

German Writing Test K07 (F2004)

3 parts • total time: 60 minutes

Use the space given as a guide to how much to write.

Part 1 Word and phrase generation (15 minutes)

You're in a German-speaking country and are about to go out to do some errands. You're worried that you'll forget vocabulary and other important language, so you are making up a "cheat sheet" of key language: some single words, some phrases, and some sentences that you have mostly memorized but are worried that you'll forget under pressure.. The first context is taken directly from the course. The second asks you to combine knowledge from several various parts of the course into resources for a new context. Your lists will be judged on how helpful they would be, not just how long they are. Don't pad your list by including words like "und" as separate items.

Fahrkartenschalter — At a big-city train station you will be arranging train tickets for several people who: 1) are of different ages; 2) will be traveling to a range of destinations both near and very far; and 3) may have to hurry to make their trains.

Wir laden Gäste zum Restaurant ein / We invite guests to a restaurant— You're in a German-speaking country, and a week ago an acquaintance or business contact made you feel welcome by taking you to dinner at a local restaurant that served American-theme food. Now you'd like to return the kindness, but you want to show that you are putting down some cultural roots in your new temporary home. You halfway recall that your associate once pointed out a favorite local-cuisine restaurant. Your list should help you 1) make an invitation; 2) get your guest to jog your memory about the local-food restaurant; 3) make it clear that the treat is on you

Part 2 Sentence generation, narrow topic (15 minutes)

You're at the stage in a penpal relationship with a German speaker that you are exchanging information about family and friends. Choose someone you know well – it could be a family member or a friend, or maybe even one of your instructors. Try to tell as much as you can about that person and your relationship with each other. It's probably better to avoid old stories and abstract concepts ("generous," etc.); concentrate on the concrete things. Even if you think they are trivial, they will be new to your penpal.

Part 3 Extended text generation, multiple focus (30 minutes)

It's a little way into the future now, and you are in a German-speaking country. Something really nice, something related to your experience in studying German, is now beginning to happen. In a short letter to someone you would naturally write to in German (a favorite classmate, an overseas acquaintance, your old German teacher), tell about the happy occurrence that's coming about. Maybe it has to do with one of the projects you did in class. If you didn't get much from the projects, use something like an expenses-paid trip to Europe for your topic. A few years ago one of our students was given such a trip for Christmas—for herself, her boyfriend, and the two mothers(!).