

## Phase One Bridging Work: German

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### Health warning



When you either listen to or watch programmes or videos in the language, you will probably be filled with fright at first and think ‘how on earth am I supposed to understand what is being said?’ This is a totally natural response. It is extremely unlikely that, at GCSE level, you will have to cope with the German language spoken at native-speaker speed, but immersing yourself in the language will enable you to gain the skills of picking out words and phrases. It is a gradual business and, therefore, should be started as soon as possible and not left until the dark hours two days before your listening exam. It is all a case of developing your awareness of the language, how it goes together, how it sounds, and how it is used. It might even be said that listening to songs can be especially useful since, as well as giving you the chance to listen, you will subconsciously find yourself singing along as you get used to the rhythm of each song.

If you do listen to German music and watch German TV and films, you will develop a very good knowledge of how good German usage sounds – not just what is linguistically correct, but what sounds ‘German’, and this will serve you very well for the speaking components.

	Read this...	Watch this...	Listen to this...	Try this...	
German	<p>An article on the <a href="#">Deutsche Welle</a> website:</p> <p>There are lots of different topics – choose one that interests you.</p> <p><a href="#">This part</a> of the Deutsche Welle website is specifically for learners of German.</p>	<p>A German film:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Goodbye Lenin! (this is the film you will study as part of your A Level)</li><li>● Lola Rennt</li><li>● Die Fälscher</li><li>● Nirgendwo in Afrika</li><li>● Sonnenallee</li><li>● Barbara</li><li>● Das Leben der Anderen</li></ul>	<p>The ‘<a href="#">slow news</a>’ in German. You can follow the text at the same time. You could even subscribe to the podcast!</p> <p><a href="#">Das Deutschlandlabor</a>: Short videos on a variety of topics with exercises. There’s also a vocab list and transcript.</p>	<p>Have a look around one the <a href="#">Berlin state museums</a>, the <a href="#">Bavarian state art collection</a> or the <a href="#">Staatliche Kunstsammlung in Dresden</a>.</p> <p>Listen to a concert by the <a href="#">Hanburger Elbphilharmonie</a></p>	<p><i>We strongly encourage you to keep a journal of your discoveries and look forward to sharing those and discussing them together as a class.</i></p>

	<p>It has links to articles, vocab trainer, courses, quizzes etc. Have a search around!</p>	<p>A German TV programme with English subtitles on the Walter Presents section of All 4 (Channel 4 demand):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Deutschland 83</a> – thriller set during the Cold War about a young East German who is sent to spy be a spy in the West and the sequel <a href="#">Deutschland 86</a> – our East German hero is in exile in South Africa until his spy boss aunt gets him involved in an undercover arms deal</li> <li>• <a href="#">Inspector Borowski</a> – crime drama set in Kiel</li> <li>• <a href="#">Inspector Falke</a> – crime drama set in Hamburg</li> <li>• <a href="#">Helen Dorn</a> – crime drama set in Köln. When a young woman's body is found on the banks of the Rhein, Helen must investigate whether there is a link to three victims killed four years earlier</li> <li>• <a href="#">The Mind of a Murderer</a> – when a student is found dead in his flat, Daniel is sent undercover at a downtown bar and the trail leads him to a tech firm</li> <li>• <a href="#">Bad Banks</a> – thriller set in the world of global finance in which a young investment</li> </ul>	<p>German radio (<a href="#">Radio Gong</a>, <a href="#">Radio Regenbogen</a>, <a href="#">NRJ</a>)</p> <p>German music – find a German playlist on Spotify, listen to what's in the charts in Germany.</p>	<p>Watch opera from the <a href="#">Staatsoper Unter den Linden</a> in Berlin</p> <p>Read some <a href="#">classic German literature</a> (not for the faint hearted!) with line by line translations in English. Kafka's Die Verwandlung is completely free of charge – but not necessarily everyone's cup of tea. I don't know any of the others so can't comment on them.</p> <p>ZDF Documentary about <a href="#">life in Germany during the WW2</a>. Turn the UT (German subtitles) on</p>	
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