

**Deutsch 301 • Herbstsemester 2013**  
**Sitzung Nr. 14 • 14.11. • Tagesordnung • assignment & deadlines**

Vorige Sitzung: Vokabeln

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Friedhof - cemetery  | graben - dig  | begraben - bury                        |
| Trauerfeier - memorial service   | ausgraben - excavate                                  | Begräbnis - burial                     |
| mittelmäßig - mediocre   | regelmäßig - regular(ly)                              | Bestattung - interment                 |
| dienen - serve (as servant, as soldier)  | bedienen - operate/run (equipment), serve (customers) | ununterbrochen - uninterrupted(ly)     |
| while - während + subject + verb; beim + infinitival noun (beim Essen - while eating);   |   |  |
| behave - sich benehmen (to behave with manners); sich verhalten - to act, respond; gehorchen - obey                              |   |  |
| idioms with "Wurst" - es geht um die Wurst = be sure, down to brass tacks; das ist mir Wurst (Wurscht) - I could (not) care less |   |  |
| Fortschritt - progress   | achten auf - pay attention to                         | beachten - consider, take into account |
| Minderheit - minority (of a whole)   | Mehrheit - majority (of a whole)                      | Profi - professional                   |
| minderjährig - minor (age)   | notice - merken                                       | beruflich - professional               |
| deaf - taub (older term, or in plain speech); schwerhörig (hard of hearing); hörbehindert - hearing-impaired                     |   |  |
| suspicious - misstrauisch (having suspicions about); verdächtig (behaving in a questionable manner)                              |   |  |

Unterlagen u. Grafiken [Zahlen in () beziehen sich auf meine Datenbanksammlung]

Schlüsselwort/begriff des Tages / der Woche

personality, psychology, behavior

|   |                                     |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Persönlichkeit - personality                        | Eigenschaft - characteristic, trait | Art - kind                                    |
| Neigung - tendency                                  | geneigt sein - to be inclined to    | Meinung - opinion                             |
| Stärke - strength                                   | Schwäche - weakness                 | sich benehmen - behave (neutral, or "proper") |
| sich verhalten - behave (neutral)                   | scheinen - seem                     | Gewohnheit - habit                            |
| gewöhnlich - usual(ly), habitual(l)                 | immer, oft, häufig, manchmal        | nicht oft, selten, nie                        |
| sich etwas abgewöhnen - to break oneself of a habit | (sich) ändern - change (oneself)    | versuchen - try                               |
| bewerten - evaluate (suggesting judging as well)    | einschätzen - evaluate (neutral)    | kritisieren - criticize                       |
| meistens - mostly                                   | eher - rather (than)                | eigentlich = actually                         |

|                |                               |                           |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                | something else)               |                           |
| faul - fleißig | freundlich -<br>zurückhaltend | vielseitig - konzentriert |

### Schwerpunkte (Zeichenerklärung)

- SmallTalk: Wie es uns geht: heute, diese Woche, im Herbstsemester (im Vergleich zu/mit...)
- Gespräch: Gesundheit, Sicherheit, Erfolg? Was für eine Rolle spielt das in unseren Zukunftsplänen, und in welcher Bedeutung? Nächste Themen: Reisen, Sprachen, Glück (bei der Arbeit, im Leben)
- Gespräch: Unsere Selbstbiografien: Höhepunkte, Tiefpunkte, Erfolge, Niederlagen
- EU-Sprachkompetenzen (Einführung); **Lebenslauf**; **Lebenslauf Ingrid Uebe**, Kinderbuchautorin
- Debriefing: Narrative vs. condensed résumé - which is "better"? Which is more difficult to compose in another language?
- Weiter über SpeakEasy (**Firmenwebsite**) - neue Versionen von alten Kartenarten; unsere Kunden/Käufer: Wer / Was für Menschen? Wer kauft und schickt was für Grußkarten und wieviele?
- Gesundheit: Unfälle, Verletzung, Narben (Bildwörterbuch: Skelett); Unsere Krankheiten und Verletzungen (BITTE: "Als ~~wann-wenn~~ ich 12 Jahre alt war..."; **Ratgeber Kinderkrankheiten (Stern)**)
- Übung: Mein(e) Chef(in), meine Mitarbeiter - was sind das (nicht) für Leute, und was tun sie (nicht)?
- Wrap up: We're almost 75% through the course; how many stars should you get?

### Aufgabe(n)

- Writing assignment (due Tuesday, 26 November): Your personality, other people's personalities and behaviors, and how that relates to your feelings about the workplace and your career. Read the questionnaire "**Die 'Big Five' Persönlichkeitstest**" and write a one-page description of your personality, with particular attention to how that relates to job and career preparation and activity. Specific things to address: How your personality has helped (or not) in your studies, how you interact with other people, how your strengths can make you a more employable and even happier person. Try to discuss 5 or more distinct features. For THREE of those features, give a concrete example of your thoughts and actions. ONE of those examples must be from the past, rather than from your present situation and work/study activity. It may help you to choose a personality descriptor (zurückhaltend, vielseitig) and do an internet search on that feature in combination with "ich über mich", to find a web page of someone perhaps like yourself, whose language you can then plunder. To steer away from dating sites you might add some "filter" words, like "Lebenslauf" (résumé) and references to job titles or specific interests. Here are two examples: **thumbnail self-descriptions from a youth group**; the detailed biostatement of a woman who writes children's books. We may use part of her text as a translation assignment.

### Vorbereitung auf die nächste(n) Stunde(n)

- Begin searching, using (quoted) "ich über mich" and smart keywords, for a person in the German-speaking world who shares your educational, career, and even personal interests. Example: **Ingrid Uebe**. This is preparation for assignments where you will translate that person's résumé and use its vocabulary to enrich your own résumé in German.
- Read (over weeks 7 and 8) Nees "Germany: Unraveling an Enigma" Chapter 6: "Building Better Business Relationships" (later we'll come back to Chapter 5, which is more general). As always, draw comparisons to American culture or, rather, the subset(s) of American culture you know about, and to other cultures you may have experienced. Example: Do you think DACH companies have "casual Friday"?

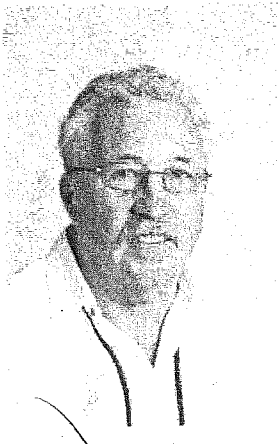
### Vorschau auf die nächste(n) Aufgabe(n) und Sitzung(en)

- Soon we'll be talking about the everyday working world: behaviors, skills, people, and a touch of the higher-level areas like pay, fringe benefits, etc. If you feel you lack experience in the working world, talk to other people who do have it.
- Upcoming: a reading & translation assignment about manners and other behaviors in the German-speaking work environment.

- Schriftliche Aufgabe: meine Persönlichkeit
- Unsere Gesundheit: im allgemeinen; bei der Arbeit und im Beruf
- More about Knigge and other sources of advice
- Describing and demonstrating a career-related skill
- Upcoming: a reading & translation assignment about manners and other behaviors in the German-speaking work environment.
- Upcoming: research about a startup company or German Schülerfirma
- Upcoming: info about scholarships and German-related job opportunities
- **Wir entwickeln, zeigen und belegen eine Fachkenntnis**
- Wir besuchen und untersuchen einige Firmen, als Vorbereitung auf die nächsten schriftlichen Aufgaben:

eine Tischlerei (Johann Rohregg); ein Haus- und Gartenfachhandel (Schoell); ein Großkonzern (Kaufhof), mit Auskünften über Karriere, Jobs und Praktika, und eine Selbstbeschreibung von einem, der bei Kaufhof Arbeit fand

**Name:** Sepp Meyer  
**Eintrittsjahr:** 2009  
**Instrument:**  
 Bariton



**Warum ich böhmische & mährische Musik mache...**  
 wunderbare Melodien, schöne Harmonien, gefühlsvolle Musik, technisch anspruchsvoll

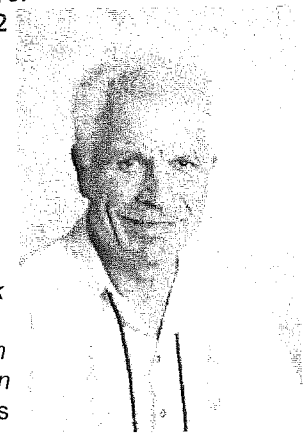
**Ich spiele Bariton weil....**  
 in der Kadettenmusik fehlten Klarinettenisten, also erhielt ich eine Klarinette, meine Finger waren aber zu klein, beim zweiten Instrument, der Zugposaune war mein Arm zu kurz. Man verpasste mir dann ein Tenorhorn, mit dem ich dann mein Instrument fürs Leben gefunden hatte.

**Musikalische Laufbahn.....**  
 Kadettenmusik Wohlen, Bläserkurse AMV, Militärtrompeter, Dirigentenkurse AMV, 47 Jahre MG Villmergen, 20 Jahre Blaskapelle Rietenberg

**Zwei Lieblings Polka/Walzer....**  
 Polka: Slavikovska, Nedakonanka  
 Walzer: Seerosenwalzer, Vypichnuta

**Meine Hobbys....**  
 Musik machen, Musik hören

**Name:** Edgar Meyer  
**Eintrittsjahr:** 2002  
**Instrument:**  
 Tenorhorn  
**Funktion:**  
 Hüttenwart im Probelokal



**Warum ich böhmische & mährische Musik mache.....**  
 damals 1967 nach einem Konzert von Ernst Mosch hates mich gepackt.

**Ich spiele Tenorhorn weil.....**  
 weil in der Jungmusikanten ein Tenorhornspieler gesucht wurde.

**Musikalische Laufbahn.....**  
 1958 - 2008 Musikgesellschaft Schwaderloch  
 1963 - 1974 Tanzmusik "Melando-Septett"  
 1974 - 1983 Ruebliländer Musikanten  
 1983 - 2005 Habsburg-Musikanten

**Zwei Lieblings Polka/Walzer....**  
 es gibt unzählige Polkas und Walzer die ich gerne spiele

**Meine Hobbys....**  
 Böhmisches Musik, Velotouren, Bergwanderungen

nach oben

[BLOG \(HTTP://MARGOERTZ.DE/\)](http://marcgoertz.de/)[ÜBER MARC \(HTTP://MARGOERTZ.DE/UEBER-MARC/\)](http://marcgoertz.de/ueber-marc/)[IMPRESSUM \(HTTP://MARGOERTZ.DE/IMPRESUM/\)](http://marcgoertz.de/impresum/)

**mare görtz**  
[\(<http://marcgoertz.c>\)](http://marcgoertz.c)

SONNTAG, 20. OKTOBER 2013

## Zwanzig Fakten über mich

Der [Martin](http://www.dertagundich.de/) (<http://www.dertagundich.de/>) hat ein [Stöckchen](http://www.dertagundich.de/zwanzig-fakten-ueber-mich/) (<http://www.dertagundich.de/zwanzig-fakten-ueber-mich/>) in die Runde geworfen, was natürlich ungemein praktisch ist, denn so kann ich auch mal wieder was in dieses Internet reinschreiben. Passiert ja so selten! Also los.

1. Ich lebe schon immer im [Selfkant](http://www.selfkant.de/) (<http://www.selfkant.de/>), der westlichsten Gemeinde Deutschlands. Man versucht immer wieder, mich zu einem Umzug zu überreden, aber mir gefallen Land und Leute hier einfach zu gut.
2. Fußball interessiert mich nicht die Bohne – außer es findet eine EM oder WM statt, dann verpasse ich fast kein Spiel. Was Abseits ist, weiß ich trotzdem nicht.
3. Als Vereinsmensch bin ich Musiker [durch](http://instrumentalverein-tueddern.de/) (<http://instrumentalverein-tueddern.de/>) und [durch](http://tueddern.de/) (<http://tueddern.de/>), aber auch aktiver [Karnevalist](http://www.kg-witsemaenn.de/) (<http://www.kg-witsemaenn.de/>) und mitverantwortlich für den Bau eines Bürgerhauses in meinem Heimatort.
4. Etwas makaber, aber ich habe bereits zwei Lieder für meine Gedenkfeier ausgewählt: »[Music](http://open.spotify.com/track/1csXsWpoKOqrVEGqawEAZN) (<http://open.spotify.com/track/1csXsWpoKOqrVEGqawEAZN>)« von John Miles und »[Theme from New York, New York](http://open.spotify.com/track/3RgRoOrrtiUDa9B8GWg4wc) (<http://open.spotify.com/track/3RgRoOrrtiUDa9B8GWg4wc>)« von Frank Sinatra. Man muss ja früh planen.
5. Ich wasche sehr gern, bügeln oder Klamotten falten geht mir aber tierisch gegen den Strich. Just in diesem Moment steht ein Wäschekorb neben mir bereit – seit Tagen.
6. Ich koche unheimlich gern, bin aber häufig recht inspirationslos und bestelle dann abends lieber schon mal Pizza, Indisch oder hole was von der Frituur.
10. Seit dem 27. Juli bin ich jedes Wochenende unterwegs, und das geht noch mindestens bis zum 30. November so. Langeweile kommt nicht auf.

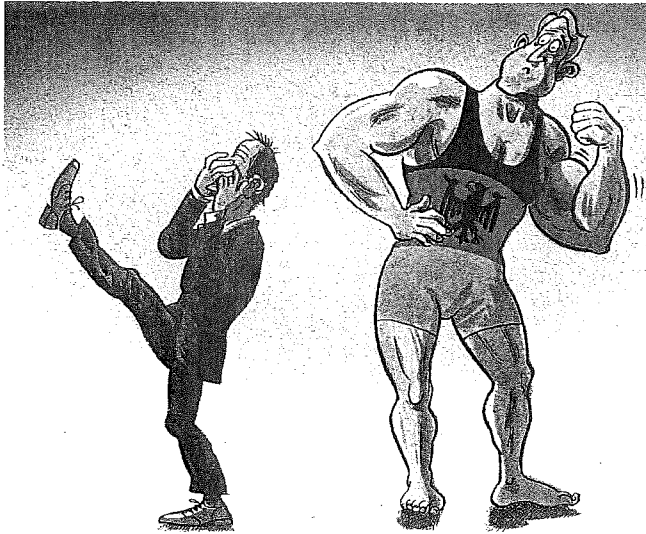
Aus Gründen gibt's auch noch ein Fakt, das meine Liebblingsehrendame grad feststellte:

Ich spiele Tenorhorn, aber ich spiele immer Piano. (Klar soweit?)

So. Ich reiche weiter an [Markus](http://knieb.es/) (<http://knieb.es/>) und [Dominik](http://www.dominik-schwarz.net/blog/) (<http://www.dominik-schwarz.net/blog/>).

# Charlemagne | Fawltly Europe

Will the European Commission dare to utter the unmentionable to the Germans?



“DON’T mention the war” is the catchphrase from one of the best-loved scenes in “Fawlty Towers”, a British television comedy series. John Cleese plays the eccentric owner of a small-town hotel who causes uproar by incessantly and rudely talking about the war to his German guests. These days in Brussels the equivalent catchphrase about Germans has been “Don’t mention the surplus”. It would be funny were it not for the hardship that Germany’s obsession with competitiveness is causing.

For Germany booming exports are the measure of economic virility. To an extent, it has a point. The woes of the euro zone were, in large part, caused by southern Europe’s loss of export competitiveness. Yet a large and persistent surplus in the trade balance (or the current-account balance, which includes foreign income) can be the symptom of a distorted economy. If big surpluses were a guarantee of vitality, then Japan would never have suffered its lost decades.

Within the euro zone troubled economies cannot devalue to regain competitiveness or loosen monetary policy to suit their needs. Instead they must adjust by painfully reducing wages and prices relative to those of others. Such “internal devaluation” can be done gradually, by holding down wages, as Germany did before the crisis; these days, though, it is accompanied by wage cuts and deep recessions. By contrast surplus countries, including Germany, the Netherlands and Austria, enjoy an artificially low exchange rate. Were Germany still using the Deutschmark, its currency would surely appreciate.

Many urge Germany to stimulate its economy to help its crisis-hit partners. On October 30th America’s Treasury Department criticised Germany’s export-led growth model, in unusually sharp language, as a reason for the weakness of the euro zone’s recovery. But in an open trading area the connection between one country’s surplus and another’s deficit is complex. Boosting demand in Germany may suck imports from America, China or eastern Europe, more than from the Mediterranean. Even so, say Eurocrats, that would help indirectly. Buying more imports could help arrest the rise of the euro, which is making it harder for southern countries to rebalance their economies.

The euro zone’s toughened rules of “economic governance” are lopsided. Under the so-called macroeconomic imbalances

procedure, a current-account deficit greater than 4% of GDP can trigger an alert, possibly followed by “in-depth analysis” carried out by the European Commission, policy recommendations and, ultimately, the threat of sanctions. Yet a country’s surplus must rise above 6% of GDP before Eurocrats start to take notice. Germany was let off last year because its surplus (averaged over three years) was a shade below the warning threshold and was expected to shrink. Now statisticians have revised that figure to 6.1%, and it has grown since then. It stood at 7% in 2012.

So will the EU dare to mention the surplus? The test will come later this month, when the commission issues its latest economic forecasts and launches the “European semester”, an annual cycle of economic and budgetary assessments that culminate in the spring with “country-specific recommendations”. These edicts from Brussels have already irritated France, which told the commission not to “dictate” reforms. But given France’s slow progress in pension and labour reforms, more criticism is inevitable. Now that America’s Treasury has blazed a trail, can the commission afford not to speak out if it wants to be seen as independent?

Germany says its workers’ wages have risen of late, and that its growth is fuelled more by domestic demand. Crisis countries are adjusting, too, and growth is returning to the euro zone. But the euro zone remains a faulty edifice. The recovery is fragile, and the burden of adjustment still falls on debtor states. Take Ireland: its current account may be back in surplus, and it hopes for full market-access next year after its bail-out expires. But one of its biggest exports is young graduates. Youth unemployment in the Mediterranean rim also remains appallingly high.

In its latest World Economic Outlook report, the IMF says the shrinking current-account deficits in crisis-hit countries have mostly been caused by “cyclical” factors, ie, recession and a slump in imports. Internal devaluation still has a long way to go. The message to Germany is clear: increasing its domestic demand is critical to helping weaker states recover.

Such appeals grate in Berlin. Germany does not just trade within the euro area, say officials, but in a competitive world. Southern Europe should not seek to recover by weakening the strong. Indeed, Germany still thinks the southerners are not doing enough. It wants to introduce reform “contracts” between governments and the commission, lubricated with extra money. The idea is stuck. Debtor states want to talk mostly about the size of transfers; creditor states focus on the binding nature of commitments. German officials claim, scornfully, that just 10% of the commission’s country-specific proposals have been enacted.

## In Europe’s service

The accusation could rebound on Germany. The commission may have kept quiet so far about Germany’s surplus. But Eurocrats say Germany has done little to implement even the few recommendations it was given, such as liberalising construction and services. It could also do more to invest in education and infrastructure, and make child care available for working women.

Germany should be leading the push to liberalise services across the EU. Services make up the vast bulk of the EU’s GDP, but are often poorly integrated into the single market. Everybody would win. Opening up services would boost demand in Germany, enhance competitiveness in southern Europe—and even give Britain a good reason to stay in the EU. ■

point to the increased activity of Russian bombers close to the airspace of NATO members and the threats from Moscow of preventive attacks on parts of the European missile-defence system that America is deploying in stages.

One indication of Poland's growing clout in NATO is the "Steadfast Jazz" training exercise, to be held in November in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. The biggest exercise of its kind since the end of the cold war, involving a force of about 5,000 on land, air and sea, "Steadfast Jazz" has two declared goals and an undeclared one. The first is to advance the "connected forces initiative"—NATO's attempt to hold on to hard-won gains, made in Afghanistan, in getting different forces to work together—before the combat mission there

draws to a close in 2014. The second is to test the command-and-control systems for the 13,000-strong immediately deployable element of the "NATO Response Force"—a powerful, high-readiness joint force that can either be used for out-of-area emergencies or become the first line of collective defence. The undeclared objective is to reassure those NATO members closest to Russia that Article 5 is still the bedrock of the alliance.

Yet somewhat undermining that is the fact that as many as 70% of the forces taking part will be provided by Poland, its partners from the Visegrad group (the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary) and the Baltics. France will contribute 1,000 troops and Britain will send two warships. But America can spare only a

company of 200 soldiers, and others are staying away entirely. A similar "high visibility" exercise is planned for 2015, when Afghan deployments will be over, but there are fears that stretched training budgets and a reluctance to offend Russia could once again limit the numbers taking part.

Poland at least will continue to bang the drum for honouring commitments. It also hopes its example may encourage others not to cut too deeply into defence budgets. But it is right to be worried. The interminable crisis in the euro zone means more pressure on already inadequate defence spending, while Barack Obama repeatedly says that it is time Europe became a "provider" rather than a "consumer" of security. For Poles with a sense of history, that is an ominous combination. ■

### German child care

## Fighting over the Kinder

BERLIN

Crèches trump the euro and much else in the German election campaign

GERMAN mothers who take their pundits and politicians seriously have faced a grim choice over the past year. They can be *Rabenmütter* (raven mothers), who selfishly abandon their toddlers to pursue careers. Or they can be *Heimchen am Herd*, a phrase that started as the German translation of Charles Dickens's "The Cricket on the Hearth" and has come to mean housewives passed over by modernity and content to remain at the hearth with the wee ones.

This is the latest flare-up in a culture war that has made family policy one of the most contested issues ahead of the general election on September 22nd, shoving aside apparently weightier issues like the future of the euro and the politics of energy. On one side are conservatives, represented by the Christian Social Union (CSU), the Bavarian sister-party of the Christian Democrats (CDU) led by Chancellor Angela Merkel. On the other is almost everybody else.

Since August 1st each side has had a policy to tout. Progressives propose a new legal right for parents, once a child is a year old, to have a place at a publicly subsidised crèche. Conservatives counter with a planned new monthly payment of €100 (\$130), rising to €150 next year, to parents who choose not to use a subsidised crèche, presumably to care for their toddlers at home. Detractors are calling this the "hearth bonus".

These two new policies join a bewildering list of 156 existing entitlements for families, such as the *Kindergeld* that parents get for each child, as well as various tax breaks. Such variety is good because it captures every conceivable

situation in life and thus gives parents choice, says Kristina Schröder, the family minister (who leads by example, having had a baby while in office). Critics say it is baffling, and reflects German confusion about women and family life.

Western Germany is more conservative than such neighbours as Scandinavia and France in its attitudes to babies, women and work. (Formerly communist eastern Germany is more progressive.) Only 24% of German toddlers were in crèches in 2011, compared with half in the Netherlands and three-quarters in Denmark, according to Eric Seils at the Hans-Böckler Foundation, a think-tank linked to trade unions. A shortage of child care is one reason why women in Germany are more likely than their neighbours to stay out of the labour market. It may also explain why they have fewer children (1.36 per woman on average).

The "hearth bonus" is unlikely to make many parents keep toddlers out of crèches. Its importance is more as a cultural signal that the CSU forced last year on its partners in government, the CDU and the liberal Free Democrats. The opposition centre-left parties promise to repeal it if they win.

The legal claim to a crèche is also largely theoretical. What matters most is whether the supply of child-care places keeps up with demand, and whether parents decide that the new crèches are good enough. Attitudes are changing faster than the political hysterics suggest. It is too bad, says Klaus Zeh, president of the German Family Association, a lobby group, that emotional debate and stereotyping "has hurt so many families".

### Montenegro and the Balkans

## Leader of the pack

PODGORICA

A Balkan survivor gets closer to the EU, but his power may be waning

IT IS easy to imagine Milo Djukanovic, the prime minister of Montenegro, whistling "Leader of the pack" on his way to work. The undisputed survivor of Balkan politics, he has led his country in one job or another since 1989, making him perhaps Europe's most successful statesman. And he is still only 51. In 2006 he steered Montenegro towards independence from the rump union with Serbia. Since Croatia joined the European Union in July his country, which began accession talks last year, has been in pole position to follow, stealing a march on both Serbia and the four other aspiring Balkan countries.

Yet Mr Djukanovic faces new problems at home. His junior partners, the Social Democrats (SDP), are acting like an opposition party; parliament has begun to exercise more power; and EU officials are de-

