

IM SYLLABUS (2011)

GERMAN

IM 14

SYLLABUS

German IM 14 Syllabus	Available in September 2006 One Paper (3 hours)
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AIMS

The aims of the course leading to German Intermediate are:

- 1) To offer candidates who have successfully completed the SEC syllabus the opportunity of studying German at a higher level:
- 2) To help candidates acquire a higher level than SEC in the following receptive and productive language skills:
 - (a) The ability to understand the spoken language.
 - (b) The ability to read and understand the written language,
 - (c) The ability to write the language,
 - (d) The ability to speak and converse in the language;
- 3) To make the candidates aware of certain aspects of the culture and civilisation of the German-speaking countries which are essential for an understanding of the countries and their peoples;
- 4) To instil in candidates a love for the language and the people who speak it.

The syllabus assumes knowledge of the subject at a good SEC LEVEL. It is recommended that candidates following this syllabus should have obtained at least a Grade 5.

The aim of the syllabus is to consolidate this knowledge to provide a general and coherent view of the subject.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The examination will test the candidate's ability to:

- 1) Take part in a conversation about a general subject, thereby communicating effectively in spoken German;
- 2) Express himself / herself effectively in written German to convey information, ideas and opinions about a particular topic;
- 3) Understand a text written in normal everyday German and react to it appropriately in writing;
- 4) Demonstrate basic knowledge of aspects of the civilisation and culture of the German-speaking countries.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT

The German examination at Intermediate Level will consist of:

- A) An **ORAL PART** of 10 minutes' duration which will carry **15 %** of the global mark,
- B) And a **WRITTEN PAPER** of 3 hours' duration, which will carry **85 %** of the global mark.

All questions and answers will be in German.

No type of book, text book or dictionary is allowed in any examination room.

A) The ORAL PART - 15 points

The Oral Part of the examination will be carried out as follows:

Each candidate will be allowed 10 minutes to read a passage of **200 – 250 words** before entering the examination room. The candidate will not be required to read the text in front of the examiner. This part of the examination aims at testing the candidate's ability to communicate in good spoken German. The examiner will ask questions about the contents of the passage to test the candidate's understanding and ability to express himself / herself in German. The passage will provide material for the conversation. Four passages will be set, out of which one will be allotted at random to the candidate. The passages will be non-literary in style and will not deal with any particular specialised theme. The passages may be descriptive, narrative, argumentative or any combination of these forms.

The candidate may not write on the given text, which will have to be handed back to the examiner. However, **rough paper should be available in the examination room**, and the used sheet will have to be handed to the examiner as well.

B) The WRITTEN PART - total of 85 points

The written part of the examination consists of one paper. This includes

- (a) **A free composition** – which carries **30 points**
- (b) **A comprehension** - which carries **30 points**
- (c) Questions on “*Landeskunde*” i.e. culture and civilisation of the German-speaking countries, - which carry **25 points**.

Ad (a):

The **free composition** of about **250 words** will deal with a subject to be chosen by the candidate from among six topics offered. These will be of the narrative, descriptive and / or argumentative type or any combinations of these forms. The aim of the composition is to test the candidate’s ability to express his / her ideas in writing, whereby the candidate is free to develop the topic in any way he / she likes as long as what is written is relevant.

Ad (b):

The **comprehension** will consist of a passage of modern German of about **250 words** about which a number of questions will be asked. These questions will be intended mainly to examine the candidate’s ability to understand the contents of the passage and to react to them in writing. They may also include, however, some questions about various aspects of fundamental grammar (no indirect speech) and vocabulary items represented in the passage or related to them, e.g. stating whether a given statement is true or false; giving the opposite of words. Knowledge of grammar may be tested by asking the candidate to perform fundamental tasks; e.g. completing sentences using words given in brackets in “raw form”, and similar exercises.

Ad (c):

The section on “*Landeskunde*”, i.e. the culture and civilisation of the German speaking countries will consist of **EIGHT** questions in all, two on each section studied (see list of sections below). Out of these the candidate will choose to answer **FIVE** questions. At least one question has to be answered from each of the four sections and a fifth may be chosen from any section. There will be questions on each of the following sections of “DREIMAL DEUTSCH

“Auf den ersten Blick” – pages 10-11

In addition to the information given in the text, candidates are expected to be able to name the most important geographic features mainly of Germany, including neighbours, towns and cities, waterways, lakes, mountains, forests and *Ballungszentren*; and to answer one basic question each on the geography of Austria and Switzerland.

“Moderne Geschichte” - pages 40-45

“Das alltägliche Leben” - pages 14-17 and “Deutschland aktuell” - pages 54 – 59

“In Deutschland” - pages 60 – 73.

Questions and answers in the *Landeskunde* section will be in German, the aim here is to test the candidate’s knowledge of basic facts relating to the civilization and culture of the German-speaking countries and their peoples. Questions will require short and straightforward answers. They may be of various types and may include multiple choice and true / false questions related to the above mentioned pages of DREIMAL DEUTSCH.

Both teachers and students are to use DREIMAL DEUTSCH published by Ernst Klett International GMBH, Stuttgart, as a text book to prepare for the *Landeskunde* part of the examination.