

Dutch for Beginners

For more than 40 years, LanguageOne has specialised in Dutch language and cultural education for students growing up in an international environment. For children and young people learning Dutch as a second or new language, we offer our Dutch for Beginners programme. Through familiar, everyday situations, students gradually build their vocabulary, speaking skills and confidence.

LanguageOne

Wereldwijd thuis in het Nederlands

About the programme

Dutch for Beginners is designed for students aged 4 to 18 who are at the start of their Dutch language-learning journey or who need additional support to use Dutch actively. Students are placed at the level that best matches their language skills.

The programme focuses on:

- expanding vocabulary;
- developing speaking skills;
- understanding simple texts and conversations;
- building confidence;
- using Dutch in everyday situations.



Themes/units

The units are built around the following themes:

1. Who we are
2. Where we are in place and time
3. How we express ourselves
4. How we organise ourselves
5. How the world works
6. Sharing the planet

LanguageOne has developed its own curriculum. The themes are based on familiar, real-life situations, such as introducing yourself, family, school, home, food, celebrations, travel and free time. This helps students use Dutch in situations that are familiar and meaningful to them, alongside the other language they use at school.

Programme content

Dutch for Beginners consists of four levels: Basic, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. Across these levels, students develop their vocabulary, speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Each week, a central text forms the basis for activities focusing on vocabulary, speaking, listening and writing.



Basic

At the basic level, students are introduced to Dutch in a safe and playful way. The focus is on listening, repeating words and phrases, recognising sounds, understanding key words and speaking in short sentences. Images, gestures and examples support learning and help students build confidence.

Level 1

At Level 1, students use words in simple, meaningful sentences. They practise asking and answering questions. Texts, videos, images and example sentences support their learning. Students are also introduced to simple reading and writing activities.

Level 2

At Level 2, students expand their vocabulary and use Dutch with increasing independence. They take part in simple dialogues, respond to others and write short texts. Language support is gradually reduced, with greater attention to sentence structure, spelling, grammar and reading skills.

Level 3

At Level 3, the focus is on using Dutch confidently and effectively in real-life situations. Students practise expressing their opinions, taking part in conversations, giving presentations, explaining ideas and exchanging information. They also develop their reading comprehension and writing skills and learn to use Dutch confidently in real-life situations.

Assessment

Assessments are used throughout the programme to monitor each student's development. The results provide insight into their progress and help teachers adapt the lessons to their individual needs.

The LanguageOne values:

Joy: LanguageOne offers varied and engaging learning experiences because students learn more effectively and build greater confidence when they enjoy learning.

Flexibility: LStudents can join at any point during the school year, wherever they are in the world. LanguageOne learning materials allow each student to work at the level that best suits them.

Quality: LanguageOne provides high-quality, up-to-date Dutch language education. Our programme follows an internationally oriented curriculum, aligned with the Dutch national curriculum and the Dutch language levels 1F, 2F and 3F. The quality of our education is monitored by the Dutch Inspectorate of Education.

Connection: At LanguageOne, students have the opportunity to strengthen their connection to their Dutch identity while continuing to develop their language skills. Our programme and cultural activities help students stay connected to Dutch language and culture and encourage interaction with others.

Future-proof: LanguageOne combines current educational insights with modern learning resources to provide future-proof education. Our lessons support both language development and identity development, helping students build a strong foundation for their future.



Lesson options

The programme is available in three formats:

7. 45-minute private online lesson once a week;
8. 60-minute online group lesson once a week;
9. Group lessons at one of our LanguageOne locations.

LanguageOne also offers Dutch for Beginners lessons for adults. View more information here.



Why is Dutch for Beginners important?

Dutch for Beginners helps students to:

- express themselves more confidently in Dutch;
- better understanding in Dutch conversations, texts and assignments;
- speak Dutch with greater confidence;
- connect with Dutch-speaking peers;
- learn more about Dutch and Belgian culture;
- build a strong foundation for further language development.

The programme provides clarity and structure for both students and parents. Your child works step by step towards achievable learning goals and receives weekly homework to continue practising speaking, reading and writing in Dutch at home.

LanguageOne Nederland
Pascallaan 71, 8218 NJ Lelystad
+31 (0) 70 260 13 86
info@languageone.org
languageone.nl

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