

Chapter 9: Die eigenen vier Wände („My own four walls“, My home)

A wie Anfang (p. 124)

Here you can see the layout of an apartment. Read the descriptions and match the text with correct room in the layout.

Jetzt geht's los!

In the chapter 9, the characters in this textbook explain, where and how they live.

In this chapter you will learn:

- to describe your neighbourhood
- the declination of the German adjectives

Sprechen wir mal! (p. 127)

Describing your neighbourhood

Wie wohnen Sie / wohnst du?

What is your home like (formal/informal)

**Ich wohne in einem Hochhaus / Reihenhaus
Einfamilienhaus.**

I live in a block of flats / in a single family home.

**Ich wohne in einer Einzimmerwohnung /
Dreizimmerwohnung / WG.**

*I live in a one bedroom flat / in a three bedroom flat / in a
shared student accomdation.*

Die Wohnung hat 75 Quadratmeter.

The apartment is 75 m².

Die Wohnung ist in gutem Zustand.

The apartment is in a good condition.

Wie ist die Miete?

How much is the rent?

Die Miete ist hoch / niedrig / in Ordnung.

The rent high / low / okay.

Ich wohne in einer Eigentumswohnung.

I own my own flat.

Tell your partner about your home.

(p. 128)

1. a) Read the unit text and describe how the characters in the text book live. (eg. where, what kind of a place, with whom, location ...)

b) Talk with your partner in German, what their homes are like.

2. a) In the unit text you'll find the opposites of the given adjectives.

b) Write three sentences using words from the exercise 2a.

When you learn words in pairs, you'll remember them better.

(p. 129)

3. Talk about the content of the chapter by using the given words.

Ayla and Tobias: a month / two-bedroom-apartment / 65 m² / condition / location / enjoying it

Tomi: student flat / two weeks / room mates / rent

Ursula and Markus: single family home / empty / workroom / garden / nature

(p. 130)

4. Hanna Lahti tells us, how she lives in Munich. Fill in the missing words as given.

1. moved / has moved
2. town
3. two-bedroom-apartment
4. in good condition
5. rent
6. neighbourhood / district
7. location
8. lively
9. nature
10. enjoy

(p. 131)

5. Fill in a proper reflexive verb from the box.

(p. 132)

Grammar

The declination of adjectives

- Adjectives preceding nouns must be declined.
- Adjectives are declined in two different ways.

Find the following expressions in the main text.

sopiva asunto =	a suitable apartment
iso talo =	a big house
kiva parveke =	a nice balcony (accusative)
kauniissa omakotitalossa =	in a beautiful single family home
pienessä asunnossa =	in a small apartment

(p. 133)

- If the article indicates the gender and singularity/plurality (m. /n. / f./ plural) and the case (nominative, accusative, dative) → the adjective takes the ending –e or –en.

Use this declination:

- after the definite articles der, der, das, die (plural)
- after the indefinite article eine
- after the pronoun dieser/dieses/diese/diese (plural)
- in plural after the word alle
- after that articles that have an ending: e.g. einem, deinen, seiner etc.

After the articles with an ending, the adjective always takes the ending –en.
If there more adjectives, they all take the same ending: der schöne kleine Garten.

Find some more expressions in the main text.

viihtyisä olohuone =	a cosy living room
vilkas kaupunginosa =	a lively neighbourhood / district
kivoja pubeja =	nice pubs
hyvässä kunnossa =	in a good condition
kivojen kämppäkavereiden kanssa =	with nice room mates
täynnä kivoja muistoja =	full of nice memories

- If the article doesn't indicate the gender of the noun or if there isn't any article → the adjective takes the endings of the article.
- The endings are the same as with the definite articles.

6. Fill in the missing adjective endings.

(p. 134)

7. Fill in the missing adjective endings.

(p. 135)

8. Fill in the missing adjective endings.

9. Tell your partner what you like about your own home or about your neighbourhood. Change the underlined adjectives and think about the adjective endings.

(p. 136)

10. Have this discussion with your partner. Choose the role and cover the other part. Read out the sentence in bold in German. Your partner will help you if needed.

Tobias	Ayla
What would you like to do today, Ayla?	Was möchtest du heute machen. Ayla?.
Ich möchte vielleicht einen kleinen Spaziergang machen.	Perhaps I'd like to go for a short walk.
I don't know. The weather isn't so good.	Ich weiß nicht, Das Wetter ist nicht so gut.
Aber es regnet nicht.	But it's not raining.
Let's rather go for a walk tomorrow when the weather is beautiful.	Gehen wir lieber morgen bei schönem Wetter spazieren.
In Ordnung. / Einverstanden. Hast du dann einen anderen Vorschlag für heute?	Okay. Do you have another suggestion for today?
The Badeschiff has a sauna. Would you like to go for a sauna?	Das Badeschiff hat eine Sauna. Möchtest du in die Sauna gehen?
Lieber nicht.	I'd rather not.
What would you like to suggest?	Was schlägst du denn vor?
Eigentlich habe ich Lust, ins Kino zu gehen. (Eigentlich möchte ich ins Kino gehen.)	As a matter of fact, I'd like to go to the movies.
That's a good idea. What would you like to see?	Das ist eine gute Idee. Was möchtest du sehen?
Im (Kino) Zoopalast läuft ein interessanter Film um halb sieben.	There's an interesting movie at half past six in Zoopalast.
Okay.	Alles klar. / Einverstanden. / In Ordnung.

(p. 137)

11. Listen to Anke's and Tobias' conversation twice. First read the words in the box. Make some notes about what the speaker says about these topics. Then recap the whole conversation with the given words.

breakfast _____

balcony _____

Badeschiff _____

Club der Visionäre _____

Boxhagener Platz _____

der Landwehrkanal Landwehr canal

sich entspannen relax

der Schrank, -e+ chest of drawers

(p. 138)

12. Read the text about the Oberbaumbrücke and answer the questions in German.

der Turm tower

die Teilung division (of Berlin)

der Bezirk district

trennen to separate

bemalen to paint

an/ziehen to attract

The East Germans began to build to Berlin wall in 1961. The wall fell in 1989. The Federal Republic of Germany and the GDR were united the following year. The German Parliament (der Bundestag) decided to relocate the capital from Bonn to Berlin.

(p. 139)

Self-assessment

Chapters 7-9

Evaluate your own learning and progress.

Can you...

- talk about your home
- describe your neighbourhood
- talk about work
- say something about your job
- use the two-way prepositions
- use reflexive verbs
- decline adjectives

If you replied “Yes, I can”;

6-7 times:

Great! Keep up the good work!

4-5 times:

You need to do a little more fine-tuning, but keep up the good work!

0-3 times:

Have a little time-out and recap things you don't know yet.