

Requirements for Entering the First Term in English, Exercises to Prepare Yourself /

Anforderungen für den Eintritt ins erste Semester – Englisch, Übungsmaterial

Text:

Yes, I can speak English

- 1 This sounds a bit crazy, but I know my English is very good. Of course, a lot of people all over the world speak English. And I am sure they think their English is great, too. So what is special about me?

To answer this question, let me tell you something about myself, my family, the place where I live. My name is Mike Cart, I am 17 years old and I live in Berlin, the capital of Germany. My parents and I came here when I was five years old. You see, we used to live in Baltimore, that is in the USA. My parents are American. I grew up with the English language all around me.

- 10 Of course, most Germans understand English, but it is not their first language. You normally do not hear any English in banks, shops or clubs. At school kids learn English and some other languages, for example, French and Spanish. But for me, learning German is a real problem.

I am always happy when people tell me that my English is good, but they do not know my bad German. My friends help me with their language. You see, I would like to say: "I know my German is very good." This sounds a bit crazy, I know.

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I. Questions and tasks on the text / Fragen und Aufgaben zum Text:

1. Are the following sentences true or false? Mark the correct box (X).
Sind die folgenden Sätze richtig oder falsch? Markieren Sie das richtige Kästchen (X).

Sentence	True	False
a) Mike lives in Baltimore.		
b) Mike's first language is German.		
c) Mike knows that his German is bad.		
d) Mike is sad when people say that his English is good.		
e) Mike would like to speak German well.		

Continuation / Fortsetzung

2. Correct the wrong sentences in complete sentences.

Korrigieren Sie die falschen Aussagen in vollständigen Sätzen.

3. Write down the questions for the following answers.

Schreiben Sie zu jeder Antwort die passende Frage.

a) Mike and his parents came to Berlin when he was 5 years old.

b) Mike's parents are American.

c) German kids learn English at school.

d) Mike's friends help him.

4. Complete the table. Fill in the present and past form of each irregular verb. Vervollständigen Sie die Tabelle. Setzen Sie die Form der Gegenwart und Vergangenheit für jedes unregelmäßige Verb ein.

Verb	Present	Past
<i>erzählen</i>	tell (tells)	told
<i>haben</i>		
<i>sein</i>		
<i>kennen, wissen</i>		
<i>kommen</i>		
<i>nehmen</i>		
<i>machen</i>		
<i>sprechen</i>		
<i>schreiben</i>		

5. Write down 6 different adjectives from the text.

Schreiben Sie 6 verschiedene Adjektive aus dem Text heraus.

General Information & the Test / Allgemeine Informationen & der Test

Be prepared!

To conclude, you should be able to work with short English texts, know some “basics” regarding vocabulary and grammar (“simple present” and “simple past” in particular), be able to write your own short text based on a given text.

The test you will have to take consists of two parts. Part 1 – Multiple choice-tasks: Choose only **one** answer from four (a, b, c or d) or two (true or false) answers given. Write your answers on an extra sheet of paper you will get with instructions. Part 2 – Writing: Write a short text on a given topic. Follow the instructions given carefully.

Seien Sie vorbereitet!

Zusammenfassend sei gesagt, Sie sollten in der Lage sein mit kurzen englischen Texten zu arbeiten, Grundkenntnisse in den Bereichen Vokabular und Grammatik (besonders die Formen der „einfachen Gegenwart“ und „einfachen Vergangenheit“) besitzen, eigene kurze Texte auf der Grundlage eines vorgegebenen Textes schreiben können.

*Der Test, den Sie schreiben müssen, besteht aus zwei Teilen. Teil 1 – Wählen Sie die richtige Antwort: Wählen Sie nur *e i n e* Lösung aus vier (a, b, c oder d) oder zwei (richtig oder falsch) möglichen Antworten. Schreiben Sie Ihre Antworten auf einen Extrabogen, den Sie mit Anweisungen zum Verfahren bekommen werden. Teil 2 – Schreiben: Schreiben Sie einen kurzen Text zu einem vorgegebenen Thema. Halten Sie sich genau an alle Vorgaben.*

Answer Key / Lösungen

I. Questions and tasks on the text:

1. True or false?

Sentence	True	False
a) Mike lives in Baltimore.		X
b) Mike's first language is German.		X
c) Mike knows that his German is bad.	X	
d) Mike is sad when people say that his English is good.		X
e) Mike would like to speak German well.	X	

2. Correct the wrong sentences.

a) Mike lives in Berlin. b) Mike's first language is (American) English. d) Mike is not sad/ is happy when people say his English is good.

3. Write down the questions for the following answers.

a) Who came to Berlin (when he was 5 years old)? / When did Mike and his parents come to Berlin?

b) Who is American? / What is Mike's parents' nationality?

c) Who learns English at school? / What do German kids learn at school?

Where do German kids learn English?

d) Who helps Mike? / What do Mike's friends do?

4. Complete the table. Fill in the present and past form of each irregular verb.

Verb	Present	Past
<i>erzählen</i>	tell (tells)	told
<i>haben</i>	have (has)	had
<i>sein</i>	be (am, are, is)	was / were
<i>kennen, wissen</i>	know (knows)	knew
<i>kommen</i>	come (comes)	came
<i>nehmen</i>	take (takes)	took
<i>machen</i>	do (does) OR make (makes)	did OR made
<i>sprechen</i>	speak (speaks)	spoke
<i>schreiben</i>	write (writes)	wrote

5. Write down 6 different adjectives from the text: *crazy, good, great, special, first, real, happy,*

bad

II. Writing: (Beispiellösung)

1. Write a short text about Mike (6-7 sentences).

Mike Cart is 17 years old. He was born in Baltimore, in the USA. His parents are American. When he was 5 years old he and his parents came to Berlin/ Germany. He goes to school in Berlin. He knows that his English is very good, but his German is bad. He is happy to have some German friends.

2. How did you grow up? Did you have to learn more than one language as a child? What is special about your life? Write a text of about 8-10 sentences.

Hello, my name is Isa, I am 19 years old. When I was a small child my parents came to Germany from Turkey. We used to live in Istanbul, now my family and I live in Munich. My parents do not speak any German, so I learnt/ learned German at school. We only speak Turkish at home. It was easy for me to learn German because my friends helped me a lot. My English is not very good, I know, but I can understand a lot and sing some English songs.