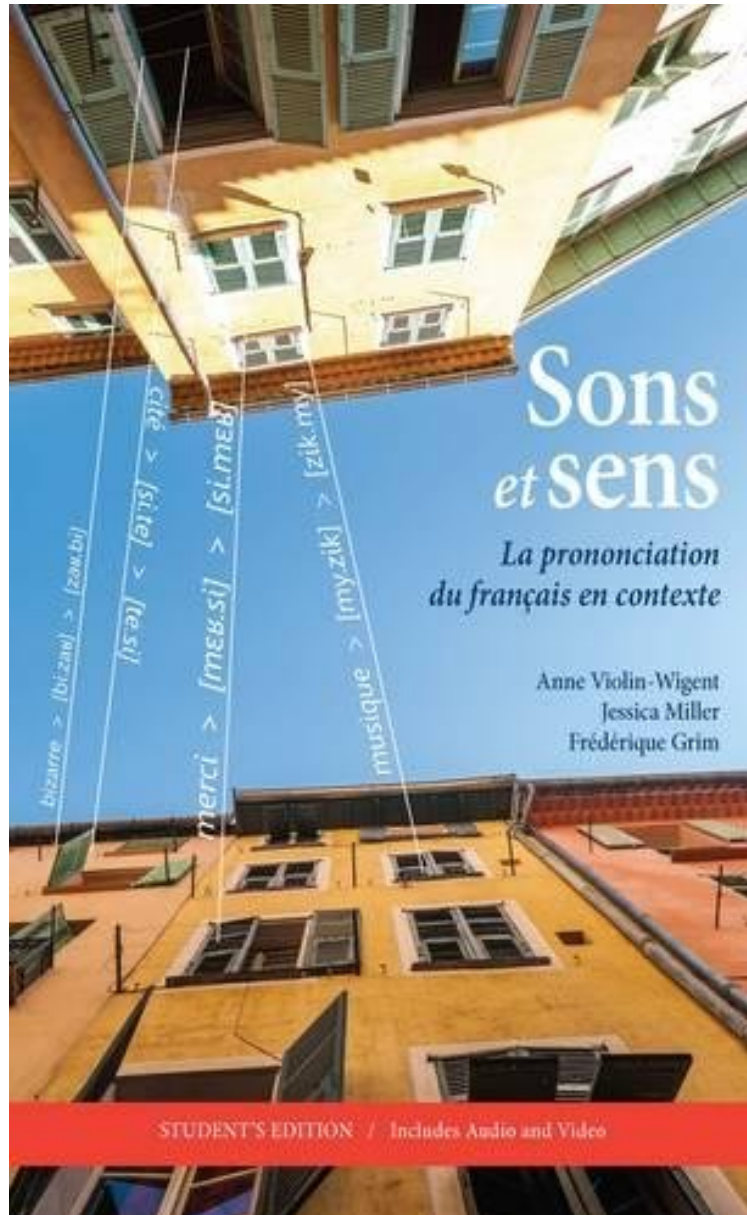


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Sons et sens: La prononciation du franais en contexte

Anne Violin-Wigent, Jessica Miller, Frdrique Grim
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book itself was off. The first day of class, the prof directed us, the students to open on a certain exercise at a certain page, my book did not match what the prof was asking us to do. This is problematic, especially when the prof is asking us to complete a certain exercise on a specific page, I ended completing the wrong exercise. I had to return it and buy a "real" copy in the U bookstore. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By K. Carney As advertised 4 of 8 people found the following review helpful. I wish there was a minus 5 star so that I could rate this book properly. By Mo85Well, first of all the book is super expensive. Second, it tries to teach IPA in a very weird way. Third, it tries to scoop up a lot about almost all various dialects and accents of French in the book. Fourth, exercises are not engaging enough for someone who is learning French and does not want to be a French linguist. Fifth, if you are buying this book to practice French please have mercy on yourself and your time and do not. I was forced to buy it for a third year conversation course and I really regret it.

Sons et sens presents a unique cultural approach to French pronunciation for English-speaking students. Each chapter presents a new cultural topic, such as the French education system, vernacular French, and cooking in the francophone world, in order to enhance students' pronunciation skills within the context of French and francophone culture. Phonetic explanations and rules throughout the textbook are anchored in recent research on French phonology, reflecting contemporary French as well as elements of nonstandard variation from around the francophone world. The authors' approach derives from current research on second language acquisition and pedagogy as well as contemporary research on French linguistics especially sociolinguistics. The textbook's fifteen chapters include a variety of exercises on sound discrimination, rule formulation, phonetic reading and transcriptions, and conversations. The accompanying DVD provides about 200 sound files and several video files that show how sounds are formed with the body. A teacher's edition contains additional materials, including comments and answers keyed to the student text. Perfect for third year students, Sons et sens should appeal to instructors and students of college-level pronunciation and phonetics courses and serve as a valuable reference in a variety of courses where pronunciation is of importance. The book will also interest students with some background in French who want to perfect their pronunciation on their own.

"A lively and accessible textbook, using a wide variety of exercises, and the inclusion of audio-visual materials gives the teacher the option of using listening comprehension and dictation . . . The authors claim that the book is unique in its structure, and certainly no comparable volume comes readily to mind." Nigel Armstrong, School of Modern Languages, University of Leeds, UK, Journal of French Language Studies "Sons et sens succeeds effortlessly in the nearly impossible endeavor of informing the learner of dialectal and social variation in contemporary spoken French through the teaching of some of the most difficult technical skills of French pronunciation." Zsuzsanna Fagyal-Le Mentec, Department of French, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign "Sons et sens is a beautiful mix of modern French culture and phonetics that both students and instructors will adore. The exercises and explanations make phonetics more than just fun; they make the subject immediately relevant. This book will without doubt become the new standard text for Applied French Phonetics courses." Nathan Owens, professor, French and applied phonetics, Old Dominion University "Sons et sens is an instant reference for students seeking to improve their French accent and instructors aiming to help them do so. No other textbook combines this level of detail with clear, concise explanations and naturalistic, contextualized pronunciation practice. Very highly recommended." Christopher Stewart, assistant professor of French linguistics, University of Texas-Arlington About the Author Anne Violin-Wigent is associate professor of French at Michigan State University. Jessica Miller is associate professor of French at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. Frdrique Grim is associate professor of French at Colorado State University.