



Wie ist deine Schule?

der	Eingang (-e)	entrance	die	Bibliothek (-en)	library	die	Versammlung (-en)	assembly	das	Sekretariat (-e)	admin office
der	Gang (-e)	corridor	die	Mensa (-s)	dining hall, canteen	die	Zeitschrift (-en)	magazine		draußen	outside
der	Neubau (-ten)	new build	die	Pause (-n)	break	das	Gebäude (-)	building		gemischt	mixed
der	Schüler (-)	pupil, (m)	die	Schülerin (-nen)	pupil, student (f)	das	Gymnasium (-)	grammar school		anfangen	to start
der	Sprachunterricht (-e)	language lessons	die	Theatervorführung (-en)	theatre show	das	Labor (-e)	laboratory		erfahren	to find out
der	Schulhof (-e)	school yard	die	Turnhalle (-n)	sports hall, gym	das	Lehrerzimmer (-)	staffroom		plaudern	to chat
die	Aula (Aulen)	school hall	die	Veranstaltung (-en)	event	das	Sprachlabor (-e)	language lab		umbauen	to rebuild

Welche Schularten gibt es?

der	Abschluss (-e)	qualification	die	Hauptschule (-n)	type of school	die	Schulleiterin (-nen)	head teacher (f)		angelastet	full/busy
der	Direktor (-en)	head teacher (m)	die	Hausmeisterin (-nen)	caretaker (f)	das	Abitur (-e)	A-level		angenehm	pleasant
der	Hausmeister (-)	caretaker (m)	die	Hauswirtschaft (-en)	home economics	das	Bundesland (-er)	state (of Germany)		selbstständig	independent
der	Internat (-e)	boarding school	die	Klassenarbeit (-en)	test	das	Pflichtfach (-er)	compulsory subject		glücklicherweise	fortunately
der	Schulleiter (-)	head teacher (m)	die	Note (-n)	mark/grade	das	Schulsystem (-e)	school system		mindestens	at least
die	Direktorin (-nen)	head teacher (f)	die	Oberstufe (-n)	sixth form	das	Wahlfach (-er)	optional subject		bestehen	to pass
die	Ganztagsschule (-n)	all-day school	die	Prüfung (-en)	exam	das	Werken	handicraft		scheitern	to fail
die	Gesamtschule (-n)	comp. school	die	Realschule (-n)	type of school	das	Zeugnis (-se)	school report		vorbereiten	to prepare

Using the prepositions seit and vor

Both prepositions are used when talking about how long something has been going on.

Seit means 'since' or 'for':

Remember that with *seit* you need to use the present tense in German.

Ich wohne seit 2012 hier. (I have been living here since 2012.)

Remember that *seit* is used with the dative.

Er geht seit einem Jahr in diese Schule. (He has been going to this school for one year.)

The preposition *vor* means 'ago' and is also used with the dative. Unlike in English, it comes before the time:

vor einem Jahr (one year ago)

vor drei Wochen (three weeks ago)

Vor zehn Jahren war meine Schule sehr klein. (Ten years ago my school was very small.)

Also learn about adjective endings after *etwas, nichts, viel, wenig, alles*. See page 154.

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Using infinitive constructions (*um ... zu, ohne ... zu*)

Use *um ... zu* to express 'in order to ...'. This construction must be followed by an **infinitive** and should be separated from another clause in the sentence by a **comma**:

Man braucht das Abitur, um an der Uni zu studieren. (You need the Abitur to study at university.)

The construction *ohne ... zu* means 'without doing ...':

Er lebt in der Schule, ohne am Abend nach Hause zu gehen.

(He lives at school without going home in the evening.)

Also learn how to use the correct tense with *seit*. See page 154.

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Using *du / ihr / Sie* in informal and formal situations

The relationship between teacher and pupil is formal, therefore pupils in Germany always use the *Sie* form when addressing a teacher. A teacher uses *du* to address one pupil and *ihr* to address the whole class. Pupils use *du* and *ihr* when speaking to each other. In German schools teachers might start to address pupils as *Sie* at a certain point, for example in the 10. Klasse when pupils are turning 16.

Challenge: Think of some questions about school in Germany: three questions using the *du* form to ask a German pupil, and three using the *Sie* form to ask a German teacher.

Strategie

German Grading System

1 = sehr gut	very good
2 = gut	good
3 = befriedigend	satisfactory, fair
4 = ausreichend	sufficient, pass (just)
5 = mangelhaft	poor, unsatisfactory,
6 = ungenügend	extremely poor,

German Schools

Der Kindergarten = nursery

Die Grundschule = primary school

die Realschule = vocational school

die Gesamtschule = comprehensive school

das Gymnasium = grammar school



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Ein typischer Schultag.

der	Umkleideraum (-e)	changing room	typisch	typical	dauern	to last	sich konzentrieren	to concentrate
die	Mittagspause (-n)	lunch break	schlimm	bad	einschlafen	to go to sleep	sich rasieren	to shave
das	Aufstehen	getting up	bis	until, to	nachsitzen	to have a detention	sich schminken	to put on make-up
das	Ereignis (-se)	event	vor	before	schwätzen	to chat	sich umziehen	to get changed
das	Schach	chess	selten	rarely, seldom	sich anziehen	to get dressed	sich waschen	to get washed
	faul	lazy	sofort	straight away	sich ausziehen	to get undressed	sitzen	to sit
	fleißig	hardworking	aufwachen	to wake up	sich die Zähne putzen	to clean teeth	verlassen	to leave
	früh	early	aufstehen	to get up	sich duschen	to shower	verlieren	to lose

Aspekte des Schullebens.

der	Austausch (-e)	exchange	bequem	comfortable	wahnsinnig	crazy	korrigieren	to correct, to mark
der	Erfolg (-e)	success	fleißig	hard-working	trotzdem	nevertheless	merken	to notice
der	Notendruck	pressure to get good marks	gestreift	striped	aufpassen	to pay attention	schaffen	to get, to achieve, to manage
die	AG (-s)	extra-curricular activity	hilfreich	helpful	blau machen	to play truant, to skip school	schwänzen	to play truant, to skip school
die	Nachprüfung (-en)	re-sit	mündlich	oral	durchfallen	to fail (exam / test)	sitzen bleiben	to repeat a school year
die	Regel (-n)	rule	ungerecht	unfair	erklären	to explain	sich entspannen	to relax

Revising reflexive verbs

Remember that reflexive verbs often have the sense of doing something to yourself. So the verb *waschen* is to wash, but *sich waschen* is to wash oneself (though we would usually say to get washed in English). With reflexive verbs, you need to use the reflexive pronouns *mich, dich, sich, uns, euch, sich* to agree with the subject. Here are some examples:

Ich dusche mich. (I have a shower.)

Er zieht sich an. (He gets dressed.)

Wir putzen uns die Zähne. (We clean our teeth.)

In the perfect tense, the reflexive pronoun goes after *haben*:

Wir haben uns umgezogen. (We got changed.)

Also learn how to use the imperative. See page 155.

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Using common subjunctive forms

These are the forms of the subjunctive that you will come across most often:

<i>ich könnte</i>	I could
<i>ich sollte</i>	I ought to
<i>ich würde</i>	I would
<i>ich möchte</i>	I would like
<i>ich wäre</i>	I would be
<i>ich hätte</i>	I would have
<i>ich hätte gern</i>	I would like
<i>ich müsste</i>	I would have to

Usually, the first three in this list will be followed by an infinitive at the end of the sentence or clause:
Wir könnten Berlin besuchen.

Die Schüler sollten fleißiger sein.

Also revise the comparative and the superlative. See page 155.

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Recognising different ways of saying the time

The time 7.15 can be said as *Viertel nach sieben* (quarter past seven) or *sieben Uhr fünfzehn* (seven fifteen). 9.55 could be *fünf vor zehn* (five to ten) or *neun Uhr fünfundfünfzig* (nine fifty-five). Be aware of this in listening tasks. In German the 24-hour clock is often used, so 22.00 could be said as *zweiundzwanzig Uhr*, but also as *zehn Uhr abends*.

Be especially careful when you hear times such as *halb eins* (12.30), which can be confusing for English speakers.