

LESSON NOTES

Introduction to German #1

Introduction to German

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#1

VOCABULARY

German	English	Class
danke	thanks	expression
schön	pretty	adjective
danke schön	thank you very much	expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Danke für die schönen Blumen. Thanks for the beautiful flowers.	Das schöne Mädchen. The pretty girl.
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GRAMMAR

Introduction to German

In this series, you'll learn everything you need to know to get started learning German.

Why learn a new language?

There are countless reasons, but perhaps the biggest one of all, is that it could actually change your life! Learning a new language unlocks new pathways that are off limits to you now.

There are certain things that you simply cannot do without having the technical or cultural skills that come from learning a new language.

Like working or living in another country!

Knowing another language **provides you with greater job opportunities**. You have the freedom to move to another country halfway around the world and be able to earn a living, or even better yet, build a career from it – instead of just being stuck in one place.

Language allows you to visit or live in places that you may never even have considered

going, simply because that wasn't a possibility for you. Knowing another language simply gives you more options to choose from.

And learning a new language also **helps you to be more open-minded** and see the world from a new perspective.

Language and culture go hand in hand. The world is a big place, and by broadening your understanding of other cultures, it allows you to be more empathetic and understanding of the many different ways that people live their lives. With language, you're able to see and experience more, which helps you to grow as a person.

Learning a new language also **improves your memory**.

Several studies have consistently shown that those who study another language have improved memory as opposed to those who didn't learn another language. Learning another language also **keeps your brain healthy by significantly delaying the onset of Alzheimer's and dementia**. This difference can be as much as 4 to 5 more years of quality life!

And those are just some of the reasons you should learn another language. **The list just goes on and on.**

Why learn German?

Have you heard of Adidas? BMW? Or Audi? Well, they all come from Germany!

And what about the fact that **Germany has the fourth largest economy in the world?**

Germany has the largest economy in the European Union. Germany is renowned for its high-quality craftsmanship and engineering. German car makers take up a large percentage of the global automobile market. Volkswagen, Daimler, and BMW alone make up one-fifth of the entire automobile industry worldwide! **Knowing the German language can open up business opportunities for you.** Understanding their customs and work ethic, can go a very long way in the world of business. Often times it could even make or break an important business deal. So, knowing German will put you ahead of the pack.

Germany is also one of the top-ranked tourism destinations in the world! Germany is known for its festive culture. Most notably for hosting *Oktoberfest*, which is a yearly "beer festival" of epic proportions. It hosts roughly 6 million visitors every year!

If you love travelling and exploring, learning German is a must because it allows you to discover much more of Germany than just common tourist spots.

How to get started

The good news is, that you already know some German!

Kindergarten, Dachshund, Gesundheit

Not only does German use the same Roman script as English, but there are many loanwords that have made their way into English. **According to researchers, roughly 26% of modern English is derived from Germanic roots.**

The reverse is also true. Many English words are now used in German too. **In fact, 10% of the all the words in German are borrowed from English!**

Outlet, Club, Computer

This means that you already know about 10% of German vocabulary!
Let's teach you something that you might not know but is very useful.

Dankeschön.

It means "thank you very much" in German.

The first part *Danke* can stand alone. It means: "Thanks."

The second part *schön* means "pretty." It makes *Danke* more polite.

So the phrase *Dankeschön*, essentially means "Thank you very much!"

These two dots here will be unfamiliar to English speakers, but don't worry. We'll talk a little bit about them in the next lesson.