

A-Level German – Wider Reading list

In order to achieve success at AS & A2 Level it is important that you develop your language skills and cultural understanding outside the lessons. This study is in addition to the homework tasks which make up your extended tasks. There is a wide range of resources you can use to support your learning both in school and online.

Many of the resources listed are available, free of charge, on the internet.

Books

As well as your course texts there are some other “must read” books in German, and you may also find your favourite novel(s) translated into German

Emil und die Detektive, Erich Kästner

Das fliegende Klassenzimmer, Erich Kästner

Das kleine Gespenst, Otfried Preussler

Tintenherz (Inkheart), Cornelia Funke

Die Wolke, Gudrun Pausewang

Märchen der Gebrüder Grimm, Wilhelm & Jacob Grimm

Die Verwandlung, Franz Kafka

Useful books to support language and grammar

Wort für Wort, German vocabulary for AQA A-Level (Hodder Education)

Aktion Grammatik, German grammar for A-Level (Hodder Education)

Press

- Die Welt www.welt.de
- Die Zeit www.zeit.de
- Bild www.bild.de

- Stern www.stern.de
- Der Spiegel www.spiegel.de
- Tagesschau www.tagesschau.de

Other Sources of Information

Television

- ZDF www.zdf.de
- Das Erste www.daserste.de

Films

DVDs in German – ask your teachers / visit the school library where you will find lots of options!

There are many classic German language films; here are a few:

Das Wunder von Bern (The Miracle of Bern)

Directed by Sönke Wortmann. Released 2003. Set in post-war Germany, following the story of a family and the German nation on its journey to the 1954 World Cup.

Das Boot (The Boat).

Directed by Wolfgang Peterson. Released 1981. A German submarine crew fights the Allies in 1941.

Lola Rennt (Run Lola Run)

Directed by Tom Tykwer. Released 1998. Energetic and fast paced – a young woman needs to get 100,000 DMs or her boyfriend will die. Fantastic performance by Franka Potente (she was in The Bourne Identity).

Goodbye Lenin!

Directed by Wolfgang Becker. Released 2003. A heart-warming comedy set in East Germany about a young man (played by Daniel Brühl) whose socialist mother awakes from a coma, unaware of the recent German reunification.

Das Leben der Anderen (The Lives of Others)

Directed by Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck. Released 2007. Set in 1980s East Berlin, a Stasi Officer (East German Police) becomes embroiled in the lives of others he has under surveillance.

Radio and Podcasts

- Sport 1 FM www.sport1.de
- Star FM berlin.starfm.de
- Radio SAW www.radiosaw.de
- Klassik Radio www.klassikradio.de
- News in Slow German www.newsinslowgerman.com

Apps

Many of the newspapers and radio programmes have apps you can download for free as well as learning apps such as:

- Duolingo
- FluentU

