
Devitt, Seán, David G. Little, and Linda Richardson, directors. *Authentik en français* and *Authentik en español*.

Pp. 40. Dublin, Ireland: Trinity College, University of Dublin, Authentik Language Learning Resources, Ltd., Sept./Oct. 2006. *Authentik en français* and *Authentik en español* are \$28.75 for up to nine subscriptions and \$25.15 for more than ten subscriptions. *Authentik en français* with sixty-minute audio CD; *Authentik en español* with sixty-minute audio CD are \$48.75 for up to nine subscriptions and \$45.15 for more than ten subscriptions. For orders or to request a copy of a sample magazine, contact: Lectures de France, 2049 N. Dayton St., Chicago, IL 60614, email: info@lecturesdefrance.com; phone: 866/805-1249 or 312/238-9629, ext. 10; fax: 312/423-7822 or visit the website www.lecturesdefrance.com.

Authentik en français and *Authentik en español* are advanced-level educational magazines published five times per year (January, March, May, September, and November). They are ideal for instructors who want to incorporate current and culturally authentic materials created by language teachers into their curricula. Developed by a campus company of Trinity College, University of Dublin, and presently distributed in the United States by Lectures de France, the magazines focus on more than just reading skills, since they contain several different writing and speaking activities and a sixty-minute audio CD of native speakers promoting listening comprehension.

Rich with eye-catching photographs, both issues of *Authentik en français* and *Authentik en español* (September/October 2006) I examined are jammed packed with articles from a variety of sources (e.g., for the French issue, *Libération*, *Reuters*, *L'Express*, *Le Nouvel Observateur*, *Le Journal du Dimanche*, and *Point*; for the Spanish issue, *El Periódico*, *El País*, *Emprendedores*, *Prensa*, *La Voz de Galicia*, and *El Norte de Castilla*), guaranteeing users exposure to a wide range of opinions. From hot topics (for example, the Zinedine Zidane controversy at the 2006 World Cup Soccer Championship in the French issue and Óscar Pereiro's performance in the Tour de France in the wake of the doping scandal of American Floyd Landis in the Spanish issue) to more serious ones (for example, the French national railroad coming under attack for its role in deporting Jews during World War II in the French issue and the efforts of the young Hollywood actress of Peruvian descent, Q'orianka Kilcher, in fighting for the rights of indigenous people of Peru in the Spanish issue), *Authentik* is incredibly user-friendly. Also impressive is the clear-cut layout of the *Authentik* magazines: individual articles in subtly different shaded boxes; vocabulary glossing in a distinctive box at the bottom of most pages; thorough comprehension and listening exercises that include reading strategies; a pull-out section containing the complete transcription of the sixty-minute audio CD, answers to all exercises; supplemental information; and at least one color photograph to illustrate each article.

Feeling so excited about the multitude of possible uses of the *Authentik* magazines but concerned that the price point might scare off potential adopters, I decided to seek feedback from current *Authentik* users. In so doing, I found a tremendous fan in Cathy Green on the AP-French list serve where she states: "Great materials, developed by teachers. I used them for IB French a number of years. They [*Authentik*] also have *Étincelle*, which is at a lower level. But since they treat many of the same topics, it's a nice way to scaffold the work. For example, I once did a unit on 'le tabagisme' and *Étincelle* had a nice little article that glossed the vocabulary for them in simpler French, so I used it to introduce the topic and vocabulary, and then used the articles and interviews from *Authentik* to do activities that were similar to those they'd have to do for the actual test... When I did something I called MECs (*mots en contexte*), it was a great source for students to use for their written and oral presentation of new and interesting/striking words. Students read or listen to something and have to note one interesting word or expression. Then they simply have to explain the context in which they found the word/s and why they found the word/s noteworthy. Relatively simple, but often ends up in great conversations and vocabulary expansion. One student didn't know there were adjectives that related to the seasons; having used *été*, she was unaware of *estival* until seeing it in context, but then it led to learning *printanier*, etc. Similarly, vocabulary related to the cardinal points on a compass once came up when a student encountered *méridional*: *oriental* and *occidental*, most knew but *méridional* and *septentrional* were new to almost all" (Friday, October 12, 2007).

It is highly recommended that a potential adopter of either *Authentik* magazine request a sample issue from Lectures de France. In so doing, instructors can not only see firsthand the wonderful quality of the articles, activities, and audio CD, but will most importantly be able to determine how the *Authentik* magazines can best benefit their program. Under the directorship of Seán Devitt, David G. Little, and Linda Richardson, topics for 2007/2008 for *Authentik en français* were: September 2007: Jeunes, Argent; November 2007: Technologie, Santé; January 2008: Transport, Crime et Justice; March 2008: Europe, Environnement; and, May 2008: Médias, Culture. Also under the directorship of Devitt, Little, and Richardson, topics for 2007/2008 for *Authentik en español* were: September 2007: Vacaciones, Música; November 2007: Medio ambiente, Salud; January 2008: Ciencia, Juventud; March 2008: Fiestas, Deportes; and, May 2008: Cine, Trabajo. Also available, but not considered in this review, is *Authentik auf Deutsch*.

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Publisher's Response

We are absolutely delighted with the review of *Authentik en français* and *Authentik en español* and concur with the reviewer that our magazines and CDs are essential tools for foreign language instructors who want to incorporate current and culturally authentic materials into their language curriculum, and ideally suited to IB and AP programs.

For the academic year 2008-2009, we have made the *Authentik magazines* even more user-friendly by delivering all pedagogical content online: language learning exercises, extensive lesson plans, bilingual and monolingual glossaries, solutions, and the complete transcript of the CD are available to download from www.authentik.com/downloads/magazine-workbooks. In addition to providing the files as downloadable PDFs, we are offering the original word or excel files alongside so that instructors can edit and adapt the exercises and vocabulary glossaries to the requirements of the individual classes and students they teach.

Each edition of the printed magazine contains 32 pages of topical, authentic articles selected from the target language press with cross-references to related audio items on CD and online lesson plans, where appropriate. Magazines, CDs and online pedagogical content are published four times per academic year: Autumn/Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer.

Samples from the Autumn/Fall 2008 editions are available to download on www.authentik.com/downloads/free-sample-units. These include a couple of magazine pages, related exercises, transcripts, glossaries and audio files (mp3) from *Authentik en français*, *Authentik en español* and *Authentik auf Deutsch* as well as samples from Authentik's intermediate magazines *Etincelle*, *Katapult* and *La Cometa*.

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