



The Latymer School - German Department



Bridging the Gap between GCSE and A Level

Willkommen in Klasse 12! You will take the German AS course, and building on that, you can move on to the A2 course in Klasse 13. We will focus on two large themes, but also study literature and film, and work on your language and grammar skills.

What you can do now to prepare for success at German A-level:

- Buy the **AQA German Grammar and Translation Workbook** and work through the TRANSITION pages. (ISBN 978-0-19-841554-1)
- Buy the latest edition of **Wort für Wort (Hodder Education)** and learn: Section A – simple expressions, Theme 1 and 2 vocabulary and Section B – film and literature. The idioms under the dotted line of each section are particularly useful.
- **Buy the 'Good Bye, Lenin!'** Modern Languages Study guide (Hodder Education) and read the synopsis (chapter 1) and chapter 2 on historical background. There will be a Quiz on this on our Google classroom.
- **Join our Year 12 classroom early** to access other Bridging the gap grammar, reading and writing resources. Email: ren@latymer.co.uk if you haven't yet been invited. There are podcasts to explain the tenses and cases you need to be confident about.
- **Sign up for our German Work Experience Exchange** (February of Year 12, application deadline 30th September) Email ren@latymer.co.uk to be added to the Google classroom before the summer break (particularly if you have a specialist placement in mind)
- **Watch German films and TV** programmes online (we update our recommendations on the Year 12 GC)
- **Use language websites and apps on your phone** (i.e Deutsche Welle, Deutschlandfunk LEO dictionary, QUIZLET etc)
- **Use the German section of your library** to learn more about German literature
- **Visit the Goethe Institute website** and go to the A-level section for young people (<https://www.goethe.de/ins/gb/en/spr/unt/kum/dfj/alv.html>) to find extra information on all our topics
- **Speak German** with any native speakers or fellow German students you know. Keep in touch with previous pen pals or exchange partners.

AS Course Overview/ AQA Specification (current since 2016)

Your AS assessments

Paper 1: Listening, Reading & Writing (90 marks/45% of AS): This is a **1 hour 45 minute** written exam. It assesses aspects of German-speaking society and artistic culture in the German-speaking world as well as grammar. **Listening-** answers non-verbal or in German (35 marks). **Reading-** answers non-verbal or in German (45 marks). **Translation into English-** min. 70 words, no dictionary (10 marks).

Paper 2: Writing (50 marks/ 25% of AS): This is a **1 hour 30 minutes** written exam. It includes a question on the **text or film** you have studied during AS (from a choice of two questions; 35 marks) and a **translation into German** (min. 70 words, 15 marks).

Paper 3: Speaking (60 marks/ 30% of AS): The speaking (oral) exam is conducted by Frau Baumann, but assessed by the exam board. It is a **12-14 minute exam, plus 15 min. preparation time**. You will receive an unseen stimulus card to prepare for two sub-themes (one from each theme, see below).

Course content

We will cover **2 themes** (Social Issues & Trends; Artistic Culture) with 3 topics each (=6 topic areas). In addition, we will study a **film** and a range of **grammar** topics. In lessons and for homework we will use worksheets, interactive resources, research tasks, PowerPoint presentations and a textbook to deliver the content. **YOU** need to keep your notes tidy in your **own folder** and keep a neat **vocabulary book**.

Theme 1: Social Issues & Trends (Familie im Wandel; Die digitale Welt; Jugendkultur: Mode, Musik & Fernsehen)

Theme 2: Artistic Culture (Feste & Traditionen; Kunst & Architektur; Das Berliner Kulturleben damals & heute)

Grammar: we will cover a substantial list of grammar structures. Please find out more here:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/german-7661/subject-content/grammar>

Film: We will study the film 'GoodBye Lenin'. Copies are available in the library. We advise you buy your own copy for frequent and easy access.

Vocabulary: You are responsible for learning the vocabulary at the end of each chapter in your AS textbook in small chunks on a regular basis. You might want to use QUIZLET or similar software you can use to learn and revise on any electronic device wherever you are. You can also start on topic vocab learning by buying *Wort für Wort* (see details below).

Internal assessments throughout the course (including past/specimen paper assessments) will give you a chance to practice exam skills. There will also be regular vocab tests, so stay on top of your revision!

For more info on the specification: www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/german-7661

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