



GERMAN BEGINNERS - LESSON 1



Herzlich willkommen zu unserem ersten Deutschkurs! Welcome to our first German lesson. As you know this course is an e-course, meaning that you get one weekly German lesson e-mailed to you that you can work on at your own pace. There are not textbooks to purchase, no dictionary.... All you need, is in the e-mail!

In this 10 week course you will learn basic German – you will not be an expert, but some basic phrases are always good to know when you meet a German – such as “*Nett Sie kennenzunehmen*”¹² = Nice to meet you (formal) or “*Herzlich Willkommen*” = Welcome



Each lesson follows a similar structure:

1. What you will learn in this lesson
2. Dialogue(s). *For you to read and to listen to on the attached mp3 audio file*³
3. Erklärungen (Remarks). *They explain words or phrases for your understanding*
4. Vocabulary. *Lists and translates the words. Also serves you as your weekly list of words to learn.*
5. Grammar.
6. German Culture and Society. *Introduces and explains a particular aspect of German life.*
7. Exercises. *For you to complete and to send to the teacher every week.*



1. Dialog (*listen to the audio file attached*)

Gespräch von Mathias und Ulrike

M: Guten Tag Ulli!

U: Hallo Mathias! Wie geht es Dir?

M: Gut, danke. Und Dir?

U: Auch gut! Ich möchte Dir meine Freundin Nina vorstellen.

M: Hallo! Nett Dich kennenzulernen. Herzlich willkommen!

N: Vielen Dank

U: Bis später. Auf Wiedersehen

M: Tschüß

¹ Fixed expression you should learn like in the text

² Formal expression for someone you don't know or haven't meet before. Between young people you use “*Nett Dich kennenzulernen*” see dialogue

³ (Please note the mp3 audio file begins reading all German words as they appear (for you to repeat and practice pronunciation) and does not stop. You can operate the forward, pause and lay button on your mp3. player to repeat the audio file as you wish. Mp3 audio files are usually bigger than the text file, therefore it is recommended that you have at least 1MB storage room on your e-mail server every week.

VOKABELN

Vocabulary *For you to learn for next week:*

Guten Tag =	Hello (lit: Good day, more formal)
Hallo =	Hello (between friends)
Wie geht es Dir? =	How are you (informal)
Gut, danke =	I am well, thank you (lit: well, thanks)
Auch =	too, also (Auch gut = I am well too)
Ich möchte Dir (xx) vorstellen	I would like you to meet (xxx name of person) ¹
Nett Dich kennenzulernen	Nice to meet you (compare to „Nett Sie kennenzulernen) ²
Herzlich willkommen	Welcome (polite) ¹
Vielen Dank	Many thanks (polite) ¹
Bis später	See you later (lit. until later)
Auf Wiedersehen	Good-bye (polite)
Tschüß	Bye (Informal – Friends)

► Erklärungen (Remarks)

Give information on words and phrases to help you understand the text.

- “Kennenzulernen” (to get to know) is a compound word which consists of three individual words: Kennen (to know) – zu (literally “to”, here without a meaning) – lernen (to learn). So in German to “learn to know” someone. Germans love to create new long and complicated words by putting two single words together. Often the meaning changes:
→ “Handschuh” = “Hand” (hand) + Schuh (shoe). However, the word means “glove”
- “Tschüß” is very difficult to pronounce, so practise it by pronouncing each of the three syllables individually “Tsch-ü-ß”. German has 4 letters which do not exist in English. There are the vowels with Umlaut: ü, ö, ä and there is ß, which is a sharp “sss”, like a hissing snake. More and more however, this is being replaced by “ss”.

Exercises:

1. Comprehension questions

After working through the text, try to answer these questions and indicate how the German language helps you finding the solutions.

1. Why is Ulrike called Uli?
2. Is it likely that Ulli and Mathias are friends? Who is Nina?
3. Has Nina been a friend of Mathias before?
4. Will Matthias see Nina again?

2. Fill in the gaps:

Uli and Nina meet in the street.

U: Hallo Nina!

N: _____. Wie geht es Dir?

U: _____. Und Dir?

N: _____ gut.

They talk for one hour. Then they say good bye

U: _____

N: _____

For next week:

- Practise pronunciation of the words
- Learn the words and useful phrases
- Communicate any problems (e.g cannot open audio file) and questions to the instructor.
- Complete the exercises

That's it! You have completed your first German sample lesson. Now do the real thing and sign up!!!

www.geocities.com/euronited