

# **GERMAN PRIMER, WITH EXERCISES**

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German Primer, with Exercises by A. C. Clapin

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**A. C. CLAPIN**

**GERMAN PRIMER,  
WITH EXERCISES**



# GERMAN PRIMER

WITH

## EXERCISES.

BY THE

REV. A. C. CLAPIN, M.A.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, AND BACHELIER-ÈS-LETTRES OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF FRANCE;  
EXAMINER IN FRENCH AND GERMAN FOR THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE  
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1883.

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## P R E F A C E.

THIS little book contains all that is required for pupils whose aim is to learn to translate freely German classical authors, and to acquire some facility in framing a German sentence.

The modern phonetic orthography, sanctioned in 1880 by the Prussian Government, and recommended to be taught in Prussian schools, is as yet so new, that it has not had time to find its way into the general literature of Germany; we have consequently retained the old spelling in this Primer, calling, however, attention, from time to time, to the modern form of the words.

The main alterations introduced in 1880 are the following:—

1. The modified vowels, whether used as capitals or as small letters, take the *umlaut* sign above them.
2. The termination formerly spelt *niff* is now written *nif*. The plural form ends in *niffe*.
3. The terminations formerly spelt *thum* and *thüm* are now written *tum* and *tüm* respectively.
4. The letter *h* before a vowel is dropped in a

number of words and their derivatives, whose vowels are obviously long without it:—

Thus, for *Thier*, *Theil*, *Tau*, *theuer*, &c.,  
write *Lier*, *Teil*, *Tau*, *teuer*, &c.

N.B.—The *h* is retained in the following words and their derivatives:—*Thal*, *Thaler*, *That*, *Thee*, *Thon*, *Thor* (der and *daß*), *Thran*, *Thrane*, *Thron*, *thun*, *Thür*, and in all foreign words commencing with *th*.

5. The *h* is also to be left out in the following words and their derivatives:—

Armuth	Gluth	Muth	rathen	Thurm
Arhem	Koth	Roth	Räthfel	Werth
Blüthe	Loth	nöthigen	roth	werth
Fluth	Meth	Pathe	Röthe	Wirth
Geräth	Miethe	Rath	Ruthe	Wuth,

which are now written *Armut*, *Atem*, &c.

6. The letter *v* is to be dropped in the following words and their derivatives:—

Brod	gefcheidt	todt	Lodtschlag
Erndte	Schwerdt	tödten	Lodtengräber,

which are now spelt *Brot*, *Ernte*, &c.

N.B.—Adj. *tot*; noun *Tod*.

7. The following words drop one vowel in the root syllable—

baar	Maaf	Schaar	Waage (die)
Heerd	Schaaf	Schoof	Waagen (der)
Loos	Schaale	seelig	Waare,
loofen	Schaam	Staar	&c., &c.

N.B.—The following retain their double vowel :—

Kal	Beet	leer	Paar	Saat
Kar	Boot (die)	Meer	Reede	Seele
Kas	Entree	Moor	reel	Leer
Beere	Kaffee	Moos	Saal	Thee.

8. Words that end in *e* are to retain the *e* before inflexions forming independent syllables, e.g. *Knieen*, *Seeen*, &c.

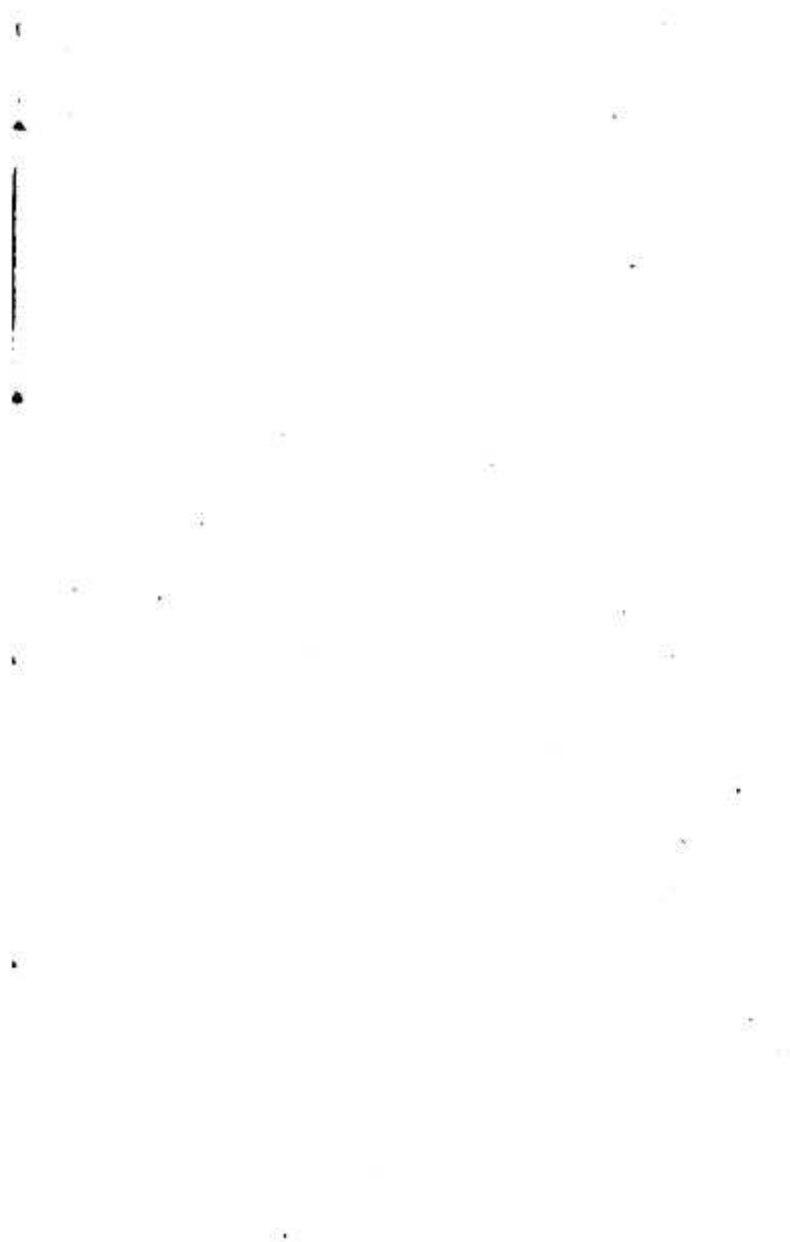
9. In all cases the infinitive termination *ieren* is to be written instead of *iren*.

10. It is not necessary to mark the genitive case of a proper name by an apostrophe and *s*, e.g. *Ciceros Briefe*. It is, however, necessary to mark with an apostrophe the genitive case of proper names that end with a sibilant in the nom. sing., e.g. *Dosß's* *Suisse*, *Demosthenes' Reden*.



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German Hand-writing.  
Capitals.

A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K,  
L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U,  
V, W, X, Y, Z.

Small Letters.

a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k,  
l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u,  
v, w, x, y, z.  
s final = *ſ*; double letters = *ff* = *ss*, *ß* = *sz*.  
modified vowels: *ä*, *ö*, *ü*.

Specimens of Writing.

Arm, Baum, Louw, Süßflam,  
England, Frankreich, Geist, Hölz,  
Karl, Haak, Johann, Krankheit,  
lieben, müssen, nützen, Ankauf,  
Geyn, Qualla, Raife, Hümm  
und, vor, wenn, Laxier, York,  
Zeit.