



Grammatical concepts are re-visited on a regular basis with more complex concepts covered more frequently.

We teach **Edexcel A Level German** and there are six topic units:

Theme 1: Gesellschaftliche Entwicklung in Deutschland

Theme 1 is set in the context of Germany only. This theme covers social issues and trends.

- **Natur und Umwelt**

Umweltbewusstsein; Recycling; erneuerbare Energie; nachhaltig leben.

- **Bildung**

Bildungswesen und die Situation von Studenten; Sitzenbleiben, Berufsausbildung.

- **Die Welt der Arbeit**

Das Arbeitsleben in Deutschland und die Arbeitsmoral; deutsche Geschäfte und Industrien.

Theme 2: Politische und künstlerische Kultur im deutschen Sprachraum

Theme 2 is set in the context of German-speaking countries and communities This theme covers artistic culture (through music and festivals and traditions) and political and artistic culture (through media).

- **Musik**

Wandel und Trends; Einfluss der Musik auf die populäre Kultur.

- **Die Medien**

Fernsehen, Digital-, Print- und Onlinemedien; Einfluss auf Gesellschaft und Politik.

- **Die Rolle von Festen und Traditionen**

Feste, Feiern, Sitten, Traditionen.

And they are taught in this order:

	KP	DW
Autumn 1	Musik	Natur und Umwelt
Autumn 2	Die Medien	Bildung
Spring 1	Die Rolle von Festen und Traditionen	Die Welt der Arbeit
Spring 2	Goodbye Lenin!	Der Besuch der alten Dame
Summer 1	Topic Revision and Goodbye Lenin!	Topic Revision and BDAD
Summer 2	Revision, assessment, feedback Introduction to the Independent Research Project	



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Unit 1.1: Development of Society – Nature and Environment</u>			
Nature and Environment	Grammatical skills: Articles; adjective endings; revision of present, perfect, imperfect and future tenses; reflexive verbs. Thematic understanding: Explore environmental issues facing German-speaking countries; understand environmental awareness and sustainability; examine renewable energy initiatives; investigate recycling and waste reduction; evaluate the benefits and challenges of environmentally friendly lifestyles and organic food production. Strategic skills: Develop reading-for-understanding techniques; use authentic online sources for research; improve listening skills through longer texts; develop vocabulary-learning strategies; summarise information and express opinions on environmental issues. Taking the lead in conversations, including asking questions to glean information. Other skills: Translation; discussion and debate; extended written responses using topic-specific vocabulary.	S4 study of environmental issues and global challenges. Introduction to articles and cases, adjective endings and key tenses. Experience of expressing opinions on environmental topics.	Provides a foundation for Year 13 discussion and evaluation of social issues. Develops analytical discussion skills required for the speaking examination and supports independent research skills used in the IRP.



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Unit 1.2: Development of Society – Education</u>			
Education	Grammatical skills: Word order; modal verbs; reflexive verbs; revision of key tenses; cases and prepositions; subject, object, indirect pronouns Thematic understanding: Understand the structure of the German education system; compare educational experiences in Germany and the UK; investigate challenges faced by students and schools; explore opportunities for further and higher education; evaluate differing perspectives on educational success and reform. Strategic skills: Develop dictionary skills; use repair and rephrasing strategies in speaking; improve listening and reading comprehension; build topic-specific vocabulary; justify opinions and compare viewpoints. Other skills: Translation; written accuracy; structured extended responses; discussion and debate.	KS4 school topic; knowledge of modal verbs, word order and subordinating conjunctions. Experience discussing school life and future plans.	Supports the development of extended discussion and argumentation skills required in Year 13. Provides a basis for more sophisticated oral responses and evaluative writing.



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Unit 1.3: Development of Society – The World of Work</u>			
The World of Work	Grammatical skills: Modal verbs; imperfect tense; question forms; reflexive verbs; revision of key structures and tenses. Thematic understanding: Explore employment opportunities in Germany; understand challenges facing workers in Europe; examine youth employment and unemployment; investigate the role of the German economy and workplace culture; evaluate the changing nature of work in modern society. Strategic skills: Develop translation skills from German into English; improve listening and reading comprehension; use contextual clues to infer meaning; expand topic-specific vocabulary; discuss future aspirations and workplace issues. Researching effectively; organisation skills for revision. Other skills: Translation; extended speaking responses; interpretation of authentic texts and statistics.	KS4 work experience and jobs topic. Introduction to translation skills and discussion of future career plans..	Supports Year 13 examination preparation through continued development of translation and discussion skills. Provides useful vocabulary and structures for oral examination topics and the IRP.



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Unit 2.1: Political and Artistic Culture – Music</u>			
Music	Grammatical skills: Cases; adjective endings; revision of all major tenses; modal verbs; separable and inseparable verbs; reflexive verbs. Thematic understanding: Explore the German-speaking music scene; understand the influence of music on young people and popular culture; examine contemporary trends and developments in music; evaluate the role of music in shaping identity and society. Strategic skills: Develop the use of complex sentences; question and analyse texts; debate and justify opinions; improve listening and reading skills through authentic materials; build topic-specific vocabulary. Other skills: Translation; research tasks; short analytical written responses; presentations.	KS4: Cases (Nom/Acc/Dat); main tenses including irregulars; basic translation; free time topic.	Develops evaluative discussion skills required in Year 13. Supports oral examination preparation and continued grammatical development.



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Unit 2.2: Political and Artistic Culture – Media</u>			
Media	Grammatical skills: Main clause word order; questions and commands; pronouns; adverbials and <i>nicht</i>; subordinate clauses; pluperfect and conditional tenses; separable and inseparable verbs; reflexive verbs; future tense, comparatives and superlatives. Thematic understanding: Investigate television and media in German-speaking countries; compare online and printed media; examine the impact of social media and new technologies; evaluate ethical issues relating to media use, privacy and misinformation. Strategic skills: Develop essay-writing skills; adapt information from source texts; improve presentation skills; strengthen listening, reading and vocabulary-building strategies; begin preparation for independent research. Giving personal opinions and using longer sentences. Other skills: Translation; summary writing; critical evaluation of media sources.	KS4 media and technology topics. Introduction to the conditional and pluperfect tenses. Previous experience delivering presentations.	Provides a foundation for the Independent Research Project and Year 13 oral examination preparation. Develops analytical and evaluative skills needed for more sophisticated discussion.



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Unit 2.3: Political and Artistic Culture – Festivals and Traditions			
Festivals and Traditions	Grammatical skills: Word formation; separable and inseparable prefixes; irregular verbs; prepositions with cases; adverbs; <i>Konjunktiv II</i> and conditional clauses; passive voice; reflexive verbs. Thematic understanding: Explore festivals and traditions across German-speaking countries; understand the historical and cultural significance of celebrations; investigate secular traditions and changing cultural practices; compare traditions across cultures. Strategic skills: Improve listening skills using authentic materials; expand cultural and thematic vocabulary; develop reading strategies for longer texts; compare viewpoints and cultural experiences; revision techniques. Other skills: Translation; cultural analysis; presentations and discussions.	KS4 festivals and celebrations topic. Secure foundation in key grammatical structures developed throughout Year 12.	Supports Year 13 cultural analysis and oral examination preparation. Encourages broader understanding of German-speaking culture and society



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Book: Der Besuch der alten Dame – Friedrich Dürrenmatt</u>			
Der Besuch der alten Dame (Literature Study)	Grammatical skills: Revision of key tenses (present, perfect, imperfect, pluperfect, conditional); Konjunktiv II; passive voice; subordinate clauses (dass, obwohl, wenn); adjective endings; reflexive verbs. Thematic understanding: Justice and morality; wealth and corruption; collective guilt; responsibility of the individual vs society; post-war German-speaking context; dramatic structure and use of satire. Literary skills: Character analysis (Claire, Ill, townspeople); analysis of dramatic techniques; interpretation of themes; use of quotations; essay writing. Strategic skills: Structuring analytical essays; developing arguments; integrating evidence; listening, reading, and vocabulary-building strategies; discussion and debate. Other skills: Translation; extended writing; critical thinking; responding to exam-style questions.	KS4: Introduction to literary texts; basic thematic analysis; familiarity with key tenses; experience of reading longer texts; discussion of moral/ethical issues.	Y13: A-level text study; advanced literary analysis; independent critical response; oral exam discussion; essay writing under timed conditions.



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Film: Goodbye Lenin! – Dir. Wolfgang Becker</u>			
Goodbye Lenin! (Film Study)	Grammatical skills: Revision of key tenses (present, perfect, imperfect, pluperfect, conditional); use of subordinate clauses (dass, obwohl, weil); word order; modal verbs; adjective endings; reflexive verbs. Thematic understanding: Life in the GDR; impact of reunification; Ostalgie; family relationships; truth vs lies; political change and its effects on individuals. Film skills: Analysis of characters (Alex, Christiane, Ariane); interpretation of key scenes; use of film techniques (music, camera, symbolism); understanding director's message. Strategic skills: Essay writing; structuring arguments; analysing visual texts; integrating evidence; listening, reading, and vocabulary-building strategies; discussion and debate. Other skills: Translation; extended writing; critical thinking; responding to exam-style questions.	S4: Familiarity with German history at a basic level; practice describing people and relationships; experience of discussing social issues; foundation in key tenses and structures.	Y13: A-level film/text study; advanced analytical essays; independent critical response; oral exam discussion (film analysis and wider themes).



Topic name	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<u>Introduction to the Independent Research Project</u>			
Introduction to the Independent Research Project (IRP)	Grammatical skills: Revision of key tenses (present, perfect, imperfect, conditional); use of subordinate clauses (dass, weil, obwohl); question formation; modal verbs; complex sentence structures for expressing and justifying opinions. Thematic understanding: Exploration of independent topics related to German-speaking society, culture, or history; forming and refining research questions; understanding different perspectives on an issue. Research skills: Selecting a suitable topic; formulating a research question; using authentic sources; नोट-taking in German; summarising information; referencing sources appropriately. Strategic skills: Presentation skills; structuring arguments; responding spontaneously to questions; developing fluency and confidence; listening, reading, and vocabulary-building strategies. Other skills: Independent learning; critical thinking; translation of key ideas; preparing and delivering a short presentation.	KS4: Basic research and presentation skills; experience expressing opinions; foundation in key grammatical structures; exposure to cultural topics.	Y13: Completion of IRP; full preparation for speaking exam (discussion + presentation); advanced spontaneous interaction; deeper independent research and analysis.