

Dear Learner,

in this **XXL Glossary** you will find, as its title suggests, much more than just a glossary. Each chapter includes the following sections:

Vocabulary

All new words are presented in the order in which they appear in both the course book and the workbook, page-by-page, then alphabetically. Unlike a dictionary, this glossary allows you to learn words in context so that their meaning is far more real to you than a dictionary entry.

Forms and Structures

In this section, we explain grammar based on concrete examples from the course book and compare and contrast the structures with those of English. As the course proceeds, you will find continued reference in newer sections to material in previous chapters to help reinforce your understanding and mastery of these points. We also make a point of pointing out differences between English and German that can potentially hinder your understanding or lead you into traps. We have also included additional **translation exercises** in each chapter to help you get a better sense of your progress and mastery, allowing you to see more how German and English are similar and different.

Listening and Pronunciation

As important as grammar, structure and vocabulary are, without knowing the sound system, they are of no use. In this section, we aim to give you the tools you will need not only to recognize the sounds of German, but to reproduce them so that you can be understood, even when your structural knowledge is weak.

Familiarity and Understanding

No language exists apart from the culture in which it is couched. Here you will learn about the German-speaking areas of the world, their literature and arts, and aspects of daily life. This section also aspires to help you avoid common missteps that many foreigners and learners make.

Historical Fragments

As in previous volumes, each chapter provides an overview of a particular chapter of German history. Likewise, you will note as you progress through this volume, topics move in reverse through time. While this might seem counterproductive at first, it will allow you in many ways to take advantage of what you might already know to build a more complete understanding as you venture further into the unknown. Topics in this volume concentrate on the earliest recorded periods of German history, reaching back through the Holy Roman Empire to the Roman occupation of the German-speaking areas.

Self-Evaluation





At the end of each chapter, you have the opportunity to evaluate your progress on the objectives in each unit, allowing you to give extra attention and/or seek extra help in areas where you are not as confident in your new skills.

We hope that you find this volume helps you learn German with greater ease and more enjoyment, and we wish you every success.

Sincerely,

the authors and editors



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