

*Note: The word *fräulein* is not used to mean "Miss" any longer for an unmarried woman. Today it is considered sexist and discriminating. Use *Frau* for any female over the age of 18.*

Guten Morgen, Herr Schultz - Good morning Mr. Schultz
 Guten Tag, Frau Renger - Good morning Mrs./Miss Renger

By tradition, only family members and close friends address each other by first name. Otherwise you use a title with the surname. This is changing among the younger generation:

Culture Note - Using Titles

Good morning—**Guten Morgen**
 Good afternoon—**Guten Tag**
 Good evening—**Guten Abend**
 Good night—**Gute Nacht**

Exercise 1

Do the following:

1. Greet your friend in the morning
2. Say 'Good night'
3. Say 'Good afternoon' to your boss, Mr. Schmidt
4. Greet Mrs. Braun who is going for a walk at 6:00 p.m.



Gute Nacht



Guten Abend



Guten Tag



Guten Morgen

Speak Up! In German

Lesson 1.1
Meeting and Greeting

Culture Note - When to move from "Sie" to "Du"

If you talk to someone in English you always say you. In German there is the Du (informal, implies intimacy and friendship) and Sie (formal, implies distance and respect).

Especially in the business world it is important to know and stick to this rule. Having said that, nobody will be very offended if you don't get the "Du or Sie" right in the beginning. At the worst, your conversational partner might be slightly bemused.

As a general rule, wait until people in higher position and those who are older than you offer you "Wir können auch "Du" sagen", or "Wir können uns duzen" (We can say "Du" to each other).

On the other hand, it is quite common that colleagues at work are "per du", Younger people and students are much quicker "per du" with each other. When someone introduces themselves with his/her first-name, you know you can do the same and say Du.

The following greetings may not be heard in all of the German speaking regions of Europe, but you will encounter them in the areas specified:

Servus - Bavaria and south of Baden-Württemberg
Grüezi - Switzerland
Moin Moin - Hamburg, East Frisia, Schleswig-Holstein.
Grüß Gott - Greetings (Southern Germany and Austria)

Hallo! - Hello!
Tschüs! - Hi! / Hey!
Grüß Gott - Greetings (lit. Greet God)
Grüß Dich* - Greetings (lit. Greet you)
Tag! - Hi! (literally "Day!" - shortened from *Guten Tag*)

Among friends and family, greetings tend to be a little less formal. The most common ones are

Exercise 2

Now that you know the basic greetings, use them with your language partner often, you can also use the regional greetings to give a variety to it.



Speak Up! In
German

Lesson 1.2
Greetings (Informal)

Exercise 3 - Respond to the following:

1. Guten Morgen
2. Wie geht es Ihnen?
3. Guten Abend
4. Tag!
5. Ich bin gut. Und Ihnen?

From now on, greet your language partner in German and ask how they are doing. And remember to reply in German.

Wie geht es Ihnen? - How are you?
 Ich bin... - I am... (this is optional)
 Und Ihnen? - And you?

sehr - very nicht - not
 gut - good, well schlecht - bad
 danke - thank you

Schlecht



Nicht so gut.



Gut, danke



Sehr gut, danke.



Wie geht es Ihnen?

Speak Up! In German

Lesson 1.3
 "How are you?" (Formal)

True or False: Manfred is not doing too well.

Read the following:

Johann: Hallo Manfred! Wie läufts?
Manfred: Ganz gut, und selbst?
Johann: Mir geht es gut, danke.

Wie geht es dir? - How's it going?
Wie läufts? - How's life?

hallo—hello / hi
und—and
Du—you (informal)
geht's - contraction of "geht es"
es - (he/she/it) is
dir - with/to you.
mir - to me
danke - thank you
ganz - quite

na ja - well... (hesitation)
gut - good, well
es - (he/she/it) is
geht - (it) goes
wie - how

Here are a few extra goodies to check out.

wie läuft's? - how's life?
was machst du gerade? - what are you up to?
was hast du so gemacht? - what have you been up to?
viel gearbeitet - working a lot
ich habe viel zu tun gehabt - I've been very busy
alles wie immer - same as usual
nicht viel - not much
geht so - so-so
nicht so besonders *or* **nicht so gut** - not so well
und dir? - and you?
und selbst? - and yourself?

mir geht es gut, danke - I'm fine, thanks
 mir geht es ganz gut, danke - I'm OK, thanks
 ganz gut, danke - alright, thanks

Na ja, es geht.



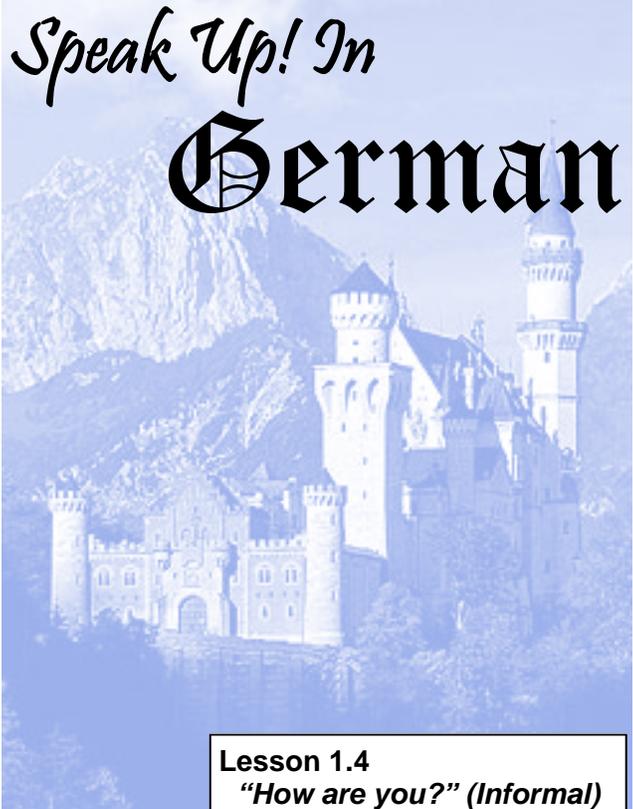
Es geht. Und dir?

Hallo Dieter! Wie geht's?



Wie geht es dir?

Speak Up! In German



Lesson 1.4
"How are you?" (Informal)

_____ I'm fine, thanks.
 _____ Great, and you?
 _____ Hey, Dieter! How's it going?
 _____ Hello Robert!

Informal greetings

_____ I'm fine, too.
 _____ I'm fine, thanks. And you?
 _____ How are you?
 _____ Good morning.
 _____ Good morning, Mr. Braun.

Formal Greetings

Translate into German:

1. It is 4:00 p.m. and you see your cousin, Ursula. Greet her.
2. Ask her how she is doing.
3. She is not doing too good. But she asks how you are doing. Respond.

You are in Vienna, Austria

1. It is 11:00 a.m. and you run into your friend's boss, Mr. Shultz. Greet him.
2. Ask him how he is doing.
3. He's fine, he then asks how you are doing. Respond accordingly.

You are walking down the street in Berlin:

Practice the following activities with your language partner:

These conversations will help reinforce what you have just learned. Read them over and practice them with your language partner.

Conversation 1

Ursula: Guten tag!
Ilse: Tag, Ursula!
Ursula: Wie geht's?
Ilse: Gut, danke.

Conversation 2

Dieter: Guten Abend, Otto!
Otto: Guten Abend Dieter. Wie geht's?
Dieter: Ach, nicht schlecht

Conversation 3

Guten Morgen Herr Schultz. Wie geht es Ihnen huete?
 Nicht so gut, Frau Koch. Und Ihnen?
 Danke. Es geht.

New Vocabulary

- huete (*HOY-teh*) - today
- nicht (*neekht*) - not
- so (*zoh*) - so, very
- und (*oont*) - and
- ach - oh, ah!
- schlecht (*shlekh*) - bad

