



Word of the Day

FEATURES

Overall simple design makes the app look easy to use. The shade of blue is pleasing.

The app navigation icons are placed well, clear and easy to understand.

The word pronunciation icon is obvious in placement and function.

The ability to search for a word is a nice feature.

‘Roll the dice’ option gives this app a gaming element.

Ability to share and quiz with friends gives this app a social angle.

Daily notifications are easy to set up and a minimal size when appearing in the Notification Center.

WEAKNESSES

After installation, there isn’t any onboarding or tips on how to use the app or available features.

Monochromatic color scheme is a bit lackluster.

‘Of the’ typography in in the logo is difficult to read at smaller sizes.

SUMMARY

This app achieves its function by being very simple to use and contains all of the features one would expect.

Visually pleasing, but also possibly too simple and gives the app an unpolished look. A simple onboarding to explain the ‘random’ feature, and ability to swipe between words would be nice.



Tiny Cards

FEATURES

Setting up the app is easy and intuitive, adding categories of learning screen is clear.

Lesson screen is simple containing all of the elements of the question.

Visuals are clean, rounded corners and shadows on elements make items feel interactive.

Intuitive as to which lessons are available in the free version.

Navigation is evident by use of color and graphic elements.

A back arrow allows the user to immediately return to previous screens.

Pop up instructions and animations lead to clear action.

WEAKNESSES

To create custom cards, one must make an account. Other icons/features seem disabled, though it’s not clear if they require an account to use.

There is no obvious way to retrieve or reset a password if one has already been set in Duolingo.

Many of the cards are illustrations, while beautiful, could make identification inaccurate.

SUMMARY

This app looks very slick with colorful illustrations, icons and beautiful rounded corners, shadows and animations. Tips and visual cues make using the app very easy and intuitive. There isn’t much available, though, unless you create an account.



Quizlet

FEATURES

Ability to create folders natural for average users.

Past set searches remain on the home screen.

Downloading sets is available – great for offline study.

Controls for card study are intuitive, play, pause, random with settings easily accessed.

A live quiz feature is available giving the app a social and gaming element.

Navigation is relatively clear, interactive elements mostly obvious.

WEAKNESSES

In order to use the app at all, one must sign in or sign up

A user is required to search to get started, there aren’t any suggested sets on the home screen.

The variety of fonts and colors on the cards is often inconsistent

SUMMARY

This appears to be a very robust and versatile app, easy to install and use. It would be nice to see some suggested sets based on searches. Quizlet Live seems interesting, though unclear how it works or what it can do.



Duolingo

FEATURES

Onboarding is simple visually engaging right from the start.

Icons and images are bright and colorful.

Lessons are engaging and interactive i.e. tapping on the translation of the highlighted word.

Gems can be earned for using the app giving it a game-like feel.

Leaderboards give the app a social angle.

Visual cues of success or failure very clear.

Progress bar element and icon color changes gives sense of accomplishment.

WEAKNESSES

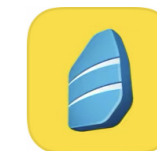
Illustrated and colorful icons could make this app feel like it is designed for children only.

Ads in the free version are distracting.

User must have a profile to save progress.

SUMMARY

This app is a very polished and good-looking language learning tool. It is engaging, educational and entertaining. It would be suitable for both children and adults. It feels like a game that a user would want to play in preparation to use a new language.



Rosetta Stone

FEATURES

The full version of this app has the depth of functionality to truly teach yourself a new vocabulary.

Colorful graphics and layout of icon boxes are intuitive to flow of activity.

Use of sound is a large part of the experience in this app.

Good use of color in visual cues for status of progress and success or failure.

Tools for use in the moment, easy to access vocabulary and translation.

Ability to use some elements offline, a good feature for travelers.

Navigation is fairly intuitive.

WEAKNESSES

Not many visual cues for flow of information, little animation.

Though engaging, the constant color contrast slightly distracting.

SUMMARY

This app is very robust and contains a wide variety of tools and features for learning a new language. The offline and in the moment features make this feel like an app that a user would reference while out in the field using new skills. The UI is appealing without feeling too simple.