

## Testing Tips: AP German Language & Culture

**Part A:** If you finish before time is called, go back through to check work, especially the first set! You answered the first 10 questions when you were not quite warmed-up!

Don't believe me? Listen to a professional - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWytsoKhxaE> and try a few of these: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hk-an18uPmI>

**Caution:** You will be asked to demonstrate **critical** reading of authentic written and print resources in a cultural context. You will also be asked to understand the purpose of the message and the point of view of the author. Become familiar with the words that will help you recognize distinguishing features of a text and what the terms are for the possible resources, which is on the vocabulary list of testing terms.

**Part B:** Once you skim the reading (Quellenmaterial 1), look at the questions and try to answer the questions designated for just that source before the audio starts for (Quellenmaterial 2).

When you enter the section of only audio, this is when you may notice that you lack a bit of focus - do what you need to maintain your attention. The taste of mint increases the flow of oxygen to the brain and makes students feel alert<sup>1</sup> - this would be a good time to grab a mint that your teacher has left for you!

Read all information about the graph or table - that means the title and whatever might be written below it. And always listen twice carefully even if you think you got it the first time.

**E-Mail:** Make sure that you read the instructions and *Übersicht!* Adjust to your audience. If the e-mail is formal, make sure that you maintain this register throughout your response.

For example<sup>2</sup>:

Salutation	Forms of "Sie"	Closing
Sehr geehrte Frau Blume,	Entschuldigen <i>Sie</i> , dass ich...	Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Sehr geehrter Herr Altenkirch,	Vielen Dank für <i>Ihre</i> E-Mail.	Hochachtungsvoll
Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,	Ich bedanke mich bei <i>Ihnen</i> für ...	Mit freundlichem Gruß

<sup>1</sup> <http://hcpssciencepot.com/testtaking/?paged=2>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.deutschseite.de/schreiben/formeller\\_brief/formeller\\_brief.html](http://www.deutschseite.de/schreiben/formeller_brief/formeller_brief.html)

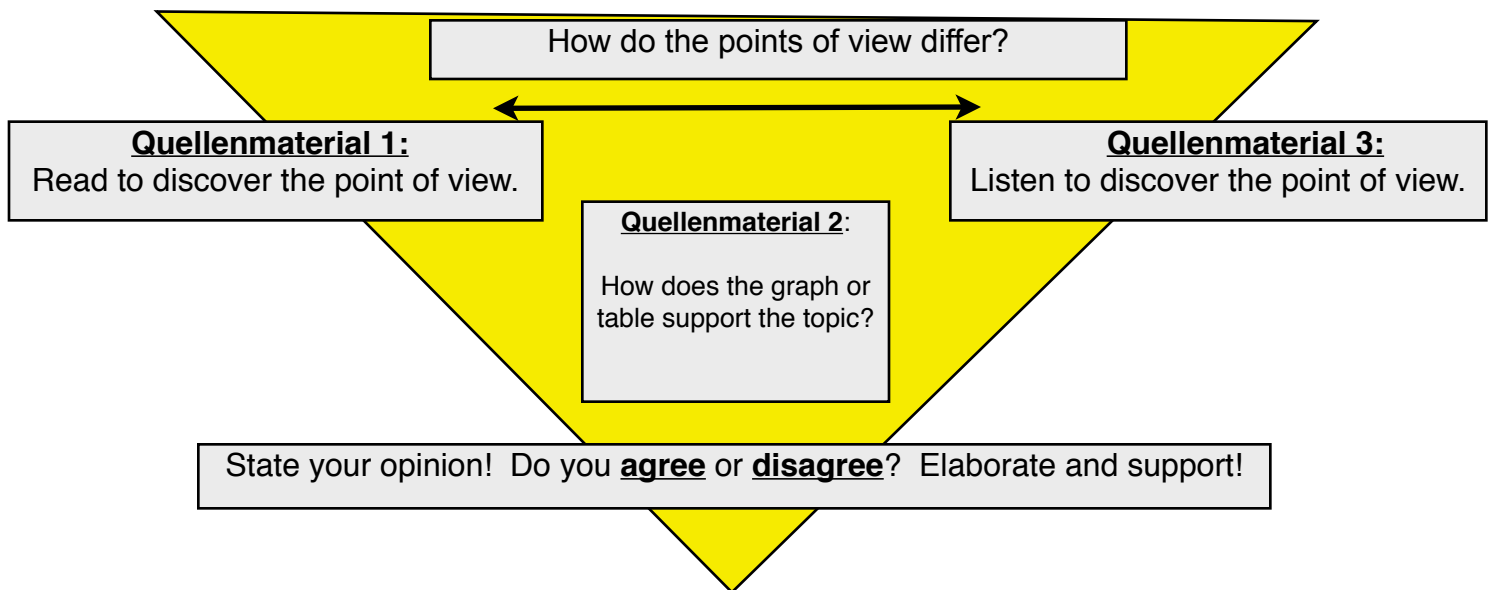
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Locate in the e-mail the question, to which you must respond. This is an interpersonal activity, so the objective to exchange information and continue the discourse! In your reply, you should also ask for more details about something in the message.

**Persuasive Essay:** Read the instructions and the *Übersicht!* Annotate the text and take notes on the audio. Make sure to create an organized essay separated in paragraphs.

**Suggestions:** Use a title, opening paragraph, supporting body, and conclusion. If you finish before time is called, proof your piece - never sit idle and wait - why throw time away! Check for control of the basics like word order, subject-verb agreement,, and, of course, remove those nasty “denglish” elements!<sup>3</sup>

Don't be a “Wise Guy”: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKg\\_oxYGht4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKg_oxYGht4)



**Conversation:** Read the instructions and the *Übersicht* - which is **vital** for a good performance on this portion. If you don't read the *Übersicht*, you will miss the description of the scenario! Keep the outline in front of you and be sure to respond thoroughly enough to complete each specified language task. Adjust to your audience. If it states in the *Übersicht* that you are speaking with a friend, it is informal, so make sure that you maintain this register throughout your response. (du, dein..., dir, etc.)

You do not have to speak the entire 20 seconds for each speaking turn, but say enough so that you are providing a sufficient language sample, from which the reader can evaluate the following: comprehensibility, varied and appropriate vocabulary, control of time frame and mechanics, and consistent use of the correct register for the conversation.

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.deutschseite.de/grammatik/german\\_grammar/german\\_grammar.html](http://www.deutschseite.de/grammatik/german_grammar/german_grammar.html)

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You may be instructed to hit “pause” to save both speaking samples as one long recording - make sure to ask the test monitor before the simulated conversation how to record both samples - save as separate files or back to back? We have practiced saving as separate, but the monitor may have different instructions.

**Presentational Speaking:** Be sure to read the instructions and the *Übersicht*. Use the allotted time to prepare your notes for your presentation. Try to use the entire two minutes to present how the topic is similar, the same, or different in America compared to what one would encounter in a German-speaking country.

Remember that your audience is not a single person - NEVER use “du”, like with the essay stick with “man”

**TIPPS:** einen Vortrag halten<sup>4</sup>

<b>Einleitung (Intro)</b>	<b>Strukturierung (Formation)</b>	<b>Übergänge (Transition)</b>	<b>Schluss (Conclusion)</b>
Das Thema meines Vortrags/Referats lautet...	Mein Vortrag besteht aus drei Teile: ...	Soweit der erste Teil. Nun möchte ich mich dem zweiten Teil zuwenden.	Ich komme jetzt zum Schluss.
Ich spreche heute zu dem Thema ...	Mein Vortrag ist in drei Teile gegliedert: ...	Nun spreche ich über ...	Zusammenfassend möchte ich sagen, ...
Heute halte ich einen Vortrag über ...	Zuerst spreche ich über ..., dann komme ich im zweiten Teil zu ..., im dritten Teil befasse ich mich dann mit ...	Ich komme jetzt zum zweiten/nächsten Teil ...	Abschließend möchte ich noch erwähnen, ...

**Before the actual exam, review the following:**

- Vocabulary from the practice exam
- Verb + prepositions<sup>5</sup>
- Idioms<sup>6</sup>
- Review the rules of word order<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Aspekte Mittelstufe Deutsch (2007) p. 173

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.deutschseite.de/vokabeln/verb\\_plus\\_praeposition/verb\\_plus\\_praeposition.html](http://www.deutschseite.de/vokabeln/verb_plus_praeposition/verb_plus_praeposition.html)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.deutschseite.de/textarbeit/redewendungen/redewendungen.html>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~german/Grammatik/WordOrder/WordOrder.html>

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**Avoid the following:** Der Artikel sagt... die Grafik sagt....

### **Use instead:**

Der Artikel beschreibt/illustriert/unterstreicht

Der Autor des Artikels ist der Meinung

Die Grafik zeigt/drückt....aus/veranschaulicht

Der Audiotext erklärt/unterstützt (supports)/beschreibt

Es steht im Text, dass ...

- Don't forget to invert subject and verb after starting sentences with some of the expressions listed below in the chart. Learn vocabulary to help your essay and presentation have cohesiveness!

Here's a poem to remember when proofing:

*check the order*

*check the case*

*are my endings all in place...*

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Introduction	Einleitung
It is often claimed that ...	Es wird oft behauptet, dass ...
It is a commonplace that ...	Es ist eine Binsenweisheit, dass ...
So the question arises whether ...	Deshalb stellt sich die Frage, ob ...
It is a well-known fact that ...	Es ist allgemein bekannt, dass ...
It would hardly be an exaggeration to say that ...	Man kann ohne große Übertreibung sagen, dass ...
According to the latest statistics ...	Laut der neuesten Statistiken ...
Main Part	Hauptteil
Structuring Arguments	Argumente strukturieren
Firstly ... secondly ... finally ...	Erstens ... zweitens ... schließlich
<b>First of all / To begin with</b> I would like to ...	Zunächst einmal
<b>In addition / Moreover / Besides / Furthermore</b> ...	Darüberhinaus
<b>Another</b> significant advantage is ...	Ein weitere(r)
This brings us to the question whether ...	Daraus ergibt sich die Frage, ob
<b>But above all</b> one must not forget that ...	Aber vor allem
Personal opinion	Persönliche Meinung
<b>In my opinion / To my mind</b> you can say that ...	Meiner Meinung nach
<b>It seems to me that</b> this is not the solution to ...	Es scheint mir, dass
<b>The way I see it / In my view</b> we should keep in mind that ...	Meiner Ansicht nach
<b>I am (absolutely) convinced</b> that ...	Ich bin (völlig) überzeugt
I maintain that ...	Ich bleibe dabei, dass
Personal attitude	Eigene Einstellung
<b>Obviously / Doubtless</b> it is wrong to say that ...	Offensichtlich / Zweifellos
<b>Funnily enough / Strangely</b> a lot of people think that ...	Komischer- / Seltsamerweise
<b>Fortunately / Luckily</b> this is not the only argument against ...	Glücklicherweise
<b>Unfortunately / Regrettably</b> he fails to acknowledge that ...	Leider
<b>Frankly / Generally speaking</b> his proposals are stupid.	Offen / Allgemein gesagt
Comparisons	Vergleiche
<b>Compared with</b> the situation ten years ago ...	Verglichen mit
<b>In comparison with</b> the US ...	Im Vergleich mit
There is a <b>fundamental difference</b> between ... and ...	wesentlicher Unterschied
On the one hand ... on the other hand ...	Auf der einen ... anderen Seite
Expressing contrast	Gegensatz ausdrücken
We must not forget, <b>however</b> , that ...	jedoch
<b>All the same / Nevertheless</b> , it is wrong to say that ...	Trotzdem

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<b>In spite of / Despite</b> all those arguments ...	Trotz
<b>Contrary to / In contrast to / Unlike</b> the writer I think ...	Im Gegensatz zu
<b>It is true that ... but</b> it is definitely wrong to say that ...	Zwar ... aber
<b>Giving an example</b>	<b>Beispiel geben</b>
Let us consider, <b>for instance</b> , ...	zum Beispiel
... is a <b>striking example of</b> ...	ausgezeichnetes Beispiel für
This incident <b>serves to illustrate</b> ...	veranschaulicht
<b>Expressing doubt</b>	<b>Zweifel ausdrücken</b>
It is doubtful / questionable whether ...	Es ist zweifelhaft / fraglich, ob ...
It remains to be seen whether ...	Es bleibt abzuwarten, ob ...
I have <b>a few reservations about</b> the book.	ein paar Vorbehalte gegenüber
It is by no means certain that ...	Es ist keinesfalls sicher, dass ...
<b>Disagreeing</b>	<b>Widerspruch einlegen</b>
I find it hard to believe that ...	Ich kann nur schwer glauben, dass
Her claim <b>lacks credibility</b> .	ist unglaubwürdig
<b>I remain unconvinced by</b> his statement.	überzeugt mich nicht
It is <b>completely / totally / absolutely</b> wrong to believe that ...	völlig / ganz und gar
He is <b>thoroughly / entirely</b> wrong when he claims ...	völlig
The author is <b>terribly / greatly mistaken</b> when he says that ...	sich gewaltig irren
The author is <b>terribly / greatly mistaken</b> when he says that ...	vollkommen falsch
<b>Logical consequence</b>	<b>Logische Folge</b>
<b>So / Therefore / That is why</b> we cannot simply assume that ...	Deshalb
From all this it follows that ...	Aus all dem folgt, dass ...
<b>The logical conclusion</b> from all this is that ...	die logische Schlussfolgerung
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>Schluss</b>
<b>To conclude / In conclusion</b> you can safely say that ...	Zusammenfassend
<b>All in all</b> I therefore reject the view that ...	Alles in allem
<b>To sum up</b> I am seriously opposed to the writer's position that ...	Zusammenfassend
<b>Weighing the pros and cons</b> one comes to the conclusion that ...	Wenn man das Für und Wider abwägt ...

"Möge die Macht mit Dir sein"



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UURn5WG1FLg>

<http://www.tagesspiegel.de/kultur/30-jahre-star-wars-moege-die-macht-mit-dir-sein/853044.html>