

Pass auf! Study Guide
for the Texas State German Contests
updated September 2025

Excerpts from the rules with *commentary/tips*:

1. Varsity teams and Novice teams compete in separate tournaments.
2. A **Varsity team** consists of up to 7 students who are in any level of German, with the exception of exchange students from German-speaking countries. A school may enter 1 Varsity team. *As of contest year 2026, advantaged students are eligible to compete.*
3. A **Novice team** consists of up to 7 German I and German II students who have never played in a regional or State *Pass auf!* competition (no exchange students from German-speaking countries). A school may enter 1 Novice team. Novice teams do not advance to State. **High schools may enter a Novice team only if they are also entering a Varsity team.** *Notice that middle schools are not included in that last sentence.*
4. No more than 5 students per team may play at a time. *But you can certainly play with fewer than 5!*
- 5.
- 6.
7. Each team must designate a **captain**. This is the only person from whom an answer may be accepted, unless for a particular question the captain designates one of the other team members to give the answer.
8. Each game consists of **25 questions**, 5 questions each from the following categories: Arts & Letters, Current Events & Special Topic, *Erdkunde*, History & Politics, and Odds & Ends. For each category, there will be 1 question each valued at 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 points, based upon difficulty. *At State only, there may be questions with audio or visual components (visual: flags D-A-CH-FL, coats of arms D-A-CH-FL and Bundesländer D-A, location of Bundesländer D-A on map, famous people, landmarks, artworks, architecture styles, foods; audio is likely still several years down the road, if ever).* Except in the *Erdkunde* category, the main language of the questions and answers is English, but some questions in the other four categories may contain German words and/or require answers in German. The categories may include but are not limited to the following types of information:
 - Arts & Letters:** literature, fairy/folk tales, drama, cinema, philosophy, theology, music and composers, art, architecture, scientists, inventors, etc.
 - Current Events & Special Topic:** “Current Events” covers events from the prior calendar year through the date of contest (*but most of the questions will cover events occurring between August and the date of contest*). Each year a special topic is announced (*see contest websites for the current year’s topic*). *In most rounds, there will be 2 questions of one type (current events or special topic) and 3 of the other.*
 - Erdkunde:** geography; questions will be asked in German and must be answered in German (*see vocabulary list on p. 2 of this document*).
 - History & Politics:** early German history (beginnings through the Folk Migrations), the Middle Ages, the Reformation, the 17th and 18th centuries, the 19th century, the World Wars, the post-WWII period, German-American history, Texas-German history, government, the European Union, political parties, etc.
 - Odds & Ends:** proverbs (*see list of eligible proverbs on pp. 3-4 of this document*), holidays, food, games, sports, education, folk festivals, customs and traditions, travel vocabulary, communication, idioms, language functions, vocabulary, days/months/seasons, etc.
- 9.
10. After the question is read for the first time, the teams have up to 30 seconds in which to signal. They may confer during this time. *Buzzer skill can be as important as knowledge! Run mock games with buzzers.*
11. If a team signals while a question is being read, the moderator will stop reading immediately and may not complete the question or give any additional information or answer any questions. *Be careful not to buzz too soon, especially on multi-part questions, which are always clearly identified from the start with the phrase “multi-part”!*
- 12.
13. If the signaling team gives an incorrect answer or fails to answer the question in the time given, the moderator will repeat the question for the other team.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
18. **If the score is tied** after the 25 questions are completed, the moderator will select a tiebreaker from the alternate set of questions.

Vocabulary for the Geography Category of *Pass auf!* at the Texas State German Contests

Wortschatz für die Kategorie *Erdkunde*

alt, ältest-	Flughafen, der	letzt-	Sehenswürdigkeit, die
Altstadt, die	Fluss, der	liegen	Seite, die
am Rande	Freistaat, der	link-, linksrheinisch	Sitz, der
Amtssprache, die	früher	Mahnmal, das	sogennant-
anfangen/beginnen	Fürstentum, das	Markt, der	Spitzname, der
außer	Gebiet, das	Meer, das	Sprache, die
Bahn, die	Gebirge, das (Hoch-, Mittel-)	mehr (als)	Staat, der
Ballungsraum, der	Geburtsort, das	meist-	Stadion, das
begrenzen	Geburtsort, die	Messestadt, die	Stadt, die
beitreten (+ Dativ)	Gegend, die	mittelalterlich	Stadtstaat, der
bekannt als, bekannt für	gegenüber	Mittelpunkt, der	Standort, der
Berg, der	gehören	möglich	stattfinden
berühmt, berühmtest-	Gemeinde, die	münden	stehen
besichtigen	genau	Mündung, die	Straße, die
bestehen (aus)	Gewässer, das	Münster, das	Süden, der (Süd-)
besuchen	Grenze, die	Museum, das	südlich, südlichst-
Bevölkerung, die	eine Grenze bilden	muslimisch	Symbol, das
bewohnt	grenzen (an)	Muttersprache, die	täglich
Bezirk, der	groß, größt-	Nachbarland, das	Tal, das
Binnenhafen/Flusshafen, der	Großlandschaft, die	Name, der	Teil, der (teilweise, zum
Brücke, die	gründen	Naturschutzgebiet, das	Teil, zum größten Teil,
Buchdruck, der	Hafen, der	Nebenfluss, der	der Großteil)
Bundes-	Hansestadt, die	nennen	teilen
Bundesland, das	Hauptbahnhof, der	neu, neuest-	trennen
Burg, die	hauptsächlich	Niedrigwasser, das	trocken
christlich	Hauptstadt, die	Norden, der (Nord-)	Turm, der
Denkmal, das	Heide, die	nördlich, nördlichst-	Ufer, das
deutsch, deutschsprachig	Heimatsort, die	offiziell	umschließen
dienen	hoch, höchst-	Olympischen Spiele, die	ungefähr
direkt	Hochebene, die	Ort, der	verbinden
Dom, der	Hochwasser, das	Osten, der (Ost-)	Viertel, das
dünn, dünnst-	Hügel, der	österreichisch	Volksfest, das
dünnstbevölkert	in der Nähe von	östlich, östlichst-	vollständig
durch	Industrie, die	Passionsspiel, das	voneinander getrennt
Ebene, die	innerhalb	Provinz, die	Wald, der
ehemalig	Insel, die	Punkt, der	Wappen, das
Einwohner, die (plural)	jährlich	Quelle, die	Wappentier, das
Einwohnerzahl, die	Kanal, der	Rathaus, das	Wasserstraße, die
einzig-	Kanton, der	recht-, rechtsrheinisch	Weihnachtsmarkt, der
entspringen	katholisch/römisch-katholisch	Region, die	Wein, der
entwässern	Kirche, die	Reihenfolge, die	Welt, die
erst-, zweit-, dritt-, viert-...	klein, kleinst-	Religionszugehörigkeit, die	wenig, wenigst-
sich erstrecken	Kloster, das	Republik, die	Westen, der (West-)
Europa, europäisch	Kontinent, der	Residenz, die	westlich, westlichst-
evangelisch/protestantisch	Kreis, der	Römer, die (plural)	wichtig, wichtigst-
Fachwerk, das	Krieg, der	Ruine, die	Wolkenkratzer, der
Fest, das	künstlich	Schiffahrt, die	Zeitzone, die
Festland, das	Küste, die	Schloss, das	Zentrale, die
finden	Land, das	Schwebebahn, die	Zentrum, das
flach	Landeshauptstadt, die	schweizerisch/Schweizer	zerstören
Fläche, die	Landessprache, die	See, <u>der</u>	zusammen
flächenmäßig	Landschaft, die	See, <u>die</u>	zwischen
fließen	lang, längst-	Seehafen, der	

Proverbs and Figures of Speech for *Pass auf!* at the Texas State German Contests

Sprichwörter und Redewendungen für *Pass auf!*

*eligible for use in the Novice level

German	English
abwarten und Tee trinken	to wait and see
Allen Menschen recht getan, ist eine Kunst, die niemand kann.	You can't please everyone.
*Aller Anfang ist schwer.	*The first step is always the hardest.
*Aller guten Dinge sind drei.	*Good things come in threes.
Andere Länder, andere Sitten.	When in Rome, do as the Romans do.
*Aus den Augen, aus dem Sinn.	*Out of sight, out of mind.
aus einer Mücke einen Elefanten machen	to make a mountain out of a molehill
*Aus nichts wird nichts.	*Nothing ventured, nothing gained.
Aus Schaden wird man klug.	You learn from your mistakes.
Beiß nicht in die Hand, die dich füttert!	Don't bite the hand that feeds you.
*Bellende Hunde beißen nicht.	*His bark is worse than his bite.
*(mir/dir/ihm/ihr/uns/euch/ihnen/Ihnen die) Daumen drücken	*to cross one's fingers (for luck for someone)
Das Glück suchen wir, das Unglück sucht uns.	We seek fortune, misfortune seeks us.
Das letzte Hemd hat keine Taschen.	You can't take it with you. / Shrouds have no pockets.
den Wald vor lauter Bäumen nicht sehen	to not see the forest for the trees
*Der Apfel fällt nicht weit vom Stamm.	*The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.
*Die Wände haben Ohren.	*The walls have ears.
*Die Zeit heilt alle Wunden.	*Time heals all wounds.
*Doof bleibt doof, da helfen keine Pillen.	*There's no cure for stupidity.
Doppelt genäht hält besser.	Better safe than sorry.
*Ehrlich währt am längsten.	*Honesty is the best policy.
*Eile mit Weile.	*Haste makes waste.
*Eine Hand wäscht die andere.	*One hand washes the other/You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.
*Einem geschenkten Gaul sieht man nicht ins Maul.	*Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
*Ein gebranntes Kind scheut das Feuer.	*Once bitten, twice shy.
Ein Spatz in der Hand ist besser als die Taube auf dem Dach.	A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
*Ein Unglück kommt selten allein.	*When it rains, it pours.
*Ende gut, alles gut.	*All's well that ends well.
*Erst die Arbeit, dann das Vergnügen.	*Business before pleasure.
*Es ist nicht alles Gold, was glänzt.	*All that glitters is not gold.
Frisch gewagt ist halb gewonnen.	Well begun is half done. / A good start is half the battle.
Gleich und gleich gesellt sich gern.	Birds of a feather flock together.
*Hals- und Beinbruch!	*Break a leg! (to wish good luck before a performance)
*Hochmut kommt vor dem Fall.	*Pride goes before a fall.
*In der Kürze liegt die Würze.	*Brevity is the soul of wit.

*Irren ist menschlich.	*To err is human.
Jeder ist seines Glückes Schmied.	You're the architect of your own fortune.
*Keine Rose ohne Dornen.	*Every rose has its thorns.
Kinder und Narren sagen die Wahrheit.	Children and fools tell the truth.
Liebe geht durch den Magen.	The way to a person's heart is through their stomach.
*Lügen haben kurze Beine.	*The truth will out. / Lying will get you nowhere.
*Man lernt nie aus.	*You learn something new every day. / You live and learn.
Man soll den Tag nicht vor dem Abend loben.	Don't count your chickens before they hatch.
Morgenstund hat Gold im Mund.	The early bird catches the worm.
Not bricht Eisen. / Not macht erfinderisch.	Necessity is the mother of invention.
*Ohne Fleiß kein Preis.	*No pain, no gain.
*Reden ist Silber, Schweigen ist Gold.	*Speech is silver, but silence is golden.
Rom wurde auch nicht an einem Tag erbaut.	Rome wasn't built in a day.
Schlafende Hunde soll man nicht wecken.	Let sleeping dogs lie.
*Stille Wasser sind tief.	*Still waters run deep.
*Übung macht den Meister.	*Practice makes perfect.
*Viele Hände, schnelles Ende.	*Many hands make light work.
*Viele Köche verderben den Brei.	*Too many cooks spoil the broth.
vom Regen in die Traufe	out of the frying pan, into the fire
Was Hänschen nicht lernt, lernt Hans nimmermehr.	You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
*Was ich nicht weiß, macht mich nicht heiß.	*Ignorance is bliss. / What I don't know can't hurt me.
Wenn die Katze aus dem Haus ist, tanzen die Mäuse.	When the cat's away the mice will play.
Wenn man vom Teufel spricht, dann kommt er gegangen.	Speak of the devil and he is sure to appear.
*Wer die Wahl hat, hat die Qual.	*The bigger the choice, the harder it is to choose.
Wer zuerst kommt, mahlt zuerst.	First come, first served.
*Wer zuletzt lacht, lacht am besten.	*He who laughs last laughs best.
*Wie du mir, so ich dir.	*Tit for tat.
Wo gehobelt wird, da fallen Späne.	You can't make an omelet without breaking some eggs.
*Wo Rauch ist, ist auch Feuer.	*Where there's smoke, there's fire.

Getting started with *Pass auf!*: tips from the State coordinator

Some schools have a long tradition of success with *Pass auf!* How do they do it? They have likely built up question banks over time, handed down from one year to the next, and their students compete for multiple years, starting with a year in Novice and then advancing to Varsity for several more. Their experienced students guide the newcomers. But if you're just starting out with *Pass auf!* (or aiming to significantly improve your results), it can be overwhelming because of the sheer volume of information. Later in this document you'll find a category-by-category guide, but even that's still a LOT of info. Here are some thoughts from the State coordinator of *Pass auf!* on getting the best return on your prep time.

- **Divide and conquer:** Don't try to have all team members study all the categories. Assign each member a primary category to study most intensively and a secondary category to study less intensively. Remember, although a team can have up to 7 members, only 5 can compete in a particular game, and if conflicts arise with other events, you may find yourself competing in some games with fewer than 5. You don't want to have, for instance, just one geography expert among your 7 members and then find yourself in a game without your geography expert because they have a conflict.
- **Build up a question bank** over a period of years (don't start from scratch every year!): Using this study guide, research the topics listed and create questions/answers (short-answer format; there are no true-false or multiple-choice questions in *Pass auf!*). It's unlikely that any individual or even any group can research all the topics in one year; just make a start and view it as a multi-year project. AI may be very useful! Keep track of which topics have been done and which still need to be done. Don't forget that lots of questions used at contest have multiple answers and/or multiple parts, so include those types of questions in your question bank. Organize the material in a format that can be handed down year-to-year: physical flash cards, a Google Doc or Sheet, or an online database. If going with an online system, try out several of them and choose one carefully: it should be (a) shareable with multiple people, (b) easily transferred to new users from one year to the next, and (c) likely to be around for the long term.
- **Debrief after each contest:** After each regional and State contest, or better yet, after each game, get together and jot down the questions you can remember. Don't try to remember the exact wording; just record the gist of the questions and the answers if you remember them. Once contest is over, everyone is ready to move on with life; the current team may not want to invest the time and effort to convert these notes into specific items for the question bank, but save those notes (physically or digitally), perhaps entrusting them to your teacher. Unpacking those notes can be a project for next year's team. Be aware: I track which questions I have used each year and rotate them so that the same questions won't pop up again the next year or the year after. In fact, a given question will ideally be used no more than once every 4 years or more. But sooner or later, the questions will get reused, so a strategy of building your school's question bank over time will eventually pay off – but it will take commitment, organization, and patience.
- **Current events:** The best way to prepare is to subscribe to a few email news summaries. These are the ones that I, the question-writer, am monitoring: [DW Kompakt: Themen des Tages \(daily/German\)](#); [DW German News Service \(weekly/German\)](#); [similar newsletters in English](#); [Euronews Today \(daily/English\)](#); [Switzerland in Brief and Weekly Top Stories from swissinfo.ch \(English\)](#); [Le News \(weekly/English about CH\)](#). You don't have to read everything in each email or follow all the links; often, just the headlines in the email itself will do. Be on the lookout for major events and for topics that persist over a long period. Also keep in mind that the nature of a trivia contest is that the questions have to have a clear, specific, and fairly brief answer. There won't be a question like, "How did the new German government change national policy on immigration?" It's not going to be so much the *how* and *why* of events, because those questions require long answers that may not clearly be right or wrong; it's more likely to be the *who*, the *what*, the *where*, and maybe (but probably not) the *when* types of questions that get asked. Don't forget that "current events" aren't just politics; in particular, keep up with lighter topics such as sports and pop culture.
- **Current Events & Special Topic:** It may seem that any practice items that you generate in this category in a particular year won't be of use in future years. To some extent that's true, but before you toss any materials that you've accumulated on a specific year's current events and special topic, review them for any current events that seem so momentous that they'll probably be remembered for years to come. Add those as permanent items to your question bank in one of the other four categories. Similarly with the special topic, there are probably some items that are too specific to "survive the cut" of being added as permanent questions to one of the other four categories, but some of the broader, most general/important questions on that topic might make good permanent questions. This is exactly what I'm doing each year as keeper of the official question bank.
- **High-frequency question types:** Time spent studying certain topics/lists will pay bigger dividends than others. Here are my recommendations for what you should prioritize, in approximate order of importance. Note that AL, E, HP, and OE refer to the categories, and remember that anything marked "E" needs to be learned in German.
 - **current heads of state, heads of government, and populations** of D-A-CH-FL (HP)

- **proverbs** – see list on pp. 3-4 (OE)
- For goodness' sake, know the **capitals/locations** of D-A-CH-FL and of the D/A Bundesländer! There will be a capital or location question in the majority of games. If you have time, maybe venture into the capitals of the CH cantons. (E)
- A couple people on your team should be able to rattle off **all 16 Bundesländer of D, all 9 Bundesländer of A**, and the **countries that border each of D-A-CH-FL**. (E)
- There are multiple questions in these formats:
 - **Name the D Bundesland** given 3 cities in it. (E)
 - **Name the D-A-CH city** given 2-4 famous sights in it. (E)
 - **Name the river** given a list of cities that it flows through. (E)
- **tallest mountains** and **largest lakes** in each of D-A-CH-FL (don't worry about a lake for FL) (E)
- **major forests** and **mountain ranges** of D-A-CH (E)
- **Nobel Prize winners**: any German-speaker who ever won for **Literature** or **Peace**, and then in the other (scientific) fields, just the really famous ones, mostly from the early 20th century (AL, HP)
- **Holidays** are a major theme; especially **Karneval** and **Christmas** traditions. (OE)
- German titles of common **fairy tales** (AL)
- German names of the **Zodiac signs** (OE)
- **flags** and **coats of arms** of D-A-CH-FL and the D-A Bundesländer (OE)
- **all chancellors of D since 1949** and roughly which years they served plus a few major events of their terms (there haven't been that many chancellors, so it's not hard to memorize them!); far less important, but also useful if you have the mental space: presidents of D and chancellors and presidents of A; don't worry about past presidents of CH. (HP)
- **soccer**: national teams' results in the men's/women's European/World Cups, European/World Cups hosted by D-A-CH, German men's Bundesliga (how it's set up, historically strong teams, current teams, most recent champion and relegated/promoted teams), famous players historically. (OE)
- **tennis**: famous current and former players from D-A-CH and their accomplishments (Grand Slams and Olympics) (OE)
- year and location of all Summer and Winter **Olympics** hosted by D-A-CH (OE)
- **composers**, and for each one, a handful of their major works (focus on works with specific titles, not generic ones like Symphony No. 5 or Piano Concerto No. 2, although for composers who specialized in symphonies, pay attention to how many they composed); the works of **Wagner** in particular yield a lot of questions; **cities of birth** for the most famous composers; there's also a series of questions that ask you to put 4 composers in chronological order, so know the major periods of classical music and which period each composer belongs to. (AL)
- **authors**, and for each one, a handful of their major works; learn about **Goethe** in more depth. (AL)
- There are a lot of questions about the **D school system**, fewer on A/CH. (OE)
- **largest/smallest** and **most/least populous Bundesland** in D/A and **canton** in CH (consider learning the #2 and #3 largest/smallest, maybe even the #4 on the largest side) (E)
- the **4 most populous cities** in each of D-A-CH (in order) (E)
- Bundesland/canton that has the **northern-/southern-/eastern-/westernmost point** in each of D-A-CH. (E)
- **D license plates**, which always start with a 1- to 3-letter code for the city: learn the cities associated with the 1-letter codes (ex. A=Augsburg, B=Berlin, C=Chemnitz, etc.); if you have more time, delve into the A cities with 1-letter codes (the Bundesland capitals) and the 2-letter license-plate codes for the CH cantons. (OE)
- famous **German-Americans** and **German-Texans**: these are broad topics, but you can probably find some good online summaries that hit the highlights succinctly. (HP)
- **philosophers**, and for each one, a couple major works and the main concept(s) that they introduced (AL)
- **monarchs**: There have been MANY emperors of the Holy Roman Empire, Austria, and Germany, plus kings of Bavaria, Hanover, Prussia, Saxony, and Württemberg, not to mention various dukes, prince-electors, and – oh, yeah – the princes of Liechtenstein! There are a lot of questions that focus on one monarch or another, but it's a huge amount of info, so I've put it low on this list. Don't get too bogged down; pay the most attention to the early and late HRE, 3 emperors of Germany 1871-1918, 4 emperors of A, rulers of Prussia and kings of Bavaria, and a few of Saxony who stood out. (HP)
- **movies**, especially any D-A-CH film that won an Academy Award (Oscar) (AL)
- **religions**: % of each country adhering to each major religion and “no religion,” relative strength of the two major Christian branches – Catholic and Protestant/*evangelisch* – in A-CH-FL and in various parts of D (E)
- **parliaments** of D-A-CH-FL, court system of D, structure/institutions/history of the **European Union** (HP)
- **political parties in D**, maybe also A/CH: basics of each party's beliefs, colors associated with each party, the nicknames of the various coalitions that the parties combine to form and where those coalitions currently exist. (HP)
- anything/everything you can find out about **Liechtenstein** (E, HP)
- **places where German is a minority but official language**: Belgium, Luxembourg, Südtirol in Italy (E)
- which countries/other Bundesländer **border each D/A Bundesland** (E)

Topics to Study for the *Pass auf!* Category Arts & Letters

Texas State German Contests

(including some German-American and German-Texan items)

- **actors:** Daniel Brühl, Marlene Dietrich, Michael Fassbender, Sandra Hüller, Emil Jannings, Werner Klemperer, Diane Kruger, Hedy Lamarr, Peter Lorre, Luise Rainer, Maximilian Schell, Christoph Waltz
- **architecture:** *Bauhaus* and the 3 cities where it was headquartered, Walter Gropius, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Friedensreich Hundertwasser, *Fachwerk*, styles: Romanesque/*Romanik*, Gothic/*Gotik*, Renaissance, Baroque/*Barock*, Rococo/*Rokoko*, Neoclassical/*Klassizismus*, Art Nouveau/*Jugendstil*, *Bauhaus*
- **art/artists:** Biedermeier period, Albert Bierstadt, Der Blaue Reiter, Die Brücke, Lucas Cranach the Elder/Younger, Albrecht Dürer, “*entartete Kunst*,” Lyonel Feininger, Caspar David Friedrich, Hans Holbein the Younger, Wassily Kandinsky, Emanuel Leutze, Hermann Lungkwitz, August Macke, Franz Marc, *Neue Sachlichkeit*, Elisabeth Ney, Charles Schulz/*Peanuts*, Alfred Stieglitz, **many more to come**
- **authors:** Ilse Aichinger, Bettina von Armin, Ingeborg Bachmann, Jurek Becker, Peter Bichsel, Wolf Biermann, Heinrich Böll, Sebastian Brant, Bertolt Brecht/Berliner Ensemble, Georg Büchner, Wilhelm Busch, Elias Canetti, Paul Celan, Alfred Döblin, Theodore Dreiser, Annette von Droste-Hülshoff, Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Joseph von Eichendorff, Michael Ende, Rudolf Christoph Eucken, Theodor Fontane, Max Frisch, Cornelia Funke, Dr. Seuss/Theodore Geisel, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Gottfried von Strassburg, Günter Grass, Franz Grillparzer, Johann Grimmelshausen, Gruppe 47, Peter Handke, Hartmann von Aue, Gerhart Hauptmann, Heinrich Heine, Johann Gottfried Herder, Hermann Hesse, Paul von Heyse, Rolf Hochhuth, August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Friedrich Hölderlin, Elfriede Jelinek, Franz Kafka, Erich Kästner, Thomas à Kempis, Heinrich von Kleist, Günter Kunert, Siegfried Lenz, Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, Thomas Mann, Karl May, H.L. Mencken, Theodor Mommsen, Heiner Müller, Hertha Müller, Robert Musil, Novalis, Sylvia Plath, Erich Maria Remarque, Rainer Maria Rilke, Joseph Roth, Nelly Sachs, Friedrich Schiller, Bernhard Schlink, Arthur Schnitzler, Anna Seghers, Carl Spitteler, Johanna Spyri, Adalbert Stifter, Theodor Storm, Bertha von Suttner, Kurt Vonnegut, Robert Walser, Franz Werfel, Christoph Martin Wieland, Christa Wolf, Wolfram von Eschenbach, Stefan Zweig
- **Communism:** Marx, Engels, *Das Kapital*, *The Communist Manifesto*
- Deutscher Buchpreis, Georg-Büchner-Preis
- **directors** (mostly film): Fatih Akin, Roland Emmerich, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Michael Haneke, Werner Herzog, Fritz Lang, Ernst Lubitsch, F.W. Murnau, Wolfgang Petersen, Max Reinhardt (theater), Volker Schlöndorff, Josef von Sternberg, Tom Tykwer, Wim Wenders, Billy Wilder
- **fairy tales:** Brothers Grimm, *Kinder- und Hausmärchen*, German titles of The Bremen Town Musicians, Cinderella, The Frog Prince, Little Red Riding Hood, The Pied Piper of Hamelin, Sleeping Beauty, Snow White
- **inventors/scientists:** Behring, Ehrlich, Einstein, Freud/psychoanalysis with id/ego/superego, Geiger, Gutenberg, Hahn, Heisenberg, Helmholtz, Hertz, Jung, Kepler, Kirchhoff, Koch, Krebs, Kübler-Ross, Landsteiner, Lilienthal, Mendel, mp3, Nikolaus Otto, Planck, Röntgen, Schrödinger, W. von Braun, Zeppelin, **many more to come**
- **literary periods:** Enlightenment/*Aufklärung*, *Sturm und Drang*, Weimar Classicism/*Weimarer Klassik*, Romanticism/*Romantik*, Expressionism/*Expressionismus*
- **literary works:** character Baron von Münchhausen, genre *Bildungsroman*, *Das doppelte Lottchen*, *Faust*, *Götz von Berlichingen*, *Heidi*, *Das Hildebrandslied*, *Im Westen nichts Neues*, *Jedermann*, comic strip *The Katzenjammer Kids*, *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers*, *Max und Moritz*, *Nathan der Weise*, *Das Nibelungenlied*, genre *Novelle* and authors who specialized in it, *Parzifal*, stories about *die Schildbürger*, *Der Stellvertreter*, *Der Struwwelpeter*, stories about Till Eulenspiegel, *Die Weber*, *Wilhelm Tell* (Many others are featured in certain questions, but these are of particular importance.)
- **miscellaneous people:** Ludwig II as patron of Wagner, Martin Luther as translator of Bible, Merian family of engravers, Thomas Nast, Hans Sachs, Heinrich Schliemann, Albert Schweitzer, Martin Waldseemüller, Walther von der Vogelweide
- **miscellaneous things:** Bayreuth’s 2 opera houses, Brooklyn Bridge/Roebling family, *Codex-Manesse*, Duden dictionary as authoritative, Frankfurt/Leipzig in book industry, Grimms’ *Deutsches Wörterbuch*, Goethe-Institut, Salzburg Festival, Wartburg Castle through history
- **movies:** Babelsberg film studio, Berlinale film festival/Goldener Bär, *Der blaue Engel*, genre *Heimatfilm*, *M*, *Metropolis*, any film primarily in German that won the Oscar for Best International Feature Film (formerly Best Foreign Language Film)

- **music composers:** J.S./C.P.E. Bach, Beethoven, Berg, Brahms, Bruch, Bruckner, Buxtehude, Gluck, Händel, Haydn, Hildegard von Bingen, Hindemith, Humperdinck, Kreisler, Liszt, Mahler, Mendelssohn, Mozart (incl. *Köchel-Verzeichnis*), Orff, Pachelbel, Reger, Schönberg, Schubert, C./R. Schumann, Schütz, J. Strauss Jr./Sr., R. Strauss, Telemann, Wagner, Weber, Webern, Weill, Wolf
- **musical eras:** *Minnesang/Minnesänger, Meistersinger*, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, *Zwölftonmusik*
- **musical works:** *Academic Festival Overture, Also sprach Zarathustra*, Beethoven's 9th symphony, Brandenburg Concertos, *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni*, *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*, *Die Entführung aus dem*

Serail, Fidelio, Der fliegende Holländer, Der Freischütz, Halberstadt and the ongoing John Cage "concert," *Lohengrin, The Marriage of Figaro, Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg, Messiah, Moonlight Sonata, Der Ring des Nibelungen* and the 4 operas that make it up, *Der Rosenkavalier*, "Silent Night"/Gruber/Mohr, the genre "*Singspiel*," *Tannhäuser, Tristan und Isolde, Zadok the Priest, Die Zauberflöte* (Many others are featured in certain questions, but these are of particular importance.)

- **periods of the German language:** *Althochdeutsch, Mittelhochdeutsch, Neuhochdeutsch* (some identify a 4th stage between *Mhd.* and *Nhd.*: *Frühneuhochdeutsch*)
- **philosophers:** Hegel, Kant, Nietzsche, Schopenhauer
- This is not an exhaustive list (just exhausting! 😊).

Topics to Study for the *Pass auf!* Category *Erdkunde* (Geography) Texas State German Contests

- Kontinent D-A-CH-FL
- offizielle Namen D-A-CH-FL-DDR
- Wappentiere D-A
- Hauptstädte D-A-CH-FL
- ehemalige Hauptstadt BRD (jetzt „Bundesstadt“)
- Hauptstädte der Bundesländer D-A und Kantone CH
- alle Bundesländer D-A und einige Kantone CH auflisten
- Anzahl Bundesländer D-A, Kantone CH
- 4 größte/kleinste Bundesländer D-A, Kantone CH (flächenmäßig und nach Einwohnerzahl)
- Bundesländer, die Berlin/Bremen/Wien umschließen
- Welche Bundesländer D-A haben zwei räumlich voneinander getrennte Teile, und wie heißen die Teile?
- Bundesland D, das erst 1957 der BRD beitrug
- ein paar Gemeinden FL auflisten
- „5 neue Länder“ D (ehemalige DDR)
- 3 „Freistaaten“ D
- 3 Stadtstaaten D
- Hansestädte
- 2 Frankfurts D
- 2 „Lutherstädte“ D
- älteste Stadt D
- Spitznamen Dresden, Frankfurt am Main, Lübeck, Passau
- Ruhrgebiet: wo/was ist es?, wichtige Städte?
- Franken als Region innerhalb Bayerns
- Bezirke Berlins (historisch und aktuell)
- Bezirke Bayerns
- 2 Landeshauptstädte D, die einander direkt gegenüber liegen auf beiden Seiten des Rheins
- 4 größte Städte D-A-CH
- größte Stadt jedes Bundeslands D (nicht immer die Hauptstadt!)
- 2 Seen (seas) D: Nordsee, Ostsee
- 3 größte Seen (lakes) D-A-CH (komplett oder nur zum Teil im Land?)
- Seen: Attersee/Kammersee, Bodensee, Chiemsee, Genfer See, Müritz, Neusiedler See, Vierwaldstättersee, 5 größte Seen Berlins
- Bodensee (wo ist er, wie heißen seine Teile?)
- 3 Gewässer, in die alle Flüsse D münden; Flusssysteme, die A(3) und CH(5) entwässern, und Gewässer in die sie münden
- Flüsse: Aare, Donau, Elbe, Ems, Havel, Inn, Isar, Main, Mosel, Neckar, Neiße, Oder, Rhein, Saale, Spree, Trave, Weser
- Städte an den wichtigen Flüssen D-A-CH
- Kanäle: Main-Donau-, Mittelland-, Nord-Ostsee-
- Länder (Nationen), durch die die Donau fließt
- größter Seehafen/Binnenhafen D; tiefster Hafen D; größter Seehafen der ehemaligen DDR
- höchste Berge D-A-CH-FL
- Gebirge/Wälder/Landschaften: Alpen, Bayerischer Wald, Eifel, Erzgebirge, Harz/Brocken, Hunsrück, Jura, Lüneburger Heide, Odenwald, Pfälzer Wald, Rheinisches Schiefergebirge, Rhön, Schwäbische Alb, Schwarzwald, Siebengebirge, Spessart, Spreewald, Taunus, Teutoburger Wald, Thüringer Wald, Westerwald
- 15 größte Inseln D
- Inseln/Inselgruppen: Helgoland, Neuwerk, Rügen, Sylt, Usedom; Nordfriesische Inseln, Ostfriesische Inseln, 3 wichtige Inseln im Bodensee
- Großlandschaften D(4)-A(5)-CH(3)
- Bundesländer/Kantone mit den nördlichsten/östlichsten/südlichsten/westlichsten Punkten D-A-CH
- geografische Mittelpunkte D-A-CH (Bundesland/Kanton)
- 4 Landessprachen CH
- Amtssprachen außer Hochdeutsch in Schleswig-Holstein
- nationale Minderheiten D(4)-A(6)
- Wo ist Deutsch Amtssprache außer D-A-CH-FL?
 - Belgien: andere Amtssprachen? „Hauptstadt“ der deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft?
 - Luxemburg: andere Amtssprachen?
 - Südtirol (Italien): Hauptstadt Südtirols?
 - Namibia: 20-30K Deutschsprachige (aber ≠ Amtssprache)
- Nachbarländer D-A-CH-FL auflisten
- längste internationale Grenzen D-A-CH-FL
- Bundesländer D-A mit internationalen Grenzen (mit welchen Ländern?) und ohne internationale Grenzen
- Für jedes Bundesland D-A: __ grenzt an __, __, ... (z.B., Brandenburg grenzt an Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Niedersachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Sachsen, Berlin und Polen. Yes, it would be very hard to learn all these. Worth your time? Maybe not. Questions based on this info are in the bank, but the chance of getting one in any particular round is low. If someone on your team has a really good visual memory, go for it.)
- wichtige Städte in jedem Bundesland D, z.B., „In welchem deutschen Bundesland liegen Aachen, Duisburg und Köln?“
- Sehenswürdigkeiten in wichtigen Städten D-A-CH: Aachen, Augsburg, Bamberg, Berchtesgaden, Berlin, Bern, Bonn, Bregenz, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Dresden, Düsseldorf, Erfurt, Essen, Frankfurt am Main, Freiburg, Füssen, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Graz, Hamburg, Hannover, Heidelberg, Innsbruck, Kassel, Koblenz, Köln, Leipzig, Linz, Lübeck, Luzern, Mainz, Marburg, München, Münster, Nürnberg, Passau, Potsdam, Regensburg, Rostock, Salzburg, Schwerin, Stuttgart, Trier, Ulm, Wien, Würzburg, Zürich

- Sehenswürdigkeiten/Feste: Chemie- und Pharmaindustrie Basel*, Brandenburger Tor Berlin, Bregenzer Festspiele, Burg Meersburg, Cannstatter Volksfest Stuttgart, Deutsches Eck, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Fernsehturm Berlin, Frauenkirche Dresden, Frauenkirche München, Hamburger Rathaus, Hermannsdenkmal, Hofburg Wien, Holstentor Lübeck, Hundertwasserhaus Wien, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche Berlin, Goldenes Dachl Innsbruck, Kölner Dom, Kraftfahrt-Bundesamt Flensburg*, Lorelei, Matterhorn, Meißen/Porzellan*, Museumsinsel Berlin, Neues Rathaus/Glockenspiel München, Oktoberfest/Theresienwiese München, Olympiapark München, Porta Nigra Trier, Reichstagsgebäude Berlin, Salzburger Festspiele, Schloss Charlottenburg Berlin, Schloss Herrenchiemsee/Linderhof/Neuschwanstein, Schloss Sanssouci Potsdam, Schloss Schönbrunn Wien, Schloss Vaduz, Schweriner Schloss, Stefansdom Wien, Stift Melk, Ulmer Münster, Viktualienmarkt München,

Walhalla, Wartburg Eisenach, Wattenmeer, Wieskirche, Zwinger Dresden (There are thousands of *Sehenswürdigkeiten* around D-A-CH-FL, and they can't all be listed here. The more of them you know about, the better. But if one is listed here, there's at least 1 question in the bank that focuses solely on it, and many of them are from visual cues. * = not a sight/festival but still important.)

- Flughäfen D-A-CH mit den meisten Passagieren
- historische/aktuelle deutsche Namen von Bratislava, Bruges, Chemnitz, Gdansk, Kaliningrad, Liège, Ljubljana, Milan, Naples, Venice, Warsaw, Wrocław
- Zentralen von DHL/Deutsche Post, Lufthansa
- Geburtsstädte: Bach, Beethoven, Brecht, Händel, Haydn, Luther, Marx, Mozart, R. Schumann
- Religionszugehörigkeit-Statistik A-CH-FL
- Welche Teile D sind eher katholisch/evangelisch?
- Weihnachtsmärkte: Christkindlesmarkt Nürnberg, Köln, Striezelmarkt Dresden (ältester?, berühmtester?, meistbesuchter?)
- This is not an exhaustive list (just *exhausting!* 😊).

Topics to Study for the *Pass auf!* Category History & Politics Texas State German Contests

- **current** head of state/government, approx. population, form of government, frequency of national and Bundesland/canton elections, voting age D-A-CH-FL
- history/design of D-A-CH-FL-DDR **flags**
- **currencies** (past/present) D-A-CH-FL: names of 1/100th (e.g., euro/cent, *Mark/Pfennig*), denominations of banknotes/coins, banknote themes, images on coins, dates of introduction of euro
- **Roman Empire:** *Germania Inferior/Superior*, *Noricum*, *Raetia*, *Limes*, Latin vs. current names of Roman settlements in present-day D-A-CH, Tacitus/*Germania*, role of Trier in later Roman Empire
- **Germanic tribes:** runes, *Ding/Thing*, Battle of the Teutoburg Forest (year, leaders on both sides, outcome), *Völkerwanderungen*, Franks
- **Charlemagne/Karl der Große:** when/where crowned, ~capital of his empire
- **ruling dynasties:** Carolingian, Habsburg, Hohenstaufen, Hohenzollern, Ottonian, Salian, Wettin, Wittelsbach
- 3 German “empires”
- **Holy Roman Emperor/Empire:** German name, overlap with king(dom) of Germany, traditional coronation site, college of electors (*Kurfürsten*) – who were they?, first emperor?, Otto I/Great, Frederick Barbarossa, Great Interregnum, Rudolf I, Golden Bull 1356, Maximilian I, Charles V, Maria Theresia, Franz II (last), year dissolved
- **emperors of Austria:** Franz I (first), Ferdinand I, Franz Joseph I & Elisabeth/Sisi, Karl I (last), Dual Monarchy, “*k.u.k.*”
- **German Empire 1871-1918:** proclamation (where, when, after which war?), Wilhelm I, *Dreikaiserjahr*, Friedrich III, Wilhelm II, where Wilhelm II exiled; Bismarck and his *Kulturkampf* and series of wars
- **former kingdoms** in what is now D: Hanover, Bavaria, Prussia, Saxony, Württemberg (incl. last king of each)
- **Prussian** monarchs: 5 Frederick Williams (Great Elector/I/II/III/IV), Frederick I, Frederick II/Great (including dealings with Rousseau, Voltaire)
- **Bavarian** kings: Maximilian I Joseph (first), Ludwig I, Maximilian II, Ludwig II, Otto/Prince Regent Luitpold, Ludwig III (last)
- **Saxon** monarchs: Frederick the Wise, August II/Strong
- **FL princes:** Karl I, Hans-Adam I, Anton Florian, Johann I Josef, Johann II, Franz Josef II, Hans-Adam II, LGT Group
- **famous treaties** (when, what accomplished?): Treaty of Verdun, Peace of Basel, Peace of Augsburg, Peace of Westphalia, *Ausgleich* 1867, Treaty of Versailles, Treaty of St. Germain, CH/FL customs union, Austrian State Treaty, Two Plus Four Treaty
- **Worms:** Concordat of, Diet of, Edict of
- **Reformation:** Luther, 10/31/1517, 95 Theses/Wittenberg, Peasants’ War, Melancthon, Calvin, Zwingli
- **Thirty Years War:** years, major alliances, defenestration of Prague, Gustavus Adolphus, Tilly, Wallenstein, Sack of Magdeburg
- **Napoleonic era:** name he gave CH, important battles (Austerlitz, Jena-Auerstedt, Leipzig/*Völkerschlacht* and its *-denkmal*, Waterloo), 2nd marriage with Marie Louise of Austria, Congress of Vienna, Metternich
- *Vormärz*, **1848 March Revolutions**, Frankfurt parliament/*Paulskirche*
- **World War I:** assassination of Franz Ferdinand, beginning/ending dates, Central Powers, Zimmermann Telegram, Pershing
- **Weimar Republic**
- **Nazi period/World War II/aftermath:** Hitler, Munich/Beer Hall Putsch 1923, *Mein Kampf*, 1/30/1933, Nazi Party/NSDAP, Reichstag fire, SA, SS, *Gestapo*, Nuremberg Laws, *Anschluss*, *Reichspogromnacht/Reichskristallnacht*, Axis Powers, Allied Powers, start/end dates, *Blitzkrieg*, Anne Frank, Georg Elser, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Stauffenberg/Operation Valkyrie, White Rose, Yalta Conference, bombing of Dresden, Battle of the Bulge, Torgau, Potsdam Conference at Schloss Cecilienhof, *Trümmerfrauen*, Nuremberg Trials, Allied occupation of D/A, Marshall Plan, COMECON, Warsaw Pact, 4 Ds of Allied post-war policy, 3 Ws of post-WWII D, Berlin Blockade/Airlift, exact founding dates BRD/DDR, abbreviations BRD/FRG// DDR/GDR, Saarland’s late arrival to BRD
- significance of dates **November 9** and **June 17** in D history
- **East Germany/DDR:** NVA, SED, *Junge Pioniere*, FDJ, Stasi, *Genosse*, *Schießbefehl*, Iron Curtain/*Eiserner Vorhang*, spy exchanges on *Glienicker Brücke*, Berlin Wall 1961-1989 including date established, Ulbricht, Honecker, Mielke, Krenz, Trabi/Zwickau, Wartburg/ Eisenach (car), Reagan at Brandenburg Gate 1987
- **die Wende/peaceful revolution** of 1989: role of Leipzig and Nikolaikirche, role of BRD embassies in Budapest/Prague/Warsaw, Schabowski press conference, date of fall of Berlin Wall, Kohl’s Ten Point Plan, leaders of 4 WWII Allies with whom reunification had to be negotiated, date of reunification, *Ossis/Wessis*
- **Berlin as D capital:** when designated, when decided to move government there, when government moved
- **Berlin’s Bezirke:** old system (23), new system (12) – pay attention to the names of the old and new *Bezirke*

- **former German colonies in Africa:** German East Africa, German Southwest Africa, German West Africa
- **castles of Ludwig II:** Herrenchiemsee, Linderhof, Neuschwanstein
- **UK:** which monarch of a German principality became king of GB?, Prince Albert/House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, name change to Windsor
- **organs/institutions of D gov't:** 5 *Verfassungsorgane* (*Bundespräsident, Bundesregierung, Bundestag* (# seats?), *Bundesrat, Bundesverfassungsgericht*), *Grundgesetz, Bundesversammlung, Bundesgerichtshof* other highest courts for various fields of law and where they meet, 5% rule/hurdle, *Bundeswehr*, BKA, BND
- **organs of D Bundesland/city governments:** *Landtag, Ministerpräsident* (know who at least some of them are), alternative names in 3 city states, *Bürgermeister*
- **German chancellors:** know a few important ones pre-1949 (Bismarck, Stresemann, Hitler) and all post-1949: Adenauer, Erhard, Kiesinger, Brandt, Schmidt, Kohl, Schröder, Merkel, Scholz, Merz (parties, dates and major events of their terms, how each came to power, age when elected, which still living?)
- **German presidents:** know a few important ones pre- and post-1949: Hindenburg, Ebert, Heuss, handful of names after Heuss, current official residence
- **organs of A gov't:** *Bundespräsident, Bundeskanzler, Bundesrat* (# seats?), *Nationalrat* (# seats?)
- **chancellors/presidents of A:** Renner, Waldheim, know a handful of presidents/chancellors post-WWII
- **organs of CH gov't:** *Bundesrat* and its 7 departments, *Bundespräsident* (how is the office of *Bundespräsident* of CH different from that office in D and A?), *Bundesversammlung, Nationalrat* (# seats?), *Ständerat* (# seats?), referendums/concept of “double majority,” half cantons historically and currently
- **“oldest”/“youngest” cantons CH**
- **organs of FL gov't:** Prince/*Fürst*, Hereditary Prince/*Erbprinz, Landtag*, prime minister/*Regierungschef*
- **major political parties D:** CDU, CSU, SPD, FDP, Grüne, Linke, BSW, AfD; colors, basic platforms, common coalitions (with their many nicknames! – *Große, Ampel, Jamaika, Kenia, Deutschland, Kiwi, Brombeer, rot-rot, rot-grün, rot-rot-grün, rot-lila, schwarz-grün, schwarz-orange, schwarz-rot*)
- **major political parties A-CH**
- **European Union:** # members, D-A-CH-FL in it?, predecessor organizations, institutions that make up exec/legis/judic: E. Commission including current president, E. Parliament (meets where?), Council of the E. Union, E. Council, EU courts (meet where?), E. Central Bank (where?)
- **NATO:** what is it, D-A-CH-FL in it?
- **German-American history:** Jamestown 1608, Krefeld emigrants 1683, Germantown PA, C. Sauer, Molly Pitcher, “Hessians” in Revolutionary War, Steuben/Blue Book, J.J. Astor, Waldorf-Astoria, L. Strauss, J. Sutter, C. Schurz, Hindenburg disaster, H. Kissinger, top/bottom few U.S. states by % of residents reporting German ancestry, top few U.S. states by total # of residents reporting German ancestry, U.S. presidents with D-A-CH ancestry, **many more to come**
- **German-Texan history:** Friedrich Ernst/Industry, Henri Castro/Castroville 1844/Alsatian dialect, *Adelsverein*, Indianola/Carlshafen, Prince Carl von Solms-Braunfels, New Braunfels 1845, Fredericksburg 1846/*Vereins Kirche*/Sunday houses/Chester Nimitz, John O. Meusebach/treaty with Comanches 1847, Fisher-Miller Land Grant and 5 colonies including Castell and Bettina attempted within its boundaries by the Darmstadt Society of Forty, Ferdinand von Roemer, Dr. Ferdinand Ludwig Herff, Ferdinand Lindheimer, Luckenbach, 5 “Latin settlements” (name them, what were they, did they succeed?), Boerne 1849, Wends/Serbin, August Siemering, Menger Hotel (San Antonio), Nueces Massacre/*Treue der Union* monument in Comfort, King William District (San Antonio), Schulenburg 1873, Weimar 1873, Kleberg family/King Ranch, Sons of Hermann, William Gebhardt, Dwight Eisenhower, German singing clubs across the state
- **miscellaneous:** *Homo heidelbergensis*, Neanderthal Man, Boniface, feudalism & common noble/royal/imperial titles, founding of CH: signing of *Bundesbrief* by reps of 3 ~cantons, *Deutscher Orden*/Teutonic Knights, Hanseatic League, Council of Constance 1414-1418, Fugger banking family, Ottoman sieges of Vienna 1529/1683, Great Turkish War, Louis XIV/wars of late 1600s, Marie Antoinette, family Thurn und Taxis, Schönbrunn Palace, Catherine the Great (link to Germany), Maximilian I of Mexico, Otto I of Greece, Ruhrgebiet 1923, Einstein’s citizenships, Gustav Stresemann, League of Nations, Carl von Ossietzky, Zeche Zollverein, 1972 Munich Olympics terrorist attack, very late female suffrage CH/FL, Pope Benedict XVI, Swiss Guard, World Economic Forum in Davos CH, Munich Security Conference, status of nuclear power generation in D-A-CH
- This is not an exhaustive list (just exhausting! 😊).

Topics to Study for the *Pass auf!* Category Odds & Ends Texas State German Contests

- **abbreviations**
- **airlines/railways** of D-A-CH
- **airports** of D-A-CH and their 3-letter codes
- **animal** vocabulary
- famous D-A-CH **brands** (cars, clothing/shoes, cologne, candy, energy drinks, pianos, retail chains)
- major **companies**/businesses of D-A-CH and the German stock market
- days of the week, months, seasons, leap year
- **dog breeds**: German names of a few famous ones
- **driving** in D-A-CH-FL
- **electricity** generation/sources in D-A-CH
- **Eurovision Song Contest**
- famous **festivals** in D-A-CH-TX-USA: *Almauftrieb/Alpaufzug*/etc., *Almabtrieb/Alpabfahrt*/etc., *Cannstatter Volksfest/Wasen*, documenta, *Donauinselfest*, *Eidgenössisches Jodlerfest*, *Eiswette*, *Hafengeburtstag* and *Reeperbahn Festival*, *Kieler Woche*, *Kinderzeche*, *Landshuter Hochzeit*, *Luthers Hochzeit*, *Der Meistertrunk*, *Oktoberfest* (Munich, but also where is the largest in US?), *Passionsspiele* Oberammergau, *Rhein in Flammen*, *Rock am Ring/Rock im Park*, *Sechseläuten*, Steuben Parade NYC, *Tellspiele*, Tollwood, *Unspunnenfest*, Wacken Open Air, Wurstfest New Braunfels, *Wurstmarkt*, *Zibelemärit*
- famous organizations/institutions associated with particular cities, incl. several famous boy choirs
- **fashion** designers and models
- **flags/coats of arms** of D-A-CH-FL and of the D-A Bundesländer
- **foods** (*Berliner*, *Bratkartoffeln*, *Brezel*, *Currywurst* (including controversy over where invented), *Döner Kebab*, *Eintopf*, *Flammkuchen*, fondue, *Frankfurter Kranz*, *Frikadelle*, *Gans/Karpfen* at Christmas, *Gulasch*, *Kaiserschmarrn*, *Kloß/Knödel* (2 main types), *Königsberger Klopse*, *Leberkäse*, *Lebkuchen*, *Leipziger Lerche*, *Linzer Torte*, *Marillenknödel*, *Marzipan*, *Matjes*, *Maultaschen*, *Müesli*, *Palatschinken*, *Pommes (frites)*, *Printen*, *Quark*, *Raclette*, *Reibekuchen*, rolls (different names), *Rösti*, *rote Grütze*, *Rouladen*, *Sachertorte*, *Salzburger Nockerln*, *Sauerbraten*, *Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte*, *Spargel*, *Spätzle*, *Spaghettieis*, *Spekulatius*, *Stollen*, *Weißwurst*, *Wiener Schnitzel*, *Zwetschgenkuchen*); **drinks** (*Almdudler*, *Apfelschorle*, beer types, *Glühwein*, *Reinheitsgebot*, *Spezi*, water w/ & w/o carbonation); **other eating terms** (*Besteck*, “enjoy your meal!” equivalents, *Kellner(in)*, meal names, *Stammtisch*)
- **German alphabet**: differences from English
- special characteristics/vocabulary of the **German spoken in A and CH**
- **Germanic languages** besides German
- **holidays and observances** in D-A-CH-FL
 - names of major holidays in German
 - national holidays of D-A-CH-FL: names, dates, what each one commemorates
 - particular customs/greetings associated with certain seasons, especially *Karneval*, Christmas, New Year
 - New Year’s Eve/Day, Three Kings, *Karneval/Lent/Easter*, Ascension, Pentecost, various April 30/May 1 traditions, Mother’s/Father’s Day, *Sommersonnenwende/Johannisnacht*, ~thanksgiving, Reformation Day, All Saints, St. Martin, *Volkstrauertag*, *Buß- und Betttag*, Advent/St. Barbara/St. Nicholas/Christmas, various other observances
- **internet domains** of D-A-CH-FL
- **license plates** in D-A-CH-FL
 - city codes at the beginning of D-A plates, particularly (but not only) the ones that consist of one letter, for example, B = Berlin
 - canton codes at the beginning of CH plates
 - what’s typical about FL plates?
- **measurement** conversions metric/imperial: distance, weight, volume, acre/hectare, temperature
- **media** (magazines, newspapers, broadcasters) of D-A
- major **museums** in D-A-CH
- **national anthems** of D-A-CH-FL
- **playing cards**: suits, face cards, common games
- **proverbs**: see list on pp. 3-4 of this document
- **school systems** of D-A-CH
 - grading systems of D
 - levels/types of schools
 - traditions: *Schultüte*, *akademisches Klopfen*
 - school vacations
 - different diplomas that can be earned
 - *Gymnasium* “graduation” traditions
 - vocational education
- **shopping** terms, typical business establishments
- **Sister City** relationships TX + D-A-CH
- **sports**
 - soccer: famous players/teams, how the Bundesliga works / reigning champion, Olympics, Euro/World Cups, offsides, penalty kick, penalty shoot-out
 - tennis: famous current and former players and their accomplishments
 - Formula 1: famous D-A-CH drivers
 - baseball/basketball/American football: players from D-A-CH in MLB/NBA/NFL
 - standout D-A-CH athletes (current and former) in other sports: boxing, cycling, figure-skating, golf, gymnastics, skiing, swimming
 - Olympics held in D-A-CH

- **telephoning**: country codes of D-A-CH-FL, how to dial internationally from the US, telephone numbers in D-A-CH-FL
- **time**: standard/informal/24-hour ways of telling, time zone of D-A-CH-FL, Daylight Saving Time
- **travel/transportation** vocabulary: air/rail/road, types of lodgings
- **UNESCO World Heritage sites** in D-A-CH (especially the first ones added to the list in each country)
- major/oldest **universities** in D-A-CH
- **weather** vocabulary including *Föhn*, *Wetterfrosch*
- **Zodiac signs** in German
- **miscellaneous**: AI, “encore!”, *es gibt*, European Astronaut Center, *Fahnenschwingen* (CH), *Fraktur*, good luck charms, Hummel figurines, *Polterabend*, *Schrebergarten*, *Schwingen* (CH), trivia about *The Sound of Music*
- This is not an exhaustive list (just exhausting! 😊).