

# Translations of the dialogues

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## Lesson 1

### The music is super!

*First of all you hear an excerpt from a song. It is sung by Marlene Dietrich, a famous German actress and singer who was born in 1901 and died in 1992. For copyright reasons the text may only be reproduced in the German translation.*

*Scene 1: A few people are standing in the street listening to a street musician. This is what they say about the music:*

1. Frau: Oh, that's lovely!  
2. Frau: Fantastic!  
1. Junge: The music is super!

*Scene 2: One of them asks for a cigarette.*

2. Junge: Have you got a spare cigarette?  
1. Junge: What do you want?  
2. Junge: Have you got a spare cigarette?  
1. Junge: Yes. Here you are.

*Scene 3: The young man asks for a light.*

2. Junge: Have you got a light?  
1. Junge: A light? No, I haven't.  
Mann: Wait a moment. I've got a light.  
2. Junge: Thank you.

## Lesson 2

### My name is Ex

*In the second lesson, the main characters in the language course introduce themselves. Frau Berger, the hotel manageress, begins.*

- Frau Berger: Well, my name is Berger, Lisa Berger. I'm the manageress here at the Hotel Europa.  
Ex: She likes singing.  
Frau Berger: Yes, that's true.

*Then Ex – an imaginary figure, a little elf – introduces herself. (In German the words rhyme.)*

Ex: Everybody knows what I'm called.  
Ex is my name. I'm a woman.  
You can't see me. Nobody understands that.  
But you can hear me – as everyone will tell you!

Andreas: And she is good at making a disturbance.

*Next is Andreas Schäfer. He works part-time as a porter at the Hotel Europa. He is also studying journalism.*

Andreas: Well, I'm Andreas, Andreas Schäfer. I work at the Hotel Europa, too. I'm the porter here.

Ex: But you're a student, too.

Andreas: Of course, Ex. I know that!

Ex: But not all the listeners know.

Andreas: But now they do! (*formally*) I am Andreas Schäfer. I work as a porter and I'm studying journalism. Is that good enough?

Ex: (*clears her throat*)

*Hanna Clasen is a chambermaid at the Hotel Europa.*

Hanna: Is it my turn?

Ex: Yes.

Hanna: Well, my name is Hanna, Hanna Clasen. I am a chambermaid at the Hotel Europa. I like working here. So many people come to the hotel.

Ex: (*slightly mockingly*) And they are always so nice!

*Dr. Thürmann, who lives in Berlin, is a regular guest at the Hotel Europa.*

Dr. Thürmann: Well, not always. But I'm one of the nice people – and I'm rather old. I'm a guest at the Hotel Europa. I'm often here in Aachen. Normally I live in Berlin.

Ex: (*impatiently*) Your name?

Dr. Thürmann: I beg your pardon?

Ex: What is your name?

Dr. Thürmann: Oh, yes. My name is Thürmann.

Ex: That is, Dr. Thürmann. He is a little hard of hearing.

### **Lesson 3**

#### **Will you take me with you?**

*Andreas has the weekend off. He is going to Brussels and is taking Hanna, the chambermaid, with him.*

Andreas: Well, then, have a nice weekend, Frau Berger!  
 Frau Berger: Thank you. The same to you. And have fun in Brussels!  
 Andreas: Thanks.  
 Hanna: What? You're going to Brussels?  
 Andreas: Yes, I've got an appointment there.  
 Hanna: Tell me, are you going by car?  
 Andreas: Yes.  
 Hanna: I'd like to visit a girlfriend in Brussels. Will you take me with you?  
 Andreas: Of course. I'm leaving tomorrow at eight o'clock. I'll pick you up at your house.  
 Hanna: That's great! Thank you, Andreas. Bye! 'Till tomorrow, then.  
 Andreas: 'Till tomorrow!

*On the way to Brussels, Andreas is stopped by the police for speeding.*

Andreas: Oh, no. That's all I need.  
 Hanna: What's up?  
 Andreas: Police! I hope I'll still make it to my appointment.  
*(Andreas stops the car)*  
 Polizist: Good morning, sir. This is a police check. Your papers, please. Switch on your lights, please. Right, everything is OK. Do you know how fast you were driving, Herr Schäfer?  
 Andreas: I don't know.  
 Polizist: 130 (kilometres)!  
 Andreas: That is quite possible.  
 Polizist: But you're only allowed to drive 100 here. Didn't you see the sign?  
 Andreas: No, I'm sorry.  
 Polizist: Well, that won't help you. You will have to pay an 80 Mark fine.

#### **Lesson 4** **Have you got a city map?**

*A married couple arrive at the main station in Aachen. They go to the tourist information office.*

Loudspeaker announcement: Aachen. Aachen main station. This is the end of the line. The connecting train to Cologne leaves at 18.02 from Platform 3.

Herr Frisch: At last! Come on, first of all we need a city map.  
 Frau Frisch: Do you want to buy one?  
 Herr Frisch: No. Can't you see the letter "I" there? That's the information centre. They're sure to have a city map.  
 Angestellte: Can I help you?  
 Herr Frisch: Yes, please. Have you got a city map?

Angestellte: *(opens out a city map)* Yes, of course. This is the main station. That's where you are now. And this is the city centre. By the way, have you already found a hotel?  
 Frau Frisch: Yes, the Hotel Europa.  
 Angestellte: It's right here.  
 Herr Frisch: How convenient!  
 Frau Frisch: That's wonderful. Thank you very much.

*The couple arrive at the Hotel Europa and ask if there is a restaurant near the hotel.*

Herr Frisch: Can you recommend us a restaurant near here?  
 Andreas: Certainly! There's a pizzeria right round the corner.  
 Herr Frisch: Oh, good. I always like Italian food!  
 Frau Frisch: Oh, no. Honestly. You can find pizzerias everywhere.  
 Andreas: Perhaps you'd like to try a French restaurant?  
 Frau Frisch: No, thank you. We'd like to eat German food.  
 Andreas: Then I can recommend the *Postwagen*. The food is good and reasonably priced.  
 Herr Frisch: Thank you. We'll try it!

## Lesson 5

### I'll serve the drinks

*Andreas is having a party to celebrate his birthday. He has invited his friends to his house.*

Freunde: *(sing together)* Happy birthday to you...  
 Freundin: Happy Birthday!  
 1. Freund: Congratulations!  
 Andreas: Thank you! Come in!  
 1. Freund: This is a present for you!  
 Freundin: And here's another one!  
 2. Freund: And another one!  
 Andreas: Thanks! *(begins to unwrap his presents)* The poster is great! Thanks, Martin. And what's in here?  
 Freundin: Open it up!  
 Andreas: *(reads aloud)* Scorpio.  
 Freundin: That's a horoscope, Andreas. Your horoscope! You're Scorpio, after all.  
 Andreas: Yes, that's right. *(begins to read)* A person born under the sign of Scorpio seeks to unravel mysteries. He wants to delve beneath the surface.  
 Freundin: You'll have to read it in peace.  
 Andreas: And then I'll know everything about myself. Is that it?  
 Freundin: Maybe.

*Andreas invites his friends to have something to eat and drink.*

Andreas: Well, the food is here.  
 Freundin: Great! I'm terribly hungry.

Andreas: And here are the glasses and cutlery.  
 1. Freund: I'll serve the drinks. Who would like a glass of juice?  
 2. Freund: I would!  
 Freundin: Is there wine, too?  
 Andreas: But of course! Would you like red wine or white wine?  
 Freundin: I'll have red wine.  
 1. Freund: I need a napkin. Aren't there any here?  
 Freundin: Where are the plates? There aren't any more plates!  
 2. Freund: Yes, here they are. Isn't there any music?  
 Andreas: Yes!

## Lesson 6

### He doesn't know his date of birth?

*Andreas thanks Frau Berger for the book she gave him for his birthday.*

Frau Berger: Good morning, Herr Schäfer.  
 Andreas: Good morning, Frau Berger. Thank you for the book!  
 Hanna: What book?  
 Frau Berger: It was Herr Schäfer's birthday yesterday and ...  
 Hanna: It was your birthday? Then many happy returns!  
 Andreas: Thank you. Well, I like one story in the book particularly.  
 Frau Berger: Which one?  
 Andreas: The story by Şinasi Dikmen. It's called: "*Kein Geburtstag, keine Integration*" (No Birthday, No Integration).  
 Hanna: I beg your pardon? Who is it by?  
 Andreas: It's the story of a Turk. He doesn't know his date of birth.  
 Hanna: What? He doesn't know his birthday?

*Andreas tells a story from the book. It's called "No Birthday, No Integration" and is by the Turkish author Şinasi Dikmen.*

Andreas: The story begins like this: "I have no date of birth. Of course, there is a date in my passport. But it's not my real birthday. It's only my official birthday."  
 Hanna: And then?  
 Andreas: First Dikmen asks his mother. She thinks it over and over and then she says: "On that day our bull disappeared."  
 And she talks and talks about the bull. But she doesn't remember the day or the time of year.

*The author, Şinasi Dikmen, makes several attempts to find out his birthday. Everyone can remember something that happened on the day, but no-one remembers the exact date of his birth.*

- Andreas: Dikmen asks his sister. She says: "Of course I know. On that day I saw my husband for the first time." And she talks and talks... But she doesn't remember the day or the time of year. Dikmen asks his brother-in-law. He asks his teacher. He asks the oldest person in the village. All of them tell a story, but Dikmen doesn't discover his date of birth.
- Hanna: That is strange.
- Andreas: No, it's just different!

## Lesson 7

### Can you give me the brochures?

*A couple are looking through some tourist information brochures about the city of Aachen.*

- Herr Frisch: You've got a brochure about Aachen, haven't you?
- Frau Frisch: One? I've got four!
- Herr Frisch: Give me the brochures, please.
- Frau Frisch: Just a moment. Here you are!
- Herr Frisch: *(leafs through the brochures and reads out a few things)*  
Discover Aachen! Aachen – a city in the heart of Europe, right next door to the Netherlands and Belgium.
- Frau Frisch: We know that already!
- Herr Frisch: Aachen – an art centre.
- Frau Frisch: Uninteresting!
- Herr Frisch: Aachen – a spa town and bathing resort.
- Frau Frisch: We don't need that.
- Herr Frisch: Aachen – a congress centre.
- Frau Frisch: I can work at home.
- Herr Frisch: Aachen has a lot to offer you.
- Frau Frisch: And what are you offering me?
- Herr Frisch: Aachen – a city with flair. The city is a shoppers' paradise. That's something for you.
- Frau Frisch: Well, I'm intrigued.
- Herr Frisch: We are happy to provide further information for visitors.

*Frau Frisch looks at another brochure.*

- Frau Frisch: *(reads out loud)* Let us show you Aachen. Discover the present day and the past. Our tour begins at the cathedral. *(turns to her husband)* Here's something for you! *(continues reading out aloud)* All you need is good spirits and some money, of course. And don't forget your glasses! *(to her husband)* You always forget your glasses. I've got them. Here you are. Put them straight in your pocket! *(continues reading:)* And off we go.
- Herr Frisch: Right. Well, let's go then!

## Lesson 8

### I haven't heard any more from her

*Dr. Thürmann and Frau Berger are sitting in a café with Andreas. They ask him about Andreas' friend Ex, the invisible elf, who disappeared one day when Andreas, Dr. Thürmann and Frau Berger were on a day trip.*

- Dr. Thürmann: What's happened to your second voice?  
Frau Berger: Yes, and what's happened to Ex? Has she come back?  
Andreas: No, unfortunately not. I haven't heard any more from her.  
Frau Berger: She disappeared back then. Why?  
Andreas: I've no idea!  
Dr. Thürmann: Tell me, what's this all about? Second voice? Ex? I don't understand it at all.  
Andreas: Okay, I'll tell you the story. But it's crazy. It's like a fairy tale ...  
Frau Berger: Well, tell us about it! I don't know the story either.

*Andreas talks about the evening when Ex suddenly appeared. He was at home, reading a book called "The Heinzelmännchen of Cologne". According to the legend the Heinzelmännchen, who were elf-like figures, would come out at night and finish off all the craftsmen's work.*

- Andreas: I was at home, listening to music and I was reading the book about the *Heinzelmännchen* of Cologne. At night the *Heinzelmännchen* always did the people's work. And then I started dreaming and wished I could have some help, too.  
Dr. Thürmann: And then?  
Andreas: Then Ex appeared.  
Dr. Thürmann: What do you mean "appeared"?  
Andreas: I heard a voice, but I couldn't see anyone. She was just there.  
Frau Berger: So she appeared out of your book?  
Andreas: Yes. And so I called her *Ex*. *Ex* means *out of* in Latin.  
Frau Berger: So that's your second voice?  
Dr. Thürmann: The story is very strange – and fascinating, too.

## Lesson 9

### I sang her a song

*Dr. Thürmann, Frau Berger and Andreas reminisce about their boat trip on the Rhine. Ex had been with them on that day.*

- Dr. Thürmann: We went on a boat trip together.  
Andreas: Ex was very happy.  
Frau Berger: Then we passed the Loreley Rock.

Andreas: And suddenly Ex said: "The Loreley? I know it! It was very nice!"  
 Frau Berger: And I sang her the ballad of the Loreley.  
 Andreas: Then the ship's captain said: (*imitates the ship's captain*) In the rock there was once a cave. And that's where the *Heinzelmännchen* lived.  
 Dr. Thürmann: According to the legend!

*The three of them wonder what could have happened to Ex, who disappeared on that day.*

Andreas: I immediately asked Ex: Ex, did you know that? But she didn't answer. One minute she was right there – and now she's gone.

Dr. Thürmann: Hm.  
 Frau Berger: But that's obvious!  
 Andreas: What?  
 Frau Berger: She's looking for the *Heinzelmännchen*!  
 Andreas: How come?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Well, that's her story: Ex and the *Heinzelmännchen*!  
 Andreas: Perhaps. And what should I do now?  
 Frau Berger: (*laughs*) Wait and think it over!  
 Andreas: (*to himself*) I like her so much.  
 Dr. Thürmann: You know that I'm leaving for Berlin tomorrow. Andreas, come with me to Berlin – with or without Ex!

## Lesson 10

### I'd like to reserve a room

*Reserving a room is usually quite simple.*

Mann: Good morning. My name is Scherer. I'd like to reserve a double room from 1st–3rd May.

*But sometimes it can be complicated, as happened when this woman from Frankfurt rang the Hotel Europa to reserve a room for her family.*

(*The telephone rings*)  
 Andreas: Hotel Europa. Good morning.  
 Frau: Good morning. My name is Becker. I'm calling from Frankfurt. A girlfriend of mine once stayed at your hotel, and she liked it very much.  
 Andreas: I'm pleased to hear that. What can I do for you?  
 Frau: Well, my husband said I should ring you. We want to come to Aachen. And I'd like to reserve a room in advance. We're coming with our two children. Can they sleep in our room?  
 Andreas: Yes, of course. That's no problem.  
 (*sound of a dog barking in the background*)



Frau: Quiet, Bello! Of course you're coming with us. Yes, Bello will be coming, too.  
 Andreas: Bello? Is that your dog?  
 Frau: Yes. Didn't you hear him?  
 Andreas: Yes, I did. But that's a problem. You see, normally dogs are not allowed.

*Andreas asks when the Beckers will arrive and how long they would like to stay.*

Frau: But Bello is a very good dog.  
 Andreas: Hm. Well, when would you be arriving?  
 Frau: In May, at the beginning of May. On the Friday.  
 Andreas: D'you mean Friday, 1st May?  
 Frau: Yes.  
 Andreas: And how long will you be staying?  
 Frau: Until the Sunday. We have to go back to work on the Monday.  
 Andreas: Right. So that's a room for four people.  
 Frau: And Bello!  
 Andreas: For the weekend of the 1st May. But I must speak to my boss about Bello. If you give me your telephone number, I'll let you know.  
 Frau: That's 069 for Frankfurt, then 98 21 41.  
 Andreas: Thank you. Goodbye.

## Lesson 11

### She scattered peas

*The story told in this lesson is fictional. Ex visits the Heinzelmännchen. Ex – a figure from the book that tells the legend of the Heinzelmännchen in Cologne – has reappeared in Andreas' home. According to the legend, the Heinzelmännchen, who were elf-like figures, used to come out at night and finish off all the craftsmen's work. Ex wants to know why the Heinzelmännchen no longer help people.*

Ex: Hello, *Heinzelmännchen*. Here I am again!  
 Heinzelmännchen: What a surprise! Where have you come from?  
 Ex: I'm living with people. (here: human beings)  
 Heinzelmännchen: You mean with a person. (here: human being)  
 Ex: Yes. How do you know that?  
 Heinzelmännchen: That's my secret.  
 Ex: What are you doing now?  
 Heinzelmännchen: (*jokingly*) Tell me, would you like to do an interview? Are you a journalist now?  
 Ex: No. But tell me, why don't you help people any more? What happened in the past?

*Ex discovers the whole story: eager to unravel the mystery of the Heinzelmännchen, a tailor's wife scatters peas on the stairs in her house. She wants to find out who finishes off her husband's work during the night.*

Heinzelmännchen: A long time ago in the past we used to work for humans. And for the tailor, too. We sewed his clothes for him. But his wife was very inquisitive.

Ex: Like me!

Heinzelmännchen: Yes, like you! But she was also very bad. She scattered peas on the stairs – lots and lots of peas. We stumbled on them and that hurt.

Ex: But why did she scatter peas?

Heinzelmännchen: We used to work at night. And the tailor's wife wanted to see us at all costs. We stumbled – and she heard us. She put the light on. And then we disappeared quickly.

Ex: For ever?

## **Lesson 12**

### **Someone was supposed to say the magic word**

*Ex discovers the secret law of the elves: Elves must always remain invisible to humans.*

Heinzelmännchen: Nobody could see us. And nobody was supposed to see us.

Ex: But why? Why wasn't anyone allowed to see you?

Heinzelmännchen: We wanted to remain invisible to humans. That is a law of the elves. You want to remain invisible, Ex, don't you?

Ex: *(startled)* Oh, yes. Definitely!

*Ex discovers how and why she appeared to Andreas.*

Ex: Tell me please, where do I come from?

Heinzelmännchen: It's quite simple, Ex. We hid you in the book about the *Heinzelmännchen*.

Ex: You hid me??

Heinzelmännchen: Well, yes. A female elf – as inquisitive as the tailor's wife.

Ex: And as bad as her, too?

Heinzelmännchen: That's up to you to decide for yourself. Someone was supposed to say the magic word. And then you were supposed to leave the book and live with human beings – and remain as invisible as we are.

Ex: And what is the magic word?

Heinzelmännchen: That's what you have to find out yourself! Andreas said the magic word. And that's why you're with him now.

Ex: Oh, really?!

## Lesson 13

### Where did you park your car?

*One of the guests at the Hotel Europa comes to the reception. He is upset because his car is not where he parked it.*

(Hotelgast = *hotel guest*)

- Hotelgast: My car's gone!  
Andreas: Your car's gone? Are you quite sure?  
Hotelgast: Of course I'm quite sure! I'm not blind, after all!  
Andreas: Think it over. Where did you park your car?  
Hotelgast: In Bismarckstrasse. Right around the corner.  
Andreas: Oh, that's a no parking zone.  
Hotelgast: What? I don't think so. I didn't see a sign.  
Andreas: I can show you.  
Hotelgast: Please do. I'd like to see it.  
*(they both go out into the street)*  
Andreas: There you are: No parking between 15<sup>00</sup> and 18<sup>00</sup> hours.  
Hotelgast: I don't believe it!

*The guest had parked his car in a busy street. Andreas assumes that his car has been towed away. The police often tow away incorrectly parked cars if they are obstructing the traffic flow.*

- Andreas: How long did you park there?  
Hotelgast: Just for a short time. Well, I picked up my wife, I parked the car and took her things into the hotel.  
Andreas: And then you went right back to your car?  
Hotelgast: No, not right away.  
Andreas: How long did you stay in your room?  
Hotelgast: Are you a police officer, or what's going on here?  
Andreas: No, of course not. But your car has probably been towed away.  
Hotelgast: And how will I get my car back?  
Andreas: You'll have to call the police.  
Hotelgast: Why didn't you say that straight away?  
Andreas: What?  
Hotelgast: About the no parking zone. That's what I call hotel service ....!

## Lesson 14

### Then they thought of Frederick

*Frau Berger tells Andreas the story of a book entitled "Frederick" by the Italian author Leo Lionni. It is about a family of fieldmice that are collecting food stores for the winter. One of the mice – Frederick – collects unusual things: the sun's rays, colours and words.*

Frau Berger: Once upon a time there was a family of fieldmice. The summer was coming to an end and they began collecting stores for the winter. They collected grains, nuts and straw. Only one of the mice – Frederick – did nothing. “Frederick,” the fieldmice asked, “why aren’t you doing any work? “I am working,” said Frederick. “I’m collecting sun’s rays for the winter.” A little later they asked, “Frederick, what are you doing now?” “I’m collecting colours,” he said. And a little later they asked him, “Frederick, are you dreaming?” “No,” said Frederick. “I’m collecting words for the winter.”

*Winter came and it was long. The mice’s stores ran out. Frederick brought his special stores for the winter and distributed them among the other mice.*

Frau Berger: Winter came and suddenly it was very cold. Then they thought of Frederick. “Frederick, how are your stores coming along?” the fieldmice asked. “Close your eyes,” said Frederick. “Now I’ll send you the sun’s rays.” The fieldmice closed their eyes and felt the warmth of the sun. “And what about the colours?” asked the fieldmice. “Close your eyes again,” said Frederick. And he told them about red and blue flowers and about yellow straw. The fieldmice closed their eyes and saw the colours. “And what about the words?” asked the fieldmice. Then Frederick fetched the words and told them the story about the mice. It was very nice. The fieldmice loved it and they called out, “Frederick, you’re a poet!”

## Lesson 15

### Invisible and cheeky

*Andreas is sad. He is sitting at home thinking about Ex. When he says the magic word **sowieso**, Ex suddenly appears again.*

Andreas: *(to himself)* Oh, Ex, now I’ve got the book about the *Heinzelmännchen*, but you’re gone! What a pity! It makes me sad. But maybe you weren’t happy with me in any case.

Ex: Hello, hello – Andreas.

Andreas: What was that? Somebody called my name?

Ex: Yes, I did. Here I am again!

Andreas: Ex? Ex? Is it you?

Ex: Yes, it’s me. Don’t you know me any more?

Andreas: Of course I still know you! But you’re still invisible. Tell me, is everything all right with you?

Ex: Oh, yes! Everything’s wonderful, fine, fantastic, super ...

Andreas: All right, all right! I can hear that you're still the same old Ex – invisible and ...  
Ex: cheeky.

*Andreas and Ex talk about the Heinzelmännchen. Ex doesn't tell Andreas that she has met them. Andreas consoles Ex and tells her that the Heinzelmännchen don't really exist. They are just fictitious characters.*

Andreas: Ex, where were you so long?  
Ex: I was looking for the *Heinzelmännchen*.  
Andreas: And did you find them?  
Ex: No, they weren't there any longer.  
Andreas: Of course they weren't, Ex. The *Heinzelmännchen* – that's just make-believe.  
Ex: And me? am I just make-believe, too?  
Andreas: I still don't know. You are there, but I can't see you!  
Ex: Don't try to! You know that the tailor's wife wanted to see the *Heinzelmännchen*, too.  
Andreas: I know. She scattered peas.  
Ex: And then all the *Heinzelmännchen* disappeared.  
Andreas: But Ex, I don't scatter peas. You must never disappear again!

## Lesson 16

### But today it's different

*Ex and Andreas are travelling from Cologne to Berlin by train. They get on the train in Cologne and see the famous Cologne Cathedral. Construction of the cathedral began in 1248. It was resumed in 1560, and the cathedral was completed between 1842 and 1880. The cathedral stands right next to the main station in Cologne. From here trains cross the railway bridge over the River Rhine.*

Andreas: Ex, we're in luck. Look, the compartment is completely empty.  
Ex: I'd like a window seat.  
Andreas: But of course!  
Ex: Great! We're moving already! What's that?  
Andreas: That's the cathedral.  
Ex: It's lovely!  
Andreas: And it's very old.  
Ex: Look! We're going over water.  
Andreas: That's the River Rhine. You've seen it before.

*The journey takes Ex and Andreas through the industrial area of the Ruhr. Until 1970 it was Germany's most important industrial area. Essen and Bochum were coal-producing cities with many mines. The steel industry (Krupp) was also based here. Today the Ruhr is no longer a polluted industrial area. It has many universities, it is a large cultural centre (film, theatre, museums) and is home to important research centres in the field of environmental technology.*

Zugführer: Essen main station!  
Bochum main station!  
Dortmund main station!  
Ex: What a lot of cities!  
Andreas: Yes, there's a lot of industry here. And a lot of  
people live here.  
Ex: Industry?  
Andreas: Yes. In the past there was a lot of steel and iron industry here  
– and especially coal-mining. But today it's different. There's  
still a lot of industry, but they don't mine as much coal. In  
Bochum they manufacture cars. And they still make beer in  
Dortmund. The sky is no longer grey, but blue once again!

*The federal state of North-Rhine Westphalia is not just an industrial centre. The  
Münsterland is a farming area where a lot of pigs and horses are reared.*

Ex: Look! There are pigs and horses in the fields!  
Andreas: Of course. We're already in Westphalia. There's hardly any  
industry here. It's more agricultural.

*Ex wants to know how much longer the journey to Berlin will take.*

Zugführer: Bielefeld main station.  
Hanover main station.  
Ex: How long do we still have to go?  
Andreas: I know, it's a long journey. But we're almost half way.  
Ex: How long do we still have to go?  
Andreas: Another four hours. Come on, let's go to the restaurant car.

*Ex is bored. When she looks out of the train window, she sees the same  
countryside – woods, rivers and fields.*

Ex: There are only woods, flowers and rivers here. There are no  
cities, only villages. It's boring.  
Andreas: Then sleep for a bit.

*Ex falls asleep and wakes up shortly before the train arrives in Berlin.*

Zugführer: Potsdam. Potsdam.  
Ex: Are we here?  
Andreas: No, but the next station is Berlin.  
Ex: At last!

## Lesson 17

### I still have a suitcase in Berlin

*This lesson differs from previous lessons in that it does not contain any grammar or exercises. The broadcast is designed as a sound collage to give you an impression of Berlin in years gone by and as it is today.*

The sound collage includes:

1. A piece of music from the 1930s, recorded in Berlin: *Das Spatzenkonzert* by Peter Igelhoff.
2. The famous song *Das ist die Berliner Luft*, sung by Lizzi Waldmüller in the 1930s.
3. A song by the Comedian Harmonists – a popular vaudeville group that appeared in variety theatres in the 1930s. Many of their songs, such as *Mein kleiner grüner Kaktus*, are still well known today. In 1934 the group was banned from performing because three of their members were Jews.
4. A radio broadcast by the German writer Thomas Mann (1875–1955), who emigrated to Switzerland in 1933. In 1939 he emigrated to the United States, and became an American citizen in 1944. Mann's address was broadcast on the 10th May 1945, two days after the capitulation of Germany. For copyright reasons the text may only be reproduced in the German translation.
5. In 1949, four years after the end of the Second World War, Germany was divided into two states – the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). The city of Berlin was also divided. In 1961 the Berlin Wall was erected. On the 24th October 1950, US General Clay presented a freedom bell to the Berliners. It was hung in Schöneberg Town Hall and was rung every day at midday. On the 26th June 1963, US President John F. Kennedy arrived in Berlin and made his famous speech outside Schöneberg Town Hall, during which he spoke the memorable words:  
Ich bin ein Berliner.
6. The Berliners are known for their sharp wit. The following dialogue, spoken in the Berlin dialect, demonstrates their sense of humour.  
Berlinerin: Can you go shopping?  
Berliner: What d'you want me to do?  
Berlinerin: Go shopping.  
Berliner: Me? Whatever for?  
Berlinerin: Why not?  
Berliner: I don't feel like it.  
Berlinerin: Neither do I.  
Berliner: Do be quiet. I think we've had enough of that, eh?
7. Berlin has always been a multi-cultural city with many foreign residents. Until the Berlin Wall came down, many of the foreign residents came from Turkey. This is a translation of the Turkish dialogue you hear in the broadcast:

Türkin: Good morning.  
 Türke: Good morning. What would you like?  
 Türkin: A Döner\*.  
 Türke: Here you are.

\* Döner: *a kebab – small pieces of roast lamb in pitta bread*

8. The German singer and actress, Marlene Dietrich, became famous for her part in the film *Der blaue Engel* (The Blue Angel), which was made in 1930. In 1936 she became an American citizen. In 1941, after the United States entered the Second World War, she put on a US army uniform and entertained American troops stationed in Germany with her songs. Until her death in 1992 she lived in Paris. After German reunification she expressed the wish to be buried in Berlin. This recording of the song *Ich hab' noch einen Koffer in Berlin* was made in 1948 by Marlene Dietrich. (For copyright reasons the text may only be reproduced in the German version.)

## Lesson 18

### Bahnhof Zoo

*Andreas and Ex arrive in Berlin at Bahnhof Zoo.*

Loudspeaker  
 announcement: Berlin – Bahnhof Zoo.  
 Andreas: Come on, Ex. We've got to get off here.  
 Ex: Why? d'you want to go to the zoo?  
 Andreas: No, that's just the name of the station.  
 Ex: Why is called that?  
 Andreas: Because the zoo is near by.  
 Ex: A zoo, in the middle of a city?  
 Andreas: Yes, because the zoo is 150 years old. And back then Berlin wasn't so large.  
 Ex: Why?  
 Andreas: Why? That's like asking: Why is a banana curved? (Idiom in German which is used to reply to a question to which there is no logical answer. Compare the English idiom: How long is a piece of string?)  
 Ex: I don't know.  
 Andreas: Because you ask too many questions. Now, come on!

*Ex discovers the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, which serves as a reminder of the Second World War. However, Andreas wants to go and visit his friends.*

Ex: Look! The church is broken!  
 Andreas: Yes, it's a ruin.  
 Ex: Why?  
 Andreas: The church was destroyed in the war. And it was left in ruins in memory of the war. That's what the people of Berlin wanted.  
 Ex: Shall we go inside?  
 Andreas: No, Ex. Not now. Now we're going to Kantstrasse.



Ex: Why?  
Andreas: Because that's where we're staying the night. My friends live there.  
Ex: And what about Dr. Thürmann?  
Andreas: I'll call him afterwards.

## Lesson 19

### I'm glad you're in Berlin

*Andreas telephones Dr. Thürmann and they arrange to meet. They decide to take a trip through Berlin on the number 100 bus. The bus goes from Bahnhof Zoo to Alexanderplatz in former East Berlin and passes many famous sights.*

Andreas: Good evening, Dr. Thürmann. This is Andreas Schäfer.  
Dr. Thürmann: Good evening, Herr Schäfer. Are you in Berlin?  
Andreas: Yes. We can stay in Berlin for a week.  
Dr. Thürmann: I'm glad you're in Berlin.  
Andreas: We're staying with friends of mine.  
Dr. Thürmann: Did you say "we"?  
Andreas: Oh, you don't know yet that Ex is back again.  
Dr. Thürmann: I'm pleased to hear it! What are you doing tomorrow?  
Andreas: I think that we'll have a look around Berlin.  
Dr. Thürmann: Let me make a suggestion. We can take a trip together on the number 100 bus. It goes from the zoo to the Alex. It's a very nice tour through Berlin.  
Ex: Alex? Who is Alex?  
Andreas: It's a square, the Alexanderplatz. Excuse me, Dr. Thürmann.  
Dr. Thürmann: That's all right. Let's say tomorrow at 10 o'clock at Bahnhof Zoo?  
Andreas: And where exactly?  
Dr. Thürmann: At the bus stop, all right?  
Ex: All right.  
Andreas: Well, until tomorrow!

*Ex is delighted to discover what she thinks is an angel. It is the statue of the Goddess of Victory on top of the Victory Column. The Victory Column was erected in 1871 to commemorate the Franco-Prussian War and the founding of the German Empire.*

Ex: Look! There's an angel up there.  
Dr. Thürmann: Ex, that's the Victory Column.  
Ex: Why is it called that?  
Andreas: Ex, you know that wars take place – unfortunately.  
Dr. Thürmann: And in the past there were wars, too. The Victory Column is a memorial to a victory at the end of the Franco-Prussian War.  
Andreas: That was a very long time ago, in 1871.  
Ex: And then?

Dr. Thürmann: That was when Germany was founded.  
Ex: How come? Didn't Germany exist before that?  
Andreas: Yes, but in a different form. It was made up of many small states. It wasn't one state.  
Dr. Thürmann: And from 1871 on Berlin was the capital of Germany.  
Ex: It was or it is?  
Andreas: Both.  
Ex: I don't understand ...

## Lesson 20

### Before the Wall went up

*Andreas explains to Ex that Germany was divided into two states not long after the Second World War. The city of Berlin was also divided into East and West Berlin. After unification, Berlin was reinstated as the capital of Germany. The German government is due to move from the former capital Bonn to Berlin by the year 2000.*

Ex: Is Berlin the capital or not?  
Andreas: Well, Berlin was the capital until 1945. After that there were two German states – the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and the German Democratic Republic (GDR). As long as both states existed, Bonn was the capital of West Germany and East Berlin was the capital of East Germany.  
Ex: And today?  
Andreas: Since unification in 1990 Berlin is once again the capital of Germany.  
Dr. Thürmann: Excuse me, Herr Schäfer. Before we go any further, I'd like to show you the Brandenburg Gate. Come on, we have to get off here.

*Dr. Thürmann tells Andreas about the Wall, which divided Berlin from 1961–1989.*

Dr. Thürmann: This is the Brandenburg Gate. And this is where the Wall was. When I came to Berlin, the Wall didn't exist. And then suddenly, over night, the Wall was there. It was terrible. Before the Wall was built, this was a busy place. You could go through the Brandenburg Gate from East to West and from West to East. But then suddenly that was no longer possible. The Wall stood here for almost 30 years. Suddenly you couldn't go any further. The streets were simply blocked off.  
Ex: I can't see the Wall at all.  
Dr. Thürmann: It's invisible, just like you, Ex. It's only a souvenir.  
Berliner Ausrufer: A piece of the Wall, your own piece. A piece of the Wall, only three Marks. Buy a piece of the Wall now, before it's too late!

## Lesson 21

### Everything is getting very expensive

*Andreas interviews a few Berliners and asks them what they think of this resolution passed by the Bonn parliament to make Berlin once again the capital of Germany. One woman from Berlin thinks it is a very good idea.*

Andreas: Berlin is once again the capital of Germany. What do you think about that?

Berlinerin: What I think about it? It's super. At last it'll be a metropolis.

*Andreas then interviews a man from Berlin. He points out the disadvantages of the decision.*

Berliner: I don't think it's good at all. Flats are getting more expensive, food, travelling by bus – everything is getting very expensive. I think there will only be disadvantages.

*Next, Andreas speaks to a taxi driver who thinks it will be to Berlin's advantage to be the capital.*

Taxifahrer: As a taxi driver I've nothing against it. I'll earn a bit more money. And Berlin will become international. I suppose I'll have to learn foreign languages.

*Andreas speaks to an elderly woman who emphasises the importance of the decision for Europe.*

ältere Dame: I think it's a good decision, very good, in fact. And do you know why? Because it's good for Europe. Berlin is in western Europe and at the same time it's very far to the east. So Berlin can become a bridge to the East.

*One young man fears that Berlin will lose its attraction as a liberal, "alternative" city.*

Jugendlicher: I don't think it's at all good. The sort of "alternative" atmosphere will soon disappear. We came to Berlin because it was so liberal here. That sounds absurd, but we really had a lot of freedom in Berlin.

## Lesson 22

### *Berlin Alexanderplatz*

*Andreas writes his parents a letter describing his impressions of the Alexanderplatz in East Berlin.*

This is the text of his letter:

Dear Mum and Dad,

Yesterday I was in the eastern part of Berlin, on the famous Alex. Even from far away you see the tall television tower. It's 365 metres high! But to be quite honest, I was disappointed. The Alex is big, a colossal square, but pretty empty. There are no cars, just a few pedestrians walking around. Of course I know that the Alex has changed a lot since 1964. Back then they built a lot of multi-storey buildings, like the Hotel Stadt Berlin, which is imposing but ugly – as are the other multi-storey buildings ...

Right at the Alexanderplatz station it's quite different. Yes, the old station still exists. And it's full of life. Outside there are lots of stalls selling everything possible: clothes, crockery, fruit and vegetables, food ... Do you know why the square is called Alexanderplatz? You don't? Well, I do! When the Russian Czar Alexander I visited the Prussian king in Berlin in 1805, they called the square the Alexanderplatz.

*Andreas imagines what life on the Alexanderplatz must have been like in former times.*

*He continues his letter:*

In former times the Alex was the real centre of Berlin. Nine streets converged here and there were people everywhere. They were on the streets, selling their wares – newspapers, cigarettes, clothes, coal, wood ... They were in the pubs, drinking beer and talking. They worked hard.

Where did I find out all these details? I bought the book *Berlin Alexanderplatz* by Alfred Döblin. It's about a simple street trader on the Alex. He wanted to have more from life than just bread and butter ... It's understandable, isn't it? Tonight I'm going to see the film *Berlin Alexanderplatz* by Fassbinder. As you can see, I'm doing very well here.

Lots of love,  
Andreas.

## Leçon 23

### The famous Charité hospital

*Andreas, Ex and Dr. Thürmann are in East Berlin. They are standing in front of the Charité – a famous hospital where Dr. Thürmann once worked. They are discussing the hospital's name, and where it came from.*

- Ex: Look up there – the big letters. (*reads out aloud*) *Cha-ri-té.*  
Andreas: Charité, Ex, Charité.  
Dr. Thürmann: Yes, that's the famous Charité, a world-famous hospital. I once worked there.  
Andreas: And why is it called the Charité?  
Dr. Thürmann: I don't know exactly. I can only assume why. The Charité is very old, almost 300 years old. And back in 1710, when the Charité was founded, there were a lot of French people in Berlin.  
Ex: So Charité is a French word?  
Andreas: Yes.  
Ex: And what does it mean?  
Andreas: Charity.  
Ex: I beg your pardon?  
Andreas: Having sympathy and helping the sick.

*Dr. Thürmann explains the history of the Charité.*

- Andreas: And why is the Charité so famous?  
Dr. Thürmann: The Charité was a world-famous research centre. Early on they performed complicated operations. But not only that. They conducted independent research. Very good doctors worked here and received several Nobel prizes.  
Andreas: But now everything looks rather old.  
Dr. Thürmann: Of course! In the Nazi era the Jewish doctors had to go, and later many doctors left for the West. They had modern instruments, they had good standards of medicine – but they didn't do so much research.  
Andreas: And today?  
Dr. Thürmann: I have heard there has been a new initiative by young doctors. They want to revive this old, traditional hospital.  
Andreas: A new spirit in old walls? (Idiom, meaning: a breath of fresh air)  
Dr. Thürmann: Yes, you could put it like that.

## Lesson 24

### The dead are not always dead

*Andreas would like to visit the famous Dorotheenfriedhof (Dorothy Cemetery) in former East Berlin. Many famous people are buried there including the German philosophers Fichte and Hegel, the writers Bertolt Brecht and Heinrich Mann, the musician Hanns Eisler and the actress Helene Weigel. Ex and Andreas walk around the cemetery. Ex wants to know what Andreas finds so interesting about it.*

Andreas: I'd like to go to the Dorotheenfriedhof (Dorothy Cemetery) today.  
 Ex: Cemetery?  
 Andreas: That's where the dead are buried. Don't you know that?  
 Ex: And what d'you want to do there – with dead people? You can't talk to the dead!  
 Andreas: Oh, Ex! How shall I explain it to you? The dead are not always dead. Some live on – in my memory, in their songs, in their texts. Are you coming?  
 Ex: Yes, I'd like to see it. I've never been to a cemetery before.

*Ex reads out the names on the gravestones. In the radio broadcast you hear excerpts from the works of some of the famous people who are buried in this cemetery.*

Ex  
 (reads out loud): Johann Gottlieb Fichte, 1762–1814  
 Georg Wilhelm Hegel, 1770–1831  
 Bertold Brecht, 1898–1956 ...

Andreas (*quotes from Brecht's poem "An die Nachgeborenen"*):

Ex  
 (*goes on reading*): Helene Weigel-Brecht, 1900–1971

*Musical excerpt: Helene Weigel sings Mother Courage's song from Bertolt Brecht's play "Mutter Courage und ihre Kinder".*

Ex  
 (*reads out loud*): Hanns Eisler, 1898–1962

*Musical excerpt: Therese Giehse sings "Die Ballade vom Wasserrad" from Brecht's play "Die Rundköpfe und die Spitzköpfe", set to music by Hanns Eisler.*

Ex  
 (*reads out loud*): Heinrich Mann, 1871–1950

*Excerpt: The novel "Professor Unrat" by Heinrich Mann was made into the film "Der blaue Engel" in 1930. Marlene Dietrich sings the famous song from the film, "Ich bin von Kopf bis Fuß auf Liebe eingestellt".*

## **Lesson 25**

### **I'd like small assignments to begin with**

*Andreas and Dr. Thürmann talk about their future plans. Dr. Thürmann asks Andreas if he would like to undertake research for a book he is writing on alternative medicine.*

Dr. Thürmann: Well, once again, welcome to Berlin! Do sit down!

Ex: Me, too?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Yes, you too, you invisible one! We've seen a lot of Berlin, but we haven't talked about ourselves at all. How are you? How are your studies going?  
 Andreas: I'm fine, thank you. And I'll soon be finished studying, too.  
 Dr. Thürmann: And then? What will you do then?  
 Andreas: I don't know yet. I'm thinking of working on a newspaper or in radio. But I'd like small assignments to begin with.  
 Dr. Thürmann: Perhaps you can help me with my work?  
 Andreas: I'd love to!  
 Dr. Thürmann: You see, I'd like to write a book about alternative medicine.  
 Andreas: What does that mean?  
 Dr. Thürmann: I mean homeopathy. I'm a great believer in natural healing. And I still need interviews. Wouldn't you like to do some research for me – interviewing doctors, patients, looking for articles?  
 Andreas: I'd like to do that. But you must explain exactly what is involved.

*Dr. Thürmann talks about his patients and hints that he could perhaps make Ex visible.*

Andreas: You said that you also worked at the Charité hospital.  
 Dr. Thürmann: Yes, but that was a long time ago. I was still young then.  
 Andreas: And what did you do there?  
 Dr. Thürmann: A lot, a great deal! I had my own private practice, which I still have today. I still have a lot of patients, young and old. That is very nice.  
 Ex: Patients are nice?  
 Dr. Thürmann: No, Ex. That's not what I meant. The work is nice. I can help people – perhaps I can help you, too!  
 Ex: Me? Why me?  
 Dr. Thürmann: Perhaps I can make you visible?  
 Ex: No, no. I want to remain invisible.  
 Andreas: But I would like to see you!  
 Ex: But I don't want you to!

## **Lesson 26**

### ***Wir wollen doch einfach nur zusammen sein We just want to be together***

*In this lesson you hear a song by the German singer Udo Lindenberg. The words of the song are in the original German.*