You’ll probably book your hotel room from home—at least for your first night in Germany. But whether you have a reservation or not, you’ll want to know some basic words that describe the services and facilities you expect to find at your hotel. Learn these words first, and notice how they are used in the dialogue you will read later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hotel</td>
<td>das Hotel</td>
<td>(hoh-TEL)</td>
<td>(holz-TEL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>room</td>
<td>das Zimmer</td>
<td>(TSIM-eR)</td>
<td>(tsim-er)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>price</td>
<td>der Preis</td>
<td>(preis)</td>
<td>(prehz)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bathroom</td>
<td>das Badezimmer</td>
<td>(BAH-deh-tsim-eR)</td>
<td>(bah-deh-tsim-er)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reservation</td>
<td>die Reservierung</td>
<td>(re-ser-VEER-ung)</td>
<td>(re-ser-veer-ung)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to reserve</td>
<td>reservieren</td>
<td>(re-ser-VEE-ren)</td>
<td>(re-ser-vee-ren)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>door</td>
<td>die Tür</td>
<td>(tiilR)</td>
<td>(tyilR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clerk</td>
<td>die Angestellte</td>
<td>(AN-ge-shiel-teh)</td>
<td>(an-ge-shiel-teh)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maid</td>
<td>das Zimmermädchen</td>
<td>(TSIM-eR-may-chen)</td>
<td>(tsim-er-may-chen)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Available in: CHINESE (book only) • FRENCH • GERMAN • ITALIAN • JAPANESE • RUSSIAN • SPANISH & APRENDA INGLÉS FÁCIL Y RÁPIDO (Learn English the Fast & Fun Way)

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In the plural we add an -e to *wieviel*.

*Wieviele Jungen?*  
*Wieviele Mädchen?*

To form a question, you simply reverse the word order:

*Der Junge isst Brot.*  
*Isst der Junge Brot?*

In the question, the verb comes first, followed by the subject.

Now try to match up each question with its answer.

1. Was isst Mary?  
2. Wann kommen die Koffer?  
3. Wo sind Mark und Marie?  
4. Wer ist hier?  
5. Wie ist das Wetter?  
6. Wieviel kostet das?  
7. Isst das Mädchen jetzt?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Was isst Mary?</td>
<td>A. Sie sind in Deutschland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wann kommen die Koffer?</td>
<td>B. Mary isst Brot.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANSWERS: 1:2:3:4:5:6:7 F

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Did you understand the German dialogue? Try to fill in the missing words from memory:

1. Ich habe eine __________________ für zwei Zimmer.
2. Wir stehen vor einem __________________.
3. Wir können die Wanne __________________.
4. Im anderen Zimmer kann man das __________________ nicht öffnen.
5. Die Stadt ist von __________________ überschwemmt.
6. Ist das inklusive __________________?
7. Wollen Sie bitte dieses __________________ ausfüllen?
8. Die Zimmer sind im dritten __________________.
9. Der __________________ ist dort drüben.

Can you make sentences out of these scrambled words?

1. kaputt, ist, Dusche, die 2. sollen, was, wir, machen 3. Schlüssel, hier, die, sind
VON VERWANDTEN REDEN
Talking About Relatives

This is Hans’ family tree. Note the word for each of the relatives.
Now let's see whether you remember:

SINGULAR                  PLURAL

eine                     (zwei)                  zwei

ein                        __________________

ein                        __________________

zwei                  zwei

zwei                  zwei

zwei                  zwei

zwei                  zwei

ANSWERS

Hotel, Hotels
Blume, Blumen
Kale, Kleen
SINGULAR
(KOOG-uhl-shri-ber)
der Kugelschreiber
the ballpoint pen

PLURAL
die Kugelschreiber
the ballpoint pens

(FAH-tser)
der Vater
the father

(FAY-tser)
die Väter
the fathers

(MAYT-chen)
das Mädchen
the girl

die Mädchen
the girls

Now let’s see whether you remember the plural of these two nouns. Don’t forget to put in the plural article.

die Mutter
the mother

die Mütter
the mothers

der Junge
the boy

der Jungen
the boys

ANSWERS
Here are the German words for parts of a house. Study them and say them aloud.

(EIN HAUS)
A house

das Waschbecken
sink

der Kühlschrank
refrigerator

die Toilette
toilet

die Küche
kitchen

der Herd
stove

die Treppe
stairway

die Badewanne
bathtub

das Badezimmer
bathroom

der Wandschrank
closet

das Schlafzimmer
bedroom

das Bett
bed

das Sofa
sofa

das Fenster
window

der Tisch und die Stühle
table and chairs

der Flur
hallway

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Congratulations, dear friend! Buying this book was a splendid idea. You will enjoy learning a new and beautiful language.

Beautiful? Yes, I know: people have been made to believe that Italian is more melodious, French more elegant, Spanish more virile—but who wants to sing, wear formal attire, or be macho all the time?

I have it on good authority (my own) that German is a down-to-earth, no-nonsense, yet surprisingly poetic language that you will love to learn.

Let's lay to rest some misconceptions. No. _Donaudampfschiffahrtsgeellschaftskapitänswitwe_ (widow of a captain of the Danube steamship company) is not the longest word known. There is a place in Wales whose Welsh name is longer by a couple of inches. No. Speaking German won't give you a sore throat. I've been practicing it for years and to no ill effect. Like the Scots and the Dutch, Germans cherish their gutturals.

No. It's not true that the average German male wears short leather pants, likes to yodel, and feeds on sausages, potatoes, and sauerkraut.

On the other hand.

Yes. It's true that German is closely related to English, and that you will easily recognize hundreds of words.

Yes. It's true that Germans have a crush on their beer—but so will you, once you taste it. (Personally, I adore their wine, also.)

Yes. It's true that haggling in stores will get you nowhere, that service personnel are less tip-hungry than elsewhere, that hotel rooms are generally clean, and that trains run on time.

True also that there's an abundance of theaters and opera houses, concerts and ballet.

Let's quickly talk about some of the major cities. Frankfurt is one of Germany's foremost transportation hubs, and also its financial center. It is served by a major international airport.

In the fall you can enjoy merry-making at Munich's Oktoberfest. The city is famous also for its great theaters, fine concerts, and rich art galleries.

If you seek elegance, Düsseldorf, a metropolis of the Rhine valley, takes first place. It is the fashion capital of Germany and one of its wealthiest cities as well.

Hamburg, the "Venice of the North," is one of the great seaports of the world. It is also an important cultural center noted especially for its major magazine and book publishing firms. The St. Pauli district in Hamburg is well known for its seamy nightlife.

The reunited city of Berlin was made the capital again in 1990, when the German Democratic Republic officially acceded to the Federal Republic. One of Europe's largest industrial centers, Berlin also is a cultural mecca, with three opera houses, several major orchestras, dozens of theaters, and
Now here is your first exercise, based on the dialogue you have just studied. Try to fill in the missing words without looking at the dialogue. To refresh your memory, the first letter of each missing word is given.

„Guten Tag.‘‘

„G________ T________. Womit kann ich Ihnen dienen?‘‘

„Ich suche meine K________.‘‘

„Ah. Ihr N________ bitte?‘‘

„M________ N________ ist Mark Smith.‘‘

„Woher k________ Sie?‘‘

„Ich komme aus den V________ Staaten.‘‘

„Ihre F________?‘‘

„Dreihundertdrei.‘‘

„Einen M________, b________.‘‘

ANSWERS
Here is another exercise, which you may find more difficult. Try to rearrange the following groups of words to form sentences that are in the dialogue. Don't be discouraged if you can't make the words fit together properly. You're just beginning to learn a new language. Soon an exercise like this will be easy.

1. dir, meine, vorstellen, mich, laß, Familie
2. kommen, die, mit, Koffer, Maschine, nächsten, der
3. alle, Wiedersehen, auf

(LOY-eh)  (ani)  (DING-eh)
LEUTE UND DINGE
People and Things

One of the first things you will need to know in German is how to name people and things. This, of course, is the function of the noun. German nouns are divided into three genders. The gender of a word can be indicated by the definite article. The German singular noun is preceded by the definite article der if it is masculine, by die if it is feminine, or by das if it is neuter. Die is used with all plural nouns. In English, as you know, the performs all these functions. In German, nouns are always capitalized, no matter where they occur in the sentence. In English the plural is formed by adding an -s (dog, dogs, right?). In German there are a variety of plural endings. And some words add an umlaut in the plural.

As you learn each new noun, it is important that you

1. Always learn the definite article.
2. Always learn the plural.

### Singular and Plural

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGULAR</th>
<th>PLURAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(dayR) (YUN-geh)</td>
<td>(dee) (YUN-gen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>der Junge</td>
<td>die Jungens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the boy</td>
<td>the boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(dee) (KAT-sek)</td>
<td>(KAT-zen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>die Katze</td>
<td>die Katzen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the cat</td>
<td>the cats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answers**

1. Aul Wiedersinn, auch
   De Familie vorstellen
2. Die Koffer kommen mit der Maschine abends
CONSONANTS

Most German consonant sounds have very near equivalents in English. The following German consonants are spelled and pronounced as they are in English:

- f, h, k, l,
- m, n, p, t

The only consonant sounds in German that are unfamiliar to English speakers are the two represented by *ch* in words like *ich* and *Buch*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GERMAN LETTERS</th>
<th>SYMBOLS</th>
<th>PRONUNCIATION/EXAMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>ch</td>
<td>Pronounced like the <em>ch</em> in the Scottish word <em>loch</em>. Make it by saying an <em>h</em>, then cutting off the flow of air by raising the back of your tongue. Occurs only after the vowels <em>a</em>, <em>o</em>, and <em>u</em> and the diphthong <em>au</em>. Example: <em>Buch</em> (booch) book.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>ß</td>
<td>The closest sound English has to the <em>ch</em> in <em>ich</em> is a strongly aspirated and drawn out <em>h</em>, as in <em>Hugh</em> or <em>Hubert</em>. Say <em>Hugh</em>, giving the initial <em>h</em> a long duration and a lot of air, and you will be very close to the <em>ich</em> sound. Example: <em>ich</em> (<em>ic</em>) l.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chs</td>
<td>ks</td>
<td>Pronounced like the English letter <em>x</em>. Example <em>Lachs</em> (laks) salmon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>ts</td>
<td><em>c</em> before <em>e</em>, <em>i</em>, <em>d</em>, or <em>t</em> is pronounced <em>ts</em>. Example: <em>Celsius</em> (TSEL-zee-us). Otherwise it is pronounced like <em>k</em>. Example: <em>Café</em> (ka-FAY) coffee house.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>p</td>
<td>The letters, <em>b</em>, <em>d</em>, <em>g</em> are pronounced as they are in English if they occur at the beginning of a syllable. Example: <em>gehen</em> (GAY-en). However, if they occur at the end of a syllable or before a <em>t</em>, they are pronounced like <em>p</em>, <em>t</em>, <em>k</em>. Examples: <em>b</em> : <em>lieb</em>, <em>liebt</em> (leep, leepst) dear, loves <em>d</em> : <em>Lied</em> (leet) song <em>g</em> : <em>flieg</em>, <em>flieg</em> (flohk, fleekt) flew, flies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note, too, that the combination *-ig* at the end of a word or syllable is pronounced like *ich*. Example: *windig* (VIN-dig) windy.

Also, the second *g* in *Garage* (ga-RAH-zeh) is pronounced like that in the English word *garage*. The symbol for this kind of *g* is *z*.

| h              | h       | *h* is silent only when it indicates that a preceding vowel is long, as mentioned above. Example: *Stahl* (shtahl) steel. Otherwise, it is always pronounced as in English *house*. Example: *hoch* (hoch) high. |
| j              | y       | *j* is pronounced like English *y*. Example: *ja* (yah) yes. |
| kn             | kn      | In English, the *k* in *knee* is silent. In German, *both* the *k* and the *n* are sounded. Example: *Knie* (knee) knee. |
Got it? Now test yourself by putting the appropriate indefinite article in front of the following nouns:

1. __________ Katze  
2. __________ Baum

3. __________ Freundin  
4. __________ Freund

5. __________ Mädchen  
6. __________ Junge

7. __________ Tante  
8. __________ Onkel

9. __________ Spiegel  
10. __________ Apfel

(SHPEE-gel) (masculine) (TAN-teh) 
(aunt) (mirror)

Here is another exercise. It may be difficult, but give it a try. Identify each picture by writing in the German word for it along with the proper indefinite article.

(who) (what)
Wer ist das? (Who is it?) Was ist das? (What is it?)

a. __________ ein Junge

b. __________

c. __________

d. __________

e. __________

f. __________
g. __________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSWERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. ein Haus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. ein Fluch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. ein Buch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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DEUTSCH
THE FAST AND FUN WAY
THIRD EDITION

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by Paul Graves
HOW ENGLISH AND GERMAN ARE SIMILAR

English is a Germanic language, so you will find many similarities between English and German. Here are a few examples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOUNS</th>
<th>ADJECTIVES</th>
<th>VERBS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arm</td>
<td>arm</td>
<td>blau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball</td>
<td>ball</td>
<td>blind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bier</td>
<td>beer</td>
<td>frei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buch</td>
<td>book</td>
<td>gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freund</td>
<td>friend</td>
<td>hart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garten</td>
<td>garden</td>
<td>kalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>land</td>
<td>lang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preis</td>
<td>price</td>
<td>leicht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schiff</td>
<td>ship</td>
<td>rot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vater</td>
<td>father</td>
<td>warm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(bal)</th>
<th>(beor)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>der Ball</td>
<td>das Bier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ball</td>
<td>beer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(shif)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>das Schiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(hooch)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>das Buch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>book</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(froyn)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>der Freund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>friend</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(FAR-er)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>der Vater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>father</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(mohni)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>der Mond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Singular and Plural

We already learned quite a bit about forming the plural in German. Here are a few more forms . . . and then an easy quiz.

**SINGULAR**

- der Freund
- die Freundin
- der Paß
- der Spiegel
- die Großmutter
- der Großvater
- der Sohn
- die Tochter
- der Bruder
- die Schwester
- der Vetter
- die Kusine
- das Hotel
- das Zimmer
- der Baum

**PLURAL**

- die Freunde
- die Freundinnen
- die Pässe
- die Spiegel
- die Großmütter
- die Großväter
- die Söhne
- die Töchter
- die Brüder
- die Schwestern
- die Vettern
- die Kusinen
- die Hotels
- die Zimmer
- die Bäume
Now we come to the indefinite articles (in English a as in "a book," or an as in "an apple").

Again, there are three genders in German—ein is used with a masculine noun, eine with a feminine noun, and ein with a neuter noun. (Notice that the indefinite article can be the same for masculine and neuter nouns.)

Here are two feminine nouns:

- **eine Mutter**  
  a mother

- **eine Freundin**  
  a girlfriend

Here are two neuter nouns:

- **ein Auto**  
  an automobile

- **ein Mädchen**  
  a girl

Here are six masculine nouns:

- **ein Onkel**  
  an uncle

- **ein Freund**  
  a friend

- **ein Student**  
  a student

- **ein Baum**  
  a tree

- **ein Junge**  
  a boy

- **ein Vater**  
  a father
world-renowned museums. It is the future seat of the federal government.

Bonn, the former unification capital of the Federal Republic of Germany, until 1949 was a little university town famous as the birthplace of the composer Ludwig van Beethoven. It was raised to eminence by political intrigue. Berlin, itself out of the running, promoted Bonn, fearing that Frankfurt would get the prize and keep it permanently, even if reunification were to occur. Bonn will continue to be an important administrative and scientific center even after Berlin becomes the seat of the federal government.

Dresden, now the capital of the Free State of Saxony, is increasingly important as a center of the microelectronics industry. A leading cultural center as well, Dresden is famed for its music, art collections, and baroque architecture.

Leipzig, also in Saxony, has a long tradition as a trade fair city. It was a focal point of peaceful resistance to the SED regime in the German Democratic Republic.

Away from the big, noisy cities, Germany's old-fashioned beauty is still intact. The enchanting valleys of the Rhine and the Mosel, the Neckar and the Danube, the vistas of the Black Forest, the Harz Mountains, and the Bavarian Alps, the ancient cathedrals, medieval towns, and legendary castles are wonders no tourist should miss.

Germany is governed under the Grundgesetz (Basic Law), adopted in 1949 as a provisional constitution. It became valid for the entire nation on October 3, 1990. This law guarantees rights to individuals and provides for a relatively decentralized form of government designed to prevent the emergence of a dictatorship like that of Adolf Hitler, who controlled Germany from 1933 to 1945. Germany is divided into 16 Länder (federal states). The head of state is the Bundespräsident (Federal President). The head of government is the Bundeskanzler (Federal Chancellor), who is elected by the lower house of parliament, called the Bundestag. The upper house, the Bundesrat, represents the interests of the Länder.

Why study German, you might ask.

Let's look at the practical application of it. Today, German is spoken by more than 100 million people living in Germany, Austria, and the greater part of Switzerland. It is used and understood by millions elsewhere in Europe and around the world.

German is one of the great international languages, particularly valuable in the fields of science, technology, and commerce. And speaking of commerce, did you know that the Federal Republic of Germany is a leading economic power, ranking second only to the United States among the world's trading nations?

You are now ready to set out on the exciting journey of learning a new language. This book is designed to make the learning process as easy, interesting, and convenient as possible. We have used verbs only in the present tense so that you can quickly gain a conversational knowledge of German.
MARK (to his wife Mary)  Was sollen wir tun? Zimmer sind unmöglich zu bekommen. Die Stadt ist von Touristen überschwemmt.

MARY  Bleiben wir da. Ich bin viel zu müde, um jetzt auf Zimmersuche zu gehen.

ANGESTELLTER  Sehr gut. Das kommt auf 100 Euro pro Tag.

MARK  Ist das inklusive Frühstück?

ANGESTELLTER  Jawohl.

MARK  Also gut. Hier sind unsere Reisepässe.

ANGESTELLTER  Wollen Sie bitte dieses Formular ausfüllen? Hier sind die Schlüssel. Die Zimmer sind im dritten Stock.

MARK  Haben Sie einen Aufzug?

ANGESTELLTER  Natürlich. Dort drüben.

MARK  Danke schön.

ANGESTELLTER  Bitte sehr. Ich hoffe, unsere Stadt gefällt Ihnen.

What are we going to do? It's impossible to get any rooms. The city is flooded with tourists.

Let's stay here.

I am much too tired to go room-hunting now.

Very good. That amounts to 100 euros per day.

Does this include breakfast?

Yes, sir.

Well then. Here are our passports.

Would you please fill out this form? Here are the keys. The rooms are on the fourth floor.*

Is there an elevator?

Of course. Over there.

Thank you.

You're welcome. I hope you enjoy our city.

*Note that Germans designate floors in a building differently than Americans. In Germany, the street-level floor is called das Erdgeschoß, not the first floor. The German first floor is above das Erdgeschoß and is the same as the American second floor. Thus, when the German hotel clerk in our dialogue speaks of the third floor (dritten Stock), he is referring to what is known as the fourth floor in America.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGULAR</th>
<th>PLURAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(foo) der Fuß the foot</td>
<td>(Fʊt)-sə the feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(BLOO-mətʃ) die Blume the flower</td>
<td>(BLOO-mən) die Blumen the flowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(həʊns) das Haus the house</td>
<td>(HOY-zər) die Häuser the houses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(AP-ʃel) der Apfel the apple</td>
<td>(EP-ʃel) die Apfel the apples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(OW-tə) das Auto the car</td>
<td>(OW-təh) die Autos the cars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(MUT-ər) die Mutter the mother</td>
<td>(MUT-ər) die Mütter the mothers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(AR-bɛts-hɛft) das Arbeitsheft the workbook</td>
<td>(AR-bɛts-hɛft-əl) die Arbeitshefte the workbooks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning to greet people and to start a conversation is very important. Read over the following dialogue several times, pronouncing each line carefully. The dialogue contains basic words and expressions that you will find useful.

Mark and Mary Smith, their daughter Anne, and their son John have just arrived at Munich airport and are looking for their luggage. Mark approaches an airline employee:

(‘GOO-ten) (tahk)  
MARK Guten Tag.

(wuh-MIT) (kan) (ich)  
CLERK Guten Tag, Womit kann ich Ihnen dienen?

(EEN-en) (DEEN-en)  
MARK Ich suche meine Koffer.

(ze) (NAH-men) (bit-eh)  
CLERK Ah; Ihr Name, bitte?

(ist)  
MARK Mein Name ist Mark Smith.

(VO-heh) (KO-men) (zeh)  
CLERK Woher kommen Sie?

Hello.

Hello. What can I do for you? (lit With what can I serve you?)

I’m looking for my suitcases.

I see; your name, please?

My name is Mark Smith.

Where do you come from?
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To my wife, Eva Alkalay Graves

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438.3'421—dc21 2003043539
In German the vowel \( y \) is pronounced like the long \( ü \): *Symphonie* (züm-foh-NEE).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHORT VOWELS</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bitten (to ask)</td>
<td>bin</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bett (bed)</td>
<td>bet</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stadt (city)</td>
<td>hot</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loch (hole)</td>
<td>lorry</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluss (river)</td>
<td>put</td>
<td>u</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LONG VOWELS</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bieten (to offer)</td>
<td>been</td>
<td>ee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beet (flower bed)</td>
<td>beet</td>
<td>ay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staat (state)</td>
<td>father</td>
<td>ah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hoch (high)</td>
<td>load</td>
<td>oh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuß (foot)</td>
<td>boot</td>
<td>oo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHORT UMLAUT</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wände (walls)</td>
<td>bet</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hölle (hell)</td>
<td>kernel</td>
<td>õ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hätte (hut)</td>
<td>[none]</td>
<td>ü</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LONG UMLAUT</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>spät (late)</td>
<td>beet</td>
<td>ay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Höhle (cave)</td>
<td>[none]</td>
<td>õ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haute (hats)</td>
<td>[none]</td>
<td>ü</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIPHTHONGS</th>
<th>English Equivalent</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ai Hain (grove)</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>ei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ei mein (my)</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>ei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>äu Häute (skins)</td>
<td>joy</td>
<td>oy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eu heute (today)</td>
<td>joy</td>
<td>oy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>au auf (on)</td>
<td>cow</td>
<td>ow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is very important to know how to say “I” and “you” in your new language.

“***I*** IS SIMPLY **ICH**

“***YOU*** IS GIVEN IN TWO WAYS
(a casual or familiar form and a polite form)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASUAL</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DU</strong> <em>(doo)</em></td>
<td>when addressing a family member or a friend</td>
<td><strong>Singular</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IHR</strong> <em>(eeR)</em></td>
<td>when addressing family members or friends</td>
<td><strong>Plural</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLITE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SIE</strong> <em>(zee)</em></td>
<td>when addressing strangers, superiors, etc.</td>
<td><strong>Singular and Plural</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In English, “I” is always capitalized. In German, *ich, du*, and *ihr* are not capitalized except at the start of a sentence, while *Sie* is always capitalized.

**ANSWERS**

1. *ich*
2. *du*
3. *ihr*
4. *Sie*

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Look carefully at the family tree and then try to answer the following questions about the relationships. Don’t forget to use the correct form of the article: der, die, or das.

1. Peter ist _________ von Hans.
2. Lotte ist _________ von Peter.
4. Lotte ist _________ von Hans.
5. Hans ist _________ von Gisela.
8. Berta ist _________ von Marie.

Now here is an exercise that should be fun. Write in the plurals of the following words and find them in the word-search puzzle.

Haus ________________  Arbeisheft ________________
Apfel ________________  Kugelschreiber ________________
Mutter ________________  Mädchen ________________
Vater ________________

ANSWERS
HÄUSER, Äpfel, Mädchen
PLÜSCH, Plüschens
POTTO, Arbeiten
MÜTTER, Kugelschreiber
PAPIER, Autos
WYDVATER, LI AUTOMOBILE

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MARK Ich komme aus den Vereinigten Staaten.

CLERK Ihre Flugnummer?

MARK Dreihundertdrei aus New York.

CLERK Einen Moment, bitte.

As the clerk looks through some papers on his desk, Hans, a German business friend, runs into Mark.

HANS Tag, Mark. Wie geht’s?

MARK Hans! Mir geht’s gut. Und dir?

HANS Sehr gut. Bist du hier auf Ferien?


HANS Nett, Sie kennenzulernen.

CLERK Entschuldigen Sie, mein Herr, die Koffer kommen mit der nächsten Maschine.

MARK Zum Teufel!

HANS Geduld, Mark!

MARK Daß so etwas passiert! Danke.

CLERK Bitte.

MARK (to Hans) Auf Wiedersehen!

I come from the United States.

Your flight number?

303 from New York.

One moment, please.

Hi, Mark. How are you?

Hans! I’m O.K. And you?

Very good. Are you here on a vacation?

Yes. Let me introduce my family to you. My wife Mary, my daughter Anne, and my son John.

Nice to meet you.

Excuse me, sir, the suitcases are coming with the next airplane.

Heck! (lit. To the devil!)

Patience, Mark!

That something like that happens.

Thanks.

You’re welcome.

So long.
Let's try another quick exercise. Fill in the blanks with German words so that the sentences make sense: Here are the words you can choose from: Großmutter, Onkel, Bruder, Mutter, Tochter, Kusine, Sohn, Vetter.

1. I am the son of my _______________.
2. My father has an only _______________.
3. The brother of my father is my _______________.
4. The son of my mother is my _______________.
5. The mother of my father is my _______________.
6. My sister is our mother's _______________.
7. The son of my uncle is my _______________.
8. The daughter of my aunt is my _______________.

It's time to return to the Smiths, just beginning their trip to Germany. Test your readiness too by trying to understand the following short paragraph. Read the selection and then answer the questions that follow.

Herr Mark Smith wohnt in Chicago.

Er und seine Familie sind jetzt in Deutschland.

Er sucht seine Koffer. Er, seine Frau, looks for his

seine Tochter und sein Sohn sind auf Ferien.

Er sagt zu Hans: „Laß mich dir meine says to

Familie vorstellen.“

TRUE or FALSE Please mark the following statements with T or F.

1. Herr Smith wohnt in Chicago. __________
2. Er und seine Kusine sind auf Ferien. __________
3. Er ist jetzt in Deutschland. __________
4. Er sagt zu Hans: „Laß mich dir meine Familie vorstellen.“ __________
5. Herr Smith sucht sein Auto. __________
6. Herr Smith und seine Familie sind auf Ferien. __________
You've already learned how to say "I" and "you" in German. Now it's time to move on to other pronouns—the words for "he," "she," "it," "we," and "they."

### PRONOUNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGULAR</th>
<th>PLURAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ich</td>
<td>(we)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>du</td>
<td>ihr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sie</td>
<td>Sie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>er</td>
<td>sie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sie</td>
<td>sie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>es</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It's pretty difficult to get along without verbs. Verbs are words that often express action—like talking, singing, or arriving (in Germany!). You can't get too far without first learning the different forms a verb can take. Now let's conjugate the verb sagen (to say). The -en denotes the infinitive. This is the verb form that you find listed in the dictionary.

### SAGEN

to say

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGULAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person: ich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sage)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am saying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person: du</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(familiar form)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sagt)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you are saying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you do say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person: er</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sagt)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he/she/it says</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he/she/it is saying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he/she/it does say</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRONUNCIATION

We have tried to make the phonetic transcriptions in the text as self-explanatory as possible so that you do not have to learn a complex phonetic alphabet to use this book. Please read the pronunciation guide before you begin using the text so that you will know what the few unusual symbols mean.

Accent
German words of more than one syllable are usually stressed on the first syllable. However, there are many exceptions, and in this book the accented syllable is indicated by capital letters in the phonetic transcription of each word: Moment (mo-MENT) moment.

Syllabification
German words are divided before single consonants and between double ones:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{sagen} & \quad \text{(to say)} \\
\text{komm'en} & \quad \text{(to come)}
\end{align*}
\]

The consonant combinations, \(\text{sch}, \text{ch}, \beta\) (\(\text{ss}\)), and \(\text{ph}\) are counted as single consonants. Compound words are divided into their individual parts:

\[
\text{Flugnummer} \quad \text{Flug-num-mer} \quad \text{(flight number)}
\]

By and large, German syllabification presents no problems for English speakers learning German.

VOWELS

German has long vowels, short vowels, and diphthongs. A vowel is usually long when doubled (\(\text{Boo't} \quad \text{[boht] boat}\), when followed by an \(\text{h} \quad \text{(Fehler [FAY-Ier] mistake)}\), or when followed by a single consonant (\(\text{rot} \quad \text{[roht] red}\)). Vowels generally arc short when followed by two or more consonants (\(\text{essen [ES-en] to eat}\)). Diphthongs may be divided into three groups: \(\text{ai}, \text{ay}, \text{ei}, \text{ey} \quad \text{(Eier [EI-er] eggs)}\); \(\text{au} \quad \text{(grau [grow] gray)}\); and \(\text{au}, \text{eu} \quad \text{(Beutel [BOY-tel] bag)}\).

The final \(\text{e}\) in German words is never silent as it is in such English words as \(\text{lute}\) and \(\text{spoke}\). It is always pronounced, and it sounds like the final \(\text{a}\) in the English \(\text{sofa}\). To mark this unstressed mid-central vowel as different from a silent English \(\text{e}\) (and to remind you to pronounce this German sound!), we render it as \(\text{eh} \quad \text{bi'te} \quad \text{(BI-teh) please} \quad \text{Wande} \quad \text{(VEN-deh) walls} \quad \text{The German vowels also include three with an umlaut ('). They are \(\text{a}, \text{ö}, \text{ü}\). These vowels with umlauts can also be either long or short. The \(\text{a}\) presents no problems. The short \(\text{ä}\) is always pronounced like short \(\text{e}\). For all practical purposes, you can pronounce the long \(\text{ä}\) like the long \(\text{e}\).

The umlauts \(\text{ö}\) and \(\text{ü}\) are not easy for speakers of English and require some practice. The short \(\text{ö}\) is something like the vowel sounds in the English word \(\text{fur}\). Try to say a long German \(\text{e}\) and round your lips at the same time. This rounding of the lips has to be still more extreme to produce the long \(\text{ö}\).

The German \(\ddot{u}\) is like \(\text{u}\) in the French word \(\text{une}\). Say the English vowel sound \text{ee} as in \text{seen}, keep your tongue in that position, then round your lips into the English \(\text{oo}\) position, as in \text{boot}. As with the long and short \(\text{ö}, \text{the long \(\ddot{u}\) is ‘pushed farther forward’ and the lips rounded a little more than with the short \(\text{ü}\).}
Wenn Sie eine Frage stellen wollen . . .

If you want to ask a question . . .

When you're traveling, you'll need to ask a lot of questions. It's very important to learn the following words so you can form questions in German.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singular</th>
<th>plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>was</td>
<td>wie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>who</td>
<td>wieviel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANSWERS

Frau, Auswahl
Arbeit, Angebot
Für, Tun

24
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LETTERS</th>
<th>Symbols</th>
<th>Pronunciation/Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ng</td>
<td>ng</td>
<td>Pronounced as in English <em>singer</em>, not as in <em>finger</em>. Example: <em>Ding</em> (ding) thing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pf, ps</td>
<td>pf, ps</td>
<td>As in <em>kn</em>, both letters in the combinations <em>pf</em> and <em>ps</em> are pronounced in German. Examples: When you ask for pepper (<em>Pfeffer</em>) in German, don't ask for (FEF-er) but for (PFEF-eR). And in <em>Psychologie</em>, the <em>p</em> is pronounced (psü-çoh-loh-GEE), not (sü-çoh-loh-GEE).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qu</td>
<td>kv</td>
<td>As in English, <em>q</em> in German is always followed by a <em>u</em>. However, this combination is pronounced <em>kv</em>. Example: <em>Qualität</em> (kvah-lee-TAYT) quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>r</td>
<td><em>R</em> not at the end of a word: You will not be misunderstood if you use an American <em>r</em>, but your German will sound much more authentic if you learn the German <em>r</em>. To make it, pronounce the back <em>ch</em> sound, then add voice to it. Some native speakers of German use a trilled, frontal <em>r</em> like the Spanish <em>r</em>. Example: <em>rot</em> (roht) red.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>R</td>
<td><em>R</em> at the end of a word (and in some other environments) is pronounced something like the final <em>r</em> in the British pronunciation of words like <em>mother</em> and <em>father</em> (mothah, fathah). Another similar sound is the Boston <em>r</em> as in <em>there</em> (&quot;theyah&quot;). Example: <em>Vater</em> (FAH-teR) father.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>z</td>
<td><em>S</em> can be pronounced in two ways. It is pronounced like <em>z</em> in <em>zoo</em> before and between vowels. Example: <em>sie</em> (zee) she. It is usually pronounced <em>sh</em> before <em>p</em> and <em>t</em>. Examples: <em>spü</em> (shpayt) late; <em>stehen</em> (SHTAY-en) to stand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ß, ss</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>Both pronounced like English <em>s</em> in <em>soft</em>. Examples: <em>Maße</em> (MAHS-eh) measure; <em>Masse</em> (MAS-eh) mass. ß is a ligature of the letters <em>s</em> and <em>z</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sch</td>
<td>sh</td>
<td>Pronounced like English <em>sh</em> in <em>shoot</em>. Example: <em>schon</em> (shohn) already.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tz</td>
<td>ts</td>
<td>Pronounced like English <em>ts</em> in <em>hats</em>. Example: <em>Platz</em> (plats) place, square.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>Pronounced like English <em>f</em> in <em>father</em>. Example: <em>Vater</em> (FAH-teR) father.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>Pronounced like English <em>v</em> in <em>vine</em>. Example: <em>Wasser</em> (VAS-eR) water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>ts</td>
<td>Pronounced like English <em>ts</em> in <em>hats</em>. Examples: <em>geizig</em> (GEI-sic) greedy, stingy; <em>Kreuiz</em> (kroyts) cross.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>