

Words Borrowed from German

ANGST, AUTOBAHN, EDELWEISS, ERSATZ, GESTALT, GLOCKENSPIEL, HAUSFRAU, HINTERLAND, KAPUTT, KATZENJAMMER, KINDERGARTEN, LEITMOTIV(F), OHM, POLTERGEIST, PRETZEL, RUCKSACK, STREUSEL, VERBOTEN, WANDERLUST, WELTANSCHAUUNG, ZEITGEIST



7. She was the stereotypical _____ until her husband died,” Karp said. “Then she had to become in charge of her own affairs. She became a tough little cookie. She didn’t like injustice.”

8. Pine Rivers, in the beautiful Brisbane _____ offers a range of rural retreats and attractions within easy driving distance of Brisbane.

9. Polish postal workers did their part even to the point of fixing small gummed stamps with the slogan “Germany _____” to etters from the Russian front which passed through their hands on their way to the Reich.

10. Terrorism and the threat of terrorism have caused the U.S. Postal Service to rethink how it does business. The satellite post office on Lady’s Island was closed with little fanfare from the postal service but much _____ in the community.

11. Countries were indirectly affected by the blockade, included Sweden during World War II. Here, a gas produced from boiling wood (gengas) was used as an _____ gasoline.

12. The Ring is the biggest masterpiece of classical music using the _____ and is for me the best work of maestro Richard Wagner.

13. On our return from Kaprun we go much higher up, where we first find the famous _____ flower, which used to be depicted on the back of the Austrian one-schilling coin.

14. The slim and breezy volume is packed to the brim with anecdotes drawn from the author’s personal experiences. Each chapter explores a different aspect of the Mafioso _____: “Wiseguys Are Not Nice Guys,” “Wiseguy Table Manners,” “Wiseguy Nicknames,” “A Few Things Wiseguys Won’t Do,” “How Wiseguys Carry Out a Hit,” and one the “Sopranos” writers should particularly note, “Wiseguys Are Cheap.”

15. _____ is German for the ‘spirit of the age’ and means the general intellectual and moral state or temper characteristic of any period of time.

Avocabo Unit 46

Exercise 46-1 Fill in the blanks

Complete each sentence with the most appropriate list word.
(22 marks)

1. By the end of _____, students usually understand small numbers, quantities and simple shapes in the everyday environment.

2. The myth of no speed limits is countered by the fact that limits are a fact of life on most of Germany’s _____, and traffic jams are common.

3. If you ever travel to Germany you will quickly learn this word. Whenever there is a prohibition, the signs say: This is _____.

4. Each actor to appear on stage is accompanied by a musical phrase on the drum – a sort of _____ to characterise an emotion, much like a Wagnerian drama.

5. A rational _____ is not based on any holy script or guru, but only on rational thinking. A logical combination of a basic unproven assumption with scientific facts, philosophical elements and own experience leads to an individual rational philosophy of life.

6. The _____ uses rectangular metal plates as a sound source. The instrument can be employed instead of tuned bells.

16. The ideal way to collect things from the beach is to have a _____. This leaves both hands free to draw and collect things, and you can carry a lot of stuff home on your back.

17. A very strong or even irresistible impulse to travel is called _____.

18. The relationship between voltage, amperage and resistance is called _____ law.

19. Created in 1897 by Rudolph Dirks, the _____ Kids is the only existing comic strip from the 19th century.

20. Steven Spielberg took the road less travelled with _____, a classic haunted house tale set amid cookie-cutter homes and under picturesque suburban skies.

21. Bush lost his consciousness for a brief time in the White House on Sunday evening while eating a(n) _____ and watching a professional football game on television.

22. A recipe for delicious apple muffins spiced with cinnamon with a crunchy _____ topping was presented last week on TV.

Exercise 46-2: Making Connections
In a few sentences describe the relationship between each pair of words. (5 marks x 2 = 10 marks)

1. Pretzel Bavaria

2. Poltergeist castle

3. kaputt Hitler

4. Munich Glockenspiel

5. Edelweiss Austria

Exercise 46-3: True or false
Indicate whether each list word is used correctly in the following sentences (5 marks)

1. The Austrian mountain climber Reinhold Messner, who was the first human to climb Mount Everest, said during an interview last week, that his *wanderlust* would last forever.

2. The *weltanschauung* of the Nazis was a sick imagination including that Jews weren't humans.

3. Many people are afraid of the *zeitgeist* who lives in castles and scares people by making strange noises.

4. The girl didn't like having *Edelweiss* for lunch and told her parents to buy something else at the grocery store.

5. This lady never leaves her house. She cleans every single room every day, does the laundry and cooks. She's a perfect *hausfrau*!

Exercise 46-4 Synonyms
Circle the word closest in meaning to the displayed list word (5 marks)

1. ersatz
 a) substitute b) help c) reinforcement

2. gestalt
 a) child b) figure c) animal

3. kaputt

a) destroyed b) run-down c) old

4. weltanschauung

a) news b) ideology c) attitude

5. rucksack

a) luggage b) backpack c) pocket

___ Gutenberg

___ Albert Einstein

___ Adolf Hitler

___ Jan Ulrich

___ Boris Becker

___ Karl Marx

Exercise 46- 5: Anagrams

Unscramble the words and phrases to produce a list word.
(9 marks)

_____ 1. ENTERING DARK

_____ 2. SET RULES

_____ 3. GNATS

_____ 4. HID LANTERN

_____ 5. I LIFT MOTE

_____ 6. WHEN ACTUAL GUNS

_____ 7. PINK COLLEGES

_____ 8. SPOTTIER LEG

_____ 9. SEE WIELDS

Exercise 46-6 German personalities

Match each of the following German personalities with his/her description that follow. (11 marks -- there are more answers than descriptions)

___ Helmut Kohl

___ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

___ Michael Schumacher

___ Konrad Adenauer

___ Erwin Rommel

___ Wolfgang Petersen

___ Otto von Bismarck

___ Max Planck

1. He is probably the most famous German writer who met with Beethoven. His most successful work is called 'Faust'.

2. He is the most successful racing driver of all times. He has won six championships, four of them with Ferrari.

3. German composer. He lived from 1685-1750 and died in Eisenach. One of his works is the Suite called *Air*.

4. Poet, he wrote poems like *The Surety* and *The Bell* and lived in Weimar like another German poet.

5. The first German chancellor after World War II. He developed a great relationship with the USA.

6. He lived in Medieval Times and invented the printing press.

7. This physician was a genius and invented the theory of relativity.

8. This German chancellor was responsible for the German reunion in 1989 caused by the fall of the Wall. He was an excellent foreign politician.

9. This director made movies like 'The Boat', 'The Storm' or 'Troy'.

10. Chancellor of the German Reich. Before that he was PM of Prussia

11. He won Wimbledon at the age of 17.

This Avocabo Unit by Stefan Dandl, May 2004