

# German

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- **Verb Conjugations**
- **Cultural Immersion with Idioms & Expressions**
- **Complete Glossary & Answer Key**



**Instant  
Immersion**

# German™

*developed by Mary March, M.A.*

*written by Eva-Maria Barthel, Ph.D.*





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# INTRODUCTION

*Willkommen* to *Instant Immersion German*™! An understanding of other cultures is critical in becoming part of a larger global community. Knowing how to communicate in other languages is one way to facilitate this process. You have chosen a truly global language to learn. There are diverse German cultures in Germany, Switzerland, and Austria having a worldwide influence on politics, manufacturing, the high-tech industry, literature, philosophy, the arts and music.

Now let's get down to learning some German. Did you know that a large part of the English vocabulary is similar to the German language? This means you already know the meaning of many German words such as: *schwimmen* (to swim), *waschen* (to wash), *der Arme* (arm). Other German words look very much like their English equivalents: *das Radio*, *die Banane*, *das Auto*, *die Musik* are just a few. You just have to learn the pronunciation. (And you will see that learning German pronunciation is not as difficult as you might think!)

This book will help you learn the basics of communicating in German in a way that will be fun and easy for you. We include many popular phrases and expressions and show you how these are used in real life through example conversations and stories. Our book also provides an easy pronunciation system that will give you the confidence you need to speak German. A wide range of interesting and valuable topics give you a firm grounding in the language, including how to order food like a local, how to travel comfortably within the country, even what to do when things go 'wrong'.



## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

The pronunciation of German is very consistent. Vowels and consonants are pronounced in the same way no matter how they appear in each word. While English and German share many pronunciation rules, particularly with respect to consonants, differences do occur. The following chart serves as a guideline when practicing proper pronunciation in German.

German vowels and consonants	approximate equivalent in English	notation in the pronunciation key
a	long as in bar short as in pasta	aa ah
ä	bad	a
e	short as in bed	e
e; ee	[no direct English equivalent] prolonged e as in buffet or the French café	é
i	short as in is	i
e; i; ie	long as in bee or believe	ee
o	long as in nose [where “o” is pronounced longer and lips are rounded]	O
ö	short as in not word	o’ o
u	long as in you or loose short as in book	oo u’
ü	[no English equivalent; first pronounce the German u, then, with your tongue and mouth remaining in the same position, pronounce the short German i]	ü
ei; ai	eye	ay
au	ouch	ou
äu; eu	boy	oy
j	yacht	Y
g	good	g
z	pizza	ts
s; ß	sun, zebra	s,z
ch	[no English equivalent; pronounce as “k” but instead of opening the back of your throat, blow air through it]	CH
sch	shine	SCH
st	mostly pronounced as German sch + t	SCHt
sp	mostly pronounced as German sch + p	SCHp
v	fish	f
w	generally pronounced as “v”, as in vote	v

This book has 16 chapters. You can work through the book chapter by chapter or skip around to the topics that most interest you. Study the expressions and vocabulary before reading the dialog or story. Say them out loud to practice your pronunciation. Read through the dialog or story as many times as you need in order to understand it. Then read it out loud. Check your answers to the exercises in the Answer Key in the back of the book. Finally, get in a German mood! Have a *Bratwurst*, hike in the mountains with some *Wanderlust*, listen to some Beethoven, or snuggle up at home with some *Gliihwein* (hot spiced wine) in an atmosphere of *Gemütlichkeit*. But have fun learning German!

## CHAPTER 1

*(gooten mo'rgen)*  
Guten morgen!  
*Good morning!*



*(es ist meer egaal)*  
Es ist mir egal.  
*I don't care.*



*(es muCHt meer niCHts ous)*  
Es macht mir nichts aus.  
*It's all the same to me.*

*(lahss u'ns géhen)*  
Lass uns gehen.  
*Let's go.*

# VOCABULARY



(er)  
er  
he

(der mahn)  
der Mann  
man

(der mo'rgen)  
der Morgen  
morning

(zee)  
sie  
she

(dee frou)  
die Frau  
woman

(SCHpreCHen)  
sprechen  
to speak

(gooten mo'rgen)  
Guten Morgen!  
Good morning!

(vee gét es deer)  
Wie geht es dir?  
How are you?

(es gét meer goot)  
Es geht mir gut.  
I'm fine.

(doo)  
du  
you

(vo'len)  
wollen  
want

(moCHten)  
möchten  
would like

(néhmen)  
nehmen  
to take

(haaben)  
haben  
to have

(géhen)  
gehen  
to go

(dahs aabentessen)  
das Abendessen  
dinner

(dahs mitaakessen)  
das Mittagessen  
lunch

(der mo'rgen)  
der Morgen  
morning

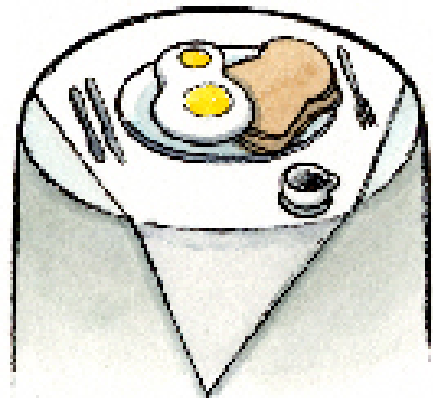
(dahs brotCHen)  
das Brötchen  
breakfast roll

(dahs frühSCHtük)  
das Frühstück  
breakfast

(frühSCHtüken)  
frühstücken  
to have breakfast



(essen)  
essen  
to eat







## DIALOG

Es ist Morgen.

Eine Frau und ein Mann–Sabine und Klaus–sprechen miteinander.  
*(mitayn ahnder)*  
*to each other*

**Sabine:** Guten Morgen, Klaus. Wie geht es dir?

**Klaus:** Guten Morgen, Sabine. Es geht mir gut. Und dir?

**Sabine:** Es geht mir gut. Wo möchtest du frühstücken?

*(weer konen tsoo dem kafé im)*  
**Klaus:** Es ist mir egal. Wir können zu dem Café

*(hOtel géhen)*  
im Hotel gehen. Ich möchte ein Brötchen essen.

*(iCH ouch)*  
**Sabine:** Ich auch! Lass uns gehen!

## PRACTICE

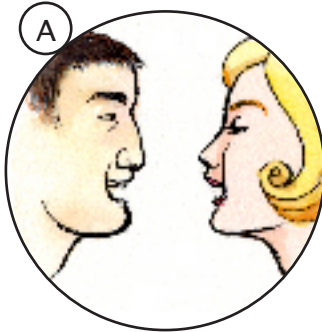
frühstücken	Abendessen	möchten	nehmen
Mittagessen	wo	du	Brötchen

Fill in the blanks using the words in the box below.

1. Klaus geht zum \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Wo möchtest \_\_\_\_\_ ?
3. Zum \_\_\_\_\_ möchte Sabine  
ein \_\_\_\_\_ essen.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ möchtest du essen?

# MATCHING

Match the sentence with the picture.



\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Eine Frau und ein Mann sprechen miteinander.

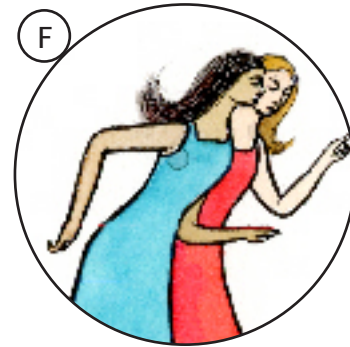
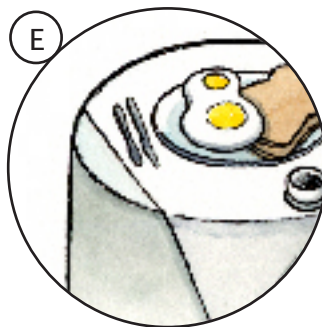
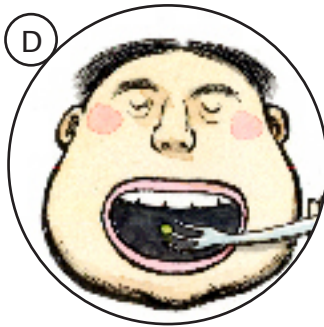
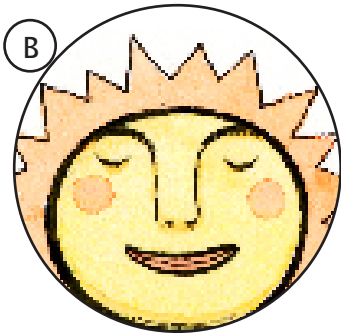
\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Ich auch. Lass uns gehen.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Das ist mir egal.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Es ist Morgen.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Wo möchtest du frühstücken?

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Ich möchte essen.



## FOCUS

### SUBJECT PRONOUNS

#### SINGULAR

<i>I</i>	ich	(iCH)
<i>you</i>	du	(doo) (informal)
<i>he</i>	er	(er)
<i>she</i>	sie	(zee)
<i>it</i>	es	(es)

#### PLURAL

<i>we</i>	wir	(veer)
<i>you</i>	ihr	(eer)
<i>they</i>	sie	(zee)
<i>you</i>	Sie	(zee) (formal)

# VERB CONJUGATIONS



*(iCH esse etvahs)*  
Ich esse etwas.  
*a little*

*(essen)*  
essen  
to eat



*(veer essen veel)*  
Wir essen viel.  
*a lot*



*(doo ist flaySCH)*  
Du isst Fleisch.  
*meat*



*(eer esst pahstah)*  
Ihr eßt Pasta.  
*pasta*



*(zee ist im outho)*  
Sie isst im Auto.  
*car*



*(zee essen ahm SCHtrahnt)*  
Sie essen am Strand.  
*beach*



*(er ist ahm SCHtrahnt)*  
Er isst am Strand.  
*beach*



*(zee essen im bett)*  
Sie essen im Bett.  
*in bed*

## NOTES

The formal “*Sie*” (same as the third person plural, except capitalized) is used to address individuals and groups with whom the speaker is not acquainted or to whom the speaker has only established loose or superficial contact.

This includes, for the most part, hierarchical relationships such as superiors at the workplace or teachers in school. After you have familiarized yourself with the conjugation model below, return to the following examples and notice the different verb endings when using the formal “*Sie*” and the informal “*du*”.

FORMAL: Herr Schmidt, wo möchtenen Sie essen? *Mr. Schmidt, where would you like to eat?*

Nehmenen Sie das Buch herr Schmidt? *Mr. Schmidt, are you going to take the book?*

INFORMAL: Paul, wo möchtestest du essen? *Paul, where would you like to eat?*

Nimmstest du das Buch Paul? *Paul, are you going to take the book?*

NEHMEN		
<i>to take</i>		
ich nehme	<i>(iCH néme)</i>	<i>I take</i>
du nimmst	<i>(doo nimst)</i>	<i>you take</i>
er/sie/es nimmt	<i>(er, zee, es nimt)</i>	<i>he, she, it takes</i>
wir nehmen	<i>(veer némen)</i>	<i>we take</i>
ihr nehmt	<i>(eer némt)</i>	<i>you take</i>
sie/Sie nehmen	<i>(zee némen)</i>	<i>they/you (formal) take</i>

Here are some common expressions with *nehmen*:

Nimmst du ein Brötchen?  
*Are you having a roll?*

Ich nehme den Zug.  
*I'm taking the train.*

Nimm dich in Acht!  
*Watch out!*

