

Deutsch für die Zukunft - German for the future

German and English are similar

Speakers of English find many words in German that sound and/or look the same as the equivalent English words (called cognates). This is because the English and German languages share the same "grandparent." Here are some examples:

Haus = house	Buch = book
Finger = finger	Hand = hand
Name = name	Ende = end
Mutter = mother	Vater = father
schwimmen = to swim	singen = to sing
kommen = to come	angeln – angling/fishing
blau = blue	windig = windy
jung = young	alt = old

NB: Look out for false friends e.g. the German word 'Gift' means 'poison' in English.

For more on cognates and false friends, visit: https://coerll.utexas.edu/gg/gr/mis_03.html

German words you already use in English!

Maybe you have heard of these German loan words:

kitsch
kaputt
wunderbar
Dachshund
Gesundheit
Kindergarten
Hinterland
Rucksack
Wanderlust
jodeln (yodel)
Pretzel
Bratwurst
Schnitzel
Delikatessen
Fest (e.g. talkfest, Oktoberfest)
Ohrwurm (literally 'ear worm' referring to a song or tune you can't get out of your head)
Poltergeist
Blitz
Quartz
Diesel
Angst
Doppelgänger
Schadenfreude
Wunderkind
Weltschmerz
Realpolitik
Zeitgeist

You can reach higher levels of proficiency in German in a shorter time than many other languages.