

Stepping up to German A Level

Summer Preparation Booklet
from GCSE to A level

The West Bridgford School

Congratulations on choosing to study German at A Level. The best way to prepare yourself is to ensure that you have a firm grasp of the language and skills which you have already used at GCSE. A little bit of work over the summer holidays will make you more confident when you start the course in September and prepare you for a more independent approach to learning.

Name: _____

What is in this pack?

Textbooks & content of the course.....

Format of the exam

How to prepare for German at A Level

Buy

Download on your phone

Watch.....

Television

Short German videos

Movies

DVDs.....

Listen

Radio

Debates on the radio

Podcasts

Songs

Activities from songs

Read.....

Sing up for Twitter

Newspapers and Magazines

Websites

On-line dictionary

Vocabulary.....

Grammar Practice

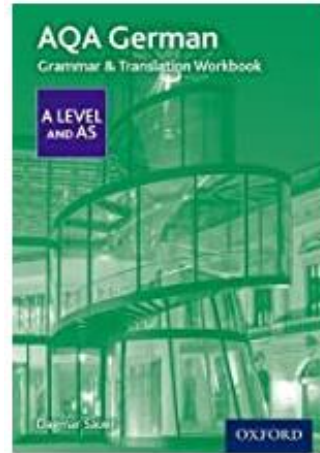
What should I know by now?.....

2 Summer tasks

Textbooks for next year

Year 1 : AQA German A level Year 1 and AS (OUP)

Grammar: AQA A level German Grammar & Translation Workbook



Content of the course

Topics

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

This Year's Literary works & film were :

- Das Leben der Anderen (dir. Florian Henckel von Donnersmark)
- Der Besuch der Alten Dame (by Friedrich Dürrenmatt)

Format of the exam

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	+ Paper 3: Speaking
<p>What's assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification • Grammar 	<p>What's assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual research project • One of four themes ie 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
<p>How it's assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 2 hours • 80 marks in total • 20 % of A-level 	<p>How it's assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) • 60 marks in total • 30 % of A-level
<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • All questions will require a critical appreciation of the concepts and issues covered in the work and a critical and analytical response to features such as the form and the technique of presentation, as appropriate to the work studied (eg the effect of narrative voice in a prose text or camera work in a film). <p>No access to texts or films during the assessment.</p> <p>No access to a dictionary during the assessment.</p> <p>Students are advised to write approximately 300 words per essay.</p>	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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). <p>No access to a dictionary during the assessment (including 5 minutes preparation).</p> <p>Students may take the assessment only once before certification.</p> <p>Assessments will be conducted by either the centre or a visiting examiner and marked by an AQA examiner.</p>

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>

How to prepare for German at A Level

You have a few weeks in which to really prepare for your A Level in German. The leap from GCSE to A Level is significant. At A level you will be exploring topics in greater detail and moving to wider issues concerning society and 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 as well as a list of assignments to complete before September. In order to keep pace, it is vital that you work through the tasks. Little and often is better than cramming this all into the last two weeks of August! Try to build some of them into your daily routine.

In September you will be told by your teacher (s) how they would like you to organise your folder. In order to be able to follow the pace of the lessons you may want to buy the textbook and bring it to school. You can buy it from Amazon here:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Level-Year-German-Student-Book/dp/0198366892/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=a+level+german+oup&qid=1585227630&sr=8-6&swrs=5159BC1A54869A0BA600920A72E828AF

Also, you will need a grammar book for independent work:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-Level-German-Translation-Workbook/dp/0198415540/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=a+level+german+oup+translation+workbook&qid=1585227684&sr=8-1

In school you will always has access to an iPad so you can use the digital book at home and in school if you prefer.

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	German online newspaper. You must keep up to date with the German current affairs.
ZiB/Tagesschau	Austrian/German-based news channels
Twitter	Keep up to date by following the current affairs and re-tweeting people in your class.
Kindle reader	For studying literature, you might want to get the eBook of the work to study (y13)

Watch...

Television

There are a lot of good German speaking shows on Netflix:

Dark , Deutschland 83, Der Paß, German Nailed It

Watch the latest news in German

http://www.ard.de/home/ard/ARD_Startseite/21920/index.html

<https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten>

YouTube

Watch the equivalent of Bake Off - Das Große Backen

Germany's Got Talent

Extra Auf Deutsch

Nicos Weg

Germania

Y Kollektive

Or watch some cartoons in German with your younger brother or sister such as Peppa Wutz

You can also access the TV using:

- Your own TV. If you get Euronews, you can put it into German by pressing the red button
- BBC Website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z4dqxb>. If you have trouble bringing the website up, type in www.bbc.co.uk/education. Then select England GCSE and scroll down until you find Modern Foreign Languages. Behind both the Speaking and Listening tabs there are loads of great videos to watch that only last a few minutes and they are a great way to practice your listening skills.

Broadway Cinema often shows films in German that you would not normally get to see at the cinema.

DVDs

We also have a range of DVDs in German in the department - let us know if you would like to borrow a DVD.

Newspapers and Magazines

2 broadsheets <https://www.faz.net/aktuell/> and <https://www.zeit.de/index>

1 tabloid <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.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>

<https://www.duolingo.com>

<https://kahoot.it>

Listening skills

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

<http://lyricstraining.com>

Speaking skills

<http://www.voki.com>

www.acapela-group.com

<http://es.maryglasgowplus.com/students> -Magazines with reading and listening tasks. There are three different levels.

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

Online dictionary

A good online dictionary is: <http://www.wordreference.com/>

Also Leo <https://dict.leo.org/german-english/> and Pons <https://en.pons.com/translate>

Vocabulary

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

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

What should I know by now?

This is a common question asked by students about to start their A level. You should be able to:

TOPIC	CONTENT
Recognise and use a range of tenses with regular	Regular verbs: Present Perfect Imperfect Conditional Future Pluperfect
Recognise and use a range of tenses with irregular	Common irregular verbs Present Perfect Imperfect Conditional Future

You should also have a look at some of the basic grammar that we have learnt throughout KS3 & KS4 such as: adjective agreements, word order, adjectives and pronouns, the cases and revision of the subjunctive and passive

Links to Grammar Practice Exercises

The grammar areas in the box above are in German GCSE Revision Guides which are available on Amazon for less than £5. Try CGP, Pearson or Letts which also has a CD with it. Also look at your KS4 Vocabulary sheets - ask your teacher if you need new ones. The following websites are also very useful interactive sites for grammar and language based activities. Take a look at them.

- Languages on line: The Grammar Revision resources on www.languagesonline.org.uk are great as you can then select what tense you want to revise, read the explanations and complete the exercises. You can do these as often as you like and it gives you a percentage. Another useful tactic is to translate the examples and exercises into English to ensure you understand the meaning of each tense
- Lightbulb languages at <https://www.lightbulblanguages.co.uk/resources-ge-al.html>

Mind map developing practice

Teachers have noticed that when students start A Level, they don't usually have an opinion on the topics they are studying. It's important that you start building up your general knowledge in these areas so you have less work to do later on. In order to start approaching the level of analysis that you will be expected to do next year, find below the titles of the units to be covered. Note down some ideas/evaluation on the topic, even if it's in English and German, it's a good start.

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

We cannot wait to start working with you and help you to further enhance your German skills.

Tasks

Complete the task log or make your own one up but you will need to go through it with your German teacher in September so make sure that it is clear and useful to you. Do it in whatever format you prefer - it is supposed to be a tool for **you** to prepare in the way that suits you best! You may have one week in which you are extremely motivated and one when you are not, but do not leave it all until the end of August - try and do bits and pieces across the summer.

You need to complete a minimum of 9 tasks from the list below - you can choose from this list and you can repeat the task, for example if you study two grammatical points, each one of them counts as one entry log. (Each task doesn't need to be massive, just a bit of work).

1. When you look at a website/ link on here, highlight it and note the date and what you thought about it. You can then put a couple of notes in your task log.
2. Summarise, in German, articles (that were in German!) that you have read from one of the websites/ papers above and say why they interested you. If you cannot print the article, make a note of the website.
3. Some of the websites we've suggested have activities linked to the reading/ listening activities, please complete them
4. Watch a foreign language film and review it (c. 200 - 250 words) in German.
5. Watch German TV or videos - write the link and summarise the content or do the activities associated to them in case there are some.
6. Listen to German music: - print lyrics and find vocab, do some activities from the booklet, compare a song that has been translated to English and its German version
7. Listen German Radio or podcasts - write the link and summarise the content or do the activities associated to them in case there are some.
8. Grammar - revise grammatical points that you find difficult. Look at the check list in this booklet and make sure you are good at those tenses. For example go onto www.languagesonline.org.uk note down the exercise you did and your score. Or do some exercises from this booklet.
9. If you find any other new websites/ links/ twitter feeds that you think are worth sharing, note them down too.
10. Vocabulary - start building a vocabulary booklet at the back of this booklet or create an electronic version or ask us for a notebook. Also revise and learn new vocabulary in Quizlet or Memrise.
11. Mind map - Create a mind up on one of the topics to be analysed next year. This will help you to understand and analyse the topics more critically.

We can't wait to start working with you and further enhancing your German skills and discovering together such a beautiful language and culture. Have a wonderful summer!!!!

Task Log 1

Week commencing	Date	Website/ Source	Comments
e.g	26/06/23	Netflix	Watched an episode of Deutschland 83. Loads of new info about the differences between East and West Germany - need to find out more about this. Will research further.
3 JULI			
10 JULI			
17 JULI			
24 JULI			
31 JULI			
07 AUGUST			
14 AUGUST			
21 AUGUST			

28 AUGUST			
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