

A-LEVEL GERMAN 100 AI PROMPTS

for Smarter Revision *and* Exam Prep

Active recall, exam technique, and mark-scheme thinking — without cheating.

Guten
Tag

Wie
geht's?

Grüß
Gott

Schönen
Tag!

Deutsch
Wörterbuch

lernen	lernen,te, hat gelernt
to learn	
Verstehen	verstehen,te, hat verstanden
to understand	
Wissen	Wissen, n. knowledge
Freund	Freund, -e, -e friend
Zukunft	Zukunft, f. future

Sprache
verbindet.

Language
connects.

by James R. Martin

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The author has made use of artificial intelligence tools to assist with drafting, structuring, and generating example material. All educational guidance, explanations, and exam-related advice have been reviewed, edited, and curated by the author. Any resemblance to specific published materials is unintentional.

This book is intended to support revision and exam preparation. It does not replace formal teaching, textbooks, or official specifications. Students are responsible for ensuring that all work submitted for assessment is their own.

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How to Use This Book

For a long time, high-quality tutoring has been a major contributor to elite academic achievement. Used well, AI can now act as a powerful tutor that most students and parents could not previously afford.

This book is a **starting point**, not a rulebook. Each prompt is designed to help you revise, test your understanding, and think more clearly — not to give perfect answers. You are encouraged to **adapt, improve, and remix** these prompts.

You are learning how to think carefully about the questions you ask — a skill that will matter far beyond these exams.

Note on Exam Boards and Syllabi

This book has been designed to support students preparing for A-Level German across all major UK exam boards, including AQA, Edexcel, and WJEC/Eduqas. While the specific literary texts, films, and thematic emphases vary between specifications, the core linguistic competencies, grammatical expectations, and cultural knowledge required at A-Level are shared across all boards. Every prompt in this book targets skills and content areas that appear in multiple specifications, ensuring broad relevance regardless of which board your school follows.

A-Level German requires students to engage critically with social, political, and cultural issues across the German-speaking world, encompassing Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The prompts in this book address themes such as immigration and integration, reunification and its legacy, the environment, multiculturalism, and political engagement, all of which feature prominently across AQA, Edexcel, and WJEC/Eduqas specifications. Students are expected to discuss these themes with analytical depth and nuance, supported by evidence and independent judgement.

Translation is a formally assessed skill at A-Level, with all boards requiring both English-to-German and German-to-English translation. This book provides intensive practice in both directions, targeting the grammatical precision, idiomatic fluency, and register awareness that examiners reward. The translation prompts reflect the complexity of actual A-Level papers, drawing on journalistic, literary, and academic source material from across the German-speaking world.

The study of a German-language film and a literary text is compulsory across all major exam boards, though the set works differ between specifications. The prompts in this book develop the analytical and essay-writing skills needed to respond to questions on any set text or film, focusing on themes, characterisation, narrative technique, and the construction of sustained arguments in German. Students should adapt these prompts by inserting the specific titles relevant to their exam board.

The Independent Research Project or individual oral presentation is a central component of the A-Level German speaking assessment. This book includes a dedicated section to help students develop their research topic, structure their findings, and practise defending their conclusions under questioning. The skills developed here, including spontaneous discussion, justification of viewpoints, and handling unpredictable follow-up questions, are essential for achieving top marks in the speaking component across all boards.

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Section 1

Social Issues and Trends in German-Speaking Society

A-Level German demands a thorough understanding of contemporary social issues across the German-speaking world. Students must go beyond surface-level awareness and demonstrate the ability to analyse trends, evaluate contrasting perspectives, and support their arguments with specific evidence. Topics such as immigration and integration, the changing family, the digital society, and environmental responsibility appear across all exam board specifications.

Achieving high marks in this area requires a rich thematic vocabulary and the confidence to discuss complex and often sensitive issues with precision. Examiners reward students who move beyond description to offer genuine analysis, exploring causes, consequences, and the effectiveness of government responses and social initiatives. Drawing on examples from Germany, Austria, or Switzerland strengthens responses considerably.

The prompts in this section test your knowledge of the key social themes and push you to express your views with the analytical sophistication expected at A-Level. Use them to build fluency in discussing topics that appear regularly across reading, listening, writing, and speaking assessments.

Prompt 1: Immigration and Integration

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on immigration and integration in German-speaking countries. Ask me questions in German about die Fluechtlingskrise, government integration

policies, cultural challenges, the experiences of immigrant communities, and public attitudes towards immigration. Probe my answers with follow-up questions and correct any errors in my German.

What this helps you practise:

Discussing immigration policy and integration challenges using precise political vocabulary in German

How to use it well:

This is one of the most frequently examined topics at A-Level. Build a comprehensive vocabulary bank including terms such as die Willkommenskultur, die Leitkultur, die Abschiebung, and das Asylrecht.

Being able to use these terms accurately demonstrates specialist knowledge.

Prompt 2: The Changing Family

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on the changing nature of the family in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Ask me questions in German about trends such as falling birth rates, same-sex partnerships, single-parent families, the role of Elterngeld, and changing gender roles. Challenge me to support my arguments with specific data or examples. Correct any errors.

What this helps you practise:

Discussing evolving family structures using sociological vocabulary and supporting evidence in German

How to use it well:

Research specific policies such as Elterngeld, Elternzeit, and the Betreuungsgeld debate. Understanding German family policy allows you to discuss the topic with the specificity and depth that examiners reward.

Prompt 3: The Digital Revolution

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the impact of the digital revolution on German-speaking societies. Ask me to discuss topics in German such as die sozialen Medien, Cybermobbing, der Datenschutz, and die digitale Kluft. Expect me to present balanced arguments and push me to consider both opportunities and risks. Correct my grammar throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Presenting balanced arguments about digital society using advanced connectives and evaluative structures

How to use it well:

Germany's strong data protection culture, including the DSGVO, provides excellent material for discussion. Research German attitudes to privacy and data collection to add a culturally specific dimension to your responses.

Prompt 4: Multiculturalism and Identity

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Conduct a question-and-answer session with me in German on multiculturalism and national identity in the German-speaking world. Ask me about die Leitkultur debate, the integration of Turkish and other communities, cultural diversity in Austrian and Swiss society, and the meaning of German identity today. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Articulating nuanced positions on multiculturalism and national identity using formal German

How to use it well:

This topic requires sensitivity and balance. Prepare phrases for presenting multiple perspectives: 'einerseits... andererseits', 'waehrend manche argumentieren, dass... vertreten andere die Ansicht,

dass...'. These structures help you discuss complex issues with the nuance examiners expect.

Prompt 5: Environmental Responsibility

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on environmental issues and sustainability in the German-speaking world. Ask me in German about die Energiewende, renewable energy policy, recycling culture, urban transport, and Germany's role in international climate negotiations. Challenge me to evaluate government and individual responses. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Discussing environmental policy and sustainable development using specialist German vocabulary

How to use it well:

Germany's Energiewende is a unique case study that provides rich material for discussion. Research the policy's successes and challenges, and be prepared to discuss both the achievements and the criticisms.

This demonstrates balanced, informed analysis.

Prompt 6: Youth and Education

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on education and youth issues in the German-speaking world. Ask me questions in German about the German tripartite school system, university access, apprenticeships and das duale System, youth unemployment, and the pressures facing young people. Challenge me to compare German and British approaches. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Evaluating educational structures and youth policy using comparative analysis in German

How to use it well:

The German dual education system is frequently examined. Understand the differences between

Gymnasium, Realschule, and Hauptschule, and be able to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the system compared to the British model.

Prompt 7: Health and Wellbeing

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on health issues and wellbeing in German-speaking countries. Ask me questions in German about das Gesundheitssystem, mental health awareness, obesity, attitudes to fitness and diet, and the Krankenkasse system. Push me to discuss public health campaigns and evaluate their effectiveness. Correct my grammar and vocabulary.

What this helps you practise:

Discussing public health systems and lifestyle trends using specialist medical and social vocabulary

How to use it well:

Understanding the German healthcare system, including the distinction between gesetzliche and private Krankenversicherung, provides excellent material for analytical discussion. Research specific aspects before attempting this prompt.

Prompt 8: Poverty and Social Inequality

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test my understanding of poverty and social inequality in the German-speaking world. Ask me questions in German about the wealth gap, Hartz IV reforms and their legacy, homelessness, child poverty, and regional economic disparities between east and west. Challenge me to evaluate government responses and propose solutions. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Evaluating social inequality and welfare policy using evidence-based argumentation in German

How to use it well:

Research specific policies and statistics related to

poverty in Germany. Understanding the Hartz reforms and the concept of der Mindestlohn provides concrete material for discussion that demonstrates genuine knowledge.

Prompt 9: Gender Equality

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Conduct a detailed discussion with me in German on gender equality in German-speaking countries. Ask me about the gender pay gap, women in leadership, the Frauenquote debate, parental leave policies, and the feminist movement in Germany. Challenge me to evaluate progress and remaining challenges. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Evaluating progress towards gender equality using evidence-based analysis in German

How to use it well:

Research specific German policies and debates such as the Frauenquote for company boards. Being able to discuss concrete measures and their effectiveness adds depth and credibility to your responses.

Prompt 10: Crime and Justice

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on crime, punishment, and the justice system in German-speaking countries. Ask me questions in German about youth crime, rehabilitation versus punishment, the German prison system, cybercrime, and debates about policing. Require me to present arguments for and against different approaches. Correct all errors in my German.

What this helps you practise:

Constructing arguments about criminal justice policy using formal debating language in German

How to use it well:

Germany's emphasis on rehabilitation over punishment provides an interesting contrast with other countries. Prepare to discuss the Resozialisierung principle and compare it with approaches in other countries.

Prompt 11: Religion and Society

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the role of religion in German-speaking societies. Ask me questions in German about the decline of church membership, the Kirchensteuer, the place of Islam in German society, religious festivals, and the relationship between religion and the state. Push me to analyse trends and their significance. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Discussing the evolving role of religion in secular and multicultural German-speaking societies

How to use it well:

The Kirchensteuer is a distinctly German institution that provides excellent discussion material. Understanding how religion intersects with taxation, education, and public life in Germany demonstrates cultural awareness.

Section 2

Political and Intellectual Culture in the German-Speaking World

Understanding the political landscape and intellectual traditions of the German-speaking world is essential for A-Level success. Students are expected to engage with topics including the German political system, the legacy of division and reunification, the European Union, and the intellectual heritage of movements from the Enlightenment to the present day. This requires genuine critical engagement rather than the memorisation of facts.

The ability to discuss political and intellectual themes with confidence is tested across all four language skills at A-Level. In the speaking exam, you may be asked to evaluate a political development or defend a position on an intellectual debate. In the writing exam, you may construct sustained arguments about historical events or cultural movements. Reading and listening assessments frequently draw on political commentary, academic analysis, and journalistic opinion.

These prompts test your knowledge of German political institutions, key historical developments, and influential intellectual traditions. They also develop the formal, analytical register that examiners expect when students engage with these weighty and important subjects.

Prompt 12: The German Political System

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on the structure and functioning of the German political system. Ask me in German about the role of der Bundeskanzler, der

Bundespraesident, der Bundestag, and der Bundesrat. Test whether I understand the federal system, coalition politics, and the role of the Bundesverfassungsgericht. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Explaining federal constitutional structures and coalition politics in formal German

How to use it well:

Create a diagram of the German political system before attempting this prompt. Understanding the relationship between the federal and Laender governments, and the mechanics of coalition building, is frequently tested.

Prompt 13: Reunification and Its Legacy

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on German reunification and its continuing impact. Ask me questions in German about the fall of the Berlin Wall, the process of die Wiedervereinigung, economic disparities between east and west, Ostalgie, and the social and psychological legacy of division. Challenge me to evaluate whether reunification has been a success. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Evaluating the process and legacy of German reunification using historical evidence and balanced analysis

How to use it well:

Reunification is one of the most important topics in A-Level German. Ensure you can discuss both the initial euphoria and the subsequent challenges. Research economic data on east-west disparities and cultural phenomena like Ostalgie.

Prompt 14: Germany and the European Union

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Conduct a question-and-answer session with me in German about Germany's role in the European Union. Ask me about Germany's leadership role, attitudes towards European integration, the euro and fiscal policy, and debates about sovereignty and migration within the EU framework. Push me to present multiple perspectives. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Analysing Germany's role in European integration using sophisticated political vocabulary

How to use it well:

Germany's central role in the EU provides rich material for discussion. Research recent EU developments involving Germany and be prepared to discuss both pro-European and eurosceptic perspectives.

Prompt 15: The Nazi Period and Historical Memory

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on Germany's relationship with its Nazi past and the concept of Vergangenheitsbewältigung. Ask me questions in German about how Germany confronts its history through education, memorials, legislation, and public discourse. Challenge me to evaluate the effectiveness of these approaches and discuss ongoing debates. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Discussing historical memory and moral responsibility using sensitive, accurate German

How to use it well:

This topic requires both knowledge and sensitivity. Research specific examples such as the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin, the Stolpersteine project, and debates about what should be taught in schools.

Demonstrating awareness of the complexity of Erinnerungskultur impresses examiners.

Prompt 16: Political Extremism and Democracy

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on threats to democracy in German-speaking countries. Ask me in German about the rise of populism, the AfD, left-wing and right-wing extremism, the Verfassungsschutz, and the lessons that German democracy draws from history. Push me to evaluate the health of German democracy today. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Evaluating democratic resilience and political extremism using evidence-based political analysis

How to use it well:

Stay informed about current German politics. Being able to reference recent elections, party developments, and political debates shows examiners that your knowledge is current as well as deep.

Prompt 17: The Berlin Wall and Division

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the Berlin Wall and German division. Ask me questions in German about the construction of the Wall, life in East and West Germany, the Stasi, attempts to escape, and the events leading to its fall in 1989. Challenge me to analyse the human impact of division and its significance for German identity. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Analysing the historical and human dimensions of German division using narrative and analytical German

How to use it well:

This topic connects to many others: reunification,

political systems, cultural identity. Prepare to discuss not just the historical facts but their lasting impact on German society and psychology.

Prompt 18: German Intellectual Traditions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on German intellectual traditions and their influence. Ask me in German about key thinkers such as Kant, Marx, Nietzsche, and the Frankfurt School. Test whether I understand their central ideas and can explain their continuing relevance.

Push me to connect intellectual history to contemporary German society. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Explaining philosophical and intellectual concepts and connecting them to contemporary issues in German

How to use it well:

You do not need to be a philosophy expert, but demonstrating awareness of Germany's intellectual heritage adds depth to your analysis. Focus on connecting ideas to modern issues: Kant's ethics to human rights debates, Marx to inequality discussions.

Prompt 19: Protest Movements and Political Activism

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Conduct a discussion with me in German about protest movements and political activism in the German-speaking world. Ask me about the student movements of 1968, environmental activism and die Gruenen, anti-nuclear protests, Fridays for Future, and the Pegida movement. Challenge me to analyse what these movements reveal about German political culture. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Analysing political activism and protest culture within the broader context of German democracy

How to use it well:

Understanding the role of protest in German political culture demonstrates sophisticated cultural knowledge. Research the origins of die Gruenen and the connection between environmental activism and German politics.

Prompt 20: Media and Press Freedom

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the role of the media and press freedom in the German-speaking world. Ask me questions in German about oeffentlich-rechtliche Medien such as ARD and ZDF, the Luegenpresse debate, press regulation, and the influence of social media on public discourse. Challenge me to evaluate whether the German media landscape supports democratic values. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Evaluating media systems and press freedom using analytical vocabulary and balanced argumentation

How to use it well:

Understanding the role of public broadcasting in Germany, funded by the Rundfunkbeitrag, is important. Research how this differs from the British and American models to add comparative depth to your analysis.

Prompt 21: Switzerland and Austria: Political Distinctiveness

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on the political systems and cultures of Switzerland and Austria. Ask me in German about Swiss direct democracy and neutrality, Austrian coalition politics, the role of referendums, and how

the political cultures of these countries differ from Germany's. Push me to analyse what makes each system distinctive. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Comparing political systems across German-speaking countries using precise constitutional vocabulary

How to use it well:

Many candidates focus exclusively on Germany. Demonstrating knowledge of Austrian and Swiss politics shows breadth and distinguishes you from other candidates. Research Swiss direct democracy and the role of Volksabstimmungen.

Prompt 22: The Arts and Political Expression

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the relationship between the arts and political expression in the German-speaking world. Ask me in German about political theatre, protest music, literary responses to historical events, and how artists have used their work to comment on society and politics. Challenge me to provide specific examples and analyse their significance. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Analysing the intersection of artistic expression and political commentary in German cultural history

How to use it well:

Research specific examples such as Brecht's theatre, the Gruppe 47 literary movement, or contemporary German political art. Being able to discuss concrete examples demonstrates genuine cultural engagement.

Section 3

Advanced Grammar and Syntax

Grammatical accuracy is one of the most heavily weighted components of A-Level German assessment. Students are expected to manipulate complex grammatical structures with confidence, including the subjunctive moods, advanced case usage, complex clause structures, and the full range of verb forms. Errors tolerated at GCSE will cost marks at A-Level, and examiners actively reward ambitious and accurate use of German grammar.

Achieving grammatical excellence demands more than knowing the rules. It requires the ability to apply them spontaneously in writing and speech under timed conditions. German grammar presents particular challenges for English speakers, including the case system, word order rules, and the subjunctive. The prompts in this section test your active command of these structures, identifying weaknesses and building the automaticity needed for exam performance.

Use these prompts consistently throughout your revision period. German grammar cannot be effectively crammed in the final weeks. Regular, targeted practice over months will embed structures deeply enough that they become second nature, freeing you to focus on content and argumentation during the exam.

Prompt 23: The Subjunctive I and II

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on Konjunktiv I and Konjunktiv II in German. Give me sentences requiring reported speech using Konjunktiv I and hypothetical situations using Konjunktiv II. Include irregular

forms and the conditional perfect with haette and waere. Give me German sentences with errors in subjunctive usage and ask me to correct them.

Explain any mistakes I make.

What this helps you practise:

Accurate formation and use of Konjunktiv I and II across reported speech and hypothetical contexts

How to use it well:

Focus on the irregular Konjunktiv II forms that differ from the standard wuerde + infinitive construction: waere, haette, kaeme, wuesste, gaebe. Using these forms rather than defaulting to wuerde shows sophistication.

Prompt 24: Case System in Complex Contexts

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on the German case system in advanced contexts. Give me sentences requiring correct case usage after two-way prepositions, with verbs that take unexpected cases, and in relative clauses.

Include sentences with adjective endings dependent on case, gender, and article type. Correct all errors and explain the rules.

What this helps you practise:

Applying nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive case accurately in complex sentence structures

How to use it well:

The case system is the foundation of German grammar. Focus on the areas that cause the most difficulty: two-way prepositions with movement versus location, verbs taking the dative, and adjective endings after different article types.

Prompt 25: Word Order in Complex Sentences

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on German word order rules in complex sentences. Give me sentences requiring correct verb

placement in main clauses, subordinate clauses, and after coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. Include sentences with time-manner-place order, inverted word order, and multiple subordinate clauses. Correct all errors and explain the rules.

What this helps you practise:

Applying German word order rules accurately across main, subordinate, and compound sentence structures

How to use it well:

Word order is tested in every piece of German writing and speaking. Master the verb-second rule, verb-final in subordinate clauses, and the special behaviour of coordinating conjunctions like *und*, *aber*, *denn* versus subordinating conjunctions like *weil*, *obwohl*, *damit*.

Prompt 26: The Passive Voice

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

*Test me on the passive voice in German. Give me active sentences to convert to the passive using *werden*, and passive sentences to convert back. Include the Zustandspassiv with *sein*, impersonal passive constructions, and the passive across different tenses. Ask me when alternatives to the passive are more appropriate. Correct all errors.*

What this helps you practise:

Forming and using Vorgangspassiv and Zustandspassiv across all tenses with accuracy

How to use it well:

Distinguish clearly between the Vorgangspassiv (with *werden*, describing a process) and the Zustandspassiv (with *sein*, describing a state). This distinction is frequently tested and commonly confused.

Prompt 27: Relative Clauses and Pronouns

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on German relative clauses. Give me sentences requiring correct relative pronoun choice based on gender, number, and case. Include examples with prepositions before the relative pronoun and sentences using wo, was, and wer as relative pronouns. Test me on verb position within relative clauses. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Constructing complex relative clauses with correct pronoun selection and word order

How to use it well:

Relative clauses are essential for sophisticated German writing. Practise using them in your essays to combine short, simple sentences into longer, more complex ones. Remember that the relative pronoun's case is determined by its function within the relative clause, not the main clause.

Prompt 28: Advanced Verb Forms

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the full range of German verb forms. Give me passages requiring correct use of the Praeteritum, Perfekt, Plusquamperfekt, Futur I and II, and Konjunktiv. Include separable and inseparable prefix verbs, reflexive verbs with correct case, and modal verbs in compound tenses. Correct all errors and explain the grammar.

What this helps you practise:

Selecting and applying the correct verb form across complex narrative and analytical contexts

How to use it well:

Focus on the Praeteritum versus Perfekt distinction: Praeteritum for formal writing and narrative, Perfekt for spoken and informal written German. Also practise modal verbs in the perfect tense, which use the double infinitive construction.

Prompt 29: Prepositions and Their Cases

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

*Quiz me on German prepositional usage. Give me sentences requiring correct case usage after fixed-case prepositions and two-way prepositions. Include idiomatic prepositional phrases, verb-preposition combinations such as *sich freuen auf/ueber*, and sentences where the wrong preposition changes the meaning. Correct all errors.*

What this helps you practise:

Using prepositions with correct case government including idiomatic verb-preposition combinations

How to use it well:

Create categorised lists of prepositions by case and learn the most important verb-preposition combinations. Test yourself regularly, as prepositional errors are among the most persistent in German and can be eliminated through systematic practice.

Prompt 30: Adjective Endings and Agreement

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on German adjective endings. Give me sentences requiring correct adjective declension after definite articles, indefinite articles, and with no article. Include sentences with multiple adjectives, comparative and superlative forms, and adjectives used as nouns. Correct all errors and explain the pattern behind each ending.

What this helps you practise:

Applying adjective declension patterns accurately across all article types and cases

How to use it well:

Adjective endings follow predictable patterns. Learn the three tables (after definite article, indefinite article, no article) and practise applying them until

the correct ending feels natural. This is one area where systematic memorisation genuinely pays off.

Prompt 31: Conditional and Hypothetical Structures

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on conditional and hypothetical structures in German. Test me on real conditions with wenn + present, unreal conditions with wenn + Konjunktiv II, and past unreal conditions with wenn + Plusquamperfekt Konjunktiv. Give me English sentences to translate and German sentences with tense errors to correct. Explain all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Constructing all types of conditional sentence with correct mood and tense selection

How to use it well:

Practise all three conditional types until the tense pairings are automatic. Pay special attention to the past unreal conditional with haette/waere + past participle, which is commonly tested but often produced incorrectly.

Prompt 32: Infinitive Constructions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on German infinitive constructions. Give me sentences requiring um...zu, ohne...zu, anstatt...zu, and simple zu + infinitive constructions. Include sentences where I must choose between an infinitive construction and a dass clause. Test me on the position of zu with separable verbs. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Using infinitive constructions accurately and choosing appropriately between infinitive and clause alternatives

How to use it well:

Infinitive constructions add sophistication to your German. Practise using *um...zu* for purpose, *ohne...zu* for 'without doing', and *anstatt...zu* for 'instead of doing'. These are often underused by candidates and impress examiners.

Prompt 33: The Genitive Case

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

*Quiz me on the genitive case in German. Give me sentences requiring genitive after prepositions such as *während, trotz, wegen, and statt*. Include genitive with possessive constructions, the demonstrative *dessen and deren*, and the use of the genitive in formal written German. Correct all errors and note where the dative is replacing the genitive in modern usage.*

What this helps you practise:

Using the genitive case accurately in formal written German including after prepositions and in possessive constructions

How to use it well:

The genitive is declining in spoken German but remains essential in formal written German and is expected at A-Level. Using it correctly in your essays immediately elevates your register and impresses examiners.

Prompt 34: Extended Adjective Constructions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

*Test me on extended adjective constructions in German, *die erweiterte Partizipialattribute*. Give me sentences with extended participial phrases before nouns and ask me to identify the core noun, the participle, and the additional information. Then give me simple relative clauses and ask me to convert*

them into extended adjective constructions. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Understanding and producing extended participial adjective constructions in formal German

How to use it well:

Extended adjective constructions are a feature of formal and academic German. While you do not need to produce them frequently, recognising and understanding them is essential for reading comprehension, and using them occasionally in essays demonstrates advanced competence.

Section 4

Translation Skills

Translation is assessed as a distinct skill at A-Level German and carries significant marks across all major exam boards. Students must demonstrate the ability to translate both from English into German and from German into English with accuracy, fluency, and awareness of idiomatic expression. The passages used in A-Level exams are drawn from diverse sources including journalism, literature, and academic prose, requiring adaptability in register and style.

Successful translation at this level demands far more than word-for-word substitution. It requires deep understanding of grammatical structures in both languages, particularly German word order, case usage, and verb placement in subordinate clauses. Students must also recognise and produce idiomatic expressions, manage register appropriately, and navigate the structural differences between English and German with confidence.

The prompts in this section provide intensive practice in both translation directions. Use them to identify weaknesses in your grammar, vocabulary, and structural awareness, and to develop the accuracy and fluency needed for timed exam conditions.

Prompt 35: English to German: Social Topics
Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me five English sentences on social issues in the German-speaking world, at A-Level difficulty, and ask me to translate them into German. The sentences should require complex grammar including subordinate clauses, the subjunctive, and

correct case usage. After each attempt, show me an ideal version and explain where mine could be improved.

What this helps you practise:

Translating complex English sentences on social themes into grammatically accurate German

How to use it well:

After each correction, note the specific error type and correct form in a translation log. Reviewing this log weekly reveals which grammar areas cause you the most difficulty and need focused revision.

Prompt 36: German to English: Journalistic Texts

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a passage of approximately 100 words in German, written in a journalistic style about a contemporary issue. Ask me to translate it into natural, fluent English. After my attempt, provide an improved version and highlight where my English was too literal, stilted, or inaccurate.

What this helps you practise:

Producing fluent, natural English translations from formal German journalistic prose

How to use it well:

German journalistic prose often features long, complex sentences. The key challenge is restructuring these into natural English without losing meaning. Practise breaking long German sentences into shorter English ones where appropriate.

Prompt 37: English to German: Literary Register

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Provide a short English passage in a literary or narrative style and ask me to translate it into

German. The passage should require careful tense choices, correct adjective agreement, and sophisticated vocabulary. Compare my attempt with an ideal translation and explain the differences.

What this helps you practise:

Translating literary English into stylistically appropriate German with correct grammar and register

How to use it well:

Literary translation into German tests your ability to handle word order in creative ways while maintaining accuracy. Focus on verb placement and adjective endings, which are the most common sources of error in literary translation.

Prompt 38: False Friends and Idiomatic Traps

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Create a translation exercise testing me on German-English false friends and idiomatic expressions. Give me ten sentences in each direction containing common pitfalls such as aktuell/actual, bekommen/become, Gift/gift, and idioms that cannot be translated literally. Correct my attempts and explain each trap.

What this helps you practise:

Identifying and avoiding false friends and non-literal idiomatic expressions in translation

How to use it well:

German-English false friends are numerous and frequently tested. Compile a comprehensive list including bekommen, brav, Chef, eventuell, Gymnasium, konsequent, Mist, Rat, sympathisch, and sensibel. Review this list before every translation practice session.

Prompt 39: Translation Under Timed Conditions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a translation passage of exam-appropriate length, approximately 70 words in English, to translate into German. Tell me I have 15 minutes.

After I submit my translation, mark it as an examiner would, identifying errors in grammar, vocabulary, word order, and style. Give me a mark out of 10 and explain how to improve.

What this helps you practise:

Producing accurate German translations under realistic time pressure

How to use it well:

Time yourself strictly. Developing pace awareness is essential. If you consistently run over time, practise with shorter passages first. Always leave two minutes at the end for checking word order, verb positions, and case endings.

Prompt 40: Translating Complex Sentence Structures

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me five English sentences containing complex structures such as relative clauses, reported speech, and passive constructions, and ask me to translate them into German. Focus on sentences where the word order changes significantly. Correct my translations and explain the structural transformations required.

What this helps you practise:

Restructuring complex English syntax into grammatically correct German with appropriate word order

How to use it well:

The biggest challenge in English-to-German translation is word order. Before translating, identify the main verb, any subordinate clauses, and the

time-manner-place elements. Position these correctly before worrying about vocabulary.

Prompt 41: German to English: Literary Extracts

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Provide a literary passage in German of approximately 100 words, including complex vocabulary and stylistic features. Ask me to translate it into English that preserves the tone and style of the original. After my attempt, provide an improved version and discuss where my translation lost the register or meaning.

What this helps you practise:

Preserving literary tone and stylistic nuance in German-to-English translation

How to use it well:

German literary prose often features longer and more complex sentences than English equivalents. Read the passage twice before starting: once for meaning, once for tone. Aim for English that reads naturally while preserving the author's stylistic choices.

Prompt 42: Translating Subjunctive and Reported Speech

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me sentences in both English and German requiring the use of Konjunktiv I for reported speech and Konjunktiv II for hypothetical meaning. Ask me to translate them, paying careful attention to the mood distinctions. Highlight where I have lost the nuance of the original. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Conveying subjunctive mood distinctions accurately across English and German translation

How to use it well:

The German subjunctive system does not map neatly onto English. When translating into German, actively identify where Konjunktiv I or II is required. When translating into English, ensure you convey the reported or hypothetical quality of the original.

Prompt 43: Register and Tone in Translation

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me pairs of German sentences expressing the same idea at different formality levels. Ask me to translate each, preserving the register difference in English. Then give me English sentences and ask me to translate them into German at a specified register. Assess my register awareness throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Maintaining appropriate register distinctions in both translation directions

How to use it well:

Register awareness is a distinguishing feature of strong candidates. Note the features that signal formality in German: Konjunktiv I, genitive case, extended adjective constructions, and formal vocabulary. Reproduce these when translating into formal German.

Prompt 44: Translating Compound Nouns and Complex Vocabulary

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me German sentences containing complex compound nouns and ask me to translate them into natural English. Then give me English phrases and ask me to form the appropriate German compound noun. Include examples with Fugen-s and other linking elements. Test me on at least fifteen compound nouns. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Decoding German compound nouns and forming them accurately from English equivalents

How to use it well:

German compound nouns can seem intimidating but follow logical patterns. Break them down from right to left: the last element is the main noun, everything before it modifies it. Practise this decomposition technique with increasingly complex compounds.

Prompt 45: Proofreading Translations

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a German translation of an English passage containing exactly ten errors across grammar, vocabulary, word order, and style. Ask me to find and correct all ten. After I submit my corrections, reveal any I missed and explain why the original was wrong. Test me across different error types.

What this helps you practise:

Identifying and correcting grammatical, lexical, and structural errors in German translations

How to use it well:

Develop a systematic proofreading routine: first check verb positions in main and subordinate clauses, then case endings, then adjective agreement, then vocabulary choices. A systematic approach catches more errors than a single read-through.

Section 5

Film and Literary Analysis

All major A-Level German specifications require the study of at least one German-language film and one literary text. Students must demonstrate the ability to analyse themes, characters, narrative techniques, and directorial or authorial choices, all while writing in accurate and sophisticated German. This component carries substantial marks and rewards students who construct well-evidenced, analytical arguments.

Successful analysis at A-Level goes well beyond plot summary. Examiners want to see engagement with how a text or film creates meaning: the significance of structure, symbolism, visual imagery, dialogue, and narrative perspective. Students must also place works within their social, historical, and cultural contexts, exploring how they reflect or respond to the society in which they were produced.

The prompts in this section work with any set text or film. Substitute the specific works you are studying. The analytical skills developed here, including close textual analysis, thematic argumentation, and evaluative writing, are transferable across all set texts and films on the specification.

Prompt 46: Theme Analysis in Film

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

I am studying a German-language film for A-Level. Ask me a series of questions in German about the key themes. Push me to analyse how themes are conveyed through cinematography, dialogue, mise-en-scene, and narrative structure rather than simply listing them. Correct my German and challenge superficial or descriptive responses.

What this helps you practise:

Analysing thematic presentation through cinematic techniques using film terminology in German

How to use it well:

Tell the AI which film you are studying before starting. Prepare notes on key scenes that illustrate each theme. Examiners reward specific visual and textual evidence over general statements.

Prompt 47: Character Study in Literature

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

I am studying a German literary text for A-Level. Quiz me on a specific character by asking questions in German about their role, development, relationships, and thematic significance. Challenge me to support every point with textual evidence. Correct my German and push for deeper analysis.

What this helps you practise:

Constructing evidence-based character analysis in sustained, accurate German

How to use it well:

Tell the AI which text and character to focus on. Prepare key quotations in advance. Even brief quotations of a few words demonstrate the close engagement with the text that examiners value.

Prompt 48: Narrative Technique and Structure

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the narrative techniques used in my A-Level German literary text. Ask me in German about the narrative perspective, chronological structure, use of flashback, the significance of beginning and ending, and any structural patterns. Push me to explain why the author made these choices. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Explaining authorial choices about structure and

narrative technique using literary terminology in German

How to use it well:

Learn key narrative terms in German: der auktoriale Erzähler, die Ich-Perspektive, die Rückblende, die Vorausdeutung, der Höhepunkt. Using these terms accurately demonstrates that you can analyse literature at the required level.

Prompt 49: Visual and Auditory Techniques in Film

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on visual and auditory techniques in my A-Level German film. Ask me in German about lighting, colour, camera angles, editing, and the use of music and sound. For each technique, push me to explain its effect and its connection to the film's themes. Correct my German and suggest more precise vocabulary.

What this helps you practise:

Analysing cinematic visual and auditory techniques using specialist film vocabulary in German

How to use it well:

Build a glossary of film terms in German: die Nahaufnahme, die Totale, die Froschperspektive, die Filmmusik, der Schnitt, die Beleuchtung. Being able to use these fluently distinguishes analytical from descriptive responses.

Prompt 50: Social and Historical Context

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on the social and historical context of my A-Level German film or literary text. Ask me in German how the work reflects the period in which it was produced or set. Challenge me to discuss how historical events and social conditions shaped the

work. Push me beyond plot description to contextual analysis. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Connecting literary and cinematic works to their social, historical, and cultural contexts

How to use it well:

Many German set texts and films relate to the Nazi period, division, or reunification. Research the relevant historical background thoroughly.

Understanding context transforms your analysis from surface-level description to genuine critical engagement.

Prompt 51: Comparing Themes Across Works

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

I am studying both a film and a literary text for A-Level German. Ask me questions in German requiring me to compare how both works address a shared theme such as identity, guilt, freedom, or belonging. Push me to identify similarities and differences in approach and technique. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Drawing thematic comparisons across different texts and media using sophisticated comparative language

How to use it well:

Even if your exam does not require direct comparison, the ability to connect your set works demonstrates intellectual range. Prepare notes on shared themes and practise discussing them using comparative structures.

Prompt 52: Writing an Analytical Essay on Film

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me an A-Level style essay question in German about a film, then ask me to produce a structured essay plan with an introduction, three analytical

paragraphs, and a conclusion. Critique my plan for argument quality, evidence, and coherence. Then ask me to write one full paragraph. Assess content and language.

What this helps you practise:

Planning and structuring analytical film essays with clear argumentation and cinematic evidence

How to use it well:

Practise producing essay plans in five minutes. Each paragraph needs a clear analytical point, specific evidence from the film, and explanation of how the evidence supports your argument.

Prompt 53: Writing an Analytical Essay on Literature

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Provide an A-Level style essay question in German on a literary text. Guide me through planning: thesis statement, three main arguments, supporting quotations, and conclusion. Critique my plan, then ask me to draft one paragraph. Assess both my analytical quality and my German.

What this helps you practise:

Constructing thesis-driven literary essays with integrated quotation and sustained analysis in German

How to use it well:

Begin every essay with a clear Thesenantwort that directly addresses the question. Every paragraph must advance this thesis. Avoid retelling the plot; instead, analyse specific passages and explain their significance.

Prompt 54: Close Reading Practice

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a short extract in German from a literary text, approximately 50 to 80 words. Ask me to

perform a close reading, analysing language choices, imagery, tone, and literary devices. Push me to explain the effect of specific words and phrases rather than simply identifying techniques. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Performing detailed close reading with attention to language, imagery, and literary effect in German

How to use it well:

Start by identifying what is unusual or striking in the passage. Ask yourself why the author chose this word, image, or structure rather than a more obvious alternative. This questioning approach generates genuine analysis.

Prompt 55: Symbolism and Motifs

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on symbolism and recurring motifs in my A-Level German text or film. Ask me in German to identify key symbols, explain their significance, and trace how they develop across the work. Challenge me to explain how symbolism contributes to overall meaning. Correct my German and push for deeper interpretation.

What this helps you practise:

Identifying and interpreting symbolic and motif-based meaning in German literary and cinematic texts

How to use it well:

Create a symbol tracker noting every appearance and its context. Being able to trace a symbol's development across the entire work allows you to write about it with the specificity and analytical depth that earn top marks.

Prompt 56: Evaluating Critical Interpretations

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Present me with two contrasting interpretations of a theme or character from my A-Level German text or film. Ask me in German to evaluate both, explaining which I find more convincing and why. Push me to engage substantively with both arguments. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Engaging with and evaluating competing critical interpretations of literary and cinematic texts

How to use it well:

Considering alternative interpretations and arguing for your own reading demonstrates the highest level of analytical thinking. This skill distinguishes competent candidates from outstanding ones.

Section 6

Essay Writing in German

Essay writing in German is a core assessed skill at A-Level, appearing in both the writing paper and the literature and film components. Students must construct sustained, well-argued essays entirely in German, demonstrating not only linguistic accuracy but also the ability to develop coherent arguments, integrate evidence effectively, and write with the formal register and precision expected at this level.

A strong A-Level essay in German requires a clear structure: an introduction that frames the question and states a thesis, body paragraphs that each advance a distinct analytical point, and a conclusion that synthesises the argument and offers evaluative judgement. The language must be formal, precise, and varied. Examiners reward ambitious vocabulary, complex sentence structures, and the confident use of connectives to guide the reader through the argument.

These prompts develop every aspect of German essay writing, from planning and structuring to refining expression and building a repertoire of advanced phrases. Regular practice will build the fluency and confidence needed to produce strong essays under timed exam conditions.

Prompt 57: Structuring an Argument

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a discursive essay question in German on a social or political topic. Ask me to produce a plan with a clear thesis, three developed arguments with evidence, counterarguments, and a conclusion.

Assess the logical coherence and quality of my argumentation. Suggest structural improvements.

What this helps you practise:

Organising complex arguments into a coherent, logical essay structure

How to use it well:

Always plan before writing. Spend five minutes on a plan in the exam. A clear plan prevents you from losing your argument and ensures each paragraph makes a distinct contribution to your thesis.

Prompt 58: Writing Introductions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me five A-Level German essay questions on different topics. For each, ask me to write an introduction in German that contextualises the issue, defines key terms, outlines the debate, and states my thesis. Assess each introduction for clarity, relevance, and linguistic quality. Provide model versions.

What this helps you practise:

Crafting focused introductions that contextualise the question and establish a clear thesis in German

How to use it well:

Develop a reliable introduction template: contextual statement, key term definition, outline of perspectives, thesis. Practise until you can produce a strong introduction in under five minutes.

Prompt 59: Developing Analytical Paragraphs

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a topic sentence for an essay paragraph in German. Ask me to develop it into a paragraph of 80 to 100 words with a clear point, supporting evidence, analysis of the evidence, and a link to the thesis. Assess coherence, depth, and linguistic accuracy.

What this helps you practise:

Constructing fully developed analytical paragraphs with point, evidence, and explanation in German

How to use it well:

Follow a clear paragraph structure: state your point, present evidence, explain how the evidence supports your argument, link back to the thesis. This disciplined approach prevents waffle and produces focused paragraphs.

Prompt 60: Writing Conclusions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me an essay question and a summary of my arguments. Ask me to write a conclusion in German that synthesises the arguments, provides a final evaluation, and ends with a thought-provoking statement. Assess effectiveness and linguistic quality. Provide a model for comparison.

What this helps you practise:

Writing effective conclusions that synthesise arguments and offer genuine evaluative judgement in German

How to use it well:

Do not repeat your introduction. Show how your argument has developed. Use evaluative phrases: 'zusammenfassend laesst sich sagen', 'alles in allem', 'abschliessend ist festzustellen, dass'. These signal mature academic writing.

Prompt 61: Connectives and Linking Phrases

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on advanced German connectives and linking phrases. Give me pairs of sentences to combine using appropriate connectives. Include concessive, causal, consecutive, and temporal connectives, noting which affect word order. Then

give me a paragraph with weak linking and ask me to improve it. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Using a wide range of connectives to create fluent, cohesive argumentation while maintaining correct word order

How to use it well:

Build a categorised list: addition (darueber hinaus, ferner), contrast (dennoch, nichtsdestotrotz), cause (da, zumal), consequence (infolgedessen, demzufolge). Remember that subordinating connectives send the verb to the end of the clause.

Prompt 62: Expressing and Justifying Opinions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me controversial statements in German on A-Level topics. For each, ask me to write two to three sentences expressing and justifying my opinion with reasons and examples. Assess whether my opinions are clear, genuinely justified, and expressed in varied language. Push me beyond 'ich denke, dass'. Correct all errors.

What this helps you practise:

Articulating and supporting personal opinions using varied expression and genuine justification in German

How to use it well:

Expand your opinion vocabulary: 'meiner Ansicht nach', 'ich bin der Ueberzeugung, dass', 'es steht ausser Frage, dass', 'ich vertrete die Auffassung, dass'. Varying these phrases demonstrates linguistic sophistication.

Prompt 63: Handling Counterarguments

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a position statement in German on an A-Level topic. Ask me to write a counterargument

paragraph that acknowledges the opposing view, presents evidence for it, then refutes it. Assess whether I engage genuinely with the counterargument. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Engaging with and refuting counterarguments using concessive structures in German

How to use it well:

Use structures like 'zwar... aber', 'obwohl... steht fest, dass', and 'es laesst sich nicht leugnen, dass... dennoch' to show balanced yet decisive engagement with opposing views.

Prompt 64: Integrating Evidence

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me an essay question in German and ask me to write a paragraph incorporating at least two pieces of evidence: one statistic or factual reference and one example from a German-speaking country. Assess whether the evidence is smoothly integrated into my argument. Correct my German and suggest improvements.

What this helps you practise:

Integrating factual evidence and real-world examples smoothly into argumentative prose in German

How to use it well:

Evidence must be woven into your argument. Use phrases like 'wie die Statistiken belegen', 'ein anschauliches Beispiel dafuer ist', and 'laut einer aktuellen Studie' to introduce evidence naturally.

Prompt 65: Vocabulary Elevation

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me an A-Level German essay paragraph using basic, repetitive vocabulary. Ask me to rewrite it with more sophisticated, varied, and precise

language while keeping the same meaning. Assess my rewrite, highlighting improvements and remaining weak points. Suggest further refinements.

What this helps you practise:

Elevating essay vocabulary from functional to sophisticated through precise lexical choices in German

How to use it well:

Maintain a vocabulary upgrade list: 'wichtig' becomes 'wesentlich, entscheidend, ausschlaggebend'; 'Problem' becomes 'Herausforderung, Schwierigkeit, Dilemma'. Testing yourself on these upgrades regularly improves your active vocabulary.

Prompt 66: Writing Under Timed Conditions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me an A-Level essay question in German and tell me I have 40 minutes. After I submit, assess it as an examiner would: content, argument coherence, vocabulary range, grammatical accuracy, and structure. Provide specific, actionable feedback and a mark out of 20.

What this helps you practise:

Producing well-structured, accurate essays within realistic A-Level time constraints

How to use it well:

Time yourself strictly. Regular timed practice develops a realistic sense of what you can achieve and where efficiency is needed. Leave five minutes for checking verb positions, case endings, and adjective agreement.

Prompt 67: Analysing Strong Essays

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Write a model A-Level German essay of approximately 250 words on a social or political

topic. Then ask me to analyse it: identifying the thesis, structure, use of evidence, vocabulary range, grammatical ambition, and effectiveness of the conclusion. Test whether I can articulate what makes it strong. Correct my analysis.

What this helps you practise:

Critically evaluating essay quality by identifying structural, linguistic, and argumentative strengths in German

How to use it well:

Analysing model essays helps you internalise what examiners look for. After analysis, write your own essay on a similar topic, consciously applying the successful techniques you identified.

Section 7

Listening and Reading Comprehension Strategies

Listening and reading comprehension are assessed in dedicated papers at A-Level German and together account for a substantial proportion of total marks. The texts and recordings are significantly more challenging than at GCSE, featuring complex sentence structures, idiomatic language, varied accents, and sophisticated arguments from authentic German-language sources.

Success in these papers requires more than linguistic knowledge. Students need effective strategies for approaching different question types, managing time across multiple texts, and extracting meaning from unfamiliar vocabulary through contextual inference. The ability to identify tone, purpose, attitude, and implicit meaning is as important as understanding explicit content.

These prompts develop both the linguistic competence and the strategic skills needed for comprehension papers. They train you to engage with complex authentic materials, to read and listen with clear purpose, and to answer questions with the precision and relevance that examiners demand.

Prompt 68: Listening: Extracting Key Information

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Simulate an A-Level German listening exercise. Provide a transcript of a short spoken passage on a social or political topic, approximately 80 words. Ask me five comprehension questions in German testing my ability to identify specific facts, opinions, and

attitudes. Assess my answers for accuracy and completeness.

What this helps you practise:

Extracting specific factual and attitudinal information from complex spoken German

How to use it well:

In the exam, you hear recordings twice. On the first listen, focus on overall meaning. On the second, target specific details for each question. Practise this two-stage approach consistently.

Prompt 69: Reading: Inference and Implicit Meaning

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me an A-Level standard German reading passage of approximately 120 words on a cultural or political topic. Ask me five questions, at least two requiring inference or interpretation of the author's attitude. Assess depth and accuracy. Explain where I missed implicit meaning.

What this helps you practise:

Inferring implicit meaning, tone, and authorial attitude from complex German texts

How to use it well:

When asked about an author's attitude, look for evaluative adjectives, rhetorical questions, irony, and modal particles. These reveal positions and perspectives beyond the literal content.

Prompt 70: Vocabulary Inference from Context

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a German passage containing eight words or phrases likely to be unfamiliar to an A-Level student. Ask me to deduce the meaning of each from context. After my attempts, reveal correct meanings and explain the contextual and morphological clues I should have used. Assess my inference skills.

What this helps you practise:

Deducing unfamiliar German vocabulary through contextual analysis and compound noun decomposition

How to use it well:

German compound nouns can often be decoded by breaking them into component parts. Combine this with contextual clues, cognate recognition, and word class identification for the most accurate guesses.

Prompt 71: Listening: Following Complex Arguments

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on following complex arguments in German listening comprehension. Read me a passage in German where a speaker presents a nuanced argument with multiple viewpoints, qualifications, and counter-arguments. Then ask me to summarise the main argument, identify the supporting points and any concessions made, and distinguish between fact and opinion. After my answer, check whether I captured the full argument structure and key vocabulary. Present the questions one at a time and wait for my response.

What this helps you practise:

Following and analysing opposing arguments in extended spoken German

How to use it well:

Listen for discourse markers signalling agreement and disagreement: 'da stimme ich Ihnen zu', 'da bin ich anderer Meinung', 'im Gegenteil'. These help you track the debate structure.

Prompt 72: Reading: Matching Statements

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on matching statements to a German reading text. Present a passage in German along

with a set of statements, some of which match the content, some of which contradict it, and some of which are not mentioned. Ask me to categorise each statement and justify my decision by referencing specific parts of the text. After each answer, check my justification and correct any misreadings. Present the exercise and then check each statement one at a time.

What this helps you practise:

Matching detailed statements to source texts through careful comparative reading in German

How to use it well:

Underline key words in each statement before scanning the texts. Watch for statements that appear to match but contain a crucial difference. Precision is essential in this question type.

Prompt 73: Listening: Gap-Fill Practice

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on listening gap-fill practice in German. Read me a passage in German with key words or phrases removed and ask me to fill in the gaps from what I hear or from the context. Include a mix of grammatical items such as verb forms and case endings, and vocabulary items. After each gap, check whether my answer is correct in both meaning and grammatical form. Present the passage and then check each gap one at a time.

What this helps you practise:

Capturing precise vocabulary and grammatical forms from spoken German in gap-fill format

How to use it well:

Remember that all German nouns must be capitalised. Gap-fill exercises test spelling accuracy as well as comprehension. Pay attention to verb endings, noun gender markers, and compound noun spelling.

Prompt 74: Reading: Answering in German

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on reading comprehension where I must answer in German. Present a German text on a current affairs or cultural topic and ask me five questions in German that require me to respond in full German sentences. Check whether my answers are factually correct based on the text and grammatically accurate. Correct any errors in my German, including case, word order, and verb forms. Present one question at a time and wait for my response before proceeding.

What this helps you practise:

Formulating precise, relevant comprehension answers in accurate German

How to use it well:

Reformulate your answers using your own words rather than copying from the text. This demonstrates genuine understanding. Ensure your answer directly addresses the specific question asked.

Prompt 75: Listening: Note-Taking

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on note-taking from a German listening passage. Read me a longer passage in German, such as a news report or interview, and ask me to take structured notes capturing the key points, supporting details, and any statistics or names mentioned. After I submit my notes, assess whether I captured the essential information, missed any key points, or included irrelevant detail. Then ask follow-up questions based on the passage. Wait for my notes before giving feedback.

What this helps you practise:

Capturing key information from extended spoken German through structured note-taking

How to use it well:

Develop personal abbreviations and symbols for efficient note-taking. Focus on content words rather than function words. This allows you to capture more information without falling behind.

Prompt 76: Reading: True, False, or Not Mentioned

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on a true, false, or not mentioned reading exercise in German. Present a German text and then give me a series of statements. For each statement, I must decide whether it is true, false, or not mentioned in the text, and explain my reasoning by referring to specific evidence in the passage. After each answer, tell me whether I am correct and point out any misinterpretations of the German. Present one statement at a time and wait for my response.

What this helps you practise:

Distinguishing between false information and information absent from the source text

How to use it well:

A statement is 'falsch' only if the text directly contradicts it. If the text simply does not address the topic, it is 'nicht erwäehnt'. This distinction is the most common source of error in this question type.

Prompt 77: Speed Reading for Gist

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a long German text of approximately 200 words. Allow me 90 seconds to read it, then remove the text and ask me five questions about the main ideas, argument, and tone. Assess my answers and discuss which reading strategies would have helped me extract key information more efficiently.

What this helps you practise:

Extracting main ideas and overall meaning from extended German texts under time pressure

How to use it well:

Strategic reading is about purpose, not speed. Before reading, check the title, first sentence of each paragraph, and the final sentence. These typically contain the main argument and conclusion.

Prompt 78: Understanding Austrian and Swiss German Features

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Play the role of an A-Level German listening examiner. Read me a passage in standard German that includes some vocabulary or expressions commonly associated with Austrian or Swiss German usage. Ask me comprehension questions about the passage, then ask me to identify which words or phrases differ from standard Hochdeutsch and what they mean. Correct my answers and explain any features I miss.

What this helps you practise:

Recognising and understanding regional variation across German-speaking countries

How to use it well:

A-Level listening may include speakers from Austria or Switzerland. Familiarise yourself with key vocabulary differences such as Austrian Jänner for Januar, Semmel for Brötchen, and Swiss German features. This prevents confusion in the exam.

Section 8

Speaking and Discussion Skills

The speaking assessment at A-Level German is a demanding examination testing students' ability to discuss complex topics spontaneously, defend their opinions under questioning, and demonstrate sophisticated command of German in real-time conversation. It typically includes a discussion based on a stimulus card and, for the full A-Level, a presentation and defence of the Independent Research Project. Marks are awarded for language quality, interaction, and the depth of ideas.

Preparing for the speaking exam requires far more than memorising scripted responses. Examiners are trained to detect rehearsed answers and will use unpredictable follow-up questions to test genuine understanding and spontaneous language production. Students must develop the ability to think in German, respond to unexpected questions, and maintain fluency and accuracy even when pushed into unfamiliar territory.

These prompts simulate speaking exam conditions, providing opportunities to practise discussion, opinion defence, and spontaneous response. Use them regularly with the AI acting as examiner, focusing on developing both the subject knowledge and the linguistic agility that characterise confident, high-scoring performances.

Prompt 79: Stimulus Card Discussion

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Act as an A-Level German speaking examiner. Present me with a stimulus card containing a short German text and a visual element related to an A-Level theme. Give me one minute to prepare, then

ask questions starting with comprehension and progressing to analysis and opinion. Probe my answers with follow-ups. Assess my performance.

What this helps you practise:

Responding to stimulus material with comprehension, analysis, and opinion under exam conditions

How to use it well:

When preparing a stimulus card, quickly identify the topic, any data or opinions, and your own view. Structure your initial response around these elements, then prepare for the examiner to challenge you with unexpected angles.

Prompt 80: Defending a Position Under Challenge

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Choose a controversial topic from the A-Level German specification and ask me to state my position in German. Then challenge my position aggressively, playing devil's advocate. Push me to defend my view while acknowledging opposing perspectives. Assess my argument maintenance under pressure. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Maintaining and defending a coherent argument when challenged with counterarguments in spoken German

How to use it well:

Prepare defensive phrases: 'ich bleibe bei meiner Meinung, weil...', 'trotz dieses Arguments...', 'ich erkenne an, dass... dennoch...'. Having these ready prevents you from losing fluency when challenged.

Prompt 81: Rapid-Fire Questions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me with rapid-fire questions in German on A-Level topics. Ask me a series of short questions in German covering vocabulary, grammar, and cultural knowledge across themes such as family, society, politics, and the arts. I should answer quickly and accurately in German. After every five questions, give me feedback on my accuracy, vocabulary range, and any grammatical errors. Keep the pace brisk but give me time to respond to each question before moving on.

What this helps you practise:

Producing spontaneous, coherent German responses to unexpected questions across diverse topics

How to use it well:

Use filler phrases to buy thinking time: 'das ist eine interessante Frage', 'man muesste verschiedene Aspekte beruecksichtigen', 'ehrlich gesagt'. Then deliver a substantive answer.

Prompt 82: In-Depth Topic Discussion

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Choose a social or political issue from the A-Level specification and conduct a sustained five-minute discussion with me in German. Start with general questions and increase complexity. Ask about causes, consequences, perspectives, and solutions. Push me to use evidence. Assess my overall performance.

What this helps you practise:

Sustaining an extended, in-depth discussion with increasing complexity in German

How to use it well:

Depth is more impressive than breadth. Develop one aspect thoroughly rather than mentioning many points superficially. Practise extending your responses with evidence, analysis, and personal evaluation.

Prompt 83: Pronunciation and Intonation**Copy this prompt into your AI tool:**

Give me ten German sentences containing sounds commonly mispronounced by English speakers, including the ch sounds, umlauts, the German z and w, and word stress patterns. Ask me to identify the pronunciation rules. Then give me sentences demonstrating question and statement intonation patterns.

What this helps you practise:

Identifying and understanding German phonological rules and intonation patterns

How to use it well:

While AI cannot assess pronunciation directly, it can teach the rules. Learn the patterns, then practise aloud with native speaker recordings. The ich-Laut versus ach-Laut distinction is particularly important.

Prompt 84: Circumlocution and Paraphrasing**Copy this prompt into your AI tool:**

Give me ten advanced German vocabulary words and ask me to explain each in German without using the word itself. Then give me five complex concepts and ask me to express each using at least two different formulations. Assess clarity and accuracy. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Explaining complex vocabulary and concepts through circumlocution and varied expression in German

How to use it well:

Forgetting words in the speaking exam is inevitable. The ability to paraphrase keeps you fluent. Practise regularly so that vocabulary gaps do not cause your performance to collapse.

Prompt 85: Natural Interaction

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Conduct a natural conversation with me in German on an A-Level topic. Assess my interactional skills: do I react to your points, ask for clarification, build on ideas, and manage turn-taking naturally? Provide feedback on interaction quality and suggest improvements. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Demonstrating natural interactional skills including turn-taking, clarification, and responsive engagement in German

How to use it well:

Interaction marks are often overlooked. Practise engagement phrases: 'da haben Sie einen wichtigen Punkt angesprochen', 'das bringt mich auf den Gedanken, dass...', 'koennten Sie das naeher erlaeutern?'. These show genuine engagement.

Prompt 86: Discussing Abstract Concepts

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Ask me to discuss abstract concepts in German such as Gerechtigkeit, Freiheit, Identitaet, or Fortschritt. Start with definitions, then ask me to apply concepts to specific German-speaking contexts, evaluate interpretations, and share my perspective. Push me beyond concrete examples to genuine abstract thinking. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Articulating abstract ideas and philosophical concepts in fluent, precise German

How to use it well:

Abstract discussion distinguishes top candidates. Prepare by linking key concepts to your studied themes. For example, connect Freiheit to reunification or Identitaet to multiculturalism discussions.

Prompt 87: Handling Difficult Questions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Ask me questions in German on A-Level topics, including some that are deliberately difficult or on areas I may not have studied. Test whether I handle uncertainty gracefully: acknowledging gaps, offering partial responses, and speculating intelligently.

Assess my strategies. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Managing difficult questions with composure and strategic communication in German

How to use it well:

Not knowing an answer is acceptable if you handle it well. Practise: 'ich bin mir nicht ganz sicher, aber ich vermute, dass...', 'obwohl ich die genauen Details nicht kenne, wuerde ich sagen, dass...'. Composure under pressure impresses examiners.

Prompt 88: Comparing Perspectives

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Present two contrasting perspectives on a German A-Level topic. Ask me in German to summarise both, evaluate their merits, and explain which I find more convincing. Push me to engage genuinely with both sides rather than dismissing one. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Comparing, evaluating, and adjudicating between contrasting perspectives in spoken German

How to use it well:

Develop comparative structures: 'waehrend X die Ansicht vertritt, dass... argumentiert Y, dass...', 'beide Standpunkte haben ihre Berechtigung, aber...', 'die Position von X ueberzeugt mich eher, insofern als...'. These help organise complex comparisons.

Prompt 89: Summarising and Responding

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Give me a short German text of approximately 60 words on an A-Level topic. Ask me to summarise the main points orally without looking at the text, then ask follow-up questions about the content and my reaction. Assess accuracy, completeness, and language quality.

What this helps you practise:

Summarising written content accurately in spoken German and engaging with follow-up questions

How to use it well:

Practise reading a text, covering it, and summarising from memory. This builds the information absorption and reformulation skills tested in the stimulus card discussion.

Section 9

Independent Research Project Preparation

The Independent Research Project is a distinctive and rewarding component of the A-Level German speaking assessment. Students choose a topic related to the German-speaking world, conduct independent research using German-language sources, present their findings, and defend their conclusions in a discussion with the examiner. This component assesses linguistic competence alongside research skills, critical thinking, and the capacity for sustained academic discussion.

Choosing the right topic is crucial. It must be specific enough to allow genuine analytical depth but broad enough to sustain discussion. The topic should relate to the culture, society, politics, or history of the German-speaking world and should enable the student to explore different perspectives and reach a considered personal conclusion. The use of authentic German-language sources is essential and demonstrates genuine engagement with the target language and culture.

The prompts in this section guide you through every stage of the IRP: choosing and refining a topic, conducting and evaluating research, structuring a presentation, and preparing for the examiner's probing questions. Work through them systematically as your project develops, returning to relevant prompts at each stage.

Prompt 90: Choosing a Research Topic

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

I need to choose a topic for my A-Level German Independent Research Project. Ask me about my interests in German-speaking culture, politics,

society, and history. Then suggest five specific research questions, each allowing analytical depth while sustaining discussion. Explain why each would work well. Conduct this in German.

What this helps you practise:

Identifying and formulating viable research questions for independent academic investigation

How to use it well:

Choose a topic you are genuinely interested in. Narrow broad subjects into specific, researchable questions: not 'German reunification' but 'the economic impact of reunification on former East German industrial cities'.

Prompt 91: Evaluating Sources

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

I am researching my A-Level German IRP. Give me advice in German on evaluating German-language sources for reliability, bias, and relevance. Then describe five different sources and ask me to evaluate each critically. Correct my German and assess my evaluation skills.

What this helps you practise:

Critically evaluating German-language source material for reliability, bias, and academic value

How to use it well:

Prepare to discuss your sources with the examiner: where they came from, why you chose them, their strengths and limitations. Demonstrating source criticism shows genuine research competence.

Prompt 92: Structuring the Presentation

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Help me structure my IRP presentation. Ask me to describe my research question and findings in German, then suggest a structure for a two-minute presentation: introduction, findings, analysis, and

conclusion. Critique my structure, then ask me to deliver the presentation. Provide detailed feedback.

What this helps you practise:

Organising research findings into a clear, coherent two-minute oral presentation in German

How to use it well:

Two minutes is shorter than most students expect. Time yourself precisely and practise until you can deliver your key points naturally within the limit without rushing or overrunning.

Prompt 93: Defending Conclusions

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

I will present my IRP findings in German. After my presentation, act as an examiner and probe my conclusions: ask why I reached them, what alternatives I considered, what limitations exist, and what further research might be useful. Assess my ability to defend my work under questioning.

What this helps you practise:

Defending research conclusions under rigorous academic questioning in German

How to use it well:

Prepare for probing questions: 'warum haben Sie diese Interpretation verworfen?', 'welche Grenzen hat Ihre Forschung?', 'was wuerden Sie anders machen?'. Having thoughtful answers ready builds confidence.

Prompt 94: Discussing Methodology

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Ask me questions in German about my IRP research methodology. Probe how I selected sources, what I included and excluded, whether my approach was balanced, and what challenges I faced. Push me to reflect critically on my process. Correct my German throughout.

What this helps you practise:

Articulating and reflecting critically on research methodology in academic German

How to use it well:

Self-awareness about your research process impresses examiners. Be ready to discuss how you found sources, why you selected them, and what you would improve. Honest reflection demonstrates intellectual maturity.

Prompt 95: Handling Unexpected Angles

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on handling unexpected angles in A-Level German essay and discussion questions. Present me with a familiar topic but frame the question in an unusual or challenging way that requires me to think critically rather than reproduce memorised material. Ask me to plan a response in German, then evaluate whether my plan addresses the specific angle of the question rather than giving a generic answer. After my response, give targeted feedback on how well I adapted. Present one question at a time.

What this helps you practise:

Responding flexibly to unexpected perspectives and angles on a researched topic in German

How to use it well:

The examiner may push you beyond your prepared material. This tests genuine understanding. Practise drawing on your broader knowledge of the German-speaking world to address unexpected questions.

Prompt 96: Presenting Evidence

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Test me on presenting evidence effectively in A-Level German essays. Give me an essay question on a German cultural, social, or political topic and ask me to write a paragraph in German that includes at

least two specific pieces of evidence such as statistics, examples, or references to German-speaking sources. After my paragraph, evaluate whether my evidence is relevant, accurately presented, and well-integrated into my argument. Present one task at a time and wait for my response.

What this helps you practise:

Presenting, explaining, and defending research evidence in academic spoken German

How to use it well:

Select three or four key pieces of evidence and practise presenting each fluently. For each, know its origin, why it is reliable, and how it supports your argument.

Prompt 97: Linking to Specification Themes

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Quiz me on linking my German essay content to A-Level specification themes. Present an essay question and ask me to identify which specification themes it connects to and how I would structure my answer to demonstrate breadth across those themes. Then ask me to write an introduction in German that signals the themes I will cover. After my response, check whether my theme identification is accurate and my German introduction is well-structured. Present one task at a time.

What this helps you practise:

Connecting independent research to broader A-Level thematic content with genuine analytical insight

How to use it well:

Identify two or three connections between your IRP and the wider specification. Making these links spontaneously during the oral demonstrates the intellectual breadth that distinguishes top candidates.

Prompt 98: Full IRP Oral Simulation

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Conduct a complete IRP oral simulation in German. Allow me two minutes to present, then question me for five to six minutes on findings, methodology, sources, and conclusions. Provide detailed feedback on language quality, content depth, and interaction.

Give a mark out of 20.

What this helps you practise:

Completing a full IRP oral assessment under realistic conditions with sustained performance

How to use it well:

Use this as a dress rehearsal in the final weeks before your exam. Present formally, time yourself, and treat the feedback as a guide for final adjustments.

Prompt 99: Personal Reflection

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Ask me questions in German about what I have learned through the IRP, both about my topic and about myself as a researcher and language learner. Push me to reflect critically and honestly. Prepare me for reflective examiner questions. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Articulating personal academic growth and self-evaluation in reflective spoken German

How to use it well:

Examiners may ask 'was haben Sie durch diese Forschung gelernt?' or 'wie hat sich Ihre Perspektive veraendert?'. Thoughtful, honest answers demonstrate genuine engagement.

Prompt 100: Cultural Significance

Copy this prompt into your AI tool:

Ask me in German about the broader cultural significance of my IRP topic. Challenge me to explain why it matters to the German-speaking world, what it reveals about wider cultural values, and why it is relevant today. Push beyond factual reporting to cultural analysis. Correct my German.

What this helps you practise:

Articulating the broader cultural significance and contemporary relevance of a research topic in German

How to use it well:

Prepare a clear statement about why your topic matters. Being able to articulate significance rather than just content shows the analytical depth that characterises the highest-scoring responses.

Final Closing Note

You have now worked through 100 prompts designed to help you think more clearly, revise more effectively, and prepare more confidently for your GCSE.

Remember: the goal was never to rely on AI for answers. The goal was to use it as a tool to test, challenge, and strengthen your own understanding.

The strongest students are not those who avoid difficulty, but those who engage with it deliberately. Each mistake you identified, each explanation you improved, and each gap you filled has strengthened your thinking.

As you continue your studies, aim to depend less on prompts and more on your own judgement. AI can support you — but your reasoning, clarity, and persistence are what earn marks.

Approach your exams calmly. Think carefully. Write clearly.

You are more prepared than you think.

Using AI Beyond This Book

The prompts in this book are starting points, not final forms.

As you grow more confident, begin modifying them:

- Add constraints (for example, “limit to three key points”).
- Increase difficulty gradually.
- Ask the AI to challenge your reasoning.
- Request alternative explanations.
- Ask it to critique your thinking rather than provide answers.

The most powerful use of AI is not asking it to tell you things — it is asking it to test and refine your thinking.

In the future, those who understand how to use tools intelligently will have an advantage. Treat AI as a tutor, not a shortcut. The skill of asking better questions will continue to matter long after your exams are over.

About the Author

James R. Martin holds an MSci in Physics from the University of Bristol and a PGCE with a Physics focus from the University of Oxford. He has over a decade of experience teaching and tutoring students aged 11–18 across a range of subjects, including Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Economics, and Electronics.

He has worked with multiple syllabi, including GCSE, A-Level, KS3, and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP), supporting students of varying abilities to develop clarity, confidence, and exam success.

His work focuses on effective revision strategies, independent thinking, and the responsible use of artificial intelligence as a tool to strengthen — not replace — understanding.

Other Titles in This Series

The *100 AI Prompts for Smarter Revision* series supports students across GCSE, A-Level, and IB DP subjects.

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