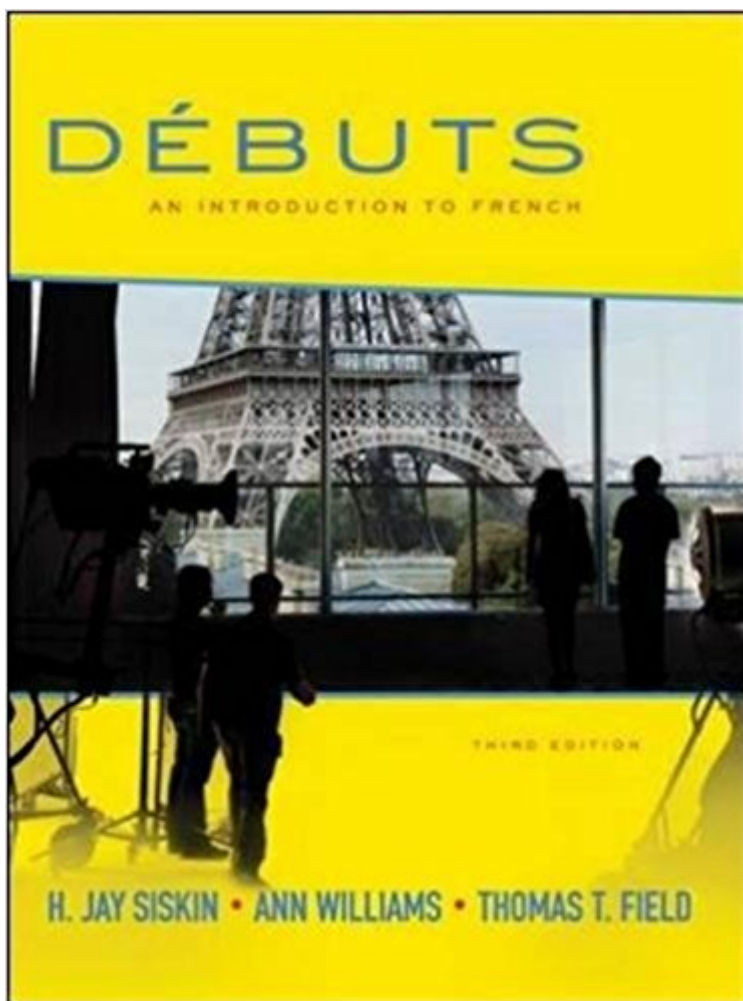


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DÉBUTS: An Introduction To French, 3rd Edition



Synopsis

Welcome to *DÃ©buts*: a completely integrated film-based introductory course for learning French language and culture. The film narrative of *Le Chemin du retour* is what drives the scope and sequence of vocabulary and grammar, the presentation of culture, and the development of reading and writing. A two-hour feature-length film, *Le Chemin du retour* is the story of a young television journalist, Camille Leclair, and her pursuit of the truth about her grandfather's mysterious past. Through Camille's quest, students learn language and culture in the functional context provided by the story. The textbook/film package grew out of the authors' conviction that language learning is more than just learning skills: it is also a process in which understanding of culture must surely occupy a central position. Therefore, *DÃ©buts* and *Le Chemin du retour* emphasize the importance of cultural awareness and understanding, not only of French and Francophone culture, but also of the student's own culture. In addition, the *DÃ©buts* program contains both literary and cultural readings, as well as a playlist of Francophone songs, to provide even more authentic input to students on current or provocative topics, allowing for more student interaction in class. There is also CourseSmart eTextbook version of this title available separately. Students can save up to 50% off the cost of a print book, reduce their impact on the environment, and access powerful web tools for learning. Faculty can also review and compare the full text online without having to wait for a print desk copy. For maximum portability, e Textbooks can be viewed on an iPhone or iPod Touch, and they can be printed.

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Customer Reviews

Thomas T. Field received his Ph.D. in linguistics from Cornell University. He is currently professor of Linguistics and French at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Dr. Field's research is focused on Occitan sociolinguistics and the teaching of French and Francophone culture. In 1996, he was named Maryland Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. H. Jay Siskin received his Ph.D. from Cornell University in Romance and French linguistics. He is Professor of French and Program Chair of World Languages at Cabrillo College. He is author of five textbooks in French, as well as numerous articles and reviews that have appeared in such publications as *The French Review*, *Foreign Language Annals*, and the *PMLA*. Most recently, he has edited a volume of essays entitled *From Thought to Action: Exploring Beliefs and Outcomes in the Foreign Language Program*. His book, which explores the cultural context of university-level foreign language teaching, will be published by Yale University Press. Professor Siskin serves as chair of the Modern Language Association's Division of the Teaching of Language and is a member of that association's Committee on Awards and honors, as well as of its Delegate Assembly. He is currently pursuing an advanced degree in Jewish Studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. Ann Williams received her Ph.D. from Northwestern University and also has a *Diplôme d'Études Approfondies* from the Université de Lyon II. She is currently professor of French at Metropolitan State College of Denver, where she teaches courses in language, literature, and culture, and she has coauthored three other college-level French textbooks. Dr. Williams received the Chris Wells Memorial Creativity Award in 2008 (Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers).

Was very helpful for the course. I even kept it for subsequent courses. Definitely a better price than what my college is selling it at.

This textbook is absolutely terrible! The online assignments are even worse! It should be a crime to use this in university classrooms. I thought when I signed up for French this book was going to be well structured and beginner friendly, but it isn't. It's poorly organized and lacks in depth explanation of why certain things are the way they are (an example is words having a certain sex). The book simply telling me a certain word is masculine but failing to explain why that is so is useless. I don't pay thousands of dollars in tuition to memorize things. I want to understand the concepts behind things and understand why they are the way they are. This book fails to do something as simple as that. Furthermore, French is a WRITTEN language so this book should start off by teaching us the alphabet and basic grammar, but it starts off by teaching you a bunch of random words for the first

chapter (this is a preview chapter, but still). For those wondering, I have not dropped the class, nor do I plan to (I need the credit). If you plan to study French on your own DO NOT use this book. Long story short, buyer beware. It's a trap....

Giving one star for the Kindle version. You can NOT open this book if you're running Windows 8. It appears in the book list, but will not open. Customer service could not give me a clear reason why it won't work.

A pretty good text book! I had to use this for one of my french courses at university and it was really helpful and had a sense of humor.

Mediocre introductory textbook.

The kindle version of this book only works for one device which is MAC laptop but does not work on any other devices such as android or windows OS. I am very disappointed. I need my money back.

Never rented an book before, but I'm pretty pleased! Definitely very cheap and only slightly beat up.

We don't use it a lot in class, but it is still a good book for beginner's French.

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