

# GERMAN A-LEVEL

Bridging the gap:  
from GCSE to A-  
Level

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Herzlich willkommen! Well done on your GCSE German result and for choosing German A level! We can't wait to get to know you in September and really get stuck in.

You will find A level much broader and satisfying than the GCSE. One big difference is that we will go way beyond the syllabus and it would be great if you get used to exploring all things German yourself as this will of course expand your vocabulary and cultural knowledge.

### Textbooks for next year

Year 1 : AQA German A level Year 1

Grammar: AQA A level German Grammar & Translation Workbook (not necessary but useful)

### Content of the course

	<b>Themes - Social Issues and Trends</b>	<b>Themes - Political and Artistic Culture</b>
<b>Y12</b>	<b>Aspects of German -speaking society</b>	<b>Artistic Culture</b>
	The changing state of the family	Festivals and traditions
	The digital world	Art and architecture
	Youth culture	Cultural life in Berlin
<b>Y13</b>	<b>Multiculturalism</b>	<b>Political Life</b>
	Immigration	Germany and the EU
	Integration	Politics and youth
	Racism	German reunification

In addition, in y13 you study:

A film and a novel. The full selection are available on the AQA website.

## Format of the exam

For further and complete information about the course and the assessment criteria, visit

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/german/specifications/AQA-7662-SP-2016.PDF>

### Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

#### What's assessed

- Aspects of German-speaking society
- Artistic culture in the German-speaking world
- Multiculturalism in German-speaking society
- Aspects of political life in German-speaking society
- Grammar

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks
- 50% of A-level

#### Questions

- Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources covering different registers and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail. Studio recordings will be used and students will have individual control of the recording.

All questions are in German, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in German (30 marks)

- Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail.

All questions are in German, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in German (50 marks)

- Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks)
- Translation into German; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).

No access to a dictionary during the assessment.

### Paper 2: Writing

#### What's assessed

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification
- Grammar

#### How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 80 marks in total
- 20% of A-level

#### Questions

- **Either** one question in German on a set text from a choice of two questions and one question in German on a set film from a choice of two questions or two questions in German on set texts from a choice of two questions on each text.

### Paper 3: Speaking

#### What's assessed

- Individual research project
- One of four themes (Aspects of German-speaking society or Artistic culture in the German-speaking world or Multiculturalism in German-speaking society or Aspects of political life in German-speaking society)

#### How it's assessed

- Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A-level

#### Questions

- Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5–6 minutes). The student studies the card for 5 minutes at the start of the test (25 marks).
- Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of individual research project (35 marks).

No access to a dictionary during the assessment (including 5 minutes preparation).

Students may take the assessment only once before certification.

Assessments will be conducted by either the centre or a visiting examiner and marked by an AQA examiner.

## German A Level Summer Preparation

### How to prepare for German at A Level

You have a few weeks in which to really prepare for your A Level in German. At A level you will be exploring topics in greater detail and moving to wider issues concerning society and the German speaking society. Your work will be also different, as you will be expected to work more independently and take more responsibility for your own learning. The aim of this booklet is to start developing that independence. This booklet contains links to a huge range of media, most of which is available for free online. Try to build some of them into your daily routine

### Download on your phone...

There are certain apps that will help you both in class and at home. They are free.

Quizlet: To revise vocabulary. You will play an active part in creating vocabulary lists.

Wordreference: Online dictionary. Several languages are available if you are a dual-linguist.

Leo: Specialist German dictionary

FaZ/Der Standard/ Der Kurier: German/Austrian online newspapers. You must keep up to date with the German current affairs.

Television: There are a lot of good German speaking shows on Netflix: Dark, Deutschland 83, Der Paß, German Nailed It

You could also rent/buy one of these films (some of them are even free on YouTube!

Die fetten Jahre sind vorbei (The Edukators), Good bye, Lenin!,  
Almanya - Willkommen in Deutschland, Lola Rennt (Run Lola Run),  
Sophie Scholl - Die letzten Tage, Rosenstraße, Das Leben der  
Anderen (The Lives of Others)

## Newspapers and Magazines

<https://www.faz.net/aktuell/> and <https://www.zeit.de/index> 1  
<https://www.bild.de/>

## Websites

<http://www.linguascope.com> <http://www.languagesonline.org.uk>  
<http://gut.languageskills.co.uk/index.html> <http://www.yjc.org.uk>  
<http://193.171.252.18/www.lehrerweb.at/gs/projekte/d/abc/abc.htm>  
[http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/mfl/ks3-4-5/ks4-5\\_resources/resources.shtml](http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/mfl/ks3-4-5/ks4-5_resources/resources.shtml)

<http://www.klar.co.uk>

<http://www.goethe.de/ins/gb/lon/prj/asa/enindex.htm>

<http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/european-newspapers.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/> Dictionaries

<http://www.wordreference.com> <http://en.pons.com/translate>

<https://dict.leo.org/englisch-deutsch> Vocabulary

<https://quizlet.com> <https://www.memrise.com>

If you are searching for information, try switching to the German Wikipedia.

[www.de.wikipedia](http://www.de.wikipedia).

Remember that anyone can write on Wikipedia so you must validate your research elsewhere and never quote from it! It is a good place to start though.

## Listening skills

<http://www.language-gym.com> <http://lyricstraining.com>

## Speaking skills

<http://www.voki.com> [www.acapela-group.com](http://www.acapela-group.com)

<http://es.maryglasgowplus.com/students>

## Reading skills

TOP TIP: Don't look up every word you are not sure of when reading an article/ book. Skim and scan the text to get the gist. Remember to use the context or the article, cognates and common sense to figure out what the article is saying. Pick out a couple of words that you like the look of, that you feel may be real hurdles to getting the idea of the text, look them up carefully and add them to your vocab booklet. The aim at this stage is to get the gist of the article, not be able to translate it completely. You will be surprised how much more enjoyable reading will be.

## Grammar Practice

Good news - you have already covered a lot of the A-level grammar at GCSE! Use the checklist below to remind yourself of what you have already covered and RAG-rate (Red, Amber, Green) yourself on how confident you are for each grammar point. You will then know which grammar points to spend more time re-capping. Following the checklist is a list of some suggested websites you can use to revise or practise your grammar.

## Grammar checklist

	I HAVE NO IDEA	I NEED TO REVIEW THIS	CONFIDENT WITH THIS
<b>Nouns:</b> gender, singular and plural forms			
<b>Nouns:</b> adjectival nouns and 'weak' nouns			
<b>Articles:</b> definite (der, die...)			
<b>Articles:</b> indefinite (ein, eine...) and negative (kein, keine...)			
<b>Articles:</b> demonstrative and interrogative			
<b>Cases:</b> nominative and accusative			
<b>Cases:</b> dative			
<b>Cases:</b> genitive			
<b>Pronouns:</b> subject pronouns			
<b>Pronouns:</b> direct object pronouns			
<b>Pronouns:</b> indirect object pronouns			
<b>Pronouns:</b> reflexive pronouns			
<b>Pronouns:</b> relative pronouns			
<b>Pronouns:</b> interrogative and indefinite pronouns			
<b>Adjectives:</b> adjective endings			
<b>Adjectives:</b> possessive			
<b>Adjectives:</b> comparatives			
<b>Adjectives:</b> superlatives			
<b>Intensifiers</b> and using <i>etwas</i>			
<b>Adverbs:</b> comparative and superlative adverbs			
<b>Adverbs:</b> time, frequency and place			
<b>Adverbs:</b> common adverbial phrases			
<b>Adverbs:</b> interrogative adverbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> present tense – regular verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> present tense – irregular verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> present tense – separable verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> present tense – reflexive verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> present tense – modal verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> perfect tense – regular verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> perfect tense – irregular verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> perfect tense – separable and reflexive verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> the imperfect tense			
<b>Verbs:</b> the imperfect tense – modal verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> the future tense with <i>werden</i>			
<b>Verbs:</b> the conditional (present conditional)			
<b>Verbs:</b> the imperfect subjunctive of modal verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> infinitive constructions			
<b>Verbs:</b> impersonal verbs			
<b>Verbs:</b> the pluperfect tense			
<b>Verbs:</b> the imperative			
<b>Verbs:</b> modes of address and asking questions			
<b>Verbs:</b> negative forms			
<b>Word order:</b> main clauses			
<b>Word order:</b> inverted word order			
<b>Conjunctions:</b> coordinating conjunctions			
<b>Conjunctions:</b> subordinating conjunctions			
<b>Conjunctions:</b> using <i>weil</i>			
<b>Prepositions:</b> accusative case			
<b>Prepositions:</b> dative case			
<b>Prepositions:</b> dual case prepositions			
<b>Prepositions:</b> genitive case			
<b>Prepositions:</b> prepositional verbs			
<b>Prepositions:</b> using <i>seit</i>			

## Grammar references

Here are some websites that may be useful for revising and practising grammar:

- [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) - general site with an A level section (very good grammar)
- [www.bbc.co.uk/languages](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages) - interesting site, lots of revision and external links to resources
- <https://deutsch.lingolia.com/en/> - A variety of grammar activities as well as an online conjugator
- <https://german.net/exercises/> - Interactive, self-marking grammar activities

Choose one task to complete, ready to show the class when you arrive in September:

1. - prepare a three-minute presentation about yourself in German (your hobbies, your family, your particular Germany-related interests) ready to show the class.
2. watch a German film and prepare a three-minute review presentation ready to share with the class.
3. Read a poem or short article in German from one of the websites above and prepare a three-minute review/summary presentation ready to share with the class.