

# KS5 German



We are really looking forward to welcoming you to A-Level German next year at Urmston Grammar School.

By the end of the Winter Term, you will be impressed by how much your German has developed beyond GCSE!

To help you prepare, we would like you to complete the tasks in this booklet. Some are to save you time in September, and some are to help you get ahead of the game. If there is anything you are unsure about, please don't worry, as we will be looking at things together during the course.

The tasks should take approximately 10 hours to complete, and you should bring your work to your first German lesson; there is also a list of suitable extra tasks which would also be useful if you'd like to practise further. This will be very useful independent work which will not be marked, but checked for completion – any grammar / vocab notes you make will be useful for later revision.



# Transition Tasks



## 1. Course specification:

[www.eduqa.co.uk/qualifications/german-as-a-level](http://www.eduqa.co.uk/qualifications/german-as-a-level)

Download and save a copy of the specification. Take time to read through carefully, learning more about: the themes you will be learning about; the assessments you will complete; and the grammar content you will be working on.

## 2. Useful websites

If you have a laptop / tablet at home, save the following as 'favourites' on your device they will be useful next year

- [kerboodle.com](http://kerboodle.com) (online textbook)
- [verbix.com/languages/german](http://verbix.com/languages/german) (verb conjugator)
- [wordreference.com](http://wordreference.com) (dictionary)
- [deutsch.lingolia.com](http://deutsch.lingolia.com) (grammar reference)

## 3. Cases ([lingolia.com](http://lingolia.com))

All A-Level students find the cases challenging in German! You won't have focused on these too much at GCSE. To help with this in advance, read the information on *lingolia* (address above, section on 'Declension') and make notes ready for your later classwork on this topic.

## 4. Reading & Listening ([lingolia.com](http://lingolia.com))

Tabs on left hand side link to short reading & listening activities. Select 3+ reading and 3+ listening activities of your choice (total of 6+ activities). For each activity:

- Write title of the task
- Read for gist and complete interactive tasks, without looking up any vocabulary
- Tasks have tabs with transcripts, answer checking, etc.
- Write out each completed answer
- Make vocab notes of any new vocab – *you may wish to start a new green 'vocab book' as you did at GCSE. Use the front for theme-specific vocab in class on the back for general vocab, such as these tasks.*

## 5. Independent Research Project

As part of your speaking exam, you have to discuss a specific, interesting aspect of German-speaking culture (see specification info). This does not have to be Germany (Austria, Switzerland, etc) but must focus on its impact in that culture, not comparing to the UK).

Research something interesting you can present to the class in English (few facts, why it's interesting, why is it a key part of German-speaking culture). You are not committed to this topic!! Just something interesting to share at this point. You may inspire someone else!

It could be something you are personally interested in, for example: *a fashion designer; a style of architecture; history of a famous company; a festival or tradition; impact of Syrian refugees in Germany; a political system.*

## **6. Ulrike – our Foreign Language Assistant (FLA)**

We are very lucky to have our own FLA, and you will have a weekly slot to help give you confidence and improve your speaking fluency. There is no pressure in these sessions! The key is to speak as much as you can, not to worry about making mistakes, and work on pronunciation and intonation. You will often talk about your points of view, what's in the news and themes you are studying.

In advance of your first session, think about how you are going to introduce yourself and tell her all about you, your interests and things that are important to you.

You could tell her about: you and your family; your hobbies and interests; where you live and what you think of it;

## **EXTENSION**

- *lingolia* (This website has lots of notes on grammar & vocabulary. You can read the information, complete interactive exercises and make any notes which help. Remember, it is not a problem if you don't understand something yet!!)
- *slowgerman.com* is a great site which has lots of short spoken articles with transcripts. You can listen and read about events in the news or cultural information. You can also export or download PDFs of the text. Have a go at regularly listening to an article; you could add any new vocab to your list.
- If you use social media (or you can use online websites), find a selection of German-language news sites. This is a good way to keep up with German-language culture and practise little and often. Enjoy reading for gist – don't worry if you can't understand everything!