

**THE WERNER MODERN
LANGUAGE SERIES.
INDUCTIVE GERMAN
METHOD; BOOK FIRST**

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The Werner Modern Language Series. Inductive German Method; Book First by M. J. Martin

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M. J. MARTIN

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THE WERNER MODERN LANGUAGE SERIES.

**Inductive
German Method**

By

M. J. Martin, A. M.

BOOK FIRST



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PREFACE.

THE series of German text books, of which this is the first, will consist of four books, inductively and progressively developed, and will be accompanied by a complete Compendium of German Grammar, together with a copy book for learning German script.

The plan of the Inductive Series has been developed on the principle that it is much easier and pleasanter to ascend a gently inclined plane than to scale the steep and rugged side of a mountain. It also proceeds on the assumption that every beginner in the study of a foreign language is a child in that language, whatever may be his age or his attainments in other respects.

In accordance with these principles — and for some other reasons — the exercises of this First Book have been composed entirely in monosyllables. This has necessitated the omission of the dative ending *e* in all cases, even where its retention would have been preferable. But as this ending is frequently omitted, especially in colloquial language, this will prove no appreciable defect in style. In the Second Book no word of more than two syllables will be used in the exercises, in the Third, no word of more than three, while in the Fourth Book no such limitations will be imposed. This progressive arrangement will be found to facilitate the acquisition of the German pronunciation in no small degree, while its mechanical advantages will be apparent in the greater uniformity and symmetry of the vocabularies and exercises of the earlier books.

The treatment of the subject of German Pronunciation must always remain difficult, and in a measure unsatisfactory, owing to the lack of agreement among Germans themselves. No set of rules can be formulated which would be accepted as correct by all German scholars. In this work the author has in the main followed Wilhelm Vletor in his "German Pronunciation," than whom there is probably no better authority in the German-speaking world.

The grammatical work of the series has necessarily been introduced fragmentarily and to a great extent disconnectedly — "here

a little, and there a little"—but this is no great defect. The proper method for a beginner is to learn grammar as **points**. At a more advanced stage he should study grammar as a **system**. But notwithstanding its fragmentary development, this department will be found more full and complete than is usual with works of this class.

It is always easy for a beginner to translate properly graded exercises from a foreign language into his own. It is by no means so easy, however, when the process is reversed. This is wholly owing to lack of familiarity with the foreign words and forms, and the difficulty encountered at the outset in pronouncing them. Common sense, therefore, would seem to indicate the arrangement which the author has made in this series; i. e., placing the English exercises of each book after all the German exercises, to be studied in their proper order.

The English exercises given in Lessons XIV-XXIII correspond to the German exercises in Lessons V-XIII and are a translation of the same. This reciprocal relation will be especially beneficial to those who are compelled to pursue the study of German, if at all, without the aid of a teacher.

In regard to character of language used the author has aimed at a free and colloquial style in both languages as being of more practical value and interest to the beginner than the stilted and unnatural style so often seen in language text books.

The Compendium of German Grammar has been projected to supply for advanced students the necessary defects of the Inductive Method. After the student has learned the points of grammar in detail, he should then study them systematically and connectedly. But while intended to accompany and supplement the Inductive Series, the Compendium has been made complete in itself and independent of the series.

Every student of German should learn to write the German script. Accordingly, to facilitate acquisition in this department, the author has deemed it best to prepare a special copy book in which the peculiarities of the German written characters could be plainly, progressively, and fully set before the student.

Lesson I.

The Alphabet.

The German Alphabet contains 26 letters for which Gothic characters are generally used, as shown in the following

Table.					
Form.	Name.	Corresponding English Letter.	Form.	Name.	Corresponding English Letter.
Ⓐ	Ah.	A	Ⓔ	Enn.	N
Ⓑ	Bay.	B	⓪	Oh.	O
Ⓒ	Tsay.	⓪	Ⓟ	Pay.	P
Ⓓ	Day.	D	⓬	Koo.	Q
Ⓔ	Ay.	E	Ⓔ	*Err.	R
Ⓕ	Eff.	F	Ⓔ	Ess.	S
Ⓖ	Gay.	G	Ⓔ	Tay.	T
Ⓕ	Hah.	H	⓯	Oo.	U
Ⓔ	Ee.	I	Ⓟ	Fow.	V
Ⓔ	Yott.	J	Ⓟ	Vay.	W
Ⓔ	Kah.	K	Ⓔ	Icks.	X
Ⓔ	Ell.	L	Ⓔ	Ipselon.	Y
Ⓜ	Emm.	M	Ⓔ	Tsett.	Z

*Pronounce like er in error.

Lesson II.

Letters Similar in Form.

Capitals.				Small Letters.					
B	bay	and	B	fow.	b	bay	and	b	day.
C	tsay	"	C	ay.	b	bay	"	h	han.
D	day	"	D	oh.	c	tsay	"	e	ay.
G	gay	"	G	ess.	f	eff	"	f	ess.
J	ee	"	J	tay.	m	emm	"	w	vay.
K	kah	"	K	err.	n	enn	"	u	oo.
M	emm	"	M	vay.	r	err	"	z	icks.
N	enn	"	N	err.	v	fow	"	h	ipelon.
O	oh	"	O	koo.					

Letters with the Same Form.

Capital **J**, **ee**, and capital **J**, **yott**, have the same form. They are distinguished as follows, viz.:

a. Capital **J**, **ee**, is always followed by a consonant; as in **Jdec**, **Jnhalt**.

b. Capital **J**, **yott**, is always followed by a vowel; as in **Jagd**, **Joh**, **Junker**.

Letters with More than One Form.

Small **ess** has two forms, **f** and **s**. They are distinguished in their use as follows, viz.:

a. Long **ess**, **f**, is used at the beginning or in the middle of a word or syllable; as in **fo**, **spät**, **le-sen**, **ift**.

b. Short **ess**, **s**, is used only at the end of a word or syllable; as in **des Abends**, **dies-seits**, **Wes-pe**.

Classification of Letters.

Letters are classified according to the character of the sounds which they represent. Primarily and generically the sounds of a language are divided into **vowels** and **consonants**.

Vowels.

Vowels—German *Stimmlaute*, voice-sounds— are sounds produced by the vibration of the vocal cords and modified by the configuration of the vocal passage.

The German vowels are represented by the letters *a, e, i, o, u, y*, which are themselves also called vowels.

An important distinction to be observed in connection with German vowels is that of **open** and **close**.

An **open** vowel is one produced with the vocal passage quite **open**.

A **close** vowel is one produced with the vocal passage more or less **constricted**, or **closed**.

The most open vowel is *a*, the closest vowel is *i*. The other vowels range between these two extremes.

The primary vowels are *a, i, u*. The other vowels are derived from these by modification.

Consonants.

Consonants—German *Witllaute*, with-sounds— are sounds produced by squeezing or stopping the outgoing breath at some part of the vocal passage.

The German consonants are represented by the letters *b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, z*, which are themselves also called consonants.

The "squeezed" consonants are called **continuants**. They are *c=z, f, i, l, r, s, v, w, x, z*.

The "stopped" consonants are called **explodents**, or **stops**. They are *b, c=k, d, g, k, m, n, p, q, t*.

NOTE 1.—The above division into **continuants** and **stops** corresponds very nearly, but not exactly, with the more usual division into **fricatives** and **mutes**.

NOTE 2.—*ç* does not come under any definition of consonant, although reckoned as such in most European languages. It is simply and purely a **breath-sound**, and is more fitly represented as in Greek by the subordinate rough breathing than by a coordinate letter, as in other European languages.

Modification of Letters.

Modification applies to the three vowels **a, o, u**, which are then called **umlauts**. (Pronounce oom-louts.)

The modification of these vowels consists in fusing with each of them the sound represented by the letter **e**.

The modification of these **vowel-sounds** is indicated by a corresponding modification of the **vowel-signs**.

The modification of the **vowel-signs** consists in adding two small strokes above them, as, **Ä, ä, Ö, ö, Ü, ü**.

NOTE.—The umlaut was originally indicated by writing **e** on the line after the vowel to be modified; as, **Ae, ae, Oe, oe, Ue, ue**. This method of indicating the umlaut is still seen in proper names; as **Goethe**, for **Göthe**. Later the **e** diminished, was written **above** in the case of small letters; as, **ä, ö, ü**.

Combination of Letters.

Combination applies to both **vowels** and **consonants**.

a. **Vowel combinations** are called **double vowels** and **diphthongs**.

(¹) A **double vowel** is formed by the repetition of the **same vowel** in the **same syllable**; as in **Aal, Meer**.

(²) A **diphthong** is formed by the combination of **two different vowels** in the **same syllable**; as in **Hain, mei-ne, Haus, Häu-ser, heu-te**.

b. **Consonant combinations** are called **double consonants**, **digraphs**, and **trigraphs**.

(¹) A **double consonant** is formed by the repetition of the **same consonant**, whether in the **same** or in a **different syllable**; as in **Lamm, Sam-mer**.

(²) A **digraph** is formed by the combination of **two different consonants** which either represent a sound peculiar to the combination, as in **th**; or are the orthographic equivalent of a simple consonant, as in **ph=f, th=t**, or of a double consonant, as in **ff=ff, ss=ss**.

(³) A **trigraph** is formed by the combination of **three different consonants** which either represent a