

EXCELLENT DUTCH (E.D.) lessons : “*conversational skills on a solid base of pronunciation, grammar and spelling*”.

E.D. works from practice to theory ("practice" meaning conversation and pronunciation, "theory" meaning grammar and spelling) instead of the other way around. From the first moment on, the lesson is directed towards the actual listening and speaking ; after all language is communication in *sound* in the first place. That's why *E.D.* lessons are focussed on CONVERSATION. In order to converse properly one needs to actually *do it*, to practise. We start from there. It is *E.D.* 's experience that this works for any level, for absolute beginners as well as for advanced level. Where conversation gets stuck, we fill gaps in knowledge, concerning *pronunciation, vocabulary* and *grammar*. As Dutch pronunciation tells a lot about *spelling*, pronunciation and spelling are fully integrated. Likewise spelling tells a lot about pronunciation and therefore reading and spelling are fully integrated. The emphasis *E.D.* puts on pronunciation gives people much clarity about the language. In order to achieve that one can - as much as possible - use grammar right away in daily conversation, grammar is integrated in the conversation part of the lesson and taught as compact and practical (ready for use) as possible.

E.D. uses the fact that English and Dutch once were one language group. Most people have (at least some) knowledge of English (either as the native language or as a 2nd language). Once you have become aware of the similarities, it's easier to go to the differences. In other words: every English speaking person already has some knowledge of Dutch. As *E.D.* 's teacher knows a couple of other West European languages and also has a basic knowledge of ancient Greek and Latin, *E.D.* 's teacher is able to give people *insight in Dutch*, to help them to *see through structures* and thus to (more and more, bit by bit) *independently make their own way through the language*, and so *build up a steady foundation*.

E.D. chooses not to follow a specific teaching book, because it's *E.D.* 's experience that most people getting in touch with *E.D.* have already attended several courses – usually with a particular method book and many times even at several levels - and still do not speak Dutch sufficiently to have a simple, ongoing conversation. All you need is a dictionary of your own choice. So: no specific method book during the lessons but still a steady building up of vocabulary , conversation ,spelling and grammar, in order to reach the real goal : being able to express oneself in proper Dutch, verbally as well as in writing.

What do you need for the lessons? What you really need is yourself, in a motivated and focussed state of mind and a dictionary of your own choice. You'll receive digital grammar files on all subjects that are covered in the lessons . As *E.D.* teaching method(s) are based on the principles that are explained above, *E.D.* uses it's own grammar files. Also different materials that are specifically useful for a particular student / group are used . Only for the intensive courses and group courses (= more than one person) there will be an additional € 20,00- for *E.D.* 's audio MP 3 (€ 20,00) on pronunciation.