



GCSE  
**WJEC German**  
REVISION GUIDE  
FOR THE NEW GCSE (2018 ONWARDS)

Chris Whittaker **and**  
Bethan McHugh



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# INTRODUCING WJEC GCSE GERMAN

Your WJEC German GCSE is split into three main themes:

- IDENTITY AND CULTURE
- WALES AND THE WORLD – AREAS OF INTEREST
- CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT

Your four German exams (SPEAKING, LISTENING, READING and WRITING) will cover these three themes equally. Each exam is worth 25% of your final grade. You are not allowed to use a dictionary in any exam.

Now for the confusing bit! Each of these three themes has sub-themes which are divided into sections. These sections are all of equal importance – so don't spend all of your time concentrating on your favourites! Make sure you revise all the topics equally.

IDENTITY AND CULTURE	WALES AND THE WORLD – AREAS OF INTEREST	CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDY AND EMPLOYMENT
<b>YOUTH CULTURE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Self and relationships</li><li>• Technology and social media</li></ul> <b>LIFESTYLE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health and fitness</li><li>• Entertainment and leisure</li></ul> <b>CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food and drink</li><li>• Festivals and celebrations</li></ul>	<b>HOME AND LOCALITY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local areas of interest</li><li>• Travel and transport</li></ul> <b>THE WIDER WORLD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local and regional features and characteristics of Germany and German-speaking countries</li><li>• Holidays and tourism</li></ul> <b>GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Environment</li><li>• Social issues</li></ul>	<b>CURRENT STUDY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School/college life</li><li>• School/college studies</li></ul> <b>ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYABILITY AND FUTURE PLANS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employment</li><li>• Skills and personal qualities</li><li>• Post-16 study</li><li>• Career plans</li></ul>

This revision guide covers all of the themes and sub-themes, as well as giving tips and advice on how to prepare for each exam with plenty of exam-style questions and grammar practice to help you. **Viel Glück!**

Note: English will be referred to throughout this revision guide as the native language in which to provide answers and to translate into/from German. If, however, you are studying WJEC GCSE German through the medium of Welsh, then please substitute 'Welsh' for 'English' accordingly.

# IDENTITY AND CULTURE

## YOUTH CULTURE

The sub-theme of **Youth Culture** is divided into two areas. Here are some suggestions of topics to revise:

### SELF AND RELATIONSHIPS

- family relationships
- friendships
- physical appearance and self-image
- fashion and trends
- celebrity culture
- problems and pressures of young people
- marriage

### TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- different types of technology – e.g. tablets, mobiles, smart watches
- advantages and disadvantages of technology
- advantages and disadvantages of social media – e.g. cyberbullying
- impact of social media
- computer games
- future of technology
- how you use technology

### TRANSLATION TIPS

#### ENGLISH TO GERMAN

- Don't translate sentences word for word!
- Check you are correctly translating the tense required.

#### GERMAN TO ENGLISH

- Don't translate the text word for word – you don't need to have the same number of words in your translation as the original text has.
- Don't miss out little but important words – e.g. very, often, never.
- Make sure you translate the correct meaning of the tense – e.g. I play, I played, I will play, I would play. Sometimes keywords and phrases – like yesterday, in the future, later, usually – will help you to identify the tense.

# SELF AND RELATIONSHIPS

Beschreibe deine Familie.  
Describe your family.

Ich habe eine Schwester, die Sophie heißt. Ich verstehe mich gut mit ihr, weil wir die gleiche Musik mögen. Sie ist immer lustig. Außerdem habe ich einen Bruder, der älter als ich ist. Ich denke, dass meine Eltern zu streng sind, und das ist wirklich ärgerlich.

I have a sister called Sophie. I get on well with her because we like the same music. She is always funny. I also have a brother who is older than me. I think that my parents are too strict and that's really annoying.

Was hast du letztes Wochenende mit deinen Freunden gemacht?  
What did you do with your friends last weekend?

Letzten Freitag bin ich mit meinen Schulfreunden ins Kino gegangen. Nach dem Film sind wir in ein Restaurant gegangen. Wir haben Pizza gegessen.

Last Friday I went to the cinema with my friends from school. After the film we went to a restaurant. We ate pizza.

Findest du Mode wichtig?  
Is fashion important to you?

Ja, natürlich. Ich finde Models und Prominente inspirierend und ich kaufe gern neue Kleidung. Später möchte ich in der Modeindustrie arbeiten.

Yes, of course. I'm inspired by models and celebrities and I love buying new clothes. Later I'd like to work in the fashion industry.

Wer ist dein Lieblingsstar? Warum?  
Who is your favourite star? Why?

Ich bewundere Ed Sheeran, weil er gute Texte schreibt. Letztes Jahr habe ich ihn live gesehen. Es war toll!

I admire Ed Sheeran because he writes good lyrics. Last year I saw him live. It was great!

Wie würdest du deinen idealen Freund/deine ideale Freundin beschreiben?  
How would you describe your ideal girlfriend/boyfriend?

Er/sie würde einen guten Beruf haben und reich und großzügig sein. Meiner Meinung nach ist es wichtig, einen guten Sinn für Humor zu haben.

He/she would have a good job and be rich and generous. In my opinion, it's important to have a good sense of humour.



### Try to use a variety of vocabulary and sentence structures.

There's no need (and you won't have enough time) to describe the colour of every member of your family's hair, eyes, etc. The vocabulary you will be using could become really repetitive.

It's easy for this topic to become too descriptive and rely mainly on present tense. Try to include some opinions – What do you think of different family members? How do you get on? Why?

Say what you did/are going to do with your family to show off your use of different tenses.



### GRAMMAR



### Possessive adjectives

Possessive adjectives show ownership – e.g. my, his. To use the correct possessive adjective you need to know:

1. Which one is needed – e.g. **mein, dein, sein**.
2. What gender the noun is – e.g. **meine Schwester ist ..., mein Bruder ist ...**
3. The case your noun is going to be in.

Possessive adjectives include:

- mein** – my
- dein** – your (informal)
- sein** – his/its
- ihr** – her/their
- unser** – our
- euer** – your (plural)
- ihr** – your (formal)

### Translate the sentences into English:

1. Meine Tante ist lustig, sympathisch und sportlich.
2. Als ich jünger war, hatte ich viele Freunde.
3. Er versteht sich gut mit seiner Schwester.
4. Wie kommst du mit deiner Familie aus?

Have you translated all the information? Does the sentence you have written make sense in English?

### EXAM TASK



# SELF AND RELATIONSHIPS

## USEFUL PHRASES



Ich interessiere mich für Mode.	I am interested in fashion.
Ich trage lieber Markenkleidung.	I prefer wearing designer clothes.
Es ist mein Ziel, berühmt zu werden.	It's my aim to become famous.
Ich lese gern Modezeitschriften.	I like reading fashion magazines.
Ich möchte in der Zukunft heiraten.	I would like to get married in the future.
Meiner Meinung nach ist es sehr wichtig, eine Familie zu haben.	In my opinion, having a family is very important.
Es scheint mir, dass modische Kleidung zu teuer ist.	It seems to me that fashionable clothes are too expensive.
Mein Traumpartner/meine Traumpartnerin würde ... sein/machen/haben.	My dream girlfriend/boyfriend would be .../do .../have ...
Ich kann ihm/ihr alles erzählen.	I can tell him/her everything.
Es gibt manchmal Streit.	There are sometimes arguments.
Meine Eltern sind zu streng.	My parents are too strict.
Ich kann mich immer auf meine Freunde verlassen.	I can always count on my friends.
Wir streiten selten.	We rarely argue.
Wir chatten im Internet.	We chat on the internet.
Ich sehe wie meine Schwester aus.	I look like my sister.
Meine Freunde sagen, dass ich einen guten Sinn für Humor habe.	My friends say I've got a good sense of humour.
Heutzutage haben junge Leute viele Probleme.	Young people today have lots of problems.
Popstars können einen schlechten Einfluss auf junge Leute haben.	Popstars can be a bad influence on young people.
Ich habe vor, mit meinen Freunden zusammen zu wohnen.	I intend to live with my friends.
Ich verstehe mich gut mit meiner Schwester.	I get on well with my sister.
Ich streite mich oft mit meinen Eltern.	I often argue with my parents.
Er/sie kritisiert mich immer.	He/she criticises me all the time.

This revision guide has been designed by examiners and experienced teachers to serve as a preparatory resource for students studying WJEC GCSE German and to provide them with useful insights into what to expect in their speaking, listening, reading and writing exams. It is suitable for both Foundation and Higher tier candidates.

Containing sample exam-style questions throughout, it offers engaging content relevant to the WJEC themes and sub-themes and will support all students in getting to grips with the material they need to know in order to pass their GCSE.

Features include:

- detailed, step-by-step information on each exam's format, with useful advice, tips and techniques to help students prepare for every aspect
- guidance on how to navigate the role play, photo card and conversation elements of the speaking exam
- examples of the kinds of rubrics, instructions, prompts and questions that students can expect in the exam – in a mix of English and German, as they will be on the day
- translations of keywords and useful phrases for each topic
- a variety of reading and writing tasks, with answers provided at the back of the book
- a review of the key grammar points, including practice exercises as well as a grammar glossary with verb tables

**CHRIS WHITTAKER** is an experienced teacher of German and French. He has been a head of department and has always sought innovative and engaging ways to improve teaching and learning. He currently runs First for Languages, which delivers a range of services to businesses, individuals, examination boards and schools. He is also a senior examiner for a number of qualifications including GCSE German.

**BETHAN MCHUGH** is an experienced MFL teacher and has held numerous positions of responsibility during her career including head of year, head of Spanish, HE adviser and learning leader. She is currently a senior examiner of MFL GCSEs and a CPD presenter, as well as being an author of assessments and digital resources.

## ALSO AVAILABLE



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