



GCSE German

Languages – the world in your hands



Exam Board - AQA

Why should I study a language?

A great way to start getting to know and understand other people better is by learning their language. You will learn so much more about them– their interests, the food they like to eat, their culture and history. Talking to people in their own language is important because it makes them feel good and you will feel more welcome. Plus you won't have to rely on others to speak English! When you learn a language you also develop skills that are useful in lots of different situations, for example, arguing and explaining your opinions, convincing people that your ideas are worth hearing and understanding others' points of view. It is also becoming increasingly common for universities to specify a languages qualification as a requirement for entry. Remember:

1. **It's a multilingual world –not everyone speaks English.**
 - 94% of the world does not speak English as their first language.
 - 75% of the world does not speak English at all.
2. **You do not have to be fluent in a language – a little language can make a lot of difference.**
 - Even the basic phrases make a real difference.
 - Jobs from receptionist to top level management need language skills
 - Employers will often pay more to people who can offer a language

Why study German?

Business: Knowing the language of your German business partners improves your relations and therefore your chances for effective communication and success.

The global career: Knowledge of German increases your job opportunities with German and foreign companies in your own country and abroad. Proficiency in German helps you to function productively for an employer with global business connections.

Tourism and hospitality industry: Tourists from German-speaking countries travel far and wide, and are the world's biggest spenders when on holiday. They appreciate being looked after by German-speaking staff and tour guides.

Science and Research: German is the second most commonly used scientific language. Germany is the third largest contributor to research and development and offers research fellowships to scientists from abroad.

Communication: Developments in media, information and communication technology require multilingual communicators. One in ten books is published in German, and a wide range of important websites are in German. Knowledge of German therefore offers you extended access to information

Cultural understanding: Learning German provides you with an insight into the way of life, and the hopes and dreams of people in German speaking countries, broadening your horizons.

Travel: Make the most of your travels not only in German-speaking countries, but in many other European countries where German is widely spoken, especially in Eastern Europe.

Enjoyment of literature, music, art and philosophy: German is the language of Goethe, Kafka, Mozart, Bach and Beethoven. Indulge in reading and/or listening to their works in their original language.

Opportunities to study/work in Germany: Germany awards a generous number of scholarships and other support to study in Germany. Working holiday visas are available for young foreigners from a range of countries, and special visas are offered to skilled workers and professionals

Ensure you get into the university of your choice: The end of Year 13 may seem a long way off, but increasingly universities are expecting students to have a languages qualification as an entrance requirement

What will I study?

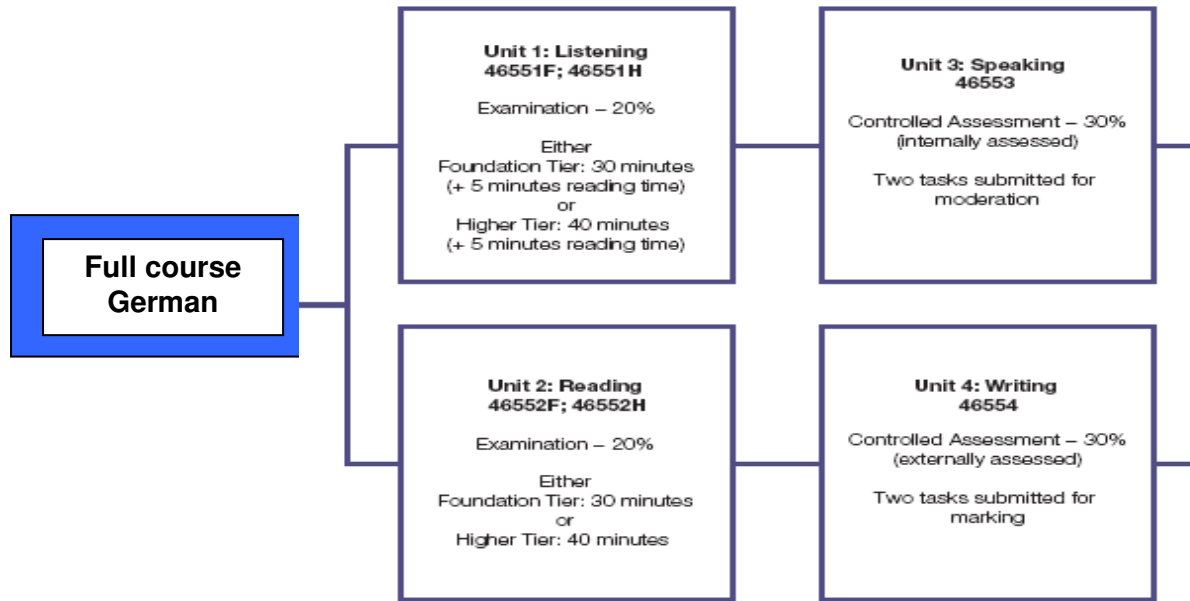
The course is topic-based and has 4 components: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

The topics covered are:

- **Lifestyle:** Health / Relationships and Choices

- **Leisure:** Free Time and the Media / Holidays
- **Home and Environment:** Home and Local Area / The Environment
- **Work and Education:** School, College and Future Plans / Current and future jobs

How is the course assessed?



You may be entered for Higher or Foundation tier in reading and listening. It is possible to 'mix and match'. The speaking and writing controlled assessments span both tiers.

What will German lessons be like?

GCSE sets are usually smaller than those you have been used to at KS3. This means that you will receive more individual attention, and you will be well supported in achieving your full potential. Lessons will build on, and extend, the work covered in Years 7 – 9, and there is a strong emphasis on encouraging you to speak and understand German confidently. Students should be prepared to participate in lessons, and to learn vocabulary at home, in order to ensure examination success. Lessons will include individual and pair work, group work, comprehension tasks, games and use of the interactive whiteboard. Each class has time allocated with the German assistant. This means that you will be able to practise your speaking skills, in small groups, with a native speaker. Remember - languages are a skill for life!

What course/career can the study of German lead on to?

Increasing numbers of our students are choosing to continue with German at A level and several have chosen to continue their language studies at university. Most recently these have included:

- **German** and English at Nottingham University
- **German** and English at Exeter University
- **German** at Bangor University
- Primary teaching with **German** at Edge Hill University

Many industries and companies are becoming far more globalised in nature and are increasingly facing non-English speaking customers. This means that a wide range of organisations offer opportunities for people with language skills. This also applies to companies that are web-based, trading internationally, or foreign-owned. Industry examples include:

- ✓ business services
- ✓ central government
- ✓ engineering
- ✓ financial services
- ✓ marketing
- ✓ media
- ✓ technology
- ✓ travel and tourism
- ✓ teaching



What are the results like in German?

	% A* - C	% A* - G
2009	72	100
2008	80	100
2007	85	100

For more information, speak to your German teacher, the Head of German, Frau Schäfer, or the Head of Department, Mrs Robins. You may also like to look at these useful websites:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcse/index.php>

<http://www.languageswork.org.uk/choices.htm>

www.channel4.com/trylanguage



What do our students say?

I chose German as a GCSE subject due to the wide variety of career prospects it opens up. It is a unique subject that builds up your confidence and can be used in many different work situations.

I took German as I really wanted to do a language. I feel that German is a fun lesson, and I have decided to take it at A-Level. German is one of the best options I took, and I recommend it to everyone

I chose German because it's different from other subjects. A second language is always good to have and can help you in lots of careers. If you put the work in, German is a lot of fun.

You make Currywurst and taste German food!



You get the opportunity to go to Germany and socialise with real German speakers.