



GERMAN STUDENT STUDY CARD #19

USING LANGUAGE

- STEPS TO SUCCESS

Introduction

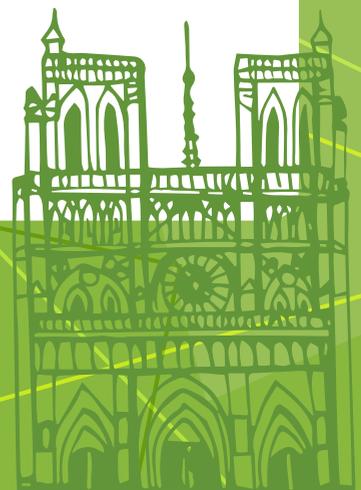
AS2 now includes a discrete section on Use of Language. You will find useful exercises in workbooks linked to your textbook and also online. Use of Language is important in the Speaking and Extended Writing units at AS and A2 and also in the English to German translation at A2.

Assessment

You will be required to transfer meaning from English into German and understand and accurately apply the grammatical system and a range of structures.

Assessment Objective/s

Your proficiency in Use of Language is assessed according to the A03 criterion i.e. manipulate the language accurately and appropriately, in spoken and written forms, using a range of lexis and structures.





Skills

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

It is not enough to be able to rhyme off rules, learnt by rote. You must be able to apply the rules in your spoken and written German.

Self-Review

- Ensure that you understand and can apply the rules relating to
 - Word Order
 - Case System
 - Adjectival endings
 - Verbs
 - Cases used after prepositions
 - Pronouns
 - Active and Passive Voice
- Always leave sufficient time to reread what you have written.
- When an essay or prose is corrected by your teacher, make sure that you have understood your mistakes.
- Practice makes perfect. (**Übung macht den Meister!**)

Learning for Improvement

- Familiarise yourself with grammatical terms. You will not be assessed on this, but the understanding of names of tenses and the uses of various cases, for example, will contribute to your success.
- When you are “proof-reading” your work, take one element at a time. Check:
 - meaning,
 - word order (verb is 2nd idea in normal sentence, TMP [adverbs], subordinate clauses, infinitive and past participle at end)
 - case*
 - verbs (tense, singular / plural endings)
 - spelling (read from the end backwards - in this way meaning is irrelevant, but you can focus on the spelling of individual words.)



- Beware of words which resemble English but mean something different e.g.
 - bekommen to receive
 - die Rente pension
 - das Gift poison
- Use a dictionary carefully to make sure you choose the correct word e.g.
 - present (as in gift) das Geschenk
 - present (as in time) die Gegenwart
 - to present someone with a gift schenken
 - to present (an idea / a character etc) darstellen
- If you ask yourself a series of questions that may help you to choose the correct case for each noun:

Consider the sentence:

The father gives an interesting book to his children.

The father gives his children an interesting book.

Identify verb: gives gibt

1st question	Who gives?			
Answer	The father	Subject	Nominative Case	Der Vater
2nd question	What does he give?			
Answer	an interesting book	Direct Object	Accusative Case	ein interessantes Buch
3rd question	To whom?			
Answer	to his children	Indirect Object	Dative Case	seinen Kindern

Der Vater gibt seinen Kindern ein interessantes Buch.