

# WHY YOU HATE LEARNING DUTCH

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**talencoach**  


*“Learning Dutch can be a horrendous nightmare  
but also a great adventure  
towards a beautiful dream  
Hey! Let’s go together, and I’ll show you...  
Dutch is easier than you ever imagined  
and you are smarter than you think”*

Albert Both – Talencoach



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## Introduction

Some time ago, you lived in another country. But then, you had the exciting thought of going somewhere else, because somehow you thought that life could bring a new adventure to you. So you went to a small tiny country with colourful tulips, charming mills and golden cheese.

Before you moved there, you had clear intentions. There was a good reason for staying there, as new opportunities would come to you. Somehow, life would be better for you. Therefore you wanted to be sure that you could speak with all the people in that special place, because you also wanted to feel at home. One thing was sure: you would learn a new language called Dutch.

Then you moved to Holland and many things happened. You saw the beauty of flourishing tulips, you ate loads of cheese, you got your own bike and maybe you also experienced some of the other things that made Holland famous (☺)..... But one thing did not happen. You did **not** learn the language. Maybe you tried, but somehow you did not quite succeed. Maybe you got some of it, but you are not happy with it... You may think that the Dutch that you master now, has a pathetic low quality or quantity. Maybe even both... ☹

The language that – some time ago – seemed like an exciting part of a new adventure – turned into a little creepy monster. Whenever you wanted to get more out of life in that new place, it stood in the way. Sometimes it made you feel inadequate or at least annoyed.... And then.... A wonderful idea came to your mind.... Maybe you wouldn't need that pig sounding creature anyway.... So you tried to ignore it, and talk more with that other friend: English.

Unfortunately it did not disappear. While you experienced that English was a great friend that always supported you, that little monster called Dutch got even more obnoxious. You tried to ignore it, but that monster started to attack. It gave that crappy feeling. Sometimes you could feel it, rather intense and then it was there more on the background. But often it was there.... That little nagging feeling.... ☹

That f#\$%king feeling was really horrible and even insulting. You could have the life of your dreams now, but that stupid obnoxious thing always wanted to ruin it. It could devastate your mood and stop you from feeling fantastic.... It literally spoiled parties... So, maybe out of despair you thought it would be better to learn Dutch, just to get rid of it. So you took a course. Ouch! Now it started to hurt even more! Now you knew for sure that you didn't like it! And that same old idea became even more unbearable.... Life could be so good, so fantastic.... If only Dutch did not exist.....

And then you read a new e-book. Which gave you a shocking insight. What if that nagging feeling was not caused by Dutch? What if that horrible feeling just came from another part of yourself that knows that you are capable and smart enough? A part that tried to make life extremely uneasy for you, so that you would be 'gently' forced to **discover** new parts of yourself **and unleash new talents**?

You have this e-book in your hands now. It is no coincidence. Consciously or unconsciously you were attracted to it, and this information was literally attracted to you. And now it could change your life and improve it in many different ways. If you allow it.....

It is my sincere wish that this e-book can have a positive impact on you. So that you can have more fun and even more adventure! Read it with an open mind. And let it sink in for a while. It does not matter if you find it difficult to understand it. Leave it, and if needed read this e-book again. **Read it several times** and then **decide for yourself** if you like the message and if you would like to believe it. Remember that you are always free to reject it. But before you do it, please keep on reading! ☺

Best wishes,

Albert Both

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Talencoach

## Is learning Dutch just a crazy idea?

Let's be honest now... Learning Dutch just sounds ridiculous. Wouldn't speaking Dutch be as useful as speaking Icelandic?

Why would you put so much effort in learning a language that so few people speak? If you feel that compulsive need to learn a language anyway, then why would you not choose Chinese? Sure, it might take some effort, but then you could literally have millions and millions of new friends... ^\_^

Therefore, deciding that you will not learn Dutch is an extremely logical decision! Actually, it can feel quite liberating... So many things that you do not have to do anymore.... There is no need to waste any precious time. Therefore not learning Dutch can only bring advantages... it makes perfect sense. There is only one important thing... you have to feel totally at peace with it! You must decide for 100% that speaking Dutch is not something that you would like or appreciate. Otherwise it does not work. If speaking Dutch is something that you secretly desire, then unfortunately only one thought will probably haunt you: why don't I speak Dutch @!f\$, why don't I speak Dutch? Then it only sucks ☹

So once again, if you decide that you will not learn Dutch, then it is perfectly ok... you have every right to do so. But... then you should not think about it again! Just enjoy the advantages of not learning a new language... Make a decision once and for all and then stick to it. Feel happy about it! Once again, if speaking Dutch is something that you genuinely don't want, then you have every right not to learn this language....

But... here comes the catch, the bitchy and tricky thing... if you decide that you will not learn the language, because you think that somehow you cannot do it, or that it is unfortunately not possible for you , then it will not work ☹

You can only feel happy about not learning Dutch, if you really do not want to speak it. This is true for the vast majority of all the people in the world. 99% of the world population does not speak Dutch and they do not feel for one second that this has a negative impact on their happiness! This makes perfect sense. If you live in all the

countries of the world (except for Holland or Belgium) then you will never ever need it... You see? 0,000 reasons to feel sorry about it! ☺

**Hey, wait a minute!** you may say....

I am often in the Netherlands.... Each and every morning that I wake up, I find myself in the Netherlands! And I want to know what is going on around me! I want to know what my colleagues are talking about in their secret language. I want to know what just happened if all of a sudden I sit alone in an empty train. I would also like to laugh if everybody is having a great time at parties! Or, what would you think about this one? I just want to understand my own children when they talk to their friends!

It this is the case then **gefeliciteerd**, congratulations! You have made such an important step now. It does take some courage to bluntly admit: **yes, I would like to speak Dutch!** If this is the case, then please be aware that all of a sudden you got in touch with a deeper desire... Now it is the time, to take this deeper desire more seriously. Do not deny it! Simply dare to admit and say to yourself: yes! I would like to speak great Dutch! (Even if Dutch people tell you that for you it should not be important...)

Now that you know that speaking Dutch is something that you really want, you can now also give it the importance that it needs....

It may help you that you realize that whatever you choose, you will always pay a price. If you decide not to learn it, you can just sit back and relax. But... at the same time, you may feel that sooner or later you would miss out many great things in life.... On the other hand, if you learn Dutch, then great things could be possible. But... it does take an investment from your part. It is up to you to do the calculations...

By the way, the path towards speaking a new language can be quite tricky. Many traps and obstacles are waiting for you... But... knowledge can help you to avoid all this. What if you just knew that something fantastic is waiting for you and that you could also take a more joyous path with far more shortcuts? Taking this path is actually quite easy... it all starts with one simple thing. **Say JA!** (yes)



## Why people hate what they love

People complain about many things. About Dutch, money and love. The question is, do they hate Dutch, money or love if they complain about it.... Although it is tempting to say yes, it is not necessarily the case...

If a person complains about money, because living in a nice apartment requires a lot of money, does it mean that this person hates money?

If a person complains about love, because all the men / women are totally crap or already taken, does it mean that this person hates love?

If a person complains that Dutch is so difficult, does it mean that this person hates Dutch... ?

No..... not at all,

It only means that **you hate the lack of it....**

You want to have more money, love or Dutch,

There is only one annoying problem.

You do not know how to get it!



**Whenever something is important to us, we want to have it.**

**If we cannot have it, a terrible thing happens.** We start to feel inadequate and often we blame ourselves for not having it. Self esteem lowers. Confidence disappears. And all the feelings that come with it are horrendous!

Therefore it is vitally important to know that it is the lack of the thing that we want and the lack of our self esteem that cause us to feel bad. The fastest way to feel happy again is to increase our self confidence and thus our capacities so that we can get the thing that we truly desire. You could call this principle continuous improvement, or simply: life.

There is a good thing about all this. It propels us to grow and to prosper. To find joy in new activities again and again. Life is a constant stretch towards a new dream and the expansion of your true self. What seemed to be an obnoxious obstacle first, could turn out to be your best friend. One thing will certainly help you to stretch yourself! Learning Dutch! ©

## Why Dutch is never the ultimate goal

Do cloggies speak Dutch because they think it is the most beautiful language in the world? Not at all. Most cloggies would admit that they think that French or Italian sounds much better and more charming. They also speak English, because they know it is the most important language in the world. Therefore they like to practice their skills with you. But for mysterious reasons, they always speak Dutch together. The reason is quite simple. For the specific region of the Netherlands, it is the most effective form of communication for virtually everything. Whenever you would like to benefit from the same advantages, then speaking Dutch is a very good option.

Whenever we communicate, we have special reasons:

- We try to sell a product for a higher price.
- You just need attention, love or appreciation.
- You want to express your feelings.
- You want to show that you are competent.



Whenever you say something, you have a goal in mind. Your communication has always an intention. Your wish to master Dutch is herein absolutely natural.

- You are in a shop and you want to know exactly what you are buying.
- You want to understand your children when they play with their friends.
- You want to read the newspaper of the place where you live.
- You want to be politically involved.
- You want to have deeper and more meaningful relationships with people.
- You want to be eligible for a better job or position.

**Never deny these deeper wishes!** Do not believe cloggies when they say that it is ok **for you** to reduce your options to communicate! **They** constantly try to expand it, by speaking English with you! Could you call this hypocrisy? Why not?

**People often say that no one in their company speaks Dutch. That could be true. However, their company speaks Dutch. International companies like Microsoft and British Airways may speak English to you, but they speak Dutch to Dutch people. For obvious reasons. It is highly beneficial and lucrative.**

## You already succeeded once! 😊

If you genuinely feel that you don't want to speak Dutch, this is perfectly ok, and you could even stop reading now. But, if you sense that speaking fluent Dutch is something that you do want, there is good news. **You can do it!** The reason why I can virtually guarantee it? You already succeeded once! You already learned English, or maybe even also another language. It was one of the first things that you did on this planet. As it may have been a long time ago, you may have forgotten the successful strategy that you once used. So here is a gentle reminder. This was your master plan that you used when you were a baby.....

- 1) You had a very deep desire to communicate with other people around you. At least you wanted to talk to your mother!
- 2) You had a very open mind. You constantly listened to the sounds that you started to relate with all the things around you and you started to recognize patterns. You successfully decoded essential codes of grammar and vocabulary and every time you could do it faster and more efficiently.
- 3) You did not care about making mistakes. To be honest, no one could understand you, but you didn't care! Good!
- 4) You accepted all the help that you could get.
- 5) You started with the basic things first. You did not try to be polite or to be intellectual. Perfectionism was inexistent in your dictionary!
- 6) You were extremely curious and you were excited about all the new things that you could discover.
- 7) You never ever gave up!



Read this successful strategy again. Be honest with yourself. For Dutch, do you really follow all the necessary steps? Do you have an open mind? Do you accept all the help you can get? Is it ok for you if your words do not sound polite or intellectual? And are you extremely curious and would you never give up?

**By the way.... The greatest news still has to come.....**

## You can not only repeat your first success again, you can also achieve it (at least) 37 times faster!

Could you really believe that you can learn a second language, but then – at least – 37 times faster? The wonderful thing is that you already have so many great talents, assets, skills and advantages that, miraculously, you took too much for granted.

If you drink milk, would it drip out of your mouth again? Some time ago, it did. You had no control over the muscles in your mouth when you were a small baby. Therefore every single sound that you tried to imitate was a complete challenge. All you could say was **da da da** and there wasn't a single letter in the whole alphabet that you could pronounce correctly. How is that compared with the 'sufferings' that you are facing now? Probably **two** sounds in Dutch can still give you a hard time.... Could it be **G** or **UI** for you? Just a first guess . . . . ☺

When you were young, you had to begin totally from scratch. You did not know anything of this world. Maybe you heard the word **cat**, but you had no idea what it really was. You had to collect many different facts about it, before the word **cat** could have any meaning to you. Now you already know that a cat is a furry monster that kills innocent birds, fish and mice. That it hates dogs. .. All you have to do right now is to attach a Dutch label to the word '**De kat**'. You pronounce **kat**, more or less as cut in English. You can simply imagine that you **cut** a **cat**! It is an effective learning technique called **sadist creative association!** ☺

By the way, there were so many other things that you did not know. Many concepts didn't mean anything to you. The difference between **thick** and **thin**? You did not know. **Big** or **small**? No clue at all! At present, you do not have to watch hours of Sesame Street first. You can simply remember the Dutch words straight away: **dik** – **dun** & **groot** – **klein**. That will do the trick!



### Would you outsmart a Dutch toddler?

Answer the following questions:

- 1) Is Zweden een land in Scandinavië? En Italië?
- 2) Is coaching een effectief managementinstrument?

If you know the answers, congratulations! First of all, you read it in another language.

Now, show these questions to some Dutch toddlers and see what happens!

Because of the fact that you can learn a second language at least 30 times faster than your first language, the process will unfold itself in another way.

Students of the Talencoach Accelerated Speed Course often report that they can already read many sentences from Dutch newspapers, after a course of only 20 hours. This is truly amazing. When could you read your first words in your own language? For most children it is only after 7 or 8 years after continuous and full language immersion. And then, they can still not understand most articles from the newspaper!

While babies start to speak, most adults start to read. And that is perfectly ok. Often if you can read things, soon you will be able to write it. Once you write it, you could also say it. And then you speak the language!

**Children do not learn a language passively or automatically. They work hard for it and they are extremely persistent. When they make a mistake, they will try to do it better, again and again. There is only one important difference. They call it playing and you call it study.**

## If you want to believe that Dutch is extremely difficult, science will be against you.

If you look at Dutch linguistically, in a scientific way, you could only come to one conclusion. **Dutch is the closest language to English.** No wonder, they belong to the same linguistic family. Dutch and English are literally like brother and sister. Just like German. But German is far more complicated than Dutch. It has three genders, whereas Dutch only has two. The verb system is much more challenging. You can modify German adjectives in many more ways.... And the worst thing of all... German has cases. For this reason alone, German is far more complicated.

All right, you may say. But Dutch has that horrible G-sound.  
True.

It is a normal sound that also other languages have. Spanish for example...



So, if you really want to believe that Dutch is the most difficult language for English speaking people, do not count on science. Science will not help you ☹️

There is another curious thing. Why would almost all Dutch people say that English is an easy language? Why wouldn't French or Spanish people say that English is easy? Because in many ways, Dutch and English are quite similar!

All right you may say: I have scientific proof now...

There are more Dutch people that speak English, than English speaking people that speak Dutch. This is the absolute evidence that it is more difficult for English speaking people to learn a new language.

Got your point, but where is the objective comparison?

An average Dutch person receives more than 360 hours of English classes in his life. For people with a higher education it could easily be more than 700 hours. So... if you want to compare yourself with a Dutch person, make sure that you get these 360 hours first. Only then, we should compare again! ☺️

## But why the f u(k is it so difficult? !!!! ☹️

Should you boost your Dutch now, and think that speaking Dutch is easy?

No. Not really...

Not yet.

There is still one thing that you might want to know.

Let's face it, if Dutch were really easy...

You would already speak it, fluently.

and you would not be reading this e-book...

**Apparently there must be something that is stopping you**

**You may not be aware of it, but it is there,**

It is always present in your brain, it runs through your blood, it is there in your eyes and also in your ears, even in your nose and it vibrates in every cell of your body.

It came to you, because it had its purpose...

But now, it is your biggest obstacle.

You learned your first language successfully and this is also the problem...

Because without you really realizing it, you also became a 'victim' of a very strange, but very earthly and human phenomenon: **cultural conditioning**

When you came to this world, you were like a whole piece of white paper.

You could write anything on it.

In all the thinkable languages of this whole world.

Everything was possible.

You had an open mind and you could welcome anything.

As long as your mother spoke it, you would embrace it.

English, Dutch, Chinese, Czech, Hindi, German, Greek, it wouldn't matter

If your mother were a dog, you would bark now...

As a real anthropologist and scientific scholar, you started to scan and decode the mysterious sounds of your mother. In the beginning, they only seemed to confuse you, but gradually, you became pretty good at it. You started to recognize certain patterns, you decoded the meaning of thousands of words and.... you analyzed successfully a whole grammatical system! You had an enormous drive to do it and you started to master it. The sounds that were once intelligible, started to become comprehensible and later they even became familiar. Therefore, you started to call it



natural or normal. So far, so good. You got a clear definition of your native language in your head and your mission was accomplished. You could start to speak with the people around you. It was only a matter of **objectively applying** all these things that you once heard!

However, at the same time, another less convenient thing happened.

Linguistically you started to limit yourself. If you heard a new sound, that did not sound like your own language, most often you would not even hear it. It was beyond your perception. If you could hear it, you tended to reject it. You would label it as an annoying sound. And you would exclude it from your mind.

**This is the problem: you think that your language is language!**

**Your language is a language.**

**It is one of the many ways**

**how you could speak, think and express yourself !**

Whereas a child you were open, for every thinkable option, you started to be more selective though time. Acceptance was no longer unconditional. Your first language has become the golden standard for you. If Dutch looks like it, you will accept it. But if it doesn't look like it, you will tend to reject it. Not in such a direct way of course. You will do it in a very educated and polite way. You will simply say: I don't understand! Or more bluntly you may say: this is stupid! I cannot learn that!

### **The cultural conditioning test 1**

Which word makes most sense to you? What do these words mean?

- pennen
- klokken
- bedden
- pillen
- appels

Just a guess. Is your favorite word apples? P.S. this test may not work if you studied some Dutch already !!!

**It is easy and difficult to live 20 years in a country and not learn the language!**

## Cultural conditioning test 2

Which word makes most sense to you? What do these words mean?

- pen
- klok
- bed
- pil
- appel

Is it still apple? Would you think that it is easier to guess the other words now? Did the idea occur to you that adding **-en** could be a perfect way to put words in a **plural**, just like oxen and children in English?

Up till now, you may have believed that learning Dutch was just a matter of listening to many language cd's and studying grammar for long hours. That it was a matter of pushing that g-sound through your throat...

But to be honest, that will not be the real challenge...

The real challenge is much deeper and therefore far more interesting..

The essential question is:

Can you see through the seeming limitations of your own mind?

Or would you like to do it?

Would you be willing to accept the idea that many limitations that you clearly experience, could be just an illusion?

When?

Would you be eager to discover that many obstacles could easily disappear if you only took a different perspective?

When?

**Learning Dutch could be one of the greatest and most mind blowing adventure that you ever had. Welcome to part 2. Welcome to the 7 secrets!**

**If as babies, we had the same positive drive as most adults very likely, we would happily sit now in a comfy wheel chair all day!**

# Part 2

## Part 2: The 7 secrets

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## 1 Accept the fact that you do not have it (just for now)

One of the most important laws of this world, is **the law of contrast**. It means that whenever you vividly wish for something that could truly fulfill you, you will immediately experience the extreme opposite of it.

If you want to be wealthy and rich, all of a sudden you feel poor.

If you long for that perfect relationship, all of a sudden you see yourself as that pathetic and unattractive single.

If you would like to be slim and healthy, your mirror gently reminds you that you are still a fat cow.

Ouch! This hurts! On top of this, for Dutch these feelings can be even worse.... ☹

Let's assume that you love to speak in English. You can say anything that you want, you can have fun with your friends and you feel extremely confident. Because you like it so much, you think it would be a nice idea to have similar experiences in Dutch. So.... you decide that you will speak Dutch now. “#\$!!! All of a sudden, every thing that you once had, disappears. You open your mouth, but no word comes out of it. People talk to you, and it is like listening to a Chinese radio station. Everything that you once loved is gone! The jokes you could tell, the fun that you had.... Literally you stand with empty hands now. While English always gave you **everything**, Dutch leaves you with **nothing**! On top of it you feel also stupid. No one will see you as a friend or competent person anymore. You still wonder why you feel scared?

**The law of contrast** evokes a harsh confrontation, straight away. Feelings that come with it are often highly unpleasant. Most human beings strongly prefer to feel better again, so they want to find a way to get rid of these negative feelings. Logically, there are **2** things that you can do.:

- 1) You have the negative feelings, because you do not have what you want. The first logical action is to **go for your wish** and that you **do everything in order to get it**. It is one of the wise moments in which you decide to sign up for a Dutch language course. This strategy is definitely the best, but.... there is one massive disadvantage, which is often difficult to overcome. Getting that thing that you truly want, may take a long time. Sometimes, even more than a whole year! Meanwhile

these strong negative feelings persist and through time, they only seem to grow. Chances are high that eventually you cannot bear them. Sooner or later, a moment of discouragement will arrive. Then it will seem that **you will never get it anyway, and you do not want to feel miserable forever**. All of a sudden you will think of a second strategy again, which miraculously seems to be irresistible.

- 2) All you need is to get rid of negative feelings, so that you can feel good again! And apparently there is one fast track to achieve it. What caused you to feel miserable in the first place? That stupid wish that you once had! The solution is simple now. The only thing that you have to do, is to convince yourself that the wish that you originally had, was extremely stupid and highly insane. Get rid of that senseless pie in the sky thinking! Problem solved!

For some longer time at least

What you may not have realized was that with the second option, you made a fatal mistake. Did you really realize where that inspiring and joy giving wish came from? It came from a wiser and deeper part of you, that you may call your soul or your heart. Would you think that it can still work out fine, if you deny these deeper desires? Many people give it a chance and try it. But there is one high risk here. Often you will feel the continuous pain of living an empty and unrewarding life! ☹

Fortunately, there is also a **third option**. Few human beings can see it, but it is the definitely far most the best option! It simply means that you allow the law of contrast to do its work. Feel the emptiness and welcome it! Embrace it with all the love that you have and make it your best friend. Give it another interpretation. Do not see it as the evidence that you are in a horrible situation, because you do not have what you want. See it as the ultimate proof that your future will be totally different from the present and feel excited about it now!

“#\$\$%!!!! Should I be happy that I do not have it? Come on! I must feel horrible, because otherwise I will not achieve the things that I want. I would become lazy then, I wouldn't be persistent, I wouldn't work enough, so I would end up with nothing and then I would be depressed and feel extremely bad about myself for the rest of my life! It all makes sense, but once again...

Life does not work this way....

The better you feel about not speaking Dutch, the more you will open up

The more you will play with it, the less you will be concerned about your crappy pronunciation and all your stupid mistakes. You will not care if people could think that you are mentally retarded. But you will learn, at conscious and unconscious levels! Once you do not care about having it right now, while you hold a vivid and inspiring vision of the future in your mind, you are more likely to get it!

Mainly **your success of speaking Dutch may rely on only one thing**

Your capacity to accept the fact that you do not have it, while feeling good and confident!

### Test: can you be happy if you do not have what you want yet?

Imagine that you hate your job. You hate it, you hate it, you hate it!

When would you feel happier?

- 1) Friday at 15.30
- 2) Sunday at 18.30

P.S. 1) you are actually working 2) you have free time

The law of contrast is more a feeling, than a reality. While you may feel that you have nothing, the first shift towards the fulfillment of your wish already take place. Your Dutch is like a tulip bulb under the ground. While speaking Dutch is obviously the blooming flower, the first transformations will take place under the surface, where you cannot see it. But whether you perceive it or not, these changes take place, as long as you nourish and cherish your bulb. It does need your care, your attention, sunshine and water!



A simple technique that allows you to work with this powerful principle is this: Watch Dutch television or read a Dutch magazine and give it your positive focus. Do not worry that you do not understand it, just feel excited how great it would be, once you could master all this stuff. If you are at a party, you can simply observe the people talking and imagine, how great it will be once you can participate! Do this often and let it simply unfold.

## 2 You do not learn a language at school.

**But is a good place where you can highly accelerate it**

Children already speak a language before they go to school. However, at school they learn how to read and write and these skills are extremely helpful if you want to bring your language on a higher and deeper level.

Could you learn a new language without taking a course or going to school? Yes... you could... But only if you intensively immersed yourself for a long time, and only if you forced *yourself* to discover new patterns about vocabulary and grammar. Most likely, the end result would be disastrous. Essentially it would still be English, but then with a foreign accent.

While learning Dutch, you would be smart enough to discover that **brood** means **bread** and that **boter** is **butter**. But at the same time, there are many things that you would not see, or if you could see them, it would take ages. Take next sentence for example: **Ik kom een man tegen**. (I encounter a man) Could you ever guess without the help from someone else that the whole **verb** is: **tegenkomen**? I couldn't 😊  
So why not get some help from someone else for learning Dutch at high speed?

As a child, I wanted to talk like this in English:

I **drink not** coffee and he **drink not** tea

I thought I was brilliant. My English really sounded authentic! I was proud!

I am glad that my teacher disagreed and that he told me that in *real* English it was:

I **do not** drink coffee and he **does not** drink tea.

Would my natural brilliance allow me to discover the difference between **do not** and **does not**? I doesn't think so... I am still grateful that my teacher gave the secret code straight away. He was also kind enough to explain the usage of **don't** in stead of **do not** and **doesn't** in stead of **does not**. This valuable information literally saved me years of confusion, and crappy English for a lifetime! The beauty was, that he gave very systematic instructions. I did not have to remember 1000 sentences by heart. But every time that I wanted to say something I had to think of some important fixed principles. Yes, initially it took some time. It did not make sense when I kept

comparing it with Dutch. But hey! A cat doesn't bark right? I understood that English was not Dutch. And just because of the fact that I had to apply this basic principle over and over again, this whole process became automatic. And now I does not have to think about it again... ☺ It literally goes without thinking! The beauty of systematic information is that you do not have to remember thousands of sentences and it saves time. **In stead of calling it stupid grammar, I prefer to speak about powerful leverage!** Just apply consistently a limited set of important basic rules, take some words and enjoy the freedom of saying and understanding everything that you want! The moment you can do this, your new language will skyrocket! By the way, my first English teacher had a hilarious name: Mr. Monster!

School, or a language course can be a fantastic place. It can speed you all up and propel you to higher dimensions. However, often it seems to be a place where it slows your learning process down. The reason is simple. People erroneously believe **it is the only place where you can learn**. How should you call it if you think that school is the only place where you can learn things? Inefficient at least. But I would rather suggest: very very stupid! ☺

Why not learn Dutch in the supermarket? Suppose you see a display **aardbeien** €2,50 and next to it you see some juicy strawberries.... Could you learn this word at that same moment? Or would you wait until your teacher officially introduced the new word **aardbeien** to you? Well... actually some people do! ☺ Then you see: **lekkere aardbeien**. You know that **lekker** is delicious, but why that extra **e** in front of the word **aardbeien**? You can do two things now.... See it as the absolute evidence that Dutch is the most illogical language on this earth and that you are a poor victim, or.... just ask your teacher. Within one minute you can get the secret code. All right you will say: now I understand. And next time that you go to the supermarket you'll see: **lekkere appels**. It all makes sense now and then.... would you still have the urge to study? Obviously, the supermarket is not the only place where you can learn things... Shops, parties, books, your favorite movies with Dutch subtitles.... opportunities are limitless!



This is one of the reasons why I was bad at math. I could never see it around me, only if I sat in a boring class room, or if I opened my math book that I hated. So I

kept this wisely closed. It was one of those typical things that should be useful in a vague and undefined future. However, grown up people could never help me with me homework. (sorry parents, no offense!) This was strange. If they didn't use it, why would I use such a horrible thing in the future?

At school, I clearly understood why French was useful. In France, you would find it, straight away! Still... France was still a little far away. I would not spend each weekend in Paris at that time. For you, Dutch is something that always surrounds you, here in Holland. Just walk on the street or turn on your TV and you can hear it! When you take a language course, you can learn for that one important moment!

**NOW!**

When most people think about learning a new language, many people think like this:

*Learning* ⇒ *Learning* ⇒ *Learning* ⇒ *speaking*

They think that first they should learn, and then they should learn again. Then, they should learn again, and only at the end, you could start speaking. Learning is obviously like a long chain of separate elements, that eventually leads to a desired result. In this model, only when you feel that you have learned enough, you can start to speak. When will this happen? In most cases never!

In this model every separate item of learning works like a hard drug. For that moment it gives relief and satisfaction. But it never gives the thing that you truly want.

**Although a desired result inspires us, it can also scare us.**

**If you want to speak a foreign language, it takes courage.**

**You will believe that you sound more pathetic than an ugly monster from Mars!**

**This is not true of course, but you cannot learn this from books.**

**Only if you do it, you will discover it!**

**Welcome to a much better and more efficient model (see next page)**

An integrated model of learning and speaking, based on **now**.



In this model there is no distinction between learning and speaking. When you learn, you speak. And when you speak you learn. School is like a board room where you meet other people that share the same goals and where you discuss about strategies. It is a place for reflection, coaching, support, inspiration and fun. Whenever you speak, you will get immediate feedback on how you can improve this **now**, so that you can also apply it your daily every day life **straight away**. Logically there is no need to study so much. Just continue talking and use the new insights!

Originally, school was often used for training people to work in a factory. People had to be able to read instructions there, and in the factory there was no time to teach people that. So then the idea came. Why not put people in a certain place where you can fill them with information when they are young? Then later, in the future, they can use it, and then they can work better and harder in a nice place like a factory. As the work itself would often not be challenging at all, it was not important that people could learn new things. All they had to do was to remember something that they learned in the past. Traditionally this was the main purpose of education. Storage of often useless information, for later use in an undefined future.

Whenever you want to learn a new language, you will be faced with new challenges all the time. People speak new sentences every minute, and your activities may change, so you will need other words. Therefore, you should never store static information in your head. It is the main task of your teacher to show you how you can learn new things, fast and efficiently and....ideally, while having fun!

**As soon as you say *Hallo goede morgen*, you started to speak Dutch. Now school can help you to multiply this first result and learn even faster.**

This explains the difference between traditional education and learning Dutch from a Talencoach accelerated languagecourse. Whereas with normal education, you may often be learning for a future, at the Talencoach course, you will learn for only one moment. **Now, now and now**.... As it is always now, now will also be your future ☺ Plus.... there is some other good news. If you often speak Dutch **now**, your Dutch of now, will be better than your Dutch of some time ago.... Each time that you do it now! Sounds like a fair deal right?

### **What is your definition of a good teacher?**

- 1) A teacher is someone that asks you to read a Dutch sentence from a book. Whenever you say something wrong, he will correct you.**
- 2) A teacher is like a coach. And a coach is like a taxi driver. He will pick you up at the place where you are right now, and he will bring you to the place where you want to be, in the fastest way possible.**

### **Test: are you a great teacher?**

The fact that you can speak a language does not mean that you can teach it!  
Would you like to take a test? Please go ahead!

In English you always put an extra **s** after **verbs** with he, she or it.

He **swims**, she **thinks**, it **works** ←→ I **swim**, you **think**, they **work**

However there are 5 verbs that do not get an extra s.

Your desperate student absolutely wants to know them. Can you help him now?

### **Does your grammar book look too complicated?**

**Probably you are right, so simply remember:**

**The golden rule for everything in life:**

**It is easy to make things difficult and difficult to make things easy**

**→ (is it difficult to just look for a better book?)**

### 3 Start to learn the easy things first

Does your TV look like a radio or does your car look like a horse carriage?

????

In the early days, they did.

The reason is quite simple: A new thing that looks completely different, will not easily be accepted by people, if they cannot relate it to something that they already know.

So if you want to sell something radically different.... make it look familiar!

Therefore many people see God like an old man with a long beard.

That's why your e-mail looks like an envelope on your computer screen.

**Test:** Which description for the non existing **strewghx** attracts more people?

- 1) **The strewghx.** Absolutely unique, you'll never see it again. It's indescribable, therefore is nothing like it, you can't explain, unlike anything. Only for €80,-
- 2) **Thre strweghx.** Just like internet on your computer. But now 30 times faster and 3 times cheaper. Only €80

Probably 2

People will **not** massively buy a new product, unless it looks somehow, familiar to them. How about you? Do you buy the Dutch words already?

Imagine that you could start your Dutch course with one of these two sentences.

Which sentence would give you more confidence?

And which sentence could bring you more easy to the next sentence to learn?

**1) Ik stel me graag eventjes voor**

I would like to introduce myself

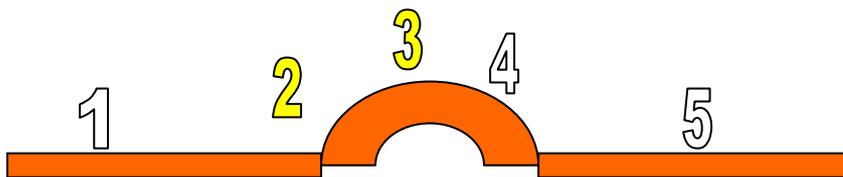
**2) F%\$#! Waar is mijn paspoort? Aha! Het is onder mijn bed!**

F%\$#! Where is my passport? Aha! It is under my bed

Both sentences are Dutch. However, with the second sentence you would see more familiar things first. You could draw your first conclusions and see that you got the answer right. The beauty is that whenever you get an important insight, the brain releases a chemical substance, and you feel good. It is a powerful piece of biology that promotes our constant evolution. It is also why Sudoku is a hard drug! ☺

Does it take much effort to find out that **waar** means **where**, that **mijn** is **my** and that **onder** is **under**? Thanks to the strong connection with English you can learn many Dutch words at high speed. Once these words look familiar to you, you can use the same words as a convenient bridge to other Dutch words. It is the same principle of the snow flake that gradually turns into an avalanche!

**The receptive state of your mind for information:**



**1 = boring (nothing new or strange)**

**2 = interesting or intriguing (old information with some new elements)**

**3 = wow! (the perfect mix between old and new information)**

**4 = starting to be overwhelming**

**5 = too overwhelming, so now it is boring again. (too strange and too new)**

In this model you can clearly see that your mind will not have a receptive state when there is only old information. It is simply bored. **(1)**. If you introduce new or strange elements, you become curious **(2)** and your mind will open up. **(3)** is a perfect mix of old and new information. You want to know everything now! Your mind loves it and gets excited. In **(4)** there is a little bit too much of new information, the attention of your mind starts to decrease again. In **(5)**, there is no attention at all. Everything is too overwhelming and your mind cannot handle it. It is simply too much!

Mathematical equations of Albert Einstein, Japanese poetry, and horrible language courses fall in this category!

An excellent teacher should therefore always present the information in position **(2)** or **(3)** and sometimes even in **(4)**

All Talencoach training systems for learning Dutch have been based on this important principle.

## 4 Have fun have fun have fun!

Do you really need more information about it?

Ok let me tell you one thing....

**See the humor in everything!**

In all your mistakes and in all the new creative associations that you can make

Laugh! Really loud!

And by the way, if you like humor...

Speaking a new language will double your capacity for laughing!

There will be more jokes...

Because jokes that do not make sense in English can be extremely funny in Dutch!

### **A joke you can tell in every language:**

Reporter: 'Mr. President, how many people are working at the state departments? '

President: 'Well... let me guess... I think 50%'



### **A joke you can tell in English, Spanish and French (not in Chinese!)**

An American diplomat wants to know if China is really a democratic country, so he asks another Chinese diplomat: 'Do you have elections?'

The Chinese diplomat (with a huge smile on his face): 'O sule, almost evely molning'



### **A joke you can only tell in English**

Why do Americans weigh more than Europeans?

Answer: 'Many Americans have three arms'



### **Jokes you can only tell in Dutch**

Er zit een man in een Thais restaurant. De serveerster vraagt: 'Wilt u menu? '

De man: 'Nee dank je, ik wil eerst eten'



Mededeling: De cursus rietdekken gaat niet door. Riet is ziek.



### **Joke you can only tell in Spanish**

Camarera: usted quiere beber un café solo?

Cliente: 'no, lo quiero beber contigo'



**P.S. in every joke there is a pun. If it is funny for you really depends on your taste!**

## 4 Have fun (Power Upgrade)

There is one thing I have to admit.

Initially I wanted to make this chapter really short.

I just wanted to say: Have fun!, simply assuming that you would already know how to do it. You know what you need to do in order to have fun right?

But then, I realized that this idea wouldn't make a lot of sense. Why would you be attracted to a title that suggests that you HATE learning Dutch, if you already knew how to **have fun** WHILE LEARNING? Evidently, fun and learning is not always a logical and compatible combination for most of us... ☹

Learning often evokes negative feelings and emotions.

This makes perfectly sense! **The fastest and most efficient way of learning is a strong negative emotion!**

Imagine that you are a child and that you are nicely playing in the garden. All of a sudden a dogs comes in and it bites you. How long would it take for you to learn that dogs are dangerous and that you should stay away from them? In this case, you not only learn this within one second, you will also REMEMBER this for a whole lifetime!

Most likely, negative emotions also played an important role at your school.

At school, there was a constant threat. If you couldn't solve that enigmatic mathematical equation during your exam, the consequences would be disastrous! First you would get a low score and fail the exam. Your parents would ground you and there would also be another special cherry on your learning pie: **social degradation!** While your friends would all move up to higher levels and new adventures, you would have to take the same course again, with people younger than you!

Maybe you were lucky and you liked school. If you were good at a certain topic, normally you would also get higher grades. In this ideal situation, this subject could even turn into a fun activity and maybe you would even love it! But what would happen if you constantly failed at tests?

**Would you wonder if there was a way to have more fun?**

Probably not. There are a couple of suggestions and comments that you would get from your teacher and your parents, and maybe you would even say it to yourself: I must study harder and longer. I need more focus, perseverance, diligence and determination. **Welcome to the educational Taliban!** You needed to have higher grades now - otherwise you would be a failure in the future – so no fun and entertainment anymore.... NOW you needed to become more SERIOUS about it. So maybe, you lock yourself up for many hours in a small and boring room after many long and harsh hours of social isolation and deprivation, you get high notes again and you SUCCEED! Good for you.

But ironically, there was probably only one reason that you were bad at this specific subject at school. **The lack of fun and purpose!**

Have you really realized that **you cannot not learn**?! Whenever you are involved in an activity you learn! Think of your favorite TV show: What are the names of the actors? What was the most hilarious scene? Even if you hadn't consciously realized it, you gathered a lot of information about it and you remembered it. Without studying!

Who could teach a child more things? A severe teacher or a clown?

Ask Mac Donald's!

Children do not only know where you can get hamburgers, they actually drag their parents into a Mac Donald's restaurant to get them! Wow!

**This is the ultimate form of teaching!** Small kids do not only have some specific knowledge, they also act on it!

Then think of this clown again. Did he suggest that you would burn in hell if you did not get that milkshake? Not at all. He just used an educational F word: Fun!

How could you have more fun while learning? The answer is surprisingly simple. Just think of your desired result. And then realize that learning is the thing that already allows you to have a first part of it, right now! In this sense, it works like partial instant gratification!

Imagine for example that you would like to ski. You can clearly see it in your mind now, how much fun that would be. Then you take your first ski lesson. This means that you have a beautiful mountain with snow, which is a small part of your dream. Then you will have to fall a couple of times of course, but gradually you will notice

that you can do it better and better! So every time that you ski, you will realize a bigger part of your dream. It is a logical and predictable process and in its core essence it is learning!

**A more fun approach to learning.:**

Learning is like a long chain that leads to **fulfillment**. Every time that you learn you can enjoy a bigger part of your dream, and have more fun. Therefore why not call this powerful principle **funfillment**?



There is one important thing about fun that you should know.

What is definitely fun or funny?

Millions of people agree on this:

Watching Americas Funniest Home Videos!

However, probably there will always be one person on this planet that does not like the funny video at all. The person that has the major role in it!

The reason is simple. Whenever you fall or smash it hurts. It looks silly. And you do not want that other people see you as stupid.

Will you fall and smash with Dutch?

Absolutely!

Will you be stupid then?

No... not at all... it could make you even hyper intelligent

once you know that you can also laugh about your own mistakes!

One of the main fears of humans is **to do it wrong**.

Therefore it is good if you can get rid of that fear. And it will happen once you can laugh about your own mistakes. Once you can see the fun of your own mistakes. It is just how you look at it. By the way, why would you laugh at the mistakes of other

people and not have a good time about your own mistakes? See it as entertainment and as a highly effective way of learning. I must admit, it takes some practice. But it is definitely worth it!

Imagine that you want to send a postcard in Dutch and that you want to send your greetings. **Groeten** is **greetings** in Dutch, but mistakenly, you put an extra **n** there, so you write **groenten**. So instead of sending your greetings or regards, you say that you send your **vegetables!**

Is it a stupid mistake?

Maybe.

It is really how you look at it.



A Dutch copywriter for an advertising agency earned a lot of money with it.

He or she created the slogan: **U moet de groenten van Hak hebben**, which means:

**You must have the vegetables of Hak**

and it looks like:

**Hak wants to say hello to you!** (you must have the greenthings of Hak)

Apparently, Hak -the producer of conservable vegetables - liked it very much and also paid a lot of money for it.

Therefore, never worry if you say something wrong and if cloggies start laughing.

Probably what you said was funny, although you do not see it yet...

And who knows...if it happens really often, it could be the beginning of a new career...

Stand up comedian!

Last but not least, here are **the 3 important keys to more fun.**

- 1) Confidence
- 2) Patience
- 3) An open mind

Wouldn't it be fun to have all three of them? ☺

## **Step 5: Focus on what you already have and start appreciating it even more!**

Language is a strange and peculiar thing. Sometimes it can bring you in a state of Euphoria, and at other times it can leave you completely miserable and depressed. Why would a new language do different things all the time, in such a capricious way? The answer is simple. The language itself will not do anything. As a matter of fact, it is completely neutral. Just like a mirror. **Your Dutch will always be an accurate reflection of your own mind.**

Once you have positive thoughts about learning Dutch, you will feel good. Most importantly, it will be supported by evidence. You clearly see that smile on the face of the shop keeper, or you clearly sense that appreciation of your colleagues. But sooner or later an unpleasant idea will come to your mind: what I know is not enough. Only one second later, the irrefutable evidence will be present. Nothing comes out of your mouth. Or you think: what the fu(k are they talking about? There is nothing I can understand at all...

Wait a minute, you may say....

I can see that. But I already got the solution. A real solution.

Once my Dutch is perfect, I will feel happy again. Problem solved!

In theory it makes sense. It certainly looks very logical. There is only one thing.... in real life, this may not happen.

**More knowledge or more talents or a greater capacity will not automatically cause you to feel good.....**

Logically you would sense that once you know more, the amount of things that you do not know will decrease.

Ironically, nothing could be further from the truth.

**The more you know, the more you do not know.**

It does not mean that you are stupid. It only means that you have an unlimited capacity for learning and that you can always discover much more, if you want to. It just means that your expansion has virtually no limits!

When I studied at the university I had a clear goal. I wanted to know everything about Spanish, French and Turkish. But that of course did not happen. Although I accumulated a lot of knowledge, for me it felt like nothing. I was angry and frustrated.... I worked so hard to get that highest official degree available of education in Holland. And only 6 years later, it still seemed to me that I had learned nothing.

So forget about perfect Dutch or knowing everything. You will always sense that you could use more skills and more knowledge. And that is a good sign. It simply means that you can always grow and that you can always develop new talents!

Whenever you start talking, do not worry if you do not know the exact word. Always look at the things that you do know. Use less specific words if you have to. Point with your hands or draw a picture. Use your imagination, use your creativity! Bark if you cannot find the Dutch word Hond. **HAVE FUN!** Remember that you can always feel great. If you say the right words, you can feel proud of your accomplishment. If you do not say it correctly, you know that you can learn. And once you can learn you will get smarter again! There is always a good reason to celebrate something....

### Test:

Imagine that you only had 2 choices.. What would you choose?

- 1) you have a bright intelligence, but your thoughts are always negative
- 2) you are quite stupid. But you always have optimistic and positive thoughts.

If you only have these two options, it is wiser to take option 2. A witty intelligence can be useful, but it can be extremely harmful at the same time. It is like a sharp knife. You can use it for cutting bread, but you can also use it for killing yourself.

A third option would be the most brilliant of course. To have a great intelligence and to have a positive mind!



How smart are you *really* if you use your intelligence in a destructive way?

Another important thing is that you do not have to know it all!

You do not have to know everything!

Once you know **2000 words**, you will already understand **85%** of an average text or conversation. With **5000\*** words, you will know **95%**.

In the last case it means that of every 100 words, you may not know 5 words.

So what to do?

Make sure that you become very good at guessing!

There are many techniques that you can use and each time that you use it your guesses can become much more accurate.

***P.S:** it may look daunting that you have to learn 5000 words. But relax: you know many words already (communicatie, land, man, hond etc) +++ the first words are always the most difficult to learn. After 697 words you will learn new words much faster!*

### Een psychologische test:

Is het glas halfvol of halfleeg?



**Tip: never translate. Just look at the Dutch words that you can find at that time. And make sentences. In the beginning these sentences may only cover 30% of what you actually wanted to say.... But every time that you apply this, you will move into the right direction. And then.... one day you will say things in Dutch that you cannot even express in English!**

According to the film **The Secret**, you will attract more success if you feel good.

So if you feel good, you will attract better Dutch.

Is this the magic of the universe? Who knows.....

One thing is certain. If you feel bad about Dutch, you will avoid it.

If you feel excited about it, you will practice Dutch more often. Thus, you will have more experience, and you will learn more. Once you see great results, you will feel good about yourself and you will practice even more... Call it what ever you want.

*Magic of the universe or common sense that always works.*

## Step 6: Expand your thinking

Probably you do understand, that if you want to speak Dutch, you will have to think in Dutch. And if you can accept the idea that Dutch is different from English, it automatically implies in the first place that you must change your thinking! Ouch! You will have to send your brain to the gym for intellectual muscle training! And yes... just like in the real gym, it may hurt! Even after the first simple exercise! ☹

People (in general, not you of course ☺ ) are addicted to many different things.. Coffee, TV, s3x ..... and there is still one hard drug that is even more addictive than heroin or crack. In our western societies this hard drug is fully legal.... ??????

It is our way of thinking! Although Sage Buddhist have tried to convince us that *we are not our thinking*, somehow, *we think that something of us will die, as soon as we change some of our beliefs or opinions*....Even if life could turn out much better if we could just change some simple thoughts, we often rather stick to our problems.

- . Could slimming off be *easy*? No way! It is impossible!
- . Am I one of the *wealthiest* persons on this planet !!! For a cabin in Africa you do not have to pay for a mortgage. That's why I am poor here!
- . My boss always *values* my talents. He only complains about my work!

It happens all the time, with every one of us. It certainly happens when you want to learn another language. With Dutch, it is more than guaranteed!

Learning a new language has one main challenge. Can you change your thinking?

**Can you accept something new, even though, it does not seem *right* to you?**

**Once you can, your success is virtually guaranteed!**

We all have our own ideas how the world should be, or life in general. If something is not in correspondence with it, we tend to reject it. This principle is always operating, but often at very subtle levels. Therefore I would like to share some fixed ideas that many of my students have and how they can stand in the way.

Although at the end, these ideas are at least absurd, you may recognize them.

Be honest.... Somehow your native language sets the golden rule for you right?

The reason is simple. Your native language is the language of your mother. **Can I presume that whenever you´re discussing with your mother , she is always**

**right?** Your answer: **yes / no** .....

Good! ☺

Many people complain that Dutch words are too long  
If you compare these words for example

**Wine glass**

**Wijnglas**

You may argue that the Dutch word **wijnglas** is much longer!

There is no white space between the two words....., there are crammed together!

You are right, it is scandalous and.... .

should the absence of that minuscule white space stop you from mastering Dutch?

By the way, in the way that I look at it, **wine glass** looks longer! ☺



Some people can only understand a sentence when it comes in one specific order.

So if they read this sentence:

**I can a book read** they are completely lost.

Maybe you are right. It could be a better idea to say I can read a book

But Cloggies and also Germans have another way of thinking.

So what should we do? Try to convince 100.000.000 people that their way of thinking is wrong? Or simply give up our resistance and work with another logical system?

Some people say that one Dutch word should only have one meaning in English.

The first sentence will probably be acceptable for you:

**De zwaan zit in een nest** means: **The swan is (sits) in a nest**

All right, now it is time for a huuge challenge. This is a typical Dutch sentence:

**Ik lig lekker in mijn nest**

I lie .... ?

In this case **nest** is not only a sleeping place for a bird. It can also be a **bed** for human beings. And yes... It is slang!

**Lekker** means in the first place **delicious**. But here it means that it gives a good taste. You like it! So what this whole sentence actually means is:

**I am lying in my bed and I looove it!**

Although many people complain that Dutch words can have many different English meanings, I think it should be good news. For me, learning the foreign word is always the hardest work. Attaching different meaning in my own language to it is hyper easy!

Many people keep arguing that Dutch and English have very little in common. But what if you could learn how to see it?

Would you like to try it?

**Uitstekend** means **excellent**. And... it is really close to English. Can you see it?

To me it makes perfect sense. And to you?

????

No way, you may say and that is all right. Therefore let's begin....

Could you accept the idea that **uitstekend** looks like **outsticking**?

And that if something sticks out it can be outstanding?

And if something is outstanding it is more than ordinary?

Could you now accept the idea that therefore it means excellent?

It is time for another challenge:

What does the following sentence mean:

**Heeft Amsterdam een hoog misdadcijfer?**

Has Amsterdam a high.....?

You have no clue?

No problem, it is the right time for the first question.

Could you accept that **daad** in Dutch means **deed**?

Would you agree that **mismanagement** is **bad** management?

and that therefore **misdad** is a bad deed?

No... it is not smoking, binging food or procrastinating... it is much worse!

It is so bad that if you do it, they will send you to prison

Aha! Could it be **crime**?

Yes, why not?

Could you accept the idea that **cijfer** is **cipher**

And that cipher is like a **number**?

And that if you give a number that you **rate** it?

Good! So put all the elements together now...

**Crime rate!** Well done!

Sure, you can memorize words like **uitstekend** & **misdadcijfer** like a parrot.

It is a very popular technique that most traditional language courses suggest.

Just study and do your home work and then everything will be fine.

Sure, you could

You can study hard and copy like a parrot.

But why not take some short cuts and one fun fast track?

You may say: all right.... You just picked two examples. It was a well planned and set up coincidence.

I can assure you that it is not. **In Dutch there are thousands of words that you could easily discover or decode, if you could just think in a new and different way!!!!**

I have worked with many people that were struggling with Dutch. Quite often they were frustrated and ready to give up, while I knew that their success was only a couple of thoughts away. And that often, the only thing they had to do was to change their thinking in English!!!!!! In the beginning it is hard to believe of course. But then, once you start to understand the system, you will also see the convenience and fun of it. This powerful insight will transform every aspect of your learning!

Here is another great secret... what if instead of studying hard and memorizing long vocabulary lists, you could simply sit back and relax?

One of my favourite things that I love to teach other people is how to **become a word magnet!**

Yes, that is right! You can literally attract hundreds of words to you with total ease. All you need to do is to walk around in the Netherlands. You can go to supermarkets, sport fields, parties, any place that you like. Then, you start to recognize more words. If you like a new word, you simple do copy paste. You just use that great word that you just noticed. And while you use new words, you remember them. That is the absolute beauty of word magnetism!



## Step 7: Walk the path of personal growth.

At the end, the fact that you will be able to speak Dutch may not be the biggest gain at all! You simply possess something that has a much greater value.

Therefore you do not have to worry that Dutch is only a minor language that you can only speak in Holland. (and in some parts of Belgium)

Far more important is the fact that you have grown as a person!

Your fluent Dutch is only one of the evidences that you can control your thoughts.

And this faculty alone is awesome!

Let's be honest.

Did Dutch people ask you to learn their language?

Did they beg on their knees for it...? Did they implore: please learn Dutch, please learn Dutch?

Probably not.

You did it because **you** thought that it was worth it.

Did you get a lot of help and support?

Not really, most likely you had to look for it and even pay (!) for it. Most people just tried to discourage you, saying that it was far too difficult for you. That it was ok for you to limit your communication. That they could understand you if you spoke English.

It is a simple reason, why more than 70% of all the people fail

Whenever they have the intention of speaking Dutch.

For you, it is good news.

What you just did was something really extraordinary.

**You did something that no one else requested from you.**

You just did it, because you were convinced that it was a good idea

You were able to hold that vivid and inspiring image in your mind and always kept going. Even if there were setbacks. Even if other people continuously suggested that it was too difficult and useless anyway...

Meanwhile you developed a highly advanced human skill, that only few people possess.

To do something unique, because you believed in it.  
You realized your dream, because you wanted it!  
Would it be too much honor for you if you realized  
that it was one of the same assets that Bell, Edison Einstein and the Wright Brothers  
used?  
Did someone ask from them to create magnificent inventions?  
Did they always get support from other people around them?  
Wait a minute, you may say  
I am not sure that I will now create an invention that will improve the quality of life for  
the whole entire world...  
True.  
You are absolutely right.  
No problem. That is ok.  
More important is that  
you will find and create many things  
that will improve the quality of **your life!**  
There will be one more happy person on this planet  
that knows how you can live your dreams  
You will add up to that critical mass that we need  
to make this world a joyful and fantastic place!  
And by the way, this could also be true: life is just meant to be an adventure!



**At the end, speaking Dutch is only a minor advantage of learning Dutch  
there are so many great things that come with this adventure  
New friends, new insights, more understanding, loads of self confidence, a  
sense of victory and belonging...  
So when you hear someone say:  
I wish that someone could put a chip in my head  
Then probably you will say: are you crazy?  
Just be bold and go for it! Soon you will be glad that you did!**

**Repetition is the first law of learning. Read this e-book several times for more  
and higher benefits! Every time you'll discover something new! ☺**

## Why should I believe this Albert?



Wait a minute.... This author is Dutch!  
No wonder that Dutch is easy for HIM  
This is like a Chinese person saying that  
Chinese is not difficult..... ^\_^

Did some of my statements cause a strong reaction within you? Good! I know I should be careful with my words. Certainly when you have struggled with a new language it can be quite offensive when someone else suggests that it is easy. Doesn't it imply that you did it wrong? Or that you are stupid? This is not the case of course. I know that you are smarter than you think. So therefore I am not afraid of being a little provocative at times. And sometimes even blunt. All I hope is that somehow, you do sense that there is more inside of you than that you are using at this moment. That at least you get a little curious right now. And yes.... You are right. It is easy to say that Dutch is easy when you are Dutch. Therefore I would like to tell a little bit more about myself, as this might be helpful for you so that you can accept this important message.

My name is Albert and I have a Dutch mother. That last thing is extremely helpful when you want to learn Dutch. Whenever my mother talked to me, I knew that I was safe and that there was someone that loved me and that took care of me. No wonder that as a baby, I loved the sounds, even that hard g, and I was very eager to imitate it. I also wanted to be closer to my father, and later also to my little sister, so I really felt thrilled and compelled to master it. Sure, when I cried or screamed I would get attention. But somehow it was not enough to get what I really wanted. It did not serve my 'baby goals'. Luckily while learning more specific sounds I was able to give clearer instructions. I noticed positive results, so I decided to continue it, although most of the time, certainly in the beginning I had no clue what I was saying.... And by the way, **it was not my intention to learn Dutch at all....**

I thought it was the most convenient way to relate with people and to get the things that I wanted. But if my mother were Chinese, I would speak Chinese right now!

**At school I hated Dutch.** I really didn't see the point why I should study for a language that I could already speak anyway.... I looooved foreign languages. The reason was pretty simple. I immediately saw the benefit of it. It was the only subject at school that turned out to be useful during my holidays abroad! In new countries, it gave an enormous sense of freedom. Whenever I spoke that foreign language, I could ask anything that I wanted. And often, I would get it! Somehow, a vacation always seemed to be the perfect place and time to learn new things like a language. While I was having a great time, French, English or German would skyrocket!

This allowed me to discover some important principles about language:

- 1 Language is something that you learn best while having fun**
- 2 Language can give you the things that you want**
- 3 A new language always expands your possibilities**
- 4 It makes you feel like an insider (in stead of an outsider)**
- 5 If you feel good about yourself, you learn it faster**

Although school did help me to understand the vital pieces of information that you had to master, to my delight I discovered that language had nothing to do with school. While my teachers kept insisting that the best way to learn English, was by reading Shakespeare, I discovered that it was much easier to learn it from the A-team, Garfield and Madonna!

When I was 18, I had a great and fantastic dream. I wanted to master perfect English. So what would be the perfect place to learn it? Out of naiveté, I thought that it should be at the university. Ouch! What a horrible mistake! Before I knew it, I was completely lost in a dense jungle of medieval poetry and clueless semantic scientific analysis. I felt trapped, my English got worse and I was depressed.... I had to take a new decision. Why not learn a new language? So I decided to learn Spanish instead. Logically, it was absolutely necessary to spend some study time in sunny Spain (read: go on a holiday) and to my great surprise, my English went booming again! This was another great principle that I discovered. **Learning a new language can enhance the quality of all the other languages that you speak!**

I was not a typical language student at the university. I did not care about science, and openly disliked poetry and literature. I only wanted to talk and to speak in new ways, and to be quite honest, I was pretty good at it. While other students had often nothing to say, I always found the right words, made great constructions and at every conversation class I made loads of progress. Somehow I often made other people laugh! I did not mind saying absurd things, as long as I could say it in that other language! Still, after some years, I needed a challenge once again. As I liked to go on holidays to Turkey at that time, I decided that it was time to learn Turkish. It had the reputation of being a hard language to learn, so that was even better. Once I could speak Turkish, it would reflect my natural intelligence 😊

Of course at that time I was smart enough to know I should not start to learn Turkish at the university. I decided to enrol for a language course in Istanbul and to combine it with a huge holiday. That plan was one of the greatest plans that I have ever had in my whole life. Fun, new friends, good food and intellectual victory. The perfect combination for me. To my surprise, when I came back, it was quite easy to pass the Turkish exams at the university. As a matter of fact, paradoxically, they were a lot easier than the English exams(!) One year later, I decided to go back to Istanbul again for more adventure and profound study. All my other languages skyrocketed again.

One of the most amazing discoveries for me was that once you spoke a new language, a whole new world would open up. As soon as I had a decent level of French, Spanish or Turkish, the world started to look different. It was like looking at the world with new eyes again. I got new ideas, new inspiration and I discovered new things about other cultures and about myself. Always, there was expansion, and many interesting enrichments.

It do not mean of course, that I never suffered from hard times or set backs when I wanted to learn it. But it was always worth the effort! My great discovery was this: if you could just direct your thoughts in new ways, and move your tongue to new directions, your outer world would start to change. Most often for the better! You could operate in worlds with better weather and better food than in Holland! Meet other people .... However, **the greatest discovery still had to come. . .**

I could clearly understand that a foreign language could have a positive impact on your life. Spain is more fun when you speak fluent Spanish. But what I did not fully realize was that also your own language, and the way that you speak has a direct impact on the quality of your life. < # \$ % & ! Why didn't my Dutch teacher tell me? He literally had hundreds of hours to do it, instead of just boring me with illegible medieval literature! > The way that you speak and think can literally put you in a prison or in a great open palace with plenty of opportunities. I discovered **NLP**, Neuro Linguistic Programming. This was awesome!

NLP could not only **open your mind**, but it could improve literally so many different aspects of your life. I was sold. I also discovered how it could enhance your learning capacities. Wow! That was really fantastic! I quit my job and started to work for myself. I had found a new purpose. I could help people with something that I find so easy to do. I started to call myself a language coach – something that did not even exist - and I started to help people to overcome obstacles for learning languages. Therefore they could **learn it faster, while having more fun!**

When I first started, I also used traditional books to teach Dutch to people, but soon enough I discovered that paradoxically, most language methods were more like an obstacle than a convenient resource. All the things that I had previously done, started to fall in its place. I had enough skills, knowledge, experience and insights from all the things that I had done in the past. **So I created a new revolutionary method for learning Dutch**, completely different from every language program ever created! The secret was simple. In stead of boring your students, you could also entertain them for achieving higher results. I used my own method again, again and again with loads of people of from different cultures, and up to now, I keep honing every single piece of it again, again and again. Improvement never stops.

That was another amazing discovery by the way... **At school I hated Dutch.** I hated grammar. Paradoxically, now I had created a method for Dutch myself! The good thing right now was that I could use all my knowledge of all the languages that I could speak and I could use all of my fantasy and creativity. So logically, I ignored all the existing books - that were boring and mind draining anyway - and only used

them as a last reference, just to check, if my new way of approaching would cover all the essential information that you need to know.

While developing my own method I had amazing discoveries. To my greatest amazement, my own language **Dutch was far more logical and consistent and similar to English, I could have ever imagined!** It was a revolutionary new insight that you could never ever get from reading the traditional and classical learning books.

It was a very intense and challenging period, I must admit. But also extremely rewarding. I started to introduce elements that I loved, such as theater sport and copy writing. More revolutionary insights came and it felt good. My students loved it and most importantly: every time I could make it more simple and with more fun.

Whenever I create new learning material I have some important criteria:

- 1 Is it simple enough?**
- 2 It is the most logical thing to start with (for English speaking people?)**
- 3 Can it greatly enhance your capacity to speak Dutch?**
- 4 Is it fun?**

Now, it still feels like a personal 'rebellion' or 'revolution' against school and the university. What I had always sensed, turned out to be true. You do not need a lot of bullshit that you have to learn at school. It only makes learning unnecessarily complicated. **There are many short cuts and there is one fantastic fun fast track!**

Now the most important question for you is this: Would you believe **this** Dutch person if he insists that Dutch is easier than you believe and that you are smarter than you think? It is entirely up to **you** to decide!

Would you like to believe it?

Why?

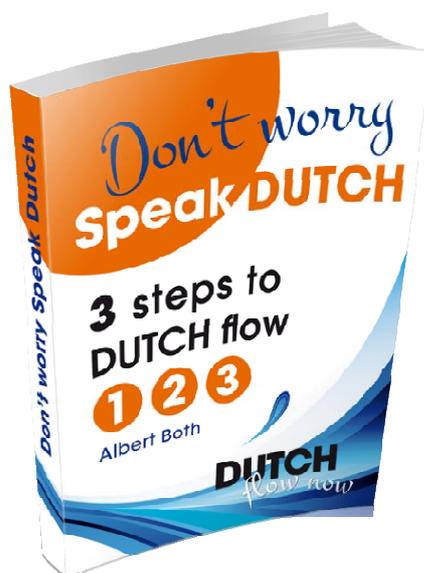
**“It is your right to speak fluent Dutch  
So if you like it, why not TAKE it?”**

## About the 2013 upgrade

I wrote this eBook 5 years ago. Now in 2013 many things are still valid today, and of course, also some things have changed. After writing this eBook, I moved to a bigger office in the historical heart of Amsterdam and I also created the **Dutch Brainwash Course**, which is the most powerful program that I ever created for boosting your Dutch. I have been giving this course for more than 1000 hours now, so therefore I also thought that it was time for a next step. For some reason, I have always loved the idea of flow. Flow of speaking and flow of learning. that is why, I created a new website <http://dutchflownow.nl>

There you can also find my newest eBook Don't Worry Speak Dutch. You can **download it for free** and it will go much further again, then the ideas that I initially presented in this eBook.

Anyhow, while teaching and working, I keep learning many great new things as well. Somehow, I notice that I can teach people so much more in a shorter time than 5 years ago. This is the beauty of learning. It never stops. So, if you like the things that you read in this eBook, then all I can say is that there is so much more to discover!



## Why not go for the real thing?



Learning a new language is just like learning how to swim.

You can read many books about it and you can learn great theories.

You can feel at ease about it when you understand the concept intellectually.

But what will happen if you jump into the water?

Will your experience still be the same?

The only way to really experience the high value of all the principles of this e-book is that you actually apply it and that you start speaking Dutch.

Therefore I created some powerful programs where I will guide and support you personally, in small groups and sometimes even individually.

At [www.talencoach.nl](http://www.talencoach.nl) you can find all the further information that you need.

Whenever you decide that you are motivated enough, I will be happy to work with you!

Whenever you are seriously interested in participating in one of the programs, or whenever you have some other questions, you are also invited for a personal chat and a **free 30 minute personal consultation**.

You can ask me some specific questions, or you can take a **short language assessment** so that you can test your Dutch. Is it really an absolute disaster or could it be close to brilliance at times? I will be happy to give you a first answer.....

After our conversation you are free to do whatever you want. You can say THANK YOU and then leave, or YOU can take one the courses, but only if YOU feel that YOU are really excited and that YOU decide that you want to DO it. I will never try to sell things if you are not motivated enough. The reason is simple. I only love to see GREAT RESULTS and it will only work if you have convinced yourself that you are ready for a radical change in your life!

**For a free 30 minute consultation send an e-mail to [Albert@talencoach.nl](mailto:Albert@talencoach.nl)**

**With the text: "Give me a FREE 30 minute consultation Albert" and that will do the trick! Make sure that you also leave a phone number 😊**

## Extra update: the FREE workshop Finding Dutch Flow

Sure... reading an e-book can give you many great new ideas and insights.... And... what if you could experience it for yourself? If you like this idea then you are welcome to a very special workshop **Finding Dutch Flow**

**This is what you can discover:**

- **Why Dutch people love to say that Dutch is difficult and why you should not believe them**
- **How to say much more in Dutch, within only a couple of seconds**
- **How your mind tricks you and how you can say much more in Dutch than you think**
- **How SPEAKING a new language really begins**
- **The typical mistake that most people make and how you can have instant progress**
- **How to learn fast while having fun**

I will give this workshop ten times a year. **The entrance is free!**

Go to the webpage <http://www.talencoach.nl/schedule> where you can find more information. I am looking forward to seeing you!



## Extra update: The Dutch Brain Wash Course

Do you like the ideas of this e-book and would you love to boost your Dutch according to all these ideas and principles?

The Dutch Brain Wash is the most powerful course and it will help you to **talk about any thinkable subject in Dutch, within only 7 days!**



Many people have already experienced this great learning adventure. It is amazing that within only 7 days you can start to see that Dutch is a very funny and consistent language. Once you understand how it really works, you understand much more, double or triple your vocabulary within seconds and create hundreds and thousands of sentences with absolute ease. Start to feel how good it is to feel in control and discover for yourself that you can speak in Dutch about any thinkable subject!

And... the most important thing is that you discover how **learning fast is great fun!** Yes.... The course will be intense but.... It will be **the most refreshing language experience that you have ever had!** After these 7 days, you will be far more optimistic about your Dutch, because your learning will be unstoppable.

If you like this idea, then send me an e-mail ([albert@talencoach.nl](mailto:albert@talencoach.nl)), We can have a personal chat, or if you like a taster first, you can also come to an introduction workshop Finding Dutch Flow (more information on the previous page)

You can find more information here: <http://www.talencoach.nl/dutchbrainwash>.

**P.S:** The Dutch Brain Wash is really **something different**. It is relatively simple and extremely profound at the same time. If you like the idea of studying much less and if Accelerated Learning Techniques fascinate you, then jump in! You will be glad that you did! 😊

**P.S:** Your learning does not stop after 7 days, it will still continue. You can keep boosting your Dutch in **free conversation classes, every month** that are only available for brainwashed people.