

PREFACE

IN preparing this book the authors have had particularly in mind the requirements of elementary classes in schools and colleges.

The amount of grammatical material in each lesson is small, and in nearly all cases the exercises are based on extracts of connected French illustrating the points of grammar under observation. These extracts cover a wide range of topics relating to every-day life. The vocabulary employed has been kept within moderate limits, and consists of words and expressions in common use.

The numerous oral exercises based on the French extracts are not intended to be exhaustive, but are designed rather to furnish suggestions for additional practice of a similar kind, to which the authors attach great importance. In most of the lessons oral or written practice is also provided in the continuation of tense-forms combined into connected phrases. Such exercises should be thoroughly studied and committed to memory, particularly since they often furnish additional examples of constructions which illustrate grammatical points contained in the lesson.

The English sentences in the exercises are provided for translation into French as a final test of knowledge. It is recommended that written tests of this nature should be required only after the translation has been mastered orally. Where two or more sets of English sentences are given, the first one is regularly based directly on the French above it, the additional set or sets being of a more difficult and general character suitable for extra drill and review.

For the convenience of teachers who prefer to begin with the spoken language rather than with the written language, a phonetic transcription of the French of the first ten lessons has been given at the end of the Introduction.

It is hoped that the exercises in general will prove suitable for the purposes of teachers who desire to combine in their class-work