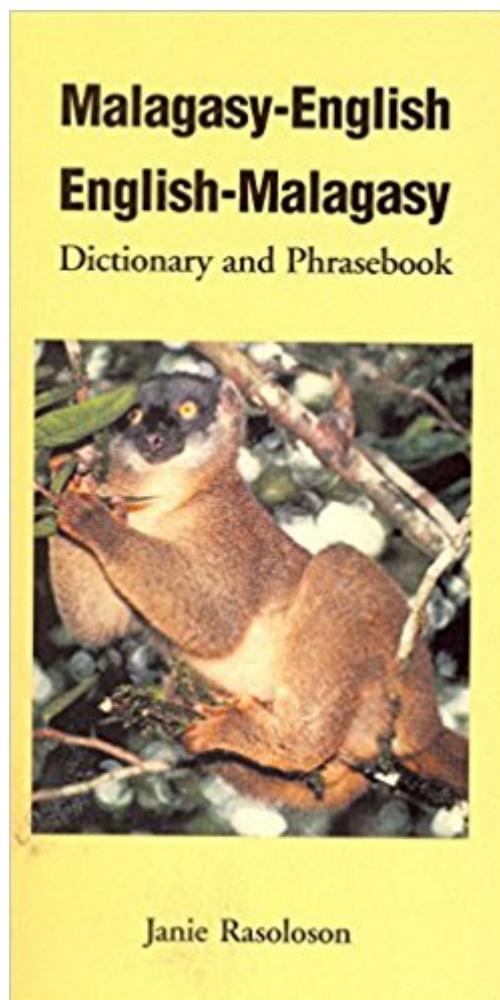


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# Malagasy-English, English-Malagasy: Dictionary And Phrasebook (Hippocrene Dictionary & Phrasebook)



## **Synopsis**

An Austronesian language with over 14 million speakers, Malagasy is the national language of Madagascar and is also spoken on the island of Mayotte (Comoro Islands). Designed for the traveler, this compact guide provides the means for basic communication in Malagasy, featuring a two-way dictionary and 22-chapter phrasebook with practical and cultural information. Features include 2,500 dictionary entries, and guide to pronunciation and basic grammar.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Text: English, Malagasy

Janie Rasoloson, a native of Madagascar, is a research scientist at the University of Hamburg, Germany. She holds a doctorate in linguistics and has written several books on the Malagasy language.

Easy to carry size and invaluable for anyone hoping to learn some of this marvelous language. French is very useful in Madagascar, but Malagasy is much more fun!

only good to learn how to write it maybe.. so yeah um not sure what else to say..... wish they told how to write and speak it

This dictionary was quite useful to me on a recent trip to Madagascar. It has wonderful sections divided into subject matter such as: "Meeting & Greetings", "Eating/Meals", "Camping", "Typical Travel Interactions". and other such helpful categories. As this seems to be the only Malagasy dictionary available in the U.S., it definately served its purpose well!

This is a very well-written book and helped me a great deal on my 6 week trip to Madagascar. Know, however, that there are MANY dialects and this one is best for the capital and central Madagascar area. I went to Nosy Komba and Nosy Be for an extended time and no one had much idea what I was saying. French helps everywhere.

I have recently lost this and must save to buy another. This little pocket dictionary is a must have for anyone traveling to Madagascar. We have lived here for 5 yrs now and its usage in the beginning stages of our language learning was invaluable.

I would prefer more of the phrasebook but when you do not have what you like, you have to like what you have. There is a short introduction to the Malagasy language and then dictionary kicks in.

I am a former Peace Corps volunteer from Madagascar and currently a resident in the country after four years. I am fluent in the Malagasy language. I do not recommend this dictionary to anyone traveling to madagascar. This dictionary is difficult to use, insufficient, and often incorrect. It is also very expensive compared to the dictionaries available in any major city in Madagascar. There are two excellent dictionaries in print in Madagascar. They are printed by the malagasy lutheran press. The malgasy-english dictionary is pink and sells for 4,000 Ariary (2 dollars) in the capital. The better of the two english-malgasy dictionaries available in madagascar is the yellow, pocket dictionary. This dictionary includes a list of useful obolana (proverbs) and their translations as well as some cryptic grammar notes (but what grammar notes aren't cryptic). In short- don't buy this online if you are going to madagascar as you can buy cheap, good dictionaries when you get there (even at the airport). If you want to learn some words before you get there go to the online dictionary at [...]Good luck. Mazotoa!

Being a relative unknown language this book has done a good job in many respects. There are difficulties with the language in that it is more of a spoken language rather than written. It is also difficult if not impossible to learn the sounds of the Malagasy language as the Malagasy elide (omit)

many syllables in their speech, therefore making it necessary to actually hear the Malagasy speak. Also, there are 22 regions in Madagascar and sometimes it is hard even for the Malagasy to understand each other. The biggest problem I have with this dictionary is the ability to cross-reference words from one language to the other. The same words do not appear in both languages (Malagasy and English). Also, there are some words which are not able to be translated from Malagasy but are important in their sentence structure and are not explained in the book. This may be a harsh criticism since the book is not intended to be a grammar book! Therefore I gave the book a 4 for it's intended purpose.

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