

LEARN GERMAN

— FOR BEGINNERS —



AN EASY AND FAST WAY TO LEARN THE BASICS
OF GERMAN LANGUAGE, BUILD YOUR VOCABULARY
AND IMPROVE YOUR READING AND
CONVERSATION SKILLS

INCLUDES
GRAMMAR
AND USEFUL
SENTENCES

LANGUAGE BUILDING LAB

Learn German for Beginners

An easy and fast way to learn the basics of German language, build your vocabulary and improve your reading and conversation skills

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Introduction

If you want a German language learning book that's effective and has all the essentials that a beginner should learn, then you've found what you're looking for.

This book is divided into two parts. The first half covers the basics of the German grammar. It explains concepts simply and illustrates grammar rules with plenty of examples. You'll also find exercises at the end of each chapter so you can gauge what you've already learned and understood.

Most of the German words introduced in this book are accompanied by a pronunciation guide. This ensures that when you learn a new word, you're also learning how to say it the right way.

The other half of this book contains a collection of words to expand your vocabulary. It also includes everyday expressions so you can start speaking German even when you're just starting to master grammar. These words and expressions are particularly useful if you're planning to travel to German-speaking countries. They will allow you to converse effectively, avoid any miscommunication, and make the most out of your trip.

Thanks for downloading this book, I hope you enjoy it!

Chapter 1: German Basics

The Alphabet and Pronunciation

The German alphabet isn't that different from the alphabet that you know. It contains all the letters the English alphabet does and four additional characters – **ä**, **ö**, **ü**, and **ß**.

The table that follows shows how each of the German letters are pronounced. Note that a letter's pronunciation may be different if it's within a German word. Knowing how to say each letter could be handy if you have to spell a word.

Alphabet	German Pronunciation	German Word
A	ah	Adresse <i>ah-drês-e</i> (address)

B	bey	Bluse <i>blooh-ze</i> (blouse)
C	tsey	Couchtisch <i>kouch-tish</i> (coffee table)
D	dey	dunkel <i>doon-kêl</i> (dark)
E	ey	Ernst <i>êrnst</i> (serious)
F	êf	frisch <i>frish</i> (fresh)
G	gey	gedampft <i>ge-dâmpft</i> (steamed)
H	hah	Haferflocken <i>hahf-er-flok-en</i> (oatmeal)
I	ee	ich <i>iH</i> (I)
J	yot	jung <i>yoong</i> (young)
K	kah	Kellner <i>kêl-ner</i> (waiter)
L	êl	Lampe <i>lâm-pe</i> (lamp)
M	êm	Mann <i>mân</i> (husband, man)
N	ên	neu <i>noy</i> (new)
O	oh	Ort <i>ort</i> (place)
P	pey	Paket <i>pâ-keyt</i> (package)
Q	kooh	Quatsch <i>kvâch</i> (nonsense)
R	êr	Reihenhaus <i>ray-ên-hous</i> (townhouse)
s	ês	Schinken <i>shin-ken</i> (ham)
t	tey	teuer <i>toy-er</i> (expensive)
u	ooh	Unterlagen <i>oon-ter-lah-gen</i> (documents)
v	fou	Vater <i>fât-er</i> (father)
w	veh	Wand <i>vând</i> (wall)
x	iks	Fax <i>fâx</i> (fax)
y	ypsilon	System <i>zers-teym</i> (system)
z	tset	Zimmer <i>tsi-mer</i> (room)
ä	ah- oom -laut	Gebäck <i>ge-bêk</i> (cookies, pastries)
ö	oh- oom -laut	schön <i>s h ə n</i> (beautiful)
ü	ooh-oom-laut	kühl <i>kuel</i> (cool)
ß	ês-tsêt	Straße <i>shtrah-se</i> (street)

Vowels

German vowels can have either a short or long sound. Short sounds are clipped, which means that they're pronounced shorter than in its English equivalent. The table that follows demonstrates the phonetic scripts or symbols (the English equivalent of a German pronunciation) that represent the different short and long vowel sounds.

Vowel	Symbol	As In	Example
a (short)	Â	above	B a ckofen <i>b â k-oh-fen</i> (oven)
a (long)	Ah	father	K a beljau <i>k ah -bel-you</i> (cod)
e (short, stressed)	Ê	pet	der <i>d ê r</i> (the)
e (short, unstressed)	E	pocket	Farbe <i>fâr-b e</i> (color)
e (long)	Ey	vein	aufregend <i>ouf-r ey -gent</i> (exciting)
i (short)	I	win	Kind <i>k i nt</i> (child)
i (long)	Ee	bee	lila <i>l ee -la</i> (purple)
o (short)	O	lord	Dolmetscher <i>d o l-mêch-er</i>
o (long)	oh	hope	Person <i>pêr-z oh n</i> (person)
u (short)	oo	bush	Suppe <i>z oo p-e</i> (soup)
u (long)	ooh	moon	Hut <i>h ooh t</i> (hat)

Generally, a vowel followed by at least two consonants has a short sound.

- immer *i m-er* (always)

When a vowel is followed by a single consonant, the sound is generally long.

- Olive *oh -l ee v-e* (olive)

When a vowel is followed by the letter **h**, the sound is long.

- Kohl *k oh l* (cabbage)

The sound of a vowel that's doubled is usually long. However, if two **u** 's appear together side by side, they're usually treated as separate syllables and read with short sounds.

- Aal **ah l** (eel)
- Erdbeere *eyrt-b ey r-e* (strawberry)
- Individuum *in-dee-vee-d oo - oo m* (individual)

Aumlaut

Aumlaut is the German word for the double dots placed over the vowels **a** , **o** , and **u** . When used, the pronunciation of the vowel is slightly altered and the meaning of the word changes.

Aumlaut	Symbol	Close To	Example
ä (short)	Ê	Pet	Bäckerei <i>b ê k-e-ray</i> (bakery)
ä (long)	Ai	Play	Mädchen <i>m ai d-Hen</i> (girl)
Ö	ə	Her	persönlich <i>pêr- z ə n-lich</i> (personal)
Ü	Ue	Lure	Büro <i>b ue -roh</i> (office)

A vowel with an umlaut is called a modified vowel. The sound of a modified vowel doesn't have an English equivalent. If you want your German to sound a bit more authentic, pucker your lips as if you're going to kiss someone each time you pronounce syllables containing **ä** , **ö** , and **ü** .

Diphthongs

Diphthongs are formed when two vowels are combined in one syllable. They're always made of vowels with different sounds that change in a single syllable.

Diphthong	Symbol	As In	Example
ai, ei, ay	ay	sky	Mais <i>m ay s</i> (corn) allein <i>â-l ay n</i> (alone)

			Bayern <i>b ay -ern</i> (Bavaria)
Au	ou	proud	sauer z <i>ou -er</i> (sour)
eu, äu	oy	toy	Leute <i>l oy -te</i> (people) Häuser <i>h oy -zer</i> (houses)
Ie	ee	bee	Wiese v <i>ee z-e</i> (meadow)

Consonants

In German, most consonants are pronounced like other English consonants. When the letters *f*, *h*, *k*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *t*, and *x* appear in a German word, their pronunciation is the same as in English. For most of the other consonants, the pronunciation is almost the same as their English counterparts. However, there are a few oddities and there's the extra letter *ß*. The table that follows shows how these oddities are pronounced in German.

Consonant	Symbol	As In	Example
B	b	boy	Ballett <i>b â-lêt</i> (ballet)
b (final b in a word or syllable, before voiceless consonants*)	p	cup	Absender <i>a p -zên-der</i> (sender)
c (mostly foreign words)	k ch ts	car cello tsar	Cousin <i>k ooh-zen</i> (male cousin) Cello <i>ch êl-oh</i> (cello) Celsius <i>ts êl-zee-oos</i> (Celsius)
D	d	down	Dreck <i>d rêk</i> (dirt)
d (final d in a word or syllable, before voiceless consonants*)	t	put	bald <i>bâl t</i> (soon)
G	g	get	Gans <i>g âns</i> (goose)
g (final g in a word or syllable, before voiceless consonants*)	k	lock	Tag <i>tah k</i> (day)
J	y	you	jetzt <i>y êtst</i> (now)

Qu	kv	no English equivalent	Quatsch <i>kv âch</i> (nonsense)
s (start of a word or syllable)	z	zebra	Sahne <i>z ahn-e</i> (cream)
s (end of a word or syllable)	s	see	Krebs <i>krey p s</i> (crab)
V	f	fun	Vogel <i>f oh-gêl</i> (bird)
v (foreign words)	v	vice	Vase <i>v ah-ze</i> (vase)
W	v	vice	Wagen <i>v ah-gen</i> (car)
y (mostly foreign words)	y	you	Yoga <i>y oh-gâ</i> (yoga)
Z	ts	tsar	Zahnarzt <i>ts ahn-ârtst</i> (dentist)
ß	s	guess	Straße <i>shtrah- s e</i> (street)

* Voiceless consonants are usually s and t.

The sounds of the German l and r are a bit different from their English counterpart. To pronounce these letters properly, do the following:

- Say the letter l the same way you do in English but keep the tip of your tongue flat against your gum ridge instead of forming a spoon shape. This way, the sound is clipped and not drawled.
- Make a gargling sound when you want to say the German r, which should be pronounced at the back of your throat. This is the most frequently used pronunciation of r. However, in southern Germany, the r is pronounced by rolling the tip of the tongue.

Consonant Combinations

There are a few consonant sounds in the German language that don't exist or differ in the English language. The table that follows shows how the most common consonant combinations are pronounced.

Combination	Symbol	As In	Example
Ch	H	loch	Nachbar <i>nâ H -bâr</i> (neighbor)
Chs	x	tax	Lachs <i>lâ x</i> (salmon)
Ck	k	black	Drucker <i>doo k -er</i> (printer)
Sch	sh	show	botanisch <i>boh-tân-i sh</i> (botanical)

sp (start of a word or syllable)	shp	no English equivalent	Speck shp êk (bacon)
st (start of a word or syllable)	sht	no English equivalent	stark sht ârk (strong)
st (middle or end of a word)	st	last	Fest <i>fê</i> st (festival, celebration)
Tsch	ch	catch	Deutsch <i>doy</i> ch (German)

Most of the consonant combinations are easy to pronounce. The only tricky combination is the **ch**. It has no English equivalent and for a native English speaker, this sound is totally new. The closest sound to it that you may be familiar with is the guttural *ch* sound in the Scottish word *loch*. In order to say the German **ch**, try pronouncing *hch* without the sound of *k*.

Note: The sound of the English *th* doesn't exist in German. There are two ways to pronounce this consonant combination in the German language:

- At the beginning of a word, the **h** is silent.
 - Theke *tey-ke* (counter)
 - Thunfisch *toohn-fish* (tuna)
- When **th** is in the middle of a word, they are pronounced separately. This is because each letter belongs to a component of a compound word. For example:
 - Basthut *bâst-hooht* (straw hat)
 - Gasthaus *gâst-hous* (inn – combination of the words guest and house in German)

Numbers

One of the most basic things you should know is how to name numbers and count in the language that you're trying to learn. Numbers are essential in any language and you can't get through a day without using them. Aside from counting, you use numbers to tell the date, time, and many more.

Cardinal Numbers

Cardinal numbers are numbers that denote quantity. They're whole numbers and they're what you use to count.

Number	German		Pronunciation
0	null	pronounce as	<i>nool</i>
1	eins	pronounce as	<i>ayns</i>
2	zwei	pronounce as	<i>tsvay</i>
3	drei	pronounce as	<i>dray</i>
4	vier	pronounce as	<i>feer</i>
5	fünf	pronounce as	<i>fuenf</i>
6	sechs	pronounce as	<i>zêks</i>
7	sieben	pronounce as	<i>zee-ben</i>
8	acht	pronounce as	<i>âHt</i>
9	neun	pronounce as	<i>noyn</i>
10	zehn	pronounce as	<i>tseyn</i>
11	elf	pronounce as	<i>êlf</i>
12	zwölf	pronounce as	<i>ts v ə lf</i>
13	dreizehn	pronounce as	<i>dray-tseyn</i>
14	vierzehn	pronounce as	<i>feer-tseyn</i>
15	fünfzehn	pronounce as	<i>fuenf-tseyn</i>
16	sechzehn	pronounce as	<i>zêH-tseyn</i>
17	siebzehn	pronounce as	<i>zeep-tseyn</i>
18	achtzehn	pronounce as	<i>âHt-tseyn</i>
19	neunzehn	pronounce as	<i>noyn-tseyn</i>
20	zwanzig	pronounce as	<i>tsvân-tsiH</i>

To form *sechzehn* , -s is dropped from *sechs* . -en is also dropped from *sieben* to form *siebzehn* .

21	einundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>ayn-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
22	zweiundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>

23	dreiundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>dray-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
24	vierundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>feer-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
25	fünfundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>fuenf-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
26	sechszwanzig	pronounce as	<i>zêks-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
27	siebenundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>zee-ben-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
28	achtundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>âHt-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
29	neunundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>noyn-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>

Note that from 21 to 29, the numbers from 1 to 9 are connected by *und* (and). They are also expressed backward. For example, 21 or *einundzwanzig* literally translates to “one and twenty” in English. This is the pattern that you’ll follow for all two-digit numbers, with the exception of those in multiples of 10.

Always remember to drop the *-s* in *eins* when combining it with the numbers 20, 30, so on.

30	dreißig	pronounce as	<i>dray-siH</i>
40	vierzig	pronounce as	<i>feer-tsiH</i>
50	fünzig	pronounce as	<i>fuenf-tsiH</i>
60	sechzig	pronounce as	<i>zêH-tsiH</i>
70	siebzig	pronounce as	<i>zeep-tsiH</i>
80	achtzig	pronounce as	<i>âHt-tsiH</i>
90	neunzig	pronounce as	<i>noyn-tsiH</i>

Notice the spelling of the number 30. It’s slightly different from the rest of the multiples of 10. The last syllable is spelled with the letter *ß* instead of *z*.

The *-s* and *-en* are also dropped from *sechs* and *sieben* to form the numbers *sechzig* and *siebzig*, respectively.

100	hundert	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert</i>
101	hunderteins	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-ayns</i>

102	hundertzwei	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-tsvay</i>
103	hundertdrei	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-dray</i>
104	hundertvier	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-tsverlf</i>
111	hundertelf	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-êlf</i>
112	hunderzwölf	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-ts v ə lf</i>
113	hundertdreizehn	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-dray-tseyn</i>
114	hundertvierzehn	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-feer-tseyn</i>
200	zweihundert	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-hoon-dert</i>
201	zweihunderteins	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-hoon-dert-ayns</i>
202	zweihundertzwei	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-hoon-dert-tsvay</i>
221	zweihunderteinundzwanzig	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-hoon-dert-ayn-oont-tsvân-tsiH</i>
300	dreihundert	pronounce as	<i>dray-hoon-dert</i>
400	vierhundert	pronounce as	<i>feer-hoon-dert</i>
500	fünfhundert	pronounce as	<i>fuenf-hoon-dert</i>

With three-digit numbers, remember that the last two digits which aren't multiples of ten should be pronounced backward. For example, 548 is fünfhundertachtundvierzig (*fuenf-hoon-dert-âHt-oont-tsvân-tsiH*) or “five hundred eight and forty.”

1.000	(ein)tausend	pronounce as	<i>(ayn-)tou-zent</i>
2.000	zweitausend	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-tou-zent</i>
100.000	hunderttausend	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-tou-zent</i>
1.000.000	(eine) Million	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e mee-lee-ohn</i>
2.000.000	zwei Millionen	pronounce as	<i>tsvay mee-lee-ohn-en</i>
1.000.000.000	eine Milliarde	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e mee-lee-ahr-de</i>
2.000.000.000	zwei Milliarden	pronounce as	<i>tsvay mee-lee-</i>

			<i>ahr-den</i>
1.000.000.000.000	eine Billion	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e bil-ee-ohn</i>

Notice in the above numbers that the comma used to indicate thousands in English is replaced with a period. When working with decimals, a comma is used instead of a decimal point. The numbers to the right of the comma are also considered as separate numbers and not pronounced backwards. For example:

- 20,73 = zwanzig Komma sieben drei (*tsvân-tsiH ko-mâ zee-ben dray*) or “twenty comma seven three”
- 0,39 = null Komma drei neun (*noohl ko-mâ dray noyn*) or “zero comma three nine”

Spelling and Pronunciation Changes

In the German language, there are a few number-related spelling and pronunciation changes that you have to be familiar with. Some of the most common changes are:

- The number *eins* (one) changes when used in a sentence to describe one thing.
 - Er hat **einen** Hund. (He has a dog.)
 - Sie hat **eine** Katze. (She has a cat.)
- The number 2 or *zwei* (*tsvay*) is commonly pronounced **zwo** (*tsvoh*) in Spoken German to avoid the confusion with 3 or *drei* (*dray*) .
- *Einhundert* (*ayn hoon-dert*) is commonly used instead of *hundert* (*hoon-dert*) to make the number 100 clearer to the listener.

Ordinal Numbers

You use ordinal numbers when you want to express things that are in order. In general, ordinal numbers are formed by adding *-te* to the numbers 19 and below and *-ste* to the numbers 20 and above. The exceptions to this rule are *erste* (first), *dritte* (third), *siebte* (seventh), and *achte* (eighth).

German		Pronunciation	English
Erste	pronounce as	<i>êrs-te</i>	first
Zweite	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-te</i>	second

Dritte	pronounce as	<i>dri-te</i>	third
Vierte	pronounce as	<i>feer-te</i>	fourth
Fünfte	pronounce as	<i>fuenf-te</i>	fifth
Sechste	pronounce as	<i>zêks-te</i>	sixth
Siebte	pronounce as	<i>zeep-te</i>	seventh
Achte	pronounce as	<i>âHt-te</i>	eighth
Neunte	pronounce as	<i>noyn-te</i>	ninth
Zehnte	pronounce as	<i>tseyn-te</i>	tenth
Elfte	pronounce as	<i>êlf-te</i>	eleventh
Zwölfte	pronounce as	<i>ts v ə lf-te</i>	twelfth
Achtzehnte	pronounce as	<i>âHt-tseyn-te</i>	eighteenth
Zwanzigste	pronounce as	<i>tsvân-tsiH-ste</i>	twentieth
einundzwanzigste	pronounce as	<i>ayn-oont-tsvân-tsiH-ste</i>	twenty-first
zweiundzwanzigste	pronounce as	<i>tsvay-oont-tsvân-tsiH-ste</i>	twenty-second
Hundertste	pronounce as	<i>hoon-dert-ste</i>	hundredth

Telling Time

Wieviel Uhr ist es? / *vee-feel oohr ist ês* / What time is it?

Wie spat ist es? / *vee shpait ist ês* / What time is it?

To answer the above questions, start with *Es ist* (It is) and follow these rules:

- If it's at the top of the hour, give the number of the appropriate hour + the word *Uhr* (o'clock) .

Es ist ein Uhr.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist ayn oohr</i>	It is 1 o'clock.
Es ist neun Uhr.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist noyn oohr</i>	It is 9 o'clock.

- To express minutes before the hour, give the number of minutes + *vor* (to, before) + the hour.

Es ist zwanzig vor neun.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist tsvân-tsiH fohr noyn</i>	It is 8:40.
Es ist fünf vor zwölf.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist fuenf fohr ts v ə lf</i>	It is 11:55.

- To express minutes after the hour, give the number of minutes + *nach* (past, after) + the hour.

Es ist zehn nach drei.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist tseyen nâH dray</i>	It is 3:10.
Es ist siebzehn nach fünf.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist zEEP-tsyen nâH fuenf</i>	It is 5:17.

- To express halfway to the hour, use the word *halb* (half).

Es ist halb acht.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist hâlp âHt</i>	It is 7:30. (It's half an hour before 8.)
Es ist fünf vor halb sieben.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist fuenf fohr hâlp zee-ben</i>	It is 6:25.
Es ist zehn nach halb zehn.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist tseyen nâH hâlp tseyen</i>	It is 10:40.

- To tell time using quarter, use the word *Viertel* (quarter) followed by *vor* or *nach* and then the appropriate hour.

Es ist Viertel nach zwei.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist feer-tel nâH tsvay</i>	It is 2:15.
Es ist Viertel vor neun.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist feer-tel fohr noyn</i>	It is 8:45.

- To express noon and midnight, use the following expressions.

Es ist Mittag.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist mi-tahk</i>	It is noon.
Es ist Mitternacht.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist mi-ter-nâHt.</i>	It is midnight.

Note: In Germany, all kinds of businesses use the 24-hour system in order to prevent misunderstanding. To tell time using this system, do not go back to 1 after you reach noon. Instead, keep adding hours until you get to 24. You also express everything with the appropriate hour followed by the number of minutes.

Es ist fünfzehn Uhr dreißig.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist fuenf-tseyen oohr dray-siH</i>	It is 3:30 p.m.
Es ist zwei Uhr fünf.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist tsvay oohr fuenf</i>	It is 2:05 a.m.
Es ist null Uhr acht.	pronounce as	<i>ês ist nool oohr âHt</i>	It is 12:08 a.m.

Time Expressions

Here are some common time expressions that you may find useful.

English	German		Pronunciation
an hour	eine Stunde	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e shtoon-de</i>
in an hour	in einer Stunde	pronounce as	<i>in ayn-er shtoon-de</i>
a minute	eine Minute	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e mi-nooh-te</i>
a second	eine Sekunde	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e zey-koon-de</i>
quarter of an hour	eine viertel Stunde	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e feert-el shtoon-de</i>
half an hour	eine halbe Stunde	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e hâl-be shtoon-de</i>
at what time	um wieviel Uhr	pronounce as	<i>oom vee-feel oohr</i>
at exactly midnight	genau um Mitternacht	pronounce as	<i>ge-nou oom mi-ter-nâHt</i>
at exactly 3:00	genau um drei Uhr	pronounce as	<i>ge-nou oom dray oohr</i>
at about 3:00	um ungefähr/etwa drei Uhr	pronounce as	<i>oom oon-ge-fair/et-vâh dray oohr</i>
until 3:00	bis drei Uhr	pronounce as	<i>bis dray oohr</i>
after 3:00	nach drei Uhr	pronounce as	<i>nâH dray oohr</i>
before 3:00	vor drei Uhr	pronounce as	<i>fohr dray oohr</i>
in the morning	am Morgen	pronounce as	<i>âm mor-gen</i>
in the afternoon	am Nachmittag	pronounce as	<i>âm nâH-mi-tahk</i>
in the evening	am Abend	pronounce as	<i>âm ah-bent</i>
Since when?	Seit wann?	pronounce as	<i>zayt vâh</i>
an hour ago	vor einer Stunde	pronounce as	<i>fohr ayn-er shtoon-de</i>

every hour	jede Stunde	pronounce as	<i>yey-de shtoon-de</i>
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Expressing Dates

If you want to express dates in German, you first need to know the days and months.

English	German		Pronunciation
days of the week	die Tage der Woche	pronounce as	<i>dee tah-ge dêr voH-e</i>
Monday	Montag (Mo)	pronounce as	<i>mohn-tahk</i>
Tuesday	Dienstag (Di)	pronounce as	<i>deens-tahk</i>
Wednesday	Mittwoch (Mi)	pronounce as	<i>mit-voH</i>
Thursday	Donnerstag (Do)	pronounce as	<i>don-ers-tahk</i>
Friday	Freitag (Fr)	pronounce as	<i>fray-tâk</i>
Saturday	Samstag / Sonnabend (Sa)	pronounce as	<i>zâms-tahk / zon-ah- bênt</i>
Sunday	Sonntag	pronounce as	<i>zon-tahk</i>
Months	die Monate	pronounce as	<i>dee moh-nâ-te</i>
January	Januar / Jänner	pronounce as	<i>yâ-noo-ahr / yêner</i>
February	Februar	pronounce as	<i>fey-broo-ahr</i>
March	März	pronounce as	<i>Mêrts</i>
April	April	pronounce as	<i>ah-pril</i>
May	Mai	pronounce as	<i>May</i>
June	Juni	pronounce as	<i>yooh-nee</i>
July	Juli	pronounce as	<i>yooh-lee</i>
August	August	pronounce as	<i>ou-goost</i>
September	September	pronounce as	<i>zêp-têm-ber</i>
October	Oktober	pronounce as	<i>ok-toh-ber</i>
November	November	pronounce as	<i>no-vêm-ber</i>
December	Dezember	pronounce as	<i>dey-tsêm-ber</i>
Spring	der Frühling	pronounce as	<i>dêr frue-leeng</i>
Summer	der Sommer	pronounce as	<i>dêr zom-er</i>
Autumn	der Herbst	pronounce as	<i>dêr hêrpst</i>
Winter	der Winter	pronounce as	<i>dêr vin-ter</i>

The days of the week and the months are all masculine, which means that they use the article *der*. But you usually use them in a sentence without an article. For example:

- Heute ist Freitag. / Today is Friday.
- Es ist Oktober. / It is October.

To express dates correctly, use this following formula: day of the week + *der* + ordinal number + month + year. For example:

- Sonntag, der siebte Juli 2019 / Sunday, the seventh of July 2019

For a shorter version, write the date this way:

- 25.12.2019 (December 12, 2019)

Note that you punctuate and write dates differently than in English.

To answer the question *Welches Datum ist heute / What's the date today*, use either of the following: *der*

- Heute is der [elfte Februar]. / Today is the [eleventh of February].
- Heute haben wir den [elfte Februar]. / Today we have the [eleventh of February].

Cognates

Cognates are words from two different languages with the same meaning and are spelled exactly or almost the same. Therefore, even before you start learning German, you already know a lot of German words thanks to cognates.

Perfect Cognates

Perfect cognates are words that have the same spellings for English and German. These words are pronounced differently, though.

Cognate		Pronunciation
der Alligator	pronounce as	<i>dêr â-li-gah-tor</i>
der Arm	pronounce as	<i>dêr ârm</i>
der Bandit	pronounce as	<i>dêr bân-deet</i>
die Bank	pronounce as	<i>dee bank</i>
Blind	pronounce as	<i>Blint</i>

Blond	pronounce as	<i>Blont</i>
die Butter	pronounce as	<i>dee boot-er</i>
der Bus	pronounce as	<i>Dêr</i>
das Chaos	pronounce as	<i>dâs kah-os</i>
Digital	pronounce as	<i>di-gi-tâl</i>
Elegant	pronounce as	<i>êl-ê-gânt</i>
das Element	pronounce as	<i>Dâs</i>
die Emotion	pronounce as	<i>dee ê-moh-tsee-ohn</i>
Emotional	pronounce as	<i>ê-moh-tsee-oh-nahl</i>
der Export	pronounce as	<i>dêr ex-port</i>
der Finger	pronounce as	<i>dêr fing-er</i>
das Folk	pronounce as	<i>dâs folk</i>
Formal	pronounce as	<i>for-mahl</i>
der Hamburger	pronounce as	<i>dêr hâm-boor-ger</i>
die Hand	pronounce as	<i>dee hânt</i>
das Hotel	pronounce as	<i>dâs [as in English]</i>
die Immigration	pronounce as	<i>dee im-i-grâ-tsee-ohn</i>
der Import	pronounce as	<i>dêr im-port</i>
der Inflation	pronounce as	<i>dêr in-flâ-tsee-ohn</i>
die Information	pronounce as	<i>dee in-for-mâ-tsee-ohn</i>
die Inspiration	pronounce as	<i>dee in-spi-râ-tsee-ohn</i>
das Instrument	pronounce as	<i>dâs in-stroo-mênt</i>
International	pronounce as	<i>in-ter-nâ-tsee-oh-nahl</i>
Irrational	pronounce as	<i>ir-râ-tsee-oh-nahl</i>
Irrelevant	pronounce as	<i>ir-rê-lê-fânt</i>
die Isolation	pronounce as	<i>dee ee-zo-lâ-tsee-ohn</i>
der Jaguar	pronounce as	<i>dêr yah-goo-ahr</i>
Legal	pronounce as	<i>ley-gahl</i>
Liberal	pronounce as	<i>lee-bêr-ahl</i>
die Mine	pronounce as	<i>dee meen-e</i>
Modern	pronounce as	<i>moh-dêrn</i>

der Moment	pronounce as	<i>dêr moh-mênt</i>
die Motivation	pronounce as	<i>dee moh-ti-vâ-tsee-ohn</i>
der Motor	pronounce as	<i>dêr moh-tohr</i>
das Museum	pronounce as	<i>dâs mooh-zey-oohm</i>
der Name	pronounce as	<i>dêr nah-me</i>
die Nation	pronounce as	<i>dee nâ-tsee-ohn</i>
die Negation	pronounce as	<i>dee ney-gâ-tsee-ohn</i>
das Nest	pronounce as	<i>dâs nest</i>
Nonstop	pronounce as	<i>non-shtop</i>
Normal	pronounce as	<i>nor-mahl</i>
die Olive	pronounce as	<i>dee oh-lee-ve</i>
das Optimum	pronounce as	<i>das op-tee-moom</i>
das Organ	pronounce as	<i>dâs or-gahn</i>
das Panorama	pronounce as	<i>dâs pâ-no-rah-mâ</i>
Parallel	pronounce as	<i>pâr-â-leyl</i>
die Pause	pronounce as	<i>dee pou-se</i>
Permanent	pronounce as	<i>pêr-mâ-nênt</i>
der Pilot	pronounce as	<i>dêr pee-loht</i>
der Professor	pronounce as	<i>dêr [as in English]</i>
das Radio	pronounce as	<i>dâs rah-dee-oh</i>
die Religion	pronounce as	<i>dee rey-li-gee-ohn</i>
das Restaurant	pronounce as	<i>dâs rês-tou-ron</i>
die Rose	pronounce as	<i>dee roh-ze</i>
der Service	pronounce as	<i>dêr ser-vis</i>
das Signal	pronounce as	<i>dâs zig-nahl</i>
die Situation	pronounce as	<i>dee zee-too-â-tsee-ohn</i>
der Sport	pronounce as	<i>dêr shport</i>
die Statue	pronounce as	<i>dee shtah-tooh-e</i>
der Stress	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtrês</i>
das System	pronounce as	<i>dâs z ə s-teym</i>
das Taxi	pronounce as	<i>dâs tâx-ee</i>

das Tennis	pronounce as	<i>dâs tên-is</i>
der Tiger	pronounce as	<i>dêr tee-ger</i>
Tolerant	pronounce as	<i>to-lêr-ant</i>
Total	pronounce as	<i>toh-tahl</i>
die Tradition	pronounce as	<i>dee trâ-di-tsee-ohn</i>
der Tunnel	pronounce as	<i>dêr toohn-el</i>
Warm	pronounce as	<i>Vahrm</i>
Wild	pronounce as	<i>Vilt</i>
der Wind	pronounce as	<i>dêr vint</i>

Near Cognates

For this type of cognates, the German spelling is almost the same as in English. Again, these words have the exact same meaning.

Cognate		Pronunciation	English
die Adresse	pronounce as	<i>dee ah-drês-e</i>	address
Akustisch	pronounce as	<i>â-koos-tish</i>	acoustic
Attraktiv	pronounce as	<i>â-trâk-teev</i>	attractive
der Aspekt	pronounce as	<i>dêr âs-pêkt</i>	aspect
der Autor	pronounce as	<i>dêr ou-tohr</i>	author
Äquivalent	pronounce as	<i>ê-kvee-vah-lênt</i>	equivalent
die Bluse	pronounce as	<i>dee blooh-ze</i>	blouse
Braun	pronounce as	<i>[as in English]</i>	brown
der Charakter	pronounce as	<i>dêr kê-rahk-ter</i>	character
die	pronounce	<i>dee dê-moh-krâ-tee</i>	democracy

Demokratie	as		
Direct	pronounce as	<i>di-rêkt</i>	direct
der Doktor	pronounce as	<i>dêr dok-tohr</i>	doctor
der Elefant	pronounce as	<i>dêr ê-lê-fânt</i>	elephant
Exakt	pronounce as	<i>êx-âkt</i>	exact
Exzellent	pronounce as	<i>êx-tsel-ênt</i>	excellent
Fantastisch	pronounce as	<i>fân-tâs-tish</i>	fantastic
der Fisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr fish</i>	fish
das Glas	pronounce as	<i>dâs glahs</i>	glass
das Gras	pronounce as	<i>dâs grahs</i>	grass
das Haus	pronounce as	<i>dâs hous</i>	house
Hungrig	pronounce as	<i>hoong-riH</i>	hungry
Indirect	pronounce as	<i>in-di-rêkt</i>	indirect
die Industrie	pronounce as	<i>dee in-dooh-stree</i>	industry
die Infektion	pronounce as	<i>dee in-fêk-tsee-ohn</i>	infection
das Insekt	pronounce as	<i>dâs in-zêkt</i>	insect
der Kaffee	pronounce as	<i>dêr kâf-ey</i>	coffee
das Knie	pronounce as	<i>dâs knee</i>	knee

Kompetent	pronounce as	<i>koom-pe-tênt</i>	competent
die Komödie	pronounce as	<i>dee koh- m ə -dee- e</i>	comedy
die Kondition	pronounce as	<i>dee kon-di-tsee-ohn</i>	condition
Konservativ	pronounce as	<i>kon-sêr-vâ-teef</i>	conservative
der Kontinent	pronounce as	<i>dêr kon-ti-nênt</i>	continent
das Konzert	pronounce as	<i>dâs kon-tsêrt</i>	concert
die Kultur	pronounce as	<i>dee kool-toohr</i>	culture
Logisch	pronounce as	<i>loh-gish</i>	logical
das Mandat	pronounce as	<i>dâs mân-daht</i>	mandate
der Mann	pronounce as	<i>dêr mân</i>	man
die Maschine	pronounce as	<i>dee mâ-sheen-e</i>	machine
die Maus	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English]</i>	mouse
die Methode	pronounce as	<i>dee mê-toh-de</i>	method
die Mobilität	pronounce as	<i>dee moh-bi-li-tait</i>	mobility
die Musik	pronounce as	<i>dee mooh-zeek</i>	music
die Nationalität	pronounce as	<i>dee nât-see-oh- nahl-i-tait</i>	nationality
die Natur	pronounce as	<i>dee nâ-toohr</i>	nature
Nervös	pronounce	<i>nêr- v ə s</i>	nervous

	as		
das Objekt	pronounce as	<i>dâs op-yêkt</i>	object
Offiziell	pronounce as	<i>oh-fits-ee-êl</i>	official
der Ozean	pronounce as	<i>dêr oh-tsê-ân</i>	ocean
das Papier	pronounce as	<i>dâs pâ-peer</i>	paper
das Paradies	pronounce as	<i>dâs pâ-râ-deez</i>	paradise
das Parlament	pronounce as	<i>dâs pâ-r-lâ-mênt</i>	parliament
Perfekt	pronounce as	<i>pêr-fêkt</i>	perfect
Politisch	pronounce as	<i>poh-li-tish</i>	political
Potenziell	pronounce as	<i>po-tên-tsee-êl</i>	potential
Praktisch	pronounce as	<i>prâk-tish</i>	practical
Primitive	pronounce as	<i>pree-mee-teeef</i>	primitive
das Produkt	pronounce as	<i>dâs proh-dookt</i>	product
das Programm	pronounce as	<i>dâs proh-grâm</i>	program
das Salz	pronounce as	<i>dâs zâlts</i>	salt
der Scheck	pronounce as	<i>dêr shêk</i>	check
Sonnig	pronounce as	<i>zon-iH</i>	sunny
Sozial	pronounce as	<i>zoh-tsee-ahl</i>	social

der Supermarkt	pronounce as	<i>dêr zooh-pêr-mârkt</i>	supermarket
das Telefon	pronounce as	<i>dâs tê-le-fohn</i>	telephone
die Theorie	pronounce as	<i>dee tey-ohr-ee</i>	theory
die Tragödie	pronounce as	<i>dee trâ- g ə -dee-e</i>	tragedy
die Walnuss	pronounce as	<i>dee vahl-noohs</i>	walnut

Here are some notes on how you can recognize cognates in German:

- In most German words, the English *c* is replaced with a *k*.
 - **K**ultur - **c**ulture
- The English *ou* is often replaced with *au* in German.
 - M**au**s - m**ou**se
- English adjectives that end in *-ic* or *-ical* are spelled with *-isch* in German.
 - fantast **isch** – fantast **ic**
 - polit **isch** - polit **ical**
- Some English nouns with *-y* ending end in *-ie* in German.
 - Tragöd **ie** - traged **y**
- Some English adjectives with *-y* ending end in *-ig* in German.
 - hungr **ig** - hungr **y**

False Cognates

False cognates are words with the same or almost the same spelling in English and in German. It's important to be aware of these words since their meanings are usually completely different.

English	Cognate		Pronunciation	German Meaning
After	der After	pronounce as	<i>âf-ter</i>	anus

Actual	aktuell	pronounce as	<i>âk-tooh-êl</i>	up-to-date, current
Also	also	pronounce as	<i>âl-zoh</i>	so, therefore
Bald	bald	pronounce as	<i>bâlt</i>	soon
Become	bekommen	pronounce as	<i>be-kom-en</i>	to get
Blaze	die Blasé	pronounce as	<i>dee blah-ze</i>	bubble, bladder, blister
Boot	Boot	pronounce as	<i>boht</i>	boat
Brave	brav	pronounce as	<i>brahf</i>	well-behaved
Brief	der Brief	pronounce as	<i>breef</i>	official document
Chef	der Chef	pronounce as	<i>shêf</i>	boss
Closet	das Klosett	pronounce as	<i>kloh-zêt</i>	toilet bowl
Eventual	eventuell	pronounce as	<i>ey-vên-tooh-êl</i>	possible
Fast	fast	pronounce as	<i>fâst</i>	almost
Gift	Gift	pronounce as	<i>[as in English]</i>	poison
Handy	Handy	pronounce as	<i>hân-dee</i>	cellphone
Kind	das Kind	pronounce as	<i>kint</i>	child
Comfort	Komfort	pronounce as	<i>kom-fohr</i>	amenity
Cost	Kost	pronounce as	<i>kost</i>	food, fare
Lusty	lustig	pronounce as	<i>loos-tiH</i>	funny

Mist	Mist	pronounce as	<i>[as in English]</i>	manure
Most	der Most	pronounce as	<i>most</i>	young wine
Note	die Note	pronounce as	<i>dee noh-te</i>	grade
Ordinary	ordinär	pronounce as	<i>or-di-nair</i>	vulgar
Pathetic	pathetisch	pronounce as	<i>pâ-tey-tish</i>	overly emotional
Plump	plump	pronounce as	<i>ploomp</i>	clumsy, tactless
Preservative	Präservativ	pronounce as	<i>prê-zêr-vah-teef</i>	condom
Provision	Provision	pronounce as	<i>proh-vi-zee-ohn</i>	commission
Rat	Rat	pronounce as	<i>rât</i>	advice, counsel
Rock	Rock	pronounce as	<i>rok</i>	skirt
See	der See	pronounce as	<i>zey</i>	lake
Sensible	sensible	pronounce as	<i>zen-zee-bel</i>	sensitive
Sin	der Sinn	pronounce as	<i>zin</i>	sense
Smoking	Smoking	pronounce as	<i>[as in English]</i>	tuxedo
Spend	spenden	pronounce as	<i>shpen-den</i>	to donate
Sympathetic	sympathisch	pronounce as	<i>z ə m-pah-tish</i>	nice
Taste	Taste	pronounce as	<i>tahs-te</i>	key

Borrowed English Words

The German language has adopted a number of English words. The following are some of the borrowed English words. These words retain their English pronunciations.

- das Baby
- der Boss
- das Business
- das Catering
- die City
- der Computer
- cool
- das Design
- das Event
- Fashion
- das Fast Food
- das Feeling
- der File
- der Headhunter
- Hi
- Hip
- das Hotel
- das Internet
- das Interview
- das Jetlag
- der Job
- der Manager
- das Marketing
- das Meeting

- online
- die Party
- pink
- das Shopping
- die Shorts
- die Show
- das Steak
- das Talkshow
- das Team
- der Thriller
- der Tourist
- der Trainer
- das T-Shirt
- der Workshop
- Wow

The German language also borrowed some English verbs. However, these words adopted the German form; *-en* is added to the English infinitive.

- downloaden (to download)
- flirten (to flirt)
- joggen (to jog)
- killen (to kill)
- klicken (to click)
- managen (to manage)
- outsourcen (to outsource)
- stoppen (to stop)
- surfen (to surf)

Exercises

Numbers

How do you say the following numbers in German?

1. 287
2. 1000
3. 3rd
4. 96
5. 3486
6. 21st
7. 0
8. 16
9. 8th
10. 50

What time is it?

1. It's 9:45.
2. It's 5 o'clock.
3. It's 2.30.
4. It's 15:20.
5. It's midnight.

Answers

Numbers

1. zweihundertsiebenundachtzig
2. eintausend
3. dritte
4. sechsundneunzig
5. dreitausendvierhundertsechsundachtzig
6. einundzwanzigster
7. null
8. sechzehn
9. achte
10. fünfzig

What time is it?

1. Es ist Viertel vor zehn.
2. Es ist fünf Uhr.
3. Es ist halb drei.
4. Es ist fünfzehn Uhr zwanzig.
5. Es ist Mitternacht.

Chapter 2: Nouns and Articles

In all languages, a noun refers to a person, object, place, or concept. However, there are some differences between English nouns and German nouns. First, all German nouns have gender. They're either feminine, masculine, or neuter. They also often appear with an article – die, der, or das – the form of which depends on their gender. Lastly, all German nouns are capitalized.

Being comfortable with gendered nouns may be challenging for English speakers. This chapter will help you understand how to figure out the gender of a noun and the right form of article to use with it. It also covers how to come up with their plural forms.

Gender

Regardless of whether a noun is animate or inanimate, it's always either feminine, masculine, or neuter. More often than not, a noun's grammatical gender corresponds with its natural gender. For example, the noun *Herr* – the German word for “man” – is masculine.

The problem is that what the noun refers to doesn't always help in telling its grammatical gender, especially if it's inanimate or a concept. And while there are no simple explanations or rules for determining a noun's gender, there are a few tricks that can help you.

Articles

An article is a word that comes along with a noun and tells you whether that noun is either feminine, masculine, or neuter. Learning the noun with the article is the best way of ensuring that you know the gender of a German noun.

Like in English, the German language has definite and indefinite articles, which are shown in the table that follows.

	Feminine	Masculine	Neuter
Definite (the)	die	der	das
Indefinite (a, an)	eine	ein	ein

You use the German articles the same way you use articles in English. However, don't use the indefinite article when mentioning a person's nationality, profession, or religion.

- Siend Sie Neuseeländer? / Are you a New Zealander?
- Er ist Ingenieur. / He's an engineer.
- Anne ist Lutheranerin. / Anne is a Lutheran.

Gender of Nouns

In general, a noun's grammatical gender corresponds with its natural gender.

Noun	pronounce as		English
die Cousine	pronounce as	<i>dee kooh-zeen-e</i>	female cousin
die Großmutter	pronounce as	<i>dee grohs-moot-er</i>	grandmother
die Mutter	pronounce as	<i>dee moot-er</i>	mother

die Henne	pronounce as	<i>dee shvês-ter</i>	sister
die Tante	pronounce as	<i>dee tân-te</i>	aunt
der Bruder	pronounce as	<i>dêr brooh-der</i>	brother
der Cousin	pronounce as	<i>dêr kooh-zen</i>	male cousin
der Junge	pronounce as	<i>dêr yoong-e</i>	boy
der Sohn	pronounce as	<i>dêr zohn</i>	son
der Vater	pronounce as	<i>dêr fah-ter</i>	father

Masculine nouns

Nouns with the following endings are usually masculine:

Ending	Example			English
-er*	der Lehrer	pronounce as	<i>dêr ley-rer</i>	teacher
-ich	der Strich	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtriH</i>	line
-ig	der Honig	pronounce as	<i>dêr hoh-niH</i>	honey
-ing**	der Ring	pronounce as	<i>dêr ring</i>	ring
-ling	der Sträfling	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtraif-ling</i>	prisoner
-us	der Kommunismus	pronounce as	<i>dêr koh-moo-nis-moos</i>	communism

*especially when referring to jobs

**a common exception to this is the word Ding (thing), which is neuter.

Nouns that belong to these categories are usually masculine:

- Days of the week: *der Freitag* (Friday), *der Mittwoch* (Wednesday)
- Months: *der April* (April), *der Mai* (May)
- Seasons:
 - *der Frühling* – spring
 - *der Sommer* – summer
 - *der Herbst* – autumn
 - *der Winter* – winter
- Compass points / map locations:

- *der Norden* – north
- *der Süden* – south
- *der Osten* – east
- *der Westen* - West
- Names of cars and trains: *der Audi* (Audi)
- Occupations: *der Arzt* (doctor), *der Wissenschaftler* (scientist), *der Ingenieur* (engineer)
- Names of mountains and lakes: *der Himalaya*, *der Everest*, *der Baikalsee* (Lake Baikal)
- Rivers outside Europe: *der Amazonas* (Amazon) , *der Nil* (Nile) , *der Mississippi*

Feminine Nouns

Nouns with the following endings are usually feminine:

Ending	Example			English
-e (two-syllable nouns)	die Lampe	pronounce as	<i>dee lamp-e</i>	lamp
-ei	die Malerei	pronounce as	<i>dee mah-ley-ray</i>	painting
-heit	die Gesundheit	pronounce as	<i>dee gey-soont-hayt</i>	health
-ik	die Kritik	pronounce as	<i>dee kri-teek</i>	criticism
-ion	die Position	pronounce as	<i>dee po-zee-tsee-on</i>	position
-keit	die Leichtigkeit	pronounce as	<i>dee layH-tiH-kayt</i>	lightness
-kunft	die Auskunft	pronounce as	<i>dee ous-koonft</i>	information
-schaft	die Gesellschaft	pronounce as	<i>dee gey-zel-shâft</i>	company

-tät	die Universität	pronounce as	<i>die oo-nee-ver- si-têt</i>	university
-ung	die Wanderung	pronounce as	<i>dee vâ-n-dey- roong</i>	walking tour
-ur	die Natur	pronounce as	<i>dee nâ-toohr</i>	nature

Nouns that belong to these categories are usually feminine:

- Flowers: *die Rose* (rose), *die Tulpe* (tulip), *die Orchidee* (orchid)
- Trees: *die Buche* (beech), *die Fichte* (spruce), *die Kiefer* (pine), *die Eiche* (oak)
- Names of ships and aircrafts: *die Boeing 767* (Boeing 767)
- Cardinal numbers: *eine null* (a zero)

Neuter Nouns

Nouns with the following endings are usually neuter:

Ending	Example			English
-chen	das Hündchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs huent-Hen</i>	doggy
-lein	das Fräulein	pronounce as	<i>dâs froy-leyn</i>	young lady
-nis*	das Ereignis	pronounce as	<i>dâs êr-ayk-nis</i>	event
-tel	das Drittel	pronounce as	<i>dâs dri-tel</i>	third
-tum**	das Eigentum	pronounce as	<i>dâs ay-gên- toom</i>	property

* common exceptions are *die Erläubnis* (permission) and *die Erkenntnis* (knowledge)

** common exceptions are *der Intum* (error) and *der Reichtum* (wealth)

Nouns that belong to these categories are usually neuter:

- Geographic place names: *das Europa* (Europe), *das Asien* (Asia)
- Gerunds: *das Schwimmen* (swimming), *das Laufen* (running), *das Tanzen* (dancing)

- Young people or animals: *das Baby* (baby), *das Kätzchen* (kitten), *das Küken* (chick)
- Chemical elements and metals: *das Blei* (lead), *das Bügeleisen* (iron), *das Kupfer* (copper)

Nouns with the prefix *Ge-* are usually neuter. However, the prefix can also occur with other gender. Some of the most common exceptions are:

- *der Geruch* – smell
- *die Geschichte* – history
- *der Geschmack* – taste
- *die Geschwindigkeit* – speed
- *die Gestalt* – form, build
- *der Gestank* – stench
- *die Gewalt* – power
- *der Gewinn* - profit

Gender Changes

Feminine nouns can become masculine and vice versa. Making a masculine noun feminine is usually easy. If it ends in a vowel, you can drop the vowel, add *-in* to the masculine form, and modify the *a*, *o*, or *u*, if it contains any. The following table demonstrates this.

Masculine	Feminine	English
der Arzt	die Ärztin	doctor
der Bauer	die Bäuerin	farmer
der Koch	die Köchin	cook
der Lehrer	die Lehrerin	teacher
der Löwe	die Löwin	lion
der Schüler	die Schülerin	school boy/girl

Some German nouns never change their gender and form, regardless of the gender of the person or animal they refer to. Some of the most common examples are:

German			English
der Flüchtling	pronounce as	<i>dêr flueHt-ling</i>	Refugee
das Genie	pronounce as	<i>dâs jey-nee</i>	Genius
das Individuum	pronounce as	<i>dâs in-dee-vee-doo-oom</i>	Individual
das Kind	pronounce as	<i>dâs kint</i>	Child
das Model	pronounce as	<i>dâs moh-dêl</i>	Model
das Opfer	pronounce as	<i>dâs op-fêr</i>	Victim
die Person	pronounce as	<i>dee pêr-zohn</i>	Person

Nouns with Multiple Meanings

Nouns with more than one meaning are a bit tricky. That's because their gender depends on their meaning. For this group of nouns, you have no choice but to memorize them. The table that follows lists some of the frequently used nouns with multiple genders and meanings.

German Noun	English Translation		
	Feminine (die)	Masculine (der)	Neuter (das)
Band	band (music group)	volume (book)	tape, ribbon, radio wavelength
Golf	-	gulf	golf (game)
Kunde	the study of ...	customer	-
Leiter	ladder	leader, manager, director	-
Messer	-	gauge, surveyor	knife
Schild	-	shield, turtle shell	sign, name plate
See	ocean, see	lake	-
Stift	-	pencil, marker, ballpoint pen, pin	foundation, seminary
Tor	-	fool	gate, goal

Number

Almost all nouns have both singular and plural form. In English, you usually just add -s or -es to make the noun plural. In German, forming the plural isn't as

straightforward. Some nouns remain unchanged. Others take -e, -en, -er, -n, or -s. Many undergo vowel modification.

German nouns can be categorized into five groups which follow basic rules for forming plurals. However, there are a lot of exceptions to these rules. If you want to make sure that you're forming the correct plural of a noun, the best way is to memorize it each time you learn a noun.

Group 1

Nouns ending in *-e* , *-el* , and *-er* take *-n* in the plural form.

Singular			Plural			English
das Auge	pronounce as	<i>dâs</i> <i>ou-ge</i>	die Augen	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>ou-</i> <i>gen</i>	eye
der Bauer	pronounce as	<i>dêr</i> <i>bou-</i> <i>er</i>	die Bauern	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>bou-</i> <i>ern</i>	farmer
die Idee	pronounce as	<i>dee i-</i> <i>dee</i>	die Ideen	pronounce as	<i>dee i-</i> <i>deen</i>	idea
der Junge	pronounce as	<i>dêr</i> <i>yoon-</i> <i>ge</i>	die Jungen	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>yoon-</i> <i>gen</i>	boy
die Lampe	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>lamp-</i> <i>e</i>	die Lampen	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>lamp-</i> <i>en</i>	lamp
der Name	pronounce as	<i>dêr</i> <i>nah-</i> <i>me</i>	die Namen	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>nah-</i> <i>men</i>	name
die Gruppe	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>groo-</i> <i>pe</i>	die Gruppen	pronounce as	<i>dee</i> <i>groo-</i> <i>pen</i>	group
die	pronounce	<i>dee</i>	die	pronounce	<i>dee</i>	potato

Kartoffel	as	<i>kâr-to-fel</i>	Kartoffeln	as	<i>kâr-to-feln</i>	
die Schüssel	pronounce as	<i>dee shue-sel</i>	die Schüsseln	pronounce as	<i>dee shue-seln</i>	bowl
die Schwester	pronounce as	<i>dee shvêster</i>	die Schwestern	pronounce as	<i>dee shvêstern</i>	sister
die Steuer	pronounce as	<i>dee shtoyer</i>	die Steuern	pronounce as	<i>dee shtoyern</i>	tax

Group 2

Nouns in this group take *-en* to form the plural. Majority of these are feminine nouns ending in *-ion*, *-keit*, *-schaft*, *-tät*, *-ung*. Feminine nouns ending in *-in* take and additional *n* in the plural form.

Singular			Plural			English
die Freiheit	pronounce as	<i>dee fray-hayt</i>	die Freiheiten	pronounce as	<i>dee fray-hay-ten</i>	liberty
die Königin	pronounce as	<i>dee kə -nee-gin</i>	die Königinnen	pronounce as	<i>dee kə -nee-gi-nen</i>	queen
die Löwin	pronounce as	<i>dee lə -vin</i>	die Löwinnen	pronounce as	<i>dee lə -vi-nen</i>	lioness
die Mannschaft	pronounce as	<i>dee mân-shâft</i>	die Mannschaften	pronounce as	<i>dee mân-shâft-ten</i>	crew, team
die Möglichkeit	pronounce as	<i>dee m ə -kliH-kayt</i>	die Möglichkeiten	pronounce as	<i>dee m ə -kliH-kay-ten</i>	possibility
die Qualität	pronounce as	<i>dee kvah-</i>	die Qualitäten	pronounce as	<i>dee kvah-lee-</i>	quality

		<i>lee-tait</i>			<i>tai-ten</i>	
die Religion	pronounce as	<i>dee rey-lee-gee-ohn</i>	die Religionen	pronounce as	<i>dee rey-lee-gee-ohn-nen</i>	religion
die Studentin	pronounce as	<i>dee shtoo-dênt-in</i>	die Studentinnen	pronounce as	<i>dee shtoo-dênt-in-en</i>	student
die Zeit	pronounce as	<i>dee tsayt</i>	die Zeiten	pronounce as	<i>dee tsay-ten</i>	time
die Zeitung	pronounce as	<i>dee tsay-toong</i>	die Zeitungen	pronounce as	<i>dee tsay-toon-gen</i>	newspaper
der Mensch	pronounce as	<i>dêr mensh</i>	die Menschen	pronounce as	<i>men-shen</i>	human being
das Herz	pronounce as	<i>dâs hêrts</i>	die Herzen	pronounce as	<i>dee hêr-tsen</i>	heart
das Ohr	pronounce as	<i>dâs ohr</i>	die Ohren	pronounce as	<i>dee oh-ren</i>	ear

Group 3

Nouns in this group take no additional letters in their plural form. Some masculine and two feminine nouns undergo vowel modification. Neuter nouns in this group don't undergo any change at all.

Singular			Plural			English
die Mutter	pronounce as	<i>dee moo-ter</i>	die Mütter	pronounce as	<i>dee mue-ter</i>	mother
die Tochter	pronounce as	<i>dee toH-ter</i>	die Töchter	pronounce as	<i>dee t ə</i>	daughter

					<i>H-ter</i>	
der Garten	pronounce as	<i>dêr gâr-ten</i>	die Gärten	pronounce as	<i>dee gêr-ten</i>	garden
der Lehrer	pronounce as	<i>dêr ley-rer</i>	die Lehrer	pronounce as	<i>dee ley-rer</i>	teacher
der Vater	pronounce as	<i>dêr fah-ter</i>	die Väter	pronounce as	<i>dee fai-ter</i>	father
das Fenster	pronounce as	<i>dâs fens-ter</i>	die Fenster	pronounce as	<i>dee fens-ter</i>	window
das Mädchen	pronounce as	<i>das maid-Hên</i>	die Mädchen	pronounce as	<i>dee maid-Hên</i>	girl
das Mittel	pronounce as	<i>dâs mi-tel</i>	die Mittel	pronounce as	<i>dee mi-tel</i>	mean
das Zimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs tsi-mer</i>	die Zimmer	pronounce as	<i>dee tsi-mer</i>	room

Group 4

Nouns in this group take the ending *-e* when forming the plural. Feminine and neuter nouns ending in *-nis* take an additional *s* in the plural form. Some of these nouns also undergo vowel modification.

Singular			Plural			English
die Kenntnis	pronounce as	<i>dee kên-t-nis</i>	die Kenntnisse		<i>dee kên-t-ni-se</i>	knowledge
die Kunst	pronounce as	<i>dee koonst</i>	die Künste		<i>dee kuens-te</i>	art
die Stadt	pronounce as	<i>dee shtât</i>	die Städte		<i>dee shtâd-te</i>	city
die Wand	pronounce as	<i>dee vânt</i>	die Wände		<i>dee vên-de</i>	wall
der Baum	pronounce as	<i>dêr boum</i>	die Bäume		<i>dee boy-me</i>	tree
der Brief	pronounce as	<i>dêr breef</i>	die Briefe		<i>dee bree-fe</i>	letter
der Freund	pronounce as	<i>dêr froynd</i>	die Freunde		<i>dee froynd-e</i>	friend
der Sohn	pronounce	<i>dêr zohn</i>	die Söhne		<i>dee z ə</i>	son

	as				<i>hn-e</i>	
der Stuhl	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtoohl</i>	die Stühle		<i>dee shtuehl-e</i>	chair
der Tag	pronounce as	<i>dêr tahk</i>	die Tage		<i>dee tahk- e</i>	day
das Ereignis	pronounce as	<i>dâs êr- ayk-nis</i>	die Ereignisse		<i>dee êr- ayk-ni-se</i>	event
das Gedicht	pronounce as	<i>dâs gey- diHt</i>	die Gedichte		<i>dee gey- diH-te</i>	poem
das Jahr	pronounce as	<i>dâs yahr</i>	die Jahre		<i>dee yah- re</i>	year
das Pferd	pronounce as	<i>dâs pfêrt</i>	die Pferde		<i>dee pfêr- de</i>	horse

Group 5

Nouns in this group take the ending *-er* when forming the plural. Vowels are modified whenever possible.

Singular			Plural			English
der Geist	pronounce as	<i>dêr gayst</i>	die Geister	pronounce as	<i>dee gay- ster</i>	ghost
der Mann	pronounce as	<i>dêr mân</i>	die Männer	pronounce as	<i>dee mê- ner</i>	man
das Bild	pronounce as	<i>dâs bilt</i>	die Bilder	pronounce as	<i>dee bil- der</i>	painting
das Buch	pronounce as	<i>dâs boohH</i>	die Bücher	pronounce as	<i>dee bue- Her</i>	book
das Fahrrad	pronounce as	<i>dâs fahr- rad</i>	die Fahrräder	pronounce as	<i>dee fahr- rad- er</i>	bicycle
das Haus	pronounce as	<i>dâs hous</i>	die Hauser	pronounce as	<i>dee hous- er</i>	house
das Kind	pronounce as	<i>dâs kint</i>	die Kinder	pronounce as	<i>dee kin- der</i>	child
das Land	pronounce	<i>dâs lânt</i>	die	pronounce	<i>dee lên-</i>	country

	as		Länder	as	<i>der</i>	
das Schloss	pronounce as	<i>shlos</i>	die Schlösser	pronounce as	<i>sh l</i> <i>ə s-</i> <i>er</i>	castle

Note: Just like in English, there are German nouns that only exist in the plural form and always take the article *die*. There are also nouns which only have a singular form. Some examples of German nouns that only have plural forms and are:

- *die Ferien* – vacation
- *die Geschwister* – brothers and sisters
- *die Leute* – people
- *die Eltern* – parents

Notice in the above examples that in German, *vacation* is always plural. In English, this word is always singular. The following is a list of the most frequently used nouns which are singular in English but plural in German.

- *die Depressionen* – depression (illness)
- *die Haare* – hair
- *die Informationen* – information
- *die Kosten* – cost
- *die Möbel* – furniture
- *die Vereinigten Staaten* – the United States

And there are also nouns that are plural in English but singular in German.

- *die Brille* – eyeglasses
- *die Dynamik* – dynamics
- *das Feuerwerk* – fireworks
- *das Gemüse* – vegetables
- *die Hose* – pants
- *der Inhalt* – contents

- *das Mittelalter* – the Middle Ages
- *die Polizei* – police
- *die Schere* – scissors
- *die Statistik* – statistics
- *die Umgebung* – surroundings
- *das Volk* – the people (of a nation)

Exercises

Gender

A. What's the correct article for the gender of these nouns?

1. Großmutter (grandmother)
2. Bruder (brother)
3. Hahn (rooster)
4. Schwager (brother-in-law)
5. Stieftochter (stepdaughter)
6. Dorf (village)
7. Stier (bull)
8. Nichte (niece)
9. Restaurant (restaurant)
10. Tischcloth (tablecloth)

B. Following the rules in determining the gender of a noun, identify the correct article for these nouns.

1. Hausfrau (housewife)
2. Künstlerin (artist)
3. Frühling (spring)
4. Blitz (lightning)
5. Qualität (quality)
6. Kollege (colleague)

7. Rettich (radish)
8. Brunnen (well)
9. Brüderlein (little brother)
10. Freiheit (freedom)
11. Katze (cat)
12. Sportler (athlete)
13. Kamera (camera)
14. Sicherheit (safety)
15. Gärtnerin (gardener)
16. Ankunft (arrival)
17. Manager (manager)
18. Büch (book)
19. Foto (photo)
20. Klarheit (clarity)
21. Vertrag (contract)
22. Gelächter (laughter)
23. Wissen (knowledge)
24. Gehorsam (obedience)
25. Spielerin (gambler)
26. Deckel (lid, top)
27. Häuptling (chief)
28. Datum (date)
29. Besen (broom)
30. Unterkunft (accommodation, lodging)

Number

Identify the correct plural form of the following nouns:

1. der Elefant (elephant)
2. der Junge (boy)
3. der Wagen (car)
4. der Lehrer (teacher)
5. der Pilot (pilot)
6. der Absatz (paragraph)
7. der Fluss (river)
8. der Tänzer (dancer)
9. das Haus (house)
10. das Gelächter (laughter)
11. die Landung (landing)
12. das Gewitter (storm)
13. das Land (country)
14. das Radio (radio)
15. die Endung (ending)
16. das Gebiet (region)
17. die Tochter (daughter)
18. die Gefolgschaft (allegiance)
19. die Konstitution (constitution)
20. das Buch (book)

Answers:

Gender

A.

1. die

2. der
3. der
4. der
5. die
6. das
7. der
8. die
9. das
10. das

B.

1. die
2. die
3. der
4. der
5. die
6. der
7. der
8. der
9. der
10. die
11. die
12. der
13. die
14. die
15. die
16. die
17. der

18. das
19. das
20. die
21. der
22. das
23. das
24. der
25. die
26. der
27. der
28. das
29. der
30. die

Number

1. die Elefanten
2. die Jungen
3. die Wagen
4. die Lehrer
5. die Piloten
6. die Absätze
7. die Flüsse
8. die Tänzer
9. die Häuser
10. die Gelächter
11. die Landungen

12. die Gewitter
13. die Länder
14. die Radios
15. die Endungen
16. die Gebiete
17. die Töchter
18. die Gefolgschaften
19. die Konstitutionen
20. die Bücher

Chapter 3: Verbs and Conjugation

Verbs are the most important part of a sentence. Also known as action words, they describe the action that has happened, is happening, or is going to happen. Verbs also signify a state of being, whether it is in the past, present, or future. All sentences should have a verb in order to be complete.

Conjugation

The basic form of the verb is called the **infinitive** . In English, the infinitive form of the verb has the word “to”- to live, to read, to discover. In German, the infinitives end in *-en* , although there are a few exceptions that end in *-n* .

In both German and English, the verb’s subject is the doer of the action. The verb always changes their ending, known as conjugation, depending on the subject. In addition, conjugation also depends on the tense or when the action takes place.

Understanding Tenses

Tense describes the time in which something is happening. It can either be in the past, present, or future. The following are the most frequently used tenses in the German language:

- Present tense – describes actions that are currently happening, general facts, or habitual actions.

Ich wohne in den USA.	I live in the USA. I am living in the USA.
-----------------------	---

- Present perfect or conversational past tense – describes finished or unfinished actions that happened in the past. It's generally used in conversational German.

Ich habe in den USA gewohnt.	I lived in the USA. I have lived in the USA.
------------------------------	---

- Simple past tense – describes past actions. It's generally used in formal language.

Ich wonte in den USA.	lived in the USA.
-----------------------	-------------------

- Future tense – describes actions that haven't happened yet. The German language uses this tense much less than English. The simple present is used instead of the future.

Ich werde in den USA wohnen.	I will live in the USA. I'm going to live in the USA.
------------------------------	--

Notice in the above examples that the German present, present perfect, and future tenses also correspond to the English progressive or continuous tenses – *am living* , *have lived* , and *going to live* . The German language doesn't have the progressive tense, so the basic tenses are used instead.

Subject Pronouns

Pronouns are words that replace nouns. They refer to a noun without naming it. There are many types of pronoun, including the subject pronoun. They work together with verbs to make sentences.

It's important that you have a firm grasp of subject pronouns in order to understand the different verb tenses. They play an important role in helping you conjugate verbs. They also indicate who or what is performing the action or idea.

Person	Singular	English	Plural	English
First	ich	I	wir	we
Second	du	you	ihr	you
Third	er sie es	he she it	sie	they
Formal	Sie	you	Sie	you

The Different Forms of *You*

There are three ways to say you in German – *du*, *ihr*, and *Sie*. As you're just starting to learn the language, it's important to distinguish between these pronouns. Knowing when it's appropriate to use them may save you from possibly offending German speakers.

It's appropriate to use *Sie* in the following instances:

- When you're meeting an adult for the first time
- When you're not on a first-name basis with someone or you don't know them so well
- In business settings
- When addressing service staff or a person of authority/in uniform, such as an airport official or police officer
- When you're not sure whether it's appropriate to use *du* or *ihr*

Use the informal pronouns *du* and *ihr* in the following situations:

- When talking to a relative or close friend
- When addressing children and teens (usually no more than 16)
- When talking to pets
- When talking to people whom you share a common bond with – for example, you are members of a sports team or club
- When someone invites you to use *du*

Weak, Strong, and Irregular Verbs

In English, verbs are either regular or irregular, depending on whether they follow a regular pattern of conjugation. In German, verbs are either weak, strong, or irregular.

When you drop the ending *-en* (or *-n* , if a few cases) from the infinitive form of a verb, what remains is called the *stem* . To conjugate a verb, you have to add the appropriate ending to the stem based on the subject and tense.

Weak verbs follow a regular pattern of conjugation and their stem remain unchanged. They are therefore completely predictable. The following table lists some of the most common weak verbs.

Verb			Meaning
Antworten	pronounce as	<i>ânt-vort-en</i>	to answer
Arbeiten	pronounce as	<i>âr-bayt-en</i>	to work
Blicken	pronounce as	<i>blik-en</i>	to look, to glance
Brauchen	pronounce as	<i>brouH-en</i>	to need
Danken	pronounce as	<i>dânk-en</i>	to thank
Fragen	pronounce as	<i>frahg-en</i>	to ask
Gehen	pronounce as	<i>geh-en</i>	to go, to walk
Glauben	pronounce as	<i>gloub-en</i>	to believe
Heißen	pronounce as	<i>hays-en</i>	to be named, to be called
Kaufen	pronounce as	<i>kouf-en</i>	to buy
Kommen	pronounce as	<i>kom-en</i>	to come
Kosten	pronounce as	<i>kost-en</i>	to cost
Lernen	pronounce as	<i>lêrn-en</i>	to learn, to study
Lieben	pronounce as	<i>leeb-en</i>	to love
Machen	pronounce as	<i>mâH-en</i>	to do, to make
Mieten	pronounce as	<i>meet-en</i>	to rent
Rauchen	pronounce as	<i>rouH-en</i>	to smoke
Reisen	pronounce as	<i>ray-zen</i>	to travel
Reservieren	pronounce as	<i>rey-sêr-veer-en</i>	to reserve

Sagen	pronounce as	<i>sahg-en</i>	to say, to tell
Schicken	pronounce as	<i>shik-en</i>	to send
Sehen	pronounce as	<i>zeyh-en</i>	to see
Spielen	pronounce as	<i>shpeel-en</i>	to play [a game]
Suchen	pronounce as	<i>zoohH-en</i>	to look for
Tanzen	pronounce as	<i>tân-tsen</i>	to dance
Telefonieren	pronounce as	<i>tey-ley-fohn-eer-en</i>	to call (by telephone)
Tun	pronounce as	<i>toon</i>	to do
wandern	pronounce as	<i>vând-ern</i>	to hike
Warten	pronounce as	<i>vârt-en</i>	to wait
Wohnen	pronounce as	<i>vohn-en</i>	to live, to reside
Zeigen	pronounce as	<i>zayg-en</i>	to show, to indicate

Strong verbs also follow a regular pattern of conjugation. However, the vowel or vowels in their stems undergo small spelling changes. The following table lists some of the most common strong verbs.

Verb			Meaning
Backen	pronounce as	<i>bâk-en</i>	to bake
Beginnen	pronounce as	<i>bêg-in-en</i>	to begin
Bleiben	pronounce as	<i>blayb-en</i>	to remain
Essen	pronounce as	<i>es-en</i>	to eat
Fahren	pronounce as	<i>fahr-en</i>	to drive
Fallen	pronounce as	<i>fâl-en</i>	to fall
Fliegen	pronounce as	<i>fleeg-en</i>	to fly
Geben	pronounce as	<i>geyb-en</i>	to give

Halten	pronounce as	<i>halt-en</i>	to stop, to think about
Helfen	pronounce as	<i>helf-en</i>	to help
Laufen	pronounce as	<i>louf-en</i>	to run
Leiden	pronounce as	<i>layd-en</i>	to suffer
Lesen	pronounce as	<i>ley-zen</i>	to read
Nehmen	pronounce as	<i>neym-en</i>	to take
Schlafen	pronounce as	<i>shlahf-en</i>	to sleep
Sprechen	pronounce as	<i>shprêH-en</i>	to speak
Treffen	pronounce as	<i>trêf-en</i>	to meet
Trinken	pronounce as	<i>trink-en</i>	to drink

Irregular verbs do not completely follow the regular pattern of conjugation. The most common examples of irregular verbs are **haben** (to have) and **sein** (to be).

Note: Some German verbs have tendency to be weak or strong depending on the tense and are known as mixed verbs. They act like weak verbs only in the present tense. But like strong verbs, their stems undergo spelling change in the past tense and there are no patterns of conjugation to follow. The following verbs are considered mixed in German:

- *brennen* – to burn
- *bringen* – to bring
- *denken* – to think
- *kennen* – to know a person or a place

- *nennen* – to name
- *rennen* – to run
- *senden* – to send
- *wenden* – to turn, to wind
- *wissen* – to know a fact

The Present Tense

You use the present tense of a verb in German when you want to express what's happening now, what happens in the present in general, or when you want to talk about habitual actions.

Weak Verbs

To conjugate weak verbs in the present tense, just drop the *-en* and add the ending that corresponds with the subject. The table that follows demonstrate how to conjugate the verb *kommen* (to come).

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich komm e	wir komm en
Second	du komm st	ihr komm t
Third	er / sie /es komm t	sie komm en
Formal	Sie komm en	

If the stem ends in *-d*, *-t*, *-n*, or *-tm* , insert and *e* before adding the second-person (both singular and plural) and third-person singular endings. The addition of *e* makes it easier for the speaker to pronounce and for the listener to understand the verb. The following table demonstrates this for the verb *reden* (to talk).

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich red e	wir red en
Second	du red est	ihr red et
Third	er / sie /es red et	sie red en

Formal	Sie red en
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Strong Verbs

In the present tense, spelling changes in strong verbs occur in the second and third person singular forms. You will encounter different types of vowel changes. Unfortunately, there are no rules dictating which strong verb will undergo what vowel change.

- **a to ä** (*fallen* – to fall)

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich fall e	wir fall en
Second	du f <u>ä</u> ll st	ihr fall t
Third	er / sie /es f <u>ä</u> ll t	sie fall en
Formal	Sie fall en	

Other often used verbs that undergo this kind of vowel change are:

- *backen* – to bake
- *fahren* – to drive
- *gefallen* – to like, to enjoy
- *halten* – to stop, to think about
- *laufen* – to run
- *schlafen* – to sleep
- *tragen* – to wear, to carry
- *waschen* – to wash
- **e to i** (*sprechen* – to speak)

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich sprech e	wir sprech en

Second	du spr <u>i</u> ch st	ihr sprech t
Third	er / sie /es spr <u>i</u> ch t	sie sprech en
Formal	Sie sprech en	

Other often used verbs that undergo this kind of vowel change are:

- *essen* – to eat
- *geben* – to give
- *helfen* – to help
- *vergessen* – to forget
- **e to ie** (*sehen* – to see)

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich seh e	wir seh en
Second	du s <u>ie</u> h st	ihr seh t
Third	er / sie /es s <u>ie</u> h t	sie seh en
Formal	Sie seh en	

Another often used verb that undergoes this kind of vowel change is *lesen* (to read).

Irregular Verbs

Haben (to have) and *sein* (to be) are two common irregular verbs in the German language. Just like in English, they function both as free-standing verbs and as helping or auxiliary verbs. As auxiliary verbs, they are used in the present perfect tense.

The table that follows shows the conjugated forms of *haben*. Notice that it still follows the pattern of conjugation for weak verbs, except in the second and third person singular.

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich hab e	wir hab en
Second	du <u>ha</u> st	ihr hab t
Third	er / sie / es <u>ha</u> t	sie hab en
Formal	Sie hab en	

The table that follows shows the conjugated forms of *sein*. All of its forms are irregular, although the first and third person plural and formal forms are identical.

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich bin	wir sind
Second	du bist	ihr seid
Third	er / sie / es ist	sie sind
Formal	Sie sind	

Modals

Modals are helping verbs that signify the attitude toward the main verb. Although they don't modify the main verbs action, they alter the meaning of a sentence.

The German language has seven principal modal helping verbs. They usually modify another verb, but you can also see them as standalone verbs. These verbs are "weak" in their plural forms – their stems remain unchanged and they take the endings that correspond with the subject. However, their singular forms tend to be irregular.

The following table shows singular forms of the German modals. Note that the first and third person singular forms are the same in each verb.

dürfen		may, to be allowed to	ich darf
	<i>meaning</i>		du darfst
			er / sie / es darf

können		can, to be able to	ich kann
	<i>meaning</i>		du kannst
			er / sie / es kann
mögen		to like something	ich mag
	<i>meaning</i>		du magst
			er / sie / es mag
möchten		would like to	ich möchte
	<i>meaning</i>		du möchtest
			er / sie / es möchte
müssen		must	ich muss
	<i>meaning</i>		du must
			er / sie / es muss
sollen		should	ich soll
	<i>meaning</i>		du sollst
			er / sie / es soll
wollen		to want	ich will
	<i>meaning</i>		du willst
			er / sie / es will

The Present Perfect

Usage of the present perfect tense in English is quite different from German. In English, this tense describes actions which began in the past and are already completed in the present.

In the German language, this tense is often called the conversational past because it's used in conversations to talk about finished or unfinished states or actions in the past. It's also used in informal writing.

In both languages, the present perfect has two elements:

- The auxiliary verb – German uses the present-tense form of *haben* or *sein* (English uses *have*)
- The past participle

Present Perfect with *Haben*

Majority of German verbs form the present perfect tense with the helping verb *haben* . The action verbs can be categorized into weak, strong, and mixed based

on how their past participles are formed.

Weak Verbs

To form the past participle of weak verbs, drop the ending *-en* . Add the prefix *ge-* and the ending *-t* to the unchanged stem. The following table lists some of the most often used weak verbs and their past participle.

brauchen	<i>meaning</i>	to need	Gebraucht
drucken	<i>meaning</i>	to print	Gedruckt
feiern	<i>meaning</i>	to celebrate	Gefeiert
fragen	<i>meaning</i>	to ask	Gefragt
führen	<i>meaning</i>	to lead	Geführt
glauben	<i>meaning</i>	to believe	Geglaubt
hören	<i>meaning</i>	to hear	Gehört
hoffen	<i>meaning</i>	to hope	Gehofft
jobben	<i>meaning</i>	to do odd jobs	Gejobbt
kaufen	<i>meaning</i>	to buy	Gekauft
kochen	<i>meaning</i>	to cook	Gekocht
kriegen	<i>meaning</i>	to get	Gekriegt
lächeln	<i>meaning</i>	to smile	Gelächelt
leben	<i>meaning</i>	to live	Gelebt
lehren	<i>meaning</i>	to teach	Gelehrt
lieben	<i>meaning</i>	to love	Geliebt
lernen	<i>meaning</i>	to learn	Gelernt
machen	<i>meaning</i>	to make	Gemacht
passen	<i>meaning</i>	to fit	Gepasst
sagen	<i>meaning</i>	to say	Gesagt
schenken	<i>meaning</i>	to give [a present]	Geschenkt
schmecken	<i>meaning</i>	to taste	Geschmeckt
schneien	<i>meaning</i>	to snow	Geschneit
spielen	<i>meaning</i>	to play	Gespielt
suchen	<i>meaning</i>	to look for, to search	Gesucht
surfen	<i>meaning</i>	to surf	Gesurft

tanzen	<i>meaning</i>	to dance	Getanzt
trauen	<i>meaning</i>	to trust, to marry	Getraucht
träumen	<i>meaning</i>	to dream	Geträumt
wohnen	<i>meaning</i>	to live	Gewohnt
zahlen	<i>meaning</i>	to pay	Gezahlt

If the stem of the verb ends in *-d*, or *-t* or if the verb is recently adopted from the English language, add *-et* instead of *-t*. For example:

antworten	<i>meaning</i>	to answer	Geantwortet
arbeiten	<i>meaning</i>	to work	Gearbeitet
chatten	<i>meaning</i>	to chat	Gechattet
flirten	<i>meaning</i>	to flirt	Geflirtet
kosten	<i>meaning</i>	to cost	Gekostet
regnen	<i>meaning</i>	to rain	Geregnet
töten	<i>meaning</i>	to kill	Getötet

If the verb ends in *-ieren* , don't add the prefix *ge-* .

interpretieren	<i>meaning</i>	to interpret	interpretiert
spazieren	<i>meaning</i>	to walk	Spaziert
studieren	<i>meaning</i>	to study	Studiert

Strong Verbs

The stem of most strong verbs undergoes spelling change and take the ending *-en* when conjugated to form the past participle. The only exception is the verb *tun* , which becomes *getan* . Most of them also take the prefix *ge-* .

There are no simple patterns of spelling changes that these verbs follow. However, many of these strong verbs are frequently used so you'll be able to easily identify and memorize them.

The following table shows the past participles of some strong verbs.

Beginnen	<i>meaning</i>	to begin	Begonnen
Essen	<i>meaning</i>	to eat	Gegessen

Finden	meaning	to find	Gefunden
Genießen	meaning	to enjoy	Genossen
Heben	meaning	to lift, to raise	Gehoben
Helfen	meaning	to help	Geholfen
Liegen	meaning	to be located, to lie	Gelegen
Nehmen	meaning	to take	Genommen
Schreiben	meaning	to write	Geschrieben
singen	meaning	to sing	Gesungen
sitzen	meaning	to sit	Gesessen
sprechen	meaning	to speak, to talk	Gesprochen
stehen	meaning	to stand	Gestanden
treffen	meaning	to meet	Getroffen
trinken	meaning	to drink	Getrunken
tun	meaning	to do	Getan
verlassen	meaning	to leave	Verlassen
verlieren	meaning	to lose	Verloren
verstehen	meaning	to understand	Verstanden
ziehen	meaning	to pull	Gezogen

Some strong verbs don't undergo spelling change and only take the prefix *ge* . Here are some examples:

geben	meaning	to give	Gegeben
backen	meaning	to bake	Gebacken
heißen	meaning	to be called	Geheißen
lassen	meaning	to let, to leave	Gelassen
lesen	meaning	to read	Gelesen
rufen	meaning	to call	Gerufen
schlafen	meaning	to sleep	Geschlafen
tragen	meaning	to wear	Getragen
waschen	meaning	to wash	Gewaschen

Irregular Verbs

Irregular verbs tend to act like mixed verbs in forming the past participle. Like weak verbs, they take the ending *-t* . And like strong verbs, their stem undergoes some spelling changes. These verbs don't follow any pattern, so you'll have to memorize them.

Brennen	<i>meaning</i>	to burn	Gebrannt
bringen	<i>meaning</i>	to bring	Gebracht
denken	<i>meaning</i>	to think	Gedacht
kennen	<i>meaning</i>	to know a person	Gekannt
nennen	<i>meaning</i>	to name, to call	Gennant
rennen	<i>meaning</i>	to run	Gerannt
senden	<i>meaning</i>	to send	Gesandt
wenden	<i>meaning</i>	to turn	Gewandt
wissen	<i>meaning</i>	to know [information]	Gewußt

When modal verbs do not modify another verb, they act like irregular verbs. Otherwise, they remain in their infinitive form in the present perfect tense. The past participle form of modal verbs are as follows:

dürfen	<i>meaning</i>	to be allowed to	Gedurft
können	<i>meaning</i>	to be able to	Gekonnt
mögen	<i>meaning</i>	to like to	Gemocht
müssen	<i>meaning</i>	to have to	Gemusst
sollen	<i>meaning</i>	to be supposed to	Gesollt
wollen	<i>meaning</i>	to want to	Gewollt

Present Perfect with *Sein*

Haben is used more often than *sein* in forming the present perfect. However, there are a number of commonly used verbs that pair up with *sein* . In general, these verbs are intransitive – they don't take direct object. They also almost always show a change of condition or movement to or from a place. Although of course, there are a few exceptions.

Most verbs that use *sein* form their past participle by adding the prefix *ge-* and the ending *-en* to the stem. However, some undergo spelling changes while others take the ending *-t* so you have to memorize them.

Bleiben	<i>meaning</i>	to stay	Geblichen
fahren	<i>meaning</i>	to drive	Gefahren
fallen	<i>meaning</i>	to fall	Gefallen
fliegen	<i>meaning</i>	to fly	Geflogen
fließen	<i>meaning</i>	to flow, to run	Geflossen
gehen	<i>meaning</i>	to go	Gegangen
kommen	<i>meaning</i>	to come	Gekommen
laufen	<i>meaning</i>	to run, to walk	Gelaufen
reisen	<i>meaning</i>	to travel	Gereist
reiten	<i>meaning</i>	to ride on horseback	Geritten
schwimmen	<i>meaning</i>	to swim	geschwommen
sein	<i>meaning</i>	to be	Gewesen
steigen	<i>meaning</i>	to climb	Gestiegen
sterben	<i>meaning</i>	to die	Gestorben
wachsen	<i>meaning</i>	to grow	Gewachsen
wander	<i>meaning</i>	to hike, to wander	Gewandert
werden	<i>meaning</i>	to become	Geworden

Usage of the Present Perfect

As mentioned earlier, the present perfect tense is used a lot more frequently in the German language. In fact, it represents three English verb tenses. For example, the sentence *Sie haben in Deutschland gelebt* can mean any of the following:

- They have lived in Germany. (*present perfect*)
- They lived in Germany. (*simple past*)
- They were living in Germany. (*past continuous*)

Another difference between the use of the present perfect in German and in English is seen when a time element, such as *gestern* (yesterday) is added. In this case, you use the simple past in English but in German, you use the present perfect. For example:

- Wir haben gestern einen Löwen gesehen. / *English translation: We saw a lion yesterday.*

The Simple Past

In the German language, the simple past is also known as the imperfect or the narrative past. In general, you'll encounter it more often in written German.

Like the present perfect, the German simple past can have several different English equivalents. For example, the sentence *Hans spielte sehr gut Klavier* can mean any of the following:

- Hans played the piano very well. (simple past; stating a fact or commenting)
- Hans was playing the piano very well. (past continuous; doesn't exist in German)
- Hans used to play the piano very well. (*used to + verb* phrase is expressed in German using *damals* [then])

Weak Verbs

To form the simple past of weak verbs, drop the *-en* from the infinitive and the add the corresponding ending based on the subject . The table that follows demonstrates this using the verb *wohnen* (to live).

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich wohn te	wir wohn ten
Second	du wohn test	ihr wohn tet
Third	er / sie /es wohn te	sie wohn ten
Formal	Sie wohn ten	

If the verb stem ends in *d* or *t* , it takes an extra *e* before adding the corresponding ending for easier pronunciation. The following table

demonstrates this using the verb *arbeiten* (to work).

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich arbeit ete	wir arbeit eten
Second	du arbeit etest	ihr arbei etet
Third	er / sie /es arbeit ete	sie arbeit eten
Formal	Sie arbeit eten	

Most German verbs are conjugated as weak verbs in the simple past. Commonly used verbs that fall outside this category are far less so if you can recognize them, you'll know which ones are weak verbs.

Strong Verbs

The stem of strong verbs undergoes spelling changes to form the simple past. To conjugate strong verbs, add the corresponding ending to the modified stem. The following table demonstrates this with the verb *beginnen* (to begin). Note that the first and third person singular forms take no endings.

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich begann	wir begann en
Second	du begann st	ihr begann t
Third	er / sie /es begann	sie begann en
Formal	Sie begann en	

There are no rules on spellings, you'll have to memorize the modified stems of strong verbs. Fortunately, there isn't a lot of them.

Infinitive		English	Modified Stem
essen	<i>meaning</i>	to eat	aß-
fahren	<i>meaning</i>	to drive	fuhr-
fallen	<i>meaning</i>	to fall	fiel-
fangen	<i>meaning</i>	to catch	fing-
finden	<i>meaning</i>	to find	fand-
fliegen	<i>meaning</i>	to fly	flog-
geben	<i>meaning</i>	to give	gab-
gehen	<i>meaning</i>	to go	ging-
gewinnen	<i>meaning</i>	to win	gewann-
halten	<i>meaning</i>	to stop, to hold	hielt-
kommen	<i>meaning</i>	to come	kam-

lassen	<i>meaning</i>	to allow, to let	ließ-
laufen	<i>meaning</i>	to run	lief-
lesen	<i>meaning</i>	to read	las-
liegen	<i>meaning</i>	to lie [down]	lag-
nehmen	<i>meaning</i>	to take	nahm-
reiten	<i>meaning</i>	to ride on horseback	ritt-
schneiden	<i>meaning</i>	to cut	schnitt-
schreiben	<i>meaning</i>	to write	schrieb-
schwimmen	<i>meaning</i>	to swim	schwamm-
sehen	<i>meaning</i>	to see	sah-
singen	<i>meaning</i>	to sing	sang-
sitzen	<i>meaning</i>	to sit	saß-
sprechen	<i>meaning</i>	to speak	sprach-
tragen	<i>meaning</i>	to wear, to carry	trug-
treffen	<i>meaning</i>	to meet	traf-
trinken	<i>meaning</i>	to drink	trank-
tun	<i>meaning</i>	to do	tat-
vergessen	<i>meaning</i>	to forget	vergaß-
verlieren	<i>meaning</i>	to lose	verlor-
verstehen	<i>meaning</i>	to understand	verstand-
wachsen	<i>meaning</i>	to grow	wuchs-
werden	<i>meaning</i>	to become	wurde-

Irregular Verbs

Haben and *sein* are the most commonly used irregular verbs. It's important to memorize their simple past forms because instead of the present perfect tense, the simple past of these two verbs are more often used in conversation.

These are the conjugations of *haben* (to have):

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich hat te	wir hat ten
Second	du hat test	ihr hat tet
Third	er / sie / es hat te	sie hat ten
Formal	Sie hatte n	

Modal verbs also follow the same pattern of conjugation as *haben*. The following table shows their stems. Note that the stems of *sollen* and *wollen* remain unchanged.

dürfen	meaning	to be allowed to	durf-
können	meaning	to be able to	konn-
mögen	meaning	to like to	moch-
müssen	meaning	to have to	muss-
sollen	meaning	to be supposed to	soll-
wollen	meaning	to want to	woll-

And these are the conjugations of *sein* (to be):

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich war	wir war en
Second	du war st	ihr war t
Third	er / sie /es war	sie war en
Formal	Sie war en	

The Future

To talk about future events, German speakers often use the present tense of the verb with future time expression. For example:

- Wir *fliegen* nächsten Monat nach München. / *English translation:* We will fly to Munich next month.
- Ich *besuche* dieses Wochenende meine Freunde. / *English translation:* I'm going to visit my friends this weekend.

This means that if you're already familiar with the present tense forms of verbs, you only need to learn some time expressions to be able to talk about the future.

Here are some common future time expressions:

- *morgen* – tomorrow

- *übermorgen* – the day after tomorrow
- *nächste Woche* – next week
- *am nächsten Tag* – the next day
- *heute in einer Woche* – a week from today
- *am [day of the week]* – on []
- *dieses Wochenende* – this weekend
- *diese Woche* – this week
- *diesen Mont* – this month
- *in zwei Monaten* – in two months
- *in zwei Stunden* – in two hours

Expressing the Future with *Werden*

The future tense in German is formed by combining the present tense of the helping verb *werden* and the infinitive form of the verb that you want to use. As a standalone verb, *werden* means “to get” or “to become” but as helping verb in the future tense, it means “going to” or “will.”

The following table shows the conjugates of *kaufen* (to buy) in the future tense.

Person	Singular	Plural
First	ich werde kaufen	wir werden kaufen
Second	du wirst kaufen	ihr werdet kaufen
Third	er / sie /es wird kaufen	sie werden kaufen
Formal	Sie werden kaufen	

Exercises

Present Tense

Use the correct form of the action verbs in the following sentences.

1. Hans (reservieren) ein Hotelzimmer. (*Hans reserves a hotel room.*)
2. Hans und Anne (warten) auf den Bus. (*Hans and Anne are waiting for the bus.*)
3. Wir (fragen) nach der Adresse. (*We ask for the address.*)
4. Er (brauchen) ein Taxi. (*He needs a taxi.*)
5. Ich (lernen) Deutsch. (*I'm learning German.*)
6. Anne (essen) Bratwurst. (*Anne is eating fried sausage.*)
7. Anne (treffen) ihre deutsche Freundin. (Anne is meeting her German friend.)
8. Du (sprechen) sehr gut Englisch. (*You speak English very well.*)
9. Karl (fahren) nach Köln. (*Karl is driving to Cologne.*)
10. Der Bus (halten) vor der Kirche. (*The bus stops in front of the church.*)

Present Perfect Tense

Use the correct form of the auxiliary and action verbs in the following sentences.

1. (laufen) Wir ___ den ganzen Tag _____. (*We walked all day.*)
2. (kaufen) Sie hat gestern ein neues Kleid _____. (*She bought a new dress yesterday.*)
3. (kochen) Hans ___ heute morgen Pasta _____. (*Hans cooked pasta this morning.*)
4. (lieben) Ich ___ diese Schuhe _____. (*I loved those shoes.*)
5. (reisen) Wir ___ letzten Monat durch Europa _____. (*We travelled around Europe last month.*)
6. (machen) Du ___ einen Fehler _____. (*You made a mistake.*)

7. (treffen) Hans und Anne ___ sich vor drei Jahren _____. (*Hans and Anne met three years ago.*)
8. (bleiben) Wir ___ zu Hause _____. (*We stayed at home.*)
9. (anrufen) Ich ___ dein Büro _____. (*I called your office.*)
10. (send) Hans ___ Anne ein Jahr lang jeden Tag Blumen _____. (*Hans sent Anne flowers every week for three years.*)

Simple Past Tense

Use the correct form of the verbs in the following sentences.

1. Ich (haben) eine Haustierkatze. (*I had a pet cat.*)
2. Deine Eltern (arbeiten) hart. (*Your parents worked hard.*)
3. Der Regen (beginnen) zu fallen. (*The rain started to fall.*)
4. Es (sein) eine gute Erfahrung. (*It was a good experience.*)
5. Wir (wohnen) in den Bergen. (*We lived in the mountains.*)

Future Tense

Use the corrects form of *werden* and the verb in the following sentences.

1. (essen) Ich ___ später _____. (*I will eat later*)
2. (sehen) Sie ___ einen Film _____. (*They're going to watch a movie.*)
3. (gewinnen) Du ___ _____. (*You will win.*)
4. (sein) Sie ___ in ein paar Minuten hier _____. (*They will be here in a few minutes.*)
5. (heiraten) Anne ___ Hans im Herbst _____. (*Anne will marry Hans in the fall.*)

Answers

Present

1. reserviert
2. warten
3. fragen

4. braucht
5. lerne
6. isst
7. trifft
8. sprichst
9. fährt
10. hält

Present Perfect

1. sind, gelaufen
2. hat, gekauft
3. hat, gekocht
4. habe, geliebt
5. sind, gereist
6. hast, gemacht
7. haben, getroffen
8. sind, geblieben
9. habe, angerufen
10. hat, gesandt

Simple Past

1. hatte
2. arbeiteten
3. began
4. war
5. wohnten

Future

1. werde, essen
2. werden, sehen

3. wirst, gewinnen
4. werden, sein
5. wird, heiraten

Chapter 4: Understanding Cases and Making Simple Sentences

A sentence is a group of words strung together to express a complete thought. It consists of a subject and a predicate. The subject is the element that performs the action or being described. It can either be a noun or pronoun. The predicate tells something about the subject. It starts with a verb and it's possible for that verb to be the only word in the predicate.

Now that you've learned about nouns, subject pronouns, and verbs, you have the elements to make sentences. But in order for you to make your own German sentences correctly, you first need to understand case.

Case

The case of a noun or pronoun indicates what role it plays in a sentence. There are four German cases and a noun or pronoun may have a different form for each case. With nouns, it's usually the article that's modified but the noun itself could also be altered depending on the case.

The four cases in German are:

- **Nominative** (nom.) – This is the case of the subject of the sentence, that is, the person or thing that carries out the action or undergoes the state of being of the verb.

In the sentence *Ich trinke* (I drink), the subject is Ich and it's in the nominative case.

- **Accusative** (acc.) – This is the case used with the direct object – the person or thing the subject is acting on. This case is also used with time and measurement answering the questions how much, how soon, how often, how short, and so on.

In the sentence *Er schickt ein Paket* (He sends a package), the direct object is ein Paket and it's in the accusative case .

- **Dative** (dat.) – This is the case used with the indirect object – the object to whom the subject is doing the action.

In the sentence *Er schickt seinem Bruder ein Paket* (He sends a package to his brother), the indirect object is seinem Bruder and it's in the dative case .

- **Genitive** (dat.) – This case indicates possession.

In the sentence *Er schickt der Frau seines Bruders ein Paket* (He sends a package to the wife of his brother), seines Bruders is in the genitive case.

Declensions of Nouns and Articles

Declension refers to the rules or patterns of change that different groups of words follow in each of the cases.

The following tables show the declensions of definite and indefinite articles.

Definite Articles (the)				
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nominative	der	die	das	Die
Accusative	den	die	das	Die
Dative	dem	der	dem	Den
Genitive	des	der	des	Der

Indefinite Articles (a, an)				
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nominative	ein	eine	ein	-
Accusative	einen	eine	ein	-

Dative	einem	einer	einem	-
Genitive	eines	einer	eines	-

Most German nouns have the same spelling in all four cases. However, there are some commonly used nouns that change their spelling depending on how they're used in a sentence.

- Masculine nouns ending in *-e* take the case ending *-n* in the accusative, dative, and genitive.

English	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
customer	der Kunde	den Kunden	dem Kunden	des Kunden
Frenchman	der Franzose	den Franzosen	dem Franzosen	des Franzosen
stranger	der Fremde	den Fremden	dem Fremden	des Fremden

- Groups of masculine nouns that refer to people, professions, titles, and animals take the case ending *-en* in the accusative, dative, and genitive.

English	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
student	der Student	den Studenten	dem Studenten	des Studenten
president	der Präsident	den Präsidenten	dem Präsidenten	des Präsidenten
Bear	der Bär	den Bären	dem Bären	des Bären

- Plural nouns ending in *-er* take an *-n* in the dative case.

English	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Fathers	die Väter	die Väter	den Vätern	der Väter
	die Lichter	die Lichter	den Lichtern	der Lichter

Declensions of Pronouns

In the previous chapter, you learned about subject pronouns. These pronouns are actually part of a larger family known as personal pronouns. And based on their name, you already know that they're the nominative case.

The following table shows the declensions of personal pronouns. Note that there are only three cases.

Nominative (subject)	Accusative (direct obj.)	Dative (indirect obj.)
ich (I)	mich (me)	mir (me)
du (you)	dich (you)	dir (you)
er (he)	ihn (him)	ihm (him)
sie (she)	sie (her)	ihr (her)
es (it)	es (it)	ihm (it)
wir (we)	uns (us)	uns (us)
ihr (you)	euch (you)	euch (you)
sie (they)	sie (them)	ihnen (them)
Sie (you)	Sie (you)	Ihnen (you)

- Nominative: Ich trage meine Lieblingsschuhe. (I wear my favorite shoes.)
- Accusative: Hans liebt mich . (Hans loves me.)
- Dative: Sie hat mir ein Geschenk gegeben. (She gave me a gift.)

Demonstrative Pronouns

These pronouns are used to distinguish or point to something specific. They place emphasis on the noun being referred to.

In German, the definite articles are frequently used as demonstrative pronouns. They replace a person or thing that has been mentioned previously. They translate to *he*, *she*, *it*, and *they* in English.

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	der	den	dem	Dessen
Feminine	die	die	der	Deren
Neuter	das	das	dem	Dessen
Plural	die	die	denen	Deren

- Ist das Hotel ausgebucht? Ja, der ist voll. / *English translation:* Is the hotel completely booked? Yes, it is full.

- Sind die Hunde aggressive? Nein, die sind freundlich. / *English translation:* Are the dogs aggressive? No, they're friendly.

The demonstrative pronouns *dieser* and *jener* and their different forms are the equivalent of the English *this* and *that*. However, German speakers prefer to use *der* instead of *jener*.

The following table shows the declension of *dieser*. *Jener* follows the same pattern.

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	dieser	diesen	diesem	Dieses
Feminine	diese	diese	dieser	Dieser
Neuter	dieses	dieses	diesem	Dieses
Plural	diese	diese	diesen	Dieser

- Dieser Film ist interessant. / *English translation:* This movie is interesting.
- Ich sollte diese Schuhe tragen. / *English translation:* I should wear these shoes.

Relative Pronouns

Relative pronouns are used to include additional information about a noun or pronoun. In English, relative pronouns are *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, and *whose*. The good news for you is that in German, the demonstrative pronoun *der* also acts as the relative pronoun and it follows the same declension in all cases.

Below are some examples of the relative pronouns in action. Note that a comma is always placed before this pronoun. In English, a comma is only used before *which*.

- Das ist der Mann, der für ihn arbeitet. / *English translation:* That's the man who works for him.
- Das ist die Frau, deren Hund ein Kind gerettet hat. / *English translation:* That's the woman whose dog saved a child.

Making Simple Sentences

In general, the arrangement of words in German to form a sentence is similar to the English word order. The subject comes first, followed by the verb, and then the rest of the sentence. For example:

Subject	Verb	Object
Mein Hund (My dog)	isst (eats)	Gemüse. (vegetables.)
Sie (They)	kennen (know)	dich. (you.)

One difference between German and English sentence construction is the positioning of one-word verbs. This verb always takes the second placeholder. In the above example, the first placeholder contains the subject and the second holds the verb. If the sentence begins with something other than the subject, the verb will still take the second placeholder and precede the subject. Consider these examples:

- Nächsten Monat fliegen wir nach München. / *English translation:* Next month we will fly to Munich.
- Dieses Wochenende besuche ich meine Freunde. / *English translation:* This weekend I will visit my friends.

In both sentences, a time expression is in the first placeholder. The second placeholder is taken by the verb, followed by the subject and then the rest of the sentence.

If the sentence has compound verbs, such as in the present perfect tense, the auxiliary verb takes the second placeholder and the participle is pushed to the end of the sentence.

- Wir sind gestern nach New York gefahren . / *English translation:* We drove to New York yesterday.
- Gestern sind wir nach New York gefahren . / *English translation:* Yesterday we drove to New York.

Asking Yes-or-No Questions

There are three ways to ask a yes-or-no question in German: through intonation, the use of the question tag *nicht wahr*, and inversion .

Intonation

To indicate that you're asking a question, you can simply speak the way you do in English - with a rising inflection. If you slightly raise your voice at the end of the sentence while saying *Sie kennen dich* (They know you), its meaning becomes "Do they know you?"

Question Tag

Nicht wahr means "Isn't this true?" When you add this at the end of your statement, it becomes a yes-or-no question.

- Sie kennen dich, nicht wahr? / *English translation:* They know you, don't they?
- Ihr Hund hat das Gemüse gefressen, nicht wahr? / *English translation:* Your dog ate the vegetables, didn't he?

Inversion

To ask a question using inversion, you reverse the order of the subject and the conjugated form of the verb. This means that your sentence will begin with a verb followed by the subject. If the sentence uses the present perfect, the past participle remains at the end of the sentence.

- Kennen sich dich? / *English translation:* Do they know you?
- Hat ihr Hund das Gemüse gegessen? / *English translation:* Did your dog eat the vegetables?

Note that German doesn't have the equivalent of do/does/did when forming questions. It's also important to remember not to invert with the pronoun *ich*. It's awkward and native German speakers rarely do it.

Giving an Answer

To give an affirmative answer, you simply start your statement with the word *ja* (yes).

- Ja, sie kennen mich. / *English translation:* Yes, they know me.

- Ja, mein Hund hat das Gemüse gefressen. / *English translation:* Yes, my dog ate the vegetables.

To give a negative answer, begin your statement with *nein* (no) and end it with *nicht* (not) .

- Nein, sie kennen mich nicht. / *English translation:* No, they don't know me.

If the sentence has compound verbs, place *nicht* before the past participle.

- Nein, mein Hund hat das Gemüse nicht gegessen. / *English translation:* No, my dog didn't eat the vegetables.

Asking with Question Words

If you want more than a simple yes or no for an answer, you need to ask using question words. Also known as interrogative pronouns, these words allow you to gather specific information.

The word order for information-gathering questions is the same as the inverted yes-or-no question. The only difference is that you add the interrogative pronoun at the beginning of your sentence.

The following table shows some often used question words and phrases in German and example questions.

German	English	Example
Wer	who	Wer hat dieses Buch geschrieben? / Who wrote this book?
Was	what	Was machen Sie? / What are you doing?
was für	what kind of	Was für ein Handy ist das? / What kind of mobile phone is that?
Wann	when	Wann bist du nach Deutschland gegangen? /

		When did you go to Germany?
bis wann	until when	Bis wann wartest du? / Until what time are you waiting?
Wo	where	Wo werden wir essen? / Where are we going to eat?
Woher	where ... from	Woher kommt das Paket? / Where is the package from?
Wohin	where ... (to)	Wohin hast du das Paket geschickt? / Where did you send the package (to)?
Wie	how	Wie heißen Sie? / What is your name?
wie viel	how much	Wie viel kosten die Äpfel? / How much are the apples?
wie viele	how many	Wie viele Gäste werden dort sein? / How many guests will be there?
wie lange	how long	Wie lange dauert der Flug? / How long is the flight?
wie weit	how far	Wie weit ist es? / How far is it?
warum, weshalb, wieso	why	Warum bist du hier? / Why are you here?
welcher (m.), welche (f.), welches (n.)	which	Welche Schuhe soll ich tragen? / Which shoes should I wear?

Note: In German, you usually get the person's name by asking what he is called. *Wie heißen Sie* or *Wie heißt du* literally translates to "How are you called" in English. The common reply to this question is *Ich heiße ...* or "I am called ..."

Wer is the nominative case of who. It has three other forms corresponding to the three other cases.

- Accusative: **wen** (whom, who) – *Wen liebst du?* / *English translation:* Who do you love?
- Dative: **wem** (who) – *Wem hast du es gegeben?* / *English translation:* Who did you give it to?
- Genitive: **wessen** (whose) – *Wessen Auto ist das?* / *English translation:* Whose car is this?

The Passive Voice

Statements can be expressed in either active or passive voice. In the active voice, the subject is the doer of the action. In the passive voice, the subject is the receiver of the action. All of the previous example sentences you've encountered in this book are in the active voice.

To form a sentence in the passive voice, you combine the conjugated form of the auxillary verb *werden* (to become) with the past participle of the verb you want to express in the passive. The auxillary verb takes the second placeholder while the past participle goes at the end of the sentence.

The passive voice can be expressed in different tenses, but the most common tenses are the present and past. The table that follows shows the conjugates of *werden* in the present and past.

Subject	Present	Past
ich	werde	wurde
du	wirst	wurdest
er / sie/ es	wird	wurde
wir	werden	wurden
ihr	werdet	wurdet
sie	werden	wurden
Sie	werden	wurden

Here are a few examples:

- Die Ergebnisse werden veröffentlicht. / *English translation:* The results are published.
- Mein Auto wurde gestohlen. / *English translation:* My car was stolen.

The doer of the action is not necessary in forming a sentence in the passive voice. If you want to introduce the doer, you use *von* (by) if it's a person. If not, *durch* (through, by, by means of) is typically used.

- Das Buch wurde von meiner Cousine geschrieben. / *English translation:* The book was written by my cousin.
- Die Krankheit wurde durch Viren verursacht. / *English translation:* The disease was caused by virus.

The Imperative

The imperative or command form is used when you want to give instructions, make suggestions, or offer encouragement. Although it's not a tense – it's actually called a mood – imperative sentences use verbs with slightly different form.

The subject of an imperative sentence is always *you*. In English, the imperative has only one form. In German, the imperative has three forms - the singular informal (*du*), plural informal (*ihr*), and formal (*Sie*).

The imperative form of most verbs for *Sie* and *ihr* is the same as their present tense forms. To form the imperative for *du*, simply add an *-e* to the stem of the verb.

Subject	reden (to talk)	gehen (to go)	warten (to wait)
Du	rede	Gehe	Warte
Ihr	redet	Geht	Wartet
Sie	reden	Gehen	Warten

Imperative sentences begin with the verb. When you use the imperative form for *du* or *ihr*, you don't include the pronoun in the sentence. When you use the

imperative form for *Sie*, the pronoun follows the verb. Consider the different translations for “Wait for me.”

- Warte auf mich. (*du*)
- Wartet auf mich. (*ihr*)
- Warten Sie auf mich. (*Sie*)

If you want to be more polite, you can add the word *bitte* (please).

- Warten Sie auf mich, bitte.

Note: In German, it’s common for imperative sentences to end with exclamation point. This doesn’t necessarily mean that the statement has a sense of urgency, unlike in English. The use of exclamation mark is merely grammatical.

Exercises

Declension of Nouns and Articles

Identify the case and complete the following sentences with properly declined articles and nouns.

1. Das Volk wählt ____ _____. (*The people elect the president.*)
2. ____ _____ unterzeichnete ein neues Gesetz. (*The President signed a new law.*)
3. Das Halsband ____ _____ fehlt. (*The cat’s collar is missing.*)
4. Er schrieb ____ _____ für seinen geliebten Hund. (*He wrote a song for his beloved dog.*)
5. Er hat ____ _____ Essen gegeben. (*He gave food to the stranger.*)

Declension of Pronouns

Identify the case and complete the following sentences with properly declined pronouns.

1. Er möchte, dass wir ____ besuchen. (*He wants us to visit.*)
2. ____ Bäume sind so groß. (*Those trees are so big.*)

3. Das Fell ____ Hundes ist glänzend. (*This dog's fur is shiny.*)
4. Sie liebt __. (*She loves him.*)
5. Ich werde __ bald anrufen. (*I will call them soon.*)
6. Die Blumen, die du __ gegeben hast, sind wunderschön. (*The flowers you gave me are beautiful.*)
7. Ich habe ____ Tomaten gepflanzt. (*I planted these tomatoes.*)
8. Hans ging mit __. (*Hans walked with her.*)
9. __ haben über dich gesprochen. (*We talked about you.*)
10. Er hat __ Auto gekauft. (*He bought that car.*)

Question Words

What question word should you use in the following sentences?

1. _____ eine Frage ist das? (*What kind of question is this?*)
2. _____ Hund ist das? (*Whose dog is that?*)
3. _____ Länder haben Sie besucht? (*How many countries have you visited?*)
4. _____ heißt sie? (*What's her name?*)
5. _____ hat dich geschickt? (*Who sent you?*)
6. _____ willst du Deutsch lernen? (*Why do you want to learn German?*)
7. _____ wirst du treffen? (*Who are you going to meet?*)
8. _____ Bis wann haben die Geschäfte geöffnet? (*Until when are the shops open?*)
9. _____ sind deine Freunde? (*Where are your friends from?*)
10. _____ sind wir? (*Where are we?*)

Answers

Declension of Nouns and Articles

1. accusative, den Präsidenten
2. nominative, Der Präsident

3. genitive, der Katze
4. accusative, ein Lied
5. dative, dem Fremden

Declension of Pronouns.

1. dative, uns
2. nominative, Jene/Die
3. genitive, dieses
4. accusative, ihn
5. accusative, sie
6. dative, mir
7. accusative, diese
8. dative, ihr
9. nominative, Wir
10. accusative, Jenes/das

Question Words

1. Was für
2. Wessen
3. Wie viele
4. Wie
5. Wer
6. Warum
7. Wen
8. Bis wann
9. Woher
10. Wo

Chapter 5: Adjectives, Adverbs, and Prepositions

Adjectives

Adjectives are words that describe nouns. German adjectives may or may not need to agree in gender, number, and case with the noun it modifies.

Useful Adjectives

Here's a list of some of the most common adjectives that you may find useful while you're trying to learn German. To help you memorize more adjectives, each adjective is presented along with its opposite.

Adjective	Meaning	Opposite	Meaning
Alt	aged, old	jung	young
Dick	fat, thick	dünn	thin
Gesund	healthy	krank	sick
Groß	big, tall	klein	small
Gut	good	schlecht	bad
Hart	hard	weich	soft
Hell	bright	dunkel	dark
Hoch	high	tief	low
interessant	interesting	langweilig	boring
Klug	smart	dumm	dumb
Lang	long	kurz	short
Lustig	funny	ernst	serious
Munter	awake	müde	tired
Mutig	brave	feige	cowardly
Naß	wet	trocken	dry
Reich	rich	arm	poor
Richtig	right	falsch	wrong
Ruhig	quiet	laut	loud
Scharf	sharp	stumpf	blunt
Schön	beautiful	häßlich	ugly
Schwarz	black	weiß	white

Schwer	hard, heavy	leicht	light
Stark	strong	schwach	weak
Stolz	proud	bescheiden	humble
Süß	sweet	sauer	sour
Teuer	expensive	billig	cheap
Traurig	sad	glücklich	happy
Dreckig	dirty	sauber	clean
Leer	empty	voll	full
Wahr	true	falsch	untrue
Warm	warm	kalt	cold

Cognates

In Chapter 1, you learned about cognates. The good news is that there are a lot of German adjectives that are perfect or near cognates. You can come up with the German equivalent of an English adjective based on its ending. (Be careful though because this does not apply to all adjectives with that ending.)

English Ending	German Ending	Examples
-al	-al	diagonal, emotional, intercontinental, kollegial, original, sozial, total
-ant, -ent	-ant, -ent	elegant, exzellent, kompetent, tolerant
-al	-ell	generell, informell, kriminell, partiell, sensationell, visuell
-ic, -ical	-isch	allergisch, chemisch, fantastisch, identisch, ironisch, romantisch, sarkastisch, symmetrisch
-ive	-iv	aktiv, exklusiv, explosive, kreativ, massiv
-y, -ly, -ally	-lich, -ig	freundlich, hungrig, sonnig, windig

Forming the Right Endings

Now that you know some adjectives, the next step is to know how to use them properly. The form of an adjective will depend on the gender, number, and case of the noun it modifies or its position in a sentence.

Post-Position Adjectives

Adjectives which don't precede a noun or follow later in a sentence keep their original form and don't take additional endings. They usually come after the verbs *sein* (to be), *bleiben* (to remain), or *werden* (to become).

- Die Bananen sind jetzt reif. / *English translation*: The bananas are ripe now.
- Sie werden dünn. / *English translation*: They become thin.
- Das Wetter bleibt kalt. / *English translation*: The weather remains cold.

Attributive Adjectives

Adjectives that are used attributively are placed before the noun they modify or describe. These adjectives must agree with the noun grammatically.

There are several rules in forming the adjective when used this way:

- Add the following endings if the adjective comes after the words *der* (the), *dieser* (this), *jeder* (each), *solcher* (such), *welcher* (which, what), or *jener* (that).

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	-e	-en	-en	-en
Feminine	-e	-e	-en	-en
Neuter	-e	-e	-en	-en
Plural	-en	-en	-en	-en

- Add the following endings if the adjective comes after the words *ein*, *kein*, *mein*, *dein*, *sein*, *ihr* (fem.) , *unser*, *euer*, *ihr* (pl.) , or *Ihr*.

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	-er	-en	-en	-en
Feminine	-e	-e	-en	-en
Neuter	-es	-es	-en	-en
Plural	-en	-en	-en	-en

- Add the following endings if no article precedes the adjective.

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	-er	-en	-em	-en

Feminine	-e	-e	-er	-er
Neuter	-es	-es	-em	-en
Plural	-e	-e	-en	-er

Possessive Adjectives

Possessive adjectives are words that describe relationship, possession, or ownership. They're also known as possessive pronouns because they're actually pronouns used as adjectives.

The German possessive adjectives are as follows:

Person	Singular	Plural
First	mein (my)	unser (our)
Second	dein (your)	euer (your)
Third	sein (his, its) ihr (her)	ihr (their)
Formal	Ihr (your)	

The table that follows shows the endings that possessive adjectives take.

	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Masculine	-	-en	-em	-es
Feminine	-e	-e	-er	-er
Neuter	-	-	-em	-es
Plural	-e	-e	-en	-er

Here are some sentences showing possessive adjectives in action.

- Unser Hund fehlt. / *English translation:* Our dog is missing. (masculine nominative)
- Er kann sein e Socken nicht finden. / *English translation:* He can't find his socks. (plural accusative)
- Er schickt mein er Schwester Blumen. / *English translation:* He sends flowers to my sister. (feminine dative)

Adverbs

Adverbs are words that modify verbs (except *sein* [to be]), adjectives, or other adverbs. Some adverbs look exactly the same as their adjective counterparts. In

fact, most German adjectives can function as adverbs. Unlike adjectives though, adverbs don't have to grammatically agree with the words they modify.

There are four principal categories of adverbs based on their use: adverbs of place, adverbs of time, adverbs of manner, and adverbs of cause.

Adverbs of Place

Adverbs of place indicate where an action takes place. They answer the questions *wo* (where), *woher* (from where), and *wohin* (where to). Some of the most frequently used adverbs are:

- *da* – there
- *dahin, dorthin* – over there
- *drüben, da drüben, dort drüben* – over there
- *hier* – here
- *hierhin* – over here
- *irgendwo* - somewhere
- *nirgendwo* – nowhere
- *woanders* – somewhere else
- *draußen* – outside, outdoors
- *drinnen* – inside, indoors
- *geradeaus* – straight ahead
- *links* – left
- *nach links* – to the left
- *rechts* – right
- *nach rechts* – to the right
- *hinten* – behind
- *vorn(e)* – in front of
- *oben* – up
- *unten* – down
- *unterwegs* – on the way

Adverbs of Time

These adverbs describe when an action takes place and for how long and how often it happens. The following is a list of some common adverbs of time.

- *anschließend* – afterward, then
- *bald* – soon
- *bisher* – up until now
- *damals* – at that time
- *danach* – then
- *früh* – early
- *früher* – before, formerly
- *gelegentlich* - occasionally
- *gerade* – just, currently
- *gestern* – yesterday
- *heute* – today
- *heutzutage* – nowadays
- *immer* – always
- *jemals* - ever
- *jetzt* – now
- *manchmal* – sometimes
- *morgen* – tomorrow
- *nachher* – afterward
- *neuerdings* – recently
- *nie, niemals* – never
- *oft* - often
- *seitdem* – since then

- *sofort* - immediately
- *spät* - later
- *später* – later
- *stets* – always
- *übermorgen* – the day after tomorrow
- *vorgestern* – the day before yesterday
- *vorher* – before, beforehand

You can also use time-related nouns as adverbs by adding the ending - s to the noun. These adverbs refer to habitual or recurring actions.

- *abends* – in the evenings
- *mittags* – at noontime
- *morgens* – in the mornings
- *nachmittags* – in the afternoons
- *sonntags, montags, ...* - Sundays, Mondays, ...

Adverbs of Manner

Adverbs of manner indicate how an action or situation occurs. Some adverbs of manner describe to what degree an action occurs, while others make the meaning of a sentence stronger.

- *allein* – alone
- *bestimmt* – certainly
- *etwa* – approximately
- *eventuell* – possibly, may
- *fast* – almost
- *ganz* – quite, entirely
- *hoffentlich* – hopefully
- *kaum* – hardly
- *leider* – unfortunately

- *natürlich* - of course
- *nicht* – not
- *nur* - only
- *sehr* – very
- *unbedingt* – absolutely
- *umsonst* – for nothing
- *vielleicht* – maybe, perhaps
- *wahrscheinlich* – probably
- *wirklich* – really, absolutely
- *zusammen* – together

Adverbs of Cause

Adverbs of this type link parts of a sentence. They indicate reason, purpose, or consequence.

- *also* – so
- *darum* – therefore, for that reason
- *deshalb* – therefore
- *jedenfalls* – anyway, in any case
- *nämlich* – namely
- *somit* – therefore, consequently
- *sonst* – otherwise
- *trotzdem* - nevertheless

Word Order

In German, you put the adverb relative to the word or words it modifies where you put them in English. An exception is when the adverb delivers more information about the verb, it generally follows the conjugated verb.

- Sie spielen oft Basketball. *English translation:* They often play basketball.

In the above example, *oft* (often) comes after *spielen* (play), before the object of the verb. In contrast, you can never put the adverb between the verb and its object in English.

When there are several adverbs or adverbial expressions in one sentence, place them in the following order:

1. Adverbs of time (when)
2. Adverbs of cause (why)
3. Adverbs of manner (how)
4. Adverbs of place (where)

Here are some example sentences:

- Er fährt heute mit dem Bus. *English translation:* He travels today by bus.
 - *heute* (today) – when
 - *mit dem Bus* (by bus) – how
- Sie fahren heute Morgen wegen des Regens mit dem Auto ins Büro. *English translation:* They're going to the office by car this morning because of the rain.
 - *heute Morgen* (this morning) – when
 - *wegen des Regens* (because of the rain) – why
 - *mit dem Auto* (by car) – how
 - *ins Büro* (to the office) – where

If a sentence has two adverbs of the same type, the more general adverb comes before the more specific one. For example:

- Er fliegt morgen nachmittag um 4 Uhr nach Deutschland. *English translation:* He flies to Germany at 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.
 - *morgen nachmittag* (tomorrow afternoon) – when, general
 - *um 4 Uhr* (at 4 o'clock) – when, specific
 - *nach Deutschland* (to Germany) – where

Making Comparisons

Sometimes, you have to compare the things or actions you describe. When comparing elements, you either use the comparative or superlative forms of the adjectives and adverbs.

When you want to compare two elements, you use the comparative form. When you want to compare three or more elements, you use the superlative. Adjectives and adverbs can be categorized into regular or irregular based on how their comparatives and superlatives are formed.

Regular Adjectives and Adverbs

This type of adjectives and adverbs follow a regular pattern in forming the comparative and superlative.

Comparative

To compare two elements, take the base form of the adjective or adverb and add the ending *-er*. For example:

- bescheiden (modest) – bescheidener
- billig (cheap, inexpensive) – billiger
- elegant (elegant) – eleganter
- fleißig (hard-working, industrious) – fleißiger
- freundlich (friendly) – freundlicher
- hässlich (ugly) – hässlicher
- new (neu) - neuer
- schön (beautiful, pretty) – schooner

If the adjective ends in *-el* or *-er*, remove the *-e-* but keep the final consonant before adding *-er*. For example:

- dunkel (dark) – dunkler
- flexibel (flexible) – flexibler
- teuer (expensive) – teurer

In general, one-syllable adjectives and adverbs with only *a*, *o*, or *u* in the base form takes an umlaut when forming the comparative. For example:

- alt (old) – älter
- arm (poor) – ärmer
- dumm (stupid) – dümmer
- groß (big, large, tall) – größer
- hart (hard, tough) – härter
- jung (young) – jünger
- kalt (cold) – kälter
- oft (often) - öfter
- warm (warm) – warmer

Like their base form, comparative adjectives must take appropriate endings when they precede a noun. Take a look at the following examples.

- Mein Auto ist neuer . / *English translation:* My car is newer. (post-position; doesn't require ending)
- Ein neuer **es** Auto ist teurer. / *English translation:* A newer car is more expensive. (neuter nominative; follows after an article)
- Ich habe neuer **e** Autos. / *English translation:* I have newer cars. (plural accusative; no preceding article)

Superlative

To form the superlative of an adjective or adverb that comes after a noun in a sentence, follow this formula:

- *am* + base form of adjective or adverb + *-sten*

More often than not, superlative adjectives precede the noun they modify so they have to take appropriate endings. To get this superlative form, follow this formula:

- base form of adjective + *-st* + adjective ending

The following table list some adjectives in their superlative forms.

Base	Post-Position	Precedes a Noun

billig (inexpensive)	am billigsten	billigst-
großzügig (generous)	am großzügigsten	größzügigst-
mutig (brave)	am mutigsten	mutigst-
ordentlich (neat)	am ordentlichsten	ordentlichst-
witzig (witty)	am witzigsten	witzigst-

If the adjective ends in *-t*, or *-z*, and a few others, add an *-e-* before *-st* and *-sten*. This makes pronunciation easier. For example:

Base	Post-Position	Precedes a Noun
elegant (elegant)	am elegantesten	elegantest-
intelligent (intelligent)	am intelligentesten	intelligentest-
nett (nice)	am nettesten	nettest-
hübsch (pretty)	am hübschesten	hübschest-

Note: Adjectives and adverbs that add an umlaut in the comparative do the same in the superlative.

Irregular Adjectives and Adverbs

Like in English, a few adjectives and adverbs do not follow the pattern of forming the comparative and superlative. You have to memorize these words, but the good news is that there aren't a lot of them.

Base	Comparative	Superlative
bald (soon)	eher (sooner)	am ehesten (soonest)
gut (good)	besser (better)	am besten (best)
hoch (high)	höher (higher)	am höchsten (highest)
nah (close)	näher (closer)	am nächsten (closest)
viel (much)	mehr (more)	am meisten (most)

Prepositions

Prepositions are words that relate a noun or a pronoun to another word or words in a sentence. They combine with other words to form prepositional phrases that express spatial, logical or temporal relationships. Prepositions are usually placed before the word they modify.

The biggest difference between English and German prepositions is that the latter has so much power. That is, a German preposition's case affects the words it modifies. Depending on whether the preposition is accusative, dative, genitive, or accusative/dative, the rest of the prepositional phrase must take the same case endings.

Note: Prepositional phrases function as adverbs in a sentence.

Accusative Prepositions

The following table lists the most important accusative prepositions and some example phrases.

Preposition	English	Example	Meaning
Bis	until, till	bis nächsten Montag	until next Monday
durch	through, by	durch die Landschaft	through the countryside
für	for	für seine Freunde	for his friends
gegen	against, for	gegen das Gesetz etwas gegen Kopfschmerzen nehmen	against the law take something for a headache
ohne	without	ohne dich	without you
um	around, for, at (time)	um das Gebäude	around the building

In spoken colloquial German, some accusative prepositions form contractions with *das* :

- durch + das = durchs
- für + das = fürs
- um + das = ums

Dative Prepositions

In general, dative prepositions demonstrate relationships of location, motion, and time.

Preposition	English	Example	Meaning
Aus	from, out of	aus der Stadt	from the city
		aus dem Wald	out of the forest
Außer	besides, except for	außer uns	except for us
		außer dir und mir	besides you and me
Bei	at [a place of business, a home of], near, with	bei Hans	at Hans' [place]
		bei der Straße	near the street
Mit	by [means of transport], with	mit dem Hund	with the dog
		mit dem Bus	by bus
Nach	after, past, to, at	nach zwei Tagen	after two days
		zehn nach drei	10 past three
		nach Moskau	to Moscow
seit	for, since	seit hundert Jahren	for 100 years
		seit der Geburt	since birth
von	by, from, of	von einem jungen Dichter	by a young poet
		ein Geschenk von un	a gift from us
		am Ende vom Film	at the end of the movie
zu	to, at	zum Markt	to the market

The following contractions are formed with the dative prepositions:

- bei + dem = beim
- von + dem = vom
- zu + dem = zum
- zu + der = zur

Note: *Nach* and *zu* can both mean “at” and “to.” When they combine with the word *Hause*, they form prepositional phrases with very different meanings. *Nach Hause* means “going home” while *zu Hause* means “at home.”

Genitive Prepositions

The table that follows lists six of the most common genitive prepositions.

Preposition	English	Example	Meaning
anstatt/statt	instead of	instead of me	instead of me
außerhalb	outside of	außerhalb des Gebäudes	outside of the building
innerhalb	inside of, within	innerhalb des Dorfes	within the village
trotz	despite, in spite of	trotz des Regens trotz des Lärms	despite the rain in spite of the noise
während	during	während des Spiels	during the game
wegen	because of	wegen ihnen	because of them

In some parts of Germany, the dative case is used with *anstatt/statt*, *trotz*, *während*, and *wegen*. However, they still mean the same even though the case is different.

Accusative-Dative Prepositions

For this type of prepositions, the case depends on meaning.

- The preposition is in the accusative case if it describes movement, demonstrates a change of location, and answers the question *wohin* (where to).
- The preposition is in the dative case if it describes a static location or position and answers the question *wo* (where).

Preposition	English	Accusative	Dative
an	at, on, to	Der Hund rennt an die Tür. (The dog runs to the doorway.)	Der Hund sitzt an der Tür. (The dog is sitting by the door.)
auf	on, onto, to	Er warf es auf den Stuhl. (He tossed it onto the chair.)	Es ist auf dem Stuhl. (It is on the chair.)
hinter	behind, to the back of	Der Hund geht hinter die Tür. (The dog is going behind the door.)	Der Hund ist hinter der Tür. (The dog is behind the door.)
in	in, into, to	Er warf es in eine Kiste. (He tossed it into a box.)	Es ist in einer Kiste.
neben	beside, next to, near	Der Hund legt sich neben die Tür. (The	Der Hund ist neben der Tür. (The dog is

		dog lays itself down next to the doorway.)	near the doorway.)
über	above, over	Er warf es über die Wand. (He tossed it over the wall.)	Es ist über der Mauer. (It is above the wall.)
unter	under, underneath, among	Der Hund rennt unter den Tisch. (The dog runs under the table.)	Der Hund schläft unter dem Tisch. (The dog is sleeping under the table.)
vor	in front of, before	Er warf es vor den Hund. (He tossed it in front of the dog.)	Es ist vor dem Hund. (It is in front of the dog.)
zwischen	between	Er warf es zwischen die Stühle. (He tossed it between die Stühle.)	Es ist zwischen den Stühlen. (It is between the chairs.)

The following contractions are formed when accusative/dative prepositions combine with articles:

- an + das = ans
- an + dem = am
- auf + das = aufs
- in + das = ins
- in + dem = im
- hinter + das = hinters
- hinter + dem = hinterm
- über + das = ubers
- über + dem = uberm
- unter + das = unters
- unter + dem = unterm
- vor + das = vors

- vor + dem = vorm

Exercises

Adjectives

Provide the correct form of the words inside the parenthesis in the following sentences.

1. Die (alt) Frau is immer noch (stark). (*The old woman is still strong.*)
2. Anne schenkte (ihr) (schön) Mutter a (schön) Schmuck. (*Anne gave her beautiful mother a beautiful dress.*)
3. Wir gingen zur Farm (der) (freundlich) (Mann). (*We went to the friendly man's garden.*)
4. (der) (hell) Lichter blenden meine Augen. (*The bright lights are blinding my eyes.*)
5. Ich kann (mein) Socken nicht finden. (*I can't find my socks.*)

Making Comparisons

Provide the correct form of the adjective or adverb.

1. Es wird heute (kalt). (*It is getting colder today.*)
2. Meine Probleme waren (groß). (*My problems were bigger.*)
3. Sie rennt (schnell). (*She runs the fastest.*)
4. Der (klein) Mann ist unser Lehrer. (*The smaller man is our teacher.*)
5. Hans arbeitet mit meinem (alten) Bruder. (*Hans works with my oldest brother.*)
6. Ist unsere Bushaltestelle (nah)? (*Is our bus stop closer?*)
7. Dieser Roman ist (interessant). (*This novel is more interesting.*)
8. Meine Freundin kann (weit) laufen. (*My girlfriend can walk the farthest.*)
9. Der Zug nach Bremen wird (bald) kommen. (*The train to Bremen will come sooner.*)
10. Das ist mein (warm) Mantel. (*That is my warmest coat.*)

Prepositions

Provide the correct preposition and the correct form of the words in parenthesis.

1. Wir haben ___ fünf Uhr gewartet. (*We waited until 5 o'clock.*)
2. Ich kann nicht ___ (du). (*I can't live without you.*)
3. Sie kommt ___ (der) Haus. (*She is coming out of the house.*)
4. Fährst du ___ (der) Bus? (*Are you going by bus?*)
5. Wir werden ___ (der) Konzert ein Glas Wein trinken. (*We will drink a glass of wine after the concert.*)
6. Die Leute weinten ____ (sein) Rede. (*People cried during his speech.*)
7. Wir sind ____ (der) Regens zu spat. (*We're late because of the rain.*)
8. Es entkam ___ (der) Wald. (*It escaped into the forest.*)
9. Das ist ___ (sie). (*This is for them.*)
10. Er ließ sich ___ (sein) Bett fallen. (*He collapsed onto his bed.*)

Answers

Adjectives

1. alte, stark
2. ihrer, schönen, schönes
3. des, freundlichen, Mannes
4. die, hellen
5. meine

Making Comparisons

1. kälter
2. größer
3. am schnellsten
4. kleiner

5. ältesten
6. näher
7. interessanter
8. am weitesten
9. eher
10. wärmster

Prepositions

1. bis
2. ohne, dich
3. aus, dem
4. mit, dem
5. nach, dem
6. während, seiner
7. wegen, des
8. in, den
9. für, sie
10. auf, sein

Chapter 6: Everyday Vocabulary

Family Members and Relatives

English	German		
grandparents	die Großeltern	pronounce as	<i>dee grohs-êl-tern</i>
Grandfather	der Großvater	pronounce as	<i>dêr grosh-fah-ter</i>
grandmother	die Großmutter	pronounce as	<i>dee grohs-moot-er</i>

parents	die Eltern	pronounce as	<i>dee êl-tern</i>
father	der Vater	pronounce as	<i>dêr fah-ter</i>
mother	die Mutter	pronounce as	<i>dee moot-er</i>
father-in-law	der Schwiegervater	pronounce as	<i>dêr shvee-ger-fah-ter</i>
mother-in-law	die Schwiegermutter	pronounce as	<i>dee shvee-ger-moot-er</i>
husband, man	der Mann	pronounce as	<i>dêr mân</i>
wife, woman	die Frau	pronounce as	<i>dee frou</i>
uncle	der Onkel	pronounce as	<i>dêr on-keL</i>
aunt	die Tante	pronounce as	<i>dee tân-te</i>
siblings	die Geschwister	pronounce as	<i>dee ge-shvis-ter</i>
brother	der Bruder	pronounce as	<i>dêr brooh-der</i>
sister	die Schwester	pronounce as	<i>dee shvês-ter</i>
step-brother	der Stiefbruder	pronounce as	<i>dêr shteef-brooh-der</i>
step-sister	die Stiefschwester	pronounce as	<i>dee shteef-shvês-ter</i>
son	der Sohn	pronounce as	<i>dêr zohn</i>
daughter	die Tochter	pronounce as	<i>dee toH-ter</i>
step-son	der Stiefsohn	pronounce as	<i>dêr shteef-zohn</i>
step-daughter	die Stieftochter	pronounce	<i>dee shteef-toH-</i>

		as	<i>ter</i>
son-in-law	der Schwiegersohn	pronounce as	<i>dêr shvee-ger-zohn</i>
daughter-in-law	die Schwiegertochter	pronounce as	<i>dee shvee-ger-toH-ter</i>
cousin (male)	der Cousin	pronounce as	<i>dêr kooh-zen</i>
cousin (female)	die Cousine	pronounce as	<i>dee kooh-zeen-e</i>
nephew	der Neffe	pronounce as	<i>dêr nê-fe</i>
niece	die Nichte	pronounce as	<i>dee niH-te</i>
boyfriend	der Freund	pronounce as	<i>dêr froynt</i>
girlfriend	die Freundin	pronounce as	<i>dee froyn-din</i>
kids, children	die Kinder	pronounce as	<i>dee kin-der</i>
boy	der Junge	pronounce as	<i>dêr yoong-e</i>
girl	das Mädchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs maid-Hên</i>

When you want to say that someone is somebody's something in your family, you can use either the genitive case or possessive adjectives.

- *Annes Freund* – Anne's boyfriend
- *Schwesters Freund* – sister's boyfriend
- *ihr Freund* – her boyfriend

When talking to parents or grandparents, German-speaking kids use the following:

English	German		Pronunciation
grandpa	der Opa	pronounce as	<i>dêr oh-pâ</i>
grandma	die Oma	pronounce as	<i>dee oh-mâ</i>
dad	der Papa	pronounce as	<i>dêr pâ-pâ</i>
daddy	der Vati	pronounce as	<i>dêr fâ-tee</i>
mom	die Mama	pronounce as	<i>dee mâ-mâ</i>
mommy	die Mutti	pronounce as	<i>dee moot-ee</i>

Pets

English	German		Pronunciation
bird	der Vogel	pronounce as	<i>dêr foh-gel</i>
cat	die Katze	pronounce as	<i>dee kâts-e</i>
dog	der Hund	pronounce as	<i>dêr hoont</i>
fish	der Fisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr fish</i>
goldfish	der Goldfisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr [as in English]</i>
guinea pig	das Meerschweinchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs meyr-shvayn-Hen</i>
rabbit	das Kaninchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs kân-ee-Hen</i>

At Home

English	German		Pronunciation
attic	der Dachboden	pronounce as	<i>dêr dâH-boh-den</i>
backyard	der Hinterhof	pronounce as	<i>dêr hint-er-hohf</i>
balcony	der Balkon	pronounce as	<i>dêr bâl-kohn</i>
basement	der Keller	pronounce as	<i>dêr kêl-er</i>
bathroom	das Bad / Badezimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs baht / bah-de-tsi-mer</i>

bedroom	das Schlafzimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs shlahf-tsi-mer</i>
ceiling	die Decke	pronounce as	<i>dee dêk-e</i>
dining room	das Esszimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs ês-tsi-mer</i>
door	die Tür	pronounce as	<i>dee tuer</i>
floor	der Boden	pronounce as	<i>dêr boh-den</i>
garage	die Garage	pronounce as	<i>dee gâ-rah-je</i>
garden, yard	der Garten	pronounce as	<i>dêr gâr-ten</i>
hallway	der Gang	pronounce as	<i>dêr gang</i>
kitchen	die Küche	pronounce as	<i>dee kueH-e</i>
laundry room	die Waschküche	pronounce as	<i>dee vâsh-kueH-e</i>
living room	das Wohnzimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs vohn-tsi-mer</i>
roof	das Dach	pronounce as	<i>dâs dâH</i>
room	das Zimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs tsi-mer</i>
stairs	die Treppe	pronounce as	<i>dee trêp-e</i>
study, workroom	das Arbeitszimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs âr-bayts-tsi-mer</i>
terrace	die Terrasse	pronounce as	<i>dee têr-âs-e</i>
toilet	die Toilette	pronounce as	<i>dee toy-lêt-e</i>
wall	die Wand	pronounce as	<i>dee vând</i>
window	das Fenster	pronounce as	<i>dâs fens-ter</i>

In the Bathroom

In Germany, *das Badezimmer* refers to a room where one can shower or take a bath. This room may or may not have a toilet. So if you're looking for the toilet, use the word *die Toilette*.

English	German		Pronunciation
bathroom sink	das Waschbecken	pronounce as	<i>dâs vâsh-bêk-en</i>
bathtub	die Badewanne	pronounce as	<i>dee bahd-e-vân-e</i>
comb	der Kamm	pronounce as	<i>dêr kâm</i>
faucet	der Spiegel	pronounce as	<i>dêr shpee-gel</i>
hairbrush	die Haarbürste	pronounce as	<i>dee hahr-buers-te</i>

razor	der Rasierapparat	pronounce as	<i>dêr râ-zeer-âp-âr- aht</i>
shower	die Dusche	pronounce as	<i>dee dooh-she</i>
soap	die Seife	pronounce as	<i>dee zay-fe</i>
toothbrush	die Zahnbürste	pronounce as	<i>dee tsahn-buers-te</i>
toothpaste	die Zahnpaste	pronounce as	<i>dee tsahn-pâs-te</i>
towel	das Tuch	pronounce as	<i>dâs toohH</i>

In the Bedroom

English	German		Pronunciation
alarm clock	der Wecker	pronounce as	<i>dêr vêk-er</i>
bed	das Bett	pronounce as	<i>dâs bêT</i>
blanket	die Decke	pronounce as	<i>dee dêk-e</i>
closet	der Schrank	pronounce as	<i>dêr shrank</i>
closet (for clothes)	der Kleiderschrank	pronounce as	<i>dêr klay-dêr-shrânk</i>
dresser	die Kommode	pronounce as	<i>dee ko-moh-de</i>
nightstand	der Nachttisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr nâHt-tish</i>
pillow	das Kopfkissen	pronounce as	<i>dâs kopf-kis-en</i>
sheet	das Bettlaken	pronounce as	<i>dâs bêT-lâk-en</i>

In the Kitchen

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
cabinet, cupboard	der Schrank	pronounce as	<i>dêr shrank</i>
chair	der Stuhl	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtooHl</i>
counter	die Theke	pronounce as	<i>dee tey-ke</i>
dishwasher	die	pronounce	<i>dee ge-shir-shpuel-</i>

	Geschirrspülmaschine	as	<i>mâ-sheen-e</i>
faucet	der Wasserhahn	pronounce as	<i>dêr vâs-er-hahn</i>
freezer	das Tiefkühlfach	pronounce as	<i>dâs teef-kuel-fâH</i>
garbage can	der Mülleimer	pronounce as	<i>dêr muel-aym-er</i>
microwave oven	der Mikrowellenherd	pronounce as	<i>dêr meek-roh-vêl-en-hêrd</i>
oven	der Backofen	pronounce as	<i>dêr bâk-oh-fen</i>
refrigerator	der Kühlschrank	pronounce as	<i>dêr kuel-shrânk</i>
shelf	das Regal	pronounce as	<i>dâs rey-gahl</i>
sink	das Spülbecken	pronounce as	<i>dâs shpuel-bêk-en</i>
stove	der Herd	pronounce as	<i>dêr herd</i>
table	der Tisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr tish</i>

In the Living Room

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
armchair	der Sessel	pronounce as	<i>dêr zês-el</i>
bookshelf	das Bücherregal	pronounce as	<i>dâs bue-Her-rey-gahl</i>
carpet, rug	der Teppich	pronounce as	<i>dêr têp-iH</i>
clock	die Uhr	pronounce as	<i>dee oohr</i>
coffee table	der Couchtisch / Kaffeetisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr kouch-tish / kâf-e-tish</i>
couch	die Couch	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English]</i>
curtains	die Gardinen / Vorhänge	pronounce as	<i>dee gâr-deen-en / for-hêng-e</i>
floor lamp	die Stehlampe	pronounce as	<i>dee shtey-lâm-pe</i>

furniture	die Möbel [pl.]	pronounce as	<i>dee m ə -bel</i>
lamp	die Lampe	pronounce as	<i>dee lâm-pe</i>
sofa	das Sofa	pronounce as	<i>dâs [as in English]</i>
TV	der Fernseher	pronounce as	<i>dêr fêrn-zey-er</i>
wall-to-wall carpet	der Teppichboden	pronounce as	<i>dêr têp-iH-boh-den</i>

At the Office

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
appointment	der Termin	pronounce as	<i>dêr têt-meen</i>
assistant	der Assistent / die Assistentin	pronounce as	<i>dêr âs-is-têt / dee âs-is-têt-in</i>
business card	die Visitenkarte	pronounce as	<i>dee vi-zeet-en-kârte</i>
colleague	der Mitarbeiter	pronounce as	<i>dêr mit-âr-bay-ter</i>
computer	der Computer	pronounce as	<i>dêr [as in English]</i>
conference call	die Telefonkonferenz	pronounce as	<i>dee têt-le-fohn-kon-fêt-ênts</i>
copy machine	der Fotokopierer	pronounce as	<i>dêr foh-toh-ko-peer-er</i>
coworker	der Arbeitskollege / die Arbeitskollegin	pronounce as	<i>dêr âr-bayts-koh-leyg-e / dee âr-bayts-koh-leyg-in</i>
documents, files	die Unterlagen	pronounce as	<i>dee oon-ter-lah-gen</i>
formal meeting	das Meeting	pronounce as	<i>dâs [as in English]</i>
informal meeting	die Besprechung	pronounce as	<i>dee be-shprêH-oong</i>
keyboard	die Tastatur	pronounce	<i>dee tâs-tâ-toohr</i>

		as	
letter	der Brief	pronounce as	<i>dêr breek</i>
meeting room	der Besprechungsraum	pronounce as	<i>dêr be-shprêH-oongs-roum</i>
mouse	die Maus	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English]</i>
office	das Büro	pronounce as	<i>dâs buer-oh</i>
office chair	der Bürostuhl	pronounce as	<i>dêr bue-roh-shtool</i>
open-plan office	das Großraumbüro	pronounce as	<i>dâs grohs-roum-buer-oh</i>
paper	das Papier	pronounce as	<i>dâs pâ-peer</i>
pen	der Kuli	pronounce as	<i>dêr kooh-lee</i>
pencil	der Bleistift	pronounce as	<i>dêr blay-shtift</i>
printer	der Drucker	pronounce as	<i>dêr drook-er</i>
video conference	die Videokonferenz	pronounce as	<i>dee vid-ee-oh-kon-fêr-ênts</i>
workplace	der Arbeitsplatz	pronounce as	<i>dêr âr-bayts-plâts</i>

Talking About the Weather

- Wie is das Wetter? / *English translation: How is the weather?*

English	German	pronounce	Pronunciation
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		as	
The weather is beautiful.	Das Wetter ist schön.	pronounce as	<i>dâs vêt-er ist s h ə n</i>
The weather is bad.	Das Wetter ist schlecht.	pronounce as	<i>dâs vêt-er ist shlêHt</i>
The weather is horrible.	Das Wetter ist schrecklich.	pronounce as	<i>dâs vêt-er ist shrêk-liH</i>
There are rainshowers.	Es gibt Regenschauer.	pronounce as	<i>ês gipt rey-gen- shou-er</i>
There's lightning and thunder.	Es blitzt und donnert.	pronounce as	<i>ês blitst oont don- ert</i>
It's raining.	Es regnet.	pronounce as	<i>ês rêk-net</i>
It's raining hard.	Es regnet sehr stark.	pronounce as	<i>ês rêk-net seyr shtârk</i>
It's snowing.	Es schneit.	pronounce as	<i>ês shnayt</i>
It is ...	Es ist ...	pronounce as	<i>ês ist</i>
clear	heiter	pronounce as	<i>hayt-er</i>
cloudy	bewölkt	pronounce as	<i>be- v ə lkt</i>
cold	kalt	pronounce as	<i>kâlt</i>
cool	kühl	pronounce as	<i>kuehl</i>
foggy	neblig	pronounce as	<i>neyb-liH</i>
freezing	eiskalt	pronounce as	<i>ays-kâlt</i>
gusty	böhib	pronounce as	<i>b ə h-iH</i>
hot	heiß	pronounce as	<i>hays</i>

humid	feucht	pronounce as	<i>foyHt</i>
rainy	regnerisch	pronounce as	<i>reyk-ner-ish</i>
stormy	stürmisch	pronounce as	<i>shtuerm-ish</i>
sunny	sonnig	pronounce as	<i>son-iH</i>
warm	warm	pronounce as	<i>vârm</i>
windy	windig	pronounce as	<i>vin-diH</i>

Greetings and Everyday Expressions

German	pronounce as	Pronunciation	English
Guten Tag! (formal)	pronounce as	<i>gooh-ten tahk</i>	Hello!
Hallo! (informal)	pronounce as	<i>hâ-loh</i>	Hello!
Guten Morgen!	pronounce as	<i>gooh-ten mor-gen</i>	Good morning!
Guten Abend!	pronounce as	<i>gooh-ten ah-bent</i>	Good evening!
Auf Wiedersehen!	pronounce as	<i>ouf vee-der-zey-en</i>	Goodbye!
Gute Nacht!	pronounce as	<i>gooh-te nâHt</i>	Good night! (saying goodbye)
War net, Sie kennenzulernen.	pronounce as	<i>vahr nêt, zee kên-en- tsoo-lêrn-en</i>	It was nice meeting you.
Freut mich.	pronounce as	<i>froyt miH</i>	Nice to meet you.
Tschüs. (informal)	pronounce as	<i>chues</i>	Bye!
Wie geht es Ihnen?	pronounce as	<i>vee geyt ês een-en</i>	How are you?
Wie geht's?	pronounce as	<i>vee geyts</i>	How's it going?
Danke, gut.	pronounce as	<i>dân-ke gooht</i>	Thanks, I'm fine.
Ganz gut.	pronounce as	<i>gânts gooht</i>	Really good.
Es geht.	pronounce as	<i>ês geyt</i>	So, so.
Nicht so gut.	pronounce as	<i>niHt zoh gooht.</i>	Not so good.

Und Ihnen?	pronounce as	<i>oont een-en</i>	And you?
Nichts zu danken.	pronounce as	<i>niHts tsoo dân-ken</i>	You're welcome.
Bis morgen.	pronounce as	<i>bis mor-gen</i>	See you tomorrow.
Bis bald!	pronounce as	<i>bis bâlt</i>	See you soon!
Bis dann!	pronounce as	<i>bis dân</i>	See you then!
Danke vielen Dank.	pronounce as	<i>dân-ke vee-len dânk</i>	Thank you very much.
Wie bitte?	pronounce as	<i>vee bit-e</i>	Pardon?
Es tut mir leid.	pronounce as	<i>ês toot mir layd</i>	I'm sorry. [apologizing]
Ich weiß es nicht.	pronounce as	<i>iH vays ês niHt</i>	I don't understand.
Das macht nichts.	pronounce as	<i>dâs mâHt niHts</i>	Never mind.
Eventuell.	pronounce as	<i>ê-ven-too-êl</i>	Maybe. / Possibly.
Fertig. / Fertig?	pronounce as	<i>fêrt-iH</i>	Ready. / Ready?

Exercises

What's the German equivalent of the following words and expressions?

1. Good morning!
2. parents
3. female cousin
4. dog
5. I'm sorry.
6. How are you?
7. Where is the toilet?
8. dining room
9. table
10. pen
11. It's sunny.
12. Cold
13. See you soon!
14. Never mind.
15. his siblings
16. window

17. Open the door.
18. I have an appointment.
19. Thank you very much.
20. Kitchen

Answers

1. Guten Morgen!
2. die Eltern
3. die Cousine
4. der Hund
5. Es tut mir leid.
6. Wie geht es Ihnen?
7. Wo ist die Toilette?
8. das Esszimmer
9. der Tisch
10. der Kuli
11. Es is sonnig.
12. Kalt
13. Bis bald!
14. Das macht nichts.
15. Seine Geschwister
16. das Fenster
17. Öffne die Tür.
18. Ich habe einen Termin.
19. Danke vielen Dank.
20. die Küche

Chapter 7: Travel

Inside the Airport

Whether you've just arrived or you're flying out, these are the essential words and phrases that will help you navigate through the airport.

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
airline company	die Fluggesellschaft	pronounce as	<i>dee floohk-ge-zêl-shâft</i>
arrival	die Ankunft	pronounce as	<i>dee ân-koonft</i>
arrival time	die Ankunftszeit	pronounce as	<i>dee ân-koonfts-tsayt</i>
baggage claim	die Gepäckausgabe	pronounce as	<i>dee ge-pêk-ous-gahb-e</i>
car rental	der Autoverleih	pronounce as	<i>dêr ou-to-fêr-layh</i>
connecting flight	der Anschlussflug	pronounce as	<i>dêr ân-shloos-floohk</i>
customs	der Zoll	pronounce as	<i>dêr tsol</i>
delayed	verspätet	pronounce as	<i>fêr-shpey-tet</i>
departure	der Abflug	pronounce as	<i>dêr âp-floohk</i>
departure time	die Abflugzeit	pronounce as	<i>dee âp-floohk-tsayt</i>
destination	das Flugziel	pronounce as	<i>dâs floohk-tseel</i>
elevators	der Aufzug	pronounce as	<i>dêr ouf-tsook</i>
excess baggage	das Übergepäck	pronounce as	<i>dâs ue-ber-ge-pêk</i>
exit	der Ausgang	pronounce as	<i>dêr ous-gâng</i>
flight number	der Flugnummer	pronounce as	<i>dêr floohk-noom-er</i>
gate	der Flugsteig	pronounce as	<i>dêr floohk-shtayk</i>
immigration	die Immigration	pronounce as	<i>dee im-i-grâ-</i>

			<i>tsee-ohn</i>
information	die Information	pronounce as	<i>dee in-for-mah-tsee-ohn</i>
international airport	der internationale Flughafen	pronounce as	<i>dêr in-ter-nâ-tsee-oh-nahl-e flook-hah-fen</i>
luggage cart	der Gepäckwagen	pronounce as	<i>dêr ge-pêk-vah-gen</i>
money exchange office	die Geldwechselstube	pronounce as	<i>dee gêlt-vek-sel-shtoo-h-be</i>
passport	der Reisepass	pronounce as	<i>dêr ray-ze-pâs</i>
passport control	die Paßkontrolle	pronounce as	<i>dee pâs-kon-trol-e</i>
security check	die Sicherheitskontrolle	pronounce as	<i>dee zi-Huhr-Hayts-kon-trol-e</i>
stopover	der Zwischenstop	pronounce as	<i>dêr tsvi-shen-shtop</i>
suitcase	der Koffer	pronounce as	<i>dêr kof-er</i>
terminal	der Terminal	pronounce as	<i>dêr têr-meen-ahl</i>
to check in	einchecken	pronounce as	<i>ayn-chêk-en</i>
to miss the flight	einen Flug verpassen	pronounce as	<i>ayn-en floohk vêr-pâs-en</i>

- Wann geht der Flug? / *English translation:* When does the flight leave?
- Wann kommt der Flug an? / *English translation:* When does the flight arrive?
- Wo ist die Gepäckrückgabe? / *English translation:* Where is baggage claim?
- Mein Gepäck ist nicht angekommen. / *English translation:* My luggage hasn't arrived.
- Mein Koffer sind verschwunden. / *English translation:* My luggage is lost.

You may use or hear the following expressions when speaking with an immigration officer.

- Hier ist mein Reisepass. / *English translation:* Here's my passport.
- Was ist der Zweck Ihres Besuchs? / *English translation:* What's the purpose of your visit?
- Ich bin als Tourist hier. / *English translation:* I'm here as a tourist.
- Ich werde eine Woche hier bleiben. / *English translation:* I'll stay here for a week.
- Ich bin unterwegs. / *English translation:* I'm in transit.

Inside the Plane

English	German		Pronunciation
airline	die Fluglinie	pronounce as	<i>dee floohk-lee-nee-e</i>
airplane	das Flugzeug	pronounce as	<i>dâs floohk-tsoyk</i>
airplane ticket	das Flugticket	pronounce as	<i>dâs floohk-ti-ket</i>
boarding pass	die Bordkarte	pronounce as	<i>dee bord-kâr-te</i>
by the window	am Fenster	pronounce as	<i>âm fens-ter</i>
emergency exit	der Notausgang	pronounce as	<i>dêr noht-ous-gâng</i>
flight	der Flug	pronounce as	<i>dêr floohk</i>
hand luggage	das Handgepäck	pronounce as	<i>dâs hânt-ge-pêk</i>
landing	die Landung	pronounce as	<i>dee lân-doong</i>
life vest	die Rettungsweste	pronounce as	<i>dee rê-t-oonks-vêst-e</i>
(no) smoking	(nicht) Raucher	pronounce as	<i>(niHt) rouH-er</i>
on the aisle	im Gang	pronounce as	<i>im gang</i>
overhead bins	die Gepäckfächer	pronounce as	<i>dee ge-pêk-fesh-er</i>
passenger	der Passagier	pronounce as	<i>dêr pâ-sâ-jeer</i>
safety precautions	die Sicherheitsvorkehrungen	pronounce as	<i>dee ziH-er-hayts-vor-key-roong-en</i>
seat	der Sitz	pronounce as	<i>dêr zits</i>
seatbelt	der Anschnallgurt	pronounce as	<i>dêr ânsh-nâl-goort</i>

stewardess	die Flugbegleitung	pronounce as	<i>dee flook-bêk-lay-toong</i>
takeoff	der Abflug	pronounce as	<i>dêr ap-floohk</i>
to exit the plane	aus dem Flugzeug aussteigen	pronounce as	<i>ous deym floohk-tsoyk ous-shtay-gen</i>

A Place to Stay

- Ich habe eine Reservierung auf den Namen ... / *English translation: I have a reservation in the name of ...*

If you didn't make a reservation or you're looking for another place to stay, the following phrases will be quite useful.

- Können Sie mir ein Hotel in ... empfehlen? / *English translation: Can you recommend a hotel in ...?*
- Haben Sie noch ein Zimmer frei? / *English translation: Do you have any room available?*
- Wie viel kostet ein Einzelzimmer/Doppelzimmer? / *English translation: How much is a room for one person/two people?*
- Ich bleibe ... / *English translation: I'm going to stay for ...*
 - ... nur eine Nacht. / *English translation: ... only one night.*
 - ... [zwei] Nächte. / *... English translation: [two] nights.*
- Ist das Frühstück inbegriffen? / *English translation: Is breakfast included?*
- Darf ich das Zimmer erstmal sehen? / *English translation: May I see the room first?*
- Haben Sie etwas ... / *English translation: Do you have anything ...*
 - ... Ruhigeres? / *English translation: ... quieter?*
 - ... größeres? / *English translation: ... bigger?*
 - ... billigeres? / *English translation: ... cheaper?*
- Ich nehme es. / *English translation: I'll take it.*

Hotel Amenities and Services

English	German		Pronunciation
business center	das Geschäftszentrum	pronounce as	<i>dâs ge-shêfts-tsent-room</i>
cashier	der Kassierer	pronounce as	<i>dêr kê-seer-er</i>
conciierge	der Pförtner	pronounce as	<i>dêr p f ə rt-ner</i>
doorman	der Portiei	pronounce as	<i>dêr por-ti-ey</i>
elevator	der Aufzug	pronounce as	<i>dêr ouf-tsook</i>
fitness center	das Fitneßcenter	pronounce as	<i>dâs fit-nês-sênt-er</i>
gift shop	der Geschenkladen	pronounce as	<i>dêr de-shênk-lah-den</i>
laundry and dry cleaning service	die Reinigung	pronounce as	<i>dee ray-ni-goork</i>
maid service	das Zimmermädchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs tsi-mer-maid-Hên</i>
parking lot	der Parkplatz	pronounce as	<i>dêr park-plâts</i>
porter	der (Gepäck) Träger	pronounce as	<i>dêr (ge-pêk) trai-ger</i>
restaurant	das restaurant	pronounce as	<i>dâs rês-tou-ron</i>
room service	der Zimmerservice	pronounce as	<i>dêr tsi-mer-sêr-vis</i>
sauna	die Sauna	pronounce as	<i>dee zou-nâ</i>
shopping center	das Einkaufszentrum	pronounce as	<i>dâs ayn-koufs-tsênt-room</i>
swimming pool	das Schwimmbad	pronounce as	<i>dâs shvim-baht</i>

- Wann gibt es Frühstück? / *English translation:* What time is breakfast?
- Können Sie mich um ... Uhr wecken? / *English translation:* Could you wake me up at ... o'clock?
- Würden Sie bitte mein Zimmer saubermachen? / *English translation:* Please clean my room.
- Können Sie mir ein gutes Restaurant in der Nähe empfehlen? / *English translation:* Could you recommend a good restaurant nearby?

The Hotel Room

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English	German		Pronunciation
room	das Zimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs tsi-mer</i>
double room	das Dopplezimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs do-pêl-tsi-mer</i>
single room	das Einzelzimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs ayn-tsêl-tsi-mer</i>
air conditioning	die Klimaanlage	pronounce as	<i>dee klee-mah-ân-lah-ge</i>
balcony	der Balkon	pronounce as	<i>dêr bâl-kohn</i>
bathroom	das Badezimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs bah-de-tsi-mer</i>
bathtub	die Badewanne	pronounce as	<i>dee bahd-e-vân-e</i>
key	der Schlüssel	pronounce as	<i>dêr shlue-sel</i>
overnight stay	die Übernachtung	pronounce as	<i>dee ue-ber-nâH-toong</i>
restroom	die Toilette	pronounce as	<i>dee toy-lêt-e</i>
safe	der Safe	pronounce as	<i>dêr zeyf</i>
shower	die Dusche	pronounce as	<i>dee dooh-she</i>
telephone	das Telefon	pronounce as	<i>dâs tê-le-fohn</i>
television	der Fernseher	pronounce as	<i>dêr fêrn-zey-er</i>
with meals	die Vollpension	pronounce as	<i>dee fol-pên-zee-ohn</i>
just with breakfast	die Halbpension	pronounce as	<i>dee hâl-pên-zee-ohn</i>
a room with a view	ein Zimmer mit Aussicht	pronounce as	<i>ayn tsi-mer mit ous-ziHt</i>
at the back	nach hinten	pronounce as	<i>naH hin-ten</i>
at the front	nach vorn	pronounce as	<i>naH forn</i>
on the courtyard	zum Hof	pronounce as	<i>tsoom hof</i>
on the garden	zum Garten	pronounce as	<i>tsoom gâr-ten</i>
on the sea	zur Meerseite	pronounce as	<i>tsoohr meer-zay-te</i>
an adapter	ein Adapter (m.)	pronounce as	<i>ayn ah-dâp-ter</i>
a bar of soap	ein Stück Seife (n.)	pronounce as	<i>ayn shtuek zay-fe</i>
a blanket	eine Bettdecke	pronounce as	<i>ayn-e bêt-dêk-e</i>
a hanger	ein Kleiderbügel (m.)	pronounce as	<i>ayn klay-der-bue-gel</i>
a pillow	ein Kopfkissen (n.)	pronounce as	<i>ayn kopf-kis-en</i>

a towel	ein Handtuch (n.)	pronounce as	<i>ayn hân-toohH</i>
mineral water	ein Mineralwasser (n.)	pronounce as	<i>ayn mi-ne-rahl-vâs-er</i>

Here's a list of phrases that can help you point out things that need attention.

- Das Zimmer ist zu warm/kalt. / *English translation:* The room is too hot/cold.
- Können Sie mir bitte sagen, wie ich die Heizung aufdrehe? / *English translation:* Could you tell me how to turn up the heat, please?
- Das Fenster lässt sich nicht öffnen. / *English translation:* The window won't open.
- Der Fernseher funktioniert nicht. / *English translation:* The TV doesn't work.
- Es gibt nur kaltes Wasser in der Dusche. / *English translation:* There's only cold water in the shower.

Checking Out

- Wann muss ich das Zimmer freimachen? / *English translation:* When do I have to check out of the room?
- Ich reise ab. Kann ich bitte die Rechnung haben? / *English translation:* I'm leaving. May I have the bill, please?
- Kann ich mein Gepäck bis ... Uhr hier lassen? / *English translation:* Could I leave my luggage here until ... o'clock?
- Können Sie mir bitte ein Taxi bestellen? / *English translation:* Could you call a cab for me?

Where to Stay

Here are some of the different types of lodging that you'll find outside urban areas of German-speaking countries.

German		Pronunciation	English
die	pronounce as	<i>dee feyr-ree-ên-</i>	a furnished

Ferienwohnung		<i>vohn-oong</i>	apartment usually located in popular tourist destinations
das Fremdenzimmer	pronounce as	<i>dâs frêm-dên-tsi-mer</i>	a bed-and-breakfast where bathroom facilities are usually shared
das Gasthaus / der Gasthof	pronounce as	<i>dâs gâst-hous / dêr gâst-hohf</i>	an inn that offers home-cooked meals and drinks although not all offers lodging
das Hotel garni	pronounce as	<i>dâs ho-tel gâr-nee</i>	a hotel serving only breakfast
die Jugendherberge	pronounce as	<i>die yooh-gênt-hêr-bêr-ge</i>	an inexpensive youth hostel which generally requires a Youth Hostel ID
die Pension	pronounce as	<i>dee pênzee-ohn</i>	similar to a bed-and-breakfast which may also offer lunch and dinner
der Rasthof / das Motel	pronounce as	<i>dêr râst-hohf / dâs [as in English]</i>	a roadside accommodation option located off a highway

Going Around

Traveling by Train

- Wo kann ich eine Fahrkarte kaufen? / *English translation:* Where can I buy a ticket?
- Was kostet die Fahrkarte nach ...? / *English translation:* How much is a ticket to ...?

- Wann fährt ... / *English translation: What time is ...*
 - ... der nächste Zug nach ... / *English translation: ... the next train to ...*
 - ... der letzte Zug nach ... / *English translation: ... the last train to ...*
- Hält dieser Zug in ...? / *English translation: Does this train stop at?*
- Ich möchte ... / *English translation: I'd like ...*
 - ... eine einfache Fahrkarte nach ... / *English translation: ... a one-way ticket to ...*
 - ... eine Rückfahrkarte nach ... / *English translation: ... a return ticket to ...*
 - ... eine Fahrkarte erster Klasse. / *English translation: ... a first class ticket.*
 - ... eine normale Fahrkarte. / *English translation: a standard class ticket.*
- Gibt es einen Fahrscheinautomaten? / *English translation: Is there an automatic ticket machine?*
- Ist es ein schneller Zug? / *English translation: Is it a fast train?*
- Wie lange dauert die Fahrt? / *English translation: How long does it take?*
- Wann kommt er in ... an? / *English translation: What time does it arrive in ...?*
- Von welchem Bahnsteig fährt er ab? / *English translation: Which platform does it leave from?*
- Ist das der richtige Bahnsteig für ...? / *English translation: Is this the right platform for ...?*
- Ist das der Zug nach ...? / *English translation: Is this the train for ...?*
- Wo ist die U-Bahnstation? / *English translation: Where is the subway station?*
- Welche Linie fährt nach ...? / *English translation: Which line goes to ...?*

Traveling by Bus

- Wann fährt der nächste Bus zum Stadtzentrum? / *English translation:* When is the next bus to the town center?
- Wo kann ich einen Fahrschein kaufen? / *English translation:* Where can I buy a ticket?
- Kann ich im Bus zahlen? / *English translation:* Can I pay on the bus?
- Was kostet die Fahrt zu ...? / *English translation:* What's the fare to ...?
- Wo ist die nächste Bushaltestelle? / *English translation:* Where is the nearest bus stop?
- Ist das die Haltestelle für den Bus in Richtung ...? / *English translation:* Is this the bus stop for ...?
- Muss ich hier aussteigen? / *English translation:* Do I get off here?

Taking a Taxi

- Wo kann ich ein Taxi nehmen? / *English translation:* Where can I get a taxi?
- Sind Sie frei? / *English translation:* Are you free?
- Könnten Sie mich zu ... / *English translation:* Can you take me to ...?
- Werden wir dort rechtzeitig ankommen? / *English translation:* Will we make it there on time?
- Wie viel kostet es bis zu ... / *English translation:* How much does it cost to get to ...?
- Bitte fahren Sie den kürzesten Weg. Ich habe es eilig. / *English translation:* Please take the shortest way. I'm in a hurry.
- Können sie mich hier absetzen? / *English translation:* Can you drop me here?
- Halten Sie hier an. / *English translation:* Stop here.
- Ich habe kein Kleingeld. / *English translation:* I don't have any change.
- Warten Sie hier. / *English translation:* Wait here.

Renting a Car

- Wo ist der Mietwagenschalter? / *English translation:* Where is the car rental desk?
- Ich möchte ein Auto mieten. / *English translation:* I would like to rent a car.
 - einin Kleinwagen / *English translation:* a compact car
 - mit Klimanlage / *English translation:* with A/C
 - mit Automatic / *English translation:* a car with automatic transmission
 - mit Gangschaltung / *English translation:* a car with standard transmission
- Wieviel kostet es am Tag? / *English translation:* How much does it cost per day?
- Ist das Benzin im Preis enthalten? / *English translation:* Is the gasoline included in the price?
- Welches Auto empfehlen Si emir? / *English translation:* Which car do you recommend?
- Ich möchte den Wagen ab dem ... mieten. / *English translation:* I'd like to rent the car starting ...
- Ich möchte den Wagen ... zurückgeben. / *English translation:* I'd like to return the car ...
- Soll ich den Wagen vollgetankt zurückbringen? / *English translation:* Should I return it with a full tank?
- Hier ist mein Führerschein. / *English translation:* Here's my driver's license.

Understanding Road Maps and Road Signs

German		Pronunciation	English
die Altstadt	pronounce as	dee âlt-shtât	historic center
die Ausfahrt	pronounce as	dee ous-fahrt	exit ramp
das	pronounce	dâs ou-toh-	where a

Autobahndreieck	as	<i>bahn-dray-êk</i>	freeway splits from another
das Autobahnkreuz	pronounce as	<i>dâs ou-toh-bahn-kroyts</i>	freeway junction
die Einfahrt	pronounce as	<i>dee ayn-fahrt</i>	entrance ramp
die Fußgängerzone	pronounce as	<i>dee foohs-gên-ger-tsohn-e</i>	pedestrian zone
die Kirche	pronounce as	<i>dee kirH-e</i>	church
die Landkarte	pronounce as	<i>dee lânt-kâr-te</i>	map
das Parkhaus	pronounce as	<i>dâs park-hous</i>	parking garage
der Parkplatz	pronounce as	<i>dêr park-plâts</i>	parking lot
der Stadtplan	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtât-plahn</i>	city map
die Straßenkarte	pronounce as	<i>dee shtrah-sen-kâr-te</i>	road map
Anlieger frei	pronounce as	<i>ân-lee-ger fray</i>	No Exit; access only
Baustelle	pronounce as	<i>bou-shtêl-e</i>	Construction Site
Einbahnstraße	pronounce as	<i>ayn-bahn-shtrah-se</i>	One-Way Street
Einordnen	pronounce as	<i>ayn-ord-nen</i>	Merge
[number] bei Nebel	pronounce as	<i>[] bay ney-bel</i>	[number] kph When Foggy
Gebührenpflichtig	pronounce as	<i>ge-buer-en-pfliHt-iH</i>	Subject to Charges (you have to pay toll)

Gesperrt	pronounce as	<i>ge-shpêrt</i>	Closed
Licht an/aus	pronounce as	<i>liHt ân/ous</i>	Lights On/Off (seen at tunnels)
Maut	pronounce as	<i>mout</i>	Toll
Stau	pronounce as	<i>shtou</i>	Traffic Jam
Umleitung	pronounce as	<i>oom-lay-toong</i>	Detour
Vorsicht Glätte	pronounce as	<i>fohr-ziHt glêt- e</i>	Slippery When Wet

Parts of a Car

English	German		Pronunciation
accelerator	das Gaspedal	pronounce as	<i>dâs gâs-pêd-âl</i>
battery	die Batterie	pronounce as	<i>dee bât-êr-ee</i>
brake pedal	das Bremspedal	pronounce as	<i>dâs brêmz- pêd-âl</i>
brakes	die Bremsen	pronounce as	<i>dee brêmz-en</i>
bumper	die Stoßstange	pronounce as	<i>dee shtohs- shtâng-e</i>
carburetor	der Vergaser	pronounce as	<i>dêr fêr-gah-ser</i>
clutch	die Kupplung	pronounce as	<i>dee koop- loong</i>
dashboard	das Amaturenbrett	pronounce as	<i>dâs â-mâ- tooh-ren-brêt</i>
door handle	der Türgriff	pronounce as	<i>dêr tuer-grif</i>
emergency	die Notbremse	pronounce	<i>dee noht-</i>

brake		as	<i>brêm-ze</i>
exhaust	der Auspuff	pronounce as	<i>dêr ous-poof</i>
fan-belt	der Keilriemen	pronounce as	<i>dêr kayl-ree-men</i>
fender	der Kotflügel	pronounce as	<i>dêr koht-flueg-el</i>
gas tank	der Benzintank	pronounce as	<i>dêr bèn-tseen-tânk</i>
gear	der Gang	pronounce as	<i>dêr gânɡ</i>
gear shift	die Schaltung	pronounce as	<i>dee shâlt-oong</i>
glove compartment	das Handschufach	pronounce as	<i>dâs hânt-shoohf-âH</i>
headlights	die Scheinwerfer	pronounce as	<i>dee shayn-wêr-fer</i>
hood	die Motorhaube	pronounce as	<i>dee moh-tor-hou-be</i>
horn	die Hupe	pronounce as	<i>dee hoohp-e</i>
ignition	die Zündung	pronounce as	<i>dee tsuend-oong</i>
license plate	das Nummernschild	pronounce as	<i>dâs noom-êrn-shilt</i>
motor	der Motor	pronounce as	<i>dêr moh-tor</i>
radiator	der Kühler	pronounce as	<i>dêr kuehl-er</i>
rear-view mirror	der Rückspiegel	pronounce as	<i>dêr ruek-shpee-gêl</i>
regulation jack	der Wagenheber	pronounce as	<i>dêr vah-gen-heyb-er</i>
spare tire	der Ersatzreifen	pronounce as	<i>dêr êr-zâts-rayf-en</i>
spark plug	die Zundkerze	pronounce	<i>dee tsoond-</i>

		as	<i>kêrts-e</i>
steering wheel	das Lenkrad	pronounce as	<i>dâs l ênk-râd</i>
tail light	das Rücklicht	pronounce as	<i>dâs r uek-liHt</i>
tire	der Reifen	pronounce as	<i>dêr rayf-en</i>
trunk	der Kofferraum	pronounce as	<i>dêr kof-êr-oum</i>
turn signal	der Blinker	pronounce as	<i>dêr blink-er</i>
wheel	das Rad	pronounce as	<i>dâs raht</i>
window	das Fenster	pronounce as	<i>dâs f êns-ter</i>
windshield	die Windschutzscheibe	pronounce as	<i>dee vint-shoot-tshayb-e</i>
windshield wiper	der Scheibenwischer	pronounce as	<i>dêr shay-ben-wish-er</i>

These words and phrases are also important when you're out driving.

English	German		Pronunciation
accident	der Unfall	pronounce as	<i>dêr oon-fâl</i>
breakdown	die Panne	pronounce as	<i>dee pâ-n-e</i>
driver's license	der Führerschein	pronounce as	<i>dêr fuer-er-shayn</i>
empty	leer	pronounce as	<i>lêr</i>
gas station	die Tankstelle	pronounce as	<i>dee tank-shtêl-e</i>
gasoline	das Benzin	pronounce as	<i>dâs bê-n-tseen</i>

noise	der Lärm	pronounce as	<i>dêr lêrm</i>
repair	die Reparatur	pronounce as	<i>dee rêp-âr-â-toor</i>
tire pressure	der Reifendruck	pronounce as	<i>dêr rayf-en-drook</i>
to adjust	einstellen	pronounce as	<i>ayn-shtêl-en</i>
to be missing	fehlen	pronounce as	<i>fey-len</i>
to brake	bremsen	pronounce as	<i>brêm-zen</i>
to engage the clutch	kuppeln	pronounce as	<i>koop-eln</i>
to have a flat tire	einen Platten haben	pronounce as	<i>ayn-en plat-en hah-ben</i>
to knock	klopfen	pronounce as	<i>klopf-en</i>
to leak	lecken	pronounce as	<i>lêk-en</i>
to repair	reparieren	pronounce as	<i>rêp-âr-eer-en</i>
to shift gears	schalten	pronounce as	<i>shâl-ten</i>
to stall	liegen bleiben	pronounce as	<i>lee-gen blay-ben</i>
to steer	lenken	pronounce as	<i>lênk-en</i>
to stop	halten	pronounce as	<i>halt-en</i>
to tow	abschleppen	pronounce as	<i>âp-shlêp-en</i>
towtruck	der Abschleppenwagen	pronounce as	<i>dêr âp-shlêp-vah-gen</i>

- Ist ein Parkplatz in der Nähe? / *English translation:* Is there a parking lot nearby?
- Kann ich hier parken? / *English translation:* Can I park here?
- Wie lange kann ich parken? / *English translation:* How long can I park for?
- Ist das die Straße zum Bahnhof? / *English translation:* Is this the road to the station?
- Wo ist die nächste Werkstatt? / *English translation:* Where is the nearest garage?
- Völltannen bitte. / *English translation:* Fill it up please.
- Könnten Sie bitte den Reifendruck prüfen. / *English translation:* Can you check the tire pressure, please?

Seeing the Sights

English	German		Pronunciation
bicycle tour	die Fahrradtour	pronounce as	<i>dee fahr-râd-toor</i>
boat tour	die Schiffsrundfahrt	pronounce as	<i>dee shifs-roond-fahrt</i>
city sightseeing	die City-Sightseeing	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English]</i>
city tour	die Stadtführung	pronounce as	<i>dee shtât-fuer-oong</i>
day trip	der Tagesausflug	pronounce as	<i>dêr tahg-es-ous-floohk</i>
group tour	die Gruppenführung	pronounce as	<i>dee groop-en-fuer-oong</i>
harbor boat tour	die Hafenrundfahrt	pronounce as	<i>dee hah-fên-roond-fahrt</i>

- Wo ist das Fremdenverkehrsbüro? / *English translation:* Where is the tourist information office?

- Können Sie eine Stadtführung empfehlen? / *English translation: Can you recommend a guided tour?*
- Gibt es ein Museum oder eine Kunstgalerie? / *English translation: Is there a museum or art gallery?*
- Ist es für die Öffentlichkeit zugänglich? / *English translation: Is it open to the public?*
- Wie lange dauert es bis dorthin? / *English translation: How long does it take to get there?*
- Um wie viel Uhr öffnen Sie? / *English translation: What time do you open?*
- Um wie viel Uhr schließen Sie? / *English translation: What time do you close?*
- Was kostet das? / *English translation: How much does it cost?*
- Gibt es ... / *English translation: Is there ...*
 - ... eine Busrundfahrt? / *English translation: ... a bus tour?*
 - ... eine Führung? / *English translation: ... a guided tour?*
 - ... einen Audioguide? / *English translation: ... an audio guide?*
- Wie lange dauert die Führung? / *English translation: How long does the tour last?*
- Wann ist die nächste Führung? / *English translation: When is the next tour?*
- Wo ist der Treffpunkt? / *English translation: Where is the meeting point?*
- Gibt es eine Tour auf Englisch? / *English translation: Is there a tour in English?*

Places to Visit

English	German		Pronunciation
botanical garden	der botanische	pronounce as	<i>dêr boh-tân-ish-e</i>
bridge	die Brücke	pronounce as	<i>dee brue-ke</i>
castle	das Schloss	pronounce as	<i>dâs shlos</i>

castle (on a hill)	die Burg	pronounce as	<i>dee boork</i>
cathedral	der Dom	pronounce as	<i>dêr dohm</i>
church	die Kirche	pronounce as	<i>dee kirH-e</i>
coast	die Küste	pronounce as	<i>dee kuest-e</i>
gallery	die Galerie	pronounce as	<i>dee gâl-êr-ee</i>
lighthouse	der Leuchtturm	pronounce as	<i>dêr loyHt-oorm</i>
market	der Markt	pronounce as	<i>dêr mârkt</i>
monument	das Denkmal	pronounce as	<i>dâs dênk-mâl</i>
museum	das Museum	pronounce as	<i>dâs moo-sey-oom</i>
palace	der Palast	pronounce as	<i>dêr pâ-lâst</i>
park	der Park	pronounce as	<i>dêr park</i>
square	der Platz	pronounce as	<i>dêr plats</i>
stadium	das Stadion	pronounce as	<i>dâs shtah-dee-on</i>
theater	das Theater	pronounce as	<i>dâs tey-ah-ter</i>
town hall	das Rathaus	pronounce as	<i>dâs râth-hous</i>
vineyard	der Weinberg	pronounce as	<i>dêr vayn-bêrk</i>

Finding Your Way

- Entschuldigen Sie, bitte. / *English translation:* Excuse me. Can you help me?
- Ist das der Weg ... / *English translation:* Is this the way ...
- Wie komme ich ... / *English translation:* How do I get to ...
 - ... zur Kunstgalerie? / *English translation:* ... to the art gallery?
 - ... zum Museum? / *English translation:* ... to the museum?
 - ... zum Bahnhof? / *English translation:* ... to the station?
 - ... zum Stadtzentrum? / *English translation:* ... to the town center?
- Wie lange dauert das? / *English translation:* How long does it take?
- Ist es weit? / *English translation:* Is it far?

- Können Sie mir auf der Karte zeigen, wo es ist? / *English translation:* Can you show me where it is on the map?

If you ask for directions, you can expect to hear any the following replies.

- Es ist nicht weit. / *English translation:* It's not far away.
- Es ist ... Minuten zu Fuß. / *English translation:* It takes 10 minutes.
- In diese Richtung. / *English translation:* This way.
- In die andere Richtung. / *English translation:* That way.
- Es ist dort drüben. / *English translation:* It's over there.
- Gehen Sie geradeaus ... / *English translation:* Go straight ...
 - ... bis ans Ende der Straße. / *English translation:* ... to the end of the street.
 - ... bis zum Hauptplatz. / *English translation:* ... to the main square.
 - ... bis zuer Ampel. / *English translation:* ... to the traffic lights.
- Nehmen Sie die erste Straße links/rechts. / *English translation:* Take the first street on the left/right.
- Es ist hinter Ihnen. / *English translation:* It's behind you.
- Sie stehen direkt davor. / *English translation:* It's in front of you.
- Es ist auf der anderen Straßenseite. / *English translation:* It's on the other side of the street.
- Es ist gleich um die Ecke. / *English translation:* It's just around the corner.

When You Don't Understand

- Entschuldigung, ich habe Sie nicht verstanden. / *English translation:* Excuse me, I didn't understand you.
- Ich verstehen nicht. / *English translation:* I don't understand.
- Was haben Sie gesagt? / *English translation:* What did you say?
- Sprechen Sie langsamer, bitte. / *English translation:* Please speak more slowly.

- Wiederholen Sie, bitte. / *English translation:* Please repeat what you just said.

Where to Eat

German		Pronunciation	English
der Biergarten	pronounce as	<i>dêr beer-gâr-ten</i>	a casual place serving snacks and beer
die Bierhalle / die Bierstube	pronounce as	<i>dee beer-hâl-e / dee beer-shtoo-h-be</i>	beer hall; serves beer from huge barrels, hot dishes, salads, and pretzels
das Café	pronounce as	<i>dâs [as in English]</i>	range from small places serving coffee and cake to establishments with full menus
das Gasthaus / der Gasthof	pronounce as	<i>dâs gâst-hous / dêr gâst-hohf</i>	inn; usually found in the countryside, offering home-cooked meals; some offers lodging in rural areas
die Gaststätte	pronounce as	<i>dee gâst-shtêt-e</i>	simple local restaurants usually offering local specialties
der Heuriger	pronounce as	<i>dêr hoy-ree-ger</i>	wine tavern; tradition-bound taverns found in eastern Austria; serves most recently produced wine and locally made cold foods
die Kneipe	pronounce as	<i>dee knayp-e</i>	bar-restaurant with casual atmosphere and where locals hang out
die Raststätte	pronounce as	<i>dee râst-shtêt-e</i>	roadside restaurants providing service station facilities and occasionally lodging
der Ratskeller	pronounce as	<i>dêr rahts-kêl-er</i>	restaurants often found in historic buildings

das Restaurant	pronounce as	<i>dâs rês-tou-ron</i>	restaurants similar to those found in the U.S.; range from simple to fancy
der Schnellimbiss / der Stehimbiss	pronounce as	<i>dêr shnêl-im-bis / dêr shteyl-im-bis</i>	fast food restaurant or snack bar serving food like sausage and French fries
die Weinstube	pronounce as	<i>dee vayn-shtoo-h-be</i>	wine bar in cozy restaurants; often found in wine-producing regions

Meeting People

Introductions

- Wie heißen Sie? / *English translation: What's your name?*
- Ich heiÙe ... / *English translation: My name is ...*
- Wie heiÙt er/sie? / *English translation: What's his/her name?*
- Das ist ... / *English translation: This is ...*
- Wie alt bist du? / *English translation: How old are you?*
- Ich bin ... Jahre alt. / *English translation: I'm ... years old.*
- Freut mich. / *English translation: Nice to meet you.*

Countries and Nationalities

- Woher kommen Sie? / *English translation: Where are you from?*

English	German (<i>das</i>)	Nationalities	
		Masculine	Feminine
Albania	Albanien	Albaner	Albanerin
Argentina	Argentinien	Argentinier	Argentinierin
Australia	Australien	Australier	Australierin
Austria	Österreich	Österreicher	Österreicherin

Belgium	Belgien	Belgier	Belgierin
Brazil	Brasilien	Brasilianer	Brasilianerin
Canada	Kanada	Kanadier	Kanadierin
China	China	Chinese	Chinesin
Czech Republic	Tschechien	Tscheche	Tschechin
Denmark	Dänemark	Däne	Dänin
Egypt	Ägypten	Ägypter	Ägypterin
England	England	Engländer	Engländerin
Finland	Finnland	Finne	Finnin
France	Frankreich	Franzose	Französin
Germany	Deutschland	Deutscher	Deutsche
Greece	Griechenland	Griechen	Griechin
Hungary	Ungarn	Ungare	Ungarin
Iceland	Island	Isländer	Isländerin
India	Indien	Inder	Inderin
Indonesia	Indonesien	Indonesier	Indonesierin
Iran	Iran (m.)	Iraner	Iranerin
Ireland	Irland	Ire	Irin
Israel	Israel	Israeli	Israelin
Italy	Italien	Italiener	Italienerin
Japan	Japan	Japaner	Japanerin
Latvia	Lettland	Lette	Lettin
Lithuania	Litauen	Litauer	Litauerin
Luxembourg	Luxembourger	Luxemburger	Luxemburgerin
Malta	Malta	Malteser	Malteserin
Mexico	Mexiko	Mexikaner	Mexikanerin
Morocco	Marokko	Marokkaner	Marokkanerin
Netherlands	Niederlande (pl.)	Holländer	Holländerin
New Zealand	Neuseeland	Neuseeländer	Neuseeländerin
Norway	Norwegen	Norweger	Norwegerin
Poland	Polen	Pole	Polin

Portugal	Portugal	Portugiese	Portugiesin
Russia	Russland	Russe	Russin
Scotland	Schottland	Schotte	Schottin
South Africa	Südafrika	Südafrikaner	Südafrikanerin
South Korea	Südkorea	Koreaner	Koreanerin
Spain	Spanien	Spanier	Spanierin
Sweden	Schweden	Schwede	Schwedin
Switzerland	Schweiz (f.)	Schweizer	Schweizerin
Turkey	Türkei (f.)	Türke	Türkin
United States	Vereinigte Staaten (pl.)	Amerikaner	Amerikanerin
Wales	Wales	Waliser	Waliserin

- Ich komme aus Amerika. / *English translation:* I come from Amerika.
- Ich bin aus den Vereinigten Staaten. / *English translation:* I'm from the United States.
- Ich bin Amerikaner. / *English translation:* I'm American.

Your Work

- Was machen Sie beruflich? / *English translation:* What do you do for a living?
- Was sind Sie von Beruf? / *English translation:* What's your occupation?

English	Masculine (der)	Feminine (die)
architect	Architekt	Architektin
baker	Bäcker	Bäckerin
bank teller	Bankangestellte	Bankangestellte
bricklayer	Maurer	Maurerin
bus driver	Busfahrer	Busfahrerin
computer programmer	Programmierer	Programmiererin
chef	Chefkoch	Chefköchin
cook	Koch	Köchin

doctor	Arzt	Ärztin
employee	Angestellte	Angestellte
journalist	Journalist	Journalistin
musician	Musiker	Musikerin
nurse	Krankenpfleger	Krankenschwester
photographer	Fotograf	Fotografin
real estate agent	der Immobilienmakler	der Immobilienmaklerin
secretary	Sekretär	Sekretärin
student	Student	Studentin
taxi driver	Taxifahrer	Taxifahrerin
teacher	Lehrer	Lehrerin
waiter/waitress	Kellner	Kellnerin
laborer	Arbeiter	Arbeiterin

- Ich bin ... / *English translation: I am ...*
 - ... Arzt. / *English translation: ... a doctor.*
 - ... selbständig. / *English translation: ... self-employed.*
 - ... Studentin. / *English translation: ... a student.*
 - ... nicht berufstätig. / *English translation: ... unemployed.*
 - ... pensioniert. / *English translation: ... retired.*
- Ich arbeite in einem Krankenhaus. / *English translation: I work in a hospital.*
- Ich arbeite bei einer Buchhandlung. / *English translation: I work at a bookstore.*
- Ich arbeite bei einer Bank. / *English translation: I work at a bank.*

Exercises

How do you say the following in German?

1. What's your name?

2. The flight is delayed.
3. Do you have any room available?
4. What time is breakfast?
5. Where can I buy a ticket?
6. Go straight.
7. Please speak more slowly.
8. Do you have a room with a view?
9. I'll stay here for 10 days.
10. Is this the train for Munich?
11. Can I park here?
12. Is there a tour in English?
13. How much does it cost per day?
14. I'm 30 years old.
15. I'm from the United States.
16. I'm a student.
17. It's over there.
18. Is there a daytrip?
19. I'm going to stay for three nights.
20. Is this the way to the market?

Answers

1. Wie heißen Sie?
2. Der Flug ist verspätet.
3. Haben Sie noch ein Zimmer frei?
4. Wann gibt es Frühstück?
5. Wo kann ich eine Fahrkarte kaufen?
6. Gehen Sie geradeaus.

7. Sprechen Sie langsamer, bitte.
8. Haben Sie ein Zimmer mit Aussicht?
9. Ich werde eine Woche hier bleiben. / Ich bleibe zehn Tage hier.
10. Ist das der Zug nach München?
11. Kann ich hier parken?
12. Gibt es eine Tour auf Englisch?
13. Wieviel kostet es am Tag?
14. Ich bin dreißig Jahre alt.
15. Ich bin aus den Vereinigten Staaten.
16. Ich bin Studentin.
17. Es ist dort drüben.
18. Gibt es einen Tagesausflug?
19. Ich bleibe drei Nächte.
20. Ist das der Weg zum Markt?

Chapter 8: Shopping

Useful Phrases

Here are some phrases that you can say or may hear when you're out shopping.

- Ich suche ... / *English translation:* I'm looking for ...
- Ich sehe mich nur um. / *English translation:* I'm just looking.
- Ich werde schon bedient. / *English translation:* I'm being served.
- Haben Sie noch mehr von diesen? / *English translation:* Do you have any more of these?
- Wie viel kostet das? / *English translation:* How much is this?
- Haben Sie etwas Billigeres? / *English translation:* Do you have anything cheaper?
- Ich nehme dieses. / *English translation:* I'll take this one.

- Wo kann ich zahlen? / *English translation: Where can I pay?*
- Bitte bezahlen Sie an der Kasse. / *English translation: Please pay at the checkout.*
- Ich zahle mit Kreditkarte. / *English translation: I'll pay by credit card.*
- Wir akzeptieren keine Kreditkarten. / *English translation: We don't accept credit cards.*
- Ich möchte bitt emit meiner EC-Karte bezahlen. / *English translation: I'd like to pay with my debit card, please.*
- Bite geben Sie Ihre Pin-Nummer ein. / *English translation: Please type in your PIN.*
- Bitte unterschreiben Sie hier. / *English translation: Please sign here.*
- Ich zahle bar. / *English translation: I'll pay in cash.*
- Kann ich eine Quittung haben? / *English translation: Can I have a receipt?*
- Hierst is Ihr Beleg. / *English translation: Here is your receipt.*
- Ich möchte das gern umtauschen / *English translation: I'd like to exchange this.*

Clothing

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
bathing suit	der Badeanzug	pronounce as	<i>dêr bah-de-ân-tsook</i>
belt	der Gürtel	pronounce as	<i>dêr guer-tel</i>
blouse	die Bluse	pronounce as	<i>dee blooh-ze</i>
boots	die Stiefel	pronounce as	<i>dee shteef-el</i>
bra	der Büstenhalter	pronounce as	<i>dêr bue-sten-hâl-ter</i>
briefs	der Schlüpfer	pronounce as	<i>dêr shluep-fer</i>
cap	die Mütze	pronounce as	<i>dee muets-e</i>
cardigan	die Strickjacke	pronounce as	<i>dee shtrik-yâ-ke</i>
coat	der Mantel	pronounce as	<i>dêr mân-tel</i>
dress	das Kleid	pronounce as	<i>dâs klayt</i>
gloves	die Handschuhe	pronounce as	<i>dee hand-shooh-e</i>
hat	der Hut	pronounce as	<i>dêr hooht</i>

jacket	das Jackett / die Jacke	pronounce as	<i>dâs jhâ-kêt / dee yâ-ke</i>
jeans	die Jeans	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English]</i>
pajamas	der Pyjama	pronounce as	<i>dêr p ə -jah-mâ</i>
pants	die Hose	pronounce as	<i>dee hoh-ze</i>
raincoat	der Regenmantel	pronounce as	<i>dêr rey-gen-mân-tel</i>
sandals	die Sandalen	pronounce as	<i>dee zân-dahl-en</i>
scarf	der Schal	pronounce as	<i>dêr shâl</i>
shirt	das Hemd	pronounce as	<i>dâs hêmt</i>
shoes	die Schuhe	pronounce as	<i>dee shooh-e</i>
shorts	die Shorts / kurze Hose	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English] / koorts-e hoh-ze</i>
skirt	der Rock	pronounce as	<i>dêr rok</i>
sneakers	die Turnschuhe	pronounce as	<i>dee torn-shooh-e</i>
socks	die Socken / Strümpfe	pronounce as	<i>dee zok-en / shtruempfe</i>
suit	der Anzug	pronounce as	<i>dêr ân-tsook</i>
sweater	der Pullover / Pulli	pronounce as	<i>dêr pool-oh-ver / poo-lee</i>
T-shirt	das T-Shirt	pronounce as	<i>dâs [as in English]</i>
tank top	der Pullunder	pronounce as	<i>dêr poo-loon-der</i>
tie	die Krawatte	pronounce as	<i>dee krâ-vât-e</i>
underpants	die Unterhose	pronounce as	<i>dee oon-ter-hoh-ze</i>
underwear	die Unterwäsche	pronounce as	<i>dee oon-ter-vêsh-e</i>
vest	die Weste	pronounce as	<i>dee vês-te</i>

- Haben Sie das ... / *English translation: Do you have this ...*
 - ... in klein? / *English translation: ... in small?*
 - ... in mittlerer Größe? / *English translation: ... in medium?*
 - ... in einer großen Größe? / *English translation: ... in large?*
- Kann ich das anprobieren? / *English translation: May I try this on?*

- Wo sind die Umkleidekabinen? / *English translation:* Where are the changing rooms?
- Kann ich die in der Auslage anprobieren? / *English translation:* May I try those ones in the window?
- Es ist zu groß. / *English translation:* It's too big.
- Es ist zu klein. / *English translation:* It's too small.
- Ist das im Ausverkauf? / *English translation:* Is this on sale?
- Haben Sie mehr? / *English translation:* Do you have more?

Materials and Styles

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
cashmere	der Kaschmir	pronounce as	<i>dêr kâsh-meer</i>
corduroy	der Kord	pronounce as	<i>dêr kord</i>
cotton	die Baumwolle	pronounce as	<i>dee boum-vol-e</i>
denim	der Stoff	pronounce as	<i>dêr shtof</i>
flannel	der Flanell	pronounce as	<i>dêr flan-êl</i>
fleece	das Fleece	pronounce as	<i>dâs [as in English]</i>
leather	das Leder	pronounce as	<i>dâs ley-der</i>
linen	das Leinen	pronounce as	<i>dâs layn-en</i>
nylon	das Nylon	pronounce as	<i>dâs n ə -lon</i>
polyester	der Polyester	pronounce as	<i>dêr po-lee-êst-er</i>
silk	die Seide	pronounce as	<i>dee zay-de</i>
suede	der Wildleder	pronounce as	<i>dêr vilt-ley-der</i>
synthetic material	die Kunstfaser	pronounce as	<i>dee koonst-fâz-er</i>
velvet	der Samt	pronounce as	<i>dêr zâmt</i>
wool	die Wolle	pronounce as	<i>dee vol-e</i>
casual	lâssig	pronounce as	<i>lê-s-iH</i>
checkered	kariert	pronounce as	<i>kâr-eert</i>
fashionable	modisch	pronounce as	<i>moh-dish</i>
multicolored	bunt	pronounce as	<i>boont</i>

solid color	einfarbig	pronounce as	<i>ayn-fâr-biH</i>
sporty	sportlich	pronounce as	<i>shport-liH</i>
striped	gestreift	pronounce as	<i>ge-shtrayft</i>
with dots	gepunktet	pronounce as	<i>with dots</i>

Colors

- Haben Sie das in anderen Farben? / *English translation: Do you have this in other colors?*

English	German		Pronunciation
beige	beige	pronounce as	<i>[as in English]</i>
black	schwarz	pronounce as	<i>shvârts</i>
blue	blau	pronounce as	<i>blou</i>
brown	braun	pronounce as	<i>[as in English]</i>
gold	gold	pronounce as	<i>golt</i>
gray	grau	pronounce as	<i>grou</i>
green	grün	pronounce as	<i>gruen</i>
orange	orange	pronounce as	<i>o-râncH</i>
pink	rosa	pronounce as	<i>roh-za</i>
purple	lila	pronounce as	<i>lee-lâ</i>
red	rot	pronounce as	<i>roht</i>
silver	silber	pronounce as	<i>zil-ber</i>
turquoise	türkis	pronounce as	<i>tuer-kees</i>
violet	violet	pronounce as	<i>vee-oh-lêt</i>
white	weiß	pronounce as	<i>vays</i>
yellow	gelb	pronounce as	<i>gêlp</i>
dark	dunkel	pronounce as	<i>doon-keH</i>
light	hell	pronounce as	<i>hêl</i>

Food

English	German		Pronunciation
bakery	die Bäckerei	pronounce	<i>dee bêk-e-ray</i>

		as	
butcher shop	die Metzgerei	pronounce as	<i>dee mêts-ge-ray</i>
cake and pastry shop	die Konditorei	pronounce as	<i>dee kon-dee-to-ray</i>
delicatessen	das Feinkostgeschäft	pronounce as	<i>dâs fayn-kost-ge-shêft</i>
fish store	das Fischgeschäft	pronounce as	<i>dâs fish-ge-shêft</i>
fruit store	das Obstgeschäft	pronounce as	<i>dâs opst-ge-shêft</i>
grocery store	das Lebensmittelgeschäft	pronounce as	<i>dâs ley-benz-mit-el-ge-shêft</i>
market (outdoor)	der Markt	pronounce as	<i>mârkt</i>
supermarket	der Supermarkt	pronounce as	<i>dêr zooh-pêr-mârkt</i>
wine store	die Weinhandlung	pronounce as	<i>dêr dee vayn-hând-loong</i>

Fruits and Vegetables

English	German		Pronunciation
fruits	das Obst	pronounce as	<i>dâs opst</i>
almond	die Mandel	pronounce as	<i>dee mân-del</i>
apple	der Apfel	pronounce as	<i>dêr âp-fel</i>
apricot	die Aprikose	pronounce as	<i>dee âp-ree-koh-ze</i>
banana	die Banane	pronounce as	<i>dee bâ-nah-ne</i>
blueberry	die Blaubeere	pronounce as	<i>dee blou-beyr-e</i>
chestnut	die Kastanie	pronounce as	<i>dee kâs-tah-nee</i>
cherry	die Kirsche	pronounce as	<i>dee kirsh-e</i>
cranberry	die Preiselbeere	pronounce as	<i>dee pray-zêl-beyr-e</i>

currant	die Johannesbeere	pronounce as	<i>dee yoh-â-nis-beyr-e</i>
grape	die Rosine	pronounce as	<i>dee roh-zeen-e</i>
grapefruit	die Pampelmuse	pronounce as	<i>dee pâ-m-pel-mooh-ze</i>
hazelnut	die Haselnuß	pronounce as	<i>dee hah-zel-noos</i>
kiwi	die Kiwi	pronounce as	<i>dee kee-vee</i>
lemon	die Zitrone	pronounce as	<i>dee tsi-trohn-e</i>
melon	die Melone	pronounce as	<i>dee mey-lohn-e</i>
orange	die Orange	pronounce as	<i>dee oh-ron-je</i>
peach	der Pfirsich	pronounce as	<i>dêr pfir-siH</i>
pear	die Birne	pronounce as	<i>dee birn-e</i>
pineapple	die Ananas	pronounce as	<i>dee ân-ân-âs</i>
plum	die Pflaume	pronounce as	<i>dee pflau-me</i>
raspberry	die Himbeere	pronounce as	<i>dee him-beyr-e</i>
strawberry	die Erdbeere	pronounce as	<i>dee eyrt-beyr-e</i>
tomato	die Tomate	pronounce as	<i>dee to-mah-te</i>
watermelon	die Wassermelone	pronounce as	<i>dee vâ-ser-mey-lohn-e</i>
vegetables	das Gemüse	pronounce as	<i>dâs ge-mue-ze</i>
asparagus	der Spargel	pronounce as	<i>dêr shpâr-gêl</i>
bean	die Bohne	pronounce as	<i>dee bohn-e</i>
bell pepper	der Paprika	pronounce as	<i>dêr pâp-ree-kah</i>
broccoli	der Brokkoli	pronounce as	<i>dêr broh-ko-lee</i>
cabbage	der Kohl	pronounce as	<i>dêr kohl</i>
carrot	die Karotte	pronounce as	<i>dee kê-rot-e</i>
cauliflower	der Blumenkohl	pronounce as	<i>dêr bloom-en-kohl</i>
celery	der Sellerie	pronounce as	<i>dêr zêl-êr-ee</i>
corn	der Mais	pronounce as	<i>dêr mays</i>
cucumber	die Gurke	pronounce as	<i>dee goork-e</i>
eggplant	die Aubergine	pronounce as	<i>dee oh-bêr-jeen-e</i>
garlic	der Knoblauch	pronounce as	<i>dêr knoh-blouH</i>
kale	der Grünkohl	pronounce as	<i>dêr gruen-kohl</i>

leek	der Lauch	pronounce as	<i>dêr lauH</i>
lettuce	der Kopfsalat	pronounce as	<i>dêr kopf-zâ-laht</i>
mixed vegetables	gemischtes Gemüse	pronounce as	<i>ge-mish-tes ge-mue-ze</i>
mushroom	der Pilz	pronounce as	<i>dêr pilts</i>
olive	die Olive	pronounce as	<i>dee oh-leev-e</i>
onion	die Zwiebel	pronounce as	<i>dee tsvee-bel</i>
pea	die Erbse	pronounce as	<i>dee êrp-se</i>
pepper	der Pfeffer	pronounce as	<i>dêr pfê-fer</i>
pickled cabbage	das Sauerkraut	pronounce as	<i>dâs zou-er-krouT</i>
potato	die Kartoffel	pronounce as	<i>dee kâr-tof-el</i>
pumpkin	der Kürbis	pronounce as	<i>dêr kuer-bis</i>
radish	die RAdieschen [pl.]	pronounce as	<i>dee râ-dees-Hen</i>
red cabbage	der Rotkohl	pronounce as	<i>dêr roht-kohl</i>
spinach	der Spinat	pronounce as	<i>dêr ship-naht</i>
sour pickle	die saure Gurke	pronounce as	<i>dee zou-re goork-e</i>
turnip	der Kohlrabi	pronounce as	<i>dêr kohl-râ-bee</i>
zucchini	die Zucchini	pronounce as	<i>dee tsoo-kee-ni</i>

Meat and Seafood

English	German		Pronunciation
seafood	Meeresfrüchte	pronounce as	<i>meyr-es-frueH-te</i>
cod	der Kabeljau	pronounce as	<i>dêr kah-bel-you</i>
crab	der Krebs	pronounce as	<i>dêr kreyps</i>
fish	der Fisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr fish</i>
flounder	die Flunder	pronounce as	<i>dee floon-der</i>
haddock	der Schellfisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr shêl-fish</i>
halibut	der Heilbutt	pronounce as	<i>dêr hayl-boot</i>
herring	der Hering	pronounce as	<i>dêr hêr-ing</i>
lobster	der Hummer	pronounce as	<i>dêr hoom-er</i>
mussels	die Muscheln	pronounce as	<i>dee moosh-eln</i>

oysters	die Austern	pronounce as	<i>dee ous-têrn</i>
prawns	die Krabben (f.)	pronounce as	<i>dee krâb-en</i>
salmon	der Lachs	pronounce as	<i>dêr lâx</i>
sardine	die Sardine	pronounce as	<i>dee zâr-deen-e</i>
shrimp	die Garnele	pronounce as	<i>dee gahr-neyl-e</i>
sole	die Seezunge	pronounce as	<i>dee zay-tsoong-e</i>
squid	der Tintenfisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr tin-ten-fish</i>
trout	die Forelle	pronounce as	<i>dee-fohr-e-le</i>
tuna	der Thunfisch	pronounce as	<i>dêr toohn-fish</i>
meat	das Fleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs flaysh</i>
bacon	der Speck	pronounce as	<i>dêr shpêk</i>
beef	das Rindfleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs rint-flaysh</i>
chicken	das Hähnchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs hain-Hen</i>
cutlet	das Schnitzel	pronounce as	<i>dâs shnit-sel</i>
duck	die Ente	pronounce as	<i>dee ên-te</i>
fried sausage	die Bratwurst	pronounce as	<i>dee braht-voorst</i>
goose	die Gans	pronounce as	<i>dee gâns</i>
ham	der Schinken	pronounce as	<i>dêr shin-ken</i>
hamburger meat	das Hackfleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs hâk-flaysh</i>
lamb	das Lammfleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs lâm-flaysh</i>
liver	die Leber	pronounce as	<i>dee ley-ber</i>
pheasant	der Fasan	pronounce as	<i>dêr fâ-zân</i>
pork	das Schweinefleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs shvayn-e-flaysh</i>
poultry	das Geflügel	pronounce as	<i>dâs ge-flueg-el</i>
rabbit	das Känninchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs kân-een-Hen</i>
rib steak	das Rippensteak	pronounce as	<i>dâs ri-pen-steyk</i>
rump steak	das Rumpfsteak	pronounce as	<i>dâs roompf-steyk</i>
sausage	die Wurst	pronounce as	<i>dee voorst</i>
turkey	der Truthahn / die Pute	pronounce as	<i>dêr trooht-hahn / dee pooh-te</i>
veal	das Kalbfleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs kâlp-flaysh</i>

venison	das Rehfleisch	pronounce as	<i>dâs rey-flysh</i>
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Grain and Dairy Products

English	German		Pronunciation
butter	die Butter	pronounce as	<i>dee boot-er</i>
cheese	der Käse	pronounce as	<i>dêr kai-ze</i>
cream	die Sahne	pronounce as	<i>dee zahn-e</i>
milk	die Milch	pronounce as	<i>dee milH</i>
skim milk	die Magermilch	pronounce as	<i>dee mah-ger-milH</i>
sour cream	die saure Sahne	pronounce as	<i>dee zou-re zahn-e</i>
whip cream	die Schlagsahne	pronounce as	<i>dee shlâk-zahn-e</i>
whole milk	die Vollmilch	pronounce as	<i>dee fol-milH</i>
yogurt	der Yoghurt	pronounce as	<i>dêr yoh-goort</i>
bakery goods	die Backwaren	pronounce as	<i>dee bâk-vâr-en</i>
bread	das Brot	pronounce as	<i>dâs broht</i>
brown bread	das Schwarzbrot	pronounce as	<i>dâs shvârts-broht</i>
cake	der Kuchen	pronounce as	<i>dêr koohH-en</i>
Black Forest	die Schwarzwälder	pronounce as	<i>dee shvârts-vêl-der</i>
cookie	das Plätzchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs plêts-Hen</i>
pastry	das Gebäck	pronounce as	<i>dâs ge-bêk</i>
roll	das Brötchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs b r ə t-Hen</i>
rye bread	das Roggenbrot	pronounce as	<i>dâs rog-en-broht</i>
tart	die Torte	pronounce as	<i>dee tor-te</i>
toast	das Toastbrot	pronounce as	<i>dâs tohst-broht</i>
white bread	das Weißbrot	pronounce as	<i>dâs vays-broht</i>
whole-grain bread	das Vollkornbrot	pronounce as	<i>dâs fol-korn-broht</i>

Exercises

How do you say the following in German?

1. I'm looking for a yellow dress.
2. I'm looking for a fleece jacket.
3. I'm looking for black shoes.
4. I'm looking for fresh fruits.
5. I'm looking for prawns.
6. I'll pay in cash.
7. Is this on sale?
8. Where are the changing rooms?
9. How much is this?
10. Do you have more?
11. bread
12. milk
13. fish
14. bathing suit
15. white
16. grocery store
17. lemon
18. vegetables
19. onion

20. casual

Answers

1. Ich suche ein gelbes Kleid.
2. Ich suche eine Fleecejacke.
3. Ich suche schwarze Schuhe.
4. Ich suche frische Früchte.
5. Ich suche Krabben.
6. Ich zahle bar.
7. Ist das im Ausverkauf?
8. Wo sind die Umkleidekabinen?
9. Wie viel kostet das?
10. Haben Sie mehr?
11. das Brot
12. die Milch
13. der Fisch
14. der Badeanzug
15. weiß
16. das Lebensmittelgeschäft
17. die Zitrone
18. das Gemüse
19. die Zwiebel
20. lâssig

Chapter 9: Health and Emergency

In Case of Emergency

- Hilfe! / *English translation: Help!*
- Ich brauche deine Hilfe. / *English translation: I need your help.*
- Das ist ein Notfall. / *English translation: It's an emergency.*
- Rufen Sie die Polizei! / *English translation: Call the police!*
- Lass mich in Ruhe. / *English translation: Leave me alone.*
- Fass mich nicht an. / *English translation: Don't touch me.*
- Ich rufe die Polizei. / *English translation: I'll call the police.*
- Rufen Sie einen Krankenwagen! / *English translation: Call an ambulance!*
- Es ist dringend. / *English translation: It's very urgent.*
- Kann ich dein Telefon benutzen? / *English translation: Can I use your telephone?*
- Ich muss telefonieren. / *English translation: I need to make a phone call.*
- Ich möchte einen Unfall melden. / *English translation: I'd like to report an accident.*
- Kommen Sie bitte schnell! / *English translation: Please come quickly!*
- Ich bin verletzt. / *English translation: I'm hurt.*
- Es gibt Verletzte. / *English translation: There are injured people.*

At the Hospital

- Können Sie mir helfen? / *English translation: Can you help me?*
- Wo ist die Unfallstation? / *English translation: Where's the emergency room?*
- Ich brauche einen Arzt. / *English translation: I need a doctor.*
- Ich brauche eine Krankenschwester. / *English translation: I need a nurse.*
- Ich glaube, ich habe mir den Arm gebrochen. / *English translation: I think I have broken my arm.*

- Brauche ich eine Operation? / *English translation:* Do I need an operation?
- Tut das weh? / *English translation:* Will it hurt?
- Wie lange wird es dauern? / *English translation:* How long will it take?
- Wo ist das Wartezimmer? / *English translation:* Where's the waiting room?

Symptoms, Sicknesses, and Injuries

When you visit the doctor, you may hear the following:

- Was fehlt Ihnen? / *English translation:* What's wrong?
- Wie fühlen Sie sich? / *English translation:* How do you feel?
- Was haben Sie für Symptome? / *English translation:* What kind of symptoms do you have?

English	German		Pronunciation
abscess	der Abseß	pronounce as	<i>dêr âp-ses</i>
appendicitis	die Blinddarmentzündung	pronounce as	<i>dee blint-dahrm-ênt-tsuen-doong</i>
Asthma	das Asthma	pronounce as	<i>dâs âsth-mah</i>
bite	die Bisswunde	pronounce as	<i>dee bis-voon-de</i>
Blister	die Blase	pronounce as	<i>dee blah-ze</i>
bronchitis	die Bronchitis	pronounce as	<i>dee bron-Hee-tis</i>
bruise	der blaue Fleck	pronounce as	<i>dêr blou-e flêk</i>
bump	die Beule	pronounce as	<i>dee boyl-e</i>
burn	die Brandwunde	pronounce as	<i>dee brânt-voon-de</i>
cancer	der Krebs	pronounce as	<i>dêr kreyps</i>
chills	der Schüttelfrost	pronounce as	<i>dêr shue-tel-frost</i>

cold	die Erkältung	pronounce as	<i>dee êr-kêlt-oong</i>
chicken pox	die Windpocken	pronounce as	<i>dee vint-pok-en</i>
constipation	die Verstopfung	pronounce as	<i>dee fêr-shtopf-oong</i>
cough	der Husten	pronounce as	<i>dêr hoos-tên</i>
cramps	der Krampf	pronounce as	<i>dêr krâmpf</i>
cut	die Schnittwunde	pronounce as	<i>dee shnit-voon-de</i>
diarrhea	der Duchfall	pronounce as	<i>dêr doorH-fâl</i>
exhaustion	die Erschöpfung	pronounce as	<i>dee êr-s h ə pf-oong</i>
fever	das Fieber	pronounce as	<i>dâs fee-ber</i>
flu	die Grippe	pronounce as	<i>dee grip-e</i>
fracture	der Bruch	pronounce as	<i>dêr brooH</i>
gout	die Gicht	pronounce as	<i>dee giHt</i>
graze	die Schramme	pronounce as	<i>dee shrâm-e</i>
headache	die Kopfschmerzen	pronounce as	<i>dee kopf-shmêr-tsen</i>
hepatitis	die Leberentzündung	pronounce as	<i>dee ley-beyr-ênt-tsuen-doong</i>
indigestation	die Magenverstimmung	pronounce as	<i>dee mah-gen-fêr-shti-moong</i>
lump	der Knoten	pronounce as	<i>dêr knoh-ten</i>
measles	die Masern (pl.)	pronounce as	<i>dee mah-zern</i>
nausea	die Übelkeit	pronounce as	<i>dee ue-bêl-kayt</i>
nosebleed	das Nasenbluten	pronounce as	<i>dâs nah-zen-bloot-en</i>
pain	der Schmerz	pronounce as	<i>dêr shmêrts</i>
pneumonia	die Lungenentzündung	pronounce as	<i>dee loon-gen-ênt-tsuen-doong</i>
rash	der (Haut) Ausschlag	pronounce as	<i>dêr (hout)ous-shlahk</i>
splinter	der Splitter	pronounce as	<i>dêr shplit-er</i>
sprain	die Verstauchung	pronounce as	<i>dee feyr-shtouH-</i>

			<i>oong</i>
sting	die Stichwunde	pronounce as	<i>dee shtiH-voon-de</i>
stomachache	die Bauchschmerzen	pronounce as	<i>dee bouH-shmêr-tsen</i>
stroke	der Schlaganfall	pronounce as	<i>dêr shlahk-ân-fâl</i>
sunburn	der Sonnenbrand	pronounce as	<i>dêr zon-en-brânt</i>
sunstroke	der Sonnenstich	pronounce as	<i>dêr zon-en-shtiH</i>

- Ich fühle mich nicht wohl. / *English translation:* I don't feel well.
- Ich bin krank. / *English translation:* I feel sick.
- Ich muss mich erbrechen. / *English translation:* I'm vomiting.
- Mir ist schwindlig. / *English translation:* I'm feeling dizzy.
- Ich habe hohen Blutdruck. / *English translation:* I have high blood pressure.
- Ich habe eine Infektion. / *English translation:* I have an infection.
- Ich habe eine Allergie. / *English translation:* I have an allergy.

Parts of the Body

- Haben Sie Schmerzen? / *English translation:* Are you in pain?
- Wo tut es weh? / *English translation:* Where does it hurt?

To tell the doctor which part of your body hurts, say:

- Mein/Meine ... tut weh. / *English translation:* My ... hurt(s).

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
ankle(s)	der Fußknöchel / die Fußknöchel	pronounce as	<i>dêr foohs-k n ə H-el / dee foohs- k n ə H-el</i>
arm(s)	der Arm / die Arme	pronounce as	<i>dêr ârm / dee ârm-e</i>
back	der Rücken	pronounce as	<i>dêr ruek-en</i>
body	der Körper	pronounce as	<i>dêr k ə r-per</i>
breast(s)	der Busen / die	pronounce as	<i>dêr booh-zen /</i>

	Busen		<i>dee booh-zen</i>
chest	die Brust	pronounce as	<i>dee broost</i>
ear(s)	das Ohr / die Ohren	pronounce as	<i>dâs ohr / dee ohr-en</i>
eye(s)	das Auge / die Augen	pronounce as	<i>dâs oug-e / dee oug-en</i>
face	das Gesicht	pronounce as	<i>dâs ge-ziHt</i>
finger(s)	der Finger / die Finger	pronounce as	<i>dêr fing-er / dee fing-er</i>
fingernail(s)	der Fingernagel / die Fingernägel	pronounce as	<i>dêr fing-er-ney-gel / dee fing-er-ney-gel</i>
foot/feet	der Fuß / die Füße	pronounce as	<i>dêr foohs / dee foohs-e</i>
hand(s)	die Hand / die Hände	pronounce as	<i>dee hânt / dee hânt-e</i>
hair	das Haar	pronounce as	<i>dâs hahr</i>
head	der Kopf	pronounce as	<i>dêr kopf</i>
heart	das Herz	pronounce as	<i>dâs hêrts</i>
hip(s)	die Hüfte / die Hüften	pronounce as	<i>dee huef-te / die huef-ten</i>
jaw(s)	der Kiefer / die Kiefer	pronounce as	<i>dêr keef-er / dee keef-er</i>
joints	die Gelenke	pronounce as	<i>dee ge-lênk-e</i>
kidney(s)	die Niere / die Nieren	pronounce as	<i>dee neer-e / dee neer-en</i>
knee(s)	das Knie / die Knie	pronounce as	<i>dâs knee / dee knee</i>
leg(s)	das Bein / die Beine	pronounce as	<i>dâs bayn / dee bayn-e</i>
lip(s)	die Lippe / die Lippen	pronounce as	<i>die lip-e / die lip-en</i>
liver	die Leber	pronounce as	<i>dee ley-ber</i>
lungs	die Lungen	pronounce as	<i>dee loong-en</i>
mouth	der Mund	pronounce as	<i>dêr moont</i>
muscle	der Muskel	pronounce as	<i>dêr moos-ke</i>
neck	der Nacken	pronounce as	<i>dêr nâk-en</i>
nose	die Nase	pronounce as	<i>dee nah-ze</i>
shoulder(s)	die Schulter / die Schultern	pronounce as	<i>dee shool-ter / dee shool-tern</i>
skin	die Haut	pronounce as	<i>die hout</i>
stomach	der Magen	pronounce as	<i>dêr mah-gen</i>
spine	die Wirbelsäule	pronounce as	<i>dee vir-bel-zoyl-e</i>
thigh	der	pronounce as	<i>dêr oh-bêr-</i>

	Oberschenkel		<i>shênk-el</i>
throat	die Kehle	pronounce as	<i>dee kêl-e</i>
thumb(s)	der Daumen / die Daumen	pronounce as	<i>dêr doum-en / dee doum-en</i>
toe(s)	die Zehe / die Zehen	pronounce as	<i>dee tsay / dee tsay-en</i>
tongue	die Zunge	pronounce as	<i>dee tsoong-e</i>
tooth/teeth	der Zahn / die Zähne	pronounce as	<i>dêr tsahn / dee tsêhn-e</i>
wrist(s)	das Handgelenk / die Handgelenke	pronounce as	<i>dâs hant-gê-lênk / dee hant-gê- lênk-e</i>

- Mein Kopf tut weh. / *English translation:* My head hurts.
- Meine Schulter tut weh. / *English translation:* My shoulder hurts.
- Mein Rücken tut weh. / *English translation:* My back hurts.

At the Pharmacy

- Was hilft gegen ...? / *English translation:* What can I take for ...?
- Wie viele soll ich davon nehmen? / *English translation:* How many should I take?
- Gibt es Nebenwirkungen? / *English translation:* Are there side effects?
- Brauche ich ein Rezept? / *English translation:* Do I need a prescription?

Drugstore Items

English	German	pronounce as	Pronunciation
acne medicine	die Aknemedizin	pronounce as	<i>dee âk-ne-mey- dee-tseen</i>
alcohol	der Alkohol	pronounce as	<i>dêr âl-koh-hohl</i>
aspirin	das Asperin	pronounce as	<i>dâs âs-pi-reen</i>
bandage	der Verband	pronounce as	<i>dêr fêr-bânt</i>
Band-Aid	der Helftpflaster	pronounce as	<i>dêr heft-pflâs-ter</i>
bottle	die Flasche	pronounce as	<i>dee flash-e</i>
brush	der Kamm	pronounce as	<i>dêr kâm</i>
condoms	die Kondome (n.)	pronounce as	<i>dee kon-doh-me</i>

cotton	die Watte	pronounce as	<i>dee vât-e</i>
cotton swabs	die Wattestâbchen (n.)	pronounce as	<i>dee vât-e-shtaip-Hen</i>
cough drops	die Hustenbonbons (n.)	pronounce as	<i>dee hoohs-ten-bon-bonz</i>
cough syrup	der Hustensaft	pronounce as	<i>dêr hoohs-ten-zâf</i>
deodorant	das Deodorant	pronounce as	<i>dâs dey-oh-dohr-ânt</i>
diapers	die Windeln (f.)	pronounce as	<i>dee vind-eln</i>
eye drops	die Augentropfen	pronounce as	<i>dee ou-gent-rop-fen</i>
first-aid kit	der Erste-Hilfe-Kasten	pronounce as	<i>dêr êrst-e-hilf-e-kâst-en</i>
gauze bandage	die Mullbinde	pronounce as	<i>dee mool-bind-e</i>
heating pad	das Heizkissen	pronounce as	<i>dâs hayts-kis-en</i>
ice pack	der Eisbeutel	pronounce as	<i>dêr ays-boyt-el</i>
(mild) laxative	das (milde) Abführmittel	pronounce as	<i>dâs (mild-e) âp-fuehr-mit-el</i>
moisturizer	die Feuchtigkeitscreme	pronounce as	<i>dee foyH-tiH-kayts-kreym</i>
mouthwash	das Mundwasser	pronounce as	<i>dâs moont-vâs-er</i>
safety pins	die Sicherheitsnadeln (f.)	pronounce as	<i>dee ziH-er-hayts-nahd-eln</i>
scissors	die Schere	pronounce as	<i>dee sheyr-e</i>
shampoo	das Shampoo	pronounce as	<i>dâs sham-pooh</i>
shaving cream	die Rasiercreme	pronounce as	<i>dee râh-zeer-kreym</i>
sleeping pills	die Schlaftabletten (f.)	pronounce as	<i>dee shlahf-tâb-lêt-en</i>
thermometer	das Thermometer	pronounce as	<i>dâs têr-moh-meyt-er</i>
tissues	die Taschentücher (n.)	pronounce as	<i>dee tâsh-ent-ueH-er</i>

toothbrush	die Zahnbürste	pronounce as	<i>dee tsahn-buerst-</i>
tweezers	die Pinzette	pronounce as	<i>dee pin-tset-e</i>
vitamins	die Vitamine	pronounce as	<i>dee veet-ah-meene</i>

- Ich brauche einen Verband. / *English translation:* I need a bandage.
- Ich brauche Schmerztabletten. / *English translation:* I need some pain killers.
- Ich brauche Hustensaft. / *English translation:* I need some cough syrup.

Exercises

How do you say the following in German?

1. Help!
2. I don't feel well.
3. My back hurts.
4. I need your help.
5. I need a doctor.
6. I have an allergy.
7. It's an emergency.
8. I need a first-aid kit.
9. How do you feel?
10. I have a headache.
11. eyes

12. cough syrup
13. heart
14. teeth
15. pain
16. rash
17. arms
18. alcohol
19. bandage
20. foot

Answers

1. Hilfe!
2. Ich fühle mich nicht wohl.
3. Mein Rücken tut weh.
4. Ich brauche deine Hilfe.
5. Ich brauche einen Arzt.
6. Ich habe eine Allergie.
7. Das ist ein Notfall.
8. Ich brauche ein Erste-Hilfe-Kasten.
9. Wie fühlen Sie sich?
10. Ich habe eine Kopfschmerzen.
11. die Augen
12. der Hustensaft
13. das Herz
14. die Zähne
15. der Schmerz

16. der (Haut)Ausschlag
17. die Arme
18. der Alkohol
19. der Verband
20. der Fuß

Chapter 10: Dating and Going Out

Dating

- Hast du dieses Wochenende Zeit? / *English translation:* Are you free this weekend?
- Hättest du Lust, mal etwas zusammen zu unternehmen? / *English translation:* Would you like to hang out with me?
- Möchtest du mit mir zum Abendessen ausgehen? / *English translation:* Would you like to go out to dinner with me?
- Um wieviel Uhr sollen wir uns morgen treffen? / *English translation:* What time shall we meet tomorrow?
- Wo sollen wir uns treffen? / *English translation:* Where shall we meet?
- Kann ich dich noch mal sehen? / *English translation:* Can I see you again?
- Sollen wir woanders hingehen? / *English translation:* Shall we go somewhere else?
- Ich kenne einen tollen Ort. / *English translation:* I know a good place.
- Ich werde dich nach Hause fahren. / *English translation:* I will drive you home.
- Das war ein toller Abend. / *English translation:* That was a great evening.
- Wann kann ich dich wiedersehen? / *English translation:* When can I see you again?

- Ich werde dich anrufen. / *English translation:* I'll call you.
- Soll ich dich abholen? / *English translation:* Shall I pick you up?
- Lass uns etwas trinken gehen. / *English translation:* Let's have a drink somewhere.
- Lass uns ins Kino gehen. / *English translation:* Let's go to the movies.
- Wollen wir uns zusammen einen Film ansehen? / *English translation:* Shall we watch a movie together?
- Ich freue mich auf unser Treffen. / *English translation:* I'm looking forward to our date.

To the Movies

- Ich möchte einen Film sehen. / *English translation:* I would like to see a film.
- Ich möchte ins Kino gehen. / *English translation:* I would like to go to the movies.

German		Pronunciation	English
der Film	pronounce as	<i>dêr film</i>	movie, film
im Original	pronounce as	<i>im o-ri-gi-nahl</i>	original
Original mit Untertiteln	pronounce as	<i>o-ri-gi-nahl mi toon-têr-ti-teln</i>	original with subtitle
synchronisiert	pronounce as	<i>zyn-kro-nee-zeert</i>	dubbed
der Abenteuerfilm	pronounce as	<i>dêr ah-bent-oy-er-film</i>	adventure film
die Komödie	pronounce as	<i>dee koh- m ə -dee-e</i>	comedy
der Dokumentarfilm	pronounce as	<i>dêr doh-koohm-en-târ-film</i>	documentary
das Drama	pronounce as	<i>dâs drah-mah</i>	drama
der Horrorfilm	pronounce as	<i>dêr ho-ror-film</i>	horror movie
der Krimi	pronounce as	<i>dêr kree-mee</i>	thriller
die Liebesgeschichte	pronounce as	<i>dee lee-bês-geh-shiHt-e</i>	love story
der Sitzplatz	pronounce as	<i>dêr zits-plâts</i>	seat

die Sitzplatznummer	pronounce as	<i>dee zits-plâts-noom-er</i>	seat number
ausverkauft	pronounce as	<i>ous-fehr-kouft</i>	sold out

- Welchen Film willst Du sehen? / *English translation:* Which movie do you want to watch?
- Wann fängt der Film an? / *English translation:* What time does the movie start?
- Zwei Tickets für den Film um ... Uhr, bitte. / *English translation:* Two tickets for the movie at ... o'clock, please.
- Läuft der Film im Original oder ist er synchronisiert? / *English translation:* Is the movie shown in the original language or is it dubbed?
- Gibt es noch Karten für die Premiere? / *English translation:* Are there still tickets for the premiere?
- In welches Kino sollen wir gehen? / *English translation:* Which cinema should we go to?
- Ich kaufe Popcorn und Getränke. / *English translation:* I'm going to buy popcorn and drinks.
- Können Sie uns helfen, unsere Plätze zu finden? / *English translation:* Can you help us find our seats?

You may hear the following from the ticket seller:

- Der Film hat schon begonnen. / *English translation:* The movie has already started.
- Der ... Uhr Film ist ausverkauft. / *English translation:* The ... movie is sold out.
- Wir haben noch Karten für den Film um ... Uhr. / *English translation:* There are tickets left for the movie at ... o'clock.

Flirting

- Ich habe eine gute Zeit. / *English translation:* I'm having a good time.
- Du machst mich glücklich. / *English translation:* You make me happy.

- Ich kann mit dir so viel lachen. / *English translation:* I can laugh with you so much.
- Ich genieße jede Sekunde mit dir. / *English translation:* I enjoy every second with you.
- Du siehst toll aus. / *English translation:* You look great.
- Du siehst schön aus. / *English translation:* You look nice.
- Du hast wunderschöne Augen. / *English translation:* You have beautiful eyes.
- Du siehst gut aus. / *English translation:* You look handsome.

Dining Out

Making a Reservation

- Ich möchte eine Tisch für heute Mittag/Abend reservieren. / *English translation:* I'd like to book a table for lunch/dinner.
- Ich möchte einen Tisch für zwei Personen reservieren. / *English translation:* I'd like to book a table for two people.
- Ich habe eine Reservierung auf den Namen ... / *English translation:* I have a reservation in the name of ...
- Wir haben nicht reserviert. / We haven't booked.

Table Setting

English	German		Pronunciation
crockery	das Geschirr	pronounce as	<i>dâs ge-sheer</i>
cup	die Tasse	pronounce as	<i>dee tâs-e</i>
cutlery	das Besteck	pronounce as	<i>dâs be-shtêk</i>
dinner plate	der Teller	pronounce as	<i>dêr têl-er</i>
fork	die Gabel	pronounce as	<i>dee gah-bel</i>
glass	das Glas	pronounce as	<i>dâs glahs</i>
knife	das Messer	pronounce as	<i>dâs mês-er</i>
menu	die Speisekarte	pronounce as	<i>dee shpay-ze-kârt-e</i>
mug	der Becher	pronounce as	<i>dêr bêH-er</i>

napkin	die Serviette	pronounce as	<i>dee sêr-vee-êt-e</i>
pepper mill	die Pfeffermühle	pronounce as	<i>dee pfe-fer-muehl-e</i>
salt shaker	der Salzstreuer	pronounce as	<i>dêr zâlts-shtroy-er</i>
saucer	die Unterteller	pronounce as	<i>dee oon-ter-têl-er</i>
soup bowl	der Suppenteller	pronounce as	<i>dêr zoop-en-têl-er</i>
soup spoon	der Eßlöffel	pronounce as	<i>dêr ês- l ə -fel</i>
spoon	der Löffel	pronounce as	<i>dêr l ə -fel</i>
tablecloth	die Tischdecke	pronounce as	<i>dee tish-dêk-e</i>
teaspoon	der Teelöffel	pronounce as	<i>dêr tey- l ə -fel</i>

Menu Items

- Können wir die Speisekarte sehen? / *English translation: May we see the menu?*
- Welche Spezialgerichte gibt es heute? / *English translation: What are today's specials?*
- Was sind die örtlichen Spezialitäten? / *English translation: What are the local specialties?*

German		Pronunciation	English
das Frühstück	pronounce as	<i>dâs frue-shtuek</i>	breakfast
das Brot	pronounce as	<i>dâs broht</i>	bread
das Brötchen	pronounce as	<i>dâs b r ə t-Hên</i>	roll
die Butter	pronounce as	<i>bee-boot-er</i>	butter
die Cornflakes	pronounce as	<i>dee [as in English]</i>	cornflakes
das Ei	pronounce as	<i>dâs ay</i>	egg
die Haferflocken	pronounce as	<i>dee hahf-er-flok-en</i>	oatmeal
die Margarine	pronounce as	<i>dee mâr-gâr-een-e</i>	margarine

die Marmelade	pronounce as	<i>dee mâr-me-lah-de</i>	jam
die Milch	pronounce as	<i>dee milH</i>	milk
das Müsli	pronounce as	<i>dâs mues-lee</i>	muesli
die Rühreier	pronounce as	<i>dee ruehr-ay-er</i>	scrambled eggs
der Schinken	pronounce as	<i>dêr shin-ken</i>	ham
das Spiegelei	pronounce as	<i>dâs shpee-gêl-ay</i>	sunny side up egg
der Toast	pronounce as	<i>dêr tohst</i>	toast
die Wurst	pronounce as	<i>dee voorst</i>	sausage
die Suppen	pronounce as	<i>dee zoop-en</i>	soups
Bauernsuppe	pronounce as	<i>bou-êrn-zoop-e</i>	cabbage and sausage soup
Bohnensuppe	pronounce as	<i>boh-nen-zoop-e</i>	bean soup
Französische Zwiebelsuppe	pronounce as	<i>frân-t s ə -zi-she tsvee-bel-zoop-e</i>	French onion soup
Frühlingsuppe	pronounce as	<i>frueh-links-zoop-e</i>	spring vegetable soup
Gulaschsuppe	pronounce as	<i>gooh-lash-zoop-e</i>	beef and occasionally pork soup
Kartoffelcremesuppe	pronounce as	<i>kâr-tof-el-kreym- zoop-e</i>	cream of potato soup
Kraftbrühe mit Ei	pronounce as	<i>krâft-brueh-e mit ay</i>	beef broth with raw egg
Linsensuppe	pronounce as	<i>lin-zen-zoop-e</i>	lentil soup

Ochsenschanzsuppe	pronounce as	<i>ox-zen-shvânts- zoop-e</i>	oxtail soup
Tomatensuppe	pronounce as	<i>to-mah-ten-zoop-e</i>	tomato soup
die Vorspeise	pronounce as	<i>dee fohr-shpayz-e</i>	appetizers
Gemischter Salat	pronounce as	<i>ge-mish-ter zâ-laht</i>	mixed salad
Grüner Salat	pronounce as	<i>gruen-er zâ-laht</i>	green salad
Meeresfrüchtesalat mit Toast	pronounce as	<i>meyr-es-frueH-te- zâ-laht mit tohst</i>	seafood salad with toast
Melon emit Schinken	pronounce as	<i>mê-loh-ne mit shin- ken</i>	melon with ham
die Hauptspeisen	pronounce as	<i>dee houpt-shpayz- en</i>	main dishes
Bauernschmaus	pronounce as	<i>bou-êrn-shmous</i>	smoked pork, dumpling, sausages, sauerkraut, and tomato
Bündnerfleisch	pronounce as	<i>buent-ner-flaysh</i>	air-dried, thinly sliced beef
Deutsche Beefsteak	pronounce as	<i>doyt-she beef-steyk</i>	Salisbury steak
Fisch des Tages	pronounce as	<i>fish dêsh tah-ges</i>	fish of the day
Frischer Spargel mit Räucherschinken	pronounce as	<i>frish-er shpâr-gel mit royH-er-shin- ken</i>	smoked ham and fresh white asparagus
gefüllte Hühnerbrust mit Kartoffelpüree	pronounce as	<i>ge-fuel-te huen-er- broost mit kâr-tof- el-puer-ey</i>	chicken breast with mashed potatoes
Gulasch	pronounce	<i>goo-lash</i>	beef stew with

	as		spicy paprika
Hackbraten	pronounce as	<i>hâk-brah-ten</i>	meatloaf
Hühnerfrikassee mit Reis	pronounce as	<i>huen-er-frik-â-sey mit rays</i>	chicken fricassee with rice
Lachs an Safransoße mit Spinat und Salzkartoffeln	pronounce as	<i>lâks ân zâf-rahnzohs-e mit ship-naht oont zâlts-kâr-tof-el</i>	salmon in saffron sauce with spinach and boiled potatoes
Lammfrikassee mit Reis	pronounce as	<i>lâm-frik-â-sey mit rays</i>	lamb fricassee with rice
Lammkotelett	pronounce as	<i>lâm-kot-lêt</i>	lamb chop
Naturschnitzel	pronounce as	<i>nah-toor-shnit-sel</i>	unbreaded veal cutlet
die Beilagen	pronounce as	<i>dee bay-lah-gen</i>	side dishes
Butterbohnen	pronounce as	<i>boot-er-bohn-en</i>	buttered beans
Gurkensalat	pronounce as	<i>goork-en-zâ-lat</i>	cucumber salad
Kartoffelkroketten	pronounce as	<i>kâr-tof-el-kroh-ket-en</i>	potato croquettes

Desserts and Ice Cream

Nachtisch	pronounce as	<i>naH-tish</i>	dessert
der Apfelstrudel	pronounce as	<i>dêr âp-fel-shtrooh-del</i>	apple strudel
der Frischer Obstsalat	pronounce as	<i>dêr frish-er ohpst-zâ-laht</i>	fresh fruit salad
der Kuchen	pronounce as	<i>dêr koohH-en</i>	cake
der Pfirsich Melba	pronounce as	<i>dêr pfeer-ziH-</i>	peach Melba

		<i>mêlb-ah</i>	
der Schokoladenpudding	pronounce as	<i>dêr shoh-koh-lah-den-poo-ding</i>	chocolate pudding
die Pfannkuchen	pronounce as	<i>dee pfân-koohH-en</i>	crepes
die Rote Grütze	pronounce as	<i>dee roht-e grue-tse</i>	berry pudding
die Sachertorte	pronounce as	<i>dee zâH-er-tor-te</i>	chocolate cake
das Eis	pronounce as	<i>dâs ays</i>	ice cream
das Erdbeereis	pronounce as	<i>dâs êrt-beyr-ays</i>	strawberry ice cream
das Schokoladeneis	pronounce as	<i>dâs shoh-koh-lah-den-ays</i>	chocolate ice cream
das Vanilleeis	pronounce as	<i>dâs vah-ni-lee-e-ays</i>	vanilla ice cream
der Eisbecher	pronounce as	<i>dêr ays-bêH-er</i>	dish of ice cream
mit Schlagsahne	pronounce as	<i>mit shlâk-zahn-e</i>	with whipped cream
mit Schokoladensoße	pronounce as	<i>mit shoh-koh-lah-den-zohs-e</i>	with chocolate sauce

Ordering

You may hear some of the following from the waiter:

- Haben Sie schon gewählt? / *English translation:* Have you chosen already?
- Möchten Sie schon etwas zu trinken bestellen? / *English translation:* Would you like to order some drinks to start with?
- Was möchten Sie bestellen? / *English translation:* What would you like to order?
- Möchten Sie eine Vorspeise? / *English translation:* Would you like an appetizer?
- Ja, bitte? / *English translation:* Yes, please?

- Ein Moment, bitte. / *English translation:* One moment, please.

You may respond with the following:

- Ich möchte bitte schon etwas zu trinken bestellen. / *English translation:* I'd like to order something to drink to start with.
- Ich weiß noch nicht. / *English translation:* I don't know yet.
- Was empfehlen Sie? / *English translation:* What do you recommend?
- Ich nehme ... / *English translation:* I'll have ...
- Ich möchte ... / *English translation:* I would like ...
- Für mich bitte ... / *English translation:* For me ... please.

Beverages

German		Pronunciation	English
der Tee	pronounce as	<i>dêr tey</i>	tea
einen Tee mit Zitrone	pronounce as	<i>ay-nen tey mit tsee- trohn-e</i>	tea with lemon
das Mineralwasser	pronounce as	<i>dâs mi-ne-rahl-vâs- er</i>	mineral water
der Kaffee	pronounce as	<i>dêr kâf-ê</i>	coffee
einen Kaffee mit Milch	pronounce as	<i>ay-nen kâf-ê mit milH</i>	coffee with milk
einen Kaffee mit Zucker	pronounce as	<i>ay-nen kâf-ê mitt sook-er</i>	coffee with sugar
einen schwarzen Kaffee	pronounce as	<i>ay-nen shvâr-tsen kâf-ê</i>	black coffee
einen entkoffinierten Kaffee	pronounce as	<i>ay-nen ênt-ko-fi- neer-ten kâf-ê</i>	decaffeinated coffee
einen Eiskaffee	pronounce as	<i>ay-nen ays-kâf-ê</i>	iced coffee
ein Altbier	pronounce as	<i>ayn âlt-beer</i>	bitter ale

ein Bier vom Faß	pronounce as	<i>ayn beer fom fâs</i>	draft beer
ein dunkles Bier	pronounce as	<i>ayn doon-kles beer</i>	dark beer
ein helles Bier	pronounce as	<i>ayn hê-les beer</i>	light beer

- Ich möchte gerne etwas trinken. / *English translation:* I would like something to drink.
- Was für Bier haben Sie? / *English translation:* What types of beer do you have?
- Könnte ich eine Tasse Kaffee haben? / *English translation:* Can I have a cup of coffee?
- Ein Glas Bier, bitte. / *English translation:* A glass of beer, please.
- Noch eins, bitte. / *English translation:* Another, please.

Cooking Terms and Preparation

English	German		Pronunciation
Baked	gebacken	pronounce as	<i>ge-bâk-en</i>
Boiled	gekocht	pronounce as	<i>ge-koHt</i>
Breaded	paniert	pronounce as	<i>pah-neert</i>
browned	angebräunt	pronounce as	<i>ân-ge-broynt</i>
deep-fat fried	frittiert	pronounce as	<i>fri-teert</i>
hard-boiled	hartgekocht	pronounce as	<i>hart-ge-koHt</i>
marinated	mariniert	pronounce as	<i>mâr-i-neert</i>
pickled	eingelegt	pronounce as	<i>ayn-ge-leygt</i>
poached	pochiert	pronounce as	<i>po-sheert</i>
pureed	püriert	pronounce as	<i>pueh-reert</i>
rare	blutig	pronounce as	<i>blooh-tiH</i>
raw	roh	pronounce as	<i>roh</i>
roasted	gebraten	pronounce as	<i>ge-brât-en</i>
smoked	geräuchert	pronounce as	<i>ge-royH-êrt</i>
soft-boiled	weichgekocht	pronounce as	<i>vayH-ge-koHt</i>

steamed	gedampft	pronounce as	<i>ge-dâmpft</i>
stuffed	gefüllt	pronounce as	<i>ge-fuelt</i>
well-done	durchgekocht	pronounce as	<i>doohrH-ge-koHt</i>

Herbs, Spices, and Condiment

English	German		Pronunciation
basil	das Basilikum	pronounce as	<i>dâs bah-zee-leek-oom</i>
cream	die Sahne	pronounce as	<i>dee zahn-e</i>
dill	der Dill	pronounce as	<i>dêr dil</i>
dressing	die Salatsoße	pronounce as	<i>dee zâ-laht-zohs-e</i>
garlic	der Knoblauch	pronounce as	<i>dêr knoh-blouH</i>
herbs	die Kräuter	pronounce as	<i>dee kroyt-er</i>
honey	der Honig	pronounce as	<i>dêr hohn-iH</i>
horseradish	der Meerrettich	pronounce as	<i>dêr meyr-rêt-iH</i>
ketchup	der Ketchup	pronounce as	<i>dêr [as in English]</i>
mayonnaise	die Mayonnaise	pronounce as	<i>dee mah-yohn-ay-ze</i>
mustard	der Senf	pronounce as	<i>dêr zênf</i>
oil	das Öl	pronounce as	<i>dâs ə l</i>
oregano	das Oregano	pronounce as	<i>dâs o-rey-gah-no</i>
pepper	der Pfeffer	pronounce as	<i>dêr pfêf-er</i>
salt	das Salz	pronounce as	<i>zâlts</i>
sauce	die Soße	pronounce as	<i>dee zohs-e</i>
spices	die Gewürze	pronounce as	<i>dee ge-vuerts-e</i>
sugar	der Zucker	pronounce as	<i>dêr tsook-er</i>
vinegar	der Essig	pronounce as	<i>dêr ês-iH</i>

Special Diets

- Ich bin auf (einer) Diet. / *English translation: I'm on a diet.*
- Ich bin (ein) Vegetarier. / *English translation: I'm a vegetarian.*
- Haben Sie vegetarische Gerichte? / *English translation: Do you have vegetarian dishes?*

- Gibt es etwas Veganes? / *English translation:* Is there a vegan option?
- Ich kann nichts essen, was ... enthält. / *English translation:* I can't eat anything with ... in it.
 - ... die Meeresfrüchte ... / *English translation:* ... seafood ...
 - ... die gesättigten Fette ... / *English translation:* ... saturated fats ...
- Ich suche nach einem Gericht mit ... / *English translation:* I'm looking for a dish (that's) ...
 - ... keine Milchprodukte. / *English translation:* non-dairy
 - ... salzfrei. / *English translation:* ... salt-free.
 - ... zuckerfrei. / *English translation:* ... sugar-free.
 - ... niedrigem Cholesteringehalt. / *English translation:* ... low in cholesterol.
 - ... niedriger Fettgehalt. / *English translation:* ... low in fat.
 - ... niedriger Natriumgehalt. / *English translation:* low in sodium.

Something's Wrong

English	German		Pronunciation
is burned	ist angebrannt	pronounce as	<i>ist ân-ge-brânt</i>
is cold	ist kalt	pronounce as	<i>ist kâlt</i>
is overdone	ist übergar	pronounce as	<i>ist ue-ber-gahr</i>
is spoiled	ist verdorben	pronounce as	<i>ist vêr-dorb-en</i>
is too rare	ist zu blutig	pronounce as	<i>ist tsooh blooh-tiH</i>
is too salty	ist zu salzig	pronounce as	<i>ist tsooh zâl-tsiH</i>
is too sweet	ist zu süß	pronounce as	<i>ist tsooh zues</i>
is too spicy	ist zu scharf	pronounce as	<i>ist tsooh shârf</i>
is tough	ist zâh	pronounce as	<i>ist tsêh</i>

After the Meal

- Hat es Ihnen geschmeckt? / *English translation:* Did you enjoy your meal?
- Sonst noch etwas? / *English translation:* Would you like anything else?
- Die Rechnung, bitte. / *English translation:* The bill, please.
- Ich möchte bezahlen. / *English translation:* I would like to pay.

Exercises

How do you say the following in German?

1. Would you like to hang out with me?
2. I would like to see a horror film.
3. I'd like to book a table for two people.
4. What time shall we meet?
5. What do you recommend?
6. I'll have chocolate cake.
7. A cup of coffee, please.
8. I would like to pay.
9. May we see the menu?
10. It is too spicy.
11. spoon
12. knife
13. sausage
14. well-done
15. rare
16. sugar
17. low in fat
18. herbs
19. menu

20. appetizer

Answers

1. Hättest du Lust, mal etwas zusammen zu unternehmen?
2. Ich möchte einen Horrofilm sehen.
3. Ich möchte einen Tisch für view Personen reservieren.
4. Um wieviel Uhr sollen wir uns treffen?
5. Was empfehlen Sie?
6. Ich nehme Sachertorte.
7. Eine Tasse Kaffee, bitte.
8. Ich möchte bezahlen.
9. Können wir die Speisekarte sehen?
10. Es ist zu scharf.
11. der Löffel
12. das Messer
13. die Wurst
14. durchgekocht
15. blutig
16. der Zucker
17. niedriger Fettgehalt
18. die Kräuter
19. die Speisekarte
20. die Vorspeise

Conclusion

I'd like to thank and congratulate you for finishing this book. I hope it was able to help you understand the complexities of the German grammar and that by now you're able to speak and communicate in the German language.

The next step is to practice what you've learned from this book and to keep learning something new every single day. Widen your vocabulary by memorizing a certain amount of German words each day. Read articles in German; even if you don't understand everything, you'll still be able to learn something. Watch TV shows or movies in German so you'll get more accustomed to its sound.

Finally, find someone who speaks German – a native speaker, someone who is fluent in the language, or even a fellow student – and speak with them as often as you can. Remember that the only way for you to improve and not forget what you've learned is to keep practicing and learning.

I wish you the best of luck!