INTRODUCTION

The German Alphabet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>German form</th>
<th>Roman form</th>
<th>German name</th>
<th>German form</th>
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<tr>
<td>A, a</td>
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<td>O, o</td>
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<td>C, c</td>
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<td>eem</td>
<td>Z, z</td>
<td>Z, z</td>
<td>tset</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Remarks on the Alphabet.

1. The approximate pronunciation of the German names of the letters is given above in English characters; these names should be learned, and used in spelling words.

2. Three of the vowels may be modified by the sign * (called 'umlaut') : Ä ä, Ö ö, Ü ü ; as capitals, in the older spelling, these are: Äe, Öe, Üe.

3. Diphthongs are: Ai ai, Au au, Ei ei, Eu eu, Äu äu, and the rarer forms ah, eh, ui.
INTRODUCTION

4. The following change their form slightly when printed as one character: ch = ʧ; cf = ʤ; ff, ſz = ſ; tz = ß.

5. The character ſ always replaces ff when final: ʧuh, ʤah, ʧush; within a word, it stands after long vowels, after diphthongs, and before another consonant (elsewhere ff): ʧüke, heßen, häßlich, musste; buh Flüsse, müßten, etc.; hence all vowels are to be pronounced short before ſ.

6. The form ſ occurs only as final in words or stems; elsewhere ſ: Haus, das, häßlich; Häuser, lesen, hast.

7. Since the sounds of German depend to a considerable extent upon syllabication, stress, and quantity, these subjects will be treated in the following paragraphs, before rules are given for the pronunciation of the alphabet.

Syllabication.

1. In German the syllable ends in a vowel wherever possible, which is frequently not the case in English: Mi-li-tär, 'mil-i-ta-ry'; the neglect of this principle is a serious defect in pronunciation.

2. Hence single consonants within a word, and also such consonant groups as can be pronounced undivided, belong to the following syllable, both in speaking and writing: ha-be, ge-brau-chen, ge-stenft; other consonant groups are divided: wer-den, Tin-te.

3. In writing, however, doubled consonants are divided at the end of a line: müß-ten; so also dt, pf, ng, ch, the latter becoming t-k: Stüb-te, Emp-fang, sin-gen, Stül-te (for Stüde); compounds are divided according to their parts: Huf-eisen, hin-ab, Donners-tag.

4. 'Open' syllables are those ending in a vowel or ſ: da, lo-ten, brau-che, be-steh-en.

5. 'Closed' syllables are those ending in a consonant, or coming before a doubled consonant: war-ten, Tin-te, laß, das, hat-ten.

Note.—This distinction is important for the rules of quantity.
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Stress.

The relative force with which a syllable in a group is uttered is called 'stress' (less properly 'accent'): Kreu'ndschraft, 'frie'ndship'; mein Va'ter ist schon a'lt. Several degrees of force may be distinguished in longer words and in phrases, but for practical purposes it is sufficient to consider only the syllable of strongest or chief stress. In words of two or more syllables the chief stress is as follows:—

1. In simple German words, on the stem: Kreu'ndschraft, Kreu'ndlichleit, le'sei, gele'sen, rei'nlich.

2. In compounds, usually on the part most distinctive for the meaning: Au'genblick, me'rwiirdig, u'ngaengehm.


4. In loan-words, usually on the syllable stressed in the language from which the word has been taken: Stude'nt, Phys'i'l, Philo'soph, elega'nt, Ratio'n, Solda't.


6. Never on the prefixes be-, emp-, ent-, er-, ge-, ver-, ter-.

7. No special rules are required for German sentence-stress (emphasis), as it corresponds closely to that of English.

Quantity.

1. Vowels in German may be distinguished as 'long,' 'half long,' and 'short': lube'n (long), Mililit'ar (half long), laft (short).

2. Long vowels become half long, or even short, when un-stressed, usually without change in the quality of the sound: die'ser (long), die'ser Ma'nn (half long).

Note.—In practice it is sufficient to distinguish long and short (the latter including half long and short).

3. Vowels are regularly long:—

(a) In open stressed syllables; and a long stem vowel usually retains its length in inflection: da, loben; lobe'te.
(b) When doubled, or followed by silent h or c (the latter only after i): Staat, Lehrer, Sohn, Kuh, dieser.
(c) As diphthongs: glauben, heissen, Leute.
(d) In final stressed syllable ending in a single consonant (including monosyllables capable of inflection, or ending in r): Gebot, genug, dem, Rat, but, gut, war, wir; so also vowel before s persisting in inflection: saß (sassen), Fuß (Füße).

4. Vowels are regularly short:—
(a) In unstressed syllables: haben, gehabt, u'rnartig.
(b) In closed syllables (including monosyllables ending in more than one consonant): Sommer, Winter, alt, fest; so also before -ß not persisting in inflection: Fluß (Flüsse).
(c) In uninflected monosyllables ending in a single consonant (not -r): mit, oh, in, im, von, vom; but für, her (long).

5. Before ð, some are long, some short: Sprache (long), lachen (short).

General Remarks on Pronunciation.

Every language has certain characteristics peculiar to the utterance of its sounds, which taken together may be called its ‘basis of articulation.’ The principal distinctions between German and English, in this respect, are the following:—

1. The action of the organs of speech, in general, is more energetic and precise in German than in English. The pronunciation of English strikes the German ear as slovenly. The energy and precision referred to are especially obvious in vowels requiring lip rounding (as observed, for example, in ‘who,’ ‘no,’ ‘saw,’ etc.). Moreover, great care should be taken not to obscure German vowels in unstressed syllables, which is the rule in English.

2. The tongue, both for vowels and consonants, is generally either further advanced or retracted than in the articulation of corresponding English sounds.
3. English long vowels (as a in 'fate,' oo in 'poor') are usually diphthongal, particularly before liquids, whereas German long vowels are uniform in quality throughout.

4. The utterance of every German initial vowel, unless wholly unstressed, begins with the 'glottal stop,' which consists in suddenly closing the glottis and forcing it open by an explosion of breath, as in slight coughing: aus, hinaus, essen, ohne, über, überall.

**Note.**—Corresponding English vowels begin with gradual closure of the glottis, and strike the German car as indistinct, since the German sound is fully resonant throughout. The learner may be enabled to realize the nature of this sound by the experiment of placing the hands to the sides and exerting a sudden, forcible pressure, the mouth being open as if to form a vowel. When this is done, the glottis (i.e. the space between the vocal chords) closes automatically, and is at once forced open.

5. It must never be forgotten that the sounds of any two languages hardly ever correspond exactly, and hence that comparisons between German and English are only approximate. In describing the sounds below, brief cautions have been added in parenthesis, in order to obviate this difficulty in part.

**Pronunciation of the Alphabet.**

**Vowels.**

1. Vowels are either 'front' or 'back,' according to their place of articulation in the mouth, and are so grouped below.

2. They are pronounced long or short according to the rules given above (pp. xi–xii), the commonest exceptions only being noted.

3. All vowels must be distinctly uttered.

4. Do not drawl or diphthongize the long vowels.

5. Doubled vowels and those followed by e or i, as a sign of length, are omitted from the conspectus, but included in the examples.
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1. Front Vowels.

1. When long, like i in 'marine' (slightly closer; avoid diphthong, especially before l and r; avoid i as in 'bit,' when unstressed): Mine, mir, mir; dieser, Lied, studieren, ihn, sticht.

Exception. — (Short, see 2 below): April, vielleicht, Viertel, vierzehn, vierzig.

2. When short, like i in 'bit' (avoid i as in 'mirth' before r):
   Kind, singen, wird, bist, gebissen, gelitten; mit, im.

3. Like y in 'yes,' when unstressed before e in loan-words:
   Familie, Patte'n.

2. When long, has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for i, i', with tense lip rounding: Blüte, mude, grun, süß, Fuße; Muße, früher.

2. When short has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for i, 2, with slight lip rounding: hübsch, Muff, fünf, fürchten, Fuß, Mutter, müssen.

3. Like i or ü (see above): Aufl (long), Myrte (short).

4. When long, like a in 'stated' (avoid diphthong, especially before l and r): lesen, leben, reden, schwer, dem, den (but see 4 below): Beet, Schnee, stehen, schenken, lehren.

Exception. — (Short, see 2 below): des, es, wes.

2. When short, like e in 'let' (avoid e as in 'her,' before r):
   schenken, senden, gestern, besser, Betten, Herr, gern.

Exception — (Long, see 1, above): Dresden, Erde, erster, Pferd.

3. In unstressed final syllables and in be-, ge-, like a in 'soda' (tongue slightly advanced): habe, Gabe, loben, lobet, Bruder, dieser, diesem, Vogel; bestellen, gelobt.

4. The e of der, dem, den, des, es, when unstressed, varies between 3 and 2, above, according as the stress is more or less completely removed: der alte Winter.
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1. When long, like a in ‘care’ (avoid diphthong, especially before l and r): säen, wären, Schlage; Ähre, mähen.

2. When short, identical with e short (e, 2, above): Hände, Bächer, Äpfel, hätte, längst.

Exception. — (Long): nächst, Städte.

5. When long, has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for e, 1, with tense lip rounding and protrusion: hören, böse, Bote, schön, größer; Zöhne.

2. When short, has no English counterpart; same tongue position as for e, 2, with slight lip rounding: Köpfe, Glöcklein, können, Götter.


2. Back Vowels.

a Like a in ‘ah!’ ‘father’ (tongue flat and mouth well open; lips neither rounded nor retracted; avoid a as in ‘all’ and a as in ‘at’).

1. Long: sagen, da, Anna, Papa’, bat, war, saß; Staat, nah, Bahn; Sprache, stach.

Exception. — (Short): das, war.

2. Short: warten, hachen, lachen, niemand, Ball, hatte; als, ab, am.

Exception. — (Long): Arzt, Bart, Magd, Papst.

ɒ 1. When long, like o in ‘ømen’ (tense lip rounding and protrusion; avoid diphthong, especially before l and r): loben, Rose, groß, rot, hoch; Boot, Kohl, Chr.

2. When short, like o in ‘not’ (always definitely rounded; never lengthened, even before r): Hopfen, Gott, wollen, Sonne, morgen, Wort; oh, von.

Exception. — (Long): Otto, Obst, Osten, Ostern.

Note. — The Eng. short ɒ has often very feeble rounding, especially in American Eng., approaching the sound of a in ‘hat.’
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1. When long, like oo in ‘too’ (tense lip rounding and protrusion; avoid diphthong, especially before l and r): du, rufen, Blume, Fuß, guten, nur; Kuh, Stuhl.

2. When short, like u in ‘put’ (definitely rounded; never lengthened, even before r): und, wurde, Mutter, Fuß; um, zum, zur.

Diphthongs.

ai } Like i in ‘mile’ (first element more deliberately uttered; equals German a, 2 + i, 2): Kaiser, Bayern.

au Like ou in ‘house’ (first element more deliberately uttered; equals German a, 2 + u, 2): Frau, Baum, Bauer.

äu Like o in ‘boil’ (first element more deliberately uttered; equals German o, 2 + i, 2): Räuber, Mäuse, Bäume.

NOTE. — The second element is sometimes slightly rounded.

ei } The same sound as ai, above; mein, Meile, seiner, kleiner, einst, Meyer.

eu The same sound as äu, above: neu, heute, Feuer, euer, feuern.

ui Equals German u, 2 + i, 2: hu! pfui!

CONSONANTS.

1. It is very important to remember that all final consonants are short in German, although not always so in English; compare man and ‘man,’ sang and ‘sang.’

2. Double consonants have only a single sound, as also in English: gefallen, ‘fallen’; but when two consonants come together through compounding the sound is lengthened in careful diction, but not fully doubled: mitteilen; similarly also contiguous final and initial consonant, when necessary for distinctness: not fun.

3. When alternative pronunciations are given below the preferable one is put first.
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Alphabetical List of Consonants.

6 1. When initial in word or syllable, or doubled, like b in ‘ball’: bald, lieben, verbleiben, Ebbe.
2. When final, in word or syllable, like p in ‘tap’: ab, Weib, lieb, abgehen, Schreibtisch, liebte, lieblich, liebster.


Note.—c alone is now found only in loan-words and proper nouns.

ch 1. After back vowel, has no English counterpart; compare Scotch ch in ‘loch’ (formed by slight contact of the back of the tongue with the soft palate; voiceless): Bach, machen, noch, fachen, rauchen.

Note.—‘Voiceless’ means without vibration of the vocal chords; compare ‘fine’ (voiceless) with ‘wine’ (voiced).

2. After front vowel, after consonant, and in chen, like h in ‘hue’ very forcibly pronounced (avoid k as in ‘kill’ and ab as in ‘ship’; it is best obtained by unvoicing the y in yes): ich, schlecht, weich, Bücher, solches, Mädchens; so also in Chemie, before a front vowel.

3. Before ð in a stem syllable, like f (which see): Fachs, Dachsen, wachsen; also some loan-words, Christ, Chor, etc.

d Like f (which see): did, schiden.

d 1. When initial in a word or syllable, or doubled, like d in ‘day’ (tongue advanced to the gums): du, drei, Feder, Hände, würde, addieren.
2. When final in a word or syllable, like t in ‘take’ (tongue advanced to the gums): Lied, Hand, und, Händchen, endlich, Gesundheit.

f Like f in ‘fall’: laufen, Frau, fünf, hoffen.

g 1. When initial in a word or stressed syllable, or doubled, like g in ‘began,’ ‘gain,’ ‘begin’: gab, Aufgabe, gehen, gegeben, Gitter, grün, Egge.
INTRODUCTION

Note. — The place of contact between tongue and palate varies along with the vowel or consonant of the syllable, as in English; similarly also for the sounds of f, ng, uf.

2. After a back vowel within a word (when followed by a vowel) like g'

3. After a back vowel when final or before a consonant, either like g' or like ch, i : Tag, lag, jogs, Jug, jagte, wogte.

4. After a front vowel or a consonant within a word (and followed by a vowel), either like q, r, or i (which see): legen, Bercy, Bürger, Schlage, Wieg, Könige.

Note. — Like j almost universally in the combination ig.

5. After a front vowel, (a) when final, (b) final after a consonant, (c) before a consonant, like g' : Leig, Sieg, König; Berg, Talg; legte, liegt.

6. Like z in 'azure' (tongue advanced, lips protruded) in many French loan-words: G-ta'xe, Cou-ra'ge.

h 1. Like h in 'have' (strongly and briefly uttered): haben, gehabt, heißen, geholfen, Ahorn.

2. It is silent before the vowel of an ending and as a sign of length: gehen, gesehen; Ruh, Reh, weh; see also ch, th, sch.

i 1. Regularly, like y in 'yes' (tongue closer to the palate; strongly buzzed): ja, jeder, Juni, Joch, juchsen.

2. In French loan-words, like g, 6, above: Journa'l, Jaloufie'.

Like c in 'can' or k in 'ken,' 'keen' (comp. note to g, r) : fam, keinen, Kind, klein, sank.

Like l in 'lip' (tongue advanced to gums): loben, lieben, als, glüdsich, wollen, voll.
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 Like m in 'make': mit, Baum, kommen, Lamm.

 Like n in 'name' (tongue advanced to gums): nennen, und, Hände, an, Mann, Männer.

 Like ng in 'sang,' 'length' 'sing' (abruptly uttered; comp. note to g, r): singen, lang, längst, sing, Finger.

 Like nk in 'thank,' 'think' (abruptly uttered; comp. note to g, r): Dank, danken, lenken, jagen.

 Like p in 'pit' (pronounce fully before f): Puppe, Sirup, Pflanzen, Pferd.

 Like φ (which see): Philosoph, Philosophie.

 Like qu (which see): Quelle, quer.

 Has no English counterpart; it is formed either (1) by trilling the point of the tongue against the upper gums ('lingual' r), or (2) by drawing the root of the tongue backward so as to cause the uvula to vibrate ('uvular' r): Rat, rot, rund, rein, war, mir, Herz, werden.

 Note.—Either sound is correct in conversation. The lingual r, however, is more readily acquired by English-speaking students.

 1. When initial in a word or syllable before a vowel, like z in 'zeal' (tongue advanced towards gums): sehen, so, sich, Fuß, Rose, Zahn, gelesen.

 2. When final in a word or syllable, and before most consonants, like s in 'sail' (tongue advanced, as above); so also s, š, š, always: Brats, weshalb, fast, Masse, essen, Fuß, Füße, Flüsse.

 3. When initial before p or t, like sh in 'ship' (tongue advanced; lips protruded): stehen, gestanden, spielen, gespielt, Kinderspiel.

 Like sh in 'ship' (see f, 3): Schiff, schreiben, Tisch.
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1. Like t in 'tame' (tongue advanced to gums): Tag, teilen, Tisch, Tinte, Mutter, ritt.
2. In loan-words before i = ts: Ratio'n, Pati'e'nt.

θ Same as t, 1: Theater.
§ Same as z (which see): Sah, Fiken.

ω 1. Same as f (which see): Vater, viel, von, brav.
2. In most Latin or Romance loan-words = w (which see)
   Vase, Provi'a'nt, Revolver, Vera'nda.

v Like v in 'vine' (less strongly buzzed): war, wo, wir,
   we'shalb, Schwester, zwei.

g Same as ts: Art, Nixe.
j Same as ts: Ju, Her, Slijze.

Pronunciation of Loan-words.

The German pronunciation of loan-words is usually an approximation to the original sound, the original stress of the foreign word being in most cases retained. A full treatment of the subject is beyond the limits of this work, but the pronunciation of the more common consonants of foreign origin has been indicated above.

Exercises on Pronunciation.

Note.—The words in A, B, C, D, have been taken, with few exceptions, from the first five exercises of the Grammar. The numerals after the letters correspond to those used in explaining the pronunciation (pp. xiv—xx).

A. Simple vowels.—a (1): Vater, Marie', Tafel, aber, da;
a (2): alt, Mann, Ball, Garten, Tante; e (1): Feber, erst,
   Lehrer, sehr; e (2): Geld, Herr, Messer, Fenster; e (3): Rose,
   viele, loben, aber; i (1): wir, die, viele; i (2): Tinte, ist,
   immer, artig; i (3): Lilie; o (1): wo, rot, ober, groß, wohl;
   o (2): Onkel, Stock, oft, Sommer; u (1): Buch, Bruder,
   Blume, Stuhl; u (2): Hund, jung, Mutter, Puppe.
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E. To be repeated several times in succession: 1. Drei breite Bachblätter, drei breite, etc. 2. Fischers Frig fischt frische Fische, Fischers Frig, etc. 3. Der Kottbuser Postkutscher pust den Kottbuser Postkutschaisten, der Kottbuser, etc.

F.

Sehnsucht.

Ach! aus dieses Tales Gründen,
Die der kalte Nebel drückt,
Könnst' ich doch den Ausgang finden,
Ach! wie fühlt' ich mich beglückt!
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Dort erblick' ich schöne Hügel,
Ewig jung und ewig grün;
Hätt' ich Schwingen, hätt' ich Flügel.
Nach den Hügeln zög' ich hin.
— Schiller.

Use of Capitals.

Capital letters are required in German, contrary to English usage, in the following cases: —

1. As initial of all nouns and all words used as nouns: die Reber, 'the pen'; das Hülfliche, 'the useful'; etwas Neues, 'something new'; das Reisen, 'travelling'; nouns used with other functions take a small initial: Abend, 'evening,' but abends, 'in the evening'; Leid, 'sorrow,' but es tut mir leid, 'I am sorry.'

2. As initial of the pronoun Sie = 'you' (in all forms except sich), and of the corresponding possessives: Haben Sie Ihre Reber? 'Have you your pen?'

3. Similarly, but in correspondence only, du, ihr = 'you,' and their possessives: Wir erwarten Dich und Deine Schwester, 'We expect you and your sister.'

4. Proper adjectives are not written with a capital unless formed from names of persons or forming part of a proper name: das deutsche Buch, 'the German book'; but, die Goetheschen Schriften, 'Goethe's writings'; das Deutsche Reich, 'the German Empire.'

Punctuation.

The rules of punctuation correspond in general to those of English, but the following points should be noted: —

1. A dependent sentence (relative, adverbial, etc.) is introduced by a comma.

2. Infinitive clauses with zu are regularly preceded by a comma.

3. An exclamatory point is used in beginning letters: Sehr geehrter Herr!
(Transcription of the German letter on page 172.)

Lördere, 23. Oktober 1902

Frau des Hr. Dr. E. W.

Liebel Dines!


unfultn vala süljfe Gafes, de
unter einer Pfänz. Aufgabe von 
Halskrebs. Die Mütter in 10 Ländern 
manoch. Die ersten drei in Brasilien 
fielen, die vierte fünfte und sechste 
hätte sich gefallen und Land 1867 die 
leichtesleft in Tifán fielen auf Salben, mäfs 
und fünf im 10 Länder. In Guatr in Er 
finnen. Caesar Paris 49. Januarstag, 
die am 19. Oktober 1855 gelenau mit 
Ammininbueensonbaxt fast die 
geburtstag. Tif salb 
leiden. Zum Tag war geffen, Guan in 
acht Tagen. Die 30. 12. war das mir 
meine alle einen Brüder aus England. 
Goffaunf. Wenn ich täglich an 12 
nonvanbax zu der Kommun kommen, um 
rund. Da lange einziger Mann lief als 
gestatten. Also auf Brüderjahr! Wir 
ferngsehen Grüssen an Unser lieben 
Gott und uns leichter Hilfe 
Ehrung. Einfühlig lieben Serumin 
Giselauf 1830