The purpose of this newsletter is to offer tips for beginner students and intermediate students of German. Each week there will be a featured article, a grammar topic, a vocabulary topic and an article written auf Deutsch. This is the final volume for the semester and the details of the meeting on April 12 will be discussed.

**FOR BEGINNER AND INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS OF GERMAN—TIPS FOR LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**SIX THINGS SUCCESSFUL LANGUAGE LEARNERS DO/HAVE**

**Nummer 1: Geduld (patience)**- If you do not understand native speakers after one or two semesters of German, don’t give up! Keep track of your victories. Learning a new language is not an overnight process.

**Nummer 2: Routine /ruˈtiːn/** - The foreign language you are learning should be blended into your everyday life.

Set your phone in German, download language learning apps, and add German music to your phone. Every day you should spend a few minutes hearing, reading, speaking, or writing the language. The more you practice, the more natural it becomes.

**No more meetings for the year. The semester is finally over. Enjoy your summer break!**

**Nummer 3: Organisation /ˈɔɡənaɪzən/** - Languages are composed of thousands and thousands of words. There are also numerous grammar rules. Having a notebook in which you neatly write new words will save you the frustration of keeping up with several lists. You will also be able to use your time more wisely since you can review everything with just one book!
Nummer 4: Wiederholung (repetition)-
Having organized notes will help you to memorize new things you learn, but you have to repeat them! Use different exercise books, watch different educational videos, but don’t forget to repeat.

Nummer 5: Motivation / motivaˈtsjoːn/ -
If you’re not motivated about learning the language, you’re not going to show it the love and discipline needed to one day understand and speak it. Think about all that you have learned so far. Think about the happy feeling you got after your first short conversation in German. Keep your motivation up! A positive approach is more effective than a negative attitude.

Nummer 6: Ziele (Goals)- One good way to keep yourself motivated is to set little goals for the day or week (such as: Today, I will do all the exercises in chapter 1. Tomorrow, I will learn 20 vocabulary words.) Big goals are also necessary. Do you want to read literature in the original language? Do you want to travel abroad and speak the language with natives? Make small goals to keep yourself busy, and big goals to keep you looking forward to your success.

FEATURED ARTICLE: “THE CURRYWURST MUSEUM” BY CHITARA ELLIS

Imagine a museum in Washington D.C. that’s all about cheeseburgers. Every exhibit celebrates the history and popularity of the cheeseburger. You can eat a cheeseburger while gazing at a cheeseburger statue then go to the gift shop to buy a book about cheeseburgers! A museum centered around a fast food dish may seem ridiculous, but one exists for currywurst in Berlin. What is currywurst?
It’s a popular dish in Germany made from fried pork sausage topped with curry ketchup and curry powder. Visitors at Deutsches Currywurst Museum can make, eat, and smell various flavors of currywurst in interactive exhibits. Kids can meet the worm-shaped mascot QWoo during special events or have their parents buy a small plush version of him from the museum’s shop. Even though there’s a wiener couch and ketchup inspired ceiling decor, Deutsches Currywurst Museum is not all fun and games. Visitors can also learn about the life of Herta Heuwer, the inventor of the beloved meat-treat.

Is das Deutsche Currywurst Museum worth visiting? It barely reaches three stars on Yelp and one adult ticket costs 11,00€ ($11.72). Nevertheless, it’s a novelty worth seeing. Where else can you sit on a wiener couch?
DETAILS OF THE MEETING ON APRIL 12 AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE GERMAN CLUB:

Nine students were present during our meeting on April 12. Each person expressed their wishes for future events and planning of the German club. Some of the ideas discussed were: a day trip to Helen, GA (for the meme, rather than serious German culture study), volunteering with organizations through Hands on Atlanta (such as Trees Atlanta or Edgewood Community Garden—since the Germans are very environmentally conscious and love to have gardens), additional film screenings on campus, off-campus visits to cafes or movie theaters, and a creative competition for all students (either an essay or short film—as a way to introduce German cultural studies to students of other disciplines.) The German club also wants to serve as a resource for German students of all levels to practice together and prepare for tests. Since the Spring 2017 Semester has ended the German club cannot organize these events this Spring, but we still want to continue contact throughout summer. If we can have some organization in our planning of events and a coordinated German club board/team, we will be able to accomplish these things in Fall 2017. Therefore, if you are looking for some resume experience, please contact Kevin, the German club president.

FOR BEGINNER AND INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS OF GERMAN--AUSSPRACHE VON “R”:

Our tip for intermediate students in the last edition discussed the several ways in which “r” is pronounced in German. Native English speakers are not accustomed to making this sound. For most students, it must be trained. Let’s first review the two pronunciations of “r” relevant for this training. Then, we will share a tip of finding where this sound is produced in our speech organs and slowly using it in short words… all the way to reading paragraphs.

1. [r] Start of the word & after voiced consonants (i.e. there is vibration in the throat): reisen, Brot
2. [x] After voiceless consonants f, k, p, sch, t [r] is pronounced like [x] in Buch: krank, Schrift

Our source for this topic is Easy German. Easy German is a YouTube channel and part of the Easy Languages video project. What is it exactly? Easy Languages offer authentic street interviews, which expose the street culture of participating partner countries abroad. Episodes are produced in local languages and contain subtitles in both the original language as well as in English.

The two videos on the topic are:
1. Cari und Dana antworten (31) - Pronouncing 'R' in German
2. How to pronounce "R" in German | Easy German 174
So how do they suggest us English speakers to produce this sound? With a glass of water! That’s right. You begin **gurgling** with the water in your throat, head titled back. Then, you **make this same vibration in your throat without the water.** Once you can do that, begin to **apply this new sound to words that have “r” in them.** Practice saying “r” in **words with various sounds around them.** Read a text out loud in German **concentrating on your pronunciation of “r”**.

**GRAMMATIK DER WOCHE:**

Last edition we learned **zwei Eselsbrücken** to remember accusative prepositions. **This week we will explore how the endings of adjectives change from nominative to accusative case.**

German has three genders plus plural and four cases. Adjectives follow **three different declination patterns**—weak, mixed and strong. **Weak** means the adjective follows a definite article (der, die, das). The definite articles indicate the gender so the adjective endings are weak. **Mixed** means that the adjective follows an indefinite article (ein, eine). The indefinite articles carry some information, but the adjectives must also do their part in the declination. **Strong** means that the adjective stands alone. Since there is no article to indicate gender, the adjectives must do all the work on their own.

**Definite and indefinite articles in nominative and accusative:**

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The three declination patterns:

**WEAK DECLENSION**

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<td>Nominative</td>
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<td>Accusative</td>
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**Nominative**—**M:** **Der grüne Apfel** *F:* **die gelbe Banane** *N:* **das frische Obst** Pl.: **die roten Tomaten**

**Accusative**—**only masculine gender makes a change in accusative case.** *Ich esse den grünen Apfel.* (Apfel is the object and *ich* is the subject.)

**MIXED DECLENSION**

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<td>Nominative</td>
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<td>Accusative</td>
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**Nominative**—**M:** **ein grüner Apfel** *F:* **eine gelbe Banane** *N:* **ein interessantes Kochbuch** Pl.: **keine roten Tomaten**

**Accusative**—**only masculine gender makes a change in accusative case.** *Ich esse einen grünen Apfel.* (Apfel is the object and *ich* is the subject.)

**Kein** (-e) means no, none. A, an *(ein/eine)* cannot be used with plural, so **kein** is listed instead.
**STRONG DECENSION**

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<td>Nominative</td>
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Strong declension = endings of the definite articles

**M:** Der grüne Apfel  **F:** die gelbe Banane  **N:** das frische Obst  **Pl.:** die roten Tomaten

**Accusative**—den grünen Apfel.

**M:** Grüner Apfel  **F:** Gelbe Banane  **N:** Frisches Obst  **Pl.:** Rote Tomaten

**Accusative**—Grünen Apfel, Gelbe Banane, Frisches Obst, Rote Tomaten

(This information probably feels a little overwhelming. Keep reviewing the tables, analyze the functions of each case, and apply your knowledge when creating sentences in German.)

**WORTSCHATZ DER WOCHE:**

Falsche Freunde! (false cognates)

The “fake friends” proved to be a hit for the first edition. Here are five more pairs of falsche Freunde.

1. German: also /ˈaʊlsoː/; English translation: thus, therefore

   English: also; German translation: auch

2. German: bekommen; English translation: to get, receive

   English: to become; German translation: werden

3. German: die Billion; English translation: trillion

   English: billion; German translation: die Milliarde

4. German: sympathisch; English translation: likeable, nice, pleasant

   English: sympathetic; German translation: mitfühlend

5. German: winken; English translation: to wave

   English: to wink; German translation: blinzeln

**NOW IT IS TIME TO READ IN GERMAN:**

Warum der Titel “Das Spieglein”

Wer Grimms Märchen gelesen hat, denkt wahrscheinlich an „Schneewittchen.“ Der König, beziehungsweise der Vater von Schneewittchen, nahm eine andere Gemahlin (Frau), nachdem seine Frau gestorben war. Die neue Gemahlin war übermütig und wollte am schönsten sein. Sie hatte einen wunderbaren Spiegel. Sie betrachtete sich im Spiegel und fragte «Spieglein, Spieglein an der Wand, Wer ist die Schönste im ganzen Land?».

Die Gebrüder Grimm waren Gründungsväter der Germanistik. Ihre Kinder- und Hausmärchen werden immer noch gelesen. Aber es gibt noch einen
Grund warum der Newsletter „Das Spieglein“ heißt—DER SPIEGEL.

Der Spiegel ist ein deutsches Nachrichtenmagazin. Die erste Ausgabe erschien im Januar 1947. Wie kann man das Magazin beschreiben? Eine Beschreibung befindet sich an der Webseite spiegelgruppe.de:

„Der SPIEGEL ist Deutschlands bedeutendstes und Europas auflagenstärkstes Nachrichten-Magazin. Er ist politisch unabhängig, niemandem – außer sich selbst und seinen Lesern – verpflichtet und steht keiner Partei oder wirtschaftlichen Gruppierung nahe. Das Themenspektrum des SPIEGEL reicht von Politik über Wirtschaft und Wissenschaft, Medizin und Technik, Kultur und Unterhaltung bis zu Medien, Gesellschaft und Sport.“

Der Spiegel. Das Spieglein.
Wörter, die mit -lein oder -chen enden, sind Verkleinerungsformen von Substantiven. *Verkleinerungsform*: Verkleinerung („reduction“) + Form („form“). Mann kann diese Formen auch Diminutive nennen. Die Suffixe -lein und -chen sind schöne Teile der Wortbildung im Deutschen. Sie werden in verschiedenen Situationen benutzt:

- für kleine oder junge Menschen
- zur Kennzeichnung kleiner oder junger Tiere oder Pflanzen
- als Koseform
- als Verniedlichungsform, besonders von Substantiven oder Eigennamen
- als Untertreibung („wir haben ein Problemchen“)

Wie bildet man diese Formen? Wenn das Wort ein a, o, oder u hat, werden die drei Vokale von Umlauten ersetzt (ä, ö, und ü). Am Ende steht -chen oder -lein.

- Hallo–Hallöchen
- Vogel–Vögelein
- Kuss–Küsschen

Hopefully this newsletter was sowohl helpful, als auch interesting. Feedback and suggestions are welcome. If you are interested in writing a featured article, or are interested in joining the German Club, please contact the President Kevin Lister: klister1@student.gsu.edu

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