



Progression - German

Contents:

- Why study German?
- Preparing for A Level
- A Level essentials
- Book and film analysis
- Essential websites to help you while you study

The Benefits of Learning German



The ability to speak a language is a vital skill in today's international world. As Germany is our biggest trading partner, there is a need for fluent speakers of the language to promote our industry abroad. German is the language that is in highest demand across job postings.

Studying A level German not only will enable you to learn the German language, but also you will gain in-depth insight into the cultural, social, political and artistic aspects of the German-speaking country/countries you will study.

Follow these links to find out some of the benefits of learning German

[4 reasons to learn a language](#)

[7 secrets from Ted translators](#)

[The benefits of bilingualism](#)

[Why learn German?](#)

Demonstrate your learning

Prepare a five-minute presentation promoting the benefits of learning German. Create a PowerPoint and be prepared to deliver it to your classmates when you start WSFC.

Further research

Find out some basic facts about the geography, history, politics and culture of Germany and one other German-speaking country. Here's a link to a helpful website - <https://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/de/jugend>

Prepare for A Level



It's important to start preparing for A level German as soon as you've made the decision to study it. Here are five tasks which will help you familiarise yourself with the course and what it entails.

At WSFC we use the EDEXCEL exam board.

Here is a summary of the key topics we will be covering

Year 12

Economic development in Germany

- The environment
- Education
- The world of work

Political and artistic culture in German speaking countries

- Music
- The media
- The role of festivals and traditions

Year 13

Immigration and German multicultural society

The reunification of Germany

In year 1 we study a German film: Das Wunder von Bern

In year 2 we study a German language text: Der Besuch der alten Dame by a Swiss author, Friedrich Dürrenmatt



1. Visit the exam board website and download the specification and look at the specimen assessment material. Don't panic; it will look daunting at first.
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/german-2016.html#tab-1>
2. Having a good grasp of German grammar is essential to the A level course. Work through the additional activities and learn everything you need to know.

Task 1: A Level Language Essentials and Grammar



To be completed for September

It's important to start Year 12 equipped with the essentials.

Below are a number of tasks which aim to develop your knowledge of key verbs and more. sophisticated language structures.

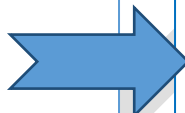
High Frequency Verbs

haben können

sein müssen

gehen wollen

machen werden



Create a wall chart displaying these verbs in all their forms and in the following tenses:

- present tense
- perfect tense
- imperfect tense
- future tense
- conditional tense

Memorise these verbs thoroughly and test yourself regularly.

Sentence Starters

Was ich nicht ertragen kann, ist... What I cannot bear is....

Ich mache mich immer so viel Sorgen... I worry very much...

Zuerst möchte ich betonen... Firstly, I'd like to emphasise...

Es ist leicht zu ersehen, dass... It is easy to see that...

Ein großer Vorteil ist... A big advantage is...



Write three sentences using each of these sentence starters. Give your opinion on:

- Immigration and multicultural society
- Changes in society
- German culture

Complex Opinions

Ich bin überzeugt davon, dass... I am convinced that...
Es ist zweifellos richtig, dass... It is undoubtedly true that...
Man muss zwar zugeben, dass... You have to admit that...
Es fällt schwer zu glauben, dass... It's difficult to believe that...
Im Prinzip stimme ich zu. In principle, I agree.
Einige Experten glauben ... - Some experts think ...

Write three sentences using each of these opinions.

Research other opinions online and create a list.

Complex Phrases

Das Problem hat beängstigende Ausmaße erreicht. The problem has reached worrying proportions.
Gehen wir davon aus, dass... Let's assume that...
Vom politischen Standpunkt aus gesehen... From the political point of view...
Wenn man alles in Betracht zieht... All things considered...
Betroffen sind vor allem... Those most affected...
Ich habe nichts gegen diese Entwicklung einzuwenden. I have nothing against this development.

Start to build up a list of complex phrases which you can use when discussing different topics.

Write three sentences using each of these phrases on the topics of:

- Politics and young people
- The digital world
- The role of TV

[Click here](#) and do some research on compound sentences.



German grammar



Learning grammar will help you to prepare for A levels. You should review your GCSE notes and exercises but the following will also be helpful:

- www.languagesonline.org.uk
- [BBC Bitesize German](http://www.bbc.com/1/learning/german)
- www.german.net (lots of grammar revision activities to choose from here)
- Practise your genders: <http://deutsch.ie/german-grammar/die-der-das-game/>
- **Deutsch-lernen.com** <http://www.deutsch-lernen.com/>
 - Comprehensive coverage of German grammar, taking you through from beginner to advanced level
 - Convenient "bite-sized" units, each focusing on one grammatical point → Exercises are available, so you can practise what you have learned

Task 2: Film Analysis

To be completed for September

In Paper 2 of the A level German exam you will need to give a written response to a question on a literary text and a film. Complete the tasks below during the summer before you start the course.

- 1- Watch the trailer of the film „Das Wunder von Bern“.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0sNBMIInWiy4>

You can also find the full version of the film on You Tube or you may want to buy the DVD.



Beantworten Sie die folgenden Fragen auf Deutsch

1. In welchem Jahr spielt der Film?
2. Wo ist Bern?
3. Wie reagiert Christa (die Mutter), als sie Richard sieht
4. Wer ist der Boss

5. Welche Farbe ist das Hemd von Matthias, als er Fußball spielt?
6. Welche Farbe ist die Jacke von Annette Ackermann (Die Frau im Stadium)?

Answer the following questions in English

- 1) How does Richard arrive back home from the prisoner of war camp in Russia?
- 2) What score was on the card held up by Carola?
- 3) What is the colour of Germany's football kit?
- 4) What was the weather like in the final game?



Here are some quotes from the film, try to translate them into English (without using google translate!)

- a) Ein deutscher Junge weint nicht
- b) Der Ball ist rund und das Spiel dauert 90 Minuten
- c) Jedes Land braucht eine Legende
- d) Wir sind im Endspiel
- e) Aus! Aus! Aus! Das Spiel ist aus! Deutschland ist Weltmeister.

Task 3: Optional activities

Music, Books and Podcasts

- Discover German music on Spotify:
<https://open.spotify.com/user/goethe-institut>
- Find a German song/band/artist you like and complete the gapfills until you can complete 'advanced' (or even 'expert'?!)
<https://lyricstraining.com/de/>
- Find some German language podcasts that you enjoy and listen to them regularly

News and current affairs

- News in Slow German:
<https://open.spotify.com/show/4CAPKEyQ9KHtm9XEKjWHp3>
- Scroll down to '**7 Tage Rückblick**' and watch 1 episode of news every week, making a note of ANYTHING you understand (and ignoring what you don't for now):
<https://www.zdf.de/kinder/logo/alle-logo-sendungen-100.html>
- Research: What are the political parties in Germany/Switzerland/Austria? Who are they led by? What do they stand for? What are the main political issues at the moment?

Other ideas

- Find a German recipe and try it out
- Research a topic of your interest related to German or a German-speaking country and prepare a mini oral/online presentation about it
- Vlog your summer, create memes, write a song, poem or story - get creative!
- Spend 10 minutes trying to learn the German
 - states <https://online.seterra.com/en/vgp/3014>
 - capital cities <https://online.seterra.com/en/vgp/3189>
 - important cities <https://online.seterra.com/en/vgp/3030>
- Research these opportunities for visiting Germany:
 - <https://ukgermanconnection.org/yp/get-involved/german-pupil-courses/>
 - <https://www.workexperienceabroad.co.uk/germany/>

Extending your learning - Useful websites

Look at these websites. They will be invaluable during your A level German course. Visit each one and make notes on their usefulness and purpose.

General help

<https://www.thoughtco.com/german-4133073>

Verb practice

<https://german.net/exercises/verbs/>

Thesaurus

<https://www.openthesaurus.de/>

Translator in context

<https://www.linguee.com/>

Translator in context

http://www.reverso.net/text_translation.aspx?lang=EN

German Pronunciation (Excellent preparation for speaking tests!)

<http://www.acapela-group.com/text-to-speech-interactive-demo.html>

German A1 and A2 Level Vocabulary and resources

<https://mfl.jimdo.com/resources/german-a2-level/>

Slowly-spoken news

<http://www.dw.com/de/deutsch-lernen/nachrichten/s-8030>

News in 100 seconds in German

<https://www.tagesschau.de/multimedia/video/video-413501.html>

Links to listening

<https://www.learning-german-online.org/listening-comprehension>

Where is German spoken in the world?

<http://www.fr.de/kultur/sprachen-289-millionen-menschen-sprechen-deutsch-a-370615>

Great video clips

<http://www.spiegel.de/video/>

A fun way to practise listening (and singing!)

<http://www.lyricstraining.de>

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