
HARRAP'S MODERN GERMAN GRAMMAR

VAN DER SMISSEN AND FRASER

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HARRAP'S MODERN GERMAN GRAMMAR

WITH EXERCISES AND VOCABULARIES

BY

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PREFACE

This book is intended to serve as a guide to the use of the spoken and written German of the present day, and makes no claim to be a compendium of all forms and usages in either speech or literature.

The grammatical material has been arranged with a view to its convenient use in the exercises, and with the object of facilitating the rapid acquisition of a reading knowledge of the language. The elementary statements of grammatical theory in the earlier part of the book have been supplemented and summarized in the more advanced lessons, thus enabling the learner to review and amplify the knowledge previously acquired in detail. Thus, for instance, in the treatment of the verb, each mood and tense of both weak and strong verbs is taken up successively, and afterwards the whole theory of conjugation is stated in methodical form.

The exercises have been made continuous, wherever it was found practicable to do so, and are constructed on the same general plan as those in the elementary part of Fraser and Squair's *French Grammar*. It is hoped that this form of exercise will not only render the learner's task less dreary than exercises made up of detached sentences, but will also encourage him to acquire phrases rather than words, which so often change their signification with the context.

In the use of the exercises teachers will naturally be guided by their own judgment and the character of their classes, but, in the opinion of the authors, it will be found advantageous first of all to practise very thoroughly the German and oral portions, and afterwards pass on to the translation of the English and to elementary composition. The oral exercises are not intended to be exhaustive, but rather suggestive for further drill along the same line, as the authors attach the very greatest importance to this method of teaching.

The reading extracts are not intended to replace a Reader, but to add variety, with perhaps a spice of entertainment, to the acquisition and practice of grammar. The extracts in verse are designed primarily for memorizing; the prose extracts may be used as exercises in translation, and may serve also for practice in conversation and composition.

The Appendix contains reference lists and paradigms, which it is hoped will prove useful, particularly B, 4 and 5, which are intended as a guide to the correct use of prepositions.

The principal authorities consulted in the preparation of the work were: on orthography, the decisions of the Orthographic Conference of Berlin, 1901, and Duden's Orthographisches Wörterverzeichnis; on grammatical points, Blatz' Grammar and Muret-Sanders' larger dictionary; on pronunciation, the various manuals of Professor Viëtor of Marburg, whose German Pronunciation (3d ed., Reisland) and Deutsches Lesebuch in Lautschrift (I. und II. Teil) are especially commended to the attention of teachers.

INTRODUCTION

The German Alphabet.

German form.	Roman form.	German name.	German form.	Roman form.	German name.
A, a	A, a	ah	N, n	N, n	en n
B , b	B, b	bay	D, 0	Ο, ο	oh
C, c	C, c	tsay	B , p	P, p	pay
D, d	D, d	day	D, 9	Q, q	ko o
E, e	Е, е	eh	R, r	R, r	err
წ, f	F, f	eff	S, 1, 3	S, s	ess
G , g	G, g	gay	T, t	T, t	tay
H, h	H, h	hah	U, u	U, u	00
3, i	I, i	ee	B , v	V, v	fow
3, j	J, j	yot	2B, w	W, w	vay
R, f	K, k	kah	X, g	X, x	iks
2, 1	L, l	ell	9, 1	Y, y	ipsilon
M, m	M, m	emm	3, 3	Z, z	tset

REMARKS ON THE ALPHABET.

- 1. The approximate pronunciation of the German names of the letters is given above in English characters; these names should be learned, and used in spelling words.
- 2. Three of the vowels may be modified by the sign " (called 'umlaut'): Ü ü, Ö ö, Ü ü; as capitals, in the older spelling, these are: Ue, De, Ue.
- 3. Diphthongs are: Ai ai, Au au, Ei ei, Eu eu, Au au, and the rarer forms an, en, ui.

- 4. The following change their form slightly when printed as one character: ch = ch; ck = ck; $f_{\delta} = f_{\delta}$; $f_{\delta} = f_{\delta}$; $f_{\delta} = f_{\delta}$.
- 5. The character \mathfrak{h} always replaces \mathfrak{h} when final: Fuh, Hah, Huh; within a word, it stands after long vowels, after diphthongs, and before another consonant (elsewhere \mathfrak{h}): Fühe, heihen, hählich, muhte; but Hühe, mühen, 20.; hence all vowels are to be pronounced short before \mathfrak{h} .
- 6. The form & occurs only as final in words or stems; elsewhere f: Haus, das, häuslich; Häufer, lesen, hast.
- 7. Since the sounds of German depend to a considerable extent upon syllabication, stress, and quantity, these subjects will be treated in the following paragraphs, before rules are given for the pronunciation of the alphabet.

Syllabication.

- I. In German the syllable ends in a vowel wherever possible, which is frequently not the case in English: Mi-li-tar, 'mil-i-ta-ry'; the neglect of this principle is a serious defect in pronunciation.
- 2. Hence single consonants within a word, and also such consonant groups as can be pronounced undivided, belong to the following syllable, both in speaking and writing: hasbe, gestrauschen, gesichenkt; other consonant groups are divided: wersen, Tinste.
- 3. In writing, however, doubled consonants are divided at the end of a line: müf-sen; so also bt, pf, ng, cf, the latter becoming f-t: Städ-te, Emp-sang, sin-gen, Stüf-se (for Stücke); compounds are divided according to their parts: Huf-eisen, hin-ab, Donner-s-tag.
- 4. 'Open' syllables are those ending in a vowel or h: da, lo-ben, brau-the, be-steh-en.
- 5. 'Closed' syllables are those ending in a consonant, or coming before a doubled consonant: war-ten, Tin-te, falt, bas, hat-ten.

NOTE. - This distinction is important for the rules of quantity.

Stress.

The relative force with which a syllable in a group is uttered is called 'stress' (less properly 'accent'): Freu'ndichaft, 'frie'ndship'; mein Ba'ter ist schon a'lt. Several degrees of force may be distinguished in longer words and in phrases, but for practical purposes it is sufficient to consider only the syllable of strongest or chief stress. In words of two or more syllables the chief stress is as follows:—

- 1. In simple German words, on the stem: Freu'ndschaft, Freu'ndlichkeit, le'sen, gele'sen, rei'nlich.
- 2. In compounds, usually on the part most distinctive for the meaning: Au'genblick, me'rkwürdig, u'nangenehm.
- 3. But in compounded particles, usually on the second component: bahe'r, herbei', obglei'th.
- 4. In loan-words, usually on the syllable stressed in the language from which the word has been taken: Stude'nt, Philoso'ph, elega'nt, Natio'n, Solda't.
- 5. Always on the suffixes -ei, -ieren, -ur (of foreign origin): Arzenei', studie'ren, Glasu'r.
 - 6. Never on the prefixes be-, emp-, ent-, er-, ge-, ver-, zer-.
- 7. No special rules are required for German sentence-stress (emphasis), as it corresponds closely to that of English.

Quantity.

- 1. Vowels in German may be distinguished as 'long,' 'half long,' and 'short': Inhen (long), Militär (half long), falt (short).
- 2. Long vowels become half long, or even short, when unstressed, usually without change in the quality of the sound: bie'fer (long), bie'fer Ma'nn (half long).

NOTE. — In practice it is sufficient to distinguish long and short (the latter including half long and short).

- 3. Vowels are regularly long: -
- (a) In open stressed syllables; and a long stem vowel usually retains its length in inflection: ba, loben; lobte.

- (b) When doubled, or followed by silent h or e (the latter only after i): Staat, Lehrer, Sohn, Ruh, dieser.
 - (c) As diphthongs : glauben, heißen, Leute.
- (d) In final stressed syllable ending in a single consonant (including monosyllables capable of inflection, or ending in r): Gebot, genug, dem, Rat, bot, gut, war, wir; so also vowel before § persisting in inflection: faß (faßen), Fuß (Küße).
 - 4. Vowels are regularly short:---
 - (a) In unstressed syllables: haben, gehabt, u'nartig.
- (b) In closed syllables (including monosyllables ending in more than one consonant): Sommer, Winter, alt, fest; so also before \beta not persisting in inflection: Fluß (Flüsse).
- (c) In uninflected monosyllables ending in a single consonant (not -r): mit, ob, in, im, von, vom; but für, her (long).
- 5. Before th, some are long, some short: Sprathe (long), lathen (short).

General Remarks on Pronunciation.

Every language has certain characteristics peculiar to the utterance of its sounds, which taken together may be called its 'basis of articulation.' The principal distinctions between German and English, in this respect, are the following:—

- 1. The action of the organs of speech, in general, is more energetic and precise in German than in English. The pronunciation of English strikes the German ear as slovenly. The energy and precision referred to are especially obvious in vowels requiring lip rounding (as observed, for example, in 'who,' 'no,' 'saw,' etc.). Moreover, great care should be taken not to obscure German vowels in unstressed syllables, which is the rule in English.
- 2. The tongue, both for vowels and consonants, is generally either further advanced or retracted than in the articulation of corresponding English sounds.

- 3. English long vowels (as a in 'fate,' oo in 'poor') are usually diphthongal, particularly before liquids, whereas German long vowels are uniform in quality throughout.
- 4. The utterance of every German initial vowel, unless wholly unstressed, begins with the 'glottal stop,' which consists in suddenly closing the glottis and forcing it open by an explosion of breath, as in slight coughing: aus, hinaus, effen, ohne, über, überall.

Note.—Corresponding English vowels begin with gradual closure of the glottis, and strike the German ear as indistinct, since the German sound is fully resonant throughout. The learner may be enabled to realize the nature of this sound by the experiment of placing the hands to the sides and exerting a sudden, forcible pressure, the mouth being open as if to form a vowel. When this is done, the glottis (i.e. the space between the vocal chords) closes automatically, and is at once forced open.

5. It must never be forgotten that the sounds of any two languages hardly ever correspond exactly, and hence that comparisons between German and English are only approximate. In describing the sounds below, brief cautions have been added in parenthesis, in order to obviate this difficulty in part.

Pronunciation of the Alphabet.

VOWELS.

- 1. Vowels are either 'front' or 'back,' according to their place of articulation in the mouth, and are so grouped below.
- 2. They are pronounced long or short according to the rules given above (pp. xi-xii), the commonest exceptions only being noted.
 - 3. All vowels must be distinctly uttered.
 - 4. Do not drawl or diphthongize the long vowels.
- 5. Doubled vowels and those followed by e or h, as a sign of length, are omitted from the conspectus, but included in the examples.

1. Front Vowels.

t 1. When long, like i in 'marine' (slightly closer; avoid diphthong, especially before I and r; avoid i as in 'bit,' when unstressed): Wine, mir, wir; dieser, Lieb, studieren, ihn, stiehlst.

Exception. — (Short, see 2 below): Apri'l, viellei'cht, Biertel, vierzehn, vierzig.

- 2. When short, like i in 'bit' (avoid i as in 'mirth' before r): Rind, singen, wird, bist, gebissen, gelitten; mit, im.
- 3. Like y in 'yes,' when unstressed before e in loan-words: Fami'lie, Patie'nt.
- it 1. When long, has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for i, 1, with tense lip rounding: Blüte, mübe, grün, süß, Füße; Mühe, früher.
 - 2. When short has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for i, 2, with slight lip rounding: hubsch, Giud, fünf, fürchten, Ruste, Müller, mussen.
- th Like i or ii (see above): Ashl (long), Myrte (short).
- e 1. When long, like a in 'stated' (avoid diphthong, especially before I and r): lesen, leben, reden, schwer, bem, ben (but see 4 below); Beet, Schnee, stehen, sehlen, lehren.

EXCEPTION. - (Short, see 2 below): bes, es, wes.

2. When short, like e in 'let' (avoid e as in 'her,' before r): schenken, fenden, gestern, besser, Betten, Herr, gern.

Exception .- (Long, see 1, above): Dresben, Erde, erft, Pferd.

- 3. In unstressed final syllables and in be-, ge-, like a in 'soda' (tongue slightly advanced): habe, Gabe, loben, lobet, Bruder, dieser, diesem, Bogel; bestellen, gelobt.
- 4. The e of ber, bem, ben, bes, es, when unstressed, varies between 3 and 2, above, according as the stress is more or less completely removed: ber falte Bi'nter.

- ä 1. When long, like a in 'care' (avoid diphthong, especially before I and r): saen, waren, Schläge; Ahre, mahen.
 - 2. When short, identical with e short (e, 2, above) : Hände, Bäcker, Apfel, hätte, längft.

Exception. - (Long): nachft, Städte.

- vi. When long, has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for e, 1, with tense lip rounding and protrusion: hören, böse, Böte, schin, größer; Söhne.
 - 2. When short, has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for e, 2, with slight lip rounding: Röpfe, Glödlein, fönnen, Götter.

Exception. - (Long): öftlich, Öfterreich.

2. Back Vowels.

- a Like a in 'ah!' 'father' (tongue flat and mouth well open; lips neither rounded nor retracted; avoid a as in 'all' and a as in 'at').
 - 1. Long: fagen, da, Anna, Papa', bat, war, faß; Staat, nah, Bahn; Sprache, ftach.

EXCEPTION. -- (Short): bas, was.

2. Short: warten, hacken, lachen, niemand, Ball, hatte; als. ab. am.

Exception. — (Long): Arzt, Bart, Magb, Papft.

- 1. When long, like o in 'omen' (tense lip rounding and protrusion; avoid diphthong, especially before I and r): loben, Rose, groß, rot, hoch; Boot, Ross, Ohr.
 - s. When short, like o in 'not' (always definitely rounded; never lengthened, even before r): flopfen, Gott, wolsen, Sonne, morgen, Wort; ob, von.

Exception .- (Long): Lotje, Obft, Often, Oftern.

NOTE. — The Eng. short o has often very feeble rounding, especially in American Eng., approaching the sound of a in 'hat.'

- n. When long, like 00 in 't00' (tense lip rounding and protrusion; avoid diphthong, especially before I and r):
 δu, rufen, Blume, Fuß, guten, nur; Ruh, Stuhl.
 - 2. When short, like u in 'put' (definitely rounded; never lengthened, even before r): und, wurde, Mutter, Fluß; um, zum, zur.

Diphthongs.

- ai } Like i in 'mile' (first element more deliberately uttered; an } equals German a, 2 + i, 2): Raiser, Bayern.
- au Like ou in 'house' (first element more deliberately uttered; equals German a, 2 + u, 2): Frau, Baum, Bauer.
- än Like oi in 'boil' (first element more deliberately uttered; equals German v, 2 + i, 2): Räuber, Mäuse, Bäume.

 Note, The second element is sometimes slightly rounded.
- et \ The same sound as ai, above; mein, Meile, seiner, kleisen, einst, Meher.
- en The same sound as an, above: nen, hente, Feuer, euer, feufzen.
- ui Equals German u, 2+i, 2: hui! pfui!

CONSONANTS.

- 1. It is very important to remember that all final consonants are short in German, although not always so in English; compare man and 'man,' fang and 'sang.'
- 2. Double consonants have only a single sound, as also in English: gefallen, 'fallen'; but when two consonants come together through compounding the sound is lengthened in careful diction, but not fully doubled: mitteilen; similarly also contiguous final and initial consonant, when necessary for distinctness: not tun.
- 3. When alternative pronunciations are given below the preferable one is put first.

Alphabetical List of Consonants.

- 6 1. When initial in word or syllable, or doubled, like b in 'ball': bald, lieben, verbleiben, Ebbe.
 - 2. When final, in word or syllable, like p in 'tap': ab, Beib, lieb, abgehen, Schreibtisch, lieblet, lieblich, liebster.
- c 1. Before front vowel, like ts in 'sets': Cicero, Cafar.
 - 2. Before back vowel, like c in 'call': Canto, Caffel.

NOTE. - c alone is now found only in loan-words and proper nouns.

th 1. After back vowel, has no English counterpart; compare Scotch ch in 'loch' (formed by slight contact of the back of the tongue with the soft palate; voiceless): Bach, machen, noch, suchen, rauchen.

Note, — 'Voiceless' means without vibration of the vocal chords; compare 'fine' (voiceless) with 'vine' (voiced).

- 2. After front vowel, after consonant, and in -hen, like h in 'hue' very forcibly pronounced (avoid k as in 'kill' and sh as in 'ship'; it is best obtained by unvoicing the y in yes): ich, schlecht, weich, Bücher, solches, Mädchen; so also in Chemie', before a front vowel.
- 3. Before & in a stem syllable, like f (which see): Lachs, Ochfen, machfen; also some loan-words, Christ, Chor, 2c.
- d Like f (which see): did, schicken.
- day' (tongue advanced to the gums): du, drei, Feder, Hände, würde, addieren.
 - 2. When final in a word or syllable, like t in 'take' (tongue advanced to the gums): Lied, Hand, und, Händchen, endlich, Gefundheit.
- f Like f in 'fall': kaufen, Frau, fünf, hoffen.
- g 1. When initial in a word or stressed syllable, or doubled, like g in 'began,' 'gain,' 'begin': gab, Aufgabe, gehen, gegeben, Gitter, grün, Egge.

- NOTE. The place of contact between tongue and palate varies along with the vowel or consonant of the syllable, as in English; similarly also for the sounds of t. 114. 115.
 - 2. After a back vowel within a word (when followed by a vowel), either like g, 1, or voiced th, 1: Tage, sagen, zogen, Zuge.
- NOTE.—This second sound is foreign to English; it may be formed by making the sound usually heard in gargling, without, however, drawing the songue far enough back to cause the uvula to trill.
 - 3. After a back vowel when final or before a consonant, like th, 1: Eag, lag, zog, Zug, sagte, wogte.
 - 4. After a front vowel or a consonant within a word (and followed by a vowel), either like g, 1, or j (which see): legen, Berge, Bürger, Schläge, Wiege, Könige.
 - Note. Like i almost universally in the combination ig.
 - 5. After a front vowel, (a) when final, (b) final after a consonant, (c) before a consonant, like th, 2: Teig, Sieg, König; Berg, Talg; legte, liegt.
 - 6. Like z in 'azure' (tongue advanced, lips protruded) in many French loan-words: & ta'-ge, & ou-ra'-ge.
- h 1. Like h in 'have' (strongly and briefly uttered): haben, gehabt, heißen, geholfen, A'horn.
 - 2. It is silent before the vowel of an ending and as a sign of length: gehen, gesehen; Ruh, Reh, weh; see also ch, th, sch.
- j 1. Regularly, like y in 'yes' (tongue closer to the palate; strongly buzzed): ja, jeder, Juni, Joch, juchzen.
 - 2. In French loan-words, like g, 6, above: Journa'l, Jasousie'.
- Like c in 'can' or k in 'ken,' 'keen' (comp. note to g, 1): fam, kennen, Kind, klein, fank.
- Like 1 in 'lip' (tongue advanced to gums): Ioben, lieben, ale, glüdlich, wollen, voll.

- m Like m in 'make': mit, Baum, fommen, Lamm.
- n Like n in 'name' (tongue advanced to gums): nennen, und, Hände, an, Mann, Männer.
- ng Like ng in 'sang,' 'length' 'sing' (abruptly uttered; comp. note to g, r; never as in English 'finger'): fangen, lang, längst, sing, Finger.
- nk in 'thank,' 'think' (abruptly uttered; comp. note to g, 1): Dank, danken, senken, sinken.
- p Like p in 'pit' (pronounce fully before f): Puppe, Sirup, pflanzen, Pferd.
- ph Like f (which see): Philosoph, Philosophie'.
- qu Like f + w (which see): Quelle, quer.
- thas no English counterpart; it is formed either (1) by trilling the point of the tongue against the upper gums ('lingual' r), or (2) by drawing the root of the tongue backward so as to cause the uvula to vibrate ('uvular' r):

 Rat, rot, rund, rein, war, wir, Herz, werden.

NOTE. — Either sound is correct in conversation. The lingual r, however, is more readily acquired by English-speaking students.

- j 1. When initial in a word or syllable before a vowel, like z in 'zeal' (tongue advanced towards gums): fehen, so, sich, süß, Rose, Zinsen, gelesen.
 - 2. When final in a word or syllable, and before most consonants, like s in 'seal' (tongue advanced, as above); so also ff, ff, always: Gras, weshalb, fast, Maste, effen, Juh, Jühe, Flüsse.
 - 3. When initial before p or t, like sh in 'ship' (tongue advanced; lips protruded): stehen, gestanden, spielen, gespielt, Kinderspiel.
- sch Like sh in 'ship' (see f, 3): Schiff, schreiben, Tisch.

- t i. Like t in 'tame' (tongue advanced to gums): Tag, teisen, Tijch, Tinte, Mutter, ritt.
 - 2. In loan-words before i = t3: Natio'n, Patie'nt.
- th Same as t, 1: Theater.
- \$ Same as & (which see): Sat, siten.
- v 1. Same as f (which see): Bater, viel, von, brav.
 - 2. In most Latin or Romance loan-words = w (which see) Base, Provia'nt, Revo'lver, Bera'nda.
- weshalb, Schwester, zwei.
- g Same as to: Agt, Nige.
- 3 Same as ts: zu, Herz, Sfizze.

Pronunciation of Loan-words.

The German pronunciation of loan-words is usually an approximation to the original sound, the original stress of the foreign word being in most cases retained. A full treatment of the subject is beyond the limits of this work, but the pronunciation of the more common consonants of foreign origin has been indicated above.

Exercises on Pronunciation.

Note.—The words in A, B, C, D, have been taken, with few exceptions, from the first five exercises of the Grammar. The numerals after the letters correspond to those used in explaining the pronunciation (pp. xiv-xx).

A. Simple vowels.—a (1): Bater, Marie', Tafel, aber, da; a (2): alt, Mann, Ball, Garten, Tante; e (1): Feder, erst, Lehrer, sehr; e (2): Geld, Herr, Messer, Fenster; e (3): Rose, viele, loben, aber; i (1): wir, die, viele; i (2): Tinte, ist, immer, artig; i (3): Li'lie; v (1): wo, rot, oder, groß, wohl; v (2): Onkel, Stock, oft, Sommer; u (1): Buch, Bruder, Blume, Stuhl; u (2): Hund, jung, Mutter, Puppe.

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