

THE POCKET OXFORD

# GERMAN DICTIONARY



GERMAN-ENGLISH

*Compiled by M. L. Barker and H. Henning*

ENGLISH-GERMAN

*Compiled by C. T. Carr*

**The  
Pocket Oxford  
GERMAN  
DICTIONARY**

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**GERMAN-ENGLISH**

**COMPILED BY**

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**C. T. CARR**

**OXFORD**

**AT THE CLARENDON PRESS**

## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

THIS edition has been completely revised and brought up to date. It not only incorporates the addenda and corrections of the two earlier reprints, but also contains important additions to the current vocabulary of spoken and written German. Special care has been devoted to this fresh material, which includes political, economic, literary, scientific, and technical terms now used in books and newspapers, in educational and trade journals, and by television and radio broadcasters.

The original introduction follows; the Grammar Section has been slightly extended.

It is with sincere regret that I record the death of Dr. M. L. Barker on 3 January 1961. Her enthusiasm for the work and her wide teaching experience were a most valuable help in compiling the Dictionary, particularly in its first stages.

H. H.

# INTRODUCTION

THIS *Oxford German-English Dictionary* has been planned on the modern and generally useful lines of the *Concise Oxford French-English Dictionary*.

It aims at presenting, in a small but scholarly volume, the German language in such a way as to reflect the *current* vocabulary of daily life and its manifold activities. It is also intended to provide the language student with word-material which will train him in translation and sense of style and will stimulate him in his search for the 'right' word.

The compilers have therefore given great attention to the various uses and meanings of the German words and the selection of their English equivalents. Comparison with other German-English dictionaries will show that 'traditional' translations have been carefully sifted and that frequently a German word or phrase has been given an improved rendering or a more 'exact' translation.

As in the *Concise Oxford French-English Dictionary* a special typographical sign † warns the reader against words liable to mistranslation because of similarity to English spelling, e.g. *Harm, Justiz, Lektüre*.

## VOCABULARY

To illustrate the present-day language as fully as possible and yet keep within the limit of approximately 38,000 words, a rigorous selection had to be made. While more consideration than is usual in a small dictionary has been given to the vocabularies of *literature, music, theology, modern science, political science, and typography*, the following groups of words have been omitted: OBSOLETE AND RARE WORDS, e.g. *dero, Seiger, Maut*; DIALECT WORDS OR WORDS OF LOCAL USAGE, unless they have become part of the general vocabulary or occur in modern literature, e.g. *Dirndl, Stulle, Metzger*; HIGHLY SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL TERMS; DIMINUTIVE NOUNS ending in *-chen* or *-lein*, unless their meaning differs from the parent noun's meaning, e.g. *Kränzchen, Hörnchen*; FEMININE NOUNS ending in *-in*, unless the English feminine differs from the masculine, e.g. 'tiger', 'tigress'; 'fox', 'vixen'; DERIVATIVE NOUNS ending in *-heit, -keit, or -ung*, since their meaning can often be guessed from the adjective or verb from which they are

derived, e.g. *Brüderlichkeit* from *brüderlich*, *Erkämpfung* from *erkämpfen*.

## ARRANGEMENT

Words etymologically related and having a common root are generally grouped under one main article. This grouping will help the student to remember words of the same word-family more easily. The verb, however, has usually been given a special article.

Within each article a strict alphabetical order has been kept practically throughout, i.e. no distinction has been made between derivatives and compounds, e.g. *Herz ~grube*, *~haft*, *~ig*, *~innig*.

Where an article would have become unduly long or an important word deserved special treatment, it has been broken up, e.g. *Arbeit*, *Arbeiter~*, *Arbeits~*.

An idiom or phrase containing a noun will usually be found under that noun, e.g. *im Auge behalten* will be found under *Auge*. Where an idiom contains two nouns the reader will find it under the first noun, e.g. *außer Rand und Band* under *Rand*. Idioms containing no nouns are placed under the word on which the main emphasis is laid, e.g. *sich zu eigen machen* under *eigen* but *sich gut anlassen* under *anlassen*. As it is often doubtful on which word the main emphasis is laid the reader should look up each possible word before abandoning the search.

## GRAMMAR

The main grammatical facts of the German language are set out below. Within the vocabulary itself only the following grammatical hints could be given:

The genitive singular and nominative plural of all the important simple nouns are indicated within brackets immediately after the gender, e.g.:

**Abend** *m.* (-s, -e), where (-s, -e) stands for **Abends**, **Abende**.

**Hand** *f.* (-, -e), where (-, -e) stands for **Hand**, **Hände**.

If the genitive singular alone or the nominative plural alone is given the case omitted either does not exist or is not used. Omission of both cases means that the noun is hardly ever used except in the nominative singular.

But to help the reader as much as possible all irregular verbs\* are indicated as such within the vocabulary (*st.* stands

\* See List of Strong and Irregular Verbs, p. 446.

for strong conjugation). In addition, to save 'hunting', irregular verb-forms are quoted with reference to the main verb, e.g. **kann** 1st & 3rd pers. sing. pres. of **können**.

Intransitive verbs conjugated with *sein* are marked thus: *vws.i.*

Adjectives formed from past participles are indicated only as adjectives, e.g. **gelassen** *a.* (*fig.*) calm.

## ETYMOLOGY

It has been considered helpful to include a few etymological hints in square brackets at the end of an article. They either refer to the immediate source of a borrowing or are cognate equivalent words, e.g. **Kuvert** [F], **Dach** [THATCH]. As etymology is a very complex study the selection in a small dictionary is necessarily casual.

## SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION

The spelling of German words is that used in the latest revised edition of *Der Große Duden* (15th, revised edn., Mannheim, 1961).

In the English translation all equivalents with the same meaning are separated by commas. Different meanings are introduced by semicolons, but the line between the groups could not always be sharply drawn.

Brackets within the German text mean that both forms—the long and the short—can be used equally well.

Brackets in the English text contain explanations referring to either the meaning or the grammatical use of a word.

## SIGNS

Words spelt alike but unrelated either in etymology or meaning have been given separate entries and are marked with figures, e.g. **arm**<sup>1</sup> *a.* poor; **Arm**<sup>2</sup> *m.* arm.

The danger sign ⚠ signalizes German words which are spelt as in English but which differ from the English word in meaning.

The sign | in the German headword in heavy type indicates a glottal stop as in **Ab|art** or a break between a voiceless and voiced consonant, e.g. **Ab|bild**.

For the stress sign see PRONUNCIATION, p. ix.

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# THE GERMAN ALPHABET IN GOTHIC TYPE

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ⓐ | a | A | a |
| Ⓑ | b | B | b |
| Ⓒ | c | C | c |
| Ⓓ | d | D | d |
| Ⓔ | e | E | e |
| Ⓕ | f | F | f |
| Ⓖ | g | G | g |
| Ⓗ | h | H | h |
| Ⓘ | i | I | i |
| ⓫ | j | J | j |
| Ⓙ | k | K | k |
| Ⓛ | l | L | l |
| Ⓜ | m | M | m |
| Ⓝ | n | N | n |
| Ⓞ | o | O | o |
| Ⓟ | p | P | p |
| Ⓠ | q | Q | q |
| Ⓡ | r | R | r |
| Ⓔ | ſ | S | s |
| Ⓣ | t | T | t |
| Ⓤ | u | U | u |
| Ⓥ | v | V | v |
| Ⓦ | w | W | w |
| Ⓡ | x | X | x |
| Ⓨ | y | Y | y |
| Ⓩ | z | Z | z |

# PRONUNCIATION

**ACCENT.** In German the stress or force with which a syllable is pronounced is considerably stronger than in English. As with English, the first syllable of a German word usually has a strong stress, and words that conform to this rule are not marked. When a strong stress falls on a later syllable, it is indicated, where possible, by the stress mark ' BEFORE it, e.g. *Abgöt'te'rer*.

**SOUNDS.** The symbols used, with a few exceptions, are those of the *Association Phonétique Internationale*. As it was impossible in such a small dictionary to give the pronunciation of every German word only the pronunciation of common German words often mispronounced by students is given in round brackets immediately after the German headword, e.g. *Sache* (zaxə). The pronunciation of some other important words or difficult parts of words is also given, e.g. *Arz'nei* (artsnai), *Peter'sille* (-zi:lɪə). The sign : indicates that the preceding vowel is long.

## GERMAN VOWEL SOUNDS

| <i>Phonetic Symbol</i> | <i>German examples</i>                               | <i>Nearest English equivalent</i>                |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| i                      | bin, ich                                             | bin, bit                                         |
| i:                     | <i>Biene</i> , <i>mir</i> , <i>ihr</i> , <i>Vieh</i> | bean                                             |
| e                      | <i>Helene</i>                                        | Pronounce with lips spread                       |
| e:                     | <i>Meer</i> , <i>mehr</i>                            | may, gate (Sc.*)                                 |
| ɛ, ɛ:                  | <i>Bett</i> , <i>Ähre</i>                            | getting, air                                     |
| a                      | <i>Kamm</i>                                          | come, lum (Sc.)                                  |
| a:                     | <i>kam</i>                                           | calm                                             |
| ɔ                      | <i>kommen</i>                                        | common                                           |
| o                      | <i>Astronom</i>                                      | French <i>eau</i>                                |
| o:                     | <i>Sohn</i>                                          | zone (Sc.)                                       |
| u                      | <i>Mutter</i>                                        | foot, could                                      |
| u:                     | <i>Mut</i>                                           | moot                                             |
| y                      | <i>füllen</i>                                        | None. Pronounce with lips protruded.             |
| y:                     | <i>fühlen</i>                                        | None. Pronounce with lips protruded.             |
| œ                      | <i>Hölle</i>                                         | None. Pronounce as ɛ with lips slightly rounded. |
| ø:                     | <i>Höhle</i>                                         | None. Pronounce as e with lips protruded.        |
| ə                      | <i>gehoben</i>                                       | Unstressed like a in again.                      |

*Nasalized Vowels.* ɛ̃ in *Bassin*, â in *Chance*, ɔ̃ in *Ballon*, œ̃ in *Parfum*, are pronounced as in French.

**DIPHTHONGS.** ai in *mein* is pronounced as in mine (Sc.\*); au in *Haus* (a: + u); oi in *euch* as in boy, boil.

\* Sc. indicates that the Scottish pronunciation is closer to German than the English.

**GERMAN CONSONANT SOUNDS.** The phonetic symbols p, b, t, d, k, g, m, n, f, s, z, h, as in German *Paar, bei, Tor, du, kam, Gott, Mann, nein, fein, es* (as in *yes*), *sah* (as in *Zoo*), *Hand*, have approximately their English values in *pit, bit, &c.*

The following special symbols are used:

| <i>Phonetic<br/>Symbol</i> | <i>German<br/>examples</i> | <i>Nearest<br/>English<br/>equivalent</i> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| ɒ                          | <i>eng</i>                 | <i>sing</i>                               |
| ʃ                          | <i>Schuh</i>               | <i>shoe</i>                               |
| v                          | <i>Schwester</i>           | <i>vain</i>                               |
| ʒ                          | <i>Logis</i>               | <i>azure</i>                              |
| ç                          | <i>König</i>               | <i>big</i>                                |
| j                          | <i>ja</i>                  | <i>yes</i>                                |
| x                          | <i>ach</i>                 | <i>loch (Sc.)</i>                         |

*Notes on the Consonants.* German *w* as in *wo* is pronounced approximately as *v* in *vote*.

German final *b, d*, as in *ab, Bild*, are pronounced *p, t* (*ap, bilt*).

German *r*, as in *Rose*, resembles the *Scottish* rolled *r*. The *French r*, as in *heureux*, may be used instead.

The final consonant *s* as in *es* is pronounced *s* as in *yes*.

The initial consonant *s* as in *sah* is pronounced *z* as in *Zoo*.

|    |    |   |    |       |    |    |    |       |
|----|----|---|----|-------|----|----|----|-------|
| .. | .. | v | .. | Vater | .. | f  | .. | fat.  |
| .. | .. | z | .. | Zeit  | .. | ts | .. | gets. |

# SYNOPSIS OF GERMAN GRAMMAR

## THE DEFINITE ARTICLE

The definite article is declined as follows:

|             | <i>singular</i> |           |           | <i>plural</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
|             | <i>m.</i>       | <i>f.</i> | <i>n.</i> |               |
| <i>Nom.</i> | der             | die       | das       | die           |
| <i>Gen.</i> | des             | der       | des       | der           |
| <i>Dat.</i> | dem             | der       | dem       | den           |
| <i>Acc.</i> | den             | die       | das       | die           |

## THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE

The indefinite article is declined as follows:

|             | <i>singular</i> |           |           |                  |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
|             | <i>m.</i>       | <i>f.</i> | <i>n.</i> |                  |
| <i>Nom.</i> | ein             | eine      | ein       | <i>No plural</i> |
| <i>Gen.</i> | eines           | einer     | eines     |                  |
| <i>Dat.</i> | einem           | einer     | einem     |                  |
| <i>Acc.</i> | einen           | eine      | ein       |                  |

## NOTES ON DECLENSIONS OF NOUNS

In the Models of Declensions below note (1) that the ending of the genitive singular of most masculine nouns and all neuter nouns is *-s*, or *-es* after a monosyllable, e.g. *Gottes*; (2) that the dative plural always ends in *-n*.

**MASCULINE PLURAL:** To form the masculine plural add *-e* or *-er* to the singular, e.g.:

der Anfang, die Anfänge  
der Gott, die Götter.

The root vowel is usually modified (*ä, ö, ü*).

Masculine and neuter nouns ending in *-el, -en, -er*, are invariable except in the genitive singular and dative plural, e.g. *der Himmel, die Himmel*.

The DATIVE PLURAL always ends in *-n*, e.g. *Über allen Gipfeln*.

**NEUTER PLURAL:** Same endings as masculine, but most neuter monosyllables form the plural by adding *-er*, e.g. *das Licht, die Lichter*.

All FEMININE NOUNS are invariable in the singular. The PLURAL is formed by adding *-n* or *-en* to the singular, e.g. *die Wiese, die Wiesen*. About 30 monosyllables add *-e* and modify, e.g. *die Nacht, die Nächte; die Wand, die Wände*.

### Models of Strong Declension. Plural in *-er*

|             | <i>m. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> | <i>n. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | der Gott        | die Götter    | das Licht       | die Lichter   |
| <i>Gen.</i> | des Gottes      | der Götter    | des Lichtes     | der Lichter   |
| <i>Dat.</i> | dem Gott(e)     | den Göttern   | dem Licht(e)    | den Lichtern  |
| <i>Acc.</i> | den Gott        | die Götter    | das Licht       | die Lichter   |

No feminines form the plural by adding *-er*.

**Strong Declension. Plural in -e**

|             | <i>m. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> | <i>f. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | der Anfang      | die Anfänge   | die Frucht      | die Früchte   |
| <i>Gen.</i> | des Anfangs     | der Anfänge   | der Frucht      | der Früchte   |
| <i>Dat.</i> | dem Anfang      | den Anfängen  | der Frucht      | den Früchten  |
| <i>Acc.</i> | den Anfang      | die Anfänge   | die Frucht      | die Früchte   |

|             | <i>n. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | das Meer        | die Meere     |
| <i>Gen.</i> | des Meeres      | der Meere     |
| <i>Dat.</i> | dem Meer(e)     | den Meeren    |
| <i>Acc.</i> | das Meer        | die Meere     |

**Strong Declension. Plural without Suffix**

|             | <i>m. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> | <i>n. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | der Himmel      | die Himmel    | das Zeichen     | die Zeichen   |
| <i>Gen.</i> | des Himmels     | der Himmel    | des Zeichens    | der Zeichen   |
| <i>Dat.</i> | dem Himmel      | den Himmeln   | dem Zeichen     | den Zeichen   |
| <i>Acc.</i> | den Himmel      | die Himmel    | das Zeichen     | die Zeichen   |

Only two feminine nouns, *Mutter* and *Tochter*, have no suffix in the plural. They both modify in the plural.

**Models of Weak Declension**

|             | <i>m. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> | <i>f. sing.</i> | <i>plural</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | der Mensch      | die Menschen  | die Wiese       | die Wiesen    |
| <i>Gen.</i> | des Menschen    | der Menschen  | der Wiese       | der Wiesen    |
| <i>Dat.</i> | dem Menschen    | den Menschen  | der Wiese       | den Wiesen    |
| <i>Acc.</i> | den Menschen    | die Menschen  | die Wiese       | die Wiesen    |

**The Mixed Declension**

1. A few masculine nouns belong to the strong declension in the singular and to the weak declension in the plural, e.g. *Strahl*, *Staat*, *Stachel*.

2. Also a few neuter nouns: *Auge*, *Ende*, *Ohr*, *Hemd*, *Bett*, *Insekt*.

3. Also a few borrowed nouns: *Doktor*, *Professor*.

The genitive singular of all these nouns ends in *-s* or *-es*, the plural in *-n* or *-en*.

**Diminutives**

The terminations *-chen* and *-lein* form diminutives, e.g. *der Mann*, *das Männchen*, *die Magd*, *das Mägdlein*. These diminutives are always neuter. They add an *s* in the genitive singular. The other cases are invariable.

**PRONOUNS**

The German PERSONAL PRONOUNS are declined as follows:

|             | <i>singular</i> | <i>plural</i> | <i>singular</i> | <i>plural</i>    |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | ich, I          | wir, we       | du, thou        | ihr, ye Sie, you |
| <i>Gen.</i> | meiner          | unser         | deiner          | euer Ihrer       |
| <i>Dat.</i> | mir             | uns           | dir             | euch Ihnen       |
| <i>Acc.</i> | mich            | uns           | dich            | euch Sie         |

|      |        | singular |        | plural    |
|------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Nom. | er, he | sie, she | es, it | sie, they |
| Gen. | seiner | ihrer    | seiner | ihrer     |
| Dat. | ihm    | ihr      | ihm    | ihnen     |
| Acc. | ihn    | sie      | es     | sie       |

The REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS are identical with the personal pronouns except in the third person. *Sich* is used as the dative and accusative of the reflexive pronoun of the third person in all genders and in both numbers.

The DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUN *der* differs from the definite article in the genitive singular (m. *dessen*, f. *deren*, n. *dessen*) and in the genitive and dative plural (gen. *derer* or *deren*, dat. *denen*).

The RELATIVE PRONOUN *der* differs from the demonstrative pronoun in the genitive plural, only *deren* being used.

The words *dieser* and *jener*, 'this' and 'that', are declined like the definite article. They are used both as pronouns and as adjectives. As *dieser* are declined *jeder*, *solcher*, *mancher*, *welcher*, *keiner*.

## POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

The POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS used as adjectives are:

| m.    | f.     | n.    |                  |           |
|-------|--------|-------|------------------|-----------|
| mein  | meine  | mein  | corresponding to | ich, I    |
| dein  | deine  | dein  |                  | du, thou  |
| sein  | seine  | sein  | ..               | er, he    |
| ihr   | ihre   | ihr   | ..               | sie, she  |
| sein  | seine  | sein  | ..               | es, it    |
| unser | unsere | unser | ..               | wir, we   |
| euer  | eure   | euer  | ..               | ihr, ye   |
| Ihr   | Ihre   | Ihr   | ..               | Sie, you  |
| ihr   | ihre   | ihr   | ..               | sie, they |

*Note.* The possessive pronouns are declined exactly like the indefinite article. Also *kein*, 'not any', 'not one', 'no'.

## DECLENSION OF ADJECTIVES

ADJECTIVES used predicatively are not declined, e.g. *der Anfang war gut*; *die Wiese war grün*; *das Wasser war tief*. But adjectives immediately preceding the nouns to which they belong are declined to agree with those nouns in gender, number, and case. Adjectives may be declined in three ways:

1. Without article or pronoun.
  2. After the indefinite article or a pronominal adjective declined like it.
  3. After the definite article or a pronominal adjective declined like it.
- e.g. *singular masculine noun preceded by adjective:*

|      | (1)           | (2)                 | (3)               |
|------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Nom. | guter Anfang  | ein guter Anfang    | der gute Anfang   |
| Gen. | guten Anfangs | eines guten Anfangs | des guten Anfangs |
| Dat. | gutem Anfang  | einem guten Anfang  | dem guten Anfang  |
| Acc. | guten Anfang  | einen guten Anfang  | den guten Anfang  |

|                         |                                                                 |                   |                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>plural</i> (1 and 2) | gute Anfänge<br>guter Anfänge<br>guten Anfängen<br>gute Anfänge | <i>plural</i> (3) | die guten Anfänge<br>der guten Anfänge<br>den guten Anfängen<br>die guten Anfänge |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

*singular feminine noun preceded by adjective:*

|             | (1)          | (2)                | (3)              |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | grüne Wiese  | eine grüne Wiese   | die grüne Wiese  |
| <i>Gen.</i> | grüner Wiese | einer grünen Wiese | der grünen Wiese |
| <i>Dat.</i> | grüner Wiese | einer grünen Wiese | der grünen Wiese |
| <i>Acc.</i> | grüne Wiese  | eine grüne Wiese   | die grüne Wiese  |

|                         |                                                                |                   |                                                                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>plural</i> (1 and 2) | grüne Wiesen<br>grüner Wiesen<br>grünen Wiesen<br>grüne Wiesen | <i>plural</i> (3) | die grünen Wiesen<br>der grünen Wiesen<br>den grünen Wiesen<br>die grünen Wiesen |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

*singular neuter noun preceded by adjective:*

|             | (1)            | (2)                  | (3)                |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Nom.</i> | tiefes Wasser  | ein tiefes Wasser    | das tiefe Wasser   |
| <i>Gen.</i> | tiefen Wassers | eines tiefen Wassers | des tiefen Wassers |
| <i>Dat.</i> | tiefem Wasser  | einem tiefen Wasser  | dem tiefen Wasser  |
| <i>Acc.</i> | tiefes Wasser  | ein tiefes Wasser    | das tiefe Wasser   |

|                         |                                                                 |                   |                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>plural</i> (1 and 2) | tiefe Wasser<br>tiefer Wasser<br>tiefen Wassern<br>tiefe Wasser | <i>plural</i> (3) | die tiefen Wasser<br>der tiefen Wasser<br>den tiefen Wassern<br>die tiefen Wasser |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## VERBS

**TENSES.** German verbs have only two tenses formed by inflection—the Present and the Past (Imperfect). The other tenses are formed, as in English, by the use of Auxiliaries. These are: *haben*, 'to have'; *sein*, 'to be'; and *werden*, 'to become'.

*haben*, to have

### INDICATIVE MOOD

*Present* ich habe, du hast, er hat, wir haben, ihr habt, sie haben.

*Imperfect* ich hatte, du hattest, er hatte, wir hatten, ihr hattet, sie hatten.

### COMPOUND TENSES

|                       |                        |                         |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Perfect</i>        | ich habe gehabt        | <i>I have had</i>       |
| <i>Pluperfect</i>     | ich hatte gehabt       | <i>I had had</i>        |
| <i>Future</i>         | ich werde haben        | <i>I shall have</i>     |
| <i>Future perfect</i> | ich werde gehabt haben | <i>I shall have had</i> |

### CONDITIONAL MOOD

|                  |                                                 |                          |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Present</i>   | ich würde haben (or ich hätte)                  | <i>I should have</i>     |
| <i>Imperfect</i> | ich würde gehabt haben (or<br>ich hätte gehabt) | <i>I should have had</i> |

*Present subjunctive* ich habe, du habest, er habe, wir haben, ihr habet, sie haben.

*Imperfect subjunctive* ich hätte, du hättest, er hätte, wir hätten, ihr hättet, sie hätten.

*Imperative* habe, *have thou*; habt (or haben Sie), *have (ye) or (you)*.

*Participles* habend, *having*; gehabt, *had*.

sein, to be

#### INDICATIVE MOOD

*Present* ich bin, du bist, er ist, wir sind, ihr seid, sie sind.

*Imperfect* ich war, du warst, er war, wir waren, ihr war(e)t, sie waren.

The compound tenses of *sein* are formed with *sein* as auxiliary.

|                       |                        |                          |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Perfect</i>        | ich bin gewesen        | <i>I have been</i>       |
| <i>Pluperfect</i>     | ich war gewesen        | <i>I had been</i>        |
| <i>Future</i>         | ich werde sein         | <i>I shall be</i>        |
| <i>Future perfect</i> | ich werde gewesen sein | <i>I shall have been</i> |

#### CONDITIONAL MOOD

|                  |                                                 |                           |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Present</i>   | ich würde sein (or ich wäre)                    | <i>I should be</i>        |
| <i>Imperfect</i> | ich würde gewesen sein (or<br>ich wäre gewesen) | <i>I should have been</i> |

*Present subjunctive* ich sei, du seiest, er sei, wir seien, ihr seiet, sie seien.

*Imperfect subjunctive* ich wäre, du wärest, er wäre, wir wären, ihr wäret, sie wären.

*Imperative* sei, *be thou*; seid (or seien Sie), *be (ye) or (you)*.

*Participles* seiend, *being*; gewesen, *been*.

werden, to become

*Present indicative* ich werde, du wirst, er wird, wir werden, ihr werdet, sie werden.

*Imperfect indicative* ich wurde, du wurdest, er wurde, wir wurden, ihr würdet, sie wurden.

*Present subjunctive* ich werde, du werdest, er werde, wir werden, ihr werdet, sie werden.

*Imperfect subjunctive* ich würde, du würdest, er würde, wir würden, ihr würdet, sie würden.

The compound tenses of *werden* are formed with *sein* as auxiliary.

*Perfect* ich bin geworden.

*Pluperfect* ich war geworden.

*Future* ich werde werden; *Conditional* ich würde werden.

*Future perfect* ich werde geworden sein; *Conditional imperfect* ich würde geworden sein.

*Imperative* werde, werdet.

*Participles* werdend, *becoming*; geworden, *become* (but as auxiliary, worden, *been*).

## CONJUGATION OF A WEAK VERB

*machen*, to make (*machen, machte, gemacht*)

The weak conjugation forms the past tense by adding the suffix *-te* to the root, and the past participle by adding the suffix *-t* and the prefix *ge-*.

## INDICATIVE MOOD

*Present* ich mache, du machst, er macht, wir machen, ihr macht, sie machen.

*Imperfect* ich machte, du machtest, er machte, wir machten, ihr machtet, sie machten.

*Perfect* ich habe gemacht

*Pluperfect* ich hatte gemacht

*Future* ich werde machen

*Future perfect* ich werde gemacht haben

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

Endings of present tense: -e, -est, -e, -en, -et, -en. Endings of past tense: Same as indicative.

## CONDITIONAL MOOD

*Present* ich würde machen

*I should make*

*Past* ich würde gemacht haben

*I should have made*

## CONJUGATION OF A STRONG VERB

**sprechen**, to speak (*sprechen, sprach, gesprochen*)

In German the strong conjugation forms the past tense from the root or stem by altering the root vowel; and the past participle by adding the prefix *ge-* and the suffix *-en*, and generally with a further change of vowel.

## INDICATIVE MOOD

*Present* ich spreche, du sprichst, er spricht, wir sprechen, ihr sprecht, sie sprechen.

*Imperfect* ich sprach, du sprachst, er sprach, wir sprachen, ihr sprachet, sie sprachen.

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

*Present* ich spreche, -est, -e, -en, -et, -en.

*Imperfect* ich spräche, -est, -e, -en, -et, -en.

The Compound tenses are formed exactly like those of **machen**.

Verbs of motion, as *gehen*, 'to go', are conjugated with *sein*, similarly verbs denoting a change of state, as *wachsen*, 'to grow'.

Reflexive verbs are always conjugated with *haben*.

## PASSIVE VOICE

**werden** forms the whole of the passive voice, e.g.:

|                   |                 |             |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Present</i>    | es wird gemacht |             | <i>it is made</i>     |
| <i>Past</i>       | „ wurde „       |             | „ was made            |
| <i>Perfect</i>    | „ ist „         | worden      | „ has been made       |
| <i>Pluperfect</i> | „ war „         | „           | „ had been made       |
| <i>1 Future</i>   | „ wird „        | werden      | „ will be made        |
| <i>2 Future</i>   | „ „ „           | worden sein | „ will have been made |

## MODAL AUXILIARIES

There are six auxiliaries of mood:

|                                             |                                       |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| dürfen ( <i>may</i> ), to be allowed        | mögen ( <i>may</i> ), to like         |
| können ( <i>can</i> ), to be able           | müssen ( <i>must</i> ), to be obliged |
| sollen ( <i>shall</i> ), to be bound, ought | wollen ( <i>will</i> ), to want       |

*Past participle*

|         |         |         |         |        |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| gedurft | gekonnt | gesollt | gemocht | gemußt | gewollt |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|

After an infinitive a past participle identical with the infinitive is used: Ich habe nicht kommen können (I have not been able to come).

*Present indicative, 1st person sing. and plural*

|        |        |        |       |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| darf   | kann   | soll   | mag   | muß    | will   |
| dürfen | können | sollen | mögen | müssen | wollen |

*Present subjunctive*

|       |       |       |      |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| dürfe | könne | solle | möge | müsse | wolle |
|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|

*Imperfect indicative*

|        |        |        |        |       |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| durfte | konnte | sollte | mochte | mußte | wollte |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|

*Imperfect subjunctive*

|        |        |        |        |       |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| dürfte | könnte | sollte | möchte | müßte | wollte |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|

The auxiliary of these verbs is *haben*.

INSEPARABLE AND  
SEPARABLE PREFIXES

There are sixteen inseparable prefixes:

be-, ge-, ent-, emp-, er-, ver-, zer-, miß-; über,  
unter, wider, um, durch, hinter; wieder, voll.

Verbs compounded with these have no accent on the prefix, and do not add the prefix *ge-* for the past participle, e.g. *behalten*, 'to keep', *behielt*, 'kept', *behalten*, 'kept'; *ich habe es behalten*, 'I have kept it'; *vollenden*, 'to finish', *vollendet*, 'finished'.

Verbs compounded with separable prefixes insert the prefix *ge-* for the past participle, e.g. *abschließen*, 'to lock up', *abgeschlossen*, 'locked up'.

Verbs with a preposition or adverb as prefix are usually separable. This prefix is **STRESSED**, e.g. *'zumachen*, 'to shut'.

## CONJUGATION OF A SEPARABLE VERB

## INDICATIVE MOOD

*Present*

ich mache . . . 'zu.

*Imperfect*

ich machte . . . 'zu.

*Perfect*

ich habe . . . 'zugemacht.

*Future*

ich werde . . . 'zumachen.

## PREPOSITIONS

The following prepositions always take an ACCUSATIVE: *durch, für, gegen, ohne, um, wider, bis, sonder, gen.*

The following always govern the DATIVE: *aus, außer, bei, mit, nach, seit, von, zu, gegenüber, nächst, zunächst, nebst, samt, zuwider, entgegen, gemäß, binnen.*

The following take the ACCUSATIVE if they denote 'motion towards a place', the DATIVE if they denote 'rest at a place': *an, auf, hinter, in, neben, vor, über, unter, zwischen.*

The following generally govern the GENITIVE: *während, anstatt, statt, kraft, wegen, trotz, unweit, unfern, mittels, laut, vermöge, ungeachtet, unbeschadet, oberhalb, unterhalb, innerhalb, außerhalb, diesseits, jenseits, halber, um ... willen, inmitten, zeit, betreffs, infolge, anfangs, angesichts, namens.*

## COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

The comparative and superlative are formed, as in English, by adding *-er* and *-est* or *-st*; as *mild, milder, mildest (der mildeste)*.

Most monosyllabic adjectives modify the root vowel, *a, o, u*: *alt, älter, ältest (der älteste)*. Similarly: *kalt, warm, hart, lang, rot, jung, kurz*, and the adverb *oft*. But the great bulk of adjectives do not modify the root vowel.

Irregular comparisons are: *gut, besser, best; viel, mehr, meist; groß, größer, der größte; hoch, höher, der höchste; nahe, näher, der nächste*. Adverbs: *bald, eher, am ehesten; gern, lieber, am liebsten*.

## NUMERALS

### Cardinals

|        |             |                      |                    |                   |
|--------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 eins | 6 sechs     | 11 elf               | 16 sechzehn        | 21 einundzwanzig  |
| 2 zwei | 7 sieben    | 12 zwölf             | 17 siebzehn        | 22 zweiundzwanzig |
| 3 drei | 8 acht      | 13 dreizehn          | 18 achtzehn        | 30 dreißig        |
| 4 vier | 9 neun      | 14 vierzehn          | 19 neunzehn        | 40 vierzig        |
| 5 fünf | 10 zehn     | 15 fünfzehn          | 20 zwanzig         | 50 fünfzig        |
|        | 60 sechzig  | 70 siebzig           | 80 achtzig         | 90 neunzig        |
|        | 100 hundert | 101 hundert und eins | 1000 (ein) tausend |                   |
|        |             | 1000000 eine Million | 0 Null             |                   |

### Ordinals

To form the ORDINALS add *-te* up to and including 19; from 20 onwards add *-ste*, e.g. *der, die, das zweite*, 'the second'; *der zwanzigste*, 'the 20th'. 1st and 3rd are irregular: *der erste, der dritte*.