

Deutsch lernen und unterrichten – Arbeitsmaterialien

Uwe From Outer Space

Episode 03: Uwe Goes Shopping

Uwe and Susi go shopping. But even their trip into town is strewn with challenges. Special agent Uwe has not even had the chance to show off his new football kit, when he manages to cause a traffic jam.

Susi wants Uwe to look like a true football supporter. So the two set off on a shopping spree in the centre of town. But Uwe soon learns about the perils of German public transport – and he ends up having to pay a fine.

Manuscript of the Episode

Narrator

It's the year 2006. On a small planet in the Milky Way – Planet Earth – everyone is going crazy about the Football World Cup. And the population on Penalta 8 in system 4-3-3 wants to find out more about this strange phenomenon. So they send someone to investigate – special agent Uwe.

Uwe

"Hello!"

Narrator

And Uwe has Susi by his side to help him.

Susi

"Hello!"

Narrator

Susi from the OC tells Uwe everything there is to know about football.

Uwe

"You know, life on Planet Earth is quite complicated."

Susi

"What do you mean: complicated? Hey, stop pushing!!..."

Uwe

"Like public transport. And the ticketing and fares system..."

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Susi

“Mmh...we should have taken a day ticket. Our travel card only takes us through two zones. But single tickets... You know, you might be right, it IS quite complicated.”

Narrator

Well, it isn't that complicated after all. All you have to do is ask someone. And the Germans like being asked for help.

Susi

“In Germany, public transport is heavily subsidised by the local governments so the city centers stay car-free.”

Uwe

“Does it work?”

Susi

“Well, just take a look outside.”

Narrator

Uwe took a look outside. A four-lane road, beeping cars braking hard, pedestrians in between, trying to make their way through the traffic, trying to get from one side of the road to the other without causing too much damage.

Uwe

“The Germans seem to enjoy driving cars?”

Susi

“Germany is a country of cars. In Germany, every seventh job depends on the car industry. Mercedes, BMW, Porsche, VW. Some even say German men spend more time with their cars than with their wives or girlfriends ...”

Uwe

“Maybe because their cars are more beautiful?...”

Narrator

Some men obviously seem to think so. We have a saying here: The Germans' favourite child is their car. So no wonder that referees sometimes feel uneasy when they hear the crowd in the German stadiums shouting: „Ref, we know where you've parked your car ...“ If only he had come by train! Oh, and: Some even say, half as a joke, that there are so many cars in Germany that there simply isn't enough space or time for children.

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Susi

“...And you don't have to raise cars for 20 years either ...”

Uwe

“...and children are even more expensive. By the way: What are the least expensive products in Germany? On Penalta, it's flights to Planet Earth. But that's because it's such a short distance - only two million light years.”

Susi

“Cheap ... hmm, well, dairy products are cheap. Like milk, cheese, and yogurt...Come on, we have to get out of here.”

Uwe

“Shall I pull the handle?!”

Susi

“No! No, no that's – that was the emergency brake, Uwe. You get a fine if you pull the emergency brake. You're only allowed to pull it in an emergency.”

Narrator

And that's the same as in football: You also get fined for using the 'emergency brake'... in other words, if the defender stops another player from scoring a goal by kicking or by pushing him, or pulling him down, he has to pay a fine: he gets a red card and says...

Susi

“...You know he doesn't come from here, he doesn't know the rules.”

Narrator

And so traffic in the World Cup host city came to a standstill for a while, because of these two. Susi, who the Organisation Committee had assigned to look after Uwe, had to pay a heavy fine because of his mistake. Oh, and by the way: in football, the highest fine you can get is for 'nut-megging'...

Susi

“That's kicking the ball through your opponent's legs, between them, if you know what I mean?!...”

Uwe

“Ouch, that must hurt!”

Susi

“It's not as bad as pulling the emergency brake!!...”

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Uwe

“Then you get a red card...”

Susi

“Come on, let’s go now...”

Narrator

So off they went into the sports shop. Hat, scarf, flag, and jersey in one hand, and in the other, a football-shaped piggy bank and Goleo, the cuddly World Cup mascot...

Susi

“Look at you ...”

Uwe

“...Do I look good?”

Susi

“Like a real football supporter. Although it does look pretty awful...”

Narrator

But special agent Uwe was proud. If only his friends on Penalta 8 could see him now! He looked like a real football supporter. If only there was football on Penalta!! But will Uwe’s dream of a football obsessed world ever come true?

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