

# Language Intros

Carlos Salinas

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# Chapter 1

## German

### 1.1 Grammar

#### Orthography and Phonology

German is one of those languages (like Spanish or Italian) whose phonology very closely matches the way words are spelled (the orthography).

*I will update this section in the future; perhaps.*

#### The cases

German, like many European languages (particularly Slavic and Northern German languages), has a rather complicated system of declensions whereby the shape of a noun changes depending on its role in the sentence. For example, in English, when we say

*A shark ate Peter.*

the grammar of the English language forbids us from making a lot of change to the structure of this sentence and we have to do some language gymnastics to get the same meaning across, for example,

*Peter a shark ate.*

whereas,

*Peter ate a shark.*

has a completely different meaning from the first sentence.

However, in German, this ambiguity is resolved by its use of a case system. For example, we might translate the sentence above as

*Peter hat ein Hai gegessen.*

That is, a shark ate Peter or more clearly

*Ein Hai hat Peter gegessen.*

Whereas

*Peter hat **einen** Hai gegessen.*

**The Nominative**

The nominative case is

**The Accusative**

The accusative

## **Chapter 2**

# **French**

### **2.1 Grammar**



## **Chapter 3**

# **Russian**

### **3.1 Grammar**





## **Chapter 4**

# **Farsi**

### **4.1 Grammar**



## Chapter 5

# Turkish

### 5.1 Grammar

This is a primer on Turkish grammar. Most of the material is taken from the web, but especially from the site Manisa Turkish:

<http://www.turkishlanguage.co.uk/>.

This is for personal use and especially for those times when I don't have access to the internet and want to brush up on my grammar.

#### Turkish verbs

Here we talk about Turkish verbs, their use, their conjugation and the cases that they take.

First, let us talk about the infinitive form

#### The infinitive

To form the infinitive of a Turkish verb, you must add the suffix **-mek/-mak** to the stem of the verb: **gel** → **gelmek** – *to come*; **al** → **almak** – *to take, buy*. The choice of adding **-mek** or **-mak** abides by the laws of vowel harmony.

#### The negative infinitive

The negative of a verb has a separate infinitive form formed by first attaching the negative suffix **-me/-ma** to the stem of the verb and then adding the infinitive suffix: **gel** → **gelme** → **gelmemek** – *to not come*; **al** → **alma** → **almamak**.

Here are some more examples of infinitives and negative infinitive forms:

- **vermek** – *to give*; **vermemek** – *to not give*;
- **bilmek** – *to know*; **bilmemek** – *to not know*;
- **görmek** – *to see*; **görmemek** – *to not see*;
- **gülmek** – *to laugh*; **gülmemek** – *to not laugh*;

- **yapmak** – *to do, make, perform*; **yapmamak** – *to not do*;
- **ağrımak** – *to ache*; **ağrımamak** – *to not ache*;
- **kopmak** – *to snap*; **kopmamak** – *to not snap*;
- **kurumak** – *to dry*; **kurumamak** – *to not dry*.

### Turkish infinitive as the object of a verb

When used in combination with other verbs, the infinitive is nominalized and takes case and personal endings like other nouns:

- Geçen hafta ödevimi yapmayı unuttum.  
I forgot to do my homework last week.
- Garajdan arabamı almayı unuttum.  
I forgot to pick up (lit. take ) my car from the garage.
- Ali, sana söylemeyi unuttu.  
Ali forgot to tell you.
- Affedersin, seni aramayı unuttuk.  
We're sorry, we forgot to call you.
- Filmi izlemeyi unuttum.  
I forgot to watch the film.
- Kediye beslemeyi unuttum.  
I forgot to feed the cat.
- Mehmet'i sormayı unuttunuz.  
You forgot to ask Mehmet.
- Kapıyı unuttum.  
I forgot to close the door.
- Pencereyi açmayı unuttular.  
They forgot to open the window.
- Pencereyi açmamayı unuttular.  
They forgot not to open the window.

### Verbal objects in the dative

Although most Turkish verbs take the accusative form in combination, some verbs require the dative form: **yazmaya başladı** – *she started to write/she started to (the) writing*.

**Exception – istemek**

The one exception to the above rules is the verb **istemek** – *to want* which requires that the verb stay in the infinitive form if the desire to act is being conveyed and if the subject of both **istemek** and the verb it governs are the same:

- Yazmak istiyorum.  
I want to write.
- İçmek istiyorlar.  
They want to drink.
- Kalmak istemedin.  
You didn't want to stay.
- Çalışmak istemeyecekler.  
They will not want to work.

Otherwise, **istemek** the verb being governed by **istemek** is nominalized and takes the appropriate personal suffix plus the accusative:

- Kalmamanızı istiyoruz.  
We want you to not stay.
- Kalmanızı istemiyoruz.  
We do not want you to stay.
- Kalmasını istemiyorlar.  
They do not want him to stay.
- Kalmamalarını istemiyorum.  
I don't want them to not stay.

**Examples of suffixed Turkish infinitives**

Vowel harmony and consonant mutation rules for Turkish must be followed when adding the standard suffixes. In addition to this, the buffer letter **-y** is used to keep the vowels introduced by the suffixes apart.

- Gelmeye çalıştı.  
He tried to come.
- Yüzmeyi severim.  
I like to swim.
- Onu yapmaktayım.  
I am just doing it.
- Sigara içmeyi bıraktım.  
I have just quit (given up) smoking.

**Extended Turkish infinitive forms**

Here is a table of the different forms the nominalization of the verb **gelmek** can take:

positive form		negative
gelmek	to come	gelmem
gelmeye	to come	gelmem
gelmeyi	to come (obj.)	gelmem
gelmekte	in coming	gelmem
gelmekten	from coming	gelmem
gelmekle	by/with coming	gelmem

- Kesmeyi bıraktı.  
He stopped cutting.
- Sürmeyi öğreniyorum.  
I am learning to drive.
- Gülmemeye çalışıyorlar.  
They are trying not to laugh.

## **Chapter 6**

# **Chinese**

### **6.1 Grammar**





## **Chapter 7**

# **Japanese**

### **7.1 Grammar**

私の名前はそんな事がない Watashi demo wakaranai.



## **Chapter 8**

# **Korean**

### **8.1 Grammar**

안녕하세요여로분.