

Harry – gefangen in der Zeit

Begleitmaterialien

Episode 004 – Grammar

1. Personal pronouns

All nouns can be replaced by pronouns. Personal pronouns stand in place of people, living beings, things or contexts.

Harry lernt Deutsch.
Er lernt Deutsch.

Harry und Julia nehmen ein Hotel.
Sie nehmen ein Hotel.

There are three personal pronouns for the singular and three for the plural.

Singular	1st person	ich
	2nd person	du
	3rd person	er/sie/es

Plural	1st person	wir
	2nd person	ihr
	3rd person	sie

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The polite form of address

To address strangers and other people in the polite form in German, you use "Sie" instead of "du". "Sie" takes the same verb form as the 3rd person plural ("sie" - they).

But note that unlike the personal pronoun "sie" used for both the 3rd person singular and the 3rd person plural, the polite form of address "Sie" is always capitalized. For example: "Was möchten Sie?"

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2. Regular verbs

German has regular and irregular verbs.

The majority of verbs are regular, meaning that their stem doesn't change when they are conjugated. Their endings change according to the person and number of the subject.

		<i>machen</i>	<i>lernen</i>
Singular	ich	<i>mache</i>	<i>lerne</i>
	du	<i>machst</i>	<i>lernst</i>
	er/sie/es	<i>macht</i>	<i>lernt</i>
Plural	wir	<i>machen</i>	<i>lernen</i>
	ihr	<i>macht</i>	<i>lernt</i>
	sie	<i>machen</i>	<i>lernen</i>

For some regular verbs, an -e- is inserted before the ending in the 2nd and 3rd person singular and the 2nd person plural to make pronunciation easier:

		<i>warten</i>
Singular	ich	<i>warte</i>
	du	<i>wartest</i>
	er/sie/es	<i>wartet</i>

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Plural	wir	warten
	ihr	wartet
	sie	warten

For almost all verbs, the 1st and 3rd person plural in the present tense are the same as the infinitive.

Infinitive:	gehen	lernen	warten
wir	<i>gehen</i>	<i>lernen</i>	<i>warten</i>
sie	<i>gehen</i>	<i>lernen</i>	<i>warten</i>