

Deutsch Aktuell

1



BOOKSTUDY

Deutsch Aktuell 1

Fourth Edition

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About the Cover

The collage of buildings assembled on the cover of *Deutsch Aktuell 1* is particularly appropriate for a first-level language textbook. One can't build anything lasting without first laying a good foundation. The science-art architecture is a paradigm for the study of a foreign language. The functions, vocabulary and structures of language resemble the bricks and mortar of a Gothic cathedral, the girders and rivets of a modern skyscraper, the timbers and plaster of a *Fachwerkhaus*. The architect finds limitless creative expression within the confines of the laws of physics and available materials. So, too, the student of German will find infinite capacity for expression and communication once the functions, vocabulary and structures of German are understood and practiced. A building with a poor foundation will not stand for long. A student with a good foundation will be able to develop and use those skills for a lifetime.

The front cover's three main visual elements illustrate European history's three great social movements led by Church, State and Commerce. The foreground is of the newly restored *Rathaus* clock tower in Leipzig. Behind the clock tower is the *Kölner Dom*. In the background looms the cityscape of downtown Frankfurt's business district. The monuments of the past are living reminders of the best that German culture has to offer and continue to inspire future generations.

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Willkommen!

Welcome to an exciting, new language and culture! As the title *Deutsch Aktuell* suggests, you will become familiar with a language that mirrors today's contemporary everyday-life of teenagers in German-speaking countries. By being exposed to numerous real-life situations you will be able to better relate to your own surroundings and make comparisons between the cultures of German-speaking countries and your own.

"Why should I study German? What do I need it for?" you may ask yourself. Did you know these facts?

- More than one-fourth of the population in this country claims German ancestry.
- Germany is the world's largest exporter and a major trading partner of the United States.
- Over 200 million Europeans speak German as their first foreign language.
- German is an international language in the fields of technology, chemistry, medicine, music, philosophy, and art.
- More Germans travel per capita than any other national group in the world—you're likely to meet them everywhere!
- One out of every ten books published in the world is written in German.
- A knowledge of German improves your job opportunities.
- Knowing German also improves your understanding of English; German students are likely to score higher on college entrance exams than others.

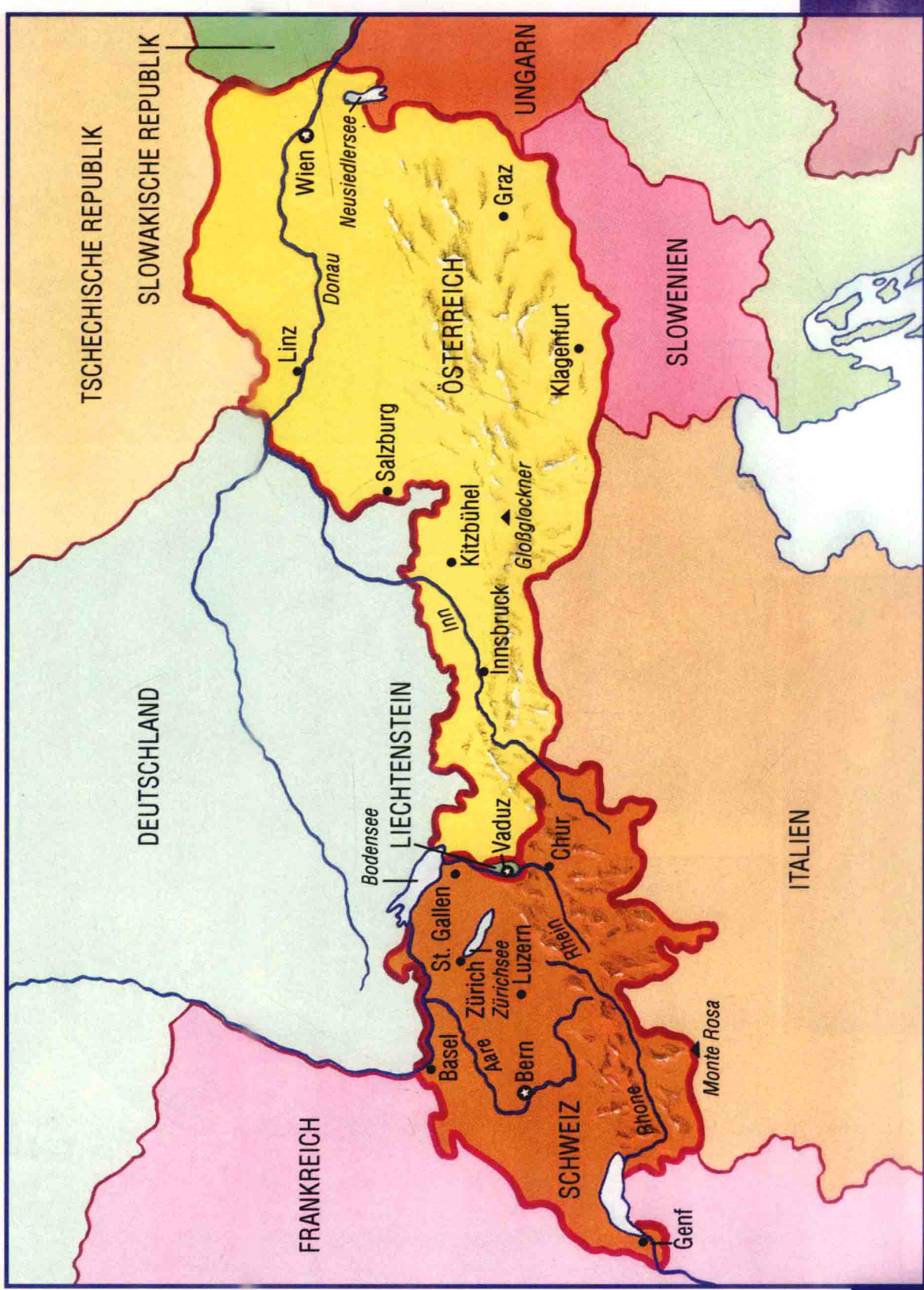
You will learn skills that will help you to communicate on many topics. As you begin learning German, you will initially listen, then gradually learn to speak about topics that interest you. Don't be afraid to express yourself. It's natural to make mistakes, but your language skills and cultural understanding will gradually become stronger each time you use German. In short time your confidence will increase as you experience success communicating German.

The best of success and
have lots of fun!

Viel Erfolg und viel Spaß!







Bad Mergentheim



Karneval
in Köln



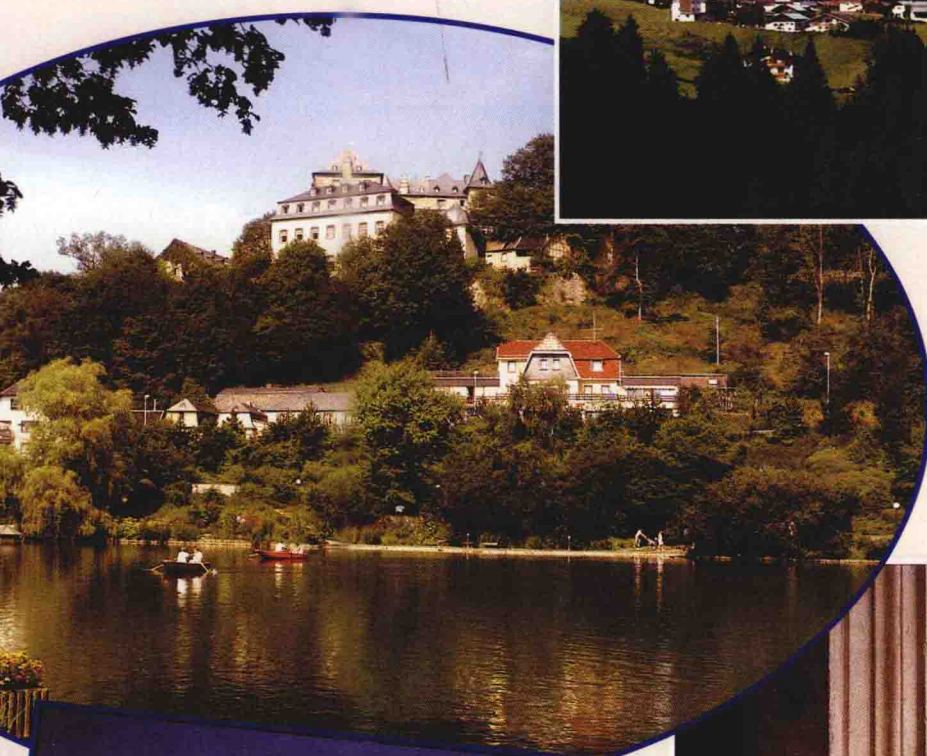
Augsburg



auf dem Brandenburger Tor
(Berlin)



auf einem See in Blankenheim



Kleinwalsertal

Wo ist das Museum?



Segelboote in Hamburg



die Kongresshalle in Coburg

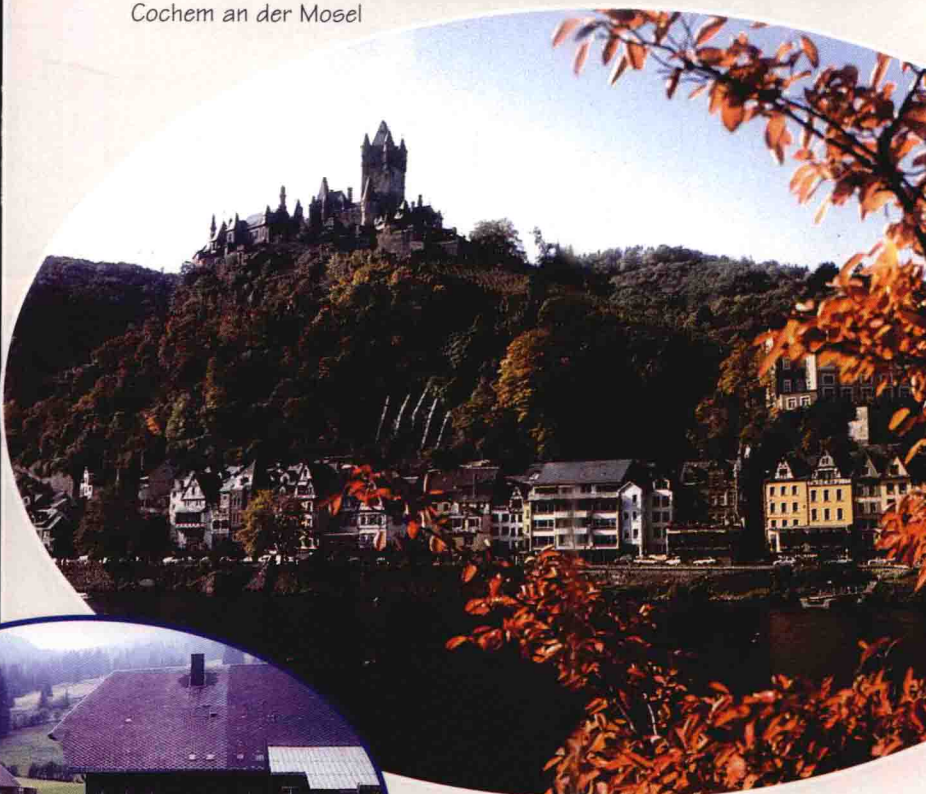
Schloss Bückeburg



auf einem Markt in Koblenz



Cochem an der Mosel



auf dem Lande
(Menzenschwand)



Drachenfliegen (Goslar)



Kinder in
Ruhpolding



Kajakfahren

Kassel



vor dem Rathaus
in Leipzig



Velden



Kinder auf einem Bauernhof



Macht das Spaß?





Rodeln

Das Parlament (Wien)



Mountainbiking

Was spielt sie?



Skilaufen

Schweiz

Bergwanderer im
Berner Oberland



Sonntagstrachten
in der Ostschweiz



Kindertrachten in St. Gallen



Luzern



Snowboardfahren

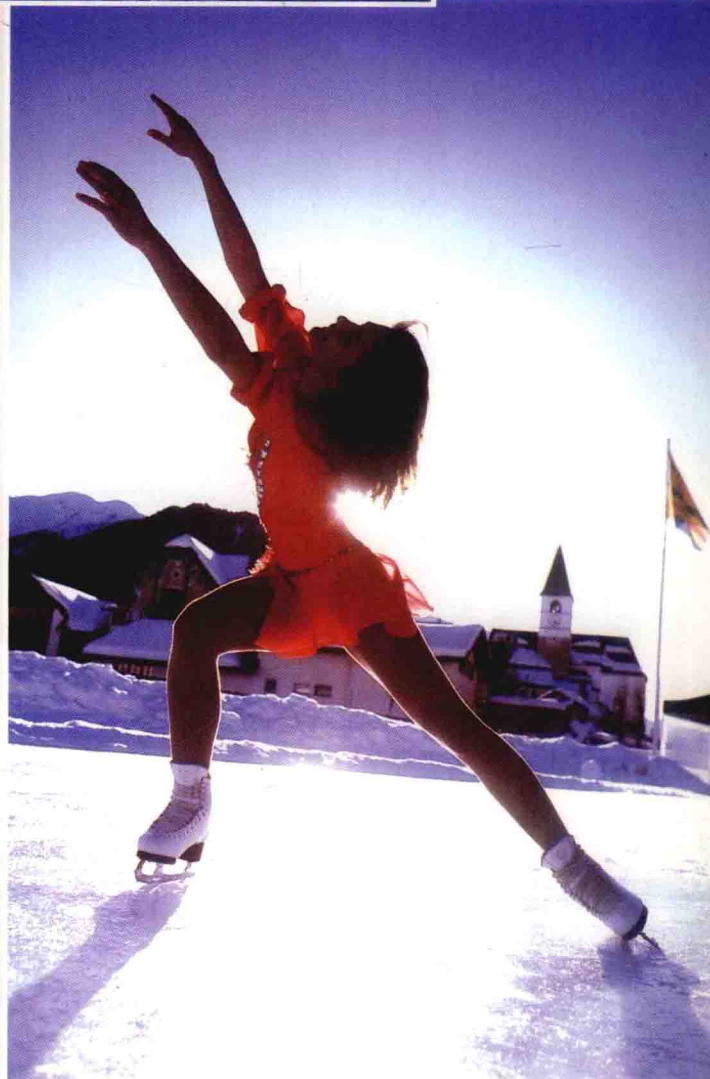




Rhein, in der Nähe
von Schaffhausen



Was machen
sie in den
Bergen?



Eiskunstlaufen in Graubünden



Einführung

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