

German 1, First Semester

Understanding CBE/EA requirements

Before you take the German 1, First Semester Credit by Examination/ Examination for Acceleration from The University of Texas K-16 Education Center, here are some things you need to know. You have **sixty** days from the date of registration to take the exam.

Successfully completing the German 1, First Semester CBE/EA will earn you one-half unit of high school credit for the course. This review sheet can help you prepare for the exam, by giving you an idea of what you need to study, review, and learn. To succeed, you should be thoroughly familiar with the subject matter before you attempt to take the exam.

Please note that exams and review sheets are updated regularly. When you take the exam, you need to bring your confirmation letter, because it contains the unique number that indicates which edition of the exam you will take. Your grade will be available two to three weeks after you take the exam.

When you take the exam, please be prepared to show your competence and understanding of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) that the Texas Education Agency has specified for this course. Because this CBE/EA review sheet may not refer to all the material that will be in the exam, you should use the complete TEKS for German 1, First Semester to guide your exam preparation. You can view these TEKS online at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/teks/>

Preparing for the exam

To prepare for the exam, you may use any Texas state-adopted textbook for first-year, high school German. The exam requires that you know the important concepts and objectives covered in the course as outlined by the TEKS. This exam is based on Chapters 1–6 (including Review Chapter A) of *Deutsch: Aktuell 1*, Second Edition, by Wolfgang S. Kraft. If this book is not available to you, any state-adopted high school text for first-year German should have equivalent material.

Concepts and objectives

You will be asked to demonstrate knowledge of German as it is customarily taught in the first semester of a first-year course of German. This involves proficiency in all four skills in the target language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The examination will direct you to do some or all of the following activities:

- Read short paragraphs, numbers, and times into a cassette and/or listen to a reading selection and answer questions about it.
- Write and/or tell (on a cassette tape) about yourself, your family, your school, leisure-time activities, and shopping.
- Listen to dictation and write down words according to instructions.
- Listen to and/or read short dialogs to determine if the responses are appropriate.

In writing,

- form yes/no questions and questions using question words, and form commands and negative statements;
- know the difference between *kennen* and *wissen*;
- use verbs in the present tense, future tense, and with modal auxiliaries and commands;
- complete sentences providing nouns in their correct cases (nominative, accusative, and dative) with definite and indefinite articles; and personal pronouns in the nominative and accusative;
- use dative prepositions correctly;
- use vocabulary in a meaningful way (sentence completions, matchings, sequences);
- fill in missing words in idiomatic expressions (*Nützliche Ausdrücke*) or translate them from English to German;
- answer questions pertaining to cultural, geographical, and national information of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. Topics may be greetings, farewells, and introductions; the use of formal and informal “you”; time; traveling by train; school life; entertainment and leisure-time activities; telephone; money; train stations, streetcars, and subways; shopping; capital cities, flags, and geographical features of states and countries.
- **Note:** It is very important that you know how to conjugate verbs. Example 1: *Ich spiele, du spielst, er spielt, sie spielt, es spielt, wir spielen, ihr spielt, sie spielen*. Pay special attention to the exceptions. Example 2: *Ich esse, du isst, er-sie-es isst, wir essen, ihr esst, sie essen*. This is the most basic knowledge and should be learned well.

You should know vocabulary and cultural information dealing with greetings, time, travel, school life, entertainment, leisure-time activities, banking, and shopping in Germany. You should be able to use German sentence structure, such as statements, questions, and commands, including the agreement of present and future tense verbs with their subject nouns or personal pronouns; modal auxiliaries; nominative, accusative, and dative objects; and dative prepositional phrases. Also, you will be asked to demonstrate some cultural, geographical and national information about Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

Time for the exam

You will be allowed **3 hours** to take the exam.

Types of questions

Reading, listening, pronunciation, and fluency	10 points
Speaking and fluency of expression	25 points
Listening comprehension - 5 multiple-choice	10 points
Listening comprehension - 12 fill-in-the-blank	12 points
Vocabulary, structure, grammar, idioms - 10 matching	10 points
Asking for information - 10 fill-in-the-blank	10 points
Definite/indefinite articles and nouns - 8 multiple-choice	8 points
Verbs and modal auxiliaries - 10 fill-in-the-blank	10 points
Pronouns - 7 fill-in-the-blank	7 points

Answer: Elke, *nimm* deine Bücher und *geh* jetzt in die Schule! (Elke, take your books and go to school now!)

C. Complete sentences, providing nouns in their correct cases (nominative, accusative, and dative) and with definite and indefinite articles; and providing personal pronouns in the nominative and accusative.

Examples:

1. Select noun with proper definite article:

Wo ist _____?

(a) dem Zug (b) der Zug (c) den Zug

Answer: b Wo ist *der* Zug?

2. Select noun with proper indefinite article:

Er liest _____.

(a) einen Buch (b) eine Buch (c) ein Buch

Answer: c Er liest *ein* Buch.

3. Personal pronouns:

_____ kommt in zehn Minuten. (Der Zug)

Answer: *Er* kommt in zehn Minuten.

Wie geht es _____? (Sie)

Answer: Wie geht es *Ihnen*?

D. Use dative prepositions correctly:

Komm zu _____! (ich)

Answer: Komm zu *mir*!

E. Use vocabulary in a meaningful way (sentence completion, matching, sequencing).

1. Sentence completion:

Eine Woche hat _____ Tage.

Answer: Eine Woche hat *sieben* Tage.

Eine _____ hat sieben Tage.

Answer: Eine *Woche* hat sieben Tage.

2. Matching and sequencing

For sequencing, think of the proper order of the days of the week, months in the year, seasons, numbers, informal time (heute nachmittag um 3) and formal time (um fünfzehn Uhr); and for matching, think of where things or people usually are (Boot: Wasser; Lehrer: Schule; Auto: Garage).

F. Fill in the missing words in idiomatic expressions (*Nützliche Ausdrücke*) or translate them from English to German:

1. School begins at eight-thirty.

Answer: Die Schule beginnt um _____.

Answer: Die Schule beginnt um *halb neun*.

2. How are you?

Answer: Wie gehts?

Answer: I am tired. Ich bin müde.

G. Cultural, geographical, and national information

Answer true/false (T/F) questions pertaining to cultural, geographical, and national information of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. Topics may be greetings, farewells, and introductions; the use of formal and informal “you”; time, traveling by train; school life; entertainment and leisure-time activities; telephone, money, train stations, streetcars, and subways; shopping; capital cities of states and countries, flags, and geographical features:

_____ 1. Polen grenzt an Deutschland.

_____ 2. Wien liegt am Rhein.

_____ 3. Soccer is a popular sport in Germany.

Answers: 1. T 2. F 3. T

Bringing identification and materials for the exam

Required photo identification

Students must present an official ID (driver's license, school ID, an ID from the Department of Public Safety, or passport) with photo and signature.

For more information about acceptable forms of identification, you can call the K-16 Education Testing Center (512-232-5000 or 1-888-232-4723).

Authorized materials for the exam

Bring with you two sharpened number 2 pencils with erasers. Bring a blank cassette tape for speaking. (Tape will not be returned.) A tape recorder and additional paper will be furnished. You will not be allowed to bring any other items into the exam area.

Meeting requirements for taking the exam

Required score (CBE)

If you have had previous instruction in the grade or course and are testing to complete requirements and gain credit, you must score a minimum of 70%.

Required score (EA)

If you are taking the Examination for Acceleration (skipping a grade or a required course), you must score at least 90% to earn credit in the state of Texas.

Refund policy

The \$45 fee for the Credit by Examination or Examination for Acceleration is not refundable or transferable to another person or another subject.

Test proctor and location

You are responsible for arranging a testing time, in advance, with the counselor or test supervisor in your school or alternate test site.

If you plan to test in the K-16 Education Center at The University of Texas at Austin, please register for your exam at least 24 hours in advance of your desired testing date. Schedule your exam so that you will have plenty of time to take the test in one sitting.

The times for sitting are listed at the Testing link of the K-16 Education Center's Credit by Examination/Examination for Acceleration web link.

Saturday testing is available once a month, by appointment only. Please call 512-232-5000 or 1-888-232-4723 to schedule an appointment for a Saturday testing session.

Obtaining grades by phone

In compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), no information will be released over the telephone without your assigned Personal Identification Number. You will find this PIN on your enrollment receipt.

Re-examination

If you score less than the minimum of 90% required to pass an Examination for Acceleration, a re-examination is available for a \$45 fee. Re-examination will be administered only after you have received an official notification that the first exam score was below 90%.

If you score less than the minimum of 70% required to pass a Credit by Examination, a re-examination is available for a \$45 fee. Re-examination will be administered only after you have received an official notification that the first exam score was below 70%.