

Auf geht's! Cultural Targets

Unit 7: Bildung

This handout covers the pertinent cultural information present in Unit 7 of *Auf geht's!*. Complete the following exercises in order to help you prepare for an exam on this unit. All information is available in the Interactive.

A. Die Schulzeit.

1. Define the following terms briefly.

a. *die Grundschule*:

b. *der Kindergarten*:

c. *die Klasse*:

d. *der Klassenlehrer*:

e. *die Pause*:

f. *der Hausmeister*:

g. *der Schulleiter*:

h. *die Schultüte*:

i. *der Schulranzen*:

j. *die Federtasche*:

2. What is the difference between a *Schüler(in)* and a *Student(in)*?

3. When do German *Grundschulen* begin each day? Why do they end around lunchtime?

4. True or false: Most schools in Germany are public.

5. Homeschooling in Germany is illegal, except when

6. What is a *Schulfahrt*? How does it differ from a typical field trip in an American school?

B. Nach der Grundschule.

1. What are the three types of schools children can go to after they complete *Grundschule*?

2. Match the type of school on the left to its purpose on the right.

die Realschule

for technical jobs; students get a *Mittlere Reife* at the end

das Gymnasium

for everyday jobs requiring no technical training

die Hauptschule

college-preparatory school; students complete an *Abitur*

B. Nach der Grundschule. (cont.)

3. What is a *Gesamtschule*?

4. True or false: There are no school dances in German schools. _____

5. How do you say “to graduate” in German? _____

C. Zur Uni gehen.

1. When you see the “-istik” suffix on a university major, what does this mean?

2. Both _____ and _____ are undergraduate majors in Germany, unlike the US where both typically require eight years of study before doing a residency or internship.

3. Who are *Erstsemester*? How do Germans talk about the length of time they spent in university?

4. The German university year is broken up in two semesters. The _____ is from mid-October to early February and the *Sommersemester* lasts from _____ to _____.

5. What are the two phases of most German university majors? _____

6. What is *das BAföG*? If students take too much time to complete their studies, what happens?

7. Explain how the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) works. What was the old system in Germany like?

8. An *Abitur* guarantees a German student admission into a university. How is the number of students in a particular major controlled?

D. Definitionen. Briefly explain what the following terms mean.

1. *die Fakultät*: _____

2. *die Hausarbeit*: _____

3. *die Prüfung*: _____

4. *die Klausur*: _____

D. Definitionen. (cont.)

5. *die Zwischenprüfung*:

6. *die Abschlussprüfung*:

7. *die Regelstudienzeit*:

8. *das Praktikum*:

E. Das Studium.

1. Match the type of class on the left with its definition on the right.

___ *die Vorlesung*

a. additional work or practice from a *Seminar* or other course

___ *das Praktikum*

b. section for a lower-division course

___ *die Lehrveranstaltung*

c. smaller group usually led by a professor about a specific topic

___ *die Übung*

d. someone reading from a book or document, no homework

___ *das Tutorium*

e. usually a lab course in the natural sciences

___ *das Seminar*

f. a word to talk about courses in general

2. Match the people below to their roles in a university.

der Professor

undergraduate TA

der Hiwi

junior faculty person

der Dozent

full professor

3. Explain what each of these options for a university education means.

a. *das Diplom*:

b. *der Bachelor*:

c. *der Magister/der Master*:

d. *das Lehramt*:

e. *die Promotion*:

4. What is the Bologna Process?

F. Der Alltag am Arbeitsplatz.

1. Describe which characteristics make a German workplace more formal than an American one.

2. Germans prefer to close doors at the workplace, just as they do at home. Where else might you find closed doors?

F. Der Alltag am Arbeitsplatz. (cont.)

3. How many vacation days does the average German worker get each year by law?

4. A German worker must work hours per year (~13 hours/week) in order to receive full benefits.

5. True or false: Germans work more overtime than Americans and are compensated for it.

6. What does the term *Feierabend* mean?

7. When would German workers say '*Mahlzeit!*' to one another? Would you say this to your boss in a corporate office in Germany?

8. Germans typically take two vacations each year. lasts four weeks, and

is two weeks.