



4 AUDIO CDs



Berlitz

German Guaranteed



Passionate about Language

The all-audio course
that delivers German
you can really use



German Guaranteed

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Berlitz German Guaranteed

[CD I]

Welcome to Berlitz German Guaranteed. This all audio program will teach you the basics of German without a book. Everything you will hear is available for download from our website www.berlitzpublishing.com. So, are you ready to learn German? Then let's begin.

Unit 1

Freut mich. Pleased to meet you.

This section is about greeting people and introducing yourself. After each phrase a pause is provided for you to repeat what you've just heard.

Activity 1

Listen and repeat.

Guten Tag.

This literally means good day. It's sometimes shortened to just **Tag**. In the morning you can say:

Guten Morgen.

Or you might just hear **Morgen**. In the evening you can say:

Guten Abend.

Or you might just hear **Abend**.

By the way, there is no way of saying good afternoon in German. Just say **Guten Tag**. In informal situations when you're greeting friends you can say, **hallo**, or "hi," just like in English. Don't worry if you can't remember all these phrases yet. You'll have plenty of opportunity to practice them later in the unit. Now, here's how you say good-bye.

Auf Wiedersehen.

This literally means "until seeing again" and it's often shortened to just **Wiedersehen**. On the phone people say "until hearing again:"

Auf Wiederhören

An informal way of saying good-bye:

Tschüs

And good night is:

Gute Nacht

Activity 2

Now you're going to listen to some people greeting each other or saying good-bye in six short conversations. **Herr** means Mr. and **Frau** means Mrs. You'll hear some words that you don't understand. Don't worry. We'll be coming to those later. For now, just try to identify whether the speakers are saying hello or good-bye.

Tag, Frau Schultz. (Hello Mrs. Schultz.)

Ach, guten Tag, Herr Schmidt. (Oh, hello Mr. Schmidt.)

Did you get it? Were they meeting or parting? Yes, they were just meeting and saying hello. Repeat:

Tag, Frau Schultz. (Hello Mrs. Schultz.)

Ach, guten Tag, Herr Schmidt. (Oh, hello Mr. Schmidt.)

Let's listen to the next two people.

Guten Tag, Herr Haase. (Hello, Mr. Haase.)

Guten Morgen, Frau Andresen. (Good morning, Mrs. Andresen.)

What about these two? That's right, they were also saying hello, probably still earlier in the day, so "Good morning" was used. Repeat:

Guten Tag, Herr Haase. (Hello, Mr. Haase.)

Guten Morgen, Frau Andresen. (Good morning, Mrs. Andresen.)

Here are two other people.

Auf Wiedersehen, Herr Hartmann. (Good-bye, Mr. Hartmann.)

Wiedersehen. (Bye.)

Were they saying hello or good-bye? Correct, they were saying good-bye to each other. Repeat:

Auf Wiedersehen, Herr Hartmann. (Good-bye, Mr. Hartmann.)

Wiedersehen. (Bye.)

Two other people greeting each other.

Guten Abend, Herr Hartmann. (Good evening, Mr. Hartmann.)

Guten Abend, Frau Schultz. (Good evening, Mrs. Schultz.)

Did you understand what their greeting was? They were meeting in the evening. Repeat:

Guten Abend, Herr Hartmann. (Good evening, Mr. Hartmann.)

Guten Abend, Frau Schultz. (Good evening, Mrs. Schultz.)

Here are a couple of younger people.

Tschüs! (Bye!)

Tschüs, Joachim. (Bye, Joachim.)

And what were these two saying? They were saying good-bye in an informal way. Repeat:

Tschüs! (Bye!)

Tschüs, Joachim. (Bye, Joachim.)

Here are two girls.

Gute Nacht, Gisela. (Good night, Gisela.)

Gute Nacht, Astrid. (Good night, Astrid.)

What was this last greeting? They were saying good night to each other. Repeat:

Gute Nacht, Gisela. (Good night, Gisela.)

Gute Nacht, Astrid. (Good night, Astrid.)

Activity 3

To introduce yourself you can say:

Guten Tag. Ich heiße...

And then your name. You try. We'll go first and you respond.

Guten Tag. Ich heiße Thomas.

In German-speaking countries it's normal to shake hands when meeting. If people introduce themselves to you, you can return the greeting and then say your name, followed perhaps by:

Freut mich

which means pleased to meet you. Listen and repeat.

Freut mich.

You meet someone. What do you answer?

Freut mich.

Activity 4

Now you're going to hear some people introducing themselves. See if you can understand what their names are. Listen and repeat.

Guten Tag. Ich heiße Birgit Walther. (Hello, I am Birgit Walther.)

Ich heiße Horst Henneberg. (I am Horst Henneberg.)

Guten Tag. Ich heiße Fritz Knoll. (Hello. My name is Fritz Knoll.)

Bernd Krüger. Freut mich. (I'm Bernd Krüger. Pleased to meet you.)

Guten Abend. Gisela Kalisch. (Good evening. I'm Gisela Kalisch.)

Irene Pfaff. Freut mich. (I'm Irene Pfaff. Pleased to meet you.)

When you meet somebody you know it's polite to ask how they are:

Wie geht es Ihnen?

This literally means, "how goes it to you?" You can answer:

Gut, danke. Und Ihnen?

Which means, "Fine, thanks. And you?" If you're feeling really cheerful you can answer:

Sehr gut, danke.

Very well, thanks. You try.

Wie geht es Ihnen? (How are you?)

Gut, danke. Und Ihnen? (Fine, thanks. And you?)

Sehr gut. Danke. (Very well, thanks.)

Or you can answer:

Auch gut. Danke.

Also good, thanks.

Auch gut. Danke.

Now listen and answer.

Wie geht es Ihnen? (And how are you?)

Auch gut. Danke. (I'm fine, too, thanks.)

Now, why don't you ask first?

Sehr gut. Danke. Und Ihnen? (Very well, thank you. And you?)

Well done! By the way,

Wie geht es Ihnen?

is often shortened to just:

Wie geht's?

Unit 2

Wie ist Ihre Nummer? What's your phone number?

This unit will help you learn the letters and numbers you need to spell your name and give your phone number.

Activity 1

Suppose people introduce themselves to you and you don't catch their names. Well, you can try just saying:

Wie bitte?

I'm sorry?

However, it will be useful if you can ask them to spell their names. First of all, here are the letters of the alphabet in German. Listen and repeat.

A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

Well done!

German has an accent. Two dots above A, O, or U which changes the sound of those vowels. The name for this accent is umlaut, so when you hear the letter A-Umlaut (ä), the letter O-Umlaut (ö), or the letter U-Umlaut (ü), you'll know to write the two dots above the vowel. The special form for -ss is called ß (ess-tzet) or **scharfes -S**, sharp -S.

Activity 2

Here are some people giving and then spelling their first names. Can you try to work out what the spelling could be after having heard each name? Don't worry if you're not always correct – some German names might sound a bit strange at first!

Petra

P-E-T-R-A

Petra

Klaus

K-L-A-U-S

Klaus

Sabine

S-A-B-I-N-E

Sabine

Sylvia

S-Y-L-V-I-A

Sylvia

Käthe
K-A-Umlaut-T-H-E
Käthe
Werner
W-E-R-N-E-R
Werner

Activity 3

We asked some people what their names were:

Wie ist Ihr Name?

What's your name? Then we asked them to spell their names:

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte?

Can you spell that, please? Listen to what they said.

Wie ist Ihr Name, bitte? (What's your name, please?)

Mein Name ist Steuer. (My name is Steuer.)

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

S-T-E-U-E-R, Steuer.

Wie heißen Sie? (What's your name, please?)

Ich heiße Thomas Gross. (I'm Thomas Gross.)

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

Ja. G-R-O-S-S, Gross.

Wie ist Ihr Name? (What's your name?)

Mein Name ist Konstanze SchmäH. (My name is Konstanze SchmäH.)

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

S-C-H-M-A-Umlaut-H, SchmäH.

Wie heißen Sie? (What's your name?)

Ich heiße Bernd Schmitt. (I am Bernd Schmitt.)

Mit DT oder mit Doppel-T? (With DT or with a double T?)

Mit Doppel-T: S-C-H-M-I-T-T

Did you catch all those names? Now it's your turn to spell them in the pauses provided:

Mein Name ist Steuer.

S-T-E-U-E-R, Steuer.

Ich heiße Thomas Gross.

G-R-O-S-S, Gross.

Mein Name ist Konstanze Schmah.

S-C-H-M-A-Umlaut-H, Schmah.

Ich heiße Bernd Schmitt. Mit Doppel-T.

S-C-H-M-I-T-T

Did you get that last one? The gentleman was asked whether his last name, Schmidt –a very common name in Germany– ended in DT or in a double T, which are both possible spellings. That's right, his name is spelled with a double T.

Activity 4

It's your turn. Listen and play your part.

Wie ist Ihr Name? (What's your name?)

Say your name.

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

Spell your name.

Now we reverse the roles and you ask the questions. Ask for the person's name.

Wie ist Ihr Name? (What's your name?)

Ich heiße Tomke. (My name is Tomke.)

Ask her to spell it.

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

T-O-M-K-E, Tomke.

Activity 5

Soon you'll need some numbers. Let's start with 0 to 10. Listen and repeat:

0 - **null**, 1 - **eins**, 2 - **zwei**, 3 - **drei**, 4 - **vier**, 5 - **fünf**, 6 - **sechs**, 7 - **sieben**, 8 - **acht**, 9 - **neun**,
10 - **zehn**

Activity 6

Now let's count from 0 to 10 in groups. Listen and repeat:

null, eins, zwei, drei (0, 1, 2, 3)

vier, fünf, sechs (4, 5, 6)

sieben, acht, neun, zehn (7, 8, 9, 10)

Listen to the numbers a few times. Then see if you can count from 0–10 in German by yourself.

Activity 7

Listen to a telephone conversation that's taking place at the office of Tempo Magazine. Try to get the names and phone number.

Tempo Magazin. Guten Tag. (Tempo Magazine. Good afternoon.)

Guten Tag. Sind Sie Herr Dittmann? (Hello. Are you Mr. Dittmann?)

Nein, ich bin Dieter Schulz. Herr Dittmann ist im Moment nicht hier. Wie ist Ihr Name, bitte? (No, I am Dieter Schulz. Mr. Dittmann is not here at the moment. What's your name, please?)

Petra Lenz. (Petra Lenz.)

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

Ja. L-E-N-Z, Lenz. (Yes. L-E-N-Z, Lenz.)

Danke. Wie ist Ihre Nummer? (Thank you. What's your phone number?)

030 3191 510.

Danke, Frau Lenz. Auf Wiederhören. (Thank you, Mrs. Lenz. Good-bye.)

Auf Wiederhören. (Good-bye.)

Did you get it? The woman asks: Are you Herr Dittman? Repeat:

Guten Tag. Sind Sie Herr Dittmann?

So, is Herr Dittmann answering the phone? No, it is Dieter Schultz. Repeat:

Nein, ich bin Dieter Schulz.

Herr Dittmann is not here at the moment. Repeat:

Herr Dittmann ist im Moment nicht hier.

And what about the woman's last name? Her name is Lenz. Repeat:

L-E-N-Z, Lenz.

And this is her phone number. Repeat:

030 3191 510.

That's 030- the area code for Berlin by the way- and then 319 1510.

And did you notice how the dialog ended? Repeat:

Danke, Frau Lenz. Auf Wiederhören. (Thank you, Mrs. Lenz. Good-bye.)

Auf Wiederhören. (Good-bye.)

They said **Auf Wiederhören** which means "until hearing again." Now listen to the dialog again.

Tempo Magazin. Guten Tag. (Tempo Magazine. Good afternoon.)

Guten Tag. Sind Sie Herr Dittmann? (Hello. Are you Mr. Dittmann?)

Nein, ich bin Dieter Schulz. Herr Dittmann ist im Moment nicht hier. Wie ist Ihr Name, bitte? (No, I am Dieter Schulz. Mr. Dittmann is not here at the moment. What's your name, please?)

Petra Lenz. (Petra Lenz.)

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

Ja. L-E-N-Z, Lenz. (Yes. L-E-N-Z, Lenz.)

Danke. Wie ist Ihre Nummer? (Thank you. What's your phone number?)

030 3191 510.

Danke, Frau Lenz. Auf Wiederhören. (Thank you, Mrs. Lenz. Good-bye.)

Auf Wiederhören. (Good-bye.)

Activity 8

Did you notice how to say yes and no in German? That's right, yes is:

ja

and no is:

nein

What about not? Not is:

nicht

Listen and repeat- Yes, he is here:

Ja, er ist hier.

No, he is not here:

Nein, er ist nicht hier.

Activity 9

It's your turn. You're calling Tempo Magazine to speak to Herr Schulz.

Tempo Magazin. Guten Tag. (Tempo Magazine. Good afternoon.)

Say good morning and ask if it's Herr Schulz.

Nein, hier ist Hans Dittmann. Herr Schulz ist nicht hier. Wie ist Ihr Name, bitte? (No, this is Hans Dittmann. Mr. Schulz is not here. What's your name, please?)

Give your name.

Können Sie das buchstabieren, bitte? (Can you spell that, please?)

Spell it.

Danke. Wie ist Ihre Nummer? (What's your number?)

Give your phone number.

Danke. Auf Wiederhören. (Thank you. Good-bye.)

Say good-bye.

Activity 10

Listen to these messages left on Gisela Braun's answering machine. What telephone numbers are given?

Guten Tag, Frau Braun. Hier ist Andreas Schmidt von A-Z Versicherung. Meine Nummer ist 314 89 19. Danke. (Hello, Mrs. Braun. This is Andreas Schmidt of A-Z Insurance. My number is 314 89 19. Thank you.)

Did you get that first one? The number is 314 89 19. Repeat:

Meine Nummer ist 314 89 19. Danke.

Here's Marion. She has a new number.

Hallo Gisela. Wie geht's? Hier spricht Marion. Marion Herzog. Meine neue Nummer ist 894 72 82. Tschüs. (Hi, Gisela. How are things? It's Marion, Marion Herzog. My new number is 894 72 82. Bye.)

Did you figure it out? Her new number is 894 72 82. Repeat:

Meine neue Nummer ist 894 72 82. Tschüs.

Let's hear the next caller. At what number can he be reached?

Hi. Ich bin's. Rudi. Ich bin unter 782 04 07 zu erreichen. Ciao. (Hi, it's me Rudi. You can reach me at 782 04 07. Bye.)

Did you get it? Rudi says he can be reached at 782 04 07. Repeat:

Ich bin unter 782 04 07 zu erreichen. Ciao.

Here's the last message.

Guten Tag, Frau Braun. Hier ist Gudrun Pfaff. Meine Nummer ist 815 74 82. Wiederhören.

(Hello, Mrs. Braun. This is Gudrun Pfaff. My number is 815 74 82. Good-bye.)

So, what's Gudrun's number? It's 815 74 82. Repeat:

Meine Nummer ist 815 74 82. Wiederhören. (My number is 815 74 82. Good-bye.)

Excellent! Let's listen to all the messages again.

Guten Tag, Frau Braun. Hier ist Andreas Schmidt von A-Z Versicherung. Meine Nummer ist 314 89 19. Danke. (Hello, Mrs. Braun. This is Andreas Schmidt of A-Z Insurance. My number is 314 89 19. Thank you.)

Hallo Gisela. Wie geht's? Hier spricht Marion. Marion Herzog. Meine neue Nummer ist 894 72 82. Tschüs. (Hi, Gisela. How are things? It's Marion, Marion Herzog. My new number is 894 72 82. Bye.)

Hi. Ich bin's. Rudi. Ich bin unter 782 04 07 zu erreichen. Ciao. (Hi, it's me Rudi. You can reach me at 782 04 07. Bye.)

Guten Tag, Frau Braun. Hier ist Gudrun Pfaff. Meine Nummer ist 815 74 82. Wiederhören. (Hello, Mrs. Braun. This is Gudrun Pfaff. My number is 815 74 82. Good-bye.)

Unit 3

Kommen Sie aus Berlin? Are you from Berlin?

This section is about saying where you're from and introducing people. Listen and repeat in the pauses. To say where you're from you can just say:

Ich komme aus...

and the place you come from, the town, state, region, or country you live in. So, for example, I would say:

Ich komme aus Frankfurt.

That's my home town, or:

Ich komme aus Hessen.

That's the federal state, or:

Ich komme aus Deutschland.

To ask where somebody's from you say:

Woher kommen Sie?

Activity 1

Now listen to these people introduce themselves and say where they're from.

Guten Tag. Mein Name ist Harald Schwarz und ich komme aus Wien, Österreich. (Hello, my name is Harald Schwarz and I'm from Vienna, Austria.)

Did you get that first one? Harald is from Austria. Did you get the name of the town? Repeat:

Ich komme aus Wien, Österreich. (I'm from Vienna, Austria.)

So, what's the town, Vienna or Graz? That's correct, he's from Vienna, which is **Wien** in German.

Now listen to Sarah.

Servus. Ich bin Sara Müller. Ich komme aus München in Bayern. (Hi. I am Sara Müller. I'm from Munich, in Bavaria.)

What about Sarah? She's from Bavaria, **Bayern**. Did you get the name of the town? Repeat:

Ich komme aus München in Bayern. (I'm from Munich, in Bavaria.)

Did you get the town? Is it Hamburg or Munich? It is Munich, **München**, home of the famous Oktoberfest.

On to Petra. Listen carefully.

Hi. Ich bin Petra Hansen. Ich komme aus Kiel in Schleswig-Holstein. (Hi. I'm Petra Hansen. I'm from Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein.)

Did you get that one? Petra is from Kiel in the federal state of Schleswig-Holstein– quite a tricky one, that state up North! So let's listen again and repeat:

Ich komme aus Kiel in Schleswig-Holstein. (I'm from Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein.)

And now the last one:

Ich heiße Peter Krüger, und ich komme aus Berlin. Hallo! (My name is Peter Krüger and I'm from Berlin. Hi there!)

Did you get that? Where is Peter from? Repeat:

und ich komme aus Berlin. (I'm from Berlin.)

So, is Peter from Bonn or Berlin? He's from Berlin.

Activity 2

Here are the names of some countries. Many of them you may be able to simply guess. Listen and repeat:

Australien (Australia)

die Vereinigten Staaten (the United States)

England (England)

Großbritannien (Great Britain)

Irland (Ireland)

Kanada (Canada)

Neuseeland (New Zealand)

Nordirland (Northern Ireland)

Schottland (Scotland)

Südafrika (South Africa)

Wales (Wales)

Well, did you get some of the names? Let's see:

Australien

That's Australia.

die Vereinigten Staaten

That's a more difficult one: it's the United States.

England, Großbritannien

England, and Great Britain.

Irland, Kanada

That's Ireland, and Canada.

Neuseeland

Yes, that's New Zealand.

Nordirland, Schottland

These are easy, Northern Ireland and Scotland. And finally:

Südafrika, Wales

That's right, that's South Africa, and Wales.

Most of these names are very similar to English. But one you might have trouble with is:

die Vereinigten Staaten.

This is the United States. If:

die Vereinigten Staaten

seems a bit of a mouthful, don't worry. You can also say:

die USA

Activity 3

Here are some recordings at the Photokino trade fair in Cologne, **Köln** in German. Listen to how people introduce themselves and others.

Hallo, Herr Pohl. Wie geht's? (Hi, Mr. Pohl. How's it going?)

Recht gut, danke. Und Ihnen? (Pretty good, thanks. And you?)

Ausgezeichnet, danke. Darf ich vorstellen: Susan Bell, das ist Dieter Pohl. (Excellent, thank you. May I introduce to you: Susan Bell, this is Dieter Pohl.)

Guten Tag, Herr Pohl. (Hello, Mr. Pohl.)

Guten Tag, Frau Bell. Freut mich. Kommen Sie aus den USA? (Hello, Mrs. Bell. Pleased to meet you. Are you from the USA?)

Ja, aus New York. Und Sie? Sind Sie von hier? (Yes, from New York. And you? Are you from here?)

Nein, ich bin nicht aus Köln. Ich komme aus Wien. (No, I'm not from Cologne. I'm from Vienna.)

Did you get it? Let's see. At the trade fair a longtime client greets Mr. Pohl. "Hi, Mr. Pohl, how's it going?" Repeat:

Hallo, Herr Pohl. Wie geht's?

Mr. Pohl replies, "Pretty good, thanks. and you?" Repeat:

Recht gut, danke. Und Ihnen?

"Excellent, thanks," the man replies. Repeat:

Ausgezeichnet, danke.

And then he introduces Susan Bell to Mr. Pohl. "May I introduce to you..." Repeat:

Darf ich vorstellen...

and he adds: "Susan Bell, this is Mr. Pohl." Repeat:

Susan Bell, das ist Dieter Pohl.

Now Susan Bell and Dieter Pohl first exchange greetings and then they want to find out where the other one is from. Listen again.

Guten Tag, Herr Pohl. (Hello, Mr. Pohl.)

Guten Tag, Frau Bell. Freut mich. Kommen Sie aus den USA? (Hello, Mrs. Bell. Pleased to meet you. Are you from the USA?)

Ja, aus New York. Und Sie? Sind Sie von hier? (Yes, from New York. And you? Are you from here?)

Nein, ich bin nicht aus Köln. Ich komme aus Wien. (No, I'm not from Cologne. I'm from Vienna.)

Did you get all that information? Yes, Susan Bell is from New York. And what about Dieter Pohl? He is not from Cologne, as Susan Bell was wondering, but from Vienna. Repeat after the pauses:

Guten Tag, Herr Pohl. (Hello, Mr. Pohl.)

Guten Tag, Frau Bell. Freut mich. Kommen Sie aus den USA? (Hello, Mrs. Bell. Pleased to meet you. Are you from the USA?)

Ja, aus New York. Und Sie? Sind Sie von hier? (Yes, from New York. And you? Are you from here?)

Nein, ich bin nicht aus Köln. Ich komme aus Wien. (No, I'm not from Cologne. I'm from Vienna.)

Well done! Now listen to the dialog one more time.

Hallo, Herr Pohl. Wie geht's? (Hi, Mr. Pohl. How are you?)

Recht gut, danke. Und Ihnen? (Pretty good, thanks. And you?)

Ausgezeichnet, danke. Darf ich vorstellen: Susan Bell, das ist Dieter Pohl. (Excellent, thank you. May I introduce to you: Susan Bell, this is Dieter Pohl.)

Guten Tag, Herr Pohl. (Hello, Mr. Pohl.)

Guten Tag, Frau Bell. Freut mich. Kommen Sie aus den USA? (Hello, Mrs. Bell. Pleased to meet you. Are you from the USA?)

Ja, aus New York. Und Sie? Sind Sie von hier? (Yes, from New York. And you? Are you from here?)

Nein, ich bin nicht aus Köln. Ich komme aus Wien. (No, I'm not from Cologne. I'm from Vienna.)

Activity 4

Here's a shorter encounter from the same trade fair. Listen to these introductions and try to catch the details.

Herr Walter? (Mr. Walter?)

Ja? (Yes?)

Guten Tag. Ich bin Erika Dittrich, und das ist Otto Hinze aus Bern. (Hello. I'm Erika Dittrich and this is Otto Hinze from Bern.)

Guten Tag. (Hello.)

Freut mich. (Pleased to meet you.)

Did you get it? The woman introduces herself and Herr Hinze. Otto Hinze is from Bern, that's in Switzerland. Listen again and repeat in the pauses provided.

Herr Walter? (Mr. Walter?)

Ja? (Yes?)

Guten Tag. Ich bin Erika Dittrich, und das ist Otto Hinze aus Bern. (Hello. I'm Erika Dittrich and this is Otto Hinze from Bern.)

Guten Tag. (Hello.)

Freut mich. (Pleased to meet you.)

Now listen to the dialog again.

Herr Walter? (Mr. Walter?)

Ja? (Yes?)

Guten Tag. Ich bin Erika Dittrich, und das ist Otto Hinze aus Bern. (Hello. I'm Erika Dittrich and this is Otto Hinze from Bern.)

Guten Tag. (Hello.)

Freut mich. (Pleased to meet you.)

Good! By the way, perhaps you noticed in these dialogs that German speakers are generally more formal in the way they address each other. It's quite usual for colleagues and neighbors to address each other by their last name rather than use their first names. However, the younger generation is more relaxed about this.

Activity 5

It's your turn. You're on a plane to Berlin. There's a German woman sitting next to you. She looks friendly so you decide to practice your German on her. What will you say? Listen to the prompts and play your part.

Say hello and introduce yourself.

Guten Tag. Ich bin Regina Janssen. (Hello. I'm Regina Janssen.)

Say where you're from and ask where she's from.

Ich komme aus Hamburg. Ich bin auf Geschäftsreise. (I'm from Hamburg. I'm on a business trip.)

Practice as many times as you like until you feel confident.

Activity 6

OK. Now we're going to take a break from meeting and greeting and learn some more numbers. Here are the numbers from 11-20.

11 - **elf**, 12 - **zwölf**, 13 - **dreizehn**, 14 - **vierzehn**, 15 - **fünfzehn**,

16 - **sechzehn**, 17 - **siebzehn**, 18 - **achtzehn**, 19 - **neunzehn**, 20 - **zwanzig**

Listen to the numbers again, then see if you can count from 0 – 20 by yourself.

elf, zwölf, dreizehn, vierzehn, fünfzehn, sechzehn, siebzehn, achtzehn, neunzehn, zwanzig

Activity 7

Alright. Now let's see how well you remember those numbers. You're going to do some simple math in German. **Plus** means and or plus, **minus** means minus. Give the answer to each problem in the pause provided.

$$2 + 4 = 6$$

Right. 2 plus 4 is 6.

$$5 - 2 = 3$$

5 minus 2 is 3.

$$7 + 5 = 12$$

7 plus 5 is 12.

$$20 - 7 = 13$$

20 minus 7 is 13.

$$17 - 8 = 9$$

17 minus 8 is 9.

Good! Now listen again and repeat the German:

$$2 + 4 = 6$$

$$5 - 2 = 3$$

$$7 + 5 = 12$$

$$20 - 7 = 13$$

$$17 - 8 = 9$$

Activity 8

Listen to these flight announcements. What flight numbers and destinations do you hear mentioned?

Letzter Aufruf für American Airlines, Flugnummer AA 1230 nach New York, Flugsteig 10.

(Last call for American Airlines, flight number AA 1230 to New York, gate 10.)

Letzter Aufruf British Airways, Flugnummer BA 456 nach London Heathrow, Flugsteig 2.

(Last call for British Airways, flight number BA 456 to London Heathrow, gate 2.)

Passagiere for Quantas, Flugnummer QA 2370 nach Sydney, Flugsteig 7. (Passengers for Quantas, flight number QA 2370 to Sydney, gate 7.)

Passagiere für Lufthansa, Flugnummer LH 7245 nach Moskau, Flugsteig 15. (Passengers for Lufthansa, flight number LH 7245 to Moscow, gate 15.)

Passagiere für Air France, Flugnummer AF 1170 nach Paris: Dieser Flug hat 20 Minuten Verspätung. (Passengers for Air France, flight number AF 1170 to Paris: your flight is delayed for 20 minutes.)

Passagiere für Lufthansa, Flugnummer LH 7256 nach Rom, Flugsteig 12. (Passengers for Lufthansa, flight number LH 7256 to Rome, gate 12.)

Did you get it? Let's go through the announcements step by step. Repeat in the pauses:

Letzter Aufruf für American Airlines, Flugnummer AA 1230 nach New York, Flugsteig 10.

(Last call for American Airlines, flight number AA 1230 to New York, gate 10.)

What flight was that? Right: it was flight number AA 1230 to New York. And this one? Repeat:

Letzter Aufruf British Airways, Flugnummer BA 456 nach London Heathrow, Flugsteig 2.

(Last call for British Airways, flight number BA 456 to London Heathrow, gate 2.)

This was flight number BA 456 to London Heathrow. Here's the next announcement. Repeat:

Passagiere for Quantas, Flugnummer QA 2370 nach Sydney, Flugsteig 7. (Passengers for

Quantas, flight number QA 2370 to Sydney, gate 7.)

And what about this flight? That was QA 2370 to Sydney. Here's the last one. Repeat:

Passagiere für Lufthansa, Flugnummer LH 7245 nach Moskau, Flugsteig 15. (Passengers for

Lufthansa, flight number LH 7245 to Moscow, gate 15.)

Did you get that one? Yes, it was LH 7245 to Moscow. Now listen to the announcements again.

Letzter Aufruf für American Airlines, Flugnummer AA 1230 nach New York, Flugsteig 10.

(Last call for American Airlines, flight number AA 1230 to New York, gate 10.)

Letzter Aufruf British Airways, Flugnummer BA 456 nach London Heathrow, Flugsteig 2.

(Last call for British Airways, flight number BA 456 to London Heathrow, gate 2.)

Passagiere for Quantas, Flugnummer QA 2370 nach Sydney, Flugsteig 7. (Passengers for

Quantas, flight number QA 2370 to Sydney, gate 7.)

Passagiere für Lufthansa, Flugnummer LH 7245 nach Moskau, Flugsteig 15. (Passengers for

Lufthansa, flight number LH 7245 to Moscow, gate 15.)

Passagiere für Air France, Flugnummer AF 1170 nach Paris: Dieser Flug hat 20 Minuten

Verspätung. (Passengers for Air France, flight number AF 1170 to Paris: your flight is delayed for 20 minutes.)

Passagiere für Lufthansa, Flugnummer LH 7256 nach Rom, Flugsteig 12. (Passengers for

Lufthansa, flight number LH 7256 to Rome, gate 12.)

Pronunciation Practice

Lastly, you're going to do some pronunciation practice. There are some sounds that will be unfamiliar to you, but it's worth putting that extra effort into getting your accent just right. Let's try some vowels.

Short **a** as in **kann**

kann

Short **e** as in **nett**

nett

Short **i** as in **ist**

ist

Short **o** as in **kommt**

kommt

Now the long vowels.

Long **a** as in **Tag**

Tag

Long **e** as in **geht**

geht

Long **i** as in **wie**

wie

Long **o** as in **so**

so

Long **u** as in **gut**

gut

Now repeat these pairs of words, one with a short vowel and the other with a long vowel. Really concentrate on making those vowels short or long.

kann, Tag

nett, geht

ist, wie

kommt, so

plus, gut

Unit 4

Eine Portion Pommes bitte! An order of French fries, please!

In this unit you will learn how to buy food and how to order food in a café.

Activity 1

Listen and repeat each time in the pauses provided.

Ordering is simple. You'll usually be asked:

Bitte schön?

Yes, please?

You can answer:

Ich möchte...

"I would like..." and then what you want. For example:

Eine Cola

A cola

Listen to this customer ordering at an **Imbiss**, a snack stand:

Bitte schön? (Yes, please?)

Ich möchte eine Bratwurst mit Brot. (I'd like a grilled sausage with bread, please.)

Sonst noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Ja, eine Cola. (Yes, a cola, please.)

Noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Nein, danke. (No, thanks.)

Eine Bratwurst

Is a fried, spicy sausage, often eaten with:

Brot

bread, and:

Senf

mustard. Another popular snack, but something of an acquired taste is:

Currywurst

A curried sausage. If you don't crave all that meat, there's always:

Pommes

A short form of **Pommes frites**, french fries.

Activity 2

Now you're going to order a meal for yourself and a friend. Listen to the prompts and play your part in the pauses provided. Are you ready? Let's go!

Bitte schön? (Can I help you?)

Say that you'd like a fried sausage with bread and a curried sausage.

Ich möchte eine Bratwurst mit Brot und eine Currywurst.

Sonst noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Say: Yes, one order of french fries.

Ja, eine Portion Pommes frites.

Noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Say: No, thanks.

Nein, danke.

Guten Appetit!

Enjoy your meal!

Activity 3

Now you can order what you want, but when it comes to paying you'll need more numbers. Here are the tens, from ten up to one hundred. Repeat in the pauses.

10 - **zehn**

20 - **zwanzig**

30 - **dreißig**

40 - **vierzig**

50 - **fünfzig**

60 - **sechzig**

70 - **siebzig**

80 - **achzig**

90 - **neunzig**

100 - **(ein) hundert**

Good. Now listen to those numbers again.

zehn, zwanzig, dreißig, vierzig, fünfzig, sechzig, siebzig, achzig, neunzig, (ein) hundert

Practice those numbers until you can count by yourself in tens to a hundred and back down to ten again. Be careful not to confuse thirteen and thirty, fourteen and forty, and so on.

Activity 4

You are now going to hear ten prices. Listen and repeat in the pauses provided.

€1,20

€3,50

€18

€80

€30

€13,10

€40,50

€17

€7,70

€9,90

Could you figure out how much each price exactly was? Let's try that now – and don't worry: we'll be there to help you.

€1,20

Yes, that's 1 euro 20.

€3,50

And this one? Correct: 3 euros 50.

€18

How much was that? That was 18 euros, right.

€80

And this one? Yes, 80 euros.

€30

Did you get this one? Yes, 30 euros.

€13,10

That was how much? That was 13 euros 10.

€40,50

And this one? You're right: 40,50.

€17

Did you get this price? Exactly: 17 euros.

€7,70

What price was that? Yes, it was 7 euros 70.

€9,90

And this last one? Right, it was 9 euros 90. Good.

[CD 2]

Unit 5

Ein Bier, bitte! A beer, please!

In this unit you will learn to order drinks in a restaurant or café.

Activity 1

So you've found a promising café and a nice table with a good view. Now you need to get some service. To get a waiter's attention, just raise your hand and say:

Hallo!

or

Entschuldigung! (Excuse me!)

You try to attract the waiter's attention.

Hallo!

Argh! He's gone again! Now there's a waitress. Perhaps you can get her to come over.

Entschuldigung!

When the waiter or waitress does come over, he or she will almost certainly bring a menu. If not, say:

Die Speisekarte, bitte!

Now you try it.

Die Speisekarte, bitte! (The menu, please!)

Once you've had time to look at a menu, you'll probably be asked:

Was darf es sein?

Literally, "What may it be?" but the meaning is "What would you like?" Or you might hear:

Möchten Sie bestellen?

Would you like to order?

Another possibility is:

Sie wünschen?

What would you like? You try:

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Möchten Sie bestellen? (Would you like to order?)

Sie wünschen? (What would you like?)

You've enjoyed your drink, but now it's time to pay. Try saying:

Zahlen, bitte.

Pay, please, or:

Die Rechnung, bitte.

You try it:

Zahlen, bitte. (Pay, please.)

Die Rechnung, bitte. (The check, please.)

Good. Now let's listen to those phrases again.

Hallo!

Entschuldigung!

Die Speisekarte, bitte!

Was darf es sein?

Möchten Sie bestellen?

Sie wünschen?

Zahlen, bitte.

Die Rechnung, bitte.

Activity 2

Here are some customers in a café. Listen to what they order.

Möchten Sie bestellen? (Are you ready to order?)

Ja, ich möchte einen Tee, bitte. (Yes, I'd like a tea, please.)

Ceylon oder Earl Grey? (Ceylon or Earl Grey?)

Ceylon, bitte. (Ceylon, please.)

Mit Milch oder mit Zitrone? (With milk or lemon?)

Mit Zitrone. (With lemon.)

This customer is ordering a tea. But what type of tea? Is it Ceylon? Repeat the phrases:

Möchten Sie bestellen? (Are you ready to order?)

Ja, ich möchte einen Tee, bitte. (Yes, I'd like a tea, please.)

Ceylon oder Earl Grey? (Ceylon or Earl Grey?)

Ceylon, bitte. (Ceylon, please.)

And did you also get what the customer wants with her tea? Does she ask for milk or for lemon?

Repeat:

Mit Milch oder mit Zitrone? (With milk or lemon?)

Mit Zitrone. (With lemon.)

That's right, she wants her tea with lemon. Now listen to the conversation again.

Möchten Sie bestellen? (Are you ready to order?)

Ja, ich möchte einen Tee, bitte. (Yes, I'd like a tea, please.)

Ceylon oder Earl Grey? (Ceylon or Earl Grey?)

Ceylon, bitte. (Ceylon, please.)

Mit Milch oder mit Zitrone? (With milk or lemon?)

Mit Zitrone. (With lemon.)

Activity 3

Now listen to what's happening at another table.

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Ich möchte einen Kaffee, bitte. (I'd like a coffee, please.)

Espresso, Cappuccino oder Filter? (Espresso, cappuccino, or drip coffee?)

Einen Filterkaffee. (A drip coffee, please.)

Sonst noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Nein, danke. (No, thanks.)

This customer doesn't want tea, but coffee. Which type of coffee does she choose? Repeat:

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Ich möchte einen Kaffee, bitte. (I'd like a coffee, please.)

Espresso, Cappuccino oder Filter? (Espresso, cappuccino, or drip coffee?)

Einen Filterkaffee. (A drip coffee, please.)

She preferred a drip coffee to cappuccino or espresso. Now listen to the conversation again.

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Ich möchte einen Kaffee, bitte. (I'd like a coffee, please.)

Espresso, Cappuccino oder Filter? (Espresso, cappuccino, or drip coffee?)

Einen Filterkaffee. (A drip coffee, please.)

Sonst noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Nein, danke. (No, thanks.)

Activity 4

And here is another recording at the same cafe. Again, see if you can guess what each customer is ordering.

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Ein Bier, bitte. (A beer, please.)

Ein Pils oder ein Export? (A Pilsner beer or an Export beer?)

Ein Pils, bitte. (A Pilsner beer, please.)

Ein kleines oder ein großes? (A small one or a large one?)

Ein großes. (A large one.)

Did you get what this customer wants? Yes, he wants a beer. And he could choose from different types of beer. Repeat:

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Ein Bier, bitte. (A beer, please.)

Ein Pils oder ein Export? (A Pilsner beer or an Export beer?)

Ein Pils, bitte. (A Pilsner beer, please.)

This guest orders a Pilsner beer. That's actually one of the most popular types of beer in Germany. And, does he want...

Ein kleines oder ein großes?

A small one or a large one?

Ein großes. (A large one.)

Yes, a large one. Good. By the way, even though there are some well-known large breweries in Germany, you can still find many smaller, local breweries all over the country.

Now listen to the dialog again.

Was darf es sein? (What would you like?)

Ein Bier, bitte. (A beer, please.)

Ein Pils oder ein Export? (A Pilsner beer or an Export beer?)

Ein Pils, bitte. (A Pilsner beer, please.)

Ein kleines oder ein großes? (A small one or a large one?)

Ein großes. (A large one.)

Activity 5

But not everybody goes for beer. Let's see what's going on at another table.

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen? (Hello. What can I get you?)

Haben Sie Fruchtsaft? (Do you have fruit juice?)

Ja, natürlich. Wir haben Orangensaft, Grapefruitsaft, Apfelsaft... (Yes, sure. We have orange juice, grapefruit juice, apple juice...)

Ich möchte einen Orangensaft, bitte. (I'd like an orange juice, please.)

What does this customer want? Yes, he wants some fruit juice. And from a selection of orange juice, grapefruit juice and apple juice he goes for orange juice. Repeat:

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen? (Hello. What can I get you?)

Haben Sie Fruchtsaft? (Do you have fruit juice?)

Ja, natürlich. Wir haben Orangensaft, Grapefruitsaft, Apfelsaft... (Yes, sure. We have orange juice, grapefruit juice, apple juice...)

Ich möchte einen Orangensaft, bitte. (I'd like an orange juice, please.)

Good. Now listen to the dialog again.

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen? (Hello. What can I get you?)

Haben Sie Fruchtsaft? (Do you have fruit juice?)

Ja, natürlich. Wir haben Orangensaft, Grapefruitsaft, Apfelsaft... (Yes, sure. We have orange juice, grapefruit juice, apple juice...)

Ich möchte einen Orangensaft, bitte. (I'd like an orange juice, please.)

Activity 6

Okay, you try ordering. Ask for tea.

Ich möchte einen Tee, bitte.

Or just:

Einen Tee, bitte.

Ask for coffee.

Ich möchte einen Kaffee, bitte.

Or just:

Einen Kaffee, bitte.

Ask for a beer.

Ich möchte ein Bier, bitte.

Or just:

Ein Bier, bitte.

And lastly, ask for orange juice.

Ich möchte einen Orangensaft, bitte.

Or just:

Einen Orangensaft, bitte.

Activity 7

Here are some more people ordering drinks. Imagine that you're the waiter taking the orders. What do they want?

Zwei Glas Tee und ein Kännchen Kaffee, bitte. (Two glasses of tea and a pot of coffee, please.)

What was that order? Yes, two glasses of tea and a pot of coffee. Repeat:

Zwei Glas Tee und ein Kännchen Kaffee, bitte.

Here are more customers.

Wir hätten gern zwei kleine Pils, einen Cappuccino und eine Apfelschorle. (We'd like two small Pilsner beers, a cappuccino, and a glass of apple juice mixed with mineral water, please.)

And what will you bring them? That's it: two small Pilsner beers, a cappuccino and that last drink was a tricky one: an apple juice mixed with mineral water. Repeat:

Wir hätten gern zwei kleine Pils, einen Cappuccino und eine Apfelschorle.

On to the next table.

Ich möchte ein Mineralwasser. (I'd like a mineral water, please.)

Und ich hätte gern einen Espresso. (And I would like an espresso.)

And what did they want? Yes, nothing spectacular: a mineral water and an espresso. Repeat:

Ich möchte ein Mineralwasser.

Und ich hätte gern einen Espresso.

Good. Now listen to the orders again.

Zwei Glas Tee und ein Kännchen Kaffee, bitte. (Two glasses of tea and a pot of coffee, please.)

Wir hätten gern zwei kleine Pils, einen Cappuccino und eine Apfelschorle. (We'd like two small Pilsner beers, a cappuccino, and a glass of apple juice mixed with mineral water, please.)

Ich möchte ein Mineralwasser. (I'd like a mineral water, please.)

Und ich hätte gern einen Espresso. (And I would like an espresso.)

Unit 6

Zwei Euro das Kilo. Two euros per kilo.

In this unit you'll learn to ask for certain items in the store or at the market as well as ask for their prices and pay for them. Are you ready? Then let's go shopping

Activity 1

We are at the open air market in Berlin. Listen to the following conversations and decide where the customers shop, what they buy and how much they pay for their purchase.

Was kosten die Rosen? (How much are the roses?)

Zwanzig Stück kosten €10. (Twenty are €10.)

Mmhhhh, sie duften so gut! Ich nehme sechs. (Mmhhhh, they smell lovely! I'll take six.)

Did you figure out where this customer is shopping? Right, he's at a flower stand. And he's buying roses. Repeat in the pauses:

Was kosten die Rosen? (How much are the roses?)

Zwanzig Stück kosten €10. (Twenty are €10.)

Did you get that? How much are they? 20 roses cost 10 euros. And how many is he buying? Repeat:

Mmhhhh, sie duften so gut! Ich nehme sechs. (Mmhhhh, they smell lovely! I'll take six.)

The customer then says that they smell sooo good, and he buys ... how many? That's right, he gets six roses. Here's the next customer. Where does she shop?

Guten Tag. Haben Sie Vollkornbrot? (Hello. Do you have whole rye bread?)

Ja. (Yes, we do.)

Ich möchte ein großes, bitte. (I'd like a large one, please.)

Sonst noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Das ist alles. (That's all.)

€3,40, bitte. (€3.40, please.)

This customer is at a bread stand and asks for a whole rye bread. Repeat:

Guten Tag. Haben Sie Vollkornbrot? (Hello. Do you have whole rye bread?)

Does she want a small or a large one? A large one. Repeat:

Ich möchte ein großes, bitte. (I'd like a large one, please.)

How much is that bread? Repeat:

€3,40, bitte. (€3.40, please.)

Is that 4 euros 30 or 3 euros 40? 3 euros 40. Listen to the next customer.

Tag. Was kosten die Ansichtskarten? (Hi. How much are the postcards?)

75 Cent. (€0.75.)

Dann nehme ich drei. (OK, I'll take three.)

This customer asks for the price of postcards. Repeat:

Tag. Was kosten die Ansichtskarten? (Hi. How much are the postcards?)

How much are they and how many does he buy? Repeat:

75 Cent. (€0.75.)

Dann nehme ich drei. (OK, I'll take three.)

Did you get it? Yes, one postcard is 75 cents and he is taking three of them.

Now listen to the dialogs again.

Was kosten die Rosen? (How much are the roses?)

Zwanzig Stück kosten €10. (Twenty are €10.)

Mmhhhh, sie duften so gut! Ich nehme sechs. (Mmhhhh, they smell lovely! I'll take six.)

Guten Tag. Haben Sie Vollkornbrot? (Hello. Do you have whole rye bread?)

Ja. (Yes, we do.)

Ich möchte ein großes, bitte. (I'd like a large one, please.)

Sonst noch etwas? (Anything else?)

Das ist alles. (That's all.)

€3,40, bitte. (€3.40, please.)

Tag. Was kosten die Ansichtskarten? (Hi. How much are the postcards?)

75 Cent. (€0.75.)

Dann nehme ich drei. (OK, I'll take three.)

By the way, that's 75 euro cents, of course. The euro, which equals 100 cents, became the official currency in Germany, Austria and many other European countries in 2002. In Switzerland the currency is still the Swiss franc.

Activity 2

Here are two more conversations at the same market.

Guten Morgen. (Good morning.)

Guten Morgen. (Good morning.)

Haben Sie Schafskäse? (Do you have feta cheese?)

Ja natürlich. (Yes, of course.)

Ich möchte zweihundert Gramm, bitte. (I'd like two hundred grams, please.)

Bitte schön. (Here you are.)

This customer is buying some feta cheese:

Haben Sie Schafskäse? (Do you have feta cheese?)

And did you get how much of it he wants? Right, he wants 200 grams.

Ich möchte zweihundert Gramm, bitte. (I'd like two hundred grams, please.)

The next conversation is taking place at a fruit stand. Repeat:

Guten Tag. Sind die Orangen süß? (Hi. Are the oranges sweet?)

Ja, süß und ganz frisch. (Yes, they're sweet and really fresh.)

Dann nehme ich fünf Stück. (OK, I'll take five.)

The customer wants to know whether the oranges are sweet and the vendor says that they are sweet and really fresh.

Ja, süß und ganz frisch. (Yes, they're sweet and really fresh.)

And how many oranges does the customer buy? Five or fifteen? The correct answer is five.

Dann nehme ich fünf Stück. (OK, I'll take five.)

Good. Now listen to both conversations again.

Guten Morgen. (Good morning.)

Guten Morgen. (Good morning.)

Haben Sie Schafskäse? (Do you have feta cheese?)

Ja natürlich. (Yes, of course.)

Ich möchte zweihundert Gramm, bitte. (I'd like two hundred grams, please.)

Bitte schön. (Here you are.)

Guten Tag. Sind die Orangen süß? (Hi. Are the oranges sweet?)

Ja, süß und ganz frisch. (Yes, they're sweet and really fresh.)

Dann nehme ich fünf Stück. (OK, I'll take five.)

Activity 3

Now let's practice more useful expressions for buying things. If you want to ask whether an item is available, ask:

Haben Sie...

and then the name of the item.

Haben Sie Vollkornbrot? (Do you have whole wheat bread?)

They may have what you're looking for, but how much does it cost? To find out you can ask:

Was kostet es? (How much is it?)

or if there is more than one thing:

Was kosten sie?

You try it.

Was kostet es?

Now several things:

Was kosten sie? (How much are they?)

If you're not sure you'll like the taste of something, such as cheese or olives, it's usually OK to ask for a taste. You can say:

Darf ich probieren?

May I try?

Darf ich probieren?

Activity 4

Let's go shopping! Listen to the prompts and play your part.

At the cheese stand

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen? (Hi. Can I help you?)

Say hello and ask if he has Edam cheese.

Guten Tag. Haben Sie Edamer Käse?

Aber natürlich. Hundert Gramm für 79 Cent. (Sure. 79 cents per 100 grams.)

Say you'll take four hundred grams.

Ich nehme vierhundert Gramm.

Bitte schön. Sonst noch etwas? (Here you are. Anything else?)

Say: No thanks.

Nein, danke.

€3,35, bitte. (€3.35 please.)

How did that go? Could you work out the price for your cheese? That's right: it's 3 euros 35.

Our next stop is the fruit and vegetable stand. Here's one more word you'll need now: nectarines in German are **Nektarinen** – quite an easy one to remember.

Was darf es sein? (How can I help you?)

Say you'd like five oranges.

Ich möchte fünf Orangen.

So, bitte schön. €1,80. Sonst noch etwas? (Here you are. €1.80. Anything else?)

Say: Yes, five nectarines.

Ja, fünf Nektarinen.

3,60 insgesamt. Sonst noch etwas? (3.60 altogether. Anything else?)

No, thanks.

Nein, danke.

Did you understand how much you had to pay altogether? Yes, it was 3,60 altogether. Now listen to both dialogs again.

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen?

Guten Tag. Haben Sie Edamer Käse?

Aber natürlich. Hundert Gramm für 79 Cent.

Ich nehme vierhundert Gramm.

Bitte schön. Sonst noch etwas?

Nein, danke.

€3,35, bitte.

Was darf es sein?

Ich möchte fünf Orangen.

So, bitte schön. €1,80. Sonst noch etwas?

Ja, fünf Nektarinen.

3,60 insgesamt. Sonst noch etwas?

Nein, danke.

There were quite a few new words in this unit. However, don't feel that you have to learn every word or expression you hear in this course in order to be successful. Before long you'll notice that apart from your active vocabulary- that is the words you can and do use - you've absorbed a much larger passive vocabulary through hearing lots of German.

Activity 5

To pay for more expensive items we need to practice some numbers. First you hear a number in German. Can you guess it?

vierunddreißig

Yes, that was 34.

dreißig

30

neunundsiebzig

79

fünfunddreißig

35

achtundzwanzig

28

zweiundsechzig

62

dreiundneunzig

93

achtzehn

18

einundvierzig

41

fünfundsechzig

65

Good! Now listen to the numbers again. Do you remember them?

vierunddreißig (34)

dreißig (30)

neunundsiebzig (79)

fünfunddreißig (35)

achtundzwanzig (28)

zweiundsechzig (62)

dreiundneunzig (93)

achtzehn (18)

einundvierzig (41)

fünfundsechzig (65)

Activity 6

Let's now practice the numbers up to a thousand. Listen and repeat:

100 - **einhundert**

200 - **zweihundert**

300 - **dreihundert**

400 - **vierhundert**

500 - **fünfhundert**

600 - **sechshundert**

700 - **siebenhundert**

800 - **achthundert**

900 - **neunhundert**

1000 - **eintausend**

Well done! Listen to these numbers as many times as you need until you have learned them by heart.

Unit 7

Das ist meine Familie. This is my family.

When you're getting to know people a little better, family is a topic that often comes up in conversation. In the activities that follow you're going to learn to say what your marital status is and talk about the members of your family.

Activity 1

Here are some people answering the question...

Sind Sie verheiratet?

Are you married?

We'll be doing a little check-up after each dialog. Listen and repeat in the pauses provided.

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Ja, ich bin verheiratet. (Yes, I'm married.)

That's right, she says she's married.

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Nein, ich bin noch ledig. (No, I'm still single.)

No, this man is not married yet: **ledig** means unmarried.

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Nein, ich bin geschieden. (No, I'm divorced.)

This man is divorced: **geschieden**.

Und sind Sie verheiratet? (And are you married?)

Nein, aber ich habe einen Partner. (No, but I have a partner.)

She isn't married, but she has a partner.

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Ja, aber wir leben getrennt. (Yes, but we're separated.)

This man is married, but separated.

There were a few difficult words, so let's listen to all dialogs one more time:

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Ja, ich bin verheiratet. (Yes, I'm married.)

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Nein, ich bin noch ledig. (No, I'm still single.)

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Nein, ich bin geschieden. (No, I'm divorced.)

Und sind Sie verheiratet? (And are you married?)

Nein, aber ich habe einen Partner. (No, but I have a partner.)

Sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married?)

Ja, aber wir leben getrennt. (Yes, but we're separated.)

Activity 2

Child in German is:

das Kind

If you have more than one it's:

die Kinder

So,

Haben Sie Kinder?

means: Do you have children?

Son is:

Sohn

and daughter is:

Tochter

If you have more than one, it's:

Söhne

sons, and

Töchter

daughters.

Listen to those expressions again and repeat them in the pauses.

das Kind

die Kinder

Haben Sie Kinder?

Sohn

Tochter

Söhne

Töchter

Activity 3

Here are some persons answering to:

Haben Sie Kinder?

Again, listen and repeat.

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, ich habe eine Tochter. (Yes, I have one daughter.)

Did you get it? This man has one daughter.

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, wir haben einen Sohn. (Yes, we have a son.)

And this woman? That's correct, she says they have one son.

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, ich habe zwei Söhne, Ralf und Matthias. (Yes, I have two sons, Ralf and Matthias.)

And what about this woman? Yes, she has two sons.

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Nein, noch nicht. (No, not yet.)

Did you get that one? The man says he doesn't have children yet.

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, ich habe drei Kinder: einen Sohn und zwei Töchter. (Yes, I have three children: a son and two daughters.)

And what about this man? He has one son and two daughters.

Now listen again.

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, ich habe eine Tochter. (Yes, I have one daughter.)

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, wir haben einen Sohn. (Yes, we have a son.)

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, ich habe zwei Söhne, Ralf und Matthias. (Yes, I have two sons, Ralf and Matthias.)

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Nein, noch nicht. (No, not yet.)

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, ich habe drei Kinder: einen Sohn und zwei Töchter. (Yes, I have three children: a son and two daughters.)

Activity 4

Listen to the interview with Anna Wieland about her family.

Eltern

means parents, and:

Geschwister

means siblings.

Frau Wieland, wie heißen Ihre Eltern? (Mrs. Wieland, what are your parents' names?)

Mein Vater heißt Clemens und meine Mutter heißt Hedwig. (My father is named Clemens and my mother is named Hedwig.)

Haben Sie Geschwister? (Do you have any siblings?)

Ja, ich habe drei Geschwister: einen Bruder und zwei Schwestern. (Yes, I have three siblings: a brother and two sisters.)

How many siblings does she have? Three, that's right: a brother and two sisters. Repeat:

Ja, ich habe drei Geschwister: einen Bruder und zwei Schwestern. (Yes, I have three siblings: a brother and two sisters.)

Wie heißt Ihr Bruder? (What's your brother's name?)

Er heißt Norbert. (His name is Norbert.)

Und wie heißen Ihre Schwestern? (And what are your sisters' names?)

Birgit und Steffi. (Birgit and Steffi.)

And what are her siblings' names? Right, her sisters are Birgit and Steffi, and her brother's name is Norbert. What about her own family? Listen.

Frau Wieland, sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married, Mrs. Wieland?)

Ja. (Yes, I am.)

Wie heißt Ihr Mann? (What's your husband's name?)

Klaus. (Klaus.)

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, wir haben zwei Kinder: einen Sohn, Raphael, und eine Tochter, Julia. (Yes, we have two children: a son called Raphael and a daughter named Julia.)

Danke, Frau Wieland. (Thank you, Mrs. Wieland.)

Is she married? Yes, she is. What about children? Repeat:

Ja, wir haben zwei Kinder: einen Sohn, Raphael, und eine Tochter, Julia. (Yes, we have two children: a son called Raphael and a daughter named Julia.)

Does she have children? Yes, a son, Raphael and a daughter, Julia.

Good. Now listen to the dialog one more time.

Frau Wieland, wie heißen Ihre Eltern? (Mrs. Wieland, what are your parents' names?)

Mein Vater heißt Clemens und meine Mutter heißt Hedwig. (My father is named Clemens and my mother is named Hedwig.)

Haben Sie Geschwister? (Do you have any siblings?)

Ja, ich habe drei Geschwister: einen Bruder und zwei Schwestern. (Yes, I have three siblings: a brother and two sisters.)

Wie heißt Ihr Bruder? (What's your brother's name?)

Er heißt Norbert. (His name is Norbert.)

Und wie heißen Ihre Schwestern? (And what are your sisters' names?)

Birgit und Steffi. (Birgit and Steffi.)

Frau Wieland, sind Sie verheiratet? (Are you married, Mrs. Wieland?)

Ja. (Yes, I am.)

Wie heißt Ihr Mann? (What's your husband's name?)

Klaus. (Klaus.)

Haben Sie Kinder? (Do you have children?)

Ja, wir haben zwei Kinder: einen Sohn, Raphael, und eine Tochter, Julia. (Yes, we have two children: a son called Raphael and a daughter named Julia.)

Danke, Frau Wieland. (Thank you, Mrs. Wieland.)

Activity 5

We've had a lot of words for relatives. So let's review them now.

the parents:

die Eltern

the mother:

die Mutter

the father:

der Vater

the brothers and sisters:

die Geschwister

the sister:

die Schwester

the brother:

der Bruder

the wife:

die Frau

the husband:

der Mann

the children:

die Kinder

the son:

der Sohn

the daughter:

die Tochter

If the word for grandmother is:

Großmutter

what do you think the word for grandfather is?

Großvater

You might want to know the words for grandson, granddaughter, and grandchildren, so here they are.

The grandson:

der Enkelsohn

the granddaughter:

die Enkeltochter

the grandchild:

das Enkelkind

If grandchild is:

Enkelkind

what do you think “grandchildren” is?

Enkelkinder

Activity 6

You’re going to ask Herr Fromm some questions about his family. We’ll tell you what to ask as you go.

Ask if he’s married.

Sind Sie verheiratet?

Ja, ich bin verheiratet. (Yes, I’m married.)

Ask what his wife’s name is.

Wie heißt Ihre Frau?

Meine Frau heißt Monika. (My wife’s name is Monika.)

Ask him whether he has any brothers or sisters.

Haben Sie Geschwister?

Nein, ich habe keine Geschwister. (No, I don’t have brothers or sisters.)

Ask him if he has children.

Haben Sie Kinder?

Ja, wir haben eine Tochter, Olivia. (Yes, we have a daughter, Olivia.)

Unit 8

Was sind Sie von Beruf? What's your profession?

In this unit you will learn to talk about professions.

Activity 1

These people introduce themselves and say what their profession is.

Ich heiße Katharina Müller. (My name is Katharina Müller.)

Ich bin Architektin. (I'm an architect.)

Ich heiße Jochen Weiß. (My name is Jochen Weiß.)

Ich bin Fotograf. (I am a photographer.)

Ich heiße Paula Prescher. (My name is Paula Prescher.)

Ich bin Ärztin. (I'm a doctor.)

Ich heiße Stefan Dombrowski. (My name is Stefan Dombrowski.)

Ich bin Computertechniker. (I am a computer technician.)

So let's see what these people do for a living. The first person is an architect. Repeat:

Ich bin Architektin.

Then there's a photographer.

Ich bin Fotograf.

And this woman is a doctor.

Ich bin Ärztin.

And finally we have a computer technician.

Ich bin Computertechniker.

Good. Let's hear them again.

Ich heiße Katharina Müller. (My name is Katharina Müller.)

Ich bin Architektin. (I'm an architect.)

Ich heiße Jochen Weiß. (My name is Jochen Weiß.)

Ich bin Fotograf. (I am a photographer.)

Ich heiße Paula Prescher. (My name is Paula Prescher.)

Ich bin Ärztin. (I'm a doctor.)

Ich heiße Stefan Dombrowski. (My name is Stefan Dombrowski.)

Ich bin Computertechniker. (I am a computer technician.)

Activity 2

Notice that in German you just say:

Ich bin...

without the article. For example:

Ich bin Schauspielerin. (I'm an actress.)

I'm an actress.

Notice that the female forms usually end in **-in**:

Ich bin Fotograf. Ich bin Fotografin.

German distinguishes between male and female job titles much more consistently than English does. If you don't know exactly what your job title would be in German, you can still say: "I work in a bank / a factory / an office" or wherever. If you work in a bank, you can say:

Ich arbeite in einer Bank.

If you work in a factory, say:

Ich arbeite in einer Fabrik.

If you work in an office, you can say:

Ich arbeite in einem Büro.

Activity 3

Listen to the persons answering the question:

Wo arbeiten Sie?

Where do you work? Listen to what they said.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einer Bank. (I work in a bank.)

Did you get that one? Yes, this woman works in a bank. Repeat:

Ich arbeite in einer Bank.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einer Schule. (I work at a school.)

This woman works at a school. Repeat:

Ich arbeite in einer Schule.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einem Geschäft. (I work in a store.)

This man works in a store. Repeat:

Ich arbeite in einem Geschäft.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einem Restaurant. (I work in a restaurant.)

Where does this man work? Exactly, at a restaurant. Repeat:

Ich arbeite in einem Restaurant.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einem Krankenhaus. (I work at a hospital.)

This man works at a hospital. Repeat:

Ich arbeite in einem Krankenhaus.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite an der Universität. (I work at the university.)

And finally this woman works at the university. Repeat:

Ich arbeite an der Universität.

Good. Now listen to the interviews again.

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einer Bank. (I work in a bank.)

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einer Schule. (I work at a school.)

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einem Geschäft. (I work in a store.)

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einem Restaurant. (I work in a restaurant.)

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite in einem Krankenhaus. (I work at a hospital.)

Wo arbeiten Sie? (Where do you work?)

Ich arbeite an der Universität. (I work at the university.)

Activity 4

Instead of saying:

Ich arbeite in einem Büro

You could say , “I work for...” and then the name of the company or organization; that would be:

Ich arbeite bei....

So if you worked for IBM, you could say:

Ich arbeite bei IBM.

If you worked for yourself you can say:

Ich arbeite selbstständig.

If you're out of work at the moment, you can say:

Ich bin zurzeit arbeitslos.

If you're retired, you can say:

Ich bin Rentner.

or

Ich bin Rentnerin.

If you're studying at a college or university, you can say:

Ich bin Student.

or

Ich bin Studentin.

Good. Let's hear those expressions again:

Ich arbeite in einem Büro

Ich arbeite bei IBM.

Ich arbeite selbstständig.

Ich bin zurzeit arbeitslos.

Ich bin Rentner.

Ich bin Rentnerin.

Ich bin Student.

Ich bin Studentin.

So, what's your profession? That's:

So, und was sind Sie von Beruf?

See if you can say what you do for a living.

Unit 9

Sie sprechen gut Deutsch. You speak German well.

In this unit you will learn more about how to talk about yourself, what your nationality is, and what languages you speak.

Activity 1

To say that you speak a language you say:

Ich spreche...

and then the language.

So you can say:

Ich spreche Deutsch.

Now listen to the conversation. Which languages do you hear mentioned?

Welche Sprachen sprechen Sie? (Which languages do you speak?)

Ich spreche Englisch, Französisch und ein bisschen Italienisch. (I speak English, French, and a little Italian.)

The interviewer asks what languages this person speaks. Repeat:

Welche Sprachen sprechen Sie?

Did you recognize any languages? The woman says she speaks English, French and a little Italian.

Repeat:

Ich spreche Englisch, Französisch und ein bisschen Italienisch.

Und Sie? (And you?)

Englisch und Türkisch. (English and Turkish.)

Can you guess what this man said he speaks? That's right, he said he speaks English and Turkish.

Repeat.

Englisch und Türkisch.

Und welche Sprachen sprechen Sie? (And which languages do you speak?)

Ich spreche ein bisschen Englisch. (I speak a little English.)

This woman said she speaks a little of what? English, of course. Repeat:

Ich spreche ein bisschen Englisch.

Und Sie? (And you?)

Ich spreche Russisch und ein wenig Polnisch. (I speak Russian and a little Polish.)

Did you get this one? The woman speaks Russian and a little Polish. Repeat:

Ich spreche Russisch und ein wenig Polnisch.

Excellent! Now listen to the interviewees again.

Welche Sprachen sprechen Sie? (Which languages do you speak?)

Ich spreche Englisch, Französisch und ein bisschen Italienisch. (I speak English, French, and a little Italian.)

Und Sie? (And you?)

Englisch und Türkisch. (English and Turkish.)

Und welche Sprachen sprechen Sie? (And which languages do you speak?)

Ich spreche ein bisschen Englisch. (I speak a little English.)

Und Sie? (And you?)

Ich spreche Russisch und ein wenig Polnisch. (I speak Russian and a little Polish.)

Activity 2

Listen to the following people talk about themselves, where they live, what nationalities they are, how old they are, what their marital status is, and what languages they speak.

Hallo. Ich heiße Claudia Berger. (Hi, I'm Claudia Berger.)

Ich bin Österreicherin. Ich komme aus Graz. (I am Austrian. I'm from Graz.)

Ich spreche Deutsch, natürlich, und etwas Italienisch. (I speak German, of course, and a little Italian.)

Ich bin 25 Jahre alt und ledig. (I am 25 years old and single.)

Did you get where Claudia Berger is from? Right, she's Austrian and she's from the city of Graz.

Repeat:

Ich bin Österreicherin. Ich komme aus Graz.

Remember what languages she speaks? German, of course, and some Italian. Repeat:

Ich spreche Deutsch, natürlich, und etwas Italienisch.

She's 25, but is she married? Well, no, she's single. Repeat:

Ich bin 25 Jahre alt und ledig.

Activity 3

Now listen to the next person.

Hallo. Ich heiße Mustafa Dogan. (Hi, my name is Mustafa Dogan.)

Ich komme aus Freiburg. (I'm from Freiburg.)

Ich bin Türke, aber ich spreche Deutsch. (I am Turkish, but I speak German.)

Ich spreche außerdem Englisch und Italienisch. (I also speak English and Italian.)

Ich bin 27 Jahre alt und verheiratet. (I am 27 years old and married.)

Did you get where Mustafa is from? Yes, he's from Freiburg. That's a city in the south of Germany.

And what languages does he speak? Right, he's Turkish but he speaks German. Repeat:

Ich bin Türke, aber ich spreche Deutsch.

He also speaks English and Italian. Repeat:

Ich spreche außerdem Englisch und Italienisch.

And what does he tell us about his age and marital status? Repeat:

Ich bin 27 Jahre alt und verheiratet.

He's 27 years old and, is he single? No, he's married.

Activity 4

Now listen to our last interview partner.

Hallo. Ich heiße Hans Tschumi. (Hi. My name is Hans Tschumi.)

Ich komme aus der Schweiz, aber ich wohne jetzt in Berlin. (I'm from Switzerland, but now I live in Berlin.)

Deutsch ist meine Muttersprache. (German is my native language.)

Ich spreche auch Englisch und Französisch. (I also speak English and French.)

Ich bin 31 Jahre alt und geschieden. (I am 31 years old and divorced.)

Did you get everything? Hans is from Switzerland. But where does he live, in Bern or Berlin? Repeat:

Ich komme aus der Schweiz, aber ich wohne jetzt in Berlin.

He lives in Berlin. What's his native language, German or Spanish? Repeat:

Deutsch ist meine Muttersprache.

His native language is German. What other languages does he speak? Repeat:

Ich spreche auch Englisch und Französisch.

Right, he also speaks English and French. And what about his marital status? Repeat:

Ich bin 31 Jahre alt und geschieden.

He's 31 years old and he's divorced. Very good.

Did you know, by the way, that over 100 million people worldwide speak German as their native language? And there are over 40 dialects of German, such as Bavarian in the South, **Plattdeutsch** in the North, or Swiss German in Switzerland.

Activity 5

Let's review some of the language you've learned in the previous activities. Repeat each time in the pauses provided.

Hans said:

Deutsch ist meine Muttersprache.

German is my mother tongue or native language. The opposite of **Muttersprache** is **Fremdsprache** - foreign language. Let's listen again to Claudia, Mustafa, and Hans one more time. How do they say where they come from and where they live?

Hallo. Ich heiße Claudia Berger.

Ich bin Österreicherin.

Ich komme aus Graz.

Ich spreche Deutsch, natürlich, und etwas Italienisch.

Ich bin 25 Jahre alt und ledig.

Ich bin Österreicherin.

Ich komme aus Graz.

Ich spreche Deutsch, natürlich, und etwas Italienisch.

Claudia says:

Ich bin Österreicherin.

Note that she doesn't use an article. You don't use **ein** when stating your nationality or your profession. Then she says where exactly she comes from:

Ich komme aus Graz.

That's a city in Austria.

Hallo. Ich heiÙe Mustafa Dogan. Ich komme aus Freiburg. Ich bin Türke, aber ich spreche Deutsch. Ich spreche außerdem Englisch und Italienisch. Ich bin 27 Jahre alt und verheiratet.

Now repeat what Mustafa says:

**Ich komme aus Freiburg.
Ich bin Türke, aber ich spreche Deutsch.
Ich spreche außerdem Englisch und Italienisch.**

Mustafa says:

Ich komme aus Freiburg.

But then goes on to say:

Ich bin Türke.

He lives in Freiburg, but his nationality is Turkish. In German you don't say "I am Turkish," "I am Spanish" and so on, you say "I am Turk," "I am Spaniard."

Ich bin Türke, Ich bin Spanier.

or if you're female:

Ich bin Türkin, Ich bin Spanierin.

Hallo. Ich heiÙe Hans Tschumi. Ich komme aus der Schweiz, aber ich wohne jetzt in Berlin. Deutsch ist meine Muttersprache. Ich spreche auch Englisch und Französisch. Ich bin 31 Jahre alt und geschieden.

Now repeat what Hans says:

**Ich komme aus der Schweiz, aber ich wohne jetzt in Berlin.
Deutsch ist meine Muttersprache.
Ich spreche auch Englisch und Französisch.**

Hans distinguishes where he comes from:

Ich komme aus der Schweiz

and where he now lives:

Ich wohne jetzt in Berlin.

Note that the name of this country is with article:

die Schweiz

so you have to say:

Ich komme aus der Schweiz.

In the same way Turkey is:

die Türkei

so you would say:

Ich komme aus der Türkei.

Watch out with the United States, it's:

die Vereinigten Staaten.

But that's plural, not feminine, so you say:

Ich komme aus den Vereinigten Staaten.

Activity 6

Now it's your turn to talk about yourself. Listen to the cues to help you.

Introduce yourself.

Say your nationality.

Say where you live.

Say the languages you speak.

Say your age and marital status.

Pronunciation Practice

Notice that "st" and "sp" are pronounced sht and shp when they are at the beginning of a word.

Spanisch

Straße

"S" at the beginning of a word and followed by a vowel is pronounced like ze in "zeal."

sie

sind

But at the end of a word s is pronounced as in "seal."

aus

es

[CD 3]

Unit 10

Ein Doppelzimmer mit Dusche A double room with a shower

In this unit you will learn how to check into a hotel.

Activity 1

Listen to these four people at the reception desk in the Hotel Grunewald in Berlin. Listen carefully for the room numbers.

Guten Tag. Was wünschen Sie? (Good afternoon. Can I help you?)

Guten Tag. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. (Good afternoon. I've reserved a room.)

Wie ist Ihr Name, bitte? (What's your name, please?)

Bachmann. (Bachmann.)

Ach ja, Herr Bachmann. Zimmer 123. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Oh yes, Mr. Bachmann. Room 123. Please fill out this form. Thank you.)

Did you get it? First the hotel guest asks about his reservation. Repeat:

Guten Tag. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. (Good afternoon. I've reserved a room.)

After giving his name the guest is given a room number. What is it? 120 or 123? It's 123. Repeat:

Ach ja, Herr Bachmann. Zimmer 123. (Oh yes, Mr. Bachmann. Room 123.)

Then the receptionist also asks the guest to fill out a form. Repeat:

Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Please fill out this form. Thank you.)

The next dialog is similar to this one – but with a different room number, of course!

Guten Tag. Was wünschen Sie? (Good afternoon. Can I help you?)

Guten Tag. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. Mein Name ist Armbruster. (Good afternoon. I've reserved a room. My name is Armbruster.)

Frau Armbruster... Moment... (Mrs. Armbruster... just a moment...)

Ja, Zimmer 117. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Yes, room 117. Please fill out this form. Thank you.)

Did you get this number? Is it 177 or 117? She gets room number 117. Repeat:

Ja, Zimmer 117. (Yes, room 117.)

The next dialog is about a hotel guest departing. Watch out for the room number again.

Guten Tag. Kann ich etwas für Sie tun? (Good afternoon. Can I help you?)

Ich reise heute ab. Mein Name ist Bader, Zimmer 217. (I'm leaving today. My name is Bader, room 217.)

Hier ist Ihre Rechnung, Herr Bader. (Here's your bill, Mr. Bader.)

The guest, Mr. Bader, says "I'm leaving today", then his name and room number. Repeat:

Ich reise heute ab. Mein Name ist Bader, Zimmer 217.

And what's his room number again, 216 or 217? It's 217. Here's the last guest who's just arrived.

Guten Tag. Kann ich etwas für Sie tun? (Hello. Can I help you?)

Guten Tag. Reisner ist mein Name. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. (Hello. My name is Reisner. I have reserved a room.)

Frau Reisner... Zimmer 219. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Mrs. Reisner... room 219. Fill out the form, please. Thank you.)

What's this woman's room number? 218 or 219? 219 is correct. And she too has to fill out a form.

Repeat:

Frau Reisner... Zimmer 219. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke.

How did you do with those numbers? You heard:

123 - **hundertdreiundzwanzig**

117 - **hundredsiebzehn**

217 - **zweihundertsiebzehn**

and

219 - **zweihundertneunzehn**

Did you notice how to say "I've reserved a room?" Let's hear Herr Bachmann again:

Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt.

Now let's hear those four guests again.

Guten Tag. Was wünschen Sie? (Good afternoon. Can I help you?)

Guten Tag. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. (Good afternoon. I've reserved a room.)

Wie ist Ihr Name, bitte? (What's your name, please?)

Bachmann. (Bachmann.)

Ach ja, Herr Bachmann. Zimmer 123. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Oh yes, Mr. Bachmann. Room 123. Please fill out this form. Thank you.)

Guten Tag. Was wünschen Sie? (Good afternoon. Can I help you?)

Guten Tag. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. Mein Name ist Armbruster. (Good afternoon. I've reserved a room. My name is Armbruster.)

Frau Armbruster... Moment... (Mrs. Armbruster... just a moment...)

Ja, Zimmer 117. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Yes, room 117. Please fill out this form. Thank you.)

Guten Tag. Kann ich etwas für Sie tun? (Good afternoon. Can I help you?)

Ich reise heute ab. Mein Name ist Bader, Zimmer 217. (I'm leaving today. My name is Bader, room 217.)

Hier ist Ihre Rechnung, Herr Bader. (Here's your bill, Mr. Bader.)

Guten Tag. Kann ich etwas für Sie tun? (Hello. Can I help you?)

Guten Tag. Reisner ist mein Name. Ich habe ein Zimmer bestellt. (Hello. My name is Reisner. I have reserved a room.)

Frau Reisner... Zimmer 219. Füllen Sie bitte das Formular aus. Danke. (Mrs. Reisner... room 219. Fill out the form, please. Thank you.)

Activity 2

Here's a traveler inquiring about facilities and prices at a hotel. Listen carefully for the prices for a single room:

ein Einzelzimmer

and a double room:

ein Doppelzimmer

There will be some more new expressions, but we'll make sure you get them all. Now listen and repeat:

Was kostet ein Doppelzimmer pro Nacht? (How much is a double room per night?)

110 Euro. (€110)

Und ein Einzelzimmer? (And a single room?)

80 Euro. (€80)

Did you get these prices? A double room is 110 euros and a single room is 80 euros. Let's see what else this hotel has to offer. Repeat:

Ist Frühstück inklusive? (Is breakfast included?)

Ja. (Yes.)

Did you get it? The woman asks if breakfast is included. She also wants to know if the room has a bath. Repeat:

Ist das Zimmer mit Bad? (Is that a room with a bath?)

Ja, alle Zimmer haben Bad, Dusche und WC. (Yes, all rooms have a bath, shower and toilet.)

Gut. Danke. Wiederhören. (Okay, thank you. Good-bye.)

And, does the room has a bath? Of course. All rooms have a bath, a shower and a toilet.

Now listen to the dialog again.

Was kostet ein Doppelzimmer pro Nacht? (How much is a double room per night?)

110 Euro. (€110)

Und ein Einzelzimmer? (And a single room?)

80 Euro. (€80)

Ist Frühstück inklusive? (Is breakfast included?)

Ja. (Yes.)

Ist das Zimmer mit Bad? (Is that a room with a bath?)

Ja, alle Zimmer haben Bad, Dusche und WC. (Yes, all rooms have a bath, shower and toilet.)

Gut. Danke. Wiederhören. (Okay, thank you. Good-bye.)

Activity 3

Let's find out what the facilities are like at the next hotel. Repeat:

Guten Abend. Sie wünschen? (Good evening. Can I help you?)

Guten Abend. Was kostet hier ein Einzelzimmer pro Nacht? (Good evening. How much is a single room here per night?)

60 Euro pro Nacht. Aber alle Einzelzimmer sind belegt. (€60 per night. But all our single rooms are taken.)

How much are the single rooms? That's right, they're 60 euros per night. But there's one problem:

Aber alle Einzelzimmer sind belegt.

You guessed it. All single rooms are taken. Any double rooms?

Ohje! Haben Sie ein Doppelzimmer frei? (Oh dear! Do you have a double room free?)

Ja, ein Doppelzimmer mit Dusche kostet dann 75 Euro pro Nacht. (Yes, a double room with a shower is €75 per night.)

The guest lucked out. They have double rooms left. How much are they, 85 or 75 euros? That's right: 75 euros. Breakfast included?

Achso... Ist Frühstück inklusive? (Oh, I see...Is breakfast included?)

Ja, wir sind ein Hotel garni. (Yes, this is a "hotel garni," providing bed and breakfast.)

Ja, gut. Ich nehme es für eine Nacht. (OK. I'll take the room for one night.)

Yes, this is a so-called **hotel garni** where breakfast is always included. Listen to the conversation again.

Guten Abend. Sie wünschen? (Good evening. Can I help you?)

Guten Abend. Was kostet hier ein Einzelzimmer pro Nacht? (Good evening. How much is a single room here per night?)

60 Euro pro Nacht. Aber alle Einzelzimmer sind belegt. (€60 per night. But all our single rooms are taken.)

Ohje! Haben Sie ein Doppelzimmer frei? (Oh dear! Do you have a double room free?)

Ja, ein Doppelzimmer mit Dusche kostet dann 75 Euro pro Nacht. (Yes, a double room with a shower is €75 per night.)

Achso... Ist Frühstück inklusive? (Oh, I see... Is breakfast included?)

Ja, wir sind ein Hotel garni. (Yes, this is a "hotel garni," providing bed and breakfast.)

Ja, gut. Ich nehme es für eine Nacht. (OK. I'll take the room for one night.)

Activity 4

Now let's check out the last hotel. Repeat:

Guten Abend. Wie kann ich Ihnen helfen? (Good evening. How can I help you?)

Haben Sie zwei Einzelzimmer frei? (Do you have two single rooms available?)

Ja, für 90 Euro pro Zimmer pro Nacht. (Yes, we do, each room is €90 per night.)

Das ist teuer! (That's expensive!)

Und ein Doppelzimmer? (And what about a double room?)

120 Euro pro Nacht. (That's €120 per night.)

Ohje! Das ist auch sehr teuer. (Oh dear! That's very expensive, too.) **Ist Frühstück wenigstens inklusive?** (Is breakfast included at least?)

Nein, Frühstück ist 12 Euro extra pro Person. (No, breakfast is €12 extra per person.)

Did you get what's the problem here? First the woman asks for two single rooms and is told that one single room is 90 euros per night:

Haben Sie zwei Einzelzimmer frei? (Do you have two single rooms available?)

Ja, für 90 Euro pro Zimmer pro Nacht. (Yes, we do, each room is €90 per night.)

But the woman found that expensive and so she asked for the price of a double room:

Das ist teuer! Und ein Doppelzimmer? (That's expensive! And what about a double room?)

120 Euro pro Nacht. (That's €120 per night.)

And how much is a double room? That's correct, it's 120 euros per night. Did you hear how the woman then said: "That's very expensive, too!"

Ohje! Das ist auch sehr teuer. (Oh dear! That's very expensive, too.)

Then she asked if breakfast was included – and what was the answer to that?

Nein, Frühstück ist 12 Euro extra pro Person. (No, breakfast is €12 extra per person.)

That's right, breakfast is another 12 euros per person. Not the cheapest place in town, that's for sure! Now listen to the conversation again.

Guten Abend. Wie kann ich Ihnen helfen? (Good evening. How can I help you?)

Haben Sie zwei Einzelzimmer frei? (Do you have two single rooms available?)

Ja, für 90 Euro pro Zimmer pro Nacht. (Yes, we do, each room is €90 per night.)

Das ist teuer! (That's expensive!)

Und ein Doppelzimmer? (And what about a double room?)

120 Euro pro Nacht. (That's €120 per night.)

Ohje! Das ist auch sehr teuer. (Oh dear! That's very expensive, too.)

Ist Frühstück wenigstens inklusive? (Is breakfast included at least?)

Nein, Frühstück ist 12 Euro extra pro Person. (No, breakfast is €12 extra per person.)

Activity 5

Now you're going to practice some more expressions you'll need for booking a hotel room. Listen and answer each time in the pauses provided. The prompts will help you.

When you're reserving a room, you'll be asked:

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben?

How long would you like to stay?

You might answer:

eine Nacht

one night, or:

zwei Nächte

two nights.

If you want to stay a bit longer, you might say:

eine Woche

one week, or:

zwei Wochen

two weeks.

When you say you'd like to stay for one night:

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben? (How long would you like to stay?)

Eine Nacht.

Now two nights:

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben?

Zwei Nächte.

One week:

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben?

Eine Woche.

Two weeks:

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben?

Zwei Wochen.

Activity 6

You'd like a double room for three nights at the Hotel Spreewald. Listen to the prompts and play your part. Here's the receptionist:

Guten Abend. Kann ich etwas für Sie tun? (Good evening. How can I help you?)

Say yes. Ask her if she has a double room available.

Ja. Haben Sie ein Doppelzimmer frei?

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben? (For how long would you like to stay?)

Say for three nights.

Drei Nächte.

Ja, wir haben ein Doppelzimmer frei. (Yes, we have a double room available.) **Das kostet 90 Euro pro Nacht.** (That's €90 per night.)

Ask if breakfast is included.

Ist Frühstück inklusive?

Ja, Frühstück ist inklusive. (Yes, breakfast is included.)

Say you'll take it.

Ich nehme es.

Good. Let's listen to your conversation again.

Guten Abend. Kann ich etwas für Sie tun?

Ja. Haben Sie ein Doppelzimmer frei?

Wie lange möchten Sie bleiben?

Drei Nächte.

Ja, wir haben ein Doppelzimmer frei. Das kostet 90 Euro pro Nacht.

Ist Frühstück inklusive?

Ja, Frühstück ist inklusive.

Ich nehme es.

Unit 11

Wo ist hier eine Post? Where is the post office?

In this unit you're going to learn to ask for and give directions, so you can find your way around town.

Activity 1

Having successfully reserved a room in your hotel, you're going to want to know where various goods and services can be bought. For example, if you need to mail a few letters, make some photocopies, or maybe you've been invited to dinner and would like to take some flowers to your hostess. Now you will learn to ask for directions. To attract the attention of a passerby you can say:

Entschuldigung

Excuse me.

You try:

Entschuldigung

Hopefully they'll stop so that you can explain what you want. For example:

Wo ist hier eine Post?

Where is the post office around here?

Wo ist hier eine Post?

Here are some words used for directions. Let's try them first before you listen to the dialog.

left:

links

right:

rechts

geradeaus

or

gradaus

means straight ahead:

geradeaus

gradaus

In German you can also say "always straight ahead":

immer geradeaus

Ecke

means corner:

Ecke

and "just around the corner:"

gleich um die Ecke

over there on the left:

da vorne links

over there on the right:

da vorne rechts

Activity 2

Now we're going to hear some more inquiries and directions. Try to work out what directions are given and then we'll see if you would have found the right way or not. As usual, repeat the questions and answers in the pauses provided. The first person is asking about the post office.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Post? (Excuse me, where is the post office around here?)

Gleich um die Ecke. (Just around the corner.)

Did you get it? The post office is just around the corner. The next person is asking about a restaurant.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Restaurant? (Excuse me, where is a restaurant around here?)

Da vorne rechts, sehen Sie? (Over there on the right, can you see it?)

Where's the restaurant? Over there on the right. Now this man's looking for a café.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Café? (Excuse me, where is a café around here?)

Da vorne links. (Over there on the left.)

Where's the café? Over there on the right or on the left? It's over there on the left. This person is looking for a bookstore.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Buchhandlung? (Excuse me, where is a bookstore around here?)

Gehen Sie gradeaus. (Just walk straight ahead.)

Where's the bookstore? Walk straight ahead. Good. Let's listen to those directions again.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Post? (Excuse me, where is the post office around here?)

Gleich um die Ecke. (Just around the corner.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Restaurant? (Excuse me, where is a restaurant around here?)

Da vorne rechts, sehen Sie? (Over there on the right, can you see it?)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Café? (Excuse me, where is a café around here?)

Da vorne links. (Over there on the left.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Buchhandlung? (Excuse me, where is a bookstore around here?)

Gehen Sie gradeaus. (Just walk straight ahead.)

Activity 3

Here are some more directions. Repeat the questions and answers in the pauses provided. First, someone is looking for a flower shop.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Blumenladen? (Excuse me, where is a flower shop around here?)

Immer gradeaus. (Straight ahead.)

Where's the flower shop? To the left or straight ahead? Right, it's straight ahead. This person is looking for a newsstand.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Zeitungshändler? (Excuse me, where is a newstand around here?)

In der Uhlandstraße. (On Uhlandstraße.)

Where's there a newsstand? By the flower shop or on Uhlandstraße? The newsstand is on Uhlandstraße. The next person wants to know if there's a bank around here.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Bank? (Excuse me, where is a bank around here?)

Um die Ecke. (Around the corner.)

Where's the bank? Straight ahead or around the corner? It's around the corner. This person also needs money. Is there a **Geldautomat** – an ATM – around?

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Geldautomat? (Excuse me, where is an ATM around here?)

Da vorne rechts. (Over there on the right.)

There is an ATM near here. Is it on Uhlandstraße, or there on the right? It's over there on the right. Good. Now listen to the conversations again.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Blumenladen? (Excuse me, where is a flower shop around here?)

Immer gradeaus. (Straight ahead.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Zeitungshändler? (Excuse me, where is a newstand around here?)

In der Uhlandstraße. (On Uhlandstraße.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Bank? (Excuse me, where is a bank around here?)

Um die Ecke. (Around the corner.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Geldautomat? (Excuse me, where is an ATM around here?)

Da vorne rechts. (Over there on the right.)

Activity 4

Here are some more directions. Some of these are a little more complicated. But remember what you've already learned and you should understand the idea.

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Hotel Spreewald? (Excuse me, how do I get to the Hotel Spreewald?)

Tja... gehen Sie gradeaus bis zur nächsten Querstraße. Dann links in die

Hohenzollernallee. Das Hotel ist auf der rechten Seite. (Well... go straight ahead to the next intersection. Then left onto Hohenzollernallee. The hotel is on the right.)

Now did you get that? The man is asking how to get to the Hotel Spreewald. Here's how to get there. Go straight ahead to the intersection. Repeat:

Tja... gehen Sie gradeaus bis zur nächsten Querstraße.

Then left onto Hohenzollernallee. Repeat:

Dann links in die Hohenzollernallee.

The hotel is on the right. Repeat.

Das Hotel ist auf der rechten Seite.

The next man is looking for a specific café, the Café Dreiklang.

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Café Dreiklang? (Excuse me, how do I get to Café Dreiklang?)

Gehen Sie immer gradeaus, vielleicht 400 Meter weiter. Das Café ist auf der linken Seite.

(Go straight ahead, maybe 400 meters down the street. The café is on the left.)

OK. Where is that café? Straight ahead, maybe 400 meters, that's about 450 yards. Repeat:

Gehen Sie immer gradeaus, vielleicht 400 Meter weiter.

The café is on the left. Repeat:

Das Café ist auf der linken Seite.

In the next dialog a man is looking for a subway station.

Entschuldigung, wo ist die U-Bahn-Station Uhlandstraße? (Excuse me, where is the subway station Uhland Street?)

Tut mir leid, das weiß ich auch nicht. Ich bin nicht von hier. (I'm sorry, but I don't know that either. I'm not from around here.)

Ach ja, das ist hier rechts um die Ecke; ganz leicht zu finden. (Oh yes, it's just around this corner here on the right; it's very easy to find.)

So, where's that subway station? Uh-oh, there's a problem. Why can't the woman help him? She says: "I'm sorry, I'm not from around here." Repeat:

Tut mir leid, das weiß ich auch nicht.

But here's someone who knows. It's just around this corner here on the right. It's very easy to find. Repeat:

Ach ja, das ist hier rechts um die Ecke; ganz leicht zu finden.

Excellent. Now listen to the conversations again.

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Hotel Spreewald? (Excuse me, how do I get to the Hotel Spreewald?)

Tja... gehen Sie gradeaus bis zur nächsten Querstraße. Dann links in die Hohenzollernallee. Das Hotel ist auf der rechten Seite. (Well... go straight ahead to the next intersection. Then left onto Hohenzollernallee. The hotel is on the right.)

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Café Dreiklang? (Excuse me, how do I get to Café Dreiklang?)

Gehen Sie immer gradeaus, vielleicht 400 Meter weiter. Das Café ist auf der linken Seite. (Go straight ahead, maybe 400 meters down the street. The café is on the left.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist die U-Bahn-Station Uhlandstraße? (Excuse me, where is the subway station Uhland Street?)

Tut mir leid, das weiß ich auch nicht. Ich bin nicht von hier. (I'm sorry, but I don't know that either. I'm not from around here.)

Ach ja, das ist hier rechts um die Ecke; ganz leicht zu finden. (Oh yes, it's just around this corner here on the right; it's very easy to find.)

Activity 5

To make sure you won't get lost, here are three more dialogs dealing with directions. Try to answer the questions.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Bäckerei? (Excuse me, where is a bakery around here?)

Da vorne links. Sehen Sie? (Over there on the left. Can you see it?)

Where's the bakery? Over there on the right or on the left? Over there on the left.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Taxistand? (Excuse me, where is a taxi stand around here?)

Weiß ich nicht. (I don't know.)

In der Hohenzollernallee, vor dem Hotel Spreewald. (On Hohenzollernallee, in front of the Hotel Spreewald.)

Where's the taxi stand? In front of the hotel or behind it? It's in front of the hotel.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Telefonzelle? (Excuse me, where is a phone booth around here?)

Gehen Sie gradeaus und dann um die Ecke links. (Go straight ahead and then it's just around the corner on your left.)

Where's the public phone? On the left side or straight ahead and around the corner? Right, straight ahead and then it's just around the corner on your left.

Good. Let's listen again.

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Bäckerei? (Excuse me, where is a bakery around here?)

Da vorne links. Sehen Sie? (Over there on the left. Can you see it?)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier ein Taxistand? (Excuse me, where is a taxi stand around here?)

Weiß ich nicht. (I don't know.)

In der Hohenzollernallee, vor dem Hotel Spreewald. (On Hohenzollernallee, in front of the Hotel Spreewald.)

Entschuldigung, wo ist hier eine Telefonzelle? (Excuse me, where is a phone booth around here?)

Gehen Sie gradeaus und dann um die Ecke links. (Go straight ahead and then it's just around the corner on your left.)

Here's quite a useful learning tip for you: As you drive or cycle around or take the dog for a walk, think about the directions you are taking. Tell yourself where to go –left, right, around the corner etc.– but in German, of course!

Activity 6

If you find people's explanations difficult to follow, here are some things you can say to get them to repeat what they said, slow down or explain further.

"Pardon?" is:

Wie bitte?

What was that again?

Wie war das noch mal?

More slowly, please.

Langsamer bitte.

What's the street called?

Wie heißt die Straße?

Could you spell that?

Können Sie das buchstabieren?

I don't understand.

Ich verstehe nicht.

Let's listen to those expressions again.

Wie bitte?

Wie war das noch mal?

Langsamer bitte.

Wie heißt die Straße?

Können Sie das buchstabieren?

Ich verstehe nicht.

Unit 12

Wie viel Uhr ist es? What time is it?

In this unit you'll learn to understand, give and ask for the time of day.

Activity 1

Here are the basics of telling the time of day in German. Listen and repeat each time in the pauses provided.

Uhr

means "clock," and just as in English you say "It's one o'clock," in German you say:

Es ist ein Uhr.

Listen to some times in English. Can you say them in German? It is one o'clock.

Es ist ein Uhr.

It is two o'clock.

Es ist zwei Uhr.

It's five o'clock.

Es ist fünf Uhr.

It's nine o'clock.

Es ist neun Uhr.

Now we come to the half hours. To say 1:30 or half past one we say:

ein Uhr dreißig

or

halb zwei

...that is we think of it as being half to two, not half past one.

one thirty

ein Uhr dreißig

half past one

halb zwei

three thirty

drei Uhr dreißig

half past three

halb vier

This isn't difficult, but it does require practice. Remember: it's half to, not half past.

Activity 2

Listen to the following radio news bulletins. You'll hear times expressed using the 24-hour clock. In German this is very common in official contexts. You may find it difficult to understand the times on the first listening. So pause and rewind as many times as you need.

Guten Morgen, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer. Willkommen zu den Nachrichten um sechs Uhr dreißig. (Good morning. Welcome to the news at 6:30 am.)

Did you get this time? Yes, the news at 6.30 am. Repeat:

Willkommen zu den Nachrichten um sechs Uhr dreißig.

Guten Morgen, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer. Hier sind die Nachrichten um acht Uhr. (Good morning. This is the 8 o'clock news.)

And what time's that? Correct, that's the eight o'clock news. Repeat:

Hier sind die Nachrichten um acht Uhr.

Guten Tag, meine Damen und Herren. Hier sind die Nachrichten um dreizehn Uhr dreißig. (Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. This is the news at 1:30 pm.)

And how late is it now? Exactly, it's 1.30 pm. Repeat:

Hier sind die Nachrichten um dreizehn Uhr dreißig.

Fünfzehn Uhr. Guten Tag, meine Damen und Herren. Sie hören Nachrichten. (It's 3 pm. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. You are listening to the news.)

Did you get this time? That's 3 pm. Repeat:

Fünfzehn Uhr. Guten Tag, meine Damen und Herren. Sie hören Nachrichten.

Guten Abend, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer. Hier sind die Nachrichten um neunzehn Uhr dreißig. (Good evening. This is the news at 7:30 pm.)

And did you get that time? You're right: That's the news at 7.30 pm. Repeat:

Hier sind die Nachrichten um neunzehn Uhr dreißig.

Es ist zweiundzwanzig Uhr. Sie hören Nachrichten. (It's 10 pm. You're listening to the news.)

And finally, what's the time now? That's right, now it's 10 pm. Repeat:

Es ist zweiundzwanzig Uhr. Sie hören Nachrichten.

Good. Now listen to the announcements again.

Guten Morgen, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer. Willkommen zu den Nachrichten um sechs Uhr dreißig. (Good morning. Welcome to the news at 6:30 am.)

Guten Morgen, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer. Hier sind die Nachrichten um acht Uhr. (Good morning. This is the 8 o'clock news.)

Guten Tag, meine Damen und Herren. Hier sind die Nachrichten um dreizehn Uhr dreißig. (Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. This is the news at 1:30 pm.)

Fünfzehn Uhr. Guten Tag, meine Damen und Herren. Sie hören Nachrichten. (It's 3 pm. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. You are listening to the news.)

Guten Abend, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer. Hier sind die Nachrichten um neunzehn Uhr dreißig. (Good evening. This is the news at 7:30 pm.)

Es ist zweiundzwanzig Uhr. Sie hören Nachrichten. (It's 10 pm. You're listening to the news.)

Activity 3

Now you can tell the time. But what about the days of the week? Here they are from Monday to Sunday.

Monday - **Montag**

Tuesday - **Dienstag**

Wednesday - **Mittwoch**

Thursday - **Donnerstag**

Friday - **Freitag**

Saturday - **Samstag**

Sunday - **Sonntag**

In Northern Germany, for example in Berlin, you'll hear:

Sonnabend

instead of:

Samstag.

Activity 4

Listen to these recorded messages providing opening times.

“Open” is **geöffnet** and “closed” is **geschlossen**.

You'll also hear

Ruhetag

Day of rest.

Wir haben montags bis mittwochs von zehn Uhr bis neunzehn Uhr dreißig geöffnet; (We are open from Monday to Wednesday from 10 am to 7:30 pm;)

donnerstags von zehn bis einundzwanzig Uhr; (on Thursdays from 10 am until 9 pm;)

freitags von zehn bis neunzehn Uhr dreißig (on Fridays from 10 am to 7:30 pm)

und samstags von zehn bis dreizehn Uhr. (and on Saturdays from 10 am until 1 pm.)

Sonntag ist Ruhetag. (Sunday is our day off.)

Did you get that first message? They are open from Monday to Wednesday from 10 am to 7:30 pm.

Repeat:

Wir haben montags bis mittwochs von zehn Uhr bis neunzehn Uhr dreißig geöffnet.

On Thursdays they're open from 10 am until 9 pm. Repeat:

donnerstags von zehn bis einundzwanzig Uhr,

On Fridays from 10 to 7:30. Repeat:

freitags von zehn bis neunzehn Uhr dreißig,

On Saturdays from 10 to 1. Repeat:

Und samstags von zehn bis dreizehn Uhr.

And what about Sunday? That's right, Sunday is their day of rest. Repeat:

Sonntag ist Ruhetag.

Wir haben montags geschlossen. (We are closed on Mondays.) **Wir haben dienstags bis samstags von zehn bis siebzehn Uhr geöffnet und sonntags von elf bis siebzehn Uhr.** (From Tuesday to Saturday we are open from 10 am until 5 pm and on Sundays from 11 am to 5 pm.)
And what about that shop? When are they closed? Repeat.

Wir haben montags geschlossen.

Are they closed on Mondays? Yes they are. What about the other days of the week? Repeat:

Wir haben dienstags bis samstags von zehn bis siebzehn Uhr geöffnet und sonntags von elf bis siebzehn Uhr.

So, are they open the other days of the week? Yes, they are.

Good. Let's listen to those two messages again.

Wir haben montags bis mittwochs von zehn Uhr bis neunzehn Uhr dreißig geöffnet; (We are open from Monday to Wednesday from 10 am to 7:30 pm;)

donnerstags von zehn bis einundzwanzig Uhr; (on Thursdays from 10 am until 9 pm;)

freitags von zehn bis neunzehn Uhr dreißig (on Fridays from 10 am to 7:30 pm)

und samstags von zehn bis dreizehn Uhr. (and on Saturdays from 10 am until 1 pm.)

Sonntag ist Ruhetag. (Sunday is our day off.)

Wir haben montags geschlossen. (We are closed on Mondays.)

Wir haben dienstags bis samstags von zehn bis siebzehn Uhr geöffnet und sonntags von elf bis siebzehn Uhr. (From Tuesday to Saturday we are open from 10 am until 5 pm and on Sundays from 11 am to 5 pm.)

Activity 5

Here's one more recorded message.

Wir haben montags bis freitags von acht bis neunzehn Uhr geöffnet, (Monday to Friday we are open from 8 am to 7 pm,) **sonnabends von acht bis sechzehn Uhr** (on Saturdays from 8 am until 4 pm,) **und sonntags von zehn bis sechzehn Uhr.** (and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm.)

Does this business have a day of rest? You're right: It doesn't have a day of rest. But did you get their exact business hours? Repeat:

Wir haben montags bis freitags von acht bis neunzehn Uhr geöffnet...

So what about from Monday to Friday? That's correct, Monday to Friday they're open from 8 am to 7 pm. And at the weekend? Repeat:

...sonnabends von acht bis sechzehn Uhr und sonntags von zehn bis sechzehn Uhr.

On Saturdays they're open from 8 am until 4 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm.

Now listen to the recording again.

Wir haben montags bis freitags von acht bis neunzehn Uhr geöffnet, (Monday to Friday we are open from 8 am to 7 pm,) **sonnabends von acht bis sechzehn Uhr** (on Saturdays from 8 am until 4 pm,) **und sonntags von zehn bis sechzehn Uhr.** (and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm.)

Did you know, by the way, that in 1996 German business hours were modestly liberalized? Legal business hours in Germany are now 8 am to 8 pm Monday through Saturday. Some bakeries are permitted to open on Sunday mornings. If you need to buy any other food on a Sunday your best bet is the mini markets found at larger gas stations and supermarkets located inside of some airports or larger train stations.

Activity 6

You're working in your local tourist office and a German tourist phones to ask what times your office is open. He doesn't speak English, so you have to explain in German.

Wann haben Sie geöffnet? (What are your opening hours?)

Say that we're open from Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 16:00 hours.

Wir haben montags bis freitags von neun bis sechzehn Uhr geöffnet.

Und Samstag? (And on Saturday?)

Say that we're open on Saturdays from 9:00 to 18:00 hours.

Wir haben samstags von neun bis achtzehn Uhr geöffnet.

Und sonntags? (And on Sundays?)

Say that we're closed on Sundays.

Sonntags haben wir geschlossen.

Gut, danke. Auf Wiederhören. (Thank you. Good-bye.)

Good. Now listen again.

Wann haben Sie geöffnet?

Wir haben montags bis freitags von neun bis sechzehn Uhr geöffnet.

Und Samstag?

Wir haben samstags von neun bis achtzehn Uhr geöffnet.

Und sonntags?

Sonntags haben wir geschlossen.

Gut, danke. Auf Wiederhören.

Activity 7

We went to the tourist information office in Potsdam, a small and interesting town outside Berlin, the location of Sanssouci, Frederick the Great's summer residence. We wanted to find out what sights, events, and trips were being offered around Potsdam. Listen to Rabea asking what there is to do around.

Ich möchte am Samstag ins Konzert. Können Sie etwas empfehlen? (I'd like to go to a concert on Saturday. Can you recommend anything?)

Am Samstag gibt es ein Igor-Strawinsky-Konzert in der Potsdamer Philharmonie. (There is an Igor Strawinsky concert at the Potsdam Philharmonie on Saturday.)

Was kann ich denn am Sonntag in Potsdam machen? (What can I do in Potsdam on Sunday?)

Eine Bootsfahrt auf der Havel ist sehr schön... (A boat trip on the Havel is very nice...)

Gut. Dankesehr. (OK, thank you.)

Bitte. Nichts zu danken. (You're welcome.)

Did you get all that? Does she want to see a concert or an art show? You guessed it right, she wants to see a concert, **ein Konzert, ein Strawinsky-Konzert**. What else can she do? Go on a boat trip or go skiing? She could go on a boat trip, **eine Bootsfahrt, eine Bootsfahrt auf der Havel**, that's a river that goes through Berlin. Good. Let's listen to the dialog again.

Ich möchte am Samstag ins Konzert. Können Sie etwas empfehlen? (I'd like to go to a concert on Saturday. Can you recommend anything?)

Am Samstag gibt es ein Igor-Strawinsky-Konzert in der Potsdamer Philharmonie. (There is an Igor Strawinsky concert at the Potsdam Philharmonie on Saturday.)

Was kann ich denn am Sonntag in Potsdam machen? (What can I do in Potsdam on Sunday?)

Eine Bootsfahrt auf der Havel ist sehr schön... (A boat trip on the Havel is very nice...)

Gut. Dankesehr. (OK, thank you.)

Bitte. Nichts zu danken. (You're welcome.)

Unit 13

Wo kann ich hier einen Film kaufen? Where can I buy film around here?

In this unit you'll learn to ask where you can find an item to buy.

Activity 1

We asked passersby in Berlin where we could buy six items. What were the items?

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier einen Kugelschreiber kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy a ballpoint pen around here?)

Im Schreibwarenladen. An der nächsten Ecke links. (At the stationery store. At the next corner on the left.)

That first item was a ballpoint pen. Repeat.

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier einen Kugelschreiber kaufen?

And the shop to go to was a stationery store. Repeat.

Im Schreibwarenladen.

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier eine Zeitung kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy a newspaper around here?)

Am Zeitungskiosk. Geradeaus und dann rechts. (At the newspaper kiosk. Straight ahead and then on the right.)

And what was that? Yes, a newspaper. Repeat:

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier eine Zeitung kaufen?

And you buy it at a newspaper kiosk. Repeat:

Am Zeitungskiosk.

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier einen Film kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy film around here?)

Es gibt ein Fotogeschäft an der nächsten Ecke rechts. (There's a photo shop at the next corner, on the right.)

And what item did she want to buy here? That's right, she wanted to buy film, at a photo shop.

Repeat:

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier einen Film kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy film around here?)

Es gibt ein Fotogeschäft an der nächsten Ecke rechts. (There's a photo shop at the next corner, on the right.)

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier Kopfschmerztabletten kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy aspirin around here?)

Die nächste Apotheke ist 100 Meter weiter. Auf der rechten Seite. (The next pharmacy is 100 meters down the street. On the right.)

Oh, maybe that was a bit too much shopping – now we need to buy some aspirin! Repeat:

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier Kopfschmerztabletten kaufen?

So we were directed to the next pharmacy. Repeat:

Die nächste Apotheke ist 100 Meter weiter.

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier Briefmarken kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy stamps around here?)

Im Postamt. Gleich an der nächsten Ecke links. (At the post office. Just at the next corner, on the left.)

Now we needed some stamps. Repeat:

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier Briefmarken kaufen?

And these we could get at the post office. Repeat.

Im Postamt.

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier Obst kaufen? (Excuse me, where can I buy fruit around here?)

Im Supermarkt. In der zweiten Straße gleich rechts. (At the supermarket. On the second street, immediately to your right.)

And we are hungry and want to buy fruit. Repeat.

Entschuldigung, wo kann ich hier Obst kaufen?

Fortunately a supermarket isn't far away. Repeat:

Im Supermarkt. In der zweiten Straße gleich rechts. (At the supermarket. On the second street, immediately to your right.)

Did you notice the word order?

Wo kann ich hier eine Zeitung kaufen?

In German we don't say "Where can I buy a newspaper here?" we say, "Where can I here a newspaper buy?"

Wo kann ich hier eine Zeitung kaufen?

Activity 2

When prompted ask for the items. Then listen to the directions you're given.

Ask where you can buy a newspaper here.

Wo kann ich hier eine Zeitung kaufen?

Gehen Sie immer gradeaus. (Go straight ahead.) **Zwei Straßen weiter ist eine Bank.** (Two streets down is a bank.) **Neben der Bank ist ein Zeitungshändler.** (Next to the bank is a newsstand.)

So where will you go to get your newspaper? That's right, first you go straight ahead. Two streets down is a bank and next to the bank is a newsstand. Repeat:

Zwei Straßen weiter ist eine Bank. (Two streets down is a bank.) **Neben der Bank ist ein Zeitungshändler.** (Next to the bank is a newsstand.)

Ask where you can buy a ballpoint pen.

Wo kann ich einen Kugelschreiber kaufen?

Tja... in der Lindauer Straße ist ein Schreibwarenladen. (Well, there's a stationery store on Lindauer Street.) **Nehmen Sie die zweite Straße links, und die erste Straße rechts ist dann die Lindauer Straße.** (Turn left on the second street, and the first street on the right is Lindauer.)

Okay, where did you go to get your ballpoint pen? That's right, you turned left on the second street and then the first street on your right was the one you needed. Repeat:

Nehmen Sie die zweite Straße links, und die erste Straße rechts ist dann die Lindauer Straße.

Aspirin

Wo kann ich hier Kopfschmerztabletten kaufen?

Gehen Sie immer geradeaus. (Go straight ahead.) **Zwei Straßen weiter sehen Sie eine Bank.** (Two streets down you see a bank.) **Gegenüber von der Bank ist eine Apotheke.** (Across from the bank is a pharmacy.)

How did you get to the pharmacy? Yes, first you went straight ahead. Then two streets down you saw a bank and just across from the bank was a pharmacy. Repeat:

Zwei Straßen weiter sehen Sie eine Bank. (Two streets down you see a bank.) **Gegenüber von der Bank ist eine Apotheke.** (Across from the bank is a pharmacy.)

Fruit

Wo kann ich hier Obst kaufen?

Nehmen Sie die nächste Straße rechts, dann die erste links. (Make a right on the first street, then the first left.) **Dort ist ein Obsthändler.** (There is a fruit stand.)

And can you tell us how you got to the fruit stand? Okay, so you made a right on the first street and then the first left. Repeat.

Nehmen Sie die nächste Straße rechts, dann die erste links. Dort ist ein Obsthändler.

Stamps

Wo kann ich hier Briefmarken kaufen?

Gleich um die Ecke rechts ist eine Post. (Right around the corner is a post office.)

The post office was really easy to find, wasn't it? Yes, just right around the corner. Repeat.

Gleich um die Ecke rechts ist eine Post.

Bread

Wo kann ich hier Brot kaufen?

Brot? In der Güntzelstraße ist eine Bäckerei. (Bread? On Güntzel Street is a bakery.) **Nehmen Sie die zweite Straße links, dann die zweite rechts.** (Take the second street on the left, then the second street on the right.) **Die Bäckerei ist gleich an der Ecke.** (The bakery is right on the corner.)

And how did you get to that bakery? You took the second street on the left and then the second street on the right. The bakery was right on the corner. Repeat.

Nehmen Sie die zweite Straße links, dann die zweite rechts. (Take the second street on the left, then the second street on the right.) **Die Bäckerei ist gleich an der Ecke.** (The bakery is right on the corner.)

Activity 3

Did you notice how to say "the first street" and "the second street?" Let's hear that again:

Die zweite Straße links, und die erste Straße rechts ist dann die Lindauer Straße.

So, the first street is:

die erste Straße

and the second street is:

die zweite Straße

the third street would be:

die dritte Straße

the fourth street would be:

die vierte Straße

and so on.

Activity 4

Now you'll hear an automated announcement in the elevator of a large department store telling you what floor you're on and what departments are on that floor.

The announcements are not in numerical order. Try to figure out which floor is being announced in each case.

But before you start: **das Erdgeschoss** is the ground floor to British-English speakers, but the first floor to American-English speakers.

So, **die erste Etage** is either the first floor or the second, depending on where you're from.

Sechste Etage. Dachterrassencafé. (Seventh floor. Café on the roof terrace.)

Now which floor was that?

That's right, the seventh floor, with the café on the roof terrace.

Erste Etage. Damenmode und Damenwäsche. (Second floor. Ladies' fashion and lingerie.)

And what about this one? Correct, that was the second floor, where you get ladies' fashions and lingerie.

Fünfte Etage. Elektrogeräte und Computer. (Sixth floor. Electrical appliances and computers.)

Did you get that one? Exactly, the sixth floor, offering electrical appliances and computers.

Dritte Etage. Haushaltswaren und Porzellan. (Fourth floor. Household items and china.)

And where are we now? Yes, on the fourth floor, which has household items and china.

Zweite Etage. Herrenmode und Herrenwäsche. (Third floor. Men's fashion and men's underwear.)

And this floor, for men's fashion and men's underwear? Right, on the third floor.

Erdgeschoss. Kosmetika und Parfümerie. (First floor. Cosmetics and perfume.)

Now, which floor for cosmetics and perfume? On the first floor.

Vierte Etage. Spielwaren und Sportartikel. (Fifth floor. Toys and sporting goods.)

And finally where are we now? That's right, we're on the fifth floor and can get off to buy toys and sporting goods.

Now listen to those announcements again.

Sechste Etage. Dachterrassencafé. (Seventh floor. Café on the roof terrace.)

Erste Etage. Damenmode und Damenwäsche. (Second floor. Ladies' fashion and lingerie.)

Fünfte Etage. Elektrogeräte und Computer. (Sixth floor. Electrical appliances and computers.)

Dritte Etage. Haushaltswaren und Porzellan. (Fourth floor. Household items and china.)

Zweite Etage. Herrenmode und Herrenwäsche. (Third floor. Men's fashion and men's underwear.)

Erdgeschoss. Kosmetika und Parfümerie. (First floor. Cosmetics and perfume.)

Vierte Etage. Spielwaren und Sportartikel. (Fifth floor. Toys and sporting goods.)

[CD 4]

Unit 14

Ich suche ein gestreiftes Hemd. I'm looking for a striped shirt.

In this unit you'll learn to describe what you're looking for.

Activity 1

The Kerschners have lost their daughter Sabine while shopping in Hertie. Now they're giving a description to the store detective.

Können Sie uns helfen? (Can you help us?) **Wir haben unsere kleine Tochter verloren!**

(We have lost our little girl!)

Ja, natürlich. (Yes, of course.) **Wie alt ist sie?** (How old is she?)

Sie ist sechs Jahre alt. (She is six years old.)

Und wie sieht sie aus? (And what does she look like?) **Ihre Haare?** (Her hair?)

Die sind kurz und dunkel. (It's short and dark.)

Did you get what the girl's hair looks like? Her hair is short and dark. Repeat:

Die sind kurz und dunkel.

And her jacket? Listen.

Ihre Jacke? (Her jacket?)

Die ist weiß und rot. (It's white and red.)

What about her jacket? It's white and red. Repeat:

Die ist weiß und rot.

And her sweater, her **Pullover** and her skirt, her **Rock**? Listen.

Ihr Pullover? (Her sweater?)

Der ist orange. (It's orange.)

Und ihr Rock ist blau. (And her skirt is blue.)

Did you get it? Her pullover is orange. Repeat:

Der ist orange.

And her skirt is blue. Repeat:

Und ihr Rock ist blau.

And finally, what do her shoes and socks look like?

Und Ihre Schuhe sind rot, mit weißen Socken. (And her shoes are red, with white socks.)

Her shoes are red and her socks are white. Repeat:

Und Ihre Schuhe sind rot, mit weißen Socken.

Sabine, sechs Jahre, dunkel, weiß, rot, blau...gut! (Sabine, six years, dark, white, red,

blue... OK!) **Warten Sie bitte. Und machen Sie sich keine Sorgen.** (Please wait here. And don't worry.)

The detective tells the parents not to worry – with such a detailed description he'll surely be able to find her. Now let's listen to the conversation again.

Können Sie uns helfen? (Can you help us?) **Wir haben unsere kleine Tochter verloren!**

(We have lost our little girl!)

Ja, natürlich. (Yes, of course.) **Wie alt ist sie?** (How old is she?)

Sie ist sechs Jahre alt. (She is six years old.)

Und wie sieht sie aus? (And what does she look like?) **Ihre Haare?** (Her hair?)

Die sind kurz und dunkel. (It's short and dark.)

Ihre Jacke? (Her jacket?)

Die ist weiß und rot. (It's white and red.)

Ihr Pullover? (Her sweater?)

Der ist orange. (It's orange.)

Und ihr Rock ist blau. (And her skirt is blue.)

Und Ihre Schuhe sind rot, mit weißen Socken. (And her shoes are red, with white socks.)

Sabine, sechs Jahre, dunkel, weiß, rot, blau...gut! (Sabine, six years, dark white, red, blue... OK!) **Warten Sie bitte. Und machen Sie sich keine Sorgen.** (Please wait here. And don't worry.)

Here's another learning tip for you: When you're learning the words for clothes and for colors, try to picture the article or the color in your mind as you are saying the name. When you get dressed in the morning, see if you can say the names and colors of the items you're wearing, in German of course.

Here are the colors again:

weiß – white

rot – red

orange – orange, and:

blau – blue

Activity 2

Listen to these two conversations in the clothing department of a large store. What items are the man and the woman looking for and what colors and patterns are mentioned?

Kann ich Ihnen helfen? (Can I help you?)

Ja. Ich suche ein Hemd für meinen Mann. (Yes, I'm looking for a shirt for my husband.)

Did you get the item? She's looking for a shirt for her husband.

Wir haben eine große Auswahl. (There are a lot of choices here.) **Möchte er ein**

gestreiftes oder vielleicht ein gemustertes Hemd? (Would he prefer a striped shirt or perhaps a patterned one?)

The sales clerk asks if he'd prefer a striped or maybe a patterned shirt. Repeat:

Möchte er ein gestreiftes oder vielleicht ein gemustertes Hemd? (Would he prefer a striped shirt or perhaps a patterned one?)

Nein, lieber ein einfaches weißes Hemd. (No, I'd prefer a simple white shirt.)

Da haben wir bestimmt etwas für Ihren Mann. (Well, I'm quite sure we have something for your husband.)

Ein schönes Leinenhemd - was meinen Sie dazu? (A beautiful linen shirt. What do you think?)

Did you get what the woman prefers? A simple white shirt. The sales clerk then shows her a linen shirt. Repeat:

Ein schönes Leinenhemd - was meinen Sie dazu? (A beautiful linen shirt. What do you think?)

"A beautiful linen shirt. What do you think?" Well, the woman thinks it's too modern for her husband.

Ohje, das ist viel zu modern für ihn! (Oh dear, that's far too modern for him!)

Ja dann... (Well, then...)

Let's hope she finds something that will suit him. In the meantime, let's listen to the conversation again.

Kann ich Ihnen helfen? (Can I help you?)

Ja. Ich suche ein Hemd für meinen Mann. (Yes, I'm looking for a shirt for my husband.)

Wir haben eine große Auswahl. (There are a lot of choices here.) **Möchte er ein gestreiftes oder vielleicht ein gemustertes Hemd?** (Would he prefer a striped shirt or perhaps a patterned one?)

Nein, lieber ein einfaches weißes Hemd. (No, I'd prefer a simple white shirt.)

Da haben wir bestimmt etwas für Ihren Mann. (Well, I'm quite sure we have something for your husband.) **Ein schönes Leinenhemd - was meinen Sie dazu?** (A beautiful linen shirt. What do you think?)

Ohje, das ist viel zu modern für ihn! (Oh dear, that's far too modern for him!)

Ja dann... (Well, then...)

OK, let's listen to the next conversation.

Können Sie mir helfen? (Can you help me?) **Ich suche eine Bluse für meine Frau.** (I'm looking for a blouse for my wife.)

Did you get the item he's looking for? He's looking for a blouse for his wife. Repeat:

Ich suche eine Bluse für meine Frau.

Ja natürlich. (Yes, sure.) **Suchen Sie einen bestimmten Stil oder eine bestimmte Farbe?** (Are you looking for a particular style or color?)

Äh, das weiß ich nicht. (I don't know, really.) **Können Sie mir etwas empfehlen?** (Can you recommend something?)

Naja, ich kenne Ihre Frau nicht... (Well, I don't know your wife...) **Vielleicht eine schlichte weiße Seidenbluse?** (Perhaps a simple white silk blouse?)

Did you get what the sales clerk recommended? That's right, a simple white silk blouse. Repeat.

Vielleicht eine schlichte weiße Seidenbluse?

Good idea. But in what size? Listen:

Ja... ja, das ist eine gute Idee. (Yes... yes, that's a good idea!)

Welche Größe hat Ihre Frau? (What size does your wife wear?)

Das weiß ich nicht. Sie ist ziemlich schlank. (I don't know. She's rather slim.)

What happened? Unfortunately the customer doesn't know his wife's size. All he knows is that she's rather slim. Repeat:

Sie ist ziemlich schlank.

Well, it looks like the customer has to buy it some other time. Now listen to the conversation again.

Können Sie mir helfen? (Can you help me?) **Ich suche eine Bluse für meine Frau.** (I'm looking for a blouse for my wife.)

Ja natürlich. (Yes, sure.) **Suchen Sie einen bestimmten Stil oder eine bestimmte Farbe?** (Are you looking for a particular style or color?)

Äh, das weiß ich nicht. (I don't know, really.) **Können Sie mir etwas empfehlen?** (Can you recommend something?)

Naja, ich kenne Ihre Frau nicht... (Well, I don't know your wife...) **Vielleicht eine schlichte weiße Seidenbluse?** (Perhaps a simple white silk blouse?)

Ja... ja, das ist eine gute Idee. (Yes... yes, that's a good idea!)

Welche Größe hat Ihre Frau? (What size does your wife wear?)

Das weiß ich nicht. Sie ist ziemlich schlank. (I don't know. She's rather slim.)

Activity 3

You're shopping for clothes in Berlin. Tell the sales assistant that you're looking for these items.

When asked give the appropriate size to fit you.

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen? (Hi. Can I help you?)

Tell her you're looking for a pair of blue trousers.

Ich suche eine blaue Hose.

Welche Größe haben Sie? (What size do you wear?)

Give your size.

Guten Tag. Kann ich Ihnen helfen?

Say you're looking for a green shirt.

Ich suche ein grünes Hemd.

Welche Größe haben Sie?

Give your size.

Good. Let's listen to these conversations again.

Guten Tag. Sie wünschen?

Ich suche eine blaue Hose.

Welche Größe haben Sie?

Guten Tag. Kann ich Ihnen helfen?

Ich suche ein grünes Hemd.

Welche Größe haben Sie?

Good. By the way, did you know that in parts of Bavaria, Austria and Switzerland some men and women can still be seen wearing some form of traditional costume? But don't expect to see much of this in big cities or in northern Germany.

Unit 15

Ich nehme den großen Teddy. I'll take the big teddy bear.

In this unit you'll learn how to further specify an item you want.

Activity 1

Karstadt is a large department store with several floors. Frau Armbruster has stopped at the information desk to ask where she could find a few things.

Können Sie mir bitte helfen? (Can you help me, please?) **Ich suche ein Geschenk für meine kleine Nichte.** (I'm looking for a present for my little niece.) **Wo finde ich so etwas?** (Where do I find something like that?)

Did you get what she is looking for? A present for her little niece. Repeat:

Ich suche ein Geschenk für meine kleine Nichte.

Im dritten Stock. Da ist die Spielwarenabteilung. (On the fourth floor. That's where the toy department is.)

The sales assistant sends her to the fourth floor. What department is on that floor? Shoes or toys? Toys, of course. Repeat:

Im dritten Stock. Da ist die Spielwarenabteilung.

The customer is also looking for a camera for her husband. On which floor?

Und ich suche auch etwas für meinen Mann... einen Fotoapparat vielleicht. (And I'm also looking for something for my husband... perhaps a camera.)

Die Fotoabteilung ist in der vierten Etage. (The photo department is on the fifth floor.)

Where should she go for that? Right, to the photo department on the fifth floor. Repeat:

Die Fotoabteilung ist in der vierten Etage.

This woman is a serious shopper. Now she's looking for perfume.

Ich möchte auch Parfüm kaufen. (I'd like to buy some perfume as well.) **Wo ist die Parfümerie?** (Where's the perfume department?)

Die finden Sie hier im Erdgeschoss, ganz hinten. (It's located here on the first floor, in the very back.)

And where is the perfume department? It's right here, on the first floor, in the very back. Repeat:

Die finden Sie hier im Erdgeschoss, ganz hinten.

Good. Now listen to this dialog once more.

Können Sie mir bitte helfen? (Can you help me, please?) **Ich suche ein Geschenk für meine kleine Nichte.** (I'm looking for a present for my little niece.) **Wo finde ich so etwas?** (Where do I find something like that?)

Im dritten Stock. Da ist die Spielwarenabteilung. (On the fourth floor. That's where the toy department is.)

Und ich suche auch etwas für meinen Mann... einen Fotoapparat vielleicht. (And I'm also looking for something for my husband... perhaps a camera.)

Die Fotoabteilung ist in der vierten Etage. (The photo department is on the fifth floor.)

Ich möchte auch Parfüm kaufen. (I'd like to buy some perfume as well.) **Wo ist die Parfümerie?** (Where's the perfume department?)

Die finden Sie hier im Erdgeschoss, ganz hinten. (It's located here on the first floor, in the very back.)

Activity 2

You're showing a German guest around a department store in your country. He wants to know where he can find certain things. Tell him in German what floors they're on.

Wo sind die Haushaltswaren? (Where are household items?)

On the fifth floor.

In der fünften Etage.

Wo kann ich einen Schlips kaufen? (Where can I buy a tie?)

On the second floor.

In der zweiten Etage.

Wo kann ich Parfüm für meine Frau kaufen? (Where can I buy perfume for my wife?)

Ground floor.

Im Erdgeschoss.

Wo finde ich ein Geschenk für meinen kleinen Sohn? (Where can I find a present for my little son?)

First floor.

In der ersten Etage.

Good. By the way, did you get the second item he asked for? He asked for a tie, **einen Schlips.**

Now listen again.

Wo sind die Haushaltswaren?

In der fünften Etage.

Wo kann ich einen Schlips kaufen? In der zweiten Etage.

Wo kann ich Parfüm für meine Frau kaufen?

Im Erdgeschoss.

Wo finde ich ein Geschenk für meinen kleinen Sohn? In der ersten Etage.

Activity 3

Here we are again at Karstadt. This time we're in the toy department:

die Spielwarenabteilung

Herr Hartmann is buying toys for his children:

Teddys

teddy bears

Puppen

dolls

Schweinchen

little pigs, and:

Autos

cars, are all mentioned. Which ones does he buy?

Was kosten die Teddys? (How much are the teddy bears?)

Der kleine €7, der mittelgroße €16 und der große €24. (The small one is €7, the medium-sized one is €16, and the large one is €24.)

Ich nehme den kleinen Teddy. (I'll take the small teddy bear.)

Did you get that? Does he buy a large or small teddy bear? He chooses the small one. Repeat:

Ich nehme den kleinen Teddy.

Now let's see what else he buys.

Und was kosten die Puppen? (And how much are the dolls?)

Die kleine €8, die mittelgroße €15 und die große €28. (The small one is €8, the medium-sized one is €15, and the big one is €28.)

Ja dann... die mittelgroße ist schön. (Well... the medium-sized one is beautiful.) **Ja, ich nehme die mittelgroße Puppe.** (Yes, I'll take the medium-sized doll.)

Now did you get that? Does he buy a small doll or a medium-sized one? Right, he buys the medium-sized doll. Repeat:

Ja, ich nehme die mittelgroße Puppe.

Let's see what he picks next.

Ach, und die Schweinchen! Sowas Niedliches! (Oh, and the little pigs! They're so cute!)

Was kosten sie? (How much are they?)

€6.

Ich nehme das rosarote. (I'll take the pink one.)

Did you get that? **Die Schweinchen**, little pigs: Does he buy a green or a pink one? He takes the pink one, of course. Repeat:

Ich nehme das rosarote.

He is on a real shopping spree! And now he's seen the toy cars, **Autos.**

Was kosten diese Autos? (How much are these cars?)

Die kleinen 4,50, die mittelgroßen €7 und die großen €10. (The small ones are 4.50, the medium-sized ones are €7, and the big ones are €10.)

Dann nehme ich die kleinen Autos für 4,50. (Then I'll take the small cars for 4.50.)

Does he buy the large cars or the small cars? He buys the small cars for 4,50. Repeat:

Dann nehme ich die kleinen Autos für 4,50.

Let's hear again what he buys.

Ich nehme den kleinen Teddy. Ich nehme die mittelgroße Puppe. Ich nehme das rosarote.

That means "the pink one." He says:

das rosarote

because

Schweinchen

is neuter.

Dann nehme ich die kleinen Autos.

Then I'll take the small cars. Notice that the word order changes after **dann**, literally: "Then take I the small cars." The verb must come second.

Now listen to the conversations again.

Was kosten die Teddys? (How much are the teddy bears?)

Der kleine €7, der mittelgroße €16 und der große €24. (The small one is €7, the medium-sized one is €16, and the large one is €24.)

Ich nehme den kleinen Teddy. (I'll take the small teddy bear.)

Und was kosten die Puppen? (And how much are the dolls?)

Die kleine €8, die mittelgroße €15 und die große €28. (The small one is €8, the medium-sized one is €15, and the big one is €28.)

Ja dann... die mittelgroße ist schön. (Well... the medium-sized one is beautiful.) **Ja, ich nehme die mittelgroße Puppe.** (Yes, I'll take the medium-sized doll.)

Ach, und die Schweinchen! Sowas Niedliches! (Oh, and the little pigs! They're so cute!)

Was kosten sie? (How much are they?)

€6.

Ich nehme das rosarote. (I'll take the pink one.)

Was kosten diese Autos? (How much are these cars?)

Die kleinen 4,50, die mittelgroßen €7 und die großen €10. (The small ones are 4.50, the medium-sized ones are €7, and the big ones are €10.)

Dann nehme ich die kleinen Autos für 4,50. (Then I'll take the small cars for 4.50.)

Activity 4

Before we leave the topic of shopping, here are some more words you can use to say what you think of items you see. From the tone of voice of the speakers, which of these are positive and which are negative? And, as always, try to imitate the intonation as closely as you can.

Ausgezeichnet!

What do you think this one was? Yes, that was quite positive, meaning “Excellent!” Repeat:

Ausgezeichnet!

Klasse!

And this one? Again very positive: “Great!” Repeat:

Klasse!

Hässlich!

Do you think this one was positive, too? Not really. It means “Ugly!” Repeat:

Hässlich!

Schrecklich!

And this one? You’re right: another quite negative one, meaning “Horrible!” Repeat:

Schrecklich!

Igitt!

And what about this one? That’s not a compliment either, it means: “Yuck!” Repeat:

Igitt!

Toll!

Do you think this one was negative? On the contrary: It also means “Great!” Repeat:

Toll!

Prima!

And what was that one? That’s right, another expression for “Great!” Repeat:

Prima!

Wunderschön!

And the final one? It means “Lovely!” or beautiful. Repeat:

Wunderschön!

Pronunciation Practice

One of the sounds in German that English speakers find most difficult is the “R”. Not only is the sound quite different from the English “R”, there are regional variations. In some areas, mostly in the south, the “R” is pronounced by vibrating the tip of the tongue, like in Italian: Rrrrrrr... **rot**. However, in most parts of Germany “R” is pronounced by vibrating the uvula, that little flap that hangs down at the back of your mouth. This is the version we’re going to use: Rrrrrrr... **rot**.

rot

rosarot

Some people find this easy, others find it very difficult. If you're one of the latter, don't despair! Practice whenever you can. It may be advisable not to practice too much in public, though. A nonsense phrase with a lot of "R"s is:

das rosarote Rhinozeros

the pink rhinoceros

You may find it helpful to repeat this to yourself:

das rosarote Rhinozeros

When "R" comes at the end of a word it's pronounced as a vowel, rather like in British English "bitter."

Bier

hier

Unit 16

Einmal Bremen, einfach, bitte. One single ticket to Bremen, please.

This unit is about buying train tickets.

Activity 1

Listen to these platform announcements. Can you identify the platform number, the destination, and time?

Intercity Nummer 503 nach Düsseldorf, planmäßige Abfahrt 11.07 Uhr auf Gleis acht.

(Intercity number 503 to Düsseldorf, scheduled departure at 11:07 on platform eight.)

Did you get that? That's an Intercity train leaving at 11:07 on platform 8- **Gleis acht**. Here's the next announcement. Again, pay attention to the platform number.

Intercity Express Nummer 597 nach Magdeburg, planmäßige Abfahrt 11.40 Uhr auf

Gleis sechs. (Intercity Express number 597 to Magdeburg, scheduled departure at 11:40 on platform six.)

This Intercity Express, scheduled to depart at 11:40, leaves from what platform, five or six? It leaves from platform six. Here's the next train. Listen specifically for the time.

Euro City Nummer 109 nach Düsseldorf, planmäßige Abfahrt 12.09 Uhr auf Gleis

sechs. (Euro City number 109 to Düsseldorf, scheduled departure at 12:09 on platform six.)

What about this Euro City train to Düsseldorf, leaving from platform six? When is it scheduled to depart? At 12:09 or 9:12? The answer is 12:09. The last train goes to Cologne. See if you can catch the time and platform number.

Euro City Nummer 46 nach Köln, planmäßige Abfahrt 11.56 Uhr auf Gleis acht. (Euro

City number 46 to Cologne, scheduled departure at 11:56 on platform eight.)

That Euro City to Cologne is supposed to leave when? Right, 11:56. And on which platform?

Correct, platform eight.

Good. Now listen to the announcements again.

Intercity Nummer 503 nach Düsseldorf, planmäßige Abfahrt 11.07 Uhr auf Gleis acht.

(Intercity number 503 to Düsseldorf, scheduled departure at 11:07 on platform eight.)

Intercity Express Nummer 597 nach Magdeburg, planmäßige Abfahrt 11.40 Uhr auf

Gleis sechs. (Intercity Express number 597 to Magdeburg, scheduled departure at 11:40 on platform six.)

Euro City Nummer 109 nach Düsseldorf, planmäßige Abfahrt 12.09 Uhr auf Gleis

sechs. (Euro City number 109 to Düsseldorf, scheduled departure at 12:09 on platform six.)

Euro City Nummer 46 nach Köln, planmäßige Abfahrt 11.56 Uhr auf Gleis acht. (Euro

City number 46 to Cologne, scheduled departure at 11:56 on platform eight.)

Activity 2

Did you understand that? All the announcements followed the same pattern: First of all, the announcer gave the type of train and the train number, followed by the destination.

Intercity Nummer 503 nach Düsseldorf. (Intercity number 503 to Düsseldorf.)

Intercity Express Nummer 597 nach Magdeburg. (Intercity Express number 597 to Magdeburg.)

Euro City Nummer 109 nach Düsseldorf. (Euro City number 109 to Düsseldorf.)

Euro City Nummer 46 nach Köln. (Euro City number 46 to Cologne.)

Notice that **nach** means “to” in this context. Then the announcer gave the scheduled time of departure, followed by the platform number.

Planmäßige Abfahrt 11.07 Uhr auf Gleis acht. (Scheduled departure at 11:07 on platform eight.)

Planmäßige Abfahrt 11.40 Uhr auf Gleis sechs. (Scheduled departure at 11:40 on platform six.)

Planmäßige Abfahrt 12.09 Uhr auf Gleis sechs. (Scheduled departure at 12:09 on platform six.)

Planmäßige Abfahrt 11.56 Uhr auf Gleis acht. (Scheduled departure at 11:56 on platform eight.)

Activity 3

Here are six people buying tickets at Bahnhof Zoo in Berlin.

Listen carefully for the words:

einfach

one-way, and:

hin und zurück

round trip or return.

You'll also hear:

einmal

once, meaning one ticket, and:

zweimal

twice, meaning two tickets.

Einmal Wien, hin und zurück, bitte. (One round trip to Vienna, please.)

Did you get that? One round trip to Vienna. Repeat:

Einmal Wien, hin und zurück, bitte.

Zweimal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte. (Two round-trip tickets to Mannheim, please.)

That's two round-trips to Mannheim. Repeat:

Zweimal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte.

Zweimal Wien, einfach, bitte. (Two one-way tickets to Vienna, please.)

Two one-way tickets to Vienna. Repeat:

Zweimal Wien, einfach, bitte.

Einmal Bremen, einfach, bitte. (One single ticket to Bremen, please.)

One or two single tickets to Bremen? Right, one single ticket. Repeat:

Einmal Bremen, einfach, bitte.

Einmal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte. (A round trip to Mannheim, please.)

A one way ticket or a round trip ticket to Mannheim? A round trip ticket. Repeat:

Einmal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte.

Zweimal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte. (Two round-trip tickets to Mannheim, please.)

And finally, what does she buy? Right, two round-trip tickets to Mannheim. Repeat:

Zweimal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte.

Excellent! Now listen again.

Einmal Wien, hin und zurück, bitte. (One round trip to Vienna, please.)

Zweimal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte. (Two round-trip tickets to Mannheim, please.)

Zweimal Wien, einfach, bitte. (Two one-way tickets to Vienna, please.)

Einmal Bremen, einfach, bitte. (One single ticket to Bremen, please.)

Einmal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte. (A round trip to Mannheim, please.)

Zweimal Mannheim, hin und zurück, bitte. (Two round-trip tickets to Mannheim, please.)

Activity 4

Sometimes you'll need to ask for more information before buying your ticket. Listen to this customer.

Ich muss bis 19.30 h in Freiburg im Breisgau sein. (I have to be in Freiburg in Breisgau by 7:30 tonight.) **Wie komme ich am besten dorthin?** (What's the best way to get there?)

Sie nehmen den ICE 595 bis Mannheim und steigen dann in den IC 603 um. (You take the InterCity Express 595 until Mannheim and change there for the InterCity 603.) **Sie kommen um 19.02h in Freiburg an.** (You'll be arriving in Freiburg at 19:02.)

Did you get that? The clerk tells the customer to take the Intercity Express 595 to Mannheim and change there for the Intercity 603. This way he'll be at his destination at 19:02.

Wann fährt der Zug? (When does the train leave?)

Now the man wants to know when the train leaves. Repeat.

Wann fährt der Zug? (When does the train leave?)

In 20 Minuten, um 11.46 Uhr. (In 20 minutes, at 11:46.)

Well? That's right, it leaves in 20 minutes, at 11:46. Now the man is going to buy his ticket –try to guess what class he'll be traveling in.

Gut. Dann einmal nach Freiburg, einfach, bitte. (OK. A one-way ticket to Freiburg, please.)

Erste oder zweite Klasse? (First or second class?)

Zweite Klasse. (Second class.)

Did you get it? Yes, he buys a one-way ticket for the second class. And he'll pay for the ticket.

€117 plus €20 ICE-Zuschlag macht €137 insgesamt. (€117 plus €20 supplement for the ICE. That's €137 altogether.)

Did you get the price of the ticket? It's 137 euros, including the 20 euros supplement for the ICE.

Bitte schön. (Here you are.) **Wo fährt der Zug ab?** (Where's the train leaving from?)

Now the passenger wants to know from where the train is leaving. Repeat.

Wo fährt der Zug ab? (Where's the train leaving from?)

Auf Gleis zwei. Hier ist Ihre Fahrkarte. (From platform two. There's your ticket.) **Gute**

Reise! (Have a good trip!)

Danke. Wiedersehen. (Thank you. Good-bye.)

And what platform is it? Yes, it's platform two.

Good. Now listen to the conversation again.

Ich muss bis 19.30 h in Freiburg im Breisgau sein. Wie komme ich am besten dorthin?

(I have to be in Freiburg in Breisgau by 7:30 tonight. What's the best way to get there?)

Sie nehmen den ICE 595 bis Mannheim und steigen dann in den IC 603 um. (You take the InterCity Express 595 until Mannheim and change there for the InterCity 603.) **Sie kommen um 19.02h in Freiburg an.** (You'll be arriving in Freiburg at 19:02.)

Wann fährt der Zug? (When does the train leave?)

In 20 Minuten, um 11.46 Uhr. (In 20 minutes, at 11:46.)

Gut. Dann einmal nach Freiburg, einfach, bitte. (OK. A one-way ticket to Freiburg, please.)

Erste oder zweite Klasse? (First or second class?)

Zweite Klasse. (Second class.)

€117 plus €20 ICE-Zuschlag macht €137 insgesamt. (€117 plus €20 supplement for the ICE. That's €137 altogether.)

Bitte schön. Wo fährt der Zug ab? (Here you are. Where's the train leaving from?)

Auf Gleis zwei. Hier ist Ihre Fahrkarte. (From platform two. There's your ticket.) **Gute**

Reise! (Have a good trip!)

Danke. Wiedersehen. (Thank you. Good-bye.)

Activity 5

Now it's your turn. Take the role of the customer in the following conversation.

Bitte schön? (Can I help you?)

Ask for a round-trip ticket to Berlin for two.

Zweimal Berlin, hin und zurück.

Erste oder zweite Klasse? (First or second class?)

Second class.

Zweite Klasse.

Fahren Sie mit dem ICE oder mit dem D-Zug? (Are you taking the ICE or the D-train?)

With the ICE.

Mit dem ICE.

Das macht dann €114. (That'll be €114.)

Ask what time the train leaves.

Wann fährt der Zug?

Der nächste Zug fährt um 13.05 Uhr auf Gleis 4 ab. (The next train leaves at 1:05 from platform 4.)

Say thanks and good-bye.

Danke. Auf Wiedersehen.

Got your ticket? Great! Now listen again.

Bitte schön?

Zweimal Berlin, hin und zurück.

Erste oder zweite Klasse?

Zweite Klasse.

Fahren Sie mit dem ICE oder mit dem D-Zug?

Mit dem ICE.

Das macht dann €114. Wann fährt der Zug?

Der nächste Zug fährt um 13.05 Uhr auf Gleis 4 ab.

Danke. Auf Wiedersehen.

Activity 6

Here's another conversation. Play your role again.

Bitte schön?

Ask for a one-way ticket to Frankfurt for one.

Einmal Frankfurt, einfach, bitte.

Erste oder zweite Klasse?

First class.

Erste Klasse.

Fahren Sie mit dem ICE oder mit dem D-Zug?

With the ICE.

Mit dem ICE.

Das macht dann €69.

What time does the train leave?

Wann fährt der Zug?

Um 17.05 Uhr auf Gleis 12.

Say thanks and good-bye.

Danke. Auf Wiedersehen.

Nichts zu danken. Auf Wiedersehen.

Good. Now listen again.

Bitte schön?

Einmal Frankfurt, einfach, bitte.

Erste oder zweite Klasse?

Erste Klasse.

Fahren Sie mit dem ICE oder mit dem D-Zug?

Mit dem ICE.

Das macht dann €69.

Wann fährt der Zug?

Um 17.05 Uhr auf Gleis 12.

Danke. Auf Wiedersehen.

Nichts zu danken. Auf Wiedersehen.

Nichts zu danken

Literally means “nothing to thank.” It’s a common expression you can use when someone thanks you for something. Or you can just say:

Bitte, Bitte schön, Bitte sehr,

or more casually:

Bitte, bitte.

Nichts zu danken.

Bitte schön.

Bitte sehr.

Unit 17

Ohne Kilometerbegrenzung Unlimited mileage

In this unit you'll learn the necessary vocabulary to rent a car.

Activity 1

Listen to these people in a car rental office. Listen for the words:

Auto

car,

Kleinwagen

small car, and

Kombi

station wagon, or estate car.

Ich möchte ein Auto mieten. (I'd like to rent a car.) **Haben Sie eine Preisliste?** (Do you have a price list?)

Ja natürlich. Bitte schön. (Yes, of course. Here you are.)

Did you get that? This customer wants to rent a car and asks for a price list. Repeat:

Ich möchte ein Auto mieten. Haben Sie eine Preisliste?

She is looking for a small Volkswagen, a VW Polo or a similar small car. Let's find out if the rental place can accommodate her.

Danke. (Thank you.) **Ich möchte einen VW Polo oder einen ähnlichen Kleinwagen.** (I would like a VW Polo or a similar small car.) **Haben Sie so etwas?** (Do you have anything like that?)

Ja, haben wir. (Yes we do.) **Das wäre Preisklasse B.** (That would be price class B.)

Ich brauchen den Wagen für drei Tage ab heute. (I need the car for three days from today.)

Did you get it? Yes, they have small cars. Did you figure out for how many days the customer needs it? She says she needs it for three days from today. Repeat:

Ich brauchen den Wagen für drei Tage ab heute.

And, like in most other countries, the clerk asks for her driver's license and credit card. Repeat:

Kein Problem. (No problem.) **Ich brauche Ihren Führerschein und eine Kreditkarte.** (I need your driver's license and a credit card.)

Good. Now listen to the conversation again.

Ich möchte ein Auto mieten. (I'd like to rent a car.) **Haben Sie eine Preisliste?** (Do you have a price list?)

Ja natürlich. Bitte schön. (Yes, of course. Here you are.)

Danke. Ich möchte einen VW Polo oder einen ähnlichen Kleinwagen. Haben Sie so etwas? (Thank you. I would like a VW Polo or a similar small car. Do you have anything like that?)

Ja, haben wir. Das wäre Preisklasse B. (Yes we do. That would be price class B.)

Ich brauche den Wagen für drei Tage ab heute. (I need the car for three days from today.)

Kein Problem. Ich brauche Ihren Führerschein und eine Kreditkarte. (No problem. I need your driver's license and a credit card.)

Activity 2

Here's another customer.

Wir möchten einen großen Kombi für 14 Tage. (We would like a big station wagon for 14 days.)

Now this man is asking for a large station wagon, a **Kombi**, for how many days? For 14 days.

Repeat:

Wir möchten einen großen Kombi für 14 Tage. (We would like a big station wagon for 14 days.)

Wir haben einen Volvo und einen Opel. (We have a Volvo and an Opel.) **Beide sind Preisklasse E.** (They are both price class E.)

Ist das Kilometergeld inbegriffen? (Is the mileage included?)

Ja, und auch die Haftpflichtversicherung. (Yes, as well as the liability insurance.)

The clerk's offering a choice between a Volvo and an Opel. Is unlimited mileage included?

Repeat:

Ist das Kilometergeld inbegriffen?

Yes, it is, as well as liability insurance.

The two words for car:

Auto and **Wagen**

are completely interchangeable. But remember, it's:

der Wagen

and

das Auto.

Makes of cars are generally masculine:

der Opel, der Mercedes

Good. Now listen to the conversation again.

Wir möchten einen großen Kombi für 14 Tage. (We would like a big station wagon for 14 days.)

Wir haben einen Volvo und einen Opel. (We have a Volvo and an Opel.) **Beide sind Preisklasse E.** (They are both price class E.)

Ist das Kilometergeld inbegriffen? (Is the mileage included?)

Ja, und auch die Haftpflichtversicherung. (Yes, as well as the liability insurance.)

Activity 3

You're going to rent a medium-sized station wagon:

einen mittleren Kombi

For seven days. We'll give you some prompts to help you, and after the pause you'll hear a correct version.

Bitte schön? (Can I help you?)

Say you would like to rent a medium-sized station wagon.

Ich möchte einen mittleren Kombi mieten.

Das wäre Preisklasse D. (That would be price class D.)

Für wie lange möchten Sie den Wagen mieten? (For how long would you like to rent the car?)

Say for seven days.

Für sieben Tage.

Kein Problem. Ich brauche Ihren Führerschein und eine Kreditkarte. (No problem. I need your driver's license and your credit card.)

Say: Here you are. Ask if the mileage is included.

Bitte schön. Ist das Kilometergeld inbegriffen?

Ja, das Kilometergeld ist inbegriffen.

Good. Now listen again.

Bitte schön?

Ich möchte einen mittleren Kombi mieten.

Das wäre Preisklasse D.

Für wie lange möchten Sie den Wagen mieten?

Für sieben Tage.

Kein Problem. Ich brauche Ihren Führerschein und eine Kreditkarte.

Bitte schön. Ist das Kilometergeld inbegriffen?

Ja, das Kilometergeld ist inbegriffen.

Activity 4

Driving around town can be hazardous. Here's a policeman who's having a difficult time keeping the motorists in line. Listen carefully for ways of expressing permission, obligation and prohibition.

Halt! Was machen Sie da? (Stop! What are you doing there?)

Äh... wie bitte? (I'm sorry?)

Hier dürfen Sie nicht reinfahren. Das ist eine Einbahnstraße. (You mustn't enter here.)

This is a one-way street.)

Oh, Entschuldigung! (Oh, I am sorry!)

Ihren Führerschein, bitte. (Your driver's license, please.)

Did you get what the policeman said? He said: "You mustn't enter here!" Repeat:

Hier dürfen Sie nicht reinfahren.

This is a one-way street. Repeat:

Das ist eine Einbahnstraße.

No wonder the policeman then asked for the man's driver's license. He can't ask for the next person's license, though. Find out why.

Steigen Sie bitte ab. (Dismount, please.)

Ja warum denn? (But why?)

Hier darf man nicht Rad fahren. (You mustn't ride your bicycle here.)

Oh! Entschuldigung. (Oh, I'm sorry!)

The policeman tells the woman to dismount from her bicycle. Riding your bike isn't allowed here. Repeat:

Hier darf man nicht Rad fahren.

Another traffic violation is about to happen.

Halt! (Stop!)

Was ist los? (What's the matter?)

Sehen Sie das Schild? (Do you see that sign?) **Sie müssen hier anhalten.** (You have to stop here.)

What's happening now? That's right, the policeman tells the man that he has to stop here.

Repeat:

Sie müssen hier anhalten.

Here's another person asking whether she can park here. Repeat:

Entschuldigen Sie, darf ich hier parken? (Excuse me, may I park here?)

Ja, Sie dürfen. Aber Sie müssen eine Parkgebühr zahlen. (Yes you may. But you have to pay a parking fee.) **Da vorn ist die Parkuhr.** (The parking meter is over there.)

Can she park there? Yes, but she has to pay a parking fee.

To say someone is permitted to do something you use:

dürfen

May I park here?

Darf ich hier parken?

Yes, you may.

Ja, Sie dürfen.

To say someone must do something you use:

müssen.

You must stop here.

Sie müssen hier anhalten.

But you have to pay a parking fee.

Aber Sie müssen eine Parkgebühr zahlen.

To say someone must not do something you use:

nicht dürfen.

You mustn't enter here.

Hier dürfen Sie nicht reinfahren.

You mustn't cycle here.

Hier darf man nicht Rad fahren.

Achtung! Watch out!

Sie müssen nicht

Means: "you don't have to." It doesn't mean "you must not." So:

Sie müssen hier nicht Rad fahren

would mean: "You don't have to ride your bicycle here, but you can if you want."

Excellent! Now listen to the dialogs again.

Halt! Was machen Sie da? (Stop! What are you doing there?)

Äh... wie bitte? (I'm sorry?)

Hier dürfen Sie nicht reinfahren. Das ist eine Einbahnstraße. (You mustn't enter here.

This is a one-way street.)

Oh, Entschuldigung! (Oh, I am sorry!)

Ihren Führerschein, bitte. (Your driver's license, please.)

Steigen Sie bitte ab. (Dismount, please.)

Ja warum denn? (But why?)

Hier darf man nicht Rad fahren. (You mustn't ride your bicycle here.)

Oh! Entschuldigung. (Oh, I'm sorry!)

Halt! (Stop!)

Was ist los? (What's the matter?)

Sehen Sie das Schild? Sie müssen hier anhalten. (Do you see that sign? You have to stop here.)

Entschuldigen Sie, darf ich hier parken? (Excuse me, may I park here?)

Ja, Sie dürfen. Aber Sie müssen eine Parkgebühr zahlen. (Yes you may. But you have to pay a parking fee.) **Da vorn ist die Parkuhr.** (The parking meter is over there.)

Unit 18

Wann fährt der nächste Bus? When does the next bus leave?

This unit is about getting around by public transportation.

Activity 1

Like most larger German towns and cities Berlin has a comprehensive public transportation system, consisting of:

der Bus

bus

die Straßenbahn

tram

die U-Bahn

subway or underground, and:

die Schnellbahn

or

S-Bahn

an express or street level railway.

Here's a travel tip when using public transportation in Germany: It's not enough just to buy a ticket. Most types of tickets have to be validated in a machine. When riding on a bus or a tram, you validate your ticket when you board. On the subway or some trains you need to validate your ticket before you get on.

Activity 2

Here are tourists at Yorckstraße S-Bahn station asking the way to various sights. Listen carefully for the lines mentioned and the directions.

Entschuldigen Sie, wie komme ich zur Museumsinsel? (Excuse me, how do I get to Museumsinsel?)

Fahren Sie mit der S1 Richtung Oranienburg bis "Unter den Linden." (Take the S1 towards Oranienburg until "Unter den Linden.") **Das sind drei Haltestellen.** (That's three stops.) **Von dort können Sie zu Fuß gehen.** (From there you can walk.) **Hm... das dauert eine Viertelstunde.** (Well... it takes a quarter of an hour.) **Oder Sie können den Bus nehmen.** (Or you can take the bus.)

Did you get that? First she needs to take the S1 towards Oranienburg until "Unter den Linden".

Repeat:

Fahren Sie mit der S1 Richtung Oranienburg bis "Unter den Linden."

Or she can also take the bus. Repeat:

Oder Sie können den Bus nehmen.

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Zoo? (Excuse me, how do I get to the zoo?)

Fahren Sie mit der S1 Richtung Oranienburg bis Potsdamer Platz. (Take the S1 towards Oranienburg until Potsdamer Platz.) **Steigen Sie dort in die U2 Richtung Spandau um.** (Change there for the U2 towards Spandau.) **Das sind sieben Haltestellen.** (That's seven stops.)

Did you get that? She is told to take the S1 towards Oranienburg until Potsdamer Platz. Repeat:

Fahren Sie mit der S1 Richtung Oranienburg bis Potsdamer Platz.

And there she needs to change for the U2 towards Spandau. Repeat:

Steigen Sie dort in die U2 Richtung Spandau um.

Entschuldigung, können Sie mir helfen? (Excuse me, can you help me?) **Wie komme ich zum Nikolaiviertel?** (How do I get to the Nikolai Quarter?)

Steigen Sie am Potsdamer Platz in die U2 Richtung Vinetastraße um. (Change at Potsdamer Platz for the U2 direction Vineta Street.) **Fahren Sie bis Klosterstraße, dann steigen Sie aus.** (Go to Kloster Street, then get off.) **Von dort aus müssen Sie zu Fuß gehen.** (From there you'll have to walk.) **Es ist nicht weit. Das sind acht Haltestellen.** (It isn't far, only eight stops.)

Now how does she get to the Nikolai Quarter? She needs to change at Potsdamer Platz for the U2 direction Vineta street. Repeat:

Steigen Sie am Potsdamer Platz in die U2 Richtung Vinetastraße um.

And how many stops is that? Eight stops. Repeat:

Das sind acht Haltestellen.

Entschuldigen Sie, wie komme ich zum Kurfürstendamm? (Excuse me, how do I get to Kurfürstendamm?)

Zum Ku'damm? (To Ku'damm?)

Steigen Sie am Gleisdreieck in die U1 Richtung Uhlandstraße. (At Gleisdreieck get on the U1 towards Uhland Street.) **Das sind sieben Haltestellen.** (That's seven stops.)

And how should this man get to Kurfürstendamm, a famous street in Berlin? At Gleisdreieck he has to get on the U1 towards Uhland Street. Repeat:

Steigen Sie am Gleisdreieck in die U1 Richtung Uhlandstraße.

Good. Now listen to the directions again.

Entschuldigen Sie, wie komme ich zur Museumsinsel? (Excuse me, how do I get to Museumsinsel?)

Fahren Sie mit der S1 Richtung Oranienburg bis "Unter den Linden." (Take the S1 towards Oranienburg until "Unter den Linden.") **Das sind drei Haltestellen.** (That's three stops.) **Von dort können Sie zu Fuß gehen.** (From there you can walk.)

Hm... das dauert eine Viertelstunde. (Well... it takes a quarter of an hour.)

Oder Sie können den Bus nehmen. (Or you can take the bus.)

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Zoo? (Excuse me, how do I get to the zoo?)

Fahren Sie mit der S1 Richtung Oranienburg bis Potsdamer Platz. (Take the S1 towards Oranienburg until Potsdamer Platz.) **Steigen Sie dort in die U2 Richtung Spandau um.** (Change there for the U2 towards Spandau.) **Das sind sieben Haltestellen.** (That's seven stops.)

Entschuldigung, können Sie mir helfen? (Excuse me, can you help me?) **Wie komme ich zum Nikolaiviertel?** (How do I get to the Nikolai Quarter?)

Steigen Sie am Potsdamer Platz in die U2 Richtung Vinetastraße um. (Change at Potsdamer Platz for the U2 direction Vineta Street.) **Fahren Sie bis Klosterstraße, dann steigen Sie aus.** (Go to Kloster Street, then get off.) **Von dort aus müssen Sie zu Fuß gehen.** (From there you'll have to walk.) **Es ist nicht weit. Das sind acht Haltestellen.** (It isn't far, only eight stops.)

Entschuldigen Sie, wie komme ich zum Kurfürstendamm? (Excuse me, how do I get to Kurfürstendamm?)

Zum Ku'damm? (To Ku'damm?)

Steigen Sie am Gleisdreieck in die U1 Richtung Uhlandstraße. (At Gleisdreieck get on the U1 towards Uhland Street.) **Das sind sieben Haltestellen.** (That's seven stops.)

Activity 3

Can you give directions to these tourists?

Entschuldigen Sie, wie komme ich zum Bahnhof Zoo? (Excuse me, how do I get to Bahnhof Zoo?)

Tell him to take the U2 towards Spandau.

Fahren Sie mit der U2 Richtung Spandau.

Entschuldigung, wie komme ich zum Wittenbergplatz?

Take the U2 towards Spandau.

Fahren Sie mit der U2 Richtung Spandau.

Wie komme ich zu "Unter den Linden?"

Take the U2 towards Spandau until Potsdamer Platz. Then take the S1 towards Oranienburg.

Nehmen Sie die U2 Richtung Spandau bis Potsdamer Platz. Dann nehmen Sie die S1 Richtung Oranienburg.

Activity 4

Listen to these inquiries about bus schedules. What expressions are used to talk about the frequency of the buses?

Wann fährt der letzte Bus nach Potsdam? (When does the last bus to Potsdam leave?)

Abends um 11.42 Uhr. (At 11:42 at night.)

So, when does the last bus to Potsdam leave? That's right, at 11:42 at night. Repeat:

Abends um 11.42 Uhr.

Wie oft fährt der Bus Richtung Oranienburg? (How often is there a bus to Oranienburg?)

Alle zehn Minuten. (Every ten minutes.)

How often is there a bus? Every ten minutes. Repeat:

Alle zehn Minuten.

Wie oft fährt die Linie 1? (How often does line 1 run?)

Alle 15 Minuten. (Every 15 minutes.)

Wann fährt der nächste Bus? (When does the next bus leave?)

Um 22.42 Uhr. (At 10:42 pm.)

How often does line 1 run? Every 15 minutes. Repeat:

Alle 15 Minuten.

And when does the next bus leave? 10:42. Repeat.

Um 22.42 Uhr.

Wie oft fährt der Bus Richtung Dahlem? (How often is there a bus to Dahlem?)

Jede halbe Stunde. (Every half hour.)

Wann fährt der erste Bus? (When does the first bus leave?)

Um viertel vor sieben. (At a quarter to seven.)

How often is there a bus to Dahlem? Every 2 minutes or every half hour? Every half hour. Repeat:

Jede halbe Stunde.

And when does the first bus leave? At a quarter to seven. Repeat:

Um viertel vor sieben.

Wie oft fahren die Busse zur Universität? (How often is there a bus to the university?)

Alle 20 Minuten. (Every 20 minutes.)

Und wann fährt der erste Bus? (And when does the first bus go?)

Um sechs Uhr. (At 6 am.)

How often is there a bus to the university? Every 10 or every 20 minutes? Every 20 minutes.

Repeat:

Alle 20 Minuten.

Good. Now listen to the dialogs again.

Wann fährt der letzte Bus nach Potsdam? (When does the last bus to Potsdam leave?)

Abends um 11.42 Uhr. (At 11:42 at night.)

Wie oft fährt der Bus Richtung Oranienburg? (How often is there a bus to Oranienburg?)

Alle zehn Minuten. (Every ten minutes.)

Wie oft fährt die Linie 1? (How often does line 1 run?)

Alle 15 Minuten. (Every 15 minutes.)

Wann fährt der nächste Bus? (When does the next bus leave?)

Um 22.42 Uhr. (At 10:42 pm.)

Wie oft fährt der Bus Richtung Dahlem? (How often is there a bus to Dahlem?)

Jede halbe Stunde. (Every half hour.)

Wann fährt der erste Bus? (When does the first bus leave?)

Um viertel vor sieben. (At a quarter to seven.)

Wie oft fahren die Busse zur Universität? (How often is there a bus to the university?)

Alle 20 Minuten. (Every 20 minutes.)

Und wann fährt der erste Bus? (And when does the first bus go?)

Um sechs Uhr. (At 6 am.)

Activity 5

How did you do? You heard various expressions of frequency. You also heard:

alle

and:

jede

both meaning “every”.

Alle

Is used with numbers and plurals, but

jede

only with singulars. Now let’s practice!

Wie oft

which means “how often”.

alle zehn Minuten

every ten minutes

alle 15 Minuten

every 15 minutes

jede Viertelstunde

every quarter of an hour

jede halbe Stunde

every half hour

Pronunciation Practice

Two sounds that can be a little difficult for English speakers to pronounce are “ch” as in **ich** and “ch” as in **ach**. The “ach” sound is pronounced at the back of the throat, like the “ch” sound in the Scottish word “loch.”

Ach!

nach

Sprache

The “ich” sound, on the other hand, is pronounced by putting the tip of the tongue behind your lower front teeth, spreading your lips and breathing out quite hard to produce a hissing sound like this: ssh.

ich

mich

spreche

And now the two sounds together.

ich – ach

mich – nach

spreche – Sprache

The “ich” sound always comes after **e, i, u-Umlaut** (ü), **o-Umlaut** (ö), and **a-Umlaut** (ä):

spreche, spricht, Sprüche

The “ach”-sound always comes after **a, o, u**:

Sprache, gesprochen, Spruch

Here’s one more learning tip for you:

Don’t lose heart if you can’t always get the pronunciation right. Just do your best to imitate the rhythm and intonation of the speakers you hear. If you can reproduce the rhythm and intonation accurately, other pronunciation errors, such as mispronouncing certain sounds, will not be as noticeable.

Well, and this is the end of our program. We hope you enjoyed it. Thank you and good-bye.

For Your Reference: Conversion Charts

Weights & Measurements

The following conversion charts contain the most commonly used measures.

1 Gramm (g)	= 1000 milligrams	= 0.035 oz.
1 Pfund (Pfd)	= 500 grams	= 1.1 lb
1 Kilogramm (kg)	= 1000 grams	= 2.2 lb
1 Liter (l)	= 1000 milliliters	= 1.06 U.S. / 0.88 Brit. quart = 2.11 US / 1.8 Brit. pints = 34 US / 35 Brit. fluid oz. = 0.26 US / 0.22 Brit. gallon
1 Zentimeter (cm)	= 100 millimeters	= 0.4 inch
1 Meter (m)	= 100 centimeters	= 39.37 inches / 3.28 ft.
1 Kilometer (km)	= 1000 meters	= 0.62 mile
1 Quadratmeter (qm)		= 10.8 square feet
1 Hektar (ha)		= 2.5 acres
1 Quadratkilometer (qkm)		= 247 acres

Temperature

Not sure whether to put on a bathing suit or a winter coat? Here is a comparison of Fahrenheit and Celsius / Centigrade degrees.

-40°C	=	-40°F
-30°C	=	-22°F
-20°C	=	-4°F
-10°C	=	14°F
-5°C	=	23°F
-1°C	=	30°F
0°C	=	32°F
5°C	=	41°F
10°C	=	50°F
15°C	=	59°F
20°C	=	68°F
25°C	=	77°F
30°C	=	86°F
35°C	=	95°F

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GERMAN
LEARNER'S GUIDE

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Overview of the Course and Study Tips

Who's It For?

It's an all-audio course, designed for adult learners with no previous knowledge of German, but is also useful for people who have studied German in the past and want to brush up their skills.

What's the Approach?

The course is divided into chapters, each dealing with a different theme. The focus is on spoken conversation, and the goal is to bring you to the point where you'll be able to function in a wide variety of everyday situations. You'll be working on speaking and understanding what's being said.

Listening to the Audio

The presenters on will guide you through the course. At times you'll be asked to simply listen, at other times to listen and repeat or answer.

The pronunciation segments provide tips on correct pronunciation. Remember to take advantage of the native German voices on the audio and try to imitate exactly what you hear. Here's a trick: everyone knows how to "put on" a German accent. When you're speaking German with the audio, do the same—try to impersonate a German person speaking the German words. You'll be amazed—it helps.

How to Get the Most Out of the Course

- **Work with the recordings.**

In order to learn to speak you must first hear the language spoken. The recordings contain a wide range of authentic native speakers. Listen carefully and try to imitate exactly what you hear. The presenters will lead you through a series of activities. They will announce the purpose of each activity and tell you what you should do. Sometimes you'll be asked to simply listen, but you'll be asked to listen for some specific purpose. At other times you'll be asked to repeat what you hear, to answer questions or to assume the role of one of the characters in a conversation.

- **Speak out loud.**

Listening alone is not enough. You have to repeat what you hear, and then answer the questions – out loud. Learning to speak a language is as much a physical as an intellectual activity. Your vocal chords have to be trained to do things they aren't used to doing. Remember: you learn to speak by speaking!

- **Don't be afraid to make mistakes.**

Don't be afraid of sounding silly. To a German person it sounds a lot sillier if you don't speak the way they do. Try to throw yourself completely into the sounds and rhythm of the language.

- **The audio script keeps you on track.**

You may have forgotten what you've heard or you may want to see how a word is spelled or what it means. Don't worry. The audio script contains everything you hear including the translations. In addition, you can look up the meaning of any word that appears in the program in the the German-English Glossary plus additional useful vocabulary.

- **Keep an open mind.**

Don't expect your new language to work the same way as your own, and don't look for a neat set of rules. Accept the differences. Much of the charm of a foreign language is that it can permit us to see the world from a different perspective.

- **Review frequently.**

Go back over the material as many times as necessary until you feel comfortable with it. And it's always a good idea to go back over previously covered material.

- **Enjoy yourself!**

Treat this as an exciting adventure. The more you allow yourself to enjoy the program, the faster you'll improve your learning rate.

Grammar Section

In this section, you'll find all the grammar from this course plus additional grammar explanations. It fills in details not explained to give you a more comprehensive overview of the fundamentals of German grammar.

However, you don't need to refer to this section to begin or complete this course successfully.

1. Spelling

The spelling of German corresponds quite closely to its pronunciation.

The **pronunciation** sections at the end of some chapters give you detailed guidance in pronouncing German.

Letters of the Alphabet

German dictionaries list entries in the same order as English; **ä**, **ö**, **ü** and **ß** are not treated as distinct letters of the alphabet. Here are the letters and their pronunciation, in German spelling.

A . . . a	H . . . ha	(Ö) . . . ö	(Ü) . . . ü
(Ä) . . . ä	I . . . i	P . . . pe	V . . . vau
B . . . be	J . . . jot	Q . . . ku	W . . . we
C . . . ze	K . . . ka	R . . . er	X . . . ix
D . . . de	L . . . ell	S . . . ess	Y . . . ypsilon
E . . . e	M . . . emm	(ß) . . . scharfes ess/ess zett)	Z . . . zett
F . . . eff	N . . . enn	T . . . te	
G . . . ge	O . . . o	U . . . u	

ss and ß

There are some general rules that will help you. **ß** is written instead of **ss** before long consonants (**Straße**, **Gruß**); **ss** is used between vowels if the preceding vowel is short (**müssen**, **Wasser**, **Fluss**). When writing in capitals, the **ss** is always used.

In Switzerland the distinction between **ss** and **ß** is not made, only **ss** is used.

Capital Letters

Capital letters are used for the first letter of:

1. a word at the start of a sentence
2. all nouns, not just the names of persons and places
3. the polite form of address in its various forms: **Sie**, **Ihnen**, **Ihr(e)**, etc.

2. Nouns

Nouns are the labels we attach to everything in the world around us or in our own minds: people, animals, things, events, processes, ideas.

Gender

All nouns in German have one of three genders: masculine, feminine, or neuter. The gender of a noun determines the endings of any articles or adjectives that are used with it:

Masculine:	der Tisch, der Laden, der Mann	<i>table, shop, man</i>
Feminine:	die Nacht, die Pflanze, die Frau	<i>night, plant, woman</i>
Neuter:	das Ei, das Geschäft, das Kind	<i>egg, store, child</i>

The form and the meaning of a noun aren't usually much help in predicting its gender. So you should memorize the gender with each new noun. The best way of doing this is to learn not: **Tisch, Nacht, Ei**, but: **der Tisch, die Nacht, das Ei**.

Fortunately, there are reliable clues to the genders of some nouns:

Nouns for male persons are usually masculine: **der Vater, der Arzt, der Partner**, father, (male) doctor, (male) partner. But remember that it's always **die Person**, whether the person is male or female, and it's **das Kind**, regardless of the child's sex.

Nouns for female persons are usually feminine: **die Mutter, die Ärztin, die Partnerin**, mother, (female) doctor, (female) partner. But it's **das Mädchen** girl.

The following endings are reliable clues to gender:

Masculine:	<i>Most nouns ending in -er: der Fahrer, der Kugelschreiber "driver, ballpoint pen"</i>
BUT:	<i>die Schwester, die Tochter, die Mutter; das Theater, das Zimmer "sister, daughter, mother; theater, room"</i>
Feminine:	<i>Most nouns ending in -e: die Karte, die Bohne, die Bluse "card (or ticket, map), bean, blouse"</i>
BUT:	<i>der Name, der Käse, der Russe, der Franzose, "name, cheese, Russian (man), Frenchman"</i>
	<i>All nouns ending in -ei: die Bäckerei, die Konditorei, die Polizei "bakery, confectioner's, police"</i>
BUT:	<i>das Ei "egg"</i>
	<i>All nouns ending in -heit and -keit: die Gesundheit, die Pünktlichkeit "health, punctuality"</i>
	<i>All nouns ending in -ion: die Institution, die Station "institution, (subway) station"</i>
	<i>All nouns ending in -ung: die Ausstellung, die Wohnung, "exhibition, apartment"</i>
	<i>All nouns (rare exceptions) with the endings -schaft, -enz, -ie, -tät, -ur and -itis: die Wirtschaft, die Universität "economy, university"</i>
Neuter:	<i>All nouns ending in -chen: das Brötchen, das Mädchen, das Schweinchen "roll, girl, little pig"</i>
	<i>All nouns (rare exceptions) with the endings -um, -ment, -lein: das Forum, das Instrument, das Männlein "forum, instrument, little man"</i>
	<i>All verbal and adjectival nouns not describing a specific person: das Lesen, das Gute "reading, good"</i>

The Case System: nominative, accusative, genitive, dative

All languages have ways of showing what role each noun is playing in a particular sentence, for example who (or what) is doing what to whom. In English, we show this mainly by the position of the noun in the sentence. German speakers, on the other hand, show the role of a noun mainly by adding endings to any determiners or adjectives which accompany the noun (and sometimes to the noun itself).

When they are used in a sentence, nouns have one of four cases, depending on their role in the sentence: nominative (subject), accusative (direct object), genitive (genitive object), and dative (indirect object). In this course you will only need to use the nominative, accusative, and dative; the genitive is less frequently used, but we have included it in this grammar section for the sake of completeness.

As we said above, the case of a noun is signaled by the endings of any articles and/or adjectives that are used with it. Here are some examples, using only masculine nouns:

Der Hund nominative	beißt	den Mann. accusative		<i>The dog bites the man.</i>
Der Mann nominative	beißt	den Hund. accusative		<i>The man bites the dog.</i>
Der Mann nominative	gibt	dem Hund dative	den Kuchen. accusative	<i>The man gives the dog the cake. (gives the cake to the dog).</i>
Der Hund nominative	des Bäckers genitive	isst	den Kuchen. accusative	<i>The baker's dog eats the cake.</i>

Use of the Cases

Nominative: the subject of the sentence is always in the nominative case. As a rule of thumb, the subject is the person or thing performing the action of the verb. To take one of the examples from above, in the sentence **Der Hund beißt den Mann**, the dog is the one doing the biting: he is the subject of the sentence.

Accusative: the direct object of the sentence is always in the accusative case. The direct object is the person/thing directly affected by the action of the verb. So in the sentence **Der Hund beißt den Mann**, the man is the direct object, because he is the one who gets bitten.

Genitive: the genitive case is used to indicate possession. The person or thing which possesses is in the genitive case. For example, in the phrase: **der Hund des Bäckers**, it's the baker who possesses the dog, so it's the baker who's in the genitive case.

Dative: the indirect object of the sentence is always in the dative case. Think of the indirect object as the person or thing indirectly affected by the action of the verb. So in the sentence **Der Mann gibt dem Hund den Kuchen**, the dog is the indirect object, the one to whom the man gives the cake. The cake is the direct object, the thing which is given. If

there are two objects in a sentence, one of them will probably be an indirect object. If in doubt, try translating the sentence into English: if you can put “to” before any of the nouns, that will probably be the indirect object in the German sentence.

Watch out for a few verbs which only have an indirect object. For example **folgen** “to follow” and **helfen** “to help.” Think of it this way: in German, you don’t follow someone, you “follow to someone,” and you don’t help someone, you “help to someone.”

Genitive -s with Personal Names

Just as in English, you can mark someone as the possessor of something (or someone) by adding **-s** to their name. But in German, you don’t usually write an apostrophe:

Marks Freundin heißt Birgit. Mark’s girlfriend is called Birgit.

—unless the name ends in **-s**, **-ß**, **-x**, or **-z**:

Klaus’ Auto ist grün. Klaus’s car is green.

In speech, you would be much more likely to say:

Das Auto von Klaus ist grün. Klaus’s car is green. (Literally: The car of Klaus is green.)

Feminine Ending -in

To make nouns of profession or nationality feminine, you usually add **-in** to the masculine form, sometimes with Umlaut on the preceding vowel:

der Arzt	die Ärztin	doctor
der Fahrer	die Fahrerin	driver
der Verkäufer	die Verkäuferin	salesman/woman
der Engländer	die Engländerin	Englishman/woman
der Franzose	die Französin	Frenchman/woman
der Österreicher	die Österreicherin	Austrian (man/woman)
der Amerikaner	die Amerikanerin	American (man/woman)

However, it’s **der Deutsche/die Deutsche** “the German man/woman,” because the noun **Deutsch-** takes the same endings as the adjective **deutsch**.

Plurals

Few German nouns make their plurals by adding **-s**, as most English nouns do. Those that do are mostly English or French words borrowed by German: **das Souvenir—die Souvenirs**, **die Party—die Partys** (even though we would write “the parties!”). As with gender, there are few reliable clues, so you need to learn the plural with each new noun.

These are the common plural endings, and some examples of nouns which take them:

Ending	Group	Example		Meaning
-	most masculine and neuter nouns ending in -el, -en, -er:	der Onkel	die Onkel	uncle
		der Schatten	die Schatten	shadow
		das Ufer	die Ufer	(river)bank
	all neuter nouns ending in -chen:	das Mädchen	die Mädchen	girl
¨-	some masculine nouns ending in -el, -en, -er:	der Apfel	die Äpfel	apple
	two feminine nouns ending in -er:	die Mutter	die Mütter	mother
		die Tochter	die Töchter	daughter
-e	some masculine nouns:	der Abend	die Abende	evening
	some neuter nouns of one syllable:	das Brot	die Brote	bread
¨-e	most masculine nouns:	der Stuhl,	die Stühle	chair
¨-er	most neuter nouns:	das Buch	die Bücher	book
-(e)n	most feminine nouns:	die Uhr	die Uhren	clock
		die Schule	die Schulen	school
	all feminine nouns ending in -ung:	die Zeitung	die Zeitungen	newspaper
	all masculine nouns ending in -e:	der Name	die Namen	name
		der Russe	die Russen	Russian

Dative Plural -n

All nouns in the dative plural take **-n**, except those which already have a plural ending in **-n**, **-x**, or **-s**:

die Abende	den Abenden	evenings
die Äpfel	den Äpfeln	apples
die Töchter	den Töchtern	daughters
BUT:		
die Souvenirs	den Souvenirs	souvenirs

“Weak” Masculine Nouns

Some masculine nouns (called “weak” masculine nouns) take the ending **-(e)n** in all cases except the nominative singular. Most of them end in **-e** in the nominative singular:

der Franzose	den Franzosen, des Franzosen, dem Franzosen	die Franzosen	Frenchman
der Held	den Helden, des Helden, dem Helden	die Helden	hero
der Türke	den Türken, des Türken, dem Türken	die Türken	Turk(ish man)
der Russe	den Russen, des Russen, dem Russen	die Russen	Russian (man)
	Herr and Name are slightly different:		
der Herr	den Herrn, des Herrn, dem Herrn	die Herren	gentleman
der Name	den Namen, des Namens, dem Namen	die Namen	name

Compound Nouns

Compound nouns are formed by joining together two or more words. Only the last one must be a noun:

<i>Adjective + noun</i>	alt “old” + Bau “building”	= Altbau “old building”
<i>Noun + noun</i>	Apfel “apple” + Saft “juice”	= Apfelsaft “apple juice”
<i>Preposition + noun</i>	aus “out” + Sicht “sight”	= Aussicht “outlook”
<i>Verb + noun</i>	fahren “to drive” + Rad “wheel”	= Fahrrad “bicycle”

German is famous (or notorious) for its long nouns, but these are just lots of shorter words written together. If you can recognize the components, you’ll be able to guess the meanings of many compounds without having to look them up.

Compound nouns take the gender of the last component:

die Familie + n + der Name = der Familienname “surname”

3. Determiners

“Determiner” is a general term for small words which place nouns in a context. Some determiners show whether the speaker assumes that we know the person, thing, or idea he or she is talking about. Other determiners show to whom the person, thing, or idea belongs, how many there are, and so on.

Definite Article: der, die, das,...

When the definite article is used, we know exactly what’s being referred to—because it has already been mentioned, because it’s precisely defined, or because it’s obvious. For example, in the following sentence, we know which bakery—the one in the town center. The speaker also assumes that we know which town center: perhaps it’s one we’ve already been talking about, or the one where the speaker lives or is staying.

*Die Bäckerei in der Stadtmitte hat bis
achtzehn Uhr auf.* The bakery in the town center is open
until 6 P.M.

We only have one form of the definite article in English: “the.” In German, however, the form of the definite article changes according to the gender, case, and number (singular or plural) of the noun:

	Singular				}	Plural			
	Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative		Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative
Masculine	der	den	des	dem	}				
Feminine	die	die	der	der		die	die	der	den
Neuter	das	das	des	dem					

Indefinite Article: ein, eine, ein,...

The indefinite article emphasizes the type of thing or person being referred to, rather than the specific individual. In our example, the speaker doesn't care which apple or which potato you use:

Sie brauchen: einen Apfel, eine Kartoffel... You need: an apple, a potato...

The indefinite article in English is "a/an." In German the form of the indefinite article changes to show the gender and case of the noun:

	Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative
Masculine	ein	einen	eines	einem
Feminine	eine	eine	einer	einer
Neuter	ein	ein	eines	einem

There is no plural form of the indefinite article in English or in German.

Demonstrative Determiners: dieser, der... (hier/da)

Demonstratives are like a strong definite article. They point to something near to or far from the speaker:

... *Und hundert Gramm von dem Käse.* ... And a hundred grams of the cheese.
Nein, nicht von diesem Käse, von dem No, not this cheese, that cheese
Käse da, dem Emmentaler. there, the Emmentaler.

The forms of **der**... (**hier/da**) are shown above, under "Definite article." Here are the forms of **dieser** "this":

	Singular				}	Plural			
	Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative		Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative
Masculine	dieser	diesen	dieses	diesem	}	diese	diese	dieser	diesen
Feminine	diese	diese	dieser	dieser	}	diese	diese	dieser	diesen
Neuter	dieses	dieses	dieses	diesem	}				

Interrogative Determiners: Welche/s/r/n/m ...?

You use **welcher/welche/welches/welchen/welchem** "which" to ask someone to choose from a known collection:

Welchen Wein möchten Sie trinken? Which wine would you like to drink?

The endings are exactly the same as those for **dieser**.

Wie viele...? Wie viel...?

Wie viele means “how many.” **Wie viel** means “how much” and has no case endings.

Wie viele Flaschen Bier/Wie viel Bier
kaufen Sie pro Woche?

How many bottles of beer/How much
beer do you buy a week?

Indefinite Quantifiers:

einige, ein paar, alle, jede, kein

Like the indefinite article, these don't identify specific individuals. Some refer to the whole or none of some thing or group, others to some part or some members of it.

Einige “some”

*Hallo, Birgit! Wir haben dich einige Zeit
nicht gesehen.*

Hello, Birgit! We haven't seen you for
some time.

Ich habe einige Bücher gekauft.

I've bought some books.

Einige corresponds to the English “some.” It refers to a fairly small amount or number. **Einige** takes the same endings as **diese**.

Ein paar “a few”

Ein paar means “a few,” so its meaning is very similar to that of **einige**, although slightly more casual. It doesn't take any endings:

Ich habe ein paar Sachen für dich.

I have a few things for you.

Alle “all (the)”

Alle “all” or “all the” takes the same endings as **dieser**.

*Alle Banken in dieser Stadt schließen um
sechzehn Uhr.*

All (the) banks in this town close at 4 P.M.

Jede “every”

Jede “every” can only be used in the singular. Its endings are the same as **diese**. In the plural, use **alle** instead:

Wie oft kommen die Busse?

How often do the buses come?

Jede halbe Stunde. (Alle dreißig Minuten.)

Every half an hour. (Every thirty minutes.)

Kein “no/not a/not any”

Kein rather than **nicht ein** is used to express “not a/any.” It takes the same endings as **ein**:

Ich habe kein Geld.

I don't have any money.

Ich habe noch keine Antwort bekommen.

I haven't received an answer yet.

Unlike **ein**, **kein** can be used in the plural, where it takes the same endings as **diese**:

Bernd hat keine Freunde.

Bernd doesn't have any friends.

Possessive Determiners: mein, dein, sein,...

Possessive determiners are used to show that the noun belongs to somebody or something. Here are the basic forms:

Singular	Plural
mein . . . my	unser . . . our
dein . . . your (inf)	euer your (inf.)
Ihr your (form.)	Ihr your (form.)
sein . . . his, its	ihr their
ihr her	

When you use any of these possessives, you need to add the ending belonging to the same gender, case, and number as the thing possessed. Here are all the forms of **mein**. The other possessives take the same endings:

	Singular				Plural			
	Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative	Nominative	Accusative	Genitive	Dative
Masculine	mein	meinen	meines	meinem }				
Feminine	meine	meine	meiner	meiner }	meine	meine	meiner	meinen
Neuter	mein	mein	meines	meinem }				

Halt! Das ist meine Handtasche!

Stop! That's my handbag!

Dein Vater hat seinen Hut verloren.

Your father has lost his hat.

Note that the **-er** in **unser** and **euer** is part of the word, not an ending. The **-e-** in **eu(e)r** is often dropped before endings:

Wir fahren mit unserem Auto.

We drive with our car.

Eu(e)re Tochter ist acht Jahre alt, nicht wahr?

Your daughter is eight years old, isn't she?

4. Adjectives

Adjectives describe nouns. They do this in one of two ways:

1. They come directly before the noun they describe, and take endings:

Horst hat einen roten Pullover.

Horst has a red pullover.

2. They are a separate element in the sentence, and don't take endings:

Sein Pullover ist nicht rot, er ist lila.

His pullover isn't red, it's purple.

Adjective Endings

The ending an adjective takes depends on the gender, case, and number of the noun it describes, and on any determiners that precede it. If the adjective is not preceded by an article or quantifier, the ending of the adjective takes the same ending as the article would, except in the genitive case, where it ends in **-en**.

der Sommer *the summer* schöner Sommer *beautiful summer*
 die Bäume *the trees* grüne Bäume *green trees*

In most cases the adjective is preceded by an article. The endings are as follows:

	Nominative def./indef. article	Genitive def./indef. article	Accusative def./indef. article	Dative def./indef. article
Masc.	-e/-er	-en/-en	-en/-en	-en/-en
Fem.	-e/-e	-en/-en	-e/-e	-en/-en
Neut.	-e/-es	-en/-en	-e/-es	-en/-en
Plural	-en/-e	-en/-er	-en/-e	-en/-en

Remember that all adjectives in the genitive and dative case, except the plurals, take **-en** endings.

Participles as Adjectives

The past participles of verbs can be used as adjectives, and take the same endings as any other adjective. Some of them you have met in this course:

abgemacht *settled* *from* abmachen *to settle, agree*
 ausgezeichnet *excellent* *from* auszeichnen *to distinguish*
 begeistert *enthusiastic* *from* begeistern *to enthuse*
 entspannt *relaxed* *from* entspannen *to relax*
 geöffnet *open(ed)* *from* öffnen *to open*

Comparison

When we say that something is “easier,” “harder,” “bigger,” or “smaller” than something else, we are using the comparative. When we are comparing more than two things, we say that one of them is “the easiest,” “the hardest,” and so on: this is the superlative. As in English, most German adjectives add **-er** to form their comparative, and **-(e)st** to form the superlative. For example:

Dieser Wein ist billig, dieser da ist billiger, aber dieser hier ist am billigsten.

This wine is cheap, that one there is cheaper, but this one here is the cheapest.

Note that in German you say literally “at the cheapest”: **am (= an + dem) billigsten**.

Comparatives and superlatives take adjectival endings just like any other adjective. For example:

billig	+	er	+	e
adjective	+	comparative	+	adjectival ending
(in this instance: plural, nominative, no determiner)				

Billigere Weine schmecken mir nicht.

I don't like cheaper wines.

The following adjectives have Umlaut in the comparative and superlative:

alt <i>old</i>	älter	ältest-	kurz <i>short</i>	kürzer	kürzest-
arm <i>poor</i>	ärmer	ärmst-	lang <i>long</i>	länger	längst-
dumm <i>stupid</i>	dümmmer	dümmst-	nah <i>near</i>	näher	<u>nächst-</u>
gesund <i>healthy</i>	gesünder	gesündest-	scharf <i>sharp</i>	schärfer	schärfst-
groß <i>big</i>	größer	<u>größt-</u>	schwach <i>weak</i>	schwächer	schwächst-
hoch <i>high</i>	<u>höher</u>	höchst-	stark <i>strong</i>	stärker	stärkst-
jung <i>young</i>	jünger	jüngst-	warm <i>warm</i>	wärmer	wärmst-
klug <i>clever</i>	klüger	klügst-			

Note the irregular forms in **groß**, **hoch**, and **nah**. Only two adjectives have completely irregular comparatives and superlatives:

gut <i>good</i>	besser	best-
viel <i>much/many</i>	mehr	meist-

5. Pronouns

The word “pronoun” means “in place of a noun.” Pronouns are used instead of nouns as a way of avoiding clumsy repetition.

Personal Pronouns: ich, du, er, sie, es,...

Here are the personal pronouns in the nominative, accusative, and dative cases:

Singular				Plural			
Nominative	Accusative	Dative		Nominative	Accusative	Dative	
ich	mich	mir	“I, me, to me”	wir	uns	uns	“we, us, to us”
du	dich	dir	“you, to you” (inf.)	ihr	euch	euch	“you, to you” (inf.)
Sie	Sie	Ihnen	“you, to you” (form.)	Sie	Sie	Ihnen	“you, to you” (form.)
er	ihn	ihm	“he, him, to him”	sie	sie	ihnen	“they, them, to them”
sie	sie	ihr	“she, her, to her”				
es	es	ihm	“it, to it”				

There is also a genitive form of the personal pronouns, but it is very rarely used.

Informal and Formal “you”

In English, we have only one pronoun for addressing people: “you.” In German, it is more complex. There is one form of address for people you know well: **du** or **ihr** (plural). This is how you address close friends, family, and children. The other form of address is for people you know less well or not at all: **Sie** (singular and plural). When in doubt, use the formal **Sie**. After getting to know someone better, people often offer the **du**.

Du, **ihr**, and **Sie** all require different verb endings: see the section on verbs below.

Reflexive Pronouns: mich, dich, sich,...

Reflexive pronouns are simply personal pronouns which refer back to the subject of the sentence, as when you do something to yourself:

Ich rasiere mich jeden Morgen. I shave (myself) every morning.

If the subject of the sentence is **ich, du, wir, or ihr**, then the reflexive pronoun is exactly the same as the accusative personal pronoun. All other subjects – **Sie, er, sie, es, Peter, die Katze**, etc. – have the reflexive pronoun **sich**. For example, here's the verb **sich sonnen** "to sunbathe":

Ich sonne <u>mich</u> .	Wir sonnen <u>uns</u> .
Du sonnst <u>dich</u> .	Ihr sonnt <u>euch</u> .
Sie sonnen <u>sich</u> . (form. sing.)	Sie sonnen <u>sich</u> .
Er sonnt <u>sich</u> .	Sie sonnen <u>sich</u> . (form. plur.)
Die Touristin sonnt <u>sich</u> .	

The Indefinite Pronouns: man, ein(er), jemand, etwas

The indefinite pronoun **man** is only used in the nominative case and means "one," i.e., "people in general." The ending does not change. **Ein(er)** without a following noun also means "one," but it can refer to things as well. It can be subject, direct, or indirect object. Its ending changes the same way as that of the indefinite article.

Man kann das machen. One can do that. (nominative)
Einer war hier. Someone was here. (nominative)

Jemand means "someone," **niemand** means "no one." They can take all cases. The ending also changes as the indefinite article does. **Etwas** means "something" and **nichts** means "nothing." They can be the subject, or the direct or indirect object. Their endings don't change.

Er gibt jemandem das Buch. He gives the book to someone. (dative)
Es ist niemandes Buch. It's nobody's book. (genitive)
Ich sehe etwas/nichts. I see something/nothing. (accusative)

Note that most indefinite adjectives can also be used as indefinite pronouns, i.e.: **jeder** (everyone), **einige** (some), **alle** (all), **viel(e)**, (much/many), etc.

Viele haben ein Auto. Many (people) have a car.
Sind alle da? Are all (people) here?

Interrogative Pronouns: wer, was

Wer? means "who?" and has the accusative **wen?** "whom?" and the dative **wem?** "to whom?"
Was? "what?" has only the one form.

Wem hast du das Geld gegeben? To whom did you give the money?
Was hast du gesagt? What did you say?

6. Prepositions

A preposition is a connecting word. It links the noun that follows it with the rest of the sentence, to say where something or someone is (e.g. **auf dem Tisch** “on the table”), or how, when, or where the action of the verb takes place (e.g. **mit dem Zug** “by train,” **in zwei Stunden** “in two hours,” **in der Stadtmitte** “in the town center”).

Prepositions and Case

German prepositions can be grouped according to the case of the noun which follows them.

Prepositions + Accusative Case

These prepositions are always followed by the accusative case:

bis by; until	gegen against; towards
durch . . . through; by means of	ohne without
für for	um . . . around; at (clock time)

Ich arbeite heute bis 20 Uhr.

I'm working until 8 P.M. today.

Ich muss bis 8 Uhr dort ankommen.

I must get there by 8 o'clock.

Um 21 Uhr muss ich zu Hause sein.

I have to be home at 9 P.M.

Die Post ist gleich um die Ecke.

The post office is just around the corner.

Prepositions + Dative Case

These prepositions are always followed by the dative case:

aus . . . out of (places, motives, and materials)	nach after (time); to (place)
bei near to; at the house of	seit since
gegenüber opposite	von from; of; by
mit with; by (means of transportation)	zu to (place, person)

Der Supermarkt ist gegenüber der Kneipe.

The supermarket is opposite the bar.

Ich wohne hier seit einem Monat.

I've lived here for a month.

Prepositions + Accusative or Dative Case

These prepositions require the accusative when they indicate movement relative to the noun, and the dative in other situations.

an on (a vertical surface); at	neben next to
auf on (a horizontal surface); at	über over; above
entlang along; alongside	unter under; less than (quantity)
hinter behind	vor in front of; ago
in into; in	zwischen between

Ich gehe in die Stadt.

I'm going into town.
(i.e., I'm going into town from outside.)

Ich gehe in der Stadt spazieren.

I'm going for a walk in town.
(i.e., I'm going for a walk within the town.)

Gehen Sie unter die Brücke.

Go under the bridge.

Die Zeitung ist unter dem Tisch.

The newspaper is under the table.

Prepositions + Definite Article: ins, im, zum,...

When certain forms of the definite article are used with certain prepositions, the two are contracted to form one word. Here are some of the most common ones:

in + das = ins	an + das = ans
in + dem = im	an + dem = am
zu + dem = zum	auf + das = aufs
zu + der = zur	bei + dem = beim

The uncontracted forms (**in dem**, etc.) aren't incorrect, but they're less frequently used, especially in speech. They usually point to one specific noun:

Er ist in dem Zimmer.

He's in that room.

7. Verbs

Verbs tell us about the actions, situation, or state of mind of the subject of the sentence.

Er fährt morgen nach London.

He's going to London tomorrow.

Er ist heute in Wien.

He's in Vienna today.

Er braucht ein Auto.

He needs a car.

Infinitives

The form of a verb you look up in a dictionary is the infinitive: the form which isn't limited (made finite) by being given endings for a particular tense (past, present, future, etc.) and person (I, you, we, he/she/it, etc.). By itself, the infinitive isn't much use: you can't usually make a sentence without making it finite or adding a finite form of another verb. Infinitives in German end in **-en**: **kommen**, **gehen**, **sehen**, etc. (Bear in mind that some finite forms also end in **-en**, e.g., **wir kommen**, **Sie gehen**, **sie sehen**.)

Past Participles

Past participles are used with the present tense of the verbs **haben** and **sein** to form the perfect tense (see below). As discussed in "Adjectives" above, they may also be used as adjectives.

The form of the past participle varies from verb to verb. Here are the main patterns:

1. The regular pattern is:

ge + verb stem (the infinitive minus -en) + (e)t = past participle

For example, **sagen** “to say,” and **regnen** “to rain”:

ge + sag + t = gesagt

ge + regn + et = geregnet

2. However, many common verbs don't follow this pattern. They take **ge-** and **-en**, and often have a change in the stem vowel. For example, **kommen** “to come,” and **helfen** “to help”:

ge + komm + en = gekommen

ge + holf + en = geholfen

3. Other verbs have consonant changes as well, for example **gehen** “to go”:

ge + gang + en = gegangen

4. Verbs with inseparable prefixes such as **be-**, **er-**, and **ver-** don't take the prefix **ge-**. So **besuchen** “to visit” becomes **besucht**, **erreichen** “to reach” becomes **erreicht** and **verstehen** “to understand” becomes **verstanden**.
5. Verbs with separable prefixes such as **ab-**, **auf-**, and **um-** put **-ge-** between the prefix and the verb stem. So **abholen** “to pick up” becomes **abgeholt**, **aufstehen** “to get up” becomes **aufgestanden**, and **umsteigen** “to change (buses etc.)” becomes **umgestiegen**.

Auxiliary Verbs

These are used in combination with another verb, either to form a compound tense (the perfect, the future, or the conditional; see below for an explanation of these tenses), or to show the subject's attitude to an action (the modal auxiliaries).

Modal Auxiliaries

The main modal auxiliaries are: **dürfen** “to be allowed to, may,” **können** “to be able to, can,” **müssen** “to have to, must,” and **wollen** “to want to.”

Modal auxiliaries are used with the infinitive of the other verb:

Darf ich Ihnen meine Frau vorstellen?

May I introduce my wife to you?

Ich kann heute nicht kommen.

I can't come today.

Ich muss nach Hause gehen.

I must go home.

Wollen Sie mitkommen?

Do you want to come along?

We also introduce you to **ich möchte** “I would like to” and **ich sollte** “I ought to”; these are special forms of the verbs **mögen** “to like” and **sollen** “to be supposed to” respectively:

Möchten Sie mitkommen?

Would you like to come along?

Sie sollten aufpassen.

You should be careful.

Separable Verbs

Separable verbs consist of a normal verb and a preposition. In the infinitive, the preposition is prefixed to the verb, but when the verb is used with a subject, the preposition goes to the end of the sentence:

aus+füllen	Ich <u>f</u> ülle es <u>a</u> us.	<i>I fill it out.</i>
ab+reisen	Ich <u>r</u> eise heute <u>a</u> b.	<i>I leave today.</i>

In the Word Bank and in the glossary at the back of this book, we've marked separable verbs by "+" between prefix and verb.

Tenses

Present Tense

The present tense is the most useful tense in German. It has an even wider range of uses than the present tense in English, so you can get a long way with just this one tense. The present tense is used to describe:

1. what's happening now:

Was machst du da oben?

What are you doing up there?

Ich rasiere mich.

I'm shaving.

2. what happens sometimes, usually, or always:

Samstags gehe ich oft ins Kino.

I often go to the movies on Saturdays.

3. what's going to happen (often fairly soon):

Morgen kommt Peter zu Besuch.

Peter's coming to visit tomorrow.

Nächste Woche fahre ich nach Berlin.

I'm going to Berlin next week.

Pass auf, du holst dir einen Sonnenbrand! Be careful, you'll get sunburned!

This is a very common way of talking about future events in German, particularly if there's a time expression in the sentence which puts the action clearly in the future (e.g. **morgen, nächste Woche**). Notice that English uses either the present continuous or the true future (I will...) in this context.

4. what's been happening up to now and may be going to continue

Ich bin seit zwei Monaten in München. I've been in Munich for two months.

Notice that English uses the perfect tense here (I have been, lived etc.).

Future Tense

The future tense is much less frequently used in German than in English: in most situations you can use the present tense instead. The future tense is formed with the auxiliary verb, **werden**, plus the infinitive of the main verb:

Es wird regnen.

It will rain/It's going to rain.

The future tense is used when the present tense wouldn't clearly locate the action in the future. **Es regnet** would mean "It's raining" rather than "It's going to rain." **Es regnet bald**, on the other hand, clearly means "It's going to rain soon."

Perfect Tense

This is the main past tense introduced in this course. It is formed from the present tense of **haben** (or in some cases **sein**) and the past participle of the main verb.

<i>Ich <u>habe</u> Orangen <u>gekauft</u>.</i>	I (have) bought (some) oranges.
<i>David <u>hat</u> mir <u>geholfen</u>.</i>	David helped me.
<i>Gestern <u>habe</u> ich Lisa <u>gesehen</u>.</i>	I saw Lisa yesterday.

The perfect tense in German is very versatile: you can use it to talk about most actions and situations in the past. Contrast this with the English perfect (I have bought, I have helped, etc.), which can only be used in certain specific contexts. For example, "I have seen Lisa yesterday" would be incorrect English, but **Gestern habe ich Lisa gesehen** is completely correct German.

Certain verbs require **sein** instead of **haben** to form the perfect tense. These verbs often describe movement.

<i>Ich <u>bin</u> nach Hannover <u>gefahren</u>.</i>	I went to Hanover.
<i>Er <u>ist</u> vier Stunden <u>spazieren gegangen</u>.</i>	He walked for four hours.

Simple Past Tense

This past tense is used all the time in newspapers, books, etc., but is less common in speech. For this reason, you won't come across it much in this course. One exception is the simple past tense of **sein** "to be." This is used in preference to the perfect in speech and writing. Here are its forms:

ich war	wir waren
du warst	ihr wart
Sie waren	sie waren
er/sie/es war	

Imperative

This is the command form of the verb. It generally comes first in the sentence:

<i><u>Bring</u> die Zeitung her!</i>	Bring the newspaper over here!	(du form)
<i><u>Kommt</u> nicht spät nach Hause!</i>	Don't come home late!	(ihr form)
<i><u>Passen</u> Sie auf!</i>	Watch out!	(Sie form)
<i><u>Gehen</u> wir in die Stadt!</i>	Let's go into town!	(wir form)

There are only these four forms: the **du**, **ihr**, **Sie**, and **wir** forms. The **du** form consists of just the stem of the verb (sometimes with **-e**); the **ihr** form adds **-t** to the stem, and the **wir** and **Sie** forms add **-en**. Notice that **wir** and **Sie** are stated with imperatives, but **du** and **ihr** are not.

8. Adverbs

Adverbs describe how something is done, for example “quickly,” “slowly,” and so on. In English, we have the suffix “-ly” to show that a word is an adverb. In German, most adverbs are identical in form to adjectives.

Das hast du nicht sehr schnell gemacht. You didn't do that very quickly.

9. Word Order

In simple statements, word order in German is much like in English. The subject comes first, followed by the verb, followed by the rest of the sentence:

*Meine Mutter [subject] hat [verb] einen
kleinen Hund [object].* My mother has a small dog.

However, the fact that German has case endings to mark the functions of nouns in a sentence means that German word order can be much more flexible:

Nein, meine Mutter hat keine Katze. No, my mother doesn't have a cat.
*Einen kleinen Hund [object] hat
[verb] sie [subject]!* She has a small dog!

Forming Questions

With Inversion

In German, one of the most common ways to make a question is to swap the positions of the subject and verb. This kind of question expects a “yes” or “no” answer. Compare these statements and questions:

<i>Sie sind aus Berlin.</i>	You are from Berlin.
<i><u>Sind Sie</u> aus Berlin?</i>	<u>Are you</u> from Berlin?
<i>Wir frühstücken um acht.</i>	We have breakfast at eight.
<i><u>Frühstücken wir</u> um acht?</i>	<u>Shall we/Do we have</u> breakfast at eight?
<i>Sie sehen das Schild.</i>	You see the sign.
<i><u>Sehen Sie</u> das Schild?</i>	<u>Do you see</u> the sign?

Notice that German is much more straightforward than English in this respect: there are no extra words like “do” to worry about.

With Question Words

Another way to form a question is to use a question word like **wer?** “who?” **wo?** “where?” **was?** “what?” **wann?** “when?” **wie?** “how?” or **warum?** “why?” The sequence here is: question word, verb, subject:

<i><u>Wer</u> ist dieser Mann?</i>	<u>Who</u> is this man?
<i><u>Wann</u> kommen Sie an?</i>	<u>When</u> do you arrive?
<i><u>Warum</u> bleiben Sie nicht länger?</i>	<u>Why</u> don't you stay longer?
<i><u>Wie</u> kommen Sie nach Hause?</i>	<u>How</u> are you getting home?

This kind of question expects new information from the speaker, not just “yes” or “no.”

German-English Glossary

This glossary contains all the words from the Word Bank sections of the units and additional vocabulary you may find helpful.

Abbreviations and Symbols

- m* masculine noun *f* feminine noun
n neuter noun *pl.* plural noun
wm weak masculine noun (takes the ending -(e)n in all cases except the nominative)
+ *acc.* a preposition followed by the accusative case
+ *dat.* a preposition followed by the dative case
+ *acc./dat.* a preposition requiring the accusative (when describing movement) or the dative case (when describing position)
* an irregular or “strong” verb: see the grammar section for how to form the different tenses
+ (between prefix and verb) marks a separable prefix
+ **sein** a verb which forms its perfect tense with **sein** rather than **haben**

Plurals are given in parentheses after each noun. (-) signifies that the noun does not change form in the plural.

A

ab (+ *dat.*) *from*

ab+biegen* (+ **sein**) *to turn off*

Abend (-e) (m) *evening*

Abendessen (-) (n) *evening meal, dinner*

abends *in the evening(s)*

aber *but*

ab+fahren* (+ **sein**) *to depart*

Abfahrt (-en) (f) *departure*

Abgemacht! *OK, that's settled!*

ab+gießen* *to drain*

ab+heben* *to answer the phone (literally: to pick up)*

ab+holen *to collect*

ab+reisen (+ **sein**) *to leave, depart*

ab+steigen* (+ **sein**) *to get off, dismount*

ach *oh*

Aerobik (f) *aerobics*

Ägypten *Egypt*

ähnlich *similar*

aktiv *active, energetic*

Alkohol (m) *alcohol*

alkoholarm *low in alcohol*

alle ... Minuten *every ... minutes*

aller/e/es *all*

alles *everything*

als *than*

also... *well...*

alt *old*

Altbau (-ten) (m) *old building*

Alter (n) *age*

am liebsten *(to like, etc.) most of all*

am meisten *the most*

am Tag *a day, per day*

an (+*acc./dat.*) *at*

an+fangen* *to start*

angeln *to fish*

an+halten* *to stop (in car)*

an+kommen* (+ sein) *to arrive*

Anmeldeformular (-s) (n) *registration form*

Anruf (-e) (m) *phone call*

an+rufen* *to phone*

an+schalten *to switch on*

Anschrift (-en) (f) *address*

Ansichtskarte (-n) (f) *postcard*

an+ziehen, sich* *to get dressed*

Apfelsaft (-säfte) (m) *apple juice*

Apotheke (-n) (f) *pharmacy*

Apparat (-e) (m) *phone; apparatus*

Arbeit (f) *work*

arbeiten *to work*

arbeitslos *unemployed*

Architekt/in (-en/nen) (m/f) *architect*

Ärger (m) *annoyance; trouble*

Art (-en) (f) *type, kind*

Arzt (-e) (m)/Ärztin (-nen) (f) doctor
Arztpraxis (-praxen) (f) doctor's office
Asien Asia
Atembeschwerden (pl) breathing difficulties
Aua! Ouch!
Aubergine (f) eggplant, aubergine
auch also
auf (+ acc./dat.) on
Auf Wiederhören. goodbye (on the phone)
Auf Wiedersehen. goodbye
auf+geben* to give up
auf+passen to look out, watch out
Aufschnitt (m) slices of assorted cold meats
auf+stehen* (+ sein) to get up
Augenblick (-e) (m) moment
aus (+ dat.) from; out (of)
aus (Weizen) from (wheat)
aus+füllen to fill out
aus+gehen* (+ sein) to go out
ausgewogen balanced
ausgezeichnet excellent; very well
aus+halten* to put up with
aus+richten to tell something (to someone)
aus+sehen* to look (ill, well, etc.)
außerdem also
aus+steigen* (+ sein) to get out
Aussicht (-en) (f) outlook
Ausstellung (-en) (f) exhibition
Australien Australia
Auswahl (f) choice
Ausweisnummer (-n) (f) ID number, passport number
Auto (-s) (n) car
Autobahn (-en) (f) freeway, motorway, highway
Autofahrer/-in (-/-nen) (m/f) car driver

B

Bäckerei (-en) (f) bakery
Bad (-er) (n) bath
Badezimmer (-) (n) bathroom
Bahn (-en) (f) railroad, railway
Bahnhof (-höfe) (m) (rail) station

Bank (-en) (f) bank
Bauarbeiter/in (-/nen) (m/f) building/construction worker
Bayern Bavaria (German state or Land)
Bedienung (f) service
begeistert enthusiastic
Begrenzung (f) limit, border
bei (+ dat.) at (someone's home); for (e.g. work for a company)
beide both
bekannt (well) known
bekommen* to get
belegt occupied, taken
beliebt (bei + dat.) popular (with)
Berg (-e) (m) mountain
Bern Berne
Beruf (-e) (m) profession
berühmt famous
beschreiben* to describe
besetzt occupied
besichtigen to visit
Besprechung (-en) (f) meeting
bestellen to reserve, order
bestimmt definite; definitely
Besuch (-e) (m) visit
besuchen to visit
Bett (-en) (n) bed
bewegen, sich to be active
Bewegung (f) exercise, movement
Bewerbungsgespräch (-e) (n) job interview
Bibliothek (-en) (f) library
Bier (-e) (n) beer
Bildschirm (-e) (m) screen, monitor
billig cheap
bis (+ acc.) to, until; by
bitte please
Bitte schön. Here you are.
Bitte schön? Yes, please? (i.e., What would you like?)
blau blue
Blauschimmelkäse (m) blue cheese
bleiben* (+ sein) to stay
blitzen: es blitzt there's (a flash of) lightning
Blumenladen (-läden) (m) flower shop, florist's
Bluse (-n) (f) blouse

Bohne (-n) (f) bean
Bratwurst (-e) (f) German grilled sausage
brauchen to need
brauen to brew
Brauerei (-en) (f) brewery
braun brown
brennen* to burn
Briefmarke (-n) (f) (postage) stamp
bringen* to bring
Brot (-e) (n) bread
Brötchen (-) (n) bread roll
Brücke (-n) (f) bridge
Bruder (-) (m) brother
Buchhalter/in (-/-nen) (m/f) accountant
Buchhandlung (-en) (f) bookshop
buchstabieren to spell
Bühne (-n) (f) stage
Büro (-s) (n) office
Bus (-se) (m) bus

C

Café (-s) (n) café
Cappuccino (-s) (m) cappuccino
Champagner (m) Champagne
Chef/in (-s/-innen) (m/f) boss
Cola (-s) (f) cola
Computer (-) (m) computer
Computerspiel (-e) (n) computer game
Cornflakes (pl) cornflakes
Currywurst (-e) (f) curried sausage

D

da there
da vorne over there
Dachterrasse (f) roof terrace
daher from that
dahin there
Dame (-n) (f) lady
Damenmode (-n) (f) ladies' fashion
Damenwäsche (f) lingerie
danach after that
danke thank you
dann then, in that case
darf may (from dürfen)
das this; that
dass that (e.g. tell him that ...)

dauern to last
dein/e your (informal singular)
delikat delicate; delicious
Deutsch German (language)
Deutschland Germany
Diät (f) diet
Diät halten to keep to a diet
dick fat
diese these
dieser/diese/dieses this
donnern to thunder
doof silly
Doppelzimmer (-) (n) double room
Dorf ("er) (n) village
dort there
dringend urgent
drittens thirdly
dritter/e/es third
Duft ("e) (m) aroma, (pleasant) smell
dunkel dark
durch+setzen, sich to get one's way
durch+stellen to put through
Durchschnitt (m) average
dürfen* to be allowed to, may
Dusche (-n) (f) shower
 duschen, (sich) to take a shower

E

Ecke (-n) (f) corner
Ei (-er) (n) egg
ein paar a few
Einbahnstraße (-n) (f) one-way street
einfach single; simple, simply
[r]ein+fahren to turn in, enter
einige some
ein+kaufen to shop, to go shopping
Einkaufsbummel (-) (m) shopping spree
einmal once
ein+schlafen * (+ sein) to fall asleep
Eintopf (-gerichte) (m) stew
ein+werfen* to insert (a letter)
Einzelzimmer (-) (n) single room
(ein)ziehen (in...) to move (into)
elegant elegant

Elektrogerät (-e) (n) electrical appliance
Eltern (pl) parents
empfehlen* to recommend
Ende (des Jahres) (n) end (of the year)
England England
Englisch English (language)
Enkelkind (-er) (n) grandchild
Enkelsohn (-söhne) (m) grandson
Enkeltochter (-töchter) (f) granddaughter
entschuldigen to excuse
Entschuldigung! Excuse me!
entspannen, sich to relax
entspannt relaxed
Entspannung (f) relaxation
er he
Erdgeschoss (n) first floor (US); ground floor (UK)
Erfolg (m) success
Erholung (f) relaxation, recuperation
Erkältung (f) cold
ernähren, sich to eat and drink
erreichen to reach
Ersatzteil (-e) (n) replacement part, spare part
erschöpft exhausted
erst only (in time phrases), not until
erstens firstly
erster/e/es first
erwarten to expect, await
es gibt there is/are
es it
Es macht nichts. It doesn't matter. Never mind.
Es tut mir leid. I'm sorry.
Espresso (-s) (m) espresso
essen* to eat
Esstlöffel (-) (m) tablespoon
Esstisch (-e) (m) dining table
Esszimmer (-) (n) dining room
Etage (-n) (f) floor, story
Etagenplan (-pläne) (m) floor plan (in department store, etc.)
etwas a bit; something; rather
euer/eure your (informal plural)
Experte (-n) (wm) expert
Export (-) (n) Export beer
extra extra

F

fabelhaft brilliant, excellent
Fabrik (-en) (f) factory
Fahrbahn (-en) (f) carriageway, lane
fahren* (+ sein) to go (by vehicle)
Fahrkarte (-n) (f) ticket (for travel)
Fahrrad (-räder) (n) bicycle
Fahrschein (-e) (m) ticket (for bus, etc.)
Fahrzeugtyp (-en) (m) type of vehicle
falsch false
Familie (-n) (f) family
Familienname (-n) (m) surname, last name
Familienstand (m) marital status
Farbe (-) (f) color
faul lazy
faulenz to laze around
fein fine
Ferien (pl) vacation
fern+sehen* to watch television
Fernsehen (n) television (broadcasting)
Fernseher (-) (m) television
fertig ready, finished
Festwoche (-n) (f) festival week
fettarm low fat
Feuerwehr (f) fire brigade
Film (-e) (m) movie
finden* to find
Fisch (-e) (m) fish
fit fit (healthy)
fit halten, sich* to keep fit
Fleisch (n) meat
Florenz Florence
Flug ("e) (m) flight
Flur (m) hall
Fluss ("e) (m) river
folgen (+ dat.) to follow
Folklore (f) folk music
Formular (-e) (n) form
Fotoabteilung (-en) (f) photographic department
Fotoapparat (-e) (m) camera
Fotograf /in (-en/nen) (wm/f) photographer
französisch French

Frau (-en) (f) wife; Mrs./Ms.; woman
frei free, vacant
frei+nehmen* take off from work
Freizeit (f) spare time, free time
Fremdsprache (-n) (f) foreign language
freuen auf (+ acc.), **sich** to look forward to
Freund (-e) (m) (male) friend; boyfriend
Freundin (-nen) (f) (female) friend; girlfriend
freundlich friendly
Freut mich. Pleased to meet you. (literally: pleases me)
friedlich peaceful
frisch fresh
Friseur /in (-e/nen) (m/f) hairdresser
fruchtig fruity
Fruchtsaft (-säfte) (m) fruit juice
früh early
Frühstück (n) breakfast
frühstücken to have breakfast
Führerschein (-e) (m) driver's license
Fundbüro (-s) (n) lost property office
für (+ acc.) for
furchtbar terrible

G

ganz very; completely
gar nicht not at all
Garten (") (m) garden
Gast (""-e) (m) guest
Gästezimmer (n) guest room
Gebiet (-e) (n) region, area
Geburtstag (-e) (m) birthday
Geduld (f) patience
gefährlich dangerous
gefallen* (+ dat.) to please (someone)
Gefühl (-e) (n) feeling(s)
gefunden past participle of **finden**
gegenüber (von) (+ dat.) opposite
gehen to go
gekocht boiled; cooked
gelb yellow
Geld (n) money

Geldautomat (-en) (m) (wm) ATM, cash dispenser
Geldbuße (-n) (f) fine
Gemüse (n) vegetable(s)
gemustert patterned
gemütlich cozy
genau exact(ly)
genauso just as
genießen* to enjoy
geöffnet open, opened
gradeaus straight ahead
Gericht (-e) (n) dish (meal)
gern gladly
Geschäft (-e) (n) store; business
Geschäftsreise (-n) (f) business trip
Geschenk (-e) (n) gift
geschieden divorced
geschlossen closed
geschmackvoll full of taste
Geschoss (-e) (n) story, floor
Geschwister (pl) brothers and sisters, siblings
gestern yesterday
gestreift striped
gestresst stressed
gesund healthy
Gesundheit (f) health
Gesundheit! Bless you! (after sneeze)
getrennt separated
gewesen past participle of **sein**
Gewitter (-) (n) storm
gewöhnlich usual(ly)
Gitarre (-n) (f) guitar
Glas (""-er) (n) glass
Glatteis (n) black ice
glauben to believe
gleich just; shortly; immediately
Gleis (-e) (n) rail, platform, track
Gletscher (-) (m) glacier
Glück (n) good fortune; happiness
glücklich happy
Grad (-e) (m) degree
Gramm (-) (n) gram
Grapefruitsaft (-säfte) (m) grapefruit juice
grau gray
Griechenland Greece
Grillfest (-e) (n) barbecue

Grippe (f) flu
groß big
Großbritannien Great Britain
Größe (-n) (f) size
Großmutter (-mütter) (f) grandmother
Großstadt (-städte) (f) city, metropolitan area
Großvater (-väter) (m) grandfather
grün green
Gruß (""-e) (m) greeting
gut good; well
gut aussehend good-looking
Gute Nacht. Good night.
Guten Abend. Good evening.
Guten Appetit! Enjoy your meal!
Guten Morgen. Good morning.
Guten Tag. Hello. Good afternoon.

H

haben* to have
Haftpflichtversicherung (f) liability insurance
Hähnchen (-) (n) chicken
halb zwei half past one (literally: half to two)
halber/e/es half (a)
hallo hi
Halsband (""-er) (n) collar (of cat or dog)
Halt! Stop!
Handtasche (-n) (f) handbag
Handy (-s) (n) cell phone
hassen to hate
hässlich ugly
hätte(n) gern would like (from **haben** and **gern**)
Hauptattraktion (-en) (f) main attraction
hauptsächlich mostly
Hauptverkehrszeit (f) peak hours (for traffic)
Haus (Häuser) (n) house
Hausaufgaben machen to do homework
Haushaltswaren (pl) household items
heiß hot
heißen to be called (name)

hell bright, light (in color)
Hemd (-en) (n) shirt
herb dry (of wine or beer)
Herbst (m) autumn, fall
Herd (-e) (m) cooker, stove
herein in (here)
Herr (-en) (wm) gentleman; Mr.
Herr Ober! Waiter!
Herrenmode (-n) (f) men's fashion
Herrenwäsche (f) men's underwear
herrlich wonderful(ly)
herunter+fallen* (+ sein) to fall down
herzhaft hearty
heute Abend this evening
heute today
hier here
hierzulande in this country, over here
Hilfe (f) help
Hilfe! Help!
hin und zurück round trip, return
hin+fallen* (+ sein) to fall down
Hitze (f) heat
Höchst- highest
holen to fetch; to get (sickness etc.)
hören to hear; listen to
Hose (-n) (f) pair of pants (US), trousers
Hotel (-s) (n) hotel
hübsch pretty
Hund (-e) (m) dog
husten to cough

I

ich I
Idee (-n) (f) idea
Igitt! Yuck!
ihn him (accusative object)
Ihnen (to) you
Ihr/e your
im (= in dem) in the (masculine or neuter)
im Durchschnitt on average
im kommenden Jahr in the coming year
im Moment at the moment
Imbiss (-e) (m) snack bar

immer always
immer wieder again and again, all the time
in (+acc./dat.) in(to)
in drei Jahren in three years' time
in letzter Zeit lately
in Ordnung in order, working
in Pension/Rente gehen to retire
in zwei Monaten in two months' time
informieren to inform
Inhalt (m) content
inklusive included; inclusive
Insel (-n) (f) island
insgesamt altogether
Institution (-en) (f) institution
Inszenierung (-en) (f) production (theater)
Interesse (-n) (n) interest
Internet (n) Internet
Interview (-s) (n) interview
irgendein some (or other)
Irland Ireland
Italien Italy

J

ja yes
Jacke (-n) (f) jacket
Jahr (-e) (n) year
Jahreszeit (-en) (f) season
jeder/e/es every, each
jetzt now
Job (-s) (m) job (informal)
Joga (m) yoga
Joghurt (m) yogurt
jung young
Junk Food (n) junk food (informal)

K

Kaffee (m) coffee
kalt cold
kalt essen to eat a cold meal
Kanada Canada
kann can (from können)
Kännchen (-) (n) pot (of tea or coffee)
kaputt broken
Karte (-n) (f) card

Kartoffel (-n) (f) potato
Käse (-n) (m) cheese
Käsebrot (-e) (n) cheese sandwich
Kasse (-n) (f) box office, cash register
Kassierer /in (-/nen) (m/f) cashier
Katze (-n) (f) cat
kaufen to buy
kaum scarcely (any)
kein/e none, not any
Keller (-) (m) cellar, basement
Kellner/in (-/nen) (m/f) waiter, waitress
kennen* to know (someone or something)
Kilometergeld (n) mileage (literally: kilometer money)
Kind (-er) (n) child
Kino (-s) (n) movie theater, cinema
kitschig kitschy
Klasse (-n) (f) class
Klasse! Great! (informal)
Klassik (f) classical music
Kleiderschrank (-schränke) (m) wardrobe
klein small
Kleinanzeige (f) small classified ad
Kleinwagen (-) (m) small car
klettern (+ sein) to climb
Klima (n) climate
knacken to crack, click
knapp short (time)
Kneipe (-n) (f) traditional German bar or pub
Knoblauch (m) garlic
kochen to cook, boil
Koffer (-) (m) suitcase
Köln Cologne
Kombi (-s) (m) station wagon
kommen* (+ sein) to come
können* to be able to, can
Konzert (-e) (n) concert
Kopfsalat (m) lettuce
Kopfschmerztablette (-n) (f) headache tablet
Korfu Corfu
Kosmetika (pl) cosmetics
kosten to cost

kräftig powerful, full-bodied (wine or beer)
krank melden, sich to call in sick
krank sick, ill
Krankenhaus (-häuser) (n) hospital
Krankenpfleger /in (-en/nen) (m/f) nurse
Krankswagen (-) (m) ambulance
Kraut (Kräuter) (n) herb
Kreditkarte (-n) (f) credit card
kriegen to get
Küche (-n) (f) kitchen; cuisine
Kuchen (-) (m) cake
Kugelschreiber (-) (m) ballpoint pen
kühl cool
Kühlschrank (-schränke) (m) refrigerator
Kultur (f) culture
Kundenberater /in (-en/nen) (m/f) customer adviser
Kunst (" -e) (f) art
Künstler /in (-/nen) (m/f) artist
Kurs (-e) (m) course
Küste (-n) (f) coast

L

Laden (") (m) shop, store
Land (" -er) (n) German state; country; countryside
Landschaft (-en) (f) landscape
Langlauf (m) cross-country skiing
langsamer slower, more slowly
langweilig boring
lassen* to leave, let
leben to live
Lebensmittel (pl) food, groceries
lecker delicious
ledig single, unmarried
Lehrer /in (-/nen) (m/f) teacher
leicht easy; light (in taste, weight)
leider unfortunately
Leinenhemd (-en) (n) linen shirt
Leitung (-en) (f) connection (phone)
lesen* to read
letzter/e/es last
Leute (pl) people
lieb dear, sweet, lovely

Liebe (f) love
lieben to love
lieber (nicht) rather (not)
Liebling (-e) (m) darling
Lieblings- favorite
liegen* to lie
lila purple
Limousine (-n) (f) sedan car, saloon car
Linie (-n) (f) line
links left
Linsensuppe (-n) (f) lentil soup (Berlin specialty)
Luft (f) air
Lust (f) liking (not lust!)
Lust haben to want to, to fancy (doing something)

M

machen to make; to do
(Es) Macht nichts. (It) doesn't matter. Never mind.
Magazin (-e) (n) magazine
Magenschmerzen (pl) stomach pains
Magenverstimmung (f) upset stomach
malen to paint
manchmal sometimes
Mann (" -er) (m) husband; man
Marmelade (-n) (f) jelly (U.S.), jam (British)
Marokko Morocco
mäßig moderate(ly)
Meer (-e) (n) sea
Meeresfrüchte (pl) seafood
Mehl (n) flour
meiden to avoid
mein/e my
meistens mostly
melden, sich to get in touch
Menge (f) a lot (of)
Meter (-) (m) meter
mich me (accusative object)
mieten to hire, rent
Milch (f) milk
minus minus
Minute (-n) (f) minute

mischen to mix
mit (+ dat.) with
Mitfahrzentrale (-n) (f) car rental agency
mit+kommen* (+ sein) to come to
Mittagessen (-) (n) lunch
Mitteilung (-en) (f) message
mittelgroß medium-sized
mittlerer/e/es medium-sized
möchte(n) would like (from **mögen**)
Mode (-n) (f) fashion
modern modern
mögen* to like
möglich possible
Möglichkeit (-en) (f) possibility
Moment (-e) (m) moment
Morgen (-) (m) morning
morgen früh tomorrow morning
morgen tomorrow
morgens in the mornings
Mountainbike fahren/ mountainbiken to mountain-bike
müde tired
München Munich
Musik (f) music
Müsli (n) muesli
müssen* to have to, must
Mutter (") (f) mother
Muttersprache (-n) (f) native language, mother tongue
Mutti Ma, Mom

N

nach (+ dat.) past, after; to (town, country, etc.)
nach Hause home (direction)
nach oben upstairs (movement)
nach unten downstairs (movement)
Nachrichten (pl) news
nächste Woche next week
nächsten Monat next month
nächster/e/es next
nächstes Jahr next year
Nacht (" -e) (f) night
Nachtschicht (-en) (f) night shift
naja well ... (expresses doubt)
Name (-n) (wm) name
natürlich of course, naturally

Nebel (m) fog
neben (+ acc./dat.) next to
Nebenanschluss (-schlüsse) (m) extension
neblig misty, foggy
nehmen to take
nein no
Nelke (-n) (f) carnation
nett nice
neu new
Neubau (-ten) (m) new building
Neubauwohnung (-en) (f) newly built apartment
Neuseeland New Zealand
nicht not
Nicht wahr? Right?
Nichtraucher/in (-/-nen) (m/f) nonsmoker
nichts nothing
nie never
niedlich cute
niemand nobody
niesen to sneeze
noch still
Noch etwas? Anything else?
noch nicht not yet
nochmal again
Nordirland Northern Ireland
normal normal
Notdienst (m) emergency service
notwendig necessary
Nudel (-n) (f) noodle
Nudelgericht (n) pasta dish
Nummer (-n) (f) number

O
oben upstairs (position)
Ober! Waiter!
Obst (n) fruit
Obsthändler (-) (m) fruit seller
oder or
offen open
Öffnungszeiten (pl) opening times
oft often
oje oh dear
Öl (-e) (n) oil
Olive (-n) (f) olive
Oper (-n) (f) opera

orange orange (color)
Orange (-n) (f) orange
Orangensaft (-säfte) (m) orange juice
Oregano (m) oregano
original original
Österreich Austria
östlich (von + dat.) east (of)

P
Paar (-e) (n) pair
Paprikapulver (n) paprika (powder)
Paprikaschote (-n) (f) red capsicum, red pepper (vegetable)
Parfüm (n) perfume
Parfümerie (-n) (f) perfumery
parken to park
Parkgebühr (-en) (f) parking fee
Parkuhr (-en) (f) parking meter
Partner/in (-/-nen) (m/f) partner
Party (-s) (f) party
Passant/-in (-en/-nen) (m/f) passer-by (male/female)
passen (zu + dat.) to suit, go well (with)
passieren (+ sein) to happen
peinlich embarrassing
Person (-en) (f) person
Pfeffer (m) pepper (spice)
Pfiff (m) flair
Pils (-) (n) Pilsener beer
Pilz (-e) (m) mushroom
Pizza (-s) (f) pizza
Plan (" -e) (m) plan
planmäßig scheduled
Platz (" -e) (m) square; seat
plus plus
Polen Poland
Polizei (f) police
Pommes (frites) (pl) french fries
Portion (-en) (f) portion
Portugal Portugal
Porzellan (n) porcelain, china
Post (f) post office
Postleitzahl (-en) (f) zip code, post code
Preisklasse (-n) (f) price class
Preisliste (-n) (f) price list

Prima! Great!
pro per
probieren to try, taste
Problem (-e) (n) problem
produzieren to produce
Professor /in (-en/nen) (m/f) professor
Programm (-e) (n) program
Prost! Cheers!
Pullover (-) (m) sweater
pünktlich punctual
Puppe (-n) (f) doll

Q
Quark (m) soft curd cheese
Quatsch! Rubbish!
Querstraße (-n) (f) intersection, junction

R
Rad fahren (+ sein) to cycle
Radio (-s) (n) radio (equipment and broadcasting)
Rang (" -e) (m) circle (in theater)
rasieren, sich to shave
rauchen to smoke
Raucher/in (-/nen) (m/f) smoker
rechnen mit (+ dat.) to reckon with, expect
Rechnung (-en) (f) check (bill)
recht gut very well
Recht haben* to be right
rechts right
reden to talk
regelmäßig regular(ly)
Regenschauer (-) (m) rainshower
Region (-en) (f) region
Regisseur /in (-e/nen) (m/f) (film) director
regnen to rain
reiben* to grate; to rub
reich rich
Reihenhaus(-häuser) (n) town house
Reise (-n) (f) journey, trip
Reiseziel (-e) (n) destination
reiten to ride (horse, etc.)
reizbar irritable
relaxen to relax (informal)

Rennfahrer /in (-/nen) (m/f) race car driver
Rentner /in (-/nen) (m/f) pensioner
reservieren lassen to reserve (literally: to let reserve)
Restaurant (-s) (n) restaurant
Richtung (-en) (f) direction
Rock (""-e) (m) skirt
rosarot pink
Rose (-n) (f) rose
rot red
Rotwein (-e) (m) red wine
Rückenschmerzen (pl) back pain(s)
Ruhetag (-e) (m) day off, closed day
ruhig quiet, peaceful

S

S-Bahn (= Schnellbahn) (f) local train
Sahne (f) cream
Saison (-s) (f) season (commercial)
Salamibrot (-e) (n) salami sandwich
Salat (-e) (m) salad, lettuce
Salz (n) salt
Sänger/in (-/nen) (m/f) singer
Sauna (Saunen) (f) sauna
schaden (+ dat.) to hurt, damage (someone, something)
Schafkäse (-n) (m) sheep's milk cheese, feta
Schale (-n) (f) bowl
schälen to peel
scharf (""-er) hot (spicy); sharp
Schauspieler /in (-/nen) (m/f) actor, actress
Schild (-er) (n) sign
schlafen* to sleep
Schlafzimmer (-) (n) bedroom
schlank slim
Schleswig-Holstein Schleswig-Holstein (German state or Land)
schlicht simple, plain
Schlips (-e) (m) tie
schmecken (+ dat) to taste (to someone)
Schmerz (m) pain
schmerzhaft painful
Schnee (m) snow

schneien to snow
Schokolade (f) chocolate
schon already
Schon gut! OK, fine! (conceding)
schon wieder again already (surprise or impatience)
schön beautiful
Schottland Scotland
schrecklich horrible, terrible
Schreibtisch (m) desk
Schreibwarenladen (-läden) (m) stationery store
Schule (-n) (f) school
schwach (""-er) weak
schwanger pregnant
schwarz black
Schweinchen (-) (n) toy pig, little pig
Schweiz, die (f) Switzerland
schwer heavy
Schwester (-n) (f) sister
schwierig difficult
schwimmen* (+ sein) to swim
schwindelig dizzy
See (-n) (m) lake
Segelkurs (-e) (m) sailing course
segeln to sail
sehen* to see
Sehenswürdigkeit (-en) (f) sight
sehr very
Seidenbluse (-n) (f) silk blouse
seit since
Seite (-n) (f) side
selbständig independent(ly), for oneself
selten rarely
Senf (m) mustard
Sessel (-) (m) armchair
Sie you
sitzen* to sit
Sitzung (-en) (f) (committee) meeting
Ski fahren* (+ sein) to ski
so etwas something like that
Socke (-n) (f) sock
Sofa (-s) (n) sofa
Sohn (""-e) (m) son
sollen to be supposed to, should

sollte(n) should (from **sollen**)
sommerlich summery
Sonne (f) sun
sonnen, sich to sunbathe
Sonnenbrand (m) sunburn
sonnig sunny
Sonst noch etwas? Anything else?
Sorge (-n) (f) care, worry
Soße (-n) (f) sauce
Souvenir (-s) (n) souvenir
Spanien Spain
Spaß (m) fun
Spätzle (pl) type of pasta from Swabia
spazieren (+ sein) to stroll, walk
Speisekarte (-n) (f) menu
Spezialität (-en) (f) specialty
spielen to play
Spielwaren (pl) toys
Spielwarenabteilung (-en) (f) toy department
Sport (m) sport
Sport treiben* to do sports
Sportartikel (pl) sports goods
sportlich aktiv sporty, actively engaged in sport
sprechen to speak
Squash squash (sport)
Staatsangehörigkeit (f) nationality
stammen aus (+ dat.) to come from (originally)
ständig always, constantly
stark (""-er) strong
Stau (-s) (m) traffic jam
stehlen* to steal
steigen auf (+ acc.)* **(+ sein)** to climb up
steinreich stinking rich, rolling in money (literally: stone rich)
stellen to put
Stil (-e) (m) style
still still (not sparkling); quiet
stimmen to be right (a statement, etc.)
Stock (""-e) (m) story, floor
stockender Verkehr slow traffic
Störung (-en) (f) interruption, disturbance

Strand (""-e) (m) beach
Straße (-n) (f) street, road
Straßenbahn (f) trolley bus, streetcar
Streit (m) argument
Stress (m) stress
stressfrei stress-free
stressig stressful
Student /in (-en/nen) (m/f) student
Stuhl (""-e) (m) chair
Stunde (-n) (f) hour
suchen to look for
Süd- southern
Südafrika South Africa
südlich (von+dat) south of
Suppe (-n) (f) soup
surfen to surf
süß sweet

T

Tag (-e) (m) day
tagsüber during the day
Tal (""-er) (n) valley
tanzen to dance
tauchen to dive
Taxi (-s) (n) taxi
Taxifahrer/in (-/nen) (m/f) taxi driver
Taxistand (""-e) (m) taxi stand
Techniker /in (-/nen) (m/f) technician
Teddy (-s) (m) teddy bear
Tee (m) tea
Telefonzelle (-n) (f) phone booth
Temperatur (-en) (f) temperature
Tennis (n) tennis
Termin (-e) (bei + dat.) (m) appointment (with)
teuer expensive
Theater (-) (n) theater
Tiefst- lowest
Tisch (-e) (m) table
Tochter ("") (f) daughter
Toilette (-n) (f) toilet
toll great (colloquial)
Tomate (-n) (f) tomato
topfit in great shape
total total(ly)
Tourist/in (-en/-nen) (m/f) tourist

traditionell traditional
traurig sad
treffen* to meet
treffen, sich* to meet each other
trinken* to drink
trocken dry
Tschüs. Bye. (informal)
tun* to do
Tunesien Tunisia
Türkei, die (f) Turkey

U

U-Bahn (= Untergrundbahn) (f) subway
U-Bahn-Station (-en) (f) subway station
übel sick (nauseous)
über (+ acc./dat.) more than
überall everywhere
überanstrengen, sich to overexert oneself
Übergewicht (n) excess weight
überhaupt at all
überlegen to think, consider
übermorgen the day after tomorrow
Überraschung (-en) (f) surprise
Überstunden machen to work overtime
übrigens by the way
Uhr (-en) (f) clock; o'clock (in times)
um (+ acc.) around; at
Um wie viel Uhr? At what time?
um+steigen* (+ sein) to change (trains, etc.)
unbedingt definitely
und and
unfähig incompetent
Unfall (-fälle) (m) accident
ungefähr about
unfreundlich unfriendly
Universität (-en) (f) university
Universitätsklinik (-en) (f) university clinic
unpünktlich unpunctual
unten downstairs
unter der Woche during the week, on weekdays
unter+stellen to store, keep
unterstützen to support

Urlaub (-e) (m) vacation
Urlaub machen to take a vacation, go on vacation
USA, die (pl) the U.S.A.

V

Vater ("") (m) father
Vati Pa, Dad
Verband (-bände) (m) bandage
verbinden to connect
vereinbaren to agree upon
Vereinigten Staaten, die (pl) the United States
vereinzelt isolated
vergleichen to compare
verheiratet married
Verkäufer /in (-/nen) (m/f) sales clerk
Verkehr (m) traffic
Verkehrsmittel (-) (n) means of transport
verlassen* to leave
verlieren* to lose
vermeiden* to avoid
Versicherung (-en) (f) insurance
Verspätung (-en) (f) delay
verstauchen to sprain
verstehen* to understand
verstehen, sich* to get along, understand each other
verstopft blocked
versuchen to try
viel much
viele many
vielleicht perhaps
Viertel (-) (n) quarter
Viertel nach/vor a quarter past/to
Viertelstunde (-n) (f) quarter of an hour
viertens fourthly
vierter/e/es fourth
Volkstheater (n) folk theater
völlig complete(ly)
Vollkornbrot (-e) (n) wholemeal bread
Vollwertkost (f) wholefood
von (+ dat.) from; of
vor (+ acc./dat.) before, in front of; to; ago

vorgestern *the day before yesterday*
vor+haben* *to intend*
Vorname (-n) (m) *first name*
vorsichtig *careful*
vorstellen *to introduce*
Vorwahl (-en) (f) *area code*

W

wach *awake; alert*
Wagen (-) (m) *car*
wählen *to select*
wahr *true*
Wales *Wales*
wandern (+ sein) *to hike*
Wandertour (-en) (f) *hiking trip*
Wann? *When?*
war(en) *was/were (simple past tense of sein)*
warm essen* *to eat a hot meal*
warm *warm*
warten *to wait*
Warum? *Why?*
Was für... ? *What (sort of)... ?*
Was ist los? *What's the matter?*
was *something (short for etwas)*
Was? *What?*
Wäsche (f) *laundry*
WC (-s) (n) *WC, bathroom*
Wechselgeld (n) *change (money)*
weh tun *to hurt*
weil *because*
Wein (-e) (m) *wine*
Weinbau (m) *wine growing*
Weinfest (-e) (n) *wine festival*
weiß *know (infinitive: wissen)*
weiß *white*
Weißwein (-e) (m) *white wine*
weit *far*
weiter *further*
Weizen (m) *wheat*
Wem? *To whom? (dative of wer?)*
weniger *less*
wenigstens *at least*
wenn *if*
werden* (+ sein) *to become; auxiliary verb for future tense*
werdende Mutter *mother-to-be*
Wetter (n) *weather*

Wettervorhersage (-n) (f) *weather forecast*
wie *as (in comparison), how*
Wie bitte? *Pardon?*
Wie geht es Ihnen? *How are you?*
Wie geht's? *How are you? (informal)*
Wie lange? *How long?*
Wie viel? *How much?*
Wie viele? *How many?*
Wie wär's mit ...? *How about ...?*
wiederholen *to repeat*
Wien *Vienna*
Wiese (-n) (f) *meadow, lawn*
Wieso? *How come?*
Wildwasser (n) *white water*
willkommen *welcome*
windig *windy*
wissen* *to know*
Wo? *Where?*
Woche (-n) (f) *week*
Wochenende (-n) (n) *weekend*
Woher? *Where from?*
Wohin? *Where to?*
wohl *well*
wohnen *to live*
Wohnort (-e) (m) *place of residence (town)*
Wohnung (-en) (f) *apartment*
Wohnzimmer (-) (n) *living room*
Wolke (-n) (f) *cloud*
wollen* *to want to*
wunderbar *wonderful*
wunderschön *lovely*
wünschen *to wish, want*
würde(n) *would (form of werden)*
würzig *spicy*

Z

zahlen (bezahlen) *to pay*
zeigen *to show*
Zeit (-en) (f) *time*
Zeitung (-en) (f) *newspaper*
Zeitungshändler (-) (m) *news dealer, newsagent*
zentral *central*
ziemlich *quite*
Zigarette (-n) (f) *cigarette*
Zimmer (-) (n) *room*

Zitrone (-n) (f) *lemon*
Zoo (-s) (m) *zoo*
zu (+ dat.) *to*
zu *too*
zu Abend essen *to dine, have one's evening meal*
zu Besuch sein *to visit*
zu Fuß *on foot*
zu Hause *at home*
zu Mittag essen *to have lunch*
Zucchini (Zucchini) (m) *zucchini, courgette*
Zucker (m) *sugar*
Zug (" -e) (m) *train*
Zuhause (n) *home*
zu+hören *to listen*
Zukunft (f) *future*
zuletzt *finally*
zum (= zu dem) *to the (masculine and neuter)*
zum Abendessen *for dinner*
zum Beispiel *for example*
zum Frühstück *for breakfast*
zum Mittagessen *for lunch*
zu+machen *to close*
zu+nehmen* *to gain weight*
zur (= zu der) *to the (feminine)*
zur Zeit *at the moment*
zurück+rufen* *to call back*
zusammen+stoßen* (+ sein) *to collide, crash together*
Zuschlag (-schläge) (m) *supplement*
Zutat (-en) (f) *ingredient*
zuviel *too much*
zweimal *twice*
zweitens *secondly*
zweiter/e/es *second*
Zwiebel (-n) (f) *onion*