

German Resources- Deutsche Ressourcen

1. Goethe Institute-Goethe Institut
 - a. <https://www.goethe.de/en/index.html> (English version)
 - b. <https://www.goethe.de/de/index.html> (German version)
 - c. <https://www.youtube.com/user/goetheinstitut> (youtube channel for the Goethe Institute)
 - i. The Goethe Institute is the cultural institute of Germany. The mission of the Goethe Institute is to promote the education of the German language and its culture.

2. German Language and Cultural videos- deutsche Sprache und kulturellen Videos
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/user/DeutschFuerEuch>
 - i. Deutsch für Euch (German for you) is a German language and culture web series
 - ii. <https://www.youtube.com/user/magauchsein>
 1. Easy Languages' youtube channel
 - a. Authentic conversations with native and second language speakers (each video is subtitled in both English and the language being spoken simultaneously)
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbxb2fge9oNggIAoYqsYOtQ>
 - i. Easy German Home page

3. Dictionaries - die Wörterbücher
 - a. <https://www.leo.org/englisch-deutsch/> (Leo)
 - i. This dictionary is a German Dictionary that has multiple language pairs with German. (8 language pairings to be exact)
 1. English ↔ German
 2. French ↔ German
 3. Spanish ↔ German
 4. Italian ↔ German
 5. Chinese ↔ German
 6. Russian ↔ German
 7. Portuguese ↔ German
 8. Polish ↔ German
 - b. <http://www.wordreference.com/> (Wordreference)

- i. I was introduced to this source back in 9th grade french 1. It's good for a variety of languages paired with English. The following languages can be translated into and out of English
 - 1. French
 - 2. Spanish
 - 3. Italian
 - 4. Catalan
 - 5. German
 - 6. Dutch
 - 7. Swedish
 - 8. Russian
 - 9. Portuguese
 - 10. Polish
 - 11. Romanian
 - 12. Czech
 - 13. Greek
 - 14. Turkish
 - 15. Chinese
 - 16. Japanese
 - 17. Korean
 - 18. Arabic
 - 19. English Definitions and synonyms

c. <http://bab.la/>

d. dict.cc

***I mainly use dict.cc and Leo for German, and Wordreference for French, and bab.la for Russian, and there is a phone app version of each just type in Wordreference, dict.cc, Leo in the app store and it should come up. To my knowledge Bab.la is only a website ***

4. Extra Language Resources - zusätzliche Sprache Ressourcen

a. <http://symbolcodes.tlt.psu.edu/accents/codealt.html>

- i. These are computer alt codes (for Windows) to help type foreign characters (like umlauts, accents, etc.)

- 1. You press the alt key and the designated number code (at the same time) you use the number pad on the right side of your keyboard.

b. <http://symbolcodes.tlt.psu.edu/accents/codemac.html>

- i. These are computer alt codes (for Mac) to help type foreign characters (like umlauts, accents, etc.)
- c. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Km9-DiFxpU> (The Story of a Teenage Polyglot named Tim Donner)
- d. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNmf-G81Irs>
 - i. Breaking Down Language Barriers (A TedX lecture by Tim Donner)
- e. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VAFki9X-4WQ&list=PLD11358A8871F8587> (Historical Linguistics series)
- f. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNhX3WQEkraW3VHPyup8jkQ>
 - i. This is the Langfocus youtube channel: On this channel topics like Linguistics, Culture, History and Geography are discussed
- g. <http://germanforenglishspeakers.com/>
 - i. German for English Speakers
- h. <http://marathonsprachen.com/>
 - i. <http://marathonsprachen.com/about-us/>
 - ii. From what I have already read, this language school runs marathons in order to raise money for charities. They combine language learning with healthy lifestyle choices (the company is based in Zurich, Switzerland)
 - iii. The main link (the homepage) includes:
 1. Blog post articles about various aspects of German (Hochdeutsch)
 2. Videos about Germany, Austria and Switzerland (some videos are in German and some are in English)
 3. Link to various german language resources(some of which I have already listed in this document).
- i. <https://www.youtube.com/user/TVOGKids>
 - i. This is the youtube channel for the Voice kids Germany
 1. Some of the songs are sung in German, but most of the songs are American pop, **however**, when the video is long enough to include die Entscheidung(the decision), it is in German.

Before you read any further **be patient, you can do this!**

5. 7 introductory tips to German

1. Gender and The Case System

- a. German has 3 genders (**Masculine, Feminine and Neuter**)
- b. German also has 4 Cases (**Nominative, Accusative, Dative and Genitive**)
 - i. ***Cases are used to denote how a word is used in a sentence***
 1. The **Nominative case** indicates the subject or subjects of the sentence.
 2. The **Accusative case** indicates the direct object(s) in the sentence.
 3. The **Dative case** indicates the indirect object(s) in the sentence.
 4. The **Genitive case** indicates the possessor of an object.
 - ii. Case Chart: [Definite Articles \(the\)](#)

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nominative	der	die	das	die
Accusative	den	die	das	die
Dative	dem	der	dem	*den + n
Genitive	**des + es or s	der	**des + es or s	der

(*) one star means: When you use dative plural put an n on the end of the noun.

For Example: Ich gebe **den Kindern** das Buch.

(nominative: die Kinder)

I give the book to the children.

(**) Two stars mean: When you use Masculine or Neuter genitive put -es or -s on the end of the noun.

For Example: Der Hund **des Mannes** hat mich gebissen

The man's dog bit me

Example: Der Hund **meines Bruders** hat mich gebissen.

My brother's dog bit me.

Add -es when the noun has one syllable

Add -s when the noun has 2 or more syllables

iii. Case Chart: **Indefinite Articles (a/an)**

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nominative	ein	eine	ein	keine
Accusative	einen	eine	ein	keine
Dative	einem	einer	einem	*keinen+n
Genitive	**eines + es or s	einer	eines + es or s	keiner

(*) one star means: When you use dative plural put an n on the end of the noun.

For Example: Ich gebe **einem Kind** das Buch.

I give the book to a child.

(**) Two stars mean: When you use Masculine or Neuter genitive put es or s on the end of the noun.

Achtung/Attention: It is very common to see the indirect object (AKA the dative object) come after the conjugated verb and before the direct object (AKA the accusative object) in basic word order.

For Example: Der Hund **eines Mannes** hat mich gebissen

A man's dog bit me

Example: Ein Freund **eines Arbeitskolleges** hat mich in dem Kaufhaus gesehen.

A friend of a co worker saw me in the store.

Der Arbeitskollege is masculine. So only use an -s because the word has 2 or more syllables (ar-beits-kol-le-ge) (5 syllables

Add -es when the noun has one syllable

Add -s when the noun has 2 or more syllables

Like definite and indefinite articles, personal pronouns decline (aka: change) in the case system as well. Those charts and the ones above can be found at this website:

- <http://german.about.com/od/grammar/fl/The-Four-German-Noun-Cases.htm>

2. Verb Conjugation and Some Common Verbs

Personal Pronouns

ich I	wir we
du you (informal) singular	ihr you all (y'all) informal plural
er/sie/es he/she/it	Sie/sie (you plural and singular formal/they)

1. haben- to have

ich habe	wir haben
du hast	Ihr habt
er/sie/es hat	Sie/sie haben

2. sein- to be

ich bin	wir sind
du bist	ihr seid
er/sie/es ist	Sie/sie sind

3. gehen- to go

ich gehe	wir gehen
du gehst	ihr geht
er/sie/es geht	Sie/sie gehen

4. essen- to eat

ich esse	wir essen
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du isst	ihr esst
er/sie/es isst	Sie/sie essen

5. tanzen- to dance

ich tanze	wir tanzen
du tanzt	ihr tanzt
er/sie/es tanzt	Sie/sie tanzen

6. sagen- to say or to tell

Ich sage	wir sagen
du sagst	ihr sagt
er/sie/es sagt	Sie/sie sagen

7. trinken- to drink

ich trinke	wir trinken
du trinkst	ihr trinkt
er/sie/es trinkt	Sie/sie trinken

8. fahren- to drive

ich fahre	wir fahren
du fährst	ihr fahrt
er/sie/es fährt	Sie/sie fahren

9. laufen- to run

ich laufe	wir laufen
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Du läufst	Ihr lauft
er/sie/es läuft	Sie/sie laufen

10. denken- to think

ich denke	wir denken
du denkst	ihr denkt
er/sie/es denkt	Sie/sie denken

11. geben- to give

ich gebe	wir geben
du gibst	Ihr gebt
er/sie/es gibt	Sie/sie geben

12. lesen- to read

ich lese	wir lesen
du liest	ihr lest
er/sie/es liest	Sie/sie lesen

13. sprechen- to speak

ich spreche	wir sprechen
du sprichst	Ihr sprecht
er/sie/es spricht	Sie/sie sprechen

14. schreiben- to write

Ich schreibe	wir schreiben
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du schreibst	ihr schreibt
er/sie/es schreibt	Sie/sie schreiben

15. werden- to become

ich werde	wir werden
du wirst	Ihr werdet
er/sie/es wird	Sie/sie werden

16. sehen- to see

ich sehe	wir sehen
du siehst	Ihr seht
er/sie/es sieht	Sie/sie sehen

17. sollen- should

ich soll	wir sollen
du sollst	Ihr sollt
er/sie/es soll	Sie/sie sollen

18. wollen- to want

ich will	wir wollen
du willst	ihr wollt
er/sie/es will	Sie/sie wollen

19. können- can/to be able to

ich kann	wir können
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du kannst	Ihr könnt
er/sie/es kann	Sie/sie können

20. dürfen- to be allowed to / to be permitted to

ich darf	wir dürfen
du darfst	Ihr dürft
er/sie/es darf	Sie/sie dürfen

21. müssen- to have to/must

ich muss	wir müssen
du musst	ihr müsst
er/sie/es muss	Sie/sie müssen

22. mögen- to like

Ich mag	wir mögen
du magst	Ihr mögt
er/sie/es mag	Sie/sie mögen

Verbs 17 through 22 are called **modal verbs**

https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/vm_01.html

This is the Grimm Grammar page for modal verbs

This page includes:

1. The purpose that modal verbs serve
2. The conjugations of the verb
3. Textual examples pulled from Grimm fairy tales

3. Sentence Structure and word order

a. Basic Word order

i. **Subject Verb1 Object Verb2**

1. **Ich will eine Eiscreme essen**

- ii. **Object Verb1 Subject Verb2**
 - 1. **Eine Eiscreme will ich essen**
- iii. Basic Word order explained:
 - 1. You can think of a German sentence order as having 4 positions.
 - a. The subject and object of the sentence is in positions 1 and 3. The verbs are in positions 2 and 4. In **basic word order** verb 1 must stay in position 2 and verb 2 must stay in position 4.
 - 2. Both word orders mean the same thing "I want to eat ice cream."
 - 3. The difference depends on what you want to emphasize. Who is eating or what are they eating.

4. Adverbs of Time

- a. Word order with adverbs of Time
 - i. https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/adv_01.html (adverbs of time, frequency, quantity)
 - 1. Example: **Heute** werde ich einen Film zuschauen.
(adverb of time)
 - 2. Translation: **Today** I will watch a movie
 - ii. https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/adv_02.html (adverbs of manner and place)
 - 1. Example: **Außen** können wir die Sporten spielen.
 - 2. Translation: **Outside** we can play sports.
 - iii. https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/adv_02.html (adverbs of narration)
 - 1. Daily routine example: **Zuerst** bin ich aufgestanden. **Dann** habe ich mich geduscht. **Dann** habe ich mich gekleidet. **Danach** habe ich gefrühstückt. **Endlich** bin ich zu der Schule gegangen.
 - 2. First I got up. Then I showered. Then I got dressed. Afterwards (or After that) I ate breakfast. Finally I went to school.
 - a. Note: I wrote this in the past tense, which is called das Perfekt(the Perfect). The Perfect requires a helping verb either the present conjugated forms of haben or sein plus the past participle.

5. Coordinating Conjunctions

- a. These are the 5 most common coordinating conjunctions
 - i. und = and
 - ii. oder = or
 - iii. aber = but
 - iv. denn = because
 - v. sondern = but rather
- b. **Like English**, coordinating conjunctions connect two independent clauses.
- c. (Remember that basic German structure can be displayed as position 1, position 2, position 3, and position 4)(Subject, Verb, Object, Verb), or (position 3, position 2, position 1, position 4)(object, verb, subject, verb)
- d. When you use a coordinating conjunction, the sentence structure of the two independent clauses stays in its normal order.
- e. Ich mag die Hunde, **aber** meine Mutter mag die Katze. Translation: I like dogs, but my mother likes cats.

6. Subordinating Conjunction

- a. **Like** English, German subordinating conjunctions connect a dependent clause to an independent clause
- b. However, **unlike** English, German subordinating conjunctions kick the conjugated verb to the end of the clause. (examples are in **section d.**)
- c. https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/con_04.html
 - i. This grammar reference guide by the University of Texas is modeled after the Grimm Brothers' Fairy Tales (aka. Which is where Disney cartoons like Snow White and Cinderella originally come from to name a few).
 - ii. **The link lists a decent amount of subordinating conjunctions. So I'm not going to list them again in a chart, which would take up more space. Instead, I am going to give you some examples using some of the conjunctions from the link.**

d. Examples

i. Ich denke, **dass du** einiges Essen **essen sollst**.

1. **Dependent Clause, sub. Conjunction subject**

direct object **verb 2 verb1**

2. Translation: I think that you should eat some food.

ii. Können Sie mir sagen, **wo die Toilette ist**?

1. **Introductory phrase, question word acting as sub. Conjunction subject verb 1?**

2. Translation: Can you tell me, where the bathroom is?

iii. Auf dem Heiligabend bin ich ins Bett früh gegangen, **damit** der Weihnachtsmann zu meinem Haus kommen könnte .

1. On Christmas Eve I went to bed early, **so that** Santa Claus could come to my house.

iv. Heute bin ich in dem Haus geblieben , **weil** es den ganzen Tag geschneit hat.

1. Today I stayed in the house, because es snowed all day.

7. Capitalization and Punctuation

a. All nouns are capitalized in German; no matter where they are in the sentence.

b. **Unlike English**, I is only capitalized if it begins the sentence

c. Punctuation usage like commas and apostrophes are explained in the link below

i. https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/mis_01.html

8. Wrapping it up with a few more concepts

a. **Congratulations** if you have read through these **7** introductory tips (along with the examples provided) and explored the links in this document, you are well on your way to obtaining a good grasp of the foundation of German. I would say that these 7 introductory tips cover about **75%-80%** of the basics.

b. Key concepts that are not included in points 1 through 7 above are:

i. Prepositions

1. Dative prepositions
2. Accusative prepositions
3. Two-way prepositions (these are prepositions that can be either dative or accusative depending on context. Remember you have to have a direct object before an indirect object.
4. Genitive prepositions
- ii. Possessive pronouns, reflexive pronouns, and relative pronouns
- iii. Tenses other than present tense
 1. Future tense
 - a. Formed with present conjugation of werden+infinitive
 2. The past tenses
 - a. das Perfekt (present perfect)
 - i. Formed by present conjugation of haben or sein + past participle
 - b. Simple Past
 3. Subjunctive moods
 4. Imperative mood
 5. Passive voice
 - a. Formed by present tense of werden + past participle
- iv. Separable prefix verbs
- v. zu infinitives

Concepts under **#8 wrapping it up** are explained in more detail in the following links:

<http://germanforenglishspeakers.com/>

<http://www.nthuleen.com/teach/grammar/infinitivexpl.html>

<https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/>

1. Don't forget to hover over the title "Grimm Grammar" on the homepage to access the table of contents

Remember language learning is an ongoing process with ups and downs. So be patient; you never know where your language skills will take you; both professionally and personally. Ja, Sie können es machen!