

German Writing Test K10 (W2005)

Use the space given as a guide to how much to write. There is no time limit, but an hour is probably enough to show what you can do. Be aware that beyond a certain point what you write will not be better, but just more at the same level.

If you are taking this test outside of class, provide the following Honor Code documentation from a person who cares about you and who, by signing, vouches for your honesty.

Name of witness (printed) signature

relationship

VIELEN DANK!!

Part 1 (20 minutes)

You're in a German-speaking country and are about to do something where you'll have to speak readily. You're worried that you'll forget vocabulary and other important language, so you are making up a "cheat sheet" of key vocabulary, phrases, and sentences. The first context is taken from last quarter, because we want to check how much of that material has remained. The second asks you to combine knowledge from more than one Kontext of this quarter's material into resources for a complex situation. 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. If you have acquired language resources from outside the core materials, that may improve your score, *as long as the core knowledge is also evident*.

Im Hotel – On the train you attracted a collection of, oh, half a dozen linguistic "parasites" of both sexes and various preferences who took Spanish in college, instead of German, and now expect you to use your modest German to arrange accommodations for the whole gang of you. You suspect that the nicer ones in the group will buy you dinner in return for your efforts, if you negotiate well and find out about nearby resources.

How do we get from here to there, and what – and where – is "there"? – It's late in the evening, and the weather has been mostly unpleasant. You got the hotel room (see above), but now you've discovered that you need something real bad (never mind what), and you're going to have to go out and get it, however near or far it may be, and by whatever means of transportation you may need (and have available so late). Yes, big city train stations are a good resource in such cases, but this isn't a big city (or a small one), and by the time you got your hotel you had lost track of where the station was.

Part 2 (20 minutes) – Das kommt in den besten Familien vor! / Happens in the best of families!

Perhaps you're sitting in a train compartment in a German-speaking environment, or else you're preparing to email a German-speaking acquaintance. You have a picture of some people (and pets?) who are near and dear to you. Write some sentences that tell about the various people in a way that makes them "real." If it will help, draw a picture of the photo and write about each person and what is going on in the pictures. Remember that "action shots" make the best pictures.

Part 3 (20 minutes) – Was dem einen recht, ist dem andern billig / fair is fair

In part 2 you got to tell about your life and the people in it. Now you are looking at a photo about the life and the people in it of the person in the train compartment, or in the email exchange, who was so nice as to be interested in your world. Write some questions that will show how curious and caring you are. If it will help, draw a picture of the photo and write about each person. Reminder: You're not talking about YOUR world; you're trying to find out about THEIR world.