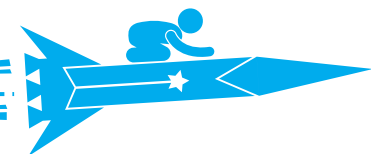
Listeners, how about you? What's your small, measurable monthly goal? And what's the deadline?

Let us know. And stay tuned for the next Inner Circle.

Let me know what your goals are for the month.

Shoot me an email at inner.circle@innovativelanguage.com

See you next month!



To your fluency,
Peter Galante

Founder, InnovativeLanguage.com