

# German

Examination board: AQA

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This course will enable you to gain confidence in the language, and to develop your knowledge and understanding of the culture and society of German-speaking countries. You will study two literary texts in depth; you will also have the opportunity to carry out an individual research project on a topic relating to German-speaking countries.

We teach in small groups at this level; the lessons are conducted predominantly in German. You will also have weekly one-to-one sessions with the native speaker German assistant.

The AQA Advanced Level in German consists of two papers assessing listening, reading and writing, and a third paper which consists of a speaking assessment. The speaking assessment is conducted by your German teacher but will be marked externally by the AQA.

Pupils must complete their speaking assessment during a timetabled assessment window in April/May of Year 13. All other assessments take place in June in the same year.

## Content

### Year One

1. Aspects of German-speaking society: changing state of the family, the digital world, youth culture (fashion and trends, music, television).
2. Artistic culture in the German-speaking world: festivals and traditions, art and architecture, cultural life in Berlin, past and present.
3. The study of one literary text (a play): "*Der Besuch der alten Dame*" by Friedrich Dürrenmatt.
4. Grammar.

### Year Two

1. Multiculturalism in German-speaking society: immigration, integration, racism.

2. Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world: Germany and the European Union, youth involvement in politics, German re-unification and its consequences.
3. The study of one literary text (a short story): "*Die Verwandlung*" by Franz Kafka.
4. Grammar.
5. The individual research project.

## Assessment

### Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation

(Paper Code: 7662/1): 50% of the qualification. This is assessed via a written examination of 2 hours and 30 minutes (100 marks in total).

Themes are based on the society and culture of the language.

Section A: Listening and Writing (30 marks). The listening assessment consists of four passages. Candidates will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts, themes and sources. The candidates are required to write a 90-word summary in German of one of the listening passages. Section B: Reading and Writing (70 marks). The reading comprehension questions are based on a variety of text types and genres, the topics of which all relate to the themes studied over the two years of the course. For one question, the candidate must write a summary in German of the content of the passage in no more than 90 words. In this paper there are also two translation passages, one from English into German and the other from German into English.

### Paper 2: Written Response to Literary Texts/Films

(Paper code: 7662/2): 20% of the qualification. This is assessed via a written examination of 2 hours (80 marks in total: two essays, each worth 40 marks).

This paper draws on the study of two discrete works of literature in German; the literary texts listed for study by AQA include novels, plays, poetry and short stories. In the examination, the candidates must write

their analytical response in German, and the essays are marked on the basis of the quality of both the language and the analysis of the text.

### **Paper 3: Speaking**

(Paper code: 7662/3): 30% of the qualification. This is assessed via an oral examination of 21-23 minutes, with 5 minutes of preparation time (120 marks in total).

The oral examination will be conducted by your German teacher. The examination is composed of two parts.

The candidate must first answer questions on, and discuss, a photo card which is related to one of the themes studied during the course. The candidate must then give a short presentation on their research project relating to any aspect of German-speaking society and culture. This will be followed by an analytical discussion of the issues raised in the research project.

### **Extra-curricular opportunities at A Level**

We offer the following opportunities to A Level pupils:

1. Weekly extension lessons
2. A joint Sixth Form KEHS and KES cultural and language trip to Berlin (every two years)
3. A joint KEHS and KES cinema/German television series club
4. Theatre trips to London to see productions of plays from German-speaking countries
5. An extensive library of German texts for extra reading
6. Competitions: Oxford German Olympiad and Anthea Bell Translation Competition
7. A programme of guest speakers.