



AS-level German @ Ballyclare High

2024-2025

**Teachers: Mrs Kennedy, Mrs McQuoid,
& Mrs S Kent**

Course Outline

Exam Board: CCEA

100% External Assessment.

At AS level and at A2, students are assessed through **Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing** examinations. There is one examination series each Summer.

Unit	Assessment Format	Duration	Weightings
AS 1: Speaking	Question 1: presentation	3 minutes	30 marks
	Question 2: conversation	8 minutes	45 marks
		Total time: 11 minutes	Total marks: 75
			30% of AS level 12% of A level
AS 2: Listening, Reading and Use of Language	Section A – Listening	40 minutes	25 marks
	Students answer two sets of questions based on two discrete passages recorded on disk.		
	Recording 1: students answer in German.		
	Recording 2: students answer in English.		
		50 minutes	
			20 marks

Section B – Reading

Question 1: students answer one set of questions in German based on one passage.

Question 2: students translate a passage from German into English. 20 marks

Section C – Use of Language 30 minutes 35 marks

Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4: students complete a series of short grammatical and lexical exercises.

Question 5: students translate short sentences from English into German.

Total time: 2 hours Total marks: 100

**40% of AS level
16% of A level**

AS 3: Extended Writing

Students write one essay, in German, in response to a set film or literary text. 1 hour

**Total marks: 75
30% of AS level
12% of A level**



How does AS level German differ from GCSE German?

- Less pre-learnt material, more spontaneity and drive towards oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- Timetabled speaking classes with the native speaking assistant (40 mins).
- Five hours of timetabled class with teachers per week.
- More independent learning and 'reading around' the subject.
- A steady sprint towards the exam in May; no time to waste or sit back.
- Experience dictates that an A* at GCSE does not necessarily lead to an A at AS-level.
- AS A-grade candidates in the past have **worked consistently** from September to May, have **learned their vocabulary** and grammar, have **persevered**, have coped with the unpredictability of the subject, have made every opportunity to **speak German**, have listened to and read a variety of authentic German, and have had an e-pal in Germany.

What should I see my child doing at home?

- At least 4 hours of German per week.
- Learning **large volumes** of vocabulary and grammar; experience shows this is best managed **little but often**, on a nightly basis.
- Completing set reading and listening homeworks.
- Independently researching for complex linguistic structures to use in essays and writing essays.
- Accessing authentic German websites and reading German news online.
- Using the online learning platform Google Classroom to further practise listening and reading.
- Using a language learning app on their smartphone such as duolingo.

What if I have concerns?

- Early intervention is the key. Don't let it linger. Pick up the phone and ask to speak to Mrs Kennedy, Mrs McQuoid or Mrs Kent.
- Talk to your son/daughter about their German. Ask them to talk through what they are learning and how they are managing their workload.