

6 Short Stories for A1 Level Students

Part I: Six Short Stories for A1 students

If you have recently started to learn German, you will enjoy these six short stories with easy-to-follow narratives, lots of dialogues, a simple sentence structure and comprehensive vocabulary lists.

1. Der erste Tag in der Sprachschule

Ming from China comes to Heidelberg to attend a course at a language school and stay with a German family. The text tells you about her first day interacting with her guest family and the other students.

2. Urlaub in Peru

This is a short story written in the form of a diary entry. The narrator tells you about her recent trip to Peru, mentioning the places she visited and how she liked them.

3. Verschwunden im Möbelgeschäft

Hanna and Tobias need new furniture. Together with their 4-years old son Jonas, they go to a big IKEA store. Suddenly, Jonas disappears. His parents start to panick but an employee comes to their rescue.

4. Lena

Lena, a 95-years old woman from the north of Germany talks about her family, her life now and when she was younger and about her wishes for the future.

5. Was hast du am Wochenende gemacht?

Two colleagues meet at the office on Monday morning and tell each other how they spent their weekend. One of them spent the weekend with her sister and the other one went on a city trip to Barcelona.

6. Training für Hugo

This story is set in the 23rd century. A family purchases a new robot which needs to be trained to do the family's shopping properly. During his training, some things go a bit wrong.

6 Short Stories for A2 Level Students

Part II: Six Short Stories for A2 students

At the A2 level, you are already familiar with the regular past tense and know the most important connectors that start subordinate phrases. The six short stories of this part are considerably longer than those of part I but the language is adapted to your level and with the help of the vocabulary lists, you will find it easy and enjoyable to read and understand the stories. Don't worry if you stumble across grammar you're not yet familiar with.

7. Die neuen Nachbarn

Vanessa gets excited when she sees that they are going to get new neighbours and urges her mother to visit them. That way, she meets a family from a different culture, makes a new friend and even improves her language skills.

8. Die Briefftasche

Markus is in a hurry and loses his wallet. An honest person finds it and this leads to an unexpected encounter with someone from his past.

9. Erzähl mir von früher

Sarah is 10 years old and very lucky because she still has a great-grandmother who is telling her what life and school was like when she was Sarah's age.

10. Interview mit Rebekka

Rebekka grew up in the Jewish ghetto in Warsaw and lost almost her whole family in the Holocaust. However, she got married to a German doctor and eventually moved to Germany.

11. Die Blumenverkäuferin

A mysterious man buys a bunch of tulips every Saturday but never speaks a word with Miriam, the shop-assistent. Suddenly, something happens. Miriam finds out why the man bought all those flowers and her own life takes an adventurous turn.

12. Marco läuft weg

Marco is 12 years old and hates school. He wants to become a drummer. One day, he runs away from home and takes a train to Hamburg where he wants to find a job and become a famous musician.

6 Short Stories for B1 Level Students

Part III: Six Short Stories for B1 students

As a B1 level student, you are already able to read quite fluently. You're okay with all basic grammatical concepts but know that you will need to work on your vocabulary. At this point, reading extensively will help you to amplify your vocabulary in a natural and brain-friendly way. The six short stories you will find on the following pages aren't extremely challenging as far as grammar is concerned (with the exception of the continuous use of irregular past tense forms) but you're likely to encounter a lot of new words.

13. Begegnung in Marrakesch

Marie is 17 and prefers to be with animals instead of humans. So she's not at all happy when she has to share a room with her noisy and social sister Daria during a family vacation in Morocco. The encounter with a cat in Marrakech changes her life forever.

14. Die Osterüberraschung

Martina is pleasantly surprised when her boy-friend Robert, who normally hates travelling, invites her to an Easter surprise trip. It's not the warm beach destination Martina had hoped for but the trip turns out to be extraordinary.

15. Der Unfall

Martin rides his bike in the forest near Augsburg and becomes unconscious after an accident. A strange family living in a hut next to the forest helps him to get to Augsburg but the city that Martin returns to is not the one he left just a couple of hours ago.

16. Begegnung mit Goethe

This story tells you how Germany's most famous poet, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, and his future wife Christiane met each other. It's based on historical facts but includes some fictional details.

17. Weihnachtsbesuch

Ramona and her brother Ralf are shocked when their parents tell them that they intend to get divorced after 35 years of marriage. Although they both had different plans for

Christmas, they immediately decide to travel to their hometown Hamburg and talk their parents out of their crazy idea.

18. Vampiraffären

Whenever a vampire gets killed, the vampire community comes together to decide which human being will have the honor to join them. This time, teenage vampire Henry is chosen to bite a young girl and turn her into a vampire. Things don't go quite as planned, though.

6 Short Stories for B2 Level Students

Part IV: Six Short Stories for B2 students

Congratulations! As a B2 student, you've mastered all essential aspects of German grammar and have enough vocabulary under your belt to read and understand even slightly complicated texts. You may not dare yet to tackle literature written for native speakers but will surely enjoy the six short stories of this last part.

19. Ein nicht ganz gewöhnlicher Tag

Are you familiar with those absolutely disastrous days when absolutely everything goes wrong? This is what happens to Kirsten when she experiences job, relationship and financial problems on the same day. Will she be able to solve them?

20. Mischa

Mischa is homeless and it has snowed. He's desperately looking for a place to warm up and get some food. He manages to slip into an apartment. Will he meet kind human beings who are willing to help him?

21. Ein Koffer aus Argentinien

Manuel receives a letter from a lawyer telling him that his Argentinian grandmother who he had never met has died and has passed a suitcase on to him. Will that suitcase give him more information about his paternal family that his deceased mother never talked about?

22. Die Hexe von Bamberg

Helene is a young midwife and healer from the 17th century who lives in Bamberg. One day, she's accused of being a witch and convicted of being burnt. Will she find a way to save her life and escape the cruel witch hunters of Bamberg?

23. Ein ungewöhnlicher Dieb

Detective Torsten Meier of Frankfurt Police has to deal with an unusual series of burglaries in one of the richest neighbourhoods of the city. Will he manage to solve the case and catch the thief?

24. Reset

In 2200, Earth has become inhabitable and the number of human beings has decreased to 500,000. A group of scientists is convinced that there's no future for humanity. They leave the planet on a spaceship and with a crazy plan. Will they be able to save the human race?