

Easy German Grammar Guide

By Ivan Votipka

Exploring German Sentences, Articles, and 4 German Cases: Your Handy Guide

- Hello! This PDF is all about making German sentences and understanding those important words - "der," "die," and "das." Plus, we've got some simple rules to make your learning journey easier!

What's Included:

- 1. Essential Sentence Rule:** Discover the most important rule for creating sentences in German. It's like a helpful guide that shows you how to put words together the right way.
 - 2. Getting to Know Articles (der, die, das):** Learn about these special words in German. Find out when to use "der," "die," and "das" and become more confident with them.
 - 3. 4 Fälle in deutscher Sprache:** Learn everything about German cases and how to use them in a simple and easy way.
- Whether you're starting or looking to improve, this guide has the tools to boost your understanding of German sentences.

1. Essential Sentence Rule

The basic German sentence

(subject first, verb second, object last)

Subject = First

Verb = Second

Object = Last

Ich esse zu **Hause**. (I'm eating at home.)

Ich fahre auf der **Autobahn**. (I'm driving on the highway.)

Ich laufe wirklich schnell auf der **Straße**. (I run really fast on the street.)

Er fährt zu schnell auf der **Autobahn**. (He is driving too fast on the highway.)

Sie spricht sehr schnell am **Telefon**. (She talks very fast over the phone.)

The basic German sentence - Past tense

(subject first, verb second, object third, verb last)

Subject = First

Verb = Second

Object = Third

Verb = Last

Ich **habe** heute **Deutsch** **gelernt**. (I have learned German today.)

Er **hat** heute eine halbe Stunde lang auf **Deutsch** **gesprochen**. (He spoke in German for half an hour today.)

Ich **habe** mit meinem Freund **Fußball** **gespielt**. (I played football with my friend.)

Ich **habe** den ganzen Tag **Filme** **gesehen**. (I have been watching movies all day.)

Er **hat** zu viel **Fleisch** **gegessen**. (He was eating too much meat.)

The basic German sentence - Questions

(verb first, subject second, object last)

Verb = First

Subject = Second

Object = Last

Essen Sie zu **Hause**? (Do you eat at home?)

Fahren Sie auf der **Autobahn**? (Are you driving on the highway?)

Laufen Sie zu schnell auf der **Straße**? (Are you running too fast on the road?)

Fährt er zu schnell auf der **Autobahn**? (Is he driving too fast on the highway?)

Sprechen sie zu schnell am **Telefon**? (Do they talk too fast on the phone?)

Wen = whom

Wessen = whose

Wem = to/from whom

Wie = how

Warum = why

Was = what

Wann = when

Wo = where

Woher = where from

Wohin = where to

Wer = who

German sentence with conjunctions

(conjunction first, subject second, object third, verb last)

Common German conjunctions:

- *Wie* = how
- *Weil* = because
- *Als / Wenn* = when
- *Falls / Wenn* = if / in case
- *Bis* = until
- *Dass* = that
- *Ob* = Whether
- *Obwohl / obgleich* = although
- *Als ob* = as if

- *Da* = since / as
- *Seit / Seitdem* = since
- *Bevor / ehe* = before
- *Nachdem* = after
- *Damit* = so that
- *Während / indem* = while
- *Sobald* = as soon as
- *Sodass* = so that
- *Solange* = as long as
- *Trotzdem* = despite

Conjunction = First

Subject = Second

Object = Third

Verb = Last

German sentence with conjunctions

(conjunction first, subject second, object third, verb last)

Conjunction = First

Subject = Second

Object = Third

Verb = Last

Er hat mir gesagt, **dass er** zu spät zur **Arbeit** kommen **wird**. (He told me he will be late for work.)

Heute ist ein toller Tag, **weil ich** nicht im **Büro** arbeiten **muss**. (Today is a great day because I don't have to work in the office.)

Heute werde ich mir frei nehmen, **weil ich** meinen Geburtstag zu **Hause** feiern **werde**. (Today I will take the day off because I will celebrate my birthday at home.)

2. Getting to Know Articles (der, die, das)

Top Tricks For Der, Die And Das

- **Feminine:** *die Frau* (the woman)
- **Masculine:** *der Mann* (the man)
- **Neuter:** *das Kind* (the child)

When To Use Der

Noun Ending

– ant

der Konsonant (the consonant)

– ast

der Gast (the guest)

– ich

der Teppich (the carpet)

– ismus

der Marxismus (the Marxism)

– ling

der Häftling (the prisoner)

– us

der Rhythmus (the rhythm)

When we can also use Der

-ling

- der Häft**ling** (the prisoner)
- der Früh**ling** (the spring)
- der Flücht**ling** (the refugee)
- der Säug**ling** (the infant)
- der Lehr**ling** (the apprentice)
- der Zwill**ling** (the twin)

-ist

- der Optim**ist** (the optim**ist**)
- der Pian**ist** (the pian**ist**)
- der Poliz**ist** (the policeman)
- der Spezial**ist** (the special**ist**)

-or

- der Hum**or** (the humor**or**)
- der Dokt**or** (the doctor**or**)
- der Tres**or** (the safe)
- der Profess**or** (the professor**or**)
- der Mot**or** (the motor**or**)

-ismus

- der Ego**ismus** (the ego**ism**)
- der Tour**ismus** (the tourism)
- der Pazif**ismus** (the pacifism)

-er

- der Hör**er** (the receiver)
- der Jäger**er** (the hunter)
- der Käfer**er** (the bug, the beetle)
- der Körper**er** (the body)
- der Tiger**er** (the tiger)
- der Bäcker**er** (the baker)
- der Donner**er** (the thunder)

Himmelsrichtungen (geographical directions)

- der Norden
- der Westen
- der Süden
- der Osten



Wetter (weather)



der Regen (Rain)



der Schnee (Snow)



der Blitz (Lightning)

Wochentage und Monate (Weekdays and Months)

- der Januar
 - der Februar
 - der März
 - der April
 - der Mai
 - der Juni
 - der Juli
 - der August
 - der September
 - der Oktober
 - der November
 - der Dezember
- der Montag
 - der Dienstag
 - der Mittwoch
 - der Donnerstag
 - der Freitag
 - der Samstag
 - der Sonntag



Jahreszeiten (Seasons)

- der Winter
- der Frühling
- der Sommer
- der Herbst



Automarken (Car brands)

- der Volkswagen
- der Mercedes
- der Porsche
- der Audi
- der BMW



Alkohol (Alcohol)

- der Wein
- der Sekt
- der Schnaps
- der Wodka
- der Brandy
- der Rum
- der Whiskey



- das Bier

When To Use Die

Noun Ending

- ung
- tät
- tion / – sion
- schaft
- keit/ – heit
- ie
- enz / – anz
- ei
- ur
- in

Example

- die Entscheidung (the decision)
- die Universität (the university)
- die Explosion (the explosion)
- die Gesellschaft (the society)
- die Schönheit (the beauty)
- die Geographie (the geography)
- die Toleranz (the tolerance)
- die Schlägerei (the fight)
- die Natur (the nature)
- die Boxerin (the [female] boxer)

When we can also use Die

-keit

- die Müdig**keit** (the tiredness)
- die Süßig**keit** (the sweetness, the candy)
- die Fähig**keit** (the ability)
- die Häufig**keit** (the frequency)
- die Flüssig**keit** (the liquid, the fluid)
- die Geschwindig**keit** (the speed, the velocity)
- die Fröhlich**keit** (the joyfulness)

-tät

- die Normalit**tät** (the normality)
- die Spezialit**tät** (the speciality)
- die Elektrizi**tät** (the electricity)
- die Flexibilit**tät** (the flexibility)
- die Kontinuit**tät** (the continuity)

-ion

- die Port**ion** (the portion)
- die Reg**ion** (the region)
- die Stat**ion** (the station)
- die Reakt**ion** (the reaction)
- die Situati**on** (the situation)
- die Nati**on** (the nation)
- die Traditi**on** (the tradition)

-heit

- die Feig**heit** (the cowardice)
- die Schön**heit** (the beauty)
- die Klug**heit** (the cleverness)
- die Blöd**heit** (the stupidity)
- die Dumm**heit** (the foolishness)

-enz

- die Intellig**enz** (the intelligence)
- die Konsequ**enz** (the consequence)
- die Frequ**enz** (the frequency)
- die Exist**enz** (the existence)
- die Differ**enz** (the difference)
- die Tend**enz** (the tendency)

-ung

- die Änder**ung** (the change)
- die Abteil**ung** (the department)
- die Einlad**ung** (the invitation)
- die Anleit**ung** (the instruction)
- die Forsch**ung** (the research)

When we can also use Die

The large majority of nouns which end in **-e** are feminine.

- die Lampe (the lamp)
- die Rede (the speech)
- die Bühne (the stage)
- die Erde (the earth)
- die Aussprache (the pronunciation)
- die Etage (the floor)
- die Woche (the week)
- die Schule (the school)

When we can also use DIE

Bäume/Blumen (trees / flowers)

- die Tulpe (the tulip)
- die Rose (the rose)
- die Lilie (the lily)

When To Use Das

Noun Ending

– chen

Example

das Häuschen (the little house)

– lein

das Büchlein (the booklet/little book)

– um

das Wachstum (the growth)

When we can also use Das

-ment

- das Doku**ment** (the document)
- das Sorti**ment** (the assortment)
- das Ze**ment** (the cement)
- das Komple**ment** (the complement)
- das Medika**ment** (the medication, the medicine)
- das Instru**ment** (the instrument)

-nis

- das Schulzeug**nis** (the school certificate)
- das Gedäch**tnis** (the memory)
- das Erleb**nis** (the experience)
- das Geheim**nis** (the secret)
- das Hinder**nis** (the obstacle)

3. 4 Fälle in deutscher Sprache

Nominativ

QUESTIONS FOR NOMINATIVE:

Wer? Was? (Who? What?)

- **Der Hund bellt laut.** (The dog barks loudly.) - Wer bellt laut? (Who barks loudly?) > Der Hund bellt laut.
- **Die Sonne scheint hell.** (The sun is shining brightly.) - Was scheint hell? (What shines brightly?) > Die Sonne scheint hell.
- **Ein Vogel singt im Baum.** (A bird is singing in the tree.) - Wer singt im Baum? (Who sings in the tree?) > Ein Vogel singt im Baum.
- **Mein Bruder hat einen Computer.** (My brother has a computer.) - Wer hat einen Computer? (Who has a computer?) Mein Bruder hat einen Computer.

The **nominative** stands for the subject (who or what acts?)

Genitiv

QUESTIONS FOR GENITIV:

Wessen? (Whose?)

- **Die Farbe des Himmels ist blau.** (The color of the sky is blue.) - **Wessen** Farbe ist blau? (Whose color is blue?) > **Die Farbe des Himmels ist blau.**
- **Der Name meines Hundes ist Max.** (The name of my dog is Max.) - **Wessen** Name ist Max? (Whose name is Max?) > **Der Name meines Hundes ist Max.**
- **Die Adresse meines Freundes ist bekannt.** (The address of my friend is known.) - **Wessen** Adresse ist bekannt? (Whose address is known?) > **Die Adresse meines Freundes ist bekannt.**
- **Die Entscheidung der Regierung war wichtig.** (The decision of the government was important.) - **Wessen** Entscheidung war wichtig? (Whose decision was important?) > **Die Entscheidung der Regierung war wichtig.**

The **genitive** for possession or belonging.

Dativ

QUESTIONS FOR DATIV:

Wem? (Who?)

- **Ich gebe dem Lehrer das Buch.** (I give the book to the teacher.) - **Wem** gebe ich das Buch? (Who do I give the book to?) > **Ich gebe dem Lehrer das Buch.**
- **Der Mann mit dem Hut gibt dem Kind Süßigkeiten.** (The man with the hat gives candies to the child.) - **Wem** gibt der Mann mit dem Hut Süßigkeiten? (Who does the man in the hat give candy to?) > **Der Mann mit dem Hut gibt dem Kind Süßigkeiten.**
- **Wir schicken dem Freund eine Einladung.** (We send an invitation to the friend.) - **Wem** schicken wir eine Einladung? (Who do we send an invitation to?) > **Wir schicken dem Freund eine Einladung.**
- **Die Blumen gehören der Frau mit dem roten Kleid.** (The flowers belong to the woman with the red dress.) - **Wem** gehören die Blumen? (Who do the flowers belong to?) > **Die Blumen gehören der Frau mit dem roten Kleid.**

The **dative** for the indirect object (who is something given to?)

Akkusativ

QUESTIONS FOR AKKUSATIV:

Wen? Was? (Whom? What?)

- **Ich sehe einen Film.** (I watch a movie.) - **Was** sehe ich? (What do I watch?) > **Ich sehe einen Film.**
- **Sie isst einen Apfel.** (She eats an apple.) - **Was** isst sie? (What does she eat?) > **Sie isst einen Apfel.**
- **Der Lehrer lobt den Schüler.** (The teacher praises the student.) - **Wen** lobt der Lehrer? (Who does the teacher praise?) > **Der Lehrer lobt den Schüler.**
- **Wir kaufen ein neues Auto.** (We buy a new car.) - **Was** kaufen wir? (What do we buy?) > **Wir kaufen ein neues Auto.**

The **accusative** for the direct object (who or what is directly influenced?)

These examples show how nouns can appear in different cases in a sentence.

The **nominative** stands for the subject (who or what acts?)

The **genitive** for possession or belonging.

The **dative** for the indirect object (who is something given to?)

The **accusative** for the direct object (who or what is directly influenced?)

**IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MY
PROGRAM AND HOW YOU CAN REACH FLUENT
GERMAN IN 12-16 WEEKS, CHECK THE COURSE
INTRODUCTION VIDEO ON MY WEBSITE:**

WWW.IVANVOTIPKA.COM