

# German Newsletter

Wir lernen, wir haben Spaß, wir diskutieren.

## Featured Profession – Construction



As with the previous feature, Caregiving, construction positions have been left empty due to an ever-decreasing number of young adults in Germany able to take the such jobs. In fact, several construction specialties are listed in Austria's shortage list. The Austrian government will help with German courses if the workers are not yet at fluent and functional levels, but a basic level (equivalent to 1-2 years in the American system) is preferred.

## Featured extra-curricular German: Movies

There are many German language movies available to our students with today's technology. Many can be streamed online. I also have several that I would be willing to lend out. Some of my movies are Region 1 (US DVDs), but the majority are Region 2 (European). To play these movies, students would need access to a region free DVD player or a laptop, which are able to switch between regions up to 5 times. If you are interested in seeing the films I have available to borrow, please don't hesitate to ask! I can also direct you to films more appropriate for your student.

### Word of the Week: Luftnummer

This can be used as an insult in German, or simply a statement of fact. When calling someone or something a Luftnummer, you are saying they are a flop. Many of the students know the song by Uwe Kind "Du bist eine Nummer," a song using school appropriate insults.

### Wissen Sie schon? Did you know?

The Christmas season isn't over in Germany or Austria until after Dreikönigstag (Epiphany). The end of the season is traditionally celebrated with a Dreikönigskuchen (King's Cake).

## News from the classroom: German 1

### Summarizing, Studies, and continuing the Accusative

German 1 students should have written a summary (5 sentences) of the film we watched before break. Not everyone has turned that in yet. I will accept it until the end of the semester. The vocabulary they should focus on is vocabulary from the film, which they received before viewing.

The final project in German 1 will be a written report describing themselves briefly, then talking about courses they are taking and what supplies they need for those classes.

## News from the classroom: German 2

### Past tense, Advanced Vocabulary, and the final presentation

German 2 finished watching “die Welle” before break. They still have more of a packet to finish, which will help them with vocabulary and grammar. German 2 classes discussed with me what they would like their final to look like, based on what they focused on for this semester – we decided it would make the most sense to present in German on the topics and “what ifs” we discussed during the film. Students may work in groups, but the minimum requirements are by individual rather than by presentation. Speaking and writing will be graded in this final.

In addition to this, students are still working on past tense stories. These should have been done before break, but only a few had been turned in. Students should know that the longer they delay their round 2, the less likely another attempt will be possible.

## News from the classroom: German 3

### Berlin, Berlin!

The students will be creating a dream trip to Berlin, either alone or in groups. They will be expected to “see” and discuss pieces of history, culture, and life in Berlin based on what we have studied so far. We will be spending some time with computers for research so that students can have realistic plans. All work will be done in German and they will receive a written and speaking grade.

Students should also have a written summary of the film we watched before break. I have only received a few of these so far, but I will accept them until the end of the semester.

## News from German Club:

### Fundraising and Multicultural night

German Club is trying to earn some money this month! We will be running the school coffee stand on January 16-20 before school. Students must have their food handler’s card and go to at least one of the coffee stand trainings before they can help.

We are also going to be (finally!) selling Krampus shirts soon. The cost will be \$20 for T-shirts and \$35 for sweatshirts. The artwork has come from the students. We’re working on getting the design finalized and will have order forms out ASAP.

Heatherwood has invited us to their Multicultural night, which will be January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students who wish to spread the love for German language and culture are welcome to join me at our booth- we’ll have a good time!