



Deutsche Grammatik

How German Sentences Work

One idea at a time • B1

Anju Mishra



SURABHI VERLAG

Deutsche Grammatik: How German Sentences Work

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All German and English text in this volume is original, written freshly for this book and graded for learners at level B1 of the Common European Framework, with the A1 and A2 ground it rests on gathered into the opening chapters. The German follows the current *Amtliches Regelwerk* of the Rat für deutsche Rechtschreibung (2024).

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About the author



Anju Mishra came to German the way most of her readers do: as an adult, mid-career, with a life already in motion. After five years in the United States she moved to Germany, where a small daughter with German homework became the best reason imaginable to master the language properly. She did, all the way to C1, and along the way discovered that German is not a mountain of exceptions but a system of patterns. An MBA in finance taught her to look for that structure; teaching learners from around the world taught her how to share it. She lives in Germany with her husband and daughter, who remains her favourite reason to get every *der*, *die* and *das* right.

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How to use this book

German grammar has a reputation it does not deserve. It is not a pile of exceptions to be memorised. It is a small number of ideas, each of which explains a great deal, and this book introduces them one at a time, in the order that makes each one easy. Nothing here is presented before you have a reason to want it.

The road runs in four stages:

1. Chapters 1–3 lay the foundations everything else stands on: the verb and the bracket that holds a German sentence together, gender and the three cases, and the prepositions with the past tense and comparison.
2. Chapters 4–7 dress the noun and tie verbs to their partners: the adjective endings, reflexive verbs, and the verbs that come welded to a preposition.
3. Chapters 8–11 complete the tense system: the written past, the future, the unreal mood, and the passive.
4. Chapters 12–17 build the complex sentence, folding clauses inside clauses, and close the case table with the genitive.

The foot of every page names the strand a chapter belongs to, so you can follow one thread, *The Four Cases* or *Time*, straight through the book if you would rather read that way.

How to read a chapter:

1. Read the German scene first. The highlighted forms are what the chapter teaches; the English mirror below resolves anything unclear. Never look up a word before you have read the scene once.
2. Work through the explanation, and where the chapter has one, the green paradigm card. The card is that chapter in one picture, and it is worth more than any list you could copy out. A few late chapters teach a pattern rather than a set of forms, and those have no card to learn.
3. Read the examples aloud. Every German sentence in this book carries its English underneath, so you are never guessing.
4. Read the amber Watch out panel. It collects the mistakes learners actually make, with the correction beside each.
5. Do the Übungen. Answers are at the back. The last exercise is always yours: write, speak, produce.

*Every chapter carries a level chip, **A1**, **A2** or **B1**, so you can stop wherever your goal is. The chips mark difficulty, not order: two early chapters are A1 or A2 because they gather the ground this book stands on. Work in short visits rather than long ones. Grammar settles overnight, not in an afternoon.*

The videos. The lessons of this series also live on YouTube: vocabulary drills, stories read aloud by German voices, and dialogue practice, all free. Find them on the channel AllesKlarMitAnju, and all books and courses at AllesKlarMitAnju.com.

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THE FOUNDATIONS • CHAPTER 1

Der Satz

Where the verb lives

A1

German word order has a reputation for being free. It is the opposite. Of all the languages you might learn, German is one of the strictest about where the verb goes, and that strictness is a gift: once you know the three places a verb is allowed to stand, you can build any sentence in this book without guessing. Second in a statement, first in a command or a yes-or-no question, last inside a folded clause. This chapter gathers all three into one picture, together with the trick German plays when a verb arrives in two halves. Everything that follows, the tenses, the passive, the folded clauses, is furniture arranged inside it.

— DEUTSCH

SAMSTAGMORGEN. Lena **steht** spät **auf**. In der Küche **sitzt** Oma schon am Tisch.

„Du **hast** sehr lange **geschlafen**“, sagt sie.

„Ich **konnte** nicht einschlafen. Heute **möchte** ich mit Tom ins Kino **gehen**.“

„Ruf ihn an, **wenn du fertig bist**. Aber zuerst frühstückst du.“

„Ich **glaube, dass der Film um acht anfängt**. Wir **haben** also noch Zeit.“

ENGLISH

Saturday morning. Lena gets up late. In the kitchen Grandma is already sitting at the table.

“You slept a very long time,” she says.

“I couldn’t get to sleep. Today I’d like to go to the cinema with Tom.”

“Ring him when you’re ready. But first you’re having breakfast.”

“I think the film starts at eight. So we still have time.”

Position two, the one law

Take any ordinary German statement and count the units in front of the verb. There will be exactly one. Not one word, one unit: a whole time phrase counts as one, a whole subject counts as one. The conjugated verb then follows immediately, in second position, and everything else falls in behind it.

Lena steht spät auf.

Lena is unit one, steht is second

Lena gets up late.

Am Samstag steht Lena spät auf.

the time phrase is unit one, so Lena moves behind

the verb

On Saturday Lena gets up late.

Heute möchte ich ins Kino gehen.

heute is unit one, and the subject waits

Today I'd like to go to the cinema.

Notice what the second and third lines do not do. They do not put the verb third. English is happy to say *on Saturday Lena gets up*, with subject and verb still together. German is not: if something else takes the front seat, the subject steps politely behind the verb. The verb never moves, and everything else arranges itself around it. That single habit will fix more of your German than any vocabulary list.

Ich **wohne** in Köln.

I live in Cologne.

Morgen **fahren** wir nach Berlin.

Tomorrow we are going to Berlin.

Nach der Schule **spielt** Tom Fußball.

After school Tom plays football.

Im Sommer **ist** es hier sehr warm.

In the summer it is very warm here.

Meine Eltern **arbeiten** beide in der Stadt.

My parents both work in town.

That last idea has a bonus you will use constantly. Because a time phrase can hold the front seat, German rarely needs a future tense at all: *Morgen fahren wir nach Berlin* is already tomorrow. The present tense plus a time word does the work, which is why the future in chapter 9 turns out to be a smaller chapter than you expect.

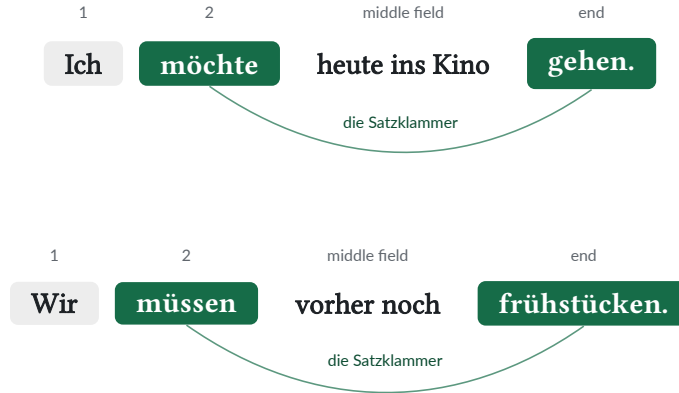
The bracket, three times over

No new position here, but the most German habit of all. Many German verbs arrive in two halves, and the sentence splits them: the conjugated half stays exactly where the last section put it, in position two, and the other half travels to the very end, so that the two of them hold everything else between them like a pair of hands. This is the *Satzklammer*, the sentence bracket, and it is the single most German thing about German. The conjugated half stays loyally in position two. The other half waits at the very end.

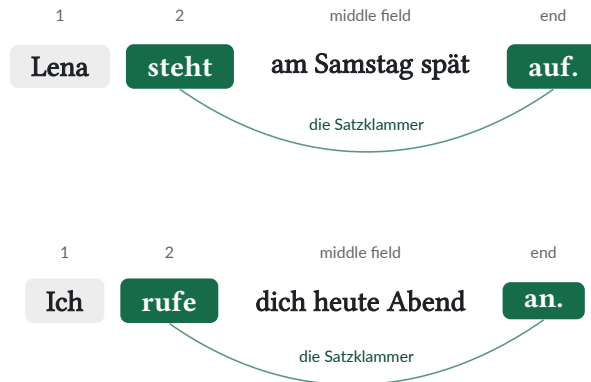
You will meet the bracket in three costumes, and they are the same shape every time.

With a modal verb. *Können, müssen, wollen, dürfen, sollen* and the polite *möchten* take position two and send their partner verb to the end as a bare infinitive, with no *zu* in front of it:

DER SATZ



With a separable verb. A large family of German verbs carries a little prefix that breaks off and travels to the end. Aufstehen becomes ich stehe ... auf, anrufen becomes ich rufe ... an. The place where the prefix breaks away is worth a name, because two later chapters use it: call it the seam.



With the Perfekt. To talk about yesterday, spoken German puts haben or sein in position two and sends a past participle, the Partizip II, to the end:

Die Satzklammer • one shape, three tenants

POSITION TWO	AT THE END	EXAMPLE
modal	bare infinitive	Ich muss jetzt gehen .
verb stem	separable prefix	Ich rufe dich an .
haben / sein	Partizip II	Ich habe gut geschlafen .
werden	bare infinitive	Ich werde bald kommen .

The fourth row is the future, and it is here only to show that nothing new is coming. Chapters 9, 10 and 11 add the future, the unreal mood and the passive to this table without changing its shape once.



Three topics, one shape. Whenever you are unsure where a verb form belongs, ask which half of the bracket it is: the half that changes for ich, du, er goes second, and the half that carries the meaning waits at the end.

Building the Partizip II

Since the Perfekt reappears in four later chapters, its participle deserves its own page. It is built from three parts: *ge-* at the front, the stem in the middle, an ending at the back. Which ending you get depends on which family the verb belongs to.

Weak verbs are the large, obedient majority. The stem does not change and the ending is *-t*:

kaufen *ge* + *kauf* + *t* → *gekauft*

Strong verbs are fewer but far more frequent. They take *-en*, and most of them change their stem vowel on the way:

trinken *ge* + *trunk* + *en* → *getrunken*

Two adjustments to the *ge-* are worth having ready, and both come back later. With a separable verb the *ge-* slips into the seam, exactly where the prefix breaks off: *aufgestanden*, *angerufen*. And with an inseparable verb, one beginning with *be-*, *ver-*, *er-*, *ent-*, *emp-*, *ge-*, *miss-* or *zer-*, the *ge-* vanishes altogether, because there is no seam for it to sit in: *besucht*, *verstanden*, *erzählt*. Verbs built with the borrowed ending *-ieren* drop it too: *studiert*, *telefoniert*. Mind the word *built*: *frieren* and *verlieren* are old German verbs that merely rhyme, and they behave normally, *gefroren* and *verloren*.

Which helper? *Haben* is the safe guess and covers most verbs. *Sein* is for verbs whose subject travels from A to B (*gehen*, *fahren*, *kommen*, *fliegen*)

Partizip II • the strong ones to know cold

gehen → gegangen	gone	nehmen → genommen	taken
kommen → gekommen	come	sprechen → gesprochen	spoken
sehen → gesehen	seen	essen → gegessen	eaten
lesen → gelesen	read	schreiben → geschrieben	written
trinken → getrunken	drunk	finden → gefunden	found

A third, smaller family changes its vowel and takes -t: denken → gedacht, bringen → gebracht, wissen → gewusst, kennen → gekannt. These shape-shifters return in chapter 8.

or changes state (einschlafen, aufwachen, werden), plus the small club sein, bleiben, passieren. The sharper half of that rule: sein needs the subject to be the one travelling, with no accusative object such as a vehicle. Give the same verb one and it returns to haben: Ich bin nach Köln gefahren, but Ich habe das Auto gefahren. A dative object changes nothing, which is why folgen and begegnen keep sein: Ich bin ihm gefolgt.

Ich **habe** gestern ein Buch **gelesen**.

I read a book yesterday.

Wir **sind** um zehn **aufgestanden**.

We got up at ten.

Sie **hat** mich gestern **angerufen**.

She rang me yesterday.

Tom **ist** spät **eingeschlafen**.

Tom fell asleep late.

Wir haben unsere Oma besucht.

We visited our grandma.

The front seat: questions and commands

The second place a verb can stand is position one, and two jobs will account for nearly every case you meet.

A yes-or-no question simply moves the verb one seat forward. There is no German word for English *do*: Du trinkst Tee becomes Trinkst du Tee? A command does the same and drops the du or ihr: Ruf ihn an!, Komm bitte!, Sei leise! The polite form keeps its pronoun, behind the verb: Kommen Sie bitte!

A question with a question word behaves differently, and it is worth seeing why. The W-word itself takes the front seat, so the verb is back in its beloved position two and the law never bends at all:

Trinkst du Tee?

Do you drink tea?

Hast du heute Zeit?

Do you have time today?

Wo ist der Schlüssel?

Where is the key?

Wann fängt der Film an?

When does the film start?

Warum kommst du nicht mit?*Why aren't you coming along?*

The W-words are wer (who), was (what), wo (where), wohin (where to), woher (where from), wann (when), warum (why) and wie (how). Keep them in view: chapter 16 folds every one of them inside a larger sentence, and ob joins them there as the word for *whether*. Position one has a few rarer tenants as well, wishes and exclamations among them, but questions and commands are what you will build with it.

One word on saying no, because it appears in every chapter of this book. Nicht negates verbs, adjectives, and nouns that already carry der or mein. Kein negates a noun that has ein or no article at all, replacing the ein and taking its endings: kein Problem, keine Zeit, keinen Hunger.

The Nebensatz: the verb walks to the end

Here is the third and last place, and the one the whole of this book depends on. A small set of words folds a sentence inside another sentence, and inside that folded clause the conjugated verb leaves position two and walks all the way to the end, behind everything:

Ich bleibe zu Hause. Es regnet.

two plain sentences

I am staying at home. It is raining.

Ich bleibe zu Hause, weil es regnet.

weil sends the verb to the end

I am staying at home because it is raining.

Die Türöffner • four words that move the verb**weil** because ..., weil es regnet.**dass** that ..., dass du recht hast.**wenn** when, if ..., wenn es regnet.**ob** whether ..., ob der Bus kommt.

Compare the joiners und, aber, oder, denn and sondern. Those sit outside the sentence and move nothing at all: Ich bleibe zu Hause, denn es regnet.

Ich glaube, dass der Film um acht anfängt. even a separable verb reunites there
I think the film starts at eight.

The comma between the two clauses is compulsory, not optional. And notice the third line: inside a Nebensatz a separable verb becomes one word again, because the stem and its prefix meet at the same spot. In the Perfekt the participle keeps its place and the little helper stands dead last: ..., weil der Bus nicht gekommen ist.

A Nebensatz can also take the front seat of the main sentence, and then something worth watching happens. The whole clause counts as unit one, so the main verb must come immediately after the comma, and two verbs meet back to back across it:

Wenn es regnet, bleiben wir zu Hause.*When it rains, we stay at home.***Weil der Bus nicht kommt, gehen wir zu Fuß.***Because the bus is not coming, we are walking.*

Ich weiß nicht, **ob** er heute **kommt**.

I don't know whether he is coming today.

Ruf mich an, **wenn** du fertig **bist**.

Ring me when you're ready.

Verb, comma, verb. Once you can hear that shape, the relative clauses of chapter 13 and the indirect questions of chapter 16 will feel like old furniture in a new room.

Watch out

✗ *Am Samstag Lena steht spät auf.*

✓ *Am Samstag steht Lena spät auf.* On Saturday Lena gets up late.

The time phrase has taken the front seat, so the verb comes straight after it and the subject waits behind. Only one unit may stand in front of the verb.

✗ *Ich habe gestern gelesen ein Buch.*

✓ *Ich habe gestern ein Buch gelesen.* I read a book yesterday.

The bracket closes with the participle, and the object lives inside it, not behind. Very little may follow that closing word: a comparison with *als* may, and a whole clause may, but never a plain object.

✗ *Ich bin nach Hause gegangen und habe eingeschlafen.*

✓ *Ich bin nach Hause gegangen und eingeschlafen.* I went home and fell asleep.

Einschlafen is a change of state, so it takes *sein*, and the *bin* already there serves both verbs.

Watch out (continued)

× *Ich komme nicht mit, weil ich habe nicht Zeit.*

✓ *Ich komme nicht mit, weil ich keine Zeit habe.* I'm not coming along, because I haven't got time.

Two slips at once. Inside a Nebensatz the verb is the last word, and a noun carrying ein is negated with kein, not nicht.

Three places, one law. The verb stands second in a statement, first in a command or a yes-or-no question, and last inside a folded clause. A question with a W-word is no exception: the question word takes the front seat and the verb is second again. Everything this book adds from here, new tenses, the passive, longer sentences, is poured into those three shapes without altering them.

Übungen • Exercises

Exercise 1. Put the sentence back together, starting with the phrase given. Mind position two.

Beispiel: (am Samstag) Lena steht spät auf. → Am Samstag steht Lena spät auf.

1. (morgen) Wir fahren nach Berlin.
2. (nach der Schule) Tom spielt Fußball.
3. (heute Abend) Ich rufe dich an.
4. (im Sommer) Es ist hier sehr warm.

Übungen (continued)

Exercise 2. Build the bracket with the verbs in brackets. Three are modal or separable; the last one is a Perfekt, so it needs a participle.

Beispiel: ich / heute ins Kino (möchten, gehen) → Ich möchte heute ins Kino gehen.

- 1. wir / vorher noch (müssen, frühstücken)**
- 2. Lena / am Samstag spät (aufstehen)**
- 3. ich / dich heute Abend (anrufen)**
- 4. du / sehr lange (haben, schlafen)**

Übungen (continued)

Exercise 3. Haben or sein? Put in the helper and the Partizip II.

1. Ich _____ gestern ein Buch _____ (lesen).
2. Wir _____ um zehn _____ (aufstehen).
3. Sie _____ mich gestern _____ (anrufen).
4. Tom _____ spät _____ (einschlafen).
5. Wir _____ unsere Oma _____ (besuchen).

Exercise 4. Fold the second sentence in with the word given.

Beispiel: Ich bleibe zu Hause. Es regnet. (weil) → Ich bleibe zu Hause, weil es regnet.

1. Ich glaube. Der Film fängt um acht an. (dass)
2. Ruf mich an. Du bist fertig. (wenn)
3. Ich weiß nicht. Er kommt heute. (ob)
4. Wir gehen zu Fuß. Der Bus kommt nicht. (weil)

Exercise 5. Ask, order, deny. Rewrite as instructed.

1. Du trinkst Tee. → make it a yes-or-no question
2. Du rufst ihn an. → make it a command to du
3. Der Film beginnt um acht. → ask with wann
4. Ich habe Zeit. → deny it
5. Das ist mein Hund. → deny it

Exercise 6. Your turn.

Describe last Saturday in five sentences: two in the Perfekt, one with a modal, one with a separable verb, and one containing a weil-clause. Begin at least two of them with something other than the subject.



THE FOUNDATIONS • CHAPTER 2

Nomen und Fälle

Three hats and three cases

A2

Every German noun wears a hat it never takes off, *der, die* or *das*, and that little word does more work than any other in the language. It is the article that carries the clearest signal of who is doing what to whom, and it is where you should look first; the noun joins in only in a couple of places, and you will meet both of them in this book. Learn to hear those changes and the case system stops being a wall and becomes a single small table. This chapter builds that table, and every adjective ending and relative pronoun in this book is read off it.

— DEUTSCH

Am Sonntag hat Oma Geburtstag. Lena kauft **der** Oma einen Blumenstrauß und schenkt **ihr** auch eine Karte.

Tom bringt **einen Kuchen**. Alle essen **den Kuchen**, und **der Hund** bekommt **ein Stück**.

„Der Strauß gefällt **mir** sehr“, sagt Oma. „Ich danke **euch**.“

Am Abend hilft Lena **ihrem Vater** in der Küche. **Man** spült zusammen schneller.

ENGLISH

On Sunday it is Grandma's birthday. Lena buys Grandma a bouquet and gives her a card as well.

Tom brings a cake. Everyone eats the cake, and the dog gets a piece.

"I love the bouquet," says Grandma. "Thank you."

In the evening Lena helps her father in the kitchen. Washing up together goes faster.

Three hats, and the signals worth trusting

German gender is grammatical, not biological. A table is not male and a lamp is not female; the article simply belongs to the word. The proof is das Mädchen, the girl, which is neuter because the shrinking ending -chen outranks the meaning.

You cannot guess a gender from English, but a handful of endings give it away reliably enough to build on:

The plural brings one piece of genuinely good news: gender disappears there, and every plural noun takes die. The plural itself is formed in five ways, -e (die Brote), -er (die Kinder), -n or -en (die Lampen, die Frauen), -s (die Autos) and nothing at all (die Äpfel), often with an umlaut on the way.

Verlässliche Signale • endings that give the gender away

-ung, -heit, -keit	die	-chen, -lein	das
-tion, -sion	die	-er (doers)	der
-e (mostly)	die	days, months, seasons	der
-schaft, -ei, -in	die	-o (loanwords, mostly)	das

Mind the word *ending* twice over. Der Kuchen was never a small Ku, so its -chen is not the shrinking suffix at all. And the -er row means the suffix that turns a verb into its doer, *lehren* → *der Lehrer*, *fahren* → *der Fahrer*: die Mutter and die Schwester merely end in those letters. Der Euro, der Espresso and der Zoo ignore the -o row.

No rule predicts which, so learn every noun as a package: *der Apfel*, *die Äpfel*.

Three cases, one table

Now the machinery. A German sentence marks the job each noun is doing, and it marks it on the article. Three cases carry almost everything you will meet; the fourth, the genitive, waits for chapter 17.

The nominative is the subject, the one doing or being. The accusative is what the action is aimed at. The dative is the one the action arrives at, the receiver. Those three pictures are a way in, not a definition. What really decides a case is the verb in front of the noun and the preposition before it, and the last section of this chapter and the whole of chapter 3 are about exactly that. But the pictures fit thousands of ordinary sentences, so start with them.

Die drei Fälle • the whole table

	MASKULIN	FEMININ	NEUTRUM	PLURAL
Nominativ	der	die	das	die
Akkusativ	den	die	das	die
Dativ	dem	der	dem	den ...n

ein-, Nom. **ein** eine ein —

ein-, Akk. **einen** eine ein —

ein-, Dat. **einem** einer einem —

Twelve cells, and only five differ from the top row. The accusative changes the masculine and nothing else. The dative wears -m and -r: dem, der, dem, and den with an extra -n on the noun (den Kindern) unless the plural already ends in -n or -s. Kein, mein, dein, sein, ihr, unser and euer take the same endings, and unlike ein they do have a plural: keine Ideen, mit meinen Freunden.

Two signals are worth memorising as sounds rather than as cells, because every adjective ending in this book echoes them: the masculine carries an -r (der), the neuter an -s (das). When an article hides one of those, the adjective picks it up instead, which is the entire content of chapters 4 and 5.

Watch one noun walk through all three, changing nothing but its hat:

Der Mann wartet vor der Tür.

he is doing something: nominative

The man is waiting outside the door.

Ich sehe **den Mann** vor der Tür.

the seeing is aimed at him: accusative

I see the man outside the door.

Ich gebe **dem Mann** den Schlüssel.

the key arrives at him: dative

I give the man the key.

Only the little word in front changed, three times, and Mann itself never moved. That is the case system in one picture. The noun joins in only twice in this book: in the dative plural, den Kindern, and in the genitive of chapter 17.

Der Hund holt **den Ball**.

The dog fetches the ball.

Tom bringt **einen Kuchen**.

Tom brings a cake.

Lena schenkt **ihrer Mutter** einen Schal.

Lena gives her mother a scarf.

Wir fahren mit **dem Bus** in die Stadt.

We take the bus into town.

Der Kellner bringt **den Gästen** die Rechnung.

The waiter brings the guests the bill.

Ich habe **keinen Hunger**.

I am not hungry.



Die Pronomen • nominative, accusative, dative

NOM.	AKK.	DAT.	NOM.	AKK.	DAT.
ich	mich	mir	wir	uns	uns
du	dich	dir	ihr	euch	euch
er	ihn	ihm	sie	sie	ihnen
sie	sie	ihr	Sie	Sie	Ihnen
es	es	ihm			

The pronouns

Replace a noun with a pronoun and the case does not disappear; it moves into the word itself. These are worth knowing cold, because chapter 6 builds the reflexive verbs directly on them.

Ich sehe **ihn** morgen.

I am seeing him tomorrow.

Kannst du **mir** helfen?

Can you help me?

Der Kuchen gehört **ihnen**.

The cake belongs to them.

Ich rufe **dich** heute Abend an.

I'll ring you this evening.

Der Strauß gefällt **mir** sehr.

I like the bouquet very much.

Verben mit Dativ • learn the verb, not a rule

helfen	to help	gefallen	to please, to like
danken	to thank	gehören	to belong to
antworten	to answer	folgen	to follow
schmecken	to taste good to	passen	to fit, to suit

Ich helfe dir, never ich helfe dich. These verbs come with the dative attached, the way English *listen* comes with *to*. Nobody asks why.

Verbs that insist on the dative

Here is where the receiver picture runs out, and it is better to meet that now than to be ambushed by it later. A small family of very common verbs takes a dative object even though nobody receives anything at all. Their English cousins take a plain object, which is exactly why they trip English speakers: you help *someone*, you thank *someone*.

The same holds in reverse: a preposition brings its own case with it, and no picture will tell you which one. Chapter 3 hands you all of them on a single page.

Two little stand-in words finish the chapter. Man means people in general, nobody in particular, and always takes the er-form of the verb: Man spült zusammen schneller. It covers people only, never animals. And es is the grammatical subject of the weather and of events with no doer: Es regnet, Es klingelt. It is the grammatical subject and not a mere placeholder, so it

stays even when something else opens the sentence: Im Winter schneit es oft. Chapter 11 uses man as the everyday way round the passive.

Watch out

× *Ich helfe dich.*

✓ *Ich helfe dir.* I am helping you.

Helfen is one of the dative verbs. English gives no warning here, so the verb has to be learned together with its case.

× *Der Hund holt der Ball.*

✓ *Der Hund holt den Ball.* The dog fetches the ball.

One doer, one target. The doer wears der, the target wears den; the masculine is the only article that changes in the accusative.

× *Sie hilft den Kinder.*

✓ *Sie hilft den Kindern.* She helps the children.

In the dative plural the noun collects a final -n of its own, on top of the article.

× *Das ist meine kleine Bruder.*

✓ *Das ist mein kleiner Bruder.* That is my little brother.

Mein takes no ending in the masculine nominative, so the -r of der moves onto the adjective instead. Chapter 5 is built on exactly this.

Twelve cells, eight pronouns and one short list of awkward verbs. That is the whole case system you need until the genitive arrives in the last chapter, and every adjective ending in this book is only these signals moving one word to the right.

Übungen • Exercises

Exercise 1. Nominative, accusative or dative? Put in der, den or dem.

1. _____ Hund holt _____ Ball.
2. Ich fahre mit _____ Bus.
3. Tom hilft _____ Vater.
4. _____ Kuchen schmeckt allen.
5. Wir besuchen _____ Lehrer. (der Lehrer)

Exercise 2. Put in the right pronoun.

1. Kannst du _____ helfen? (ich)
2. Ich sehe _____ morgen. (er)
3. Der Kuchen gehört _____. (sie, plural)
4. Ich rufe _____ heute Abend an. (du)
5. Der Film gefällt _____ nicht. (wir)

Übungen (continued)

Exercise 3. Dative verb or not? Choose the right form.

1. Ich danke (dich / dir).
2. Ich frage (dich / dir).
3. Der Mantel gefällt (mich / mir).
4. Lena besucht (ihn / ihm).
5. Das Buch gehört (meinen Bruder / meinem Bruder).

Exercise 4. Put in ein, eine, einen, einem or einer.

1. Ich habe _____ Bruder.
2. Lena schenkt _____ Freundin ein Buch.
3. Wir wohnen in _____ kleinen Haus.
4. Tom bringt _____ Kuchen.
5. Ich fahre mit _____ Freund nach Köln.

Exercise 5. Der, die or das? Then give the plural.

Beispiel: Zeitung → die Zeitung, die Zeitungen

1. Wohnung 2. Mädchen 3. Lehrer 4. Auto 5. Freiheit 6. Apfel

Exercise 6. Man or es? Put in the missing word.

1. _____ regnet schon wieder.
2. In Deutschland isst _____ viel Brot.
3. Im Winter schneit _____ oft.
4. Wie schreibt _____ das?
5. _____ klingelt an der Tür.

Übungen (continued)

Exercise 7. Your turn.

Write five sentences about a birthday: who gives what to whom. Use at least one dative verb from the card, one pronoun in the dative, and one plural in the dative with its extra -n.

Answers

Where an exercise asks you to write your own German, the key gives one sample answer. Yours will differ, and that is the point: check that the pattern is right, not that the words match.

Chapter 1 • Where the verb lives

Exercise 1: 1. Morgen fahren wir nach Berlin. 2. Nach der Schule spielt Tom Fußball. 3. Heute Abend rufe ich dich an. 4. Im Sommer ist es hier sehr warm.

Exercise 2: 1. Wir müssen vorher noch frühstücken. 2. Lena steht am Samstag spät auf. 3. Ich rufe dich heute Abend an. 4. Du hast sehr lange geschlafen.

Exercise 3: 1. habe ... gelesen 2. sind ... aufgestanden 3. hat ... angerufen 4. ist ... eingeschlafen 5. haben ... besucht

Exercise 4: 1. Ich glaube, dass der Film um acht anfängt. 2. Ruf mich an, wenn du fertig bist. 3. Ich weiß nicht, ob er heute kommt. 4. Wir gehen zu Fuß, weil der Bus nicht kommt.

Exercise 5: 1. Trinkst du Tee? 2. Ruf ihn an! (Rufe ihn an! is equally correct) 3. Wann beginnt der Film? 4. Ich habe keine Zeit. 5. Das ist nicht mein Hund.

Exercise 6: Answers will vary. Sample answer: Am Samstag bin ich spät aufgestanden. Ich habe lange gefrühstückt. Dann wollte ich ins Kino gehen. Um vier habe ich Tom angerufen. Wir sind zu Fuß gegangen, weil der Bus nicht gekommen ist.

Chapter 2 • Three hats and three cases

Exercise 1: 1. Der ... den 2. dem 3. dem 4. Der 5. den

Exercise 2: 1. mir 2. ihn 3. ihnen 4. dich 5. uns

Exercise 3: 1. dir 2. dich 3. mir 4. ihn 5. meinem Bruder

Exercise 4: 1. einen 2. einer 3. einem 4. einen 5. einem

Exercise 5: 1. die Wohnung, die Wohnungen 2. das Mädchen, die Mädchen 3. der Lehrer, die Lehrer 4. das Auto, die Autos 5. die Freiheit, die Freiheiten 6. der Apfel, die Äpfel

Exercise 6: 1. Es 2. man 3. es 4. man 5. Es

Exercise 7: Answers will vary. Sample answer: Am Sonntag hat meine Mutter Geburtstag. Ich schenke ihr ein Buch. Mein Bruder bringt einen Kuchen. Der Kuchen schmeckt allen Gästen sehr gut. Die Blumen gefallen ihr sehr.

Read the rest.

The full book is available at AllesKlarMitAnju.com

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