

Year 11 into 12 German Summer Bridging Tasks

Course Summary:

Topics studied:

Year 12:

- Familie im Wandel - the changing face of family life in German speaking countries
- Digitale Welt - the world of technology and its impact upon modern society
- Jugendkultur - the importance of music, fashion and tv in modern society
- Feste und Traditionen - exploring the diverse world of Germanic celebrations and festivals
- Kunst und Architektur - looking at art and architecture in the German speaking world
- Berliner Kulturleben - the incredible city of Berlin with its rich history and exciting present

Year 13:

- Wiedervereinigung - the end of the divided Berlin and the impact of re-unification
- Einwanderung - the impact and challenges that immigration brings to the German speaking world
- Rassismus - racism and how to tackle it
- Integration - the issues and future of integration in Germany
- Deutschland und die EU - Germany's role within the EU
- Politik und Jugend - young people and political awareness

Film Study: *Good bye Lenin!*

Literature Study: *Mutter Courage und ihre Kinder*

Individual Research Project (IRP): This can be on any aspect of the German-speaking world and forms the basis for your end of course oral exam.

All aspects of the course are examined at the end of year 13.

Below is a series of tasks which will help you in preparation for starting German A Level in September. The first one is **mandatory**. We expect you to spend

some time working on the second one (The grammar booklet). The third one is a choice of three. Do at least one but, if you wish to do more than that, please feel free. **You should have anything you produce ready to show in the first few lessons in September.**

Task 1 - must be done

- Germany underwent a series of transformations since the end of the Second World War which impacted upon the politics of the entire world. Following the surrender of the defeated Nazi regime, Germany became divided into two countries (West and East Germany). The country and specifically Berlin was physically divided by a wall which remained in place for 28 years. In 1989, the wall came down and a year later Germany was reunified into one country again. The experiences of people in the two 'Germanys' was very different which is what made the coming together a huge challenge. Your first task is to complete a mini research project to find out what you can about:
 - how Germany became divided
 - what life was like for the citizens of East Germany compared to the West
 - what factors led to the end of a divided Germany
 - how people reacted/coped with the changesIn particular, focus on the impact upon the citizens of East Berlin.

Your project could take the format of a powerpoint presentation, some detailed notes, a mini essay or whatever idea/format you can come up with. It does not have to be in German. Berlin and the 'Wende', as this period of time is known in German, is an important theme in A Level German.

Task 2

- There is a revision booklet which has essential practice of key present tense verbs. It is important that you have a strong command of basic KS3/4 grammar before the A Level course begins. Try some of the exercises to make sure you haven't forgotten this key language.

Task 3 - Do at least one

- Next task is a choice of 3. You do not need to complete all three but please do at least one thoroughly:
 - Watch a German film and write a review of it (ca. 150 words in German). Provide a brief summary of the plot, what the film is about and what you think of it. Would you recommend it? If you are struggling to find one online - here are a few suggestions: *Die Welle*, *Das Wunder von Bern*, *Lola rennt*, *Fussball ist unser Leben*, *Das Leben der Anderen*, *Der Untergang*. If you find your own, great.The A Level course has a film study, *Goodbye Lenin*, so you should stay away from that for the moment.

- Choose a famous German person and make a presentation about them in German. Research either a musician, sports star, actor/actress, politician or writer.
- Research and do a presentation in German on a town/city from a German speaking country (not Berlin). Find out about its history, culture, points of interest and any famous people from there.

In addition, watching German news or listening to the radio online is a brilliant way of building your comprehension skills. How about watching an episode of Logo (<https://www.zdf.de/kinder/logo>) a couple of times a week or listening to a German radio station (we usually recommend www.swr3.de or www.dasding.de) to give you the option for some wider culture.