

Assessment Schedule – 2025

German: Demonstrate understanding of spoken German related to everyday contexts (91971)

Assessment Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<p><i>Demonstrating understanding</i> involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying meaning of the relevant information, ideas, and opinions in the texts communicating an overall sense or intent of the text. 	<p><i>Demonstrating sound understanding</i> involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> selecting evidence of ideas, information and opinions to establish meaning in the texts connecting specific elements in texts to support meaning or intent in the texts. 	<p><i>Demonstrating thorough understanding</i> involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interpreting language to make meaning that is precise and fully constructed showing awareness of the speakers' choices of language and content that establish context and purpose.

N1	N2	A3	A4	M5	M6	E7	E8
Shows minimal understanding of language or meaning.	Shows a little understanding of language or meaning.	Shows understanding of elements of text language and communicates some meaning or intent.	Shows understanding of elements of text language to communicate general meaning or intent.	Shows understanding by selecting and connecting relevant ideas and language to support responses.	Shows understanding by selecting and connecting relevant ideas and language to confirm responses.	Shows detailed and accurate understanding. Responds by interpreting language and content and justifying conclusions about texts.	Shows detailed and accurate understanding. Responds fully by interpreting language and content choices and justifying conclusions about texts.

N0 = No response; no relevant evidence.

Cut Scores

Not Achieved	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
0–7	8–13	14–18	19–24

Notes

- Inconsistencies are errors that impede overall meaning and therefore impact on the effectiveness of the response and the grade. Errors of less impact should be disregarded.
- Quoting or direct translation *alone* are not sufficient evidence that the candidate understands the meaning of the text soundly or thoroughly.
- The overall grade for a question must be judged after considering how the text as a whole has been understood, and to what depth. Detail is important when it is relevant to the question asked.
- What follows is not a complete list of all acceptable responses, nor is it an indication of the exact wording required.

Question ONE	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<p><i>(a) Complete the table below with details from the passage.</i></p> <p><i>Advice on improving your German</i></p> <p><i>Advice on paying for something</i></p> <p><i>Advice on getting around</i></p>	<p>It's better to go to a smaller town. Don't go to a big city.</p> <p>Bring cash. Credit cards are not used as much in Germany.</p> <p>You need to be 18 to get your driver licence in Germany. They drive on the right. You can't drive under 18 like in New Zealand.</p>	<p>Where fewer people speak English. Large cities have more international tourists (who speak English).</p> <p>Germans prefer to pay by cash. Some shops and supermarkets only accept cash.</p> <p>The driver sits on the left. Take care when crossing the road as well. The traffic comes from the left.</p>	<p>If you don't speak German at all, it is helpful to go to a large city where more people know English. They are likely to answer in English, so you won't be practising your German.</p> <p>If you go to a restaurant, always carry both, because a credit card may not be accepted.</p> <p>If you want to walk around peacefully, where there is no traffic, go to a pedestrian area.</p>

<p><i>(b)(i) Which of the three hints do you find most surprising? Justify your response using evidence from the passage.</i></p>	<p>I found the hint about not being able to drive until you are 18 helpful and surprising because I expected it to be the same as in New Zealand.</p>	<p>I found the hint about needing to have cash on you when travelling in Germany the most surprising. It feels like the dark ages as here nearly everyone has some sort of card.</p>	<p>The hint I found the most surprising is about how important it is to have cash on you when travelling in Germany. I found that most surprising because in New Zealand, I hardly ever use cash. I have my debit card, and people can use cards to purchase most things. It seems rather old fashioned and limiting to use cash. I wonder how Germans get on with online shopping.</p>
<p><i>(ii) Using evidence from the passage, explain why the other two hints surprised you less.</i></p>		<p>I don't really agree with the hint about going to a smaller place to learn to speak German. Smaller places could be boring if you are interested in the bright lights of bigger cities. I think your determination to practise speaking German is a more important factor.</p>	<p>The first hint about how best to practise your German is commonsense. If you want to speak German a lot, it is probably better to live with a homestay or attend an immersion course, in my opinion. The hint about driving is not surprising to me as people drive on the right-hand side of the road in many countries and they have different ages for getting your licence.</p>

Question THREE	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<i>(a) What led to the change in Max's life?</i>	Max went to a party on Saturday night with his girlfriend. He got home late. He is not allowed his smartphone.	He got home at 2 a.m. His parents are angry.	His parents were really mad at him. His mother has just told him he needs to live without his smartphone for three days.
<i>(b) Why does Max find this so difficult?</i>	He doesn't know how he can survive. He's upset. He needs his smartphone every day. Now he has no WhatsApp, no Spotify, no Instagram. He feels sad.	He uses his smartphone directly after getting up. He also uses it at mealtimes, on the toilet, at the bus stop, and at school.	He always has his smartphone on him. After all, he needs to stay in contact with his friends, especially his girlfriend.
<i>(c) How does he feel afterwards?</i>	He completes the three days without his smartphone. He calls it smartphone fasting.	He can't remember the last time without his smartphone. He had a long time to think. He felt a bit sad and alone.	After three days, he has his smartphone back again. He wonders if the smartphone is controlling him because he is addicted to it, or vice versa.