

cover disc



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If you never paid attention at school and could do with a little French vocab assistance, our first package is for you. We also have four further full programs offering online security for your data, easy batch file conversion and help getting to grips with Windows 98



Collins French-English Talking Dictionary EXCLUSIVE FULL PROGRAM

These days few of us can get away with using just one language. Whether it's in a lesson at school or during a meeting in the office, you're bound to need the odd word of French to get by from time to time. And even if you're linguistically gifted, chances are your vocabulary's not always as extensive as it could be.

But rather than have to turn to a book, why not load up our first cover disc? Collins' French-English Talking Dictionary is a truly indispensable companion for any PC user, putting over 80,000 words and phrases at your fingertips. And with more than 120,000 translations it's unlikely you'll ever be lost for words again.

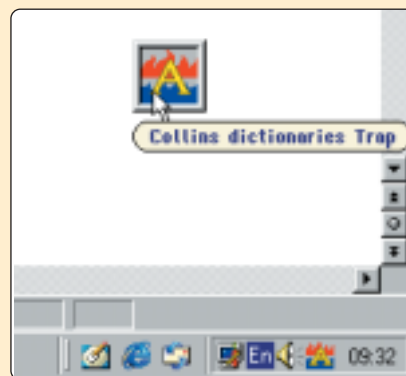
Talking the same language

Simply type a word into the small pane at the bottom of the main dictionary window, choose the relevant tab (French-English or English-French) and the dictionary will find you a translation. Alternatively, use the Trap function and drag and drop words or phrases on to the A icon, as described in steps one and two opposite.

Once you've found the word you're looking for, click on the speaker icon to hear it pronounced. Right-click this same icon to open AudioPad and record yourself saying the word. Then compare your efforts with those of the native French speaker. Results can be superimposed in the lower window (as shown in step eight, right) so you can see exactly where you're getting the pronunciation right or wrong.

If you're not sure what a particular button or menu does, simply hover the mouse cursor over it for a few seconds and an explanatory tool tip will appear revealing its purpose. Similarly, stop the cursor over yellow or purple text within a definition for grammatical details or information about usage such as colloquialisms or derivatives.

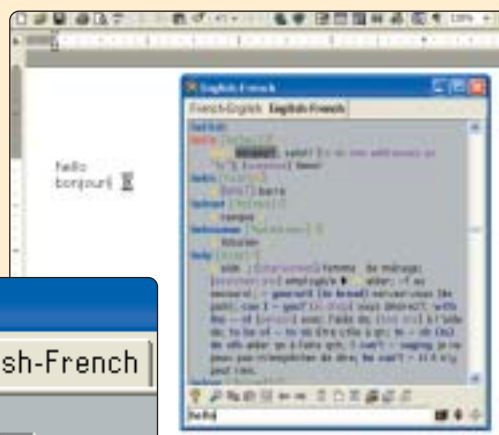
1 Once you've installed the dictionary, the A symbol will appear in the System Tray. Right-click on it and choose Trap to bring up the A icon which can be moved anywhere on screen. To translate any text, simply drag and drop words from your current application on to the A icon



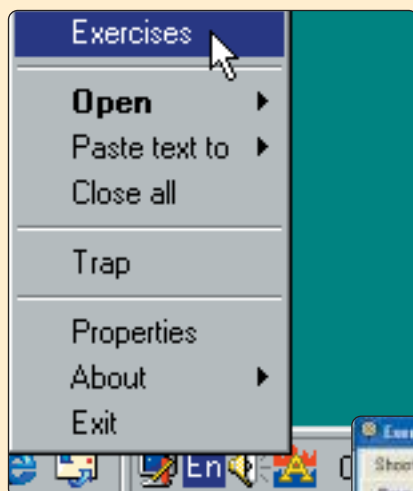
2 When you drop text on the A icon, the dictionary window will appear with the translation. To switch between English-French and French-English dictionaries, simply click the relevant tab or open both at once by clicking the A icon in the System Tray and choosing Open then the relevant dictionary



3 You can also drag and drop words from the dictionary window to the document you are working in



4 To hear a word pronounced, simply click the speaker icon beside it. Make sure you have your speakers turned on or headphones plugged in



5 Choose Exercises from the right-click menu for a selection of learning games and quizzes to help improve your vocabulary

6 To keep you learning, Collins' dictionary provides different stimuli. You choose the type of vocab game you want to play and pick the relevant difficulty level according to your abilities



7 Crosswords are a fun way to exercise your mental muscle and expand your repertoire of words



8 If you want to check your pronunciation's up to scratch, use the AudioPad to record your voice then play it back and compare it to the package's correct enunciation



Using TextPad

When you paste more than one word into the dictionary, the TextPad – a window in the lower half of the dialog box – opens automatically to display your copied phrase. Use TextPad's toolbar and arrow buttons to move about within the text or move the scrollbar to navigate up and down the lines of text and the mouse to click on the required word.

The selected word is placed in the quick search field which enables you to edit it as well as search for its different forms. In the bilingual dictionaries you can search in either section of the dictionary – especially useful when you have texts containing both French and English.

You can also activate Wrap mode which automatically cuts long lines that don't fit into the TextPad and places them on the next line. Set the Wrap mode to on or off by default in the Dictionary Properties (click on the A icon in the System Tray and choose Properties).

Copying text

You can copy a stretch of text from the dictionary entry to any other program. Before copying, mark the required headword or piece of text in the dictionary entry by clicking on the first word required and, holding the left mouse button down, moving the cursor to the last word and releasing the mouse.

It is possible to mark a piece of text by lines in the same way, clicking on the left indent opposite the text area of the dictionary entry. Then copy the marked piece of text to the clipboard, move to another program and insert the stored text in the required place using that program's paste function. ■

To install: 95 98 Me 2000 NT XP

Collins French-English Talking Dictionary

The software should autorun when you click Install on the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type D:\french\autorun.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

System requirements

Pentium PC; Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP; 8MB RAM; 50MB hard disk space; sound card; microphone

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Fill in our editorial survey and an AOpen CD-RW drive could be yours. There are no right or wrong answers – simply tell us what you think about this month's issue for a chance to win. Your answers will help us improve *PC Advisor*.

How to enter

1. Log on to www.pcadvisor.co.uk/editsurvey or click the link from the CD or DVD.
 2. Answer the questions – this should take about 15 mins – then fill in your name, address and email for entry in our draw.
- Survey closes 31 July 03. Draw subject to usual competition terms and conditions (see page 12 for details).



PLUS!
burning
software!

The prize

AOpen's CD-RW drive offers read, write and rewrite rates of up to 32/12/10-speed, has a 4MB data buffer and comes with the popular Nero Burning ROM CD-recording software and several other tools including Norton's Ghost drive image program.

This internal model can be fitted horizontally inside your PC or vertically if you are short on space and will write a 650MB disc in about six minutes.

Bundled with everything you need to make CDs right away, including software and blank CDs, it's an ideal all-in-one solution for reading CDs, copying audio/software CDs, creating photo/audio/video CDs, or acting as a storage drive for archiving or backup. With the AOpen, you can write and read large data files as easily as you would from floppies.



Internet Cleanup 1.02

FULL PROGRAM

→ Internet Cleanup will scan your hard drive to find your cache, History, plug-in and cookie files. Click the Auto-Erase Settings icon to start cleaning your system



← For manual control over deletion, check the box next to a file and choose whether you want to erase or shred it

Did you know that when you're innocently browsing the web, there are all sorts of applets tracking your every move, collecting information on your surfing habits? What's more, the software you use to browse the web, such as Internet Explorer, is stashing files in its History and cache folders about where you've been – information that anyone can access unless you delete it.

Internet Cleanup helps you practise safer surfing, letting you remove cookies, keep an eye on your cache files and delete unnecessary ActiveX controls and plug-ins. ■

To install:

95 98 Me 2000 NT

Internet Cleanup 1.02

The software should autorun when you click Install on the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type D:\internet_cleanup\ setup.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

System requirements

486 processor; Windows 95/98/Me/NT 4.0/2000; 8MB RAM; 20MB hard disk space



Getwise Windows 98

FULL PROGRAM

Most PCs have one thing in common: an operating system from the Microsoft Windows stable. Although Windows is designed with ease of

operation in mind, it can still take some getting used to. Even if you're a Windows 98 veteran, we bet there are some functions that you didn't know existed.

Getwise Windows 98 will first teach you about the very basic functions of the operating system dictated by your input devices (your keyboard and your mouse). You'll learn about the main interface of Windows 98, how the various menus work, what dialog boxes are and how to use them, and also about the Help function.

This may seem like pretty simple stuff – indeed it's the ideal starting point for beginners – but more experienced users who persevere and get to the in-depth tutorials will find they can still learn a thing or two from Getwise Windows 98. ■



← The tutorial presentation explains the various things that you will need to learn to pass the test at the end of the module

→ Complete the whole program successfully and you will have something to show for it: a printable certificate to prove that you have got to grips with Windows 98



To install:

95 98 Me 2000 NT XP

Getwise Windows 98

The software should autorun when you click Install on the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type D:\getwise\ setup.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

System requirements

486 processor; Windows 95/98/NT/Me/2000/XP; 8MB RAM; 15MB hard disk space

FOR HELP USING THE COVER DISC CALL 0870 739 7630



Invisible Secrets 2.1

FULL PROGRAM

When you need to send valuable data, you can't guarantee it won't be intercepted en route from your inbox. Even if you encrypt it, a determined hacker will probably be able to crack the code and read the file's contents.

Invisible Secrets takes a different approach to data security: it hides the encrypted message in an innocent-looking image file. So while a hacker is busy looking for company secrets in that faked Excel budget analysis report you sent with your email, the real figures are safely

stored within the image attachment. All you need to do is tell the recipient where to find the information they need. You can keep hackers non-plussed by choosing different so-called 'carrier' files to hide the information. So, rather than an image, you might pick a sound or video file.

While no system is foolproof, Invisible Secrets' approach uses steganography to put the onus on the hacker to locate the carrier file and thus puts time on your side. While a business enemy is searching for data, you could have already sent or received and deleted it. ■

To install: 95 98 Me 2000 XP

Invisible Secrets 2.1

The software should autorun when you click Install on the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type D:\invisible\invsecre2.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

System requirements

Pentium PC; Windows 95/98/Me/2000/XP; 32MB RAM; 40MB hard disk space

→ Setting up an encrypted message within an image file is very simple. Invisible Secrets takes you step-by-step through the process



← To set another carrier file type, click Options from the Welcome screen then choose Add Carrier

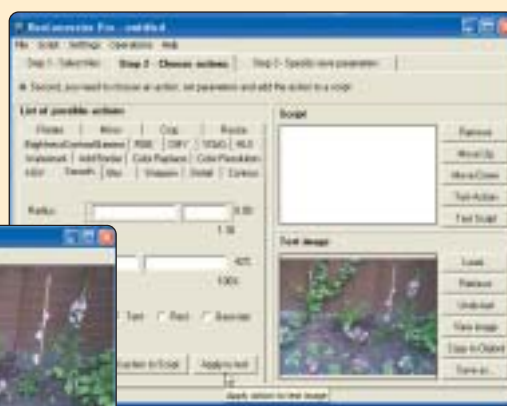


ReaConverter Pro 2.0

EXCLUSIVE FULL PROGRAM

→ Use the tabs on the left to apply actions to your image and press Apply to Test.

→ Click View image to see a close-up of your changes



← Select the resolution and quality levels for the images you're changing, and check 'Ask me before overwriting existing files' to ensure you don't accidentally convert your originals. Then press Start

If you have a lot of images you want to convert from one format to another – say high-res Tiff to low-res Jpeg for emailing – opening each in turn and resaving it is a chore. ReaConverter Pro 2.0 can do it for you in three easy steps: just select the images you want to alter then apply any of the available actions such as rotate, contrast or brightness. Check you are happy with the results then choose the format you want and save. Simple. ■

To install: 95 98 Me 2000 NT XP

ReaConverter Pro 2.0

The software should autorun when you click Install on the CD menu. If not, go to Start, Run. Type D:\reaconverter\reaconverterpro2.exe (where D is the letter of your CD-ROM drive).

System requirements

Pentium PC; Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP; 32MB RAM; 20MB hard disk space

Voucher page

SPECIAL OFFERS

If you've enjoyed the contents of our cover discs, our excellent range of deals on software packages are sure to grab your attention. Don't forget to mention *PC Advisor* when responding to these offers

ReaConverter Pro 3.0

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- Drag and drop files, add all images with one click.

For more information, visit www.reasoft.com/products/reaconverter

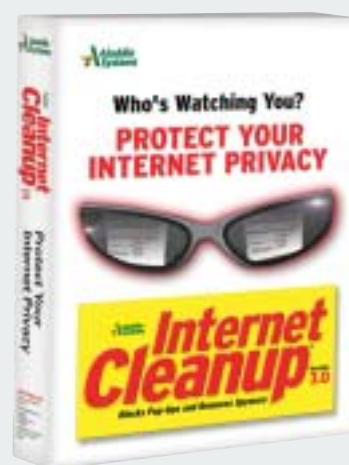
Internet Cleanup 3.0

Protect your privacy online. Remove spyware, kill pop-ups, protect online privacy and more.



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System LifeGuard



System LifeGuard is a comprehensive collection of utilities designed to dramatically improve the performance of your computer. It will effortlessly put you in control of the management and organisation of your PC or laptop, safely removing old files, folders, junk, internet activity and a lot more. In short, it means peace of mind.

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Simon Schama: A History of Britain King Death

60-MINUTE
EPISODE

Writer and broadcaster professor Simon Schama shot to fame with his award-winning TV series charting Britain through the ages. Our DVD brings you a full episode from his engaging historical retrospective, with a fascinating look at the effects of the Black Death

In the summer of 1348 the English could be forgiven for thinking themselves unconquerable. They had vanquished their enemies the Scots and the Welsh, while their king, Edward III, seemed the most powerful ruler in Europe. But they would be conquered by a ruler from whom neither longbows nor warships offered any defence: King Death. His weapon was death and by the end of his terrible campaign thousands and thousands of Britons would be dead.

In his wake the Plague brought pestilence, rebellion and civil war. So begins this, the fifth chapter of Simon Schama's *History of Britain* series, which charts these terrible times.

As we learn from this informative programme, the Black Death didn't originate in Britain and its destruction wasn't restricted to Europe. International trade enabled the disease to spread from land to land, as far east as India and China. It was carried by vermin but also, since these were unsanitary times, borne in the folds of cloths. The Plague's terrible visitation upon British shores began on the south coast and within six years had wiped out half the population.

A plague on all their houses

Nor was it the first national tragedy of the century. In 1315 the country was hit by famine, but the Plague seemed merciless and uncontrollable and was indiscriminate in whose lives it took and those who remained unaffected. The immune system would be overwhelmed and if the infection reached the lungs the victim would succumb after only a couple of days of bloody coughing.

Crowded towns and cities with narrow streets and everyone living on top of each other meant rats and fleas carrying the Plague could easily spread it and its potency was such that you needed to come into only the briefest contact with



← There are mass graves all over Britain containing the bones of Black Death victims

→ Merciless and indiscriminate, the Plague claimed the lives of half the British population in just six years



← You dirty rat: vermin carried the disease which, in an unsanitised 14th century London, spread like wildfire

To install:

To watch the video, load your desktop DVD player and press Play to bring up the chapter menu. To load the *PC Advisor* software interface, follow these instructions.

Go to Start, Run. Then type d:\master.exe (where D is the letter of your DVD drive). Or go to Start, Programs, Windows Explorer to locate the relevant EXE file. Follow the onscreen instructions to install the program you want. Please read the licence and any Read Me files for any special instructions that may relate to the individual products.

If you are unable to access the DVD contents or experience problems with the disc, call our DVD helpline on 0870 739 7630.

• Please note the software and video are on different sides of the DVD so you will need to open your drive and turn the disc over to access all the content.



← Schama recounts how Richard II, seen here in the portrait on the right, tried to reason with his rebellious subjects

↓ Wat Tyler, one of the leaders of the revolt against Richard's poll tax, met with a sticky end



an infected person or creature to become a victim yourself.

Schama takes the example of Bristol, a busy merchant town in which almost 50 percent of the citizens would be struck down by the Plague within a year, starting with the young and infirm but, due to their physical proximity, soon affecting the formerly healthy. Not knowing what else to do, many left those who had caught the Plague to die their inevitable painful death and fled in order to save themselves.

The disease was deeply divisive and, with so many affected, day-to-day living all but broke down. Because of the Plague's contagiousness and the number of deaths, disposing of the piles of victims' bodies posed real problems. When they finally succumbed to the disfiguring ravages of the Plague their final resting place was often a hastily dug mass grave.

Affluent aftermath

Eventually, however, the Plague was spent and the country dusted itself down and tried to resume life. Survivors who inherited land and property were suddenly relatively affluent, while workers, who were thin on the ground, could charge relatively high amounts for their labour.

Before the Plague, serfs farmed meagre plots of land; now they were able to call the shots. It was a freedom they were naturally unwillingly to relinquish.

The church was affected too, since many priests were killed by the Plague. Now, laymen – even women, in some cases – were able to hear confessions and perform other religious roles. Lollards encouraged people to read aloud original

biblical scripture and the translation of the Bible into English meant Christianity was accessible to a greater number – albeit only those who were able to read.

Royal uprising

Edward III was about the only noble who could depend on his continued status, but by the time the Plague had done its worst he was ageing. His successor, the Black Prince, an established hero, caught dysentery and died, followed not long after by the king himself.

The 10-year-old Richard II, Edward's grandson, acceded to the throne but his uncle, John of Gaunt, was the powerhouse behind the English sovereign.

When he was 14, Richard faced an uprising that began in south-east London. Villagers who had gained status from the Plague's death toll were incensed by an enforced poll tax that seemed designed simply to line the pockets of the affluent powerbrokers. They formed an army and their cause quickly gathered momentum.

They attacked the hated tax collectors, galvanised into action by their leaders Wat Tyler and a Lollard called John Ball who had been imprisoned for his attempts

to make religion accessible to the masses. Ball persuaded thousands to march to London and demand their rights. When they reached the capital, anarchy broke out and churches, palaces and other property was attacked.

The archbishop of Canterbury was decapitated and his head paraded through the streets by Tyler and Ball's gang. His was not the only death – a gang of Flemish merchants was also murdered.

Richard II showed his mettle at this point, meeting the poll tax protesters despite the risk to his life. Tyler set out his demands for a new magna carta for the people, abolishing serfdom, liquidating the church's assets, pardoning the outlaws and recognising all citizens except the king as equals.

Richard agreed. But then someone from the king's ranks called out an insult and the truce was broken. In the fracas, Tyler was killed and, minutes later, Richard charged at the rebels, crying: "You shall have no captain but me." ■



Buy the full *A History of Britain* series at all good DVD stockists or online at www.bbcshop.com

Games domain

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➤ Love they neighbour? Not if you're playing to win

← Why's everyone shooting at me? Agent Chaser doesn't know the score



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