

# GERMAN BEGINNERS - A1.1

## Course Description and Learning Objectives

This course is intended for students with no previous knowledge of the German language. By the end of the course students will be able to employ simple sentences and expressions when dealing with various situations in daily life (at the supermarket, in public offices, at the doctor's, at the office) and especially when expressing wishes and attending to personal needs in and around daily life. Furthermore, they are able to talk about themselves and their profession and ask others about personal details, work, hobbies, and interests.

The learning objectives are achieved in a step-by-step process through an inductive and communicative teaching approach that addresses the complete spectrum of language abilities. Exercises become progressively more complex and generally train specific abilities like listening comprehension, speaking, reading comprehension, or writing. Classroom activities include individual and group work and are complemented by homework exercises.

### *Communicative Objectives:*

- Understanding everyday speech
- Expressing personal needs
- Introducing oneself and others
- Requesting and understanding information about a person
- Using & understanding simple vocabulary on everyday life and shopping
- Filling in simple forms on personal data
- Writing and answering simple messages
- Asking and giving the time
- Speaking about hobbies and favourite activities
- Making appointments
- Speaking about past events
- Basic communication and small talk

### *Grammar Objectives:*

- simple sentence structures (statements and questions)
- local and temporal prepositions
- personal and possessive pronouns
- predicative adjectives
- modal verbs (möchten, können, mögen)
- present and perfect tense of important verbs
- ordinal numbers
- plural
- case system: nominative – accusative - dative
- simple connectors (und, aber, oder,...),
- simple particles (doch,...)



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## Course materials:

Course materials are especially compiled for the course and distributed by the teacher. Elementary knowledge of German in all four skills (Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing) will be provided based on the following books:

Specht, Franz et. al. (2012): Menschen A1. Deutsch als Fremdsprache. Kurs- und Arbeitsbuch. München: Hueber Verlag. (Kap. 1-12)

Jin, Friederike & Voß, Ute (2013): Grammatik aktiv. Sprachniveau A1-B1. München: Cornelsen Verlag.

Further grammar books and workbooks may be specified in the course.

## Supplemental materials

Current audio and film material, some authentic material (literary texts extracts, articles from newspapers and magazines), and material specifically developed for the course.

The purchase of a German dictionary is advisable.

## About the tutor:

Isabel Thomas is a native speaker with a MA degree in German as a Foreign language and German Literature & Culture. She has been a language assistant at Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University and is a translator, tester and tutor of Business German for a language agency. She also has been editor for a renowned German research institution as well as a major regional publishing house.

