

German Writing Test K12 (W2004)

3 parts • total time: 60 minutes Use the space given as a guide to how much to write.

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

name (printed) signature relationship VIELEN DANK!!

Part 1 (10 minutes / 20%) – vocabulary and simple sentences

You're spending your first night in a budget hotel in a German-speaking country. You took a room without a bath or shower, which will save you enough money to let you afford a nice dinner, rather than still more sausage and potato salad. It's time to go down to the front desk to arrange some personal hygiene and discuss other preparations for tomorrow. 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 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.

Bad oder Dusche — Speaking for yourself and some other person who doesn't handle the language, you're negotiating use of the common shower, wherever it is in this place. You'll need to find out: 1) Where and how to get the supplies and equipment you need. 2) How the bath/shower setup works and what to do if something seems wrong or turns out to be confusing. 3) How the two of you will manage, each on your own, since you have quite different preferences in bathing and in your daily routine.

Wir arbeiten und essen dann zusammen—While you're downstairs, you're going to use the local pay telephone to arrange an appointment and work session with an associate, who you want to join you in your room for consultation and work, before you go out to eat, where you'll pick up the tab. Telephoning is stressful when you don't know the language well – you can forget both language and actual information you want to deliver. Your lists, phrases and sentences should be sufficient for you to tell the person where, precisely, to find you, what you'll be doing and where, and what the two of you will need for the time you're spending together. Can you be sure that you can get a confirmation back from your associate, even if what answers your call is just a voice-mail message?

Part 2 (20 minutes / 30%) – Vocabulary & simple sentences with connections

Do either of the following, depending on your preference and the details of what has been covered in your class: 1) Draw a sketch map of your neighborhood and connect it to your school and its neighborhood. OR 2) Draw a sketch map of what you think is the “core” areas of a typical city in a German-speaking country and connect it to the neighborhood in which you are staying. Whichever you do, now do the following, IN GERMAN: 1) In both major parts of your drawing, label the landmarks (citymarks?) and traffic/transportation features that will help you and others get between and around the two areas (home and school, accommodations and city center). 2) Write a note telling someone else how to get to where you live / are staying from school / the city center. Your note must describe (NOT just name) one significant landmark, and must give the person some help in case he or she goes astray on the way to you.

Part 3 (30 minutes / 50%) – Extended narration and description

(Do this on the back of one of these two pages). It's a year or so after today. Perhaps in part because of your special-interest projects, you spent some time in a German-speaking country – not just doing general tourist things, but rather pursuing one of your chief interests (career, academic, hobby, etc.). On your trip you stayed in accommodations operated by some person who understands people like you – for example, the little old lady way up in the Swiss hills who runs the bed-and-breakfast that caters to amateur woodcarvers who stay in her village to learn how to make cuckoo clocks. Now a friend of yours with similar interests wants to go to the same place to do the same thing. Write a note of introduction to your contact on behalf of your friend – perhaps it will be an e-mail to the bed-and-breakfast. You will write in German not just because this is a test, but because you are asking a special favor and because such contacts often do not understand English very well. In your letter do the following, in whatever order: 1) Remind the contact about who you are. 2) Describe your friend as a person in general, and tell why he or she is making the trip there. 3) Arrange accommodations for your friend—describe the person's habits (food, sleep, etc.). 4) Add some nice touch to help smooth the way.