

ACCESS LANGUAGE SERIES

Access German

A First Language Course

SECOND EDITION

Henriette Harnisch



Access German

Access German: A First Language Course provides a thorough grounding in all the skills required to understand, speak, read and write contemporary German from scratch based on everyday scenarios.

This fully revised edition consists of 10 units, each of which includes language focus panels explaining the structures covered, cultural focus sections with current information from Germany and other German-speaking countries, and a comprehensive glossary. Learning tips and Ready to move on checklists help students to achieve a sense of autonomy, while the accompanying website gives direct access to additional listening, reading and speaking activities, plus teacher support and guidance.

Access German is ideal for adult learners and students at level A1–A2 of the CEFR, and Novice–Low on the ACTFL proficiency scales.

Henriette Harnisch has had a broad and extensive career which included working as a languages teacher and manager for more than 20 years. She has authored several books on language learning for adults.

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Access German

A First Language Course, Second Edition

HENRIETTE HARNISCH

Series Editors: Jane Wightwick and Henriette Harnisch

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Contents

Acknowledgements

vi

	Introduction	1
1	Willkommen	3
2	Was sind Sie von Beruf?	16
3	Meine Woche	36
4	Wo ist das Hotel?	54
5	Shopping und die Stadt erkunden	73
6	Im Restaurant	88
7	Reisen im deutschsprachigen Raum	103
8	Was haben Sie nach der Schule gemacht?	128
9	Freizeit, Fitness, Lifestyle	145
10	Ankommen und Leben in Deutschland	164

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Introduction

Access German is a refreshing, modern introduction to the German language, culture and people. It is specially designed for adults of all ages who are just starting out learning German or who are returning after a long gap. The content is refreshing and contemporary, covering real-life scenarios and situations and

The course is ideal for use in classes but will also help develop strategies for independent learning. In the coursebook, teachers and learners will find an extended range of activities covering all four skills as well as language structure explanations and ideas for group activities.

Access German offers a fun and friendly approach to the German language as it is spoken in Germany and other German-speaking countries today. It will enable you to deal with everyday situations, covering practical topics such as travel, shopping, or eating in a restaurant and many of the activities are based on genuine German websites. The course is also ideal for those who wish to study German for business purposes and will provide learners with a sound basis of vocabulary and grammar structures providing solid foundations for a variety of contexts.

The coursebook is divided into 10 carefully graded units. At the beginning of each, the content and objectives are clearly identified and you can check your progress at various points throughout the unit. Each unit starts with a number of activities relating to the previous one so you can revise topics already covered, giving you the confidence to move on to new areas. Similarly, each unit provides a brief glimpse to the next unit.

The units offer a wide range of activities which will quickly enable you to start speaking, reading and writing contemporary German, and the listening exercises featuring authentic German-speakers are integral to the course.

Each unit consists of:

- a checklist of topics covered in the unit
- revision activities (**Wissen Sie noch?**): these give you the chance to revise important points covered in the previous unit



- listening activities: authentic conversations, passages and exercises to increase your listening skills and to help you acquire confidence



- speaking activities



- reading activities: authentic documents and exercises to extend your vocabulary and comprehension



- writing activities: practical and authentic forms to complete, grammar activities and letter-writing to consolidate key points and to reinforce confidence when travelling to a German-speaking country



- exercises and games to work on with a partner



- exercises and games to work on with a group in order to practise the language through various practical situations



- games to be played with a partner or in a group



- language focus panels: these offer brief and concise structural and grammatical summaries with related activities



- learning tip: containing useful linguistic and cultural information



- preparation and dictionary skills ready for the next unit
- ready to move on: frequent reviews enabling you to check your progress and to feel confident in what you have learnt
- German-English glossaries containing vocabulary used in the unit.

We hope that working through this course will be an enjoyable experience and that you will find this new approach to language learning fun!

Unit 1 Willkommen

By the end of this unit you will be able to:

- Say hello and introduce yourself
- Attract somebody's attention
- Understand different ways of greeting and react accordingly
- Understand some simple signs and questions
- Talk about where you live
- Say the numbers up to 10
- Say the German alphabet

We suggest that you come back to this checklist as you progress through the unit. You can then judge how you are getting on.

Recognising words or phrases in German is not always as difficult as it seems.

LISTEN UP!



1. You probably know quite a bit of German already, just from having travelled there or snippets you've picked up elsewhere. Look at the following German words and phrases and connect them to the correct English equivalent.

Example:

Guten Tag!

Hello! (used throughout the day, but mainly in the afternoon)

Hallo!

Hi!

Auf Wiedersehen!

Goodbye!

Guten Morgen!

Good morning!



Learning tip

If you didn't catch an answer, or someone is speaking too fast, you can ask them to repeat what they said by using: **Wie bitte?** (Pardon?), **Noch einmal bitte!** (literally: Again, please!) or **Langsamer bitte!** (More slowly, please!).

Mein Name ist Frank.

My name is Frank.

Guten Abend!

Good evening.

Tschüß!

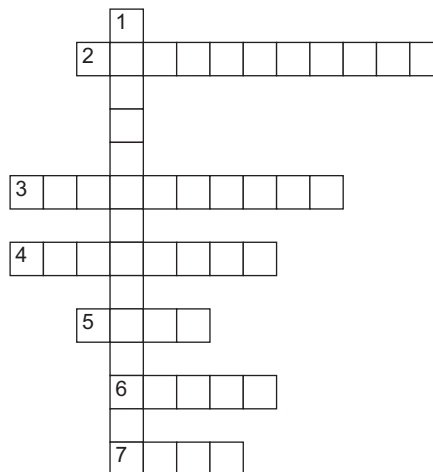
Bye!

You may have heard people greeting each other with the phrases **Guten Tag** and **Guten Abend**. As a rule of thumb, you can assume **Guten Tag** is used during office hours, and **Guten Abend** after office hours. First thing in the morning you will also hear **Guten Morgen**. **Auf Wiedersehen** or **Tschüß** are used to say Goodbye, but nowadays you will hear people say Hi or Hey or Ciao for Hello and Goodbye just as often.

2. Crossword

Can you remember those words? Be mindful that some German phrases could be more than one word, but with no spaces!

Greetings



Across

- 2 Good morning
- 3 Good evening
- 4 Hello
- 5 Bye
- 6 Hi
- 7 Name

Down

- 1 Good bye

3. Listen to the recording [recording 2 in original version] and put the following words in the correct order.



Name

Wie

Ihr

ist

?

4. Now practise what you have learnt: Ask your neighbour for their name. When replying, say *Mein Name ist ... or Ich heiße ...*

5. Listen to the dialogue and select the correct words for the gaps.

Wie

Name

Guten

Ich

Abend

Guten _____.

Mein _____ ist Helmut Krause. _____ ist Ihr Name?

_____ heiße Karin Schmidt.

Angenehm.

_____ Abend.

6. Find your partner



Mix and match game. Your teacher will give you a card with a name on it. Go around the class and find the person who forms the other half of your pair (for example, Adam – Eve). Here are some words to help you:

Guten Tag.

Guten Tag.

Wie ist Ihr Name? *or* Wie heißen Sie?

Mein Name ist ... *or* Ich heiße ...

Danke.

Bitte.

Tschüß.

Auf Wiedersehen.



7. Having learnt how to introduce yourself and how to ask someone for their name, you are now going to learn how to say where you live and where you come from.

Hallo. Wo wohnen Sie?

Ich wohne in London.

Und woher kommen Sie?

Ich komme aus Österreich.

What belongs together? Match up the correct pairs:

Wo?

Where?

What (or literally 'How' here)?

Wie?

Woher?

Where from?

These question words are quite important in everyday conversation. Have a look at the following sentences. There are a lot of words that you may not know yet but can probably guess from the context.



Fill in the correct question word in the gaps provided:

Wo

Woher

Wie

A: Hallo Frau Schneider! _____ geht's?

B: Gut, danke, Frau Webold.

A: _____ wohnen Sie denn jetzt?

B: Ich wohne in München, seit Mai!

C: Guten Tag Herr Kommidi, willkommen zum Deutsch-Kurs. _____ geht es Ihnen?

D: Danke, gut.

C: _____ kommen Sie?

D: Ich komme aus Kameroun.



Language focus

The word order in question is slightly different in German: There is no 'do you' way of forming questions. Instead, a question is formed using a question word like this:

Question word	Verb	Noun or pronoun or other construction	Question mark
Wo	wohnen	Sie	?
Woher	kommt	Herr Kommidi	?
Wie	geht	es	?

Cultural focus

Deutsch + Englisch = Denglisch: There are many words from British English or American English that are now a firm part of the German language. This has various consequences. It often helps the learner of German by providing context. Sometimes it hinders because the English-looking German word has acquired a completely separate meaning. A classic example for the latter is **das Handy**. Would you have guessed that it means mobile phone?! For more examples and some background information on Denglisch, check out: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denglisch>.

8. If you wanted to buy a railcard on www.bahn.de this is the kind of form you would have to complete. See how much information you can fill in without a dictionary or translation tool!



Persönliche Daten des Karteninhabers

Anrede

Herr ▼

Titel

Vorname

Nachname

Email

_____@_____

Straße, Nr.

Wohnort

PLZ

Land

Staat/Provinz

Deutschland ▼

Adresszusatz

Mobiltelefonnummer

_____/_____

(nur für eventuelle Rückfragen)



9. Numbers 1–10

Listen to the numbers from 1 to 10 to find out how they are pronounced.

Once you have listened to the numbers, fill in the gaps below:

ein	1
zwei	
drei	
vier	
fünf	5
sechs	
sieben	
acht	
neun	
zehn	

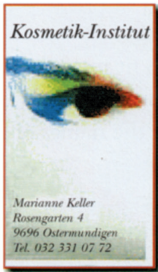
Now see if you can find the numbers in the word search puzzle below:

B	N	X	A	F	Q	E	V	I	E
M	T	V	S	P	F	N	F	Z	Y
L	R	E	I	N	S	D	A	A	Z
A	W	Z	N	E	U	N	F	N	Y
C	Q	P	W	H	I	V	I	E	R
H	M	Q	E	E	E	O	J	B	Y
T	C	D	Y	H	I	Z	E	E	T
Z	N	V	S	E	C	H	S	I	C
Z	C	B	L	I	E	R	D	S	X
D	E	R	V	S	V	C	J	Y	G

10. Remember the form in exercise 8? We can now add to the information provided.

Wie ist Ihre Telefonnummer?

Meine Telefonnummer ist 229 7435. Und meine Handynummer ist 0151 414 12557.



Language focus

In the next unit you will be learning about genders in German. The gender of a word has an impact on some word endings. For now, note that when asking for a telephone number you need **Ihre** for your (and for **Emailadresse**), and **Ihr** for **Vorname** or **Nachname**.

11. Practise in pairs

Find out the missing information on the form from your partner:

Vorname: _____

Vorname: Claudia

Nachname: Winkler

Nachname: _____

Telefonnummer: _____

Telefonnummer: 863 2995

Emailadresse: winklerc@web.de

Emailadresse: _____

12. Repetition is everything. Check out various videos of German numbers songs. Once heard, never forgotten!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQxdmHjzUWk

13. Simple verbs. You have come across a few verbs already, for example when asking where someone lives or comes from.

kommen

wohnen

Depending on which person is speaking, or spoken about, the verb changes its endings. We know this from English: I work, but he works.

The principle is the same for German, only there are a few more forms:

ich woh <u>n</u> e	I live
du woh <u>nst</u>	you (informal, used when speaking to a child or someone you know well)
er/sie/es woh <u>nt</u>	he/she/it lives
wir woh <u>nen</u>	we live
ihr woh <u>nt</u>	you (plural, informal, used for a group of children, or a group of friends or family members)
sie/Sie woh <u>nen</u>	they/you (formal singular and plural)

There are more endings in German but for simple regular verbs the endings are always the same. Practise the endings by using dice, with each number representing a different form:

- 1 = ich
- 2 = du
- 3 = er/sie/es
- 4 = wir
- 5 = ihr
- 6 = sie



Work with a partner, taking it in turns. Here are some verbs to practise with:

kommen

wohnen

schreiben

spielen

14. Practise some more by putting the verbs in the correct form in the gap provided:



- a) Sophia _____ Gitarre. (spielen)
- b) Ich _____ aus Österreich. (kommen)
- c) Ludwig _____ in Bonn. (wohnen)
- d) Pierre und Monique _____ aus Paris. (kommen)
- e) Wir _____ in Bregenz. (wohnen)
- f) Susanna _____ Tennis. (spielen)
- g) Jacob and Katy _____ in London. (wohnen)
- h) Ollie, Charlie und Jacob _____ Fussball. (spielen)

15. The alphabet

Listen to the alphabet and repeat it.



Note that the letters fit into a number of groups of similar sounds. This is because of the vowel sounds in the names of the letters:

A, H, K

B, C, D, E, G, P, T, W

F, L, M, N, R, S, Z

I, X

J

O

Q, U

V

Y

To practise spelling, work with a partner and start by spelling your name. This is a useful phrase to use:

Wie schreibt man ...? How do you spell (literally: write) or

Buchstabieren Sie bitte! (please spell...)

Once you have mastered that, combine the spelling with the numbers you have learnt earlier in this unit. Spell out numbers to each other, making your partner write down what you have spelt, and vice versa.



16. What do you know about your colleagues? Interview someone in your group. Try and find out as much as you can.

You can use these questions you have already encountered to help you:

Wo wohnen Sie?

Wie heißen Sie?

Wie ist Ihr Vorname?

Wie ist Ihr Nachname?

Wie ist Ihre Adresse?

Wie ist Ihre Handynummer?

Here are another two:

Was sind Ihre Hobbies?

Wie viele Kinder haben Sie?

Below is a variety of interests or hobbies. To find out what your colleague is interested in you could ask **Was ist Ihr Hobby?** He or she will then answer:

Mein Hobby ist or Meine Hobbies sind ... und

Now report back to the class. Don't forget to change the verb:

Er/sie heißt

Seine/ihre Adresse ist

Er/sie wohnt in

Seine/ihre Hobbies sind

Example: Er heißt Paul. Er wohnt in Chester. Seine Hobbies sind Schwimmen und Theater.

Theater

schwimmen

im Internet surfen

Musik

Lesen

Tennis

Fotografieren

Yoga

Fussball