

## Introduction

Hello! My name is Shallon Rohrer, and I'm excited to teach you about the German language. German has been a passion of mine for over half of my life. I started taking classes when I was in ninth grade. My first time in Germany was on a ten-day trip with my German teacher and other students from class. The year after I graduated high school, I was a Rotary Club exchange student for a year living in Altenburg and surrounding areas, which is in the German state of Thuringia.

After that, I attended Millersville University, and I spent my junior year of high school in Germany. I studied at the Philips Universität Marburg in the German state of Hesse. In 2007, I graduated from Millersville with a Bachelor of Arts degree in German and two minors—History and English Linguistics. Now I'm a homeschooling mom to my five children. For the past six years, I've been teaching high school level German classes at our homeschool co-op. I pursued writing a German curriculum for [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](http://SchoolhouseTeachers.com) because I saw that it wasn't a course already offered on their website, and I want to share my love of German with a broader audience. I hope you learn to enjoy German as much as I do!

In German 1, students can expect to learn the foundations of German grammar and vocabulary with some cultural information as well. We will be working on the four areas of language learning: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will have a greater chance of being successful in this course by figuring out a steady pattern of learning early on.

Each week's lessons are broken into smaller chunks. Learning German (or any subject) is much easier if you work on it in shorter sessions on more days during the week, as opposed to longer cram sessions once or twice a week. As you learn new material, don't forget to review grammar and vocabulary you've already learned. You can look up Spaced Repetition System online to find helpful information about learning vocabulary more effectively.

## Unit 1

### Week 1: Greetings, Introductions, and Farewells

#### Day 1

In this lesson, you're going to learn some different ways to say hello, goodbye, and introduce yourself.

Look at the list of vocabulary. Access the Week 1 Day 1 Vocabulary PowerPoint file to hear and practice the pronunciation of the vocabulary words.

#### Begrüßungen und Abschiede – Greetings and Farewells

1. Guten Morgen: good morning
2. Guten Tag: hello, good day
3. Guten Abend: good evening
4. Gute Nacht: good night
5. Hallo: hello, hi (informal)
6. Grüß dich: hi, hello (more common in southern Germany)
7. Servus: hi, hello (Austria and southern Germany)
8. Grüetzi: hi, hello (Switzerland)
9. Tschüs: bye (informal)
10. Auf Wiedersehen: goodbye (more formal)
11. Bis später: See you later
12. Bis bald: See you soon

German has some language variations similar to English. A person might say a particular greeting depending on what time of day it is or who he/she is talking to. There are also regional and country dialect differences as you can see in numbers six through eight. This is not an exhaustive list of all the ways to say hello, but these are the basic ones you should know. Numbers nine through twelve give some examples for saying goodbye. We will talk more about formal and informal language in the next lesson, but please be sure to memorize the situational notes in parentheses as well as the vocabulary words themselves.

**Tip:** Flashcards are a great way to practice vocabulary. You can either write on physical cards (3x5 index cards or something similar), or you can make digital flashcards on a website such as

[www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com) or <https://ankipro.net>. When possible, try to add a picture to your flashcards. Pictures are more memorable, especially when they are meaningful to you.

## Day 2

Today we'll look at some questions and answers for a basic conversation about introducing yourself and getting to know someone else. Access the Week 1 Day 2 Vocabulary PowerPoint file to hear and practice the pronunciation of the vocabulary words.

### Persönliche Informationen

1. Wie heißt du?: What's your name? (informal)
2. Wie heißen Sie?: What's your name? (formal)
3. Ich heiße...: My name is ...
4. Wo wohnst du?: Where do you live? (informal)
5. Wo wohnen Sie?: Where do you live? (formal)
6. Ich wohne in...: I live in...
7. Woher kommst du?: Where are you from? (informal)
8. Woher kommen Sie?: Where are you from? (formal)
9. Ich komme aus...: I come from...
10. Wie geht es dir? / Wie geht's?: How are you? (informal)
11. Wie geht es Ihnen?: How are you? (formal)
12. Sehr gut, danke! Und dir?: Very well, thanks. And you?
13. Gut, danke. Und dir?: Fine, thanks. And you?
14. Es geht. Und dir?: I'm so-so. And you?
15. Nicht so gut. Und dir?: Not so good. And you?

You'll see that there are differences between formal and informal language, which should be memorized along with the German sentences themselves. Be sure to listen to the pronunciation guide multiple times. Take note of how the words sound and practice repeating them.

Study your flashcards and add any new ones that will be helpful to you. Be sure to add pictures whenever possible. Practice pronunciation of vocabulary so far.

## Day 3

### Practice Exercises

Which greeting would you say in these situations?

1. Around 1:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
2. 9:00 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Saying hello to your friends \_\_\_\_\_
4. In Switzerland \_\_\_\_\_
5. 6:00pm \_\_\_\_\_
6. In Austria \_\_\_\_\_
7. In southern Germany \_\_\_\_\_

Which farewell would you say in these situations?

1. Speaking to your parents when it's bedtime \_\_\_\_\_
2. You'll be seeing your friend again later that evening \_\_\_\_\_
3. Saying goodbye to your teacher \_\_\_\_\_
4. Saying goodbye to your friends \_\_\_\_\_

Study your flashcards to memorize vocabulary. Practice pronunciation of vocabulary so far.

## Day 4

### Practice Exercises

How would you respond when asked these questions?

1. Wie geht's? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Wo wohnst du? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Wie heißt du? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Woher kommst du? \_\_\_\_\_

Which question goes along with these responses?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - Ich heiße Sabine.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Ich komme aus den USA.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - Gut, danke. Und dir?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - Ich wohne in Pennsylvania.

Study your flashcards to memorize vocabulary. Practice pronunciation of vocabulary so far.

## Day 5

Record yourself saying the vocabulary sentences. Compare your words to the ones in the PowerPoint. Practice more on the words you're not as good at.

Study your flashcards to memorize vocabulary.