

- [Placement Test \(Einstufungstest\)](#)

Before starting your studies for the A1 exam, taking a placement test like this will **help determine your current language level**. This link is a reputable and free test; you only need to enter your email. If you're unsure of your level, I highly recommend setting aside an hour to complete it.

If you score above A1, consider taking a more advanced Goethe exam to earn a higher-level certificate. The certificate you earn can be valuable when applying for jobs, school, and when the Ausländerbehörde evaluates your language skills. It is important to aim for the highest level you can achieve.

General Exercise & Resource Links-

Practice Tests

- [6 Goethe Official Practice Exams](#)
- [Telc Practice A1 Exam](#)

Goethe Links

- [Official Goethe Online Training Modules](#)
- [Official Goethe Games \(All Subjects\)](#)

Deutsche Welle Course— this is a **free** course that covers important A1 topics. I highly recommend this resource even if you don't use anything else.

- [Nicos Weg Free Lessons](#)
- [Nicos Weg YouTube](#)

German A1 Playlist:

- [How To Pass The Goethe Exams \(All Sections\)](#)
- [All German A1 Lessons](#)
- [Easy A1 German Grammar](#)

Free Apps:

- [VHS A1 Course](#)

Information Only for Goethe-Zertifikat A1: Start Deutsch 1

Disclaimer: The amount of studying needed varies per person. I am simply providing links that I used to study for the exam (2024). All of the resources I have provided are FREE. I did not spend any money to pass my A1 exam and I mainly used official Goethe Institut practice materials.

Per Goethe's Official Website, "To reach this level, candidates need to have completed between 80 and 200 teaching units of 45 minutes each, depending on their previous knowledge and learning requirements."

The Goethe A1 Start Deutsch Test has 4 parts and all of them are necessary to pass the exam.

- Listening
- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking

A brief overview of the: Goethe-Institut A1 German Exam (Start Deutsch 1)				
Sections	Time for this section	Parts	Marks	Percentage
Listening (Hören)	20 minutes	Part 1 – 6 questions (multiple choice – a, b, or c)	6 marks	25%
		Part 2 – 4 questions (multiple choice – true or false)	4 marks	
		Part 3 – 5 questions (multiple choice – a, b, or c)	5 marks	
Reading (Lesen)	25 minutes	Part 1 – 5 questions (read the text and circle true or false)	5 marks	25%
		Part 2 – 5 questions (select the correct advert)	5 marks	
		Part 3 – 5 questions (read the statement and corresponding advert and select true or false)	5 marks	
Writing (Schreiben)	20 minutes	Part 1 – Use information from a text to fill out a form	5 marks	25%
		Part 2 – Write a letter	10 marks	
Speaking (Sprechen)	15 minutes	Part 1 – Introduce yourself to your group	5 marks	25%
		Part 2 – Ask for info and share info by forming questions using a specific theme and word	5 marks	
		Part 3 – Make requests and respond to them by forming questions using a specific picture	5 marks	
Total	80 minutes		60 marks	100%

- The official link for test information can be found here:
<https://www.goethe.de/ins/cs/de/spr/prf/gzsd1.cfm>

1. Listening

The listening section is straightforward if you're well-prepared. There are a few types of questions. Typically, each answer choice is mentioned once to create confusion, so you must listen carefully for the correct choice. You will also have true-or-false questions. Finally, you will need to recognize phone numbers, locations, and times mentioned. The videos linked below will help you practice these scenarios.

Here are the official Goethe study materials for Listening:

https://bfu.goethe.de/a1_sd1/hoeren.php

I also watched as many of these videos as I could when studying for this part. Here are some playlists–

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtkq50-9lXbfDmzWoq_-6WTQY59dgMd4c&si=y9S1CtA4Wxe_LVV1

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLg78ckjpHfZy5lkbq8bw26rLXkZ8jLRUN&si=uZmzJNv3VGv5xzO3>

These videos are nearly identical to what the test looks and sounds like. Just make sure you can hear the content clearly in any videos you choose to watch.

2. Reading

Reading requires consistent practice. When approaching a text, you'll either understand it or you won't, depending on your familiarity with the vocabulary. To improve, focus on expanding your knowledge of common words and practicing reading regularly. The test will include materials like advertisements, business signs, emails, and forms.

- Here is the official Goethe A1 List for Vocabulary
[Goethe A1 Wortliste](#)
- Here are the official study materials for the Lesen Section
[Goethe A1 Lesen](#)
- Here are some extra reading exercise resources
[Sample Readings \(Lesen\)](#)
- Here are video exercises (silent)
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZ6nUCSTx9pKHggrNFjVpw22GZb7MYYtc&si=oiJW8qB7avAvRthM>
- Here are Forms to Practice Reading & Answering
[Practice Filling Out Forms Based On The Text](#)

3. Writing

Writing requires you to write an email in response to 2-4 questions asked. You can practice by writing sample emails. Use the prompts given to write your own answers. Vocabulary is more important than the grammar for this test in the A1 level.

- [Official Goethe Writing Section](#)
- [Practice Writing Letters \(Schreiben\)](#)
- [Practice Writing Letters \(Schreiben\)](#)
- [Easy And Fast A1 Grammar](#)
- [Basic A1 Grammar](#)

4. Speaking

What the speaking section looks like: <https://youtu.be/mPqXLJpcwME>

When I took my A1 exam (2024), the speaking section was exactly like this.

During the introduction part, be prepared to answer questions about simple personal information, such as your zip code, spelling your name, birthdate, city of residence, and phone number. These spontaneous questions help assess your ability to communicate basic personal details through numbers and simple spelling. Not everyone in the speaking exam will be asked the same question, so you should prepare ahead of time.

You will all be given this sheet. You should be able to answer **all** of these questions about yourself when giving your introduction. This is the easiest part of the speaking exam because this is the only exact information you know will be asked ahead of time.

Name?

Alter?

Land?

Wohnort?

Sprachen?

Beruf?

Hobby?

To pass this section overall, I looked at many cards and started practicing creating my own sentences. Instead of memorizing, it is better to look at the subjects and know a broad level of questions to ask about objects and how to ask someone for or about objects. To find example cards, you can search “german a1 sprechen practice cards” and look at Google photos YouTube. You need to be able to recognize both the photos and the words. Pay special attention that the sentence you create relates to the THEME, or you could lose points. Also pay attention to the teil, because one section of the test is asking your partner for an object, and another section is creating a question or making a statement about an object.

Here are examples of what both types of cards look like:

Start Deutsch · 1	Sprechen Teil 2
Modellsatz	Kandidatenblätter
Thema: Essen & Trinken	
<h1>Bier</h1>	

Start Deutsch · 1	Sprechen Teil 3
Modellsatz	Kandidatenblätter
	

- [Information About Questions They May Ask](#)
- [Practice Flashcards Sprechen](#)