



Rewarding Learning

GERMAN STUDENT STUDY CARD #13

TRANSLATION FROM ENGLISH INTO GERMAN [A2]

Introduction

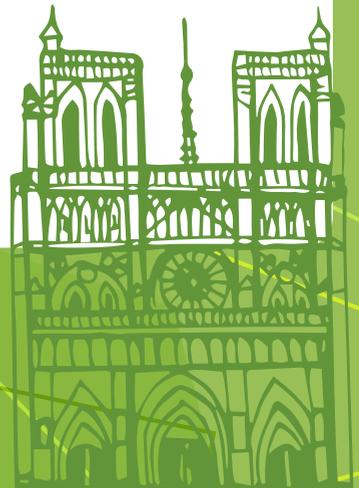
The translation from English into German is Question 4 of the A2 Reading paper.

Assessment

Your ability in this skill is assessed by means of a text that you translate from English into German.

Assessment Objective/s

Translation is assessed according to the A03 criterion, i.e. manipulate the language accurately and appropriately in written and spoken forms, using a range of lexis and structure.





Skills

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare for this skills area.

- The key to success is constant practice. (Übung macht den Meister!)
- In order to translate effectively from English into German it is essential to know the vocabulary related to the topics.
- Make out your own vocabulary resources. Take note of gender and plural form of nouns and principal parts of irregular verbs.
- Use the English-German section of a bi-lingual dictionary. When you look up a word take note of any other useful phrases. It may also be necessary to check in the German-English section to ensure that you choose the correct word.
- Learn word families e.g. when you learn a noun check in the dictionary for a related verb / adjective.
- Test yourself from English into German.
- Work with other members of your class to support one another in the learning / testing of vocabulary.
- This sounds like hard work, but it is essential preparation for success in translating.
- It is equally important to know the rules of grammar and be able to apply them.
- Focus in particular on:
 - Case system
 - Adjectival endings
 - Word order
 - Verbs (endings, tenses, seit+ Present or Imperfect Tense, modals, irregular verbs, separable and inseparable verbs, reflexive verbs, impersonal verbs)
 - Passive voice
 - Pronouns
- Practise regularly using the exercises in the workbook related to your text book and/or in a grammar book.
- Avoid online translation services.
- Beware of translating word for word.



- Familiarise yourself with the mark scheme.
- Familiarise yourself with the Chief Examiner's Report
- Time yourself carefully in an examination.
- Leave yourself time to check what you have written.
- "Proofreading" is most effective if you check one element at a time e.g. word order, verbs, case, endings...
- Constant practice is the key to success.