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Sommario/riassunto	<p>About the Finnish Language</p> <p>Finnish belongs to the Finnic branch of the Finno-Ugric family of languages. Its closest relative is Estonian; Hungarian is a distant cousin. It is spoken by approximately 5.2 million people, mostly in Finland, and by some in Sweden and Russia as well.</p> <p>There are three varieties of standard Finnish which are spoken throughout the country: <i>kirjakieli</i> ("book language") - used in official documents, official speeches and the daily news, <i>yleiskieli</i> - the standard language used in schools; it is formal and correct, though more relaxed than the "book language," and <i>puhekieli</i> ("spoken language") - more casual variety used in everyday conversation, which changes frequently.</p> <p>This course teaches the standard Finnish language, <i>yleiskieli</i>. Surprise your friends! Astonish your family! With Pimsleur, you'll be speaking and understanding like a native in no time. 30 minutes a day is all it takes. Finnish Phase 1, Unit 06-10 build on material taught in prior units. Each lesson provides 30 minutes of spoken language practice, with an introductory conversation, and new vocabulary and structures. Detailed instructions enable you to understand and participate in the conversation. Each lesson contains practice for vocabulary introduced in previous lessons. The emphasis is on pronunciation and comprehension, and on learning to speak Finnish.</p>