

DAY 8: ACTION VERBS & PRESENT TENSE

Week 2: Navigation & Noun Systems • Target Time: 3.5 Hours • Dark Mode Active

PHASE 1: INPUT & ACQUISITION (1.5 HOURS)

Deutsche Welle (Nicos Weg) Instructions

Welcome to Week 2. We are shifting from basic identification to describing actions and hobbies. Complete:

- 1. **Episode 16: Was machst du?** (Focus on the fundamental verb *machen* and common free-time activities).
- 2. **Episode 17: Hobbys** (Observe how the word *gern* is used to express that someone likes doing an action).

Protocol: Notice the verb endings carefully when different people (ich, du, er) are speaking about what they do.

PHASE 2: VOCABULARY MASTERY (1.0 HOUR)

Core Word List (Activities & Hobbies)

Port these into your Anki deck. The verbs listed here are the workhorses of everyday German conversation.

German Term	English Equivalent	Classification / Context
machen	to do / to make	Verb (Regular)
gehen	to go	Verb (Regular)
spielen	to play	Verb (Regular)
hören	to hear / listen to	Verb (Regular)
lesen	to read	Verb (Stem-changing: e → ie)
sehen	to see / watch	Verb (Stem-changing: e → ie)
gern / gerne	gladly / like to (do)	Adverb
das Hobby, -s	the hobby	Noun (Neuter)
die Musik (singular only)	the music	Noun (Feminine)
der Sport (singular only)	the sport	Noun (Masculine)

German Term	English Equivalent	Classification / Context
das Buch, -er (mit Umlaut)	the book	Noun (Neuter)
Fußball	football / soccer	Noun (Masculine - der)

PHASE 3: ACTIVE OUTPUT & GRAMMAR DRILLS (1.0 HOUR)

Grammar Blueprint: Verb Endings & "gern"

1. Complete Present Tense Paradigm

You already know *ich* (-e), *du* (-st), and *Sie/sie* (formal/plural -en). Now add the remaining pronouns:

- **er / sie / es** (he/she/it) → adds **-t**. (e.g., er mach**t**, sie spiel**t**)
- **wir** (we) → adds **-en**. (e.g., wir geh**en**)
- **ihr** (you all - plural informal) → adds **-t**. (e.g., ihr hört**t**)

2. Stem-Changing Verbs (e → ie)

Some common verbs change their stem vowel **only** for the *du* and *er/sie/es* forms.

- **lesen**: ich lese, *du liest*, *er/sie liest*, wir lesen, ihr lest, sie/Sie lesen.
- **sehen**: ich sehe, *du siehst*, *er/sie sieht*, wir sehen, ihr seht, sie/Sie sehen.

3. Using "gern" (Expressing what you like to do)

German doesn't use a verb like "to like" for actions. Instead, use the normal verb and add the adverb **gern** immediately after it.

- Ich spiele **gern** Fußball. = I like playing football. (Lit: I play gladly football.)
- Liest du **gern**? = Do you like reading? (Lit: Read you gladly?)

Mandatory Execution Exercises

Drill A: Conjugation Engine

- Wir _____ (machen) Sport und er _____ (hören) Musik.
- Was _____ (lesen) du?
- Sie (she) _____ (sehen) ein Auto.
- _____ (spielen) ihr Fußball?

Drill B: The "Gern" Syntax (English to German)

- I like listening to music. (Lit: I listen gladly music.)
- Does he like reading books? (Lit: Reads he gladly books?)
- We like playing football.

Drill Answer Key (Verification Module)

Drill A Solutions: (1) machen / hört | (2) liest | (3) sieht | (4) Spielt

Drill B Solutions:

1. Ich höre gern Musik.
2. Liest er gern Bücher? (*Bücher is the plural of Buch*)
3. Wir spielen gern Fußball.