

A-Level German

Transition Workbook



Transition from GCSE to A-Level

What is transition work?

Transition is all about independent learning to help you embed and consolidate what you have picked up while preparing for your GCSEs and enable you to prepare yourself for further work at Advanced Level.

What type of transition work should I undertake?

As with all levels of language learning, the main thing is to keep practising German regularly over the summer so that you are ready to hit the ground running in September. There are so many different aspects of language learning for you to explore and while we would not expect you to complete everything in this booklet, remember that everything you do tackle will make the step-up to A-Level easier. On the following pages you will find a number of different suggestions to help you engage with the German language and its grammar as well as ideas for exploring the history, politics and culture of German-speaking countries. Little and often is the key!

Television / Film

There are a range of German language films and series to watch if you have access to Amazon Prime, Netflix, YouTube etc. Try watching something in German (with subtitles) to expose yourself to some native German speakers. After watching you could try writing a summary of the storyline in German.

Try some of the following links to get you started:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/tv/onlineprogs.shtml>
- [DasErste.de Startseite - Startseite - ARD | Das Erste](http://DasErste.de)
- <https://www.channel4.com/categories/walter-presents>

This link will take you to a number of international TV series but if you hover over the tiles, you will see where they originate from.

Deutschland 83 might be a place to start...

In terms of films, there are plenty to choose from. Some of these are listed on the specifications of various examination boards at A-Level so you may find yourself studying one of them in more depth anyway!

- Good bye, Lenin!
- Lola Rennt
- Das Leben der Anderen
- Ballon –this has been on BBC iPlayer in recent months
- Das Wunder von Bern

Radio

Radio is an equally good way of increasing your exposure to spoken German. Try listening along to the news in a slightly slower format Langsam gesprochene Nachrichten | DW Deutsch Lernen or simply have a music station on in the background. This website has a large variety of different stations to choose from: Stream Radio from Stream Germany | Free Internet Radio | TuneIn. The following website offers further engagement with the music: listen along to a song with the accompanying YouTube video and fill in the gaps in the lyrics. There are varying levels of difficulty on offer as well as different modes for completing the lyrics: www.lyricstraining.com

Reading

Change the language on your phone or use a different search engine like www.google.de over the summer. Don't forget to keep a note of any new vocabulary you come across!

Try reading current news on the internet. The following websites link to German newspapers and magazines:

- [Duda.news - Kindernachrichten aus Köln und der Welt](http://Duda.news) A news website aimed at younger children in Germany which will provide a great introduction
- Top-Thema | DW Deutsch Lernen News articles with additional exercises and vocabulary to support language learning

Grammar

By now you will have covered a vast array of grammar points in learning for your GCSEs but here are some useful websites with interactive, self-marking exercises for further consolidation:

- www.languagesonline.org.uk
- German exercises - practice grammar online



Tenses Workout



Can you identify the tense (or mood) in the sentences below? Use the letters from the list, then translate the sentences into English.

1. Ich musste gestern dorthin gehen _____
2. Ich möchte in die Schweiz fahren _____
3. Sie hat die Möglichkeit _____
4. Ich hatte bemerkt, dass ich meinen Pass verloren hatte _____
5. Er kam gegen 18 Uhr zu Hause an _____
6. Ich muss mich Mühe geben _____
7. Ich wird spät ankommen _____
8. Als ich ankam, ging ich sofort auf Toilette _____
9. Los geht's! _____
10. Er wird seine Arbeit morgen beendet haben _____
11. Ich hätte diesen Film gerne gesehen _____
12. Ich spielte Fußball, als ich kleiner war _____
13. Er wird heute Abend fernsehen _____

A Present

B Imperfect

C Perfect

D Conditional (present)

E Past conditional

F Future

G Future perfect

H Subjunctive (present)

I Pluperfect

J Imperative

K Pluperfect subjunctive

Fill in the grid with both the *Ich* (1st person) and *er/sie/man* (3rd person) forms of the verb.

| INFINITIVE | PRESENT | PERFECT | IMPERFECT | FUTURE | CONDITIONAL |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------|
| spielen | ___spiele___ _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| essen | _____ | _____ | ___aß___ _____ | _____ | _____ |
| ankommen | _____ | bin angekommen _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| beenden | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| verkaufen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| gehen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| haben | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| sein | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| machen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-----------------------|
| können | _____ | habe gekonnt _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| mögen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | ___möchte___ _____ |
| müssen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| nehmen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| kommen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| verlassen | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| wissen | ___weiß___ _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

The Perfect Tense

A. Fill in the missing auxiliary and/or past participle.

1. Ich ins Kino gegangen.
2. Ich viel Geld (*earned*)
3. Er seinen Hund verloren.
4. du die Katze gefüttert?
5. Wir nach Italien (*travelled*)
6. ihr in einem Hotel gewohnt?
7. Meine Schwester einen neuen Job (*found*)
8. Gestern mein Wellensittich gestorben.
9. Ich Niko nicht (*seen*)
10. Was du zum Geburtstag ? (*received*)

B. Re-order these sentences starting with the bold phrase. The auxiliary verb will always be the second idea.

1. Ich habe **am Montag** im Park einen Bären gesehen.
.....

2. Wir sind **letztes Jahr** nach Frankreich in den Urlaub gefahren.
.....

3. Wir sind **am Freitag** in die Stadt gelaufen.
.....

4. Thomas ist **gestern Abend** mit Jessica ins Theater gegangen.
.....

5. Du hast mein Kaninchen **am Samstag** gestohlen.
.....

C. Complete each sentence with the separable verb in brackets and translate it into English. Use a verb table for support.

Examples: fernsehen = Ich habe ferngesehen.

abwaschen = Er hat abgewaschen.

1. Ich bin gestern Abend (*ausgehen*)
.....
2. Wir haben das Zimmer gut (*aufräumen*)
.....
3. Er ist mit Sandra (*ankommen*)
.....
4. Ich bin um sieben Uhr (*aufstehen*)
.....
5. Ich habe gut auf meine Schwester (*aufpassen*)
.....

Conjunctions

A. Konjunktionen. Wie heißen die folgenden Konjunktionen auf Englisch?

| SUBORDINATING (verb change) | | COORDINATING (no verb change) | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|
| weil | = _____ | aber | = _____ |
| ob | = _____ | sondern | = _____ |
| dass | = _____ | denn | = _____ |
| wenn | = _____ | oder | = _____ |

Link the sentences using the conjunction in the brackets

1. Ich hoffe. Der Kurs ist interessant. (*dass*)

2. Frau Bernstein wandert gern. Sie reitet auch gern. (*und*)

3. Barbara kommt nicht vor dem Unterricht. Sie kommt danach. (*sondern*)

4. Ich weiß nicht. Die Bibliothek ist morgens geöffnet. (*ob*)

5. Ich kann dich nicht anrufen. Ich habe keine Zeit. (*weil*)

6. Er kauft einen Wagen. Er will nicht mit dem Bus fahren. (*denn*)

7. Ich will ausgehen. (*aber*) Er kann nicht. (*weil*) Er muss für eine Prüfung lernen.

8. Er sagt. (*dass*) Er ist krank. (*aber*) Ich weiß nicht. (*ob*) Das ist wahr (=true).

The case system

The subject of a sentence is the person / thing that is *doing* the verb. This is always in the **NOMINATIVE CASE**.

The direct object of a sentence receives the action of the verb e.g. the thing that is being read or the thing that is being eaten. This is always in the **ACCUSATIVE CASE**

| The | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter | Plural |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|
| Nominative | der | die | das | die |
| Accusative | den | die | das | die |

| A | Masculine | Feminine | Neuter | Plural (my) |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|--------|-------------|
| Nominative | ein | eine | ein | meine |
| Accusative | einen | eine | ein | meine |

Now highlight the nouns in the following sentences. Use two different colours to identify the subjects (nom. case) and the direct objects (accusative case). Remember that some sentences may contain more than one direct object or even none at all...

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|--|
| 1. | Paul built a house. | 2. | You are studying the accusative case. |
| 3. | The hungry man ate cake, pie and rolls. | 4. | John and Joe both got a bicycle for Christmas. |
| 5. | Mike wrapped and sent the package. | 6. | Who cooked and served the meal? |
| 7. | Tim read his speech and answered questions. | 8. | Has the door been fixed yet? |
| 9. | Jeanne was the best friend I ever had. | 10. | The spaceship rose silently in the night sky. |
| 11. | Jeff and Carl speak the same language. | 12. | Someone must have misdialed my number. |
| 13. | They hung up quickly. | 14. | Joe should have been captain. |
| 15. | Today was the warmest day in years. | 16. | Did you do your lessons correctly? |

B. Der-die-das-den? Place the correct form of the definite article (der-die-das-den) in each blank, paying attention to case!

1. Hörst du _____ Musik gern?
2. _____ Studenten (*pl*) spielen gern Tischfußball.
3. Ich sehe _____ Overheadprojektor nicht.
4. _____ Tisch ist grau.
5. Herr Walther ist _____ Professor.
6. Findest du _____ Tür nicht?
7. _____ Vater versteht _____ Kind nicht.
8. _____ Kind versteht _____ Vater nicht.

C. Ein-eine-einen? Place the correct form of the indefinite article (ein-eine-einen) in each blank, paying attention to case!

1. Steven King schreibt _____ Buch.
2. Hast du _____ Stift?
3. Wir besuchen _____ Freund.
4. _____ Freund besucht uns.
5. Ich habe _____ Bruder und _____ Schwester.
6. Lars kauft _____ CD (*f*).
7. _____ Student kommt ins Klassenzimmer.
8. Heute Abend sehe ich _____ Film (*m*).