



AP[®] German Language 2002 Scoring Guidelines

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Paragraph Completion

- The maximum score possible is 20.
- The candidate receives full credit (1 point) for each blank if the word or words are correct both in meaning and form according to the context.
- If the blank is not filled in or the word or phrase is in any way incorrect (including capitalization), the candidate receives NO credit (0 points).
- More than one answer might be possible.
- Two or more words can make a correct answer (e.g., “in einer”).
- If the candidate gives several choices for one blank and all are correct, full credit is given; however, if any one of the choices is incorrect, no credit is given.

Acceptable Answers to Fill-Ins

1. der, welcher
2. zu
3. Familie, Gruppe, Schar, Bande, Sippe, Sippschaft
4. da, weil
5. musste, mußte, konnte
6. Tages, Morgens, Abends, Nachts, Vormittags, Nachmittags, (Tage der Woche)
7. ob, wann
8. mit, aus, bestehend aus, zusammengesetzt aus
9. in, innerhalb von, nach, nicht vor, binnen
10. Nacht, Puppen, Früh
11. müde, vergesslich, ärgerlich, schläfrig, missmutig, traurig, sauer, böse, krank, gereizt, frustriert, irritiert, erschöpft, langsam, schwach, nervös, schlapp, kaput
12. war, gewesen ist, gewesen war, geworden ist, geworden war, wurde
13. finden, sehen, entdecken, orten, lokalisieren, aufspüren, auftreiben, erblicken, ausmachen, erspähen
14. sich, die Dinge, das Zeug, den Krempel, das Kleid, die Sachen, den Kram
15. brachte, setzte, stellte, rollte, trug, holte (hinein +, rein +, hin +, herein +) (Verben auch im Perfekt und Plusquamperfekt)
16. den, seinen, diesen, jenen, den + Adjektiv
17. am, an dem
18. er, dieser, der König, jener, der, derjenige
19. Haus, Schloss, Schloß, Gebäude, Heim, Landhaus, Traumhaus, Holzhaus, Traumschloss, Traumschloß
20. sind

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Composition

Upper Range

- 9-8** Demonstrates superiority through outstanding control of the language with regard to structure, syntax, idiomatic usage, and vocabulary. The candidate makes few significant errors and demonstrates a broad command of the language and obvious fluency. An 8 is less impressive with regard to structure and syntax, or range in idiomatic usage and vocabulary.
- 7** Demonstrates strong command of the language with, however, some grammatical inaccuracies and errors, and some awkwardness of expression. Shows very good, although not always accurate, use of vocabulary and idioms. Errors do not detract from the generally clear demonstration of competence and control.
- 6-5** Demonstrates good to acceptable use of the language. The candidate is basically competent in the language although less impressive with regard to structure and syntax or range in idiomatic usage and vocabulary. Occasional serious errors. Occasional signs of fluency. Recurring questions about sustained control of the language lower the score to a 5.

Lower Range

- 4-3** Suggests weak use of the language. The candidate has less than adequate language skills. Numerous errors and frequent use of non-German syntax and language patterns. Contains sentences that paraphrase or repeat what has essentially been stated earlier or sentences that force interpretation. The lack of occasional redeeming features, such as correct advanced grammatical constructions or range of vocabulary, lowers the score to a 3. Note: Occasional grammatically correct simple sentences are not redeeming features.
- 2-1** Demonstrates incompetence in the language. The candidate has little or no sense of syntax and few vocabulary resources. A response that is essentially a Germanized version of another language or gobbledygook lowers the score to a 1.
- 0** Responses that are entirely blank, consist of fewer than 50 words, do not attempt to address the topic, are written in a language other than German, appear to be compositions prepared ahead of time, or contain the following: obscenities, nonsense, poetry, drawings, etc.
- Deduct 1 point if only one sub-topic is addressed.
 - Deduct 1 point if the composition is essentially shorter than called for (135 words or fewer).
 - Deduct 1 point if the spelling errors are numerous, if the spelling is obviously phonetic, or if capital letters only are used.
 - No more than 2 points will be deducted from any composition.

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Directed Responses

- Each of the six directed response questions is scored holistically in and of itself.
- Maximum score possible for this section is 30.

- 5** **EXCELLENT** *Suggests excellence:* Natural and meaningful response; ease of expression; impressive range of vocabulary and structures; more complicated structures, e.g., subordinate clauses, may well be correct.
- 4** **GOOD** *Demonstrates competence:* Meaningful response; good range of vocabulary and structures; * more complicated structures, e.g., relative or subordinate clauses, may not always be correct; minimal strain or stumbling.
- 3** **ACCEPTABLE** *Suggests competence:* Adequate response; lesser range of vocabulary; command of basic structures with some significant errors; some strain or stumbling.
- 2** **WEAK** *Suggests incompetence:* Not readily comprehensible as a response; scarcely any range of vocabulary; limited command of basic structures* with frequent errors; considerable strain or stumbling.
- 1** **POOR** *Demonstrates incompetence:* Incoherent response; unacceptable vocabulary or no range of vocabulary; lack of ability to deal with structures; near gobbledygook.
- 0** The sample contains obscenities, deliberate nonsense, or it is entirely blank or a non-German utterance.
- Deduct 1 point if the response contains fewer than 15 words in German.
 - Deduct 1 point for including non-German words not currently used in German.
 - Pronunciation that impedes comprehension may be used to tip the scale. Dialect coloring should not influence the grade.

* Structure is understood to include morphology and syntax.

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Picture Sequence

- 6** **VERY GOOD TO EXCELLENT** *Suggests excellent command* of the language; story is complex and well related; high level of fluency and grammatical accuracy; very good range of vocabulary and idiom.
- 5** **GOOD** *Demonstrates competent command* of, and fluency in, the language; story is well related; few structural* errors; successful self-correction; good range of vocabulary and idiom; little awkwardness of expression.
- 4-3** **ADEQUATE** *Suggests competent command* of the language; story is cohesive; signs of fluency; some errors in basic structures; some successful self-correction (especially for a 4); moderate range of vocabulary and idiom. Recurring questions about the ease of expression, range, or control lower the score to a 3.
- 2** **WEAK** *Suggests incompetent command* of the language; sample is disjunctive; frequent errors in basic structures; considerable strain or stumbling; narrow range of vocabulary and idiom; use of anglicisms or structures* that force interpretation.
- 1** **UNACCEPTABLE** *Demonstrates incompetence*; lack of ability to deal with structure; very few vocabulary resources and little or no sense of idiom.
- 0** **NO PROJECTION** *Irrelevant speech sample*; responses not addressing the picture sequence, those that are off task (obscenities, nonsense, etc.), in a language other than German; entirely blank tapes.
- Deduct 1 point if the candidate does not address a minimum of 4 pictures.
 - Deduct 1 point if the candidate gives a very brief description of the events (one minute or less).
 - Pronunciation that impedes comprehension may be used to tip the scale. Dialect coloring should not influence the score.

* Structure includes morphology and syntax.