

Guidelines for Writing Projects

Your second short writing project is **due on day 16** of our class. Here you will find the instructions and topic for the short paragraph assignment.

First, please remember some **important guidelines** about our writing assignments: you should **write in your own words**, using the material from the textbook and our class learning, and **avoid computer translations** and outside help, although referencing a **dictionary for single words** is fine. You should **type and double-space** your writing project, proofread your work for **spelling** errors, **umlauts**, and **capitalized** nouns, and you should consider creating alternate personas to avoid revealing private information!

We have been learning to **describe typical activities**, using both **regular** and **stem-changing verbs**. Putting all of our material to use, the topic is to **describe your best friend in some detail**. You'll be using the third-person **"er"** or **"sie"** forms to answer questions about your best friend. Remember that it does not have to be your **real** best friend, and you can certainly **invent and create fictitious details** or create a completely imaginary friend, as long as you answer the questions and use the structures that we have been practicing.

Schreibprojekt für Kapitel 2: Mein bester Freund, oder meine beste Freundin

For this project, please **write approximately 10-12 sentences** in a cohesive paragraph, describing **your best friend** (male or female): you can state things like their **age** and **job or major in school**, as well as what they **do in their free time**, along with what **talents they have** or even what they **don't do well or enjoy**. You should answer most or all of the following questions:

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| • Wie heißt Ihr bester Freund / Ihre beste Freundin?
<i>(What is your best friend's name?)</i> | Mein bester Freund heißt <i>(male Name)</i> .
Meine beste Freundin heißt <i>(female Name)</i> . |
| • Woher kommt er/sie? Wo wohnt er/sie?
<i>(Where are they from? Where do they live?)</i> | Er / Sie kommt aus <i>(hometown)</i> .
Er / Sie wohnt in <i>(residence)</i> . |
| • Wie alt ist er/sie? Wann hat er/sie Geburtstag?
<i>(How old are they? When is their birthday?)</i> | Er / Sie ist <i>(age)</i> Jahre alt.
Er / Sie hat im <i>(month)</i> Geburtstag. |
| • Studiert er/sie? Wo, was und wann studiert er/sie?
<i>(Do they go to college? Where, what and when do they study?)</i> | Er / Sie studiert <i>(subject)</i> an <i>(school)</i> .
Er / Sie hat <i>(class)</i> um <i>(time)</i> am <i>(day)</i> . |
| • Arbeitet er/sie? Wo und wann arbeitet er/sie?
<i>(Do they work? Where and when do they work?)</i> | Er / Sie arbeitet bei <i>(workplace)</i> .
Er / Sie arbeitet um <i>(time)</i> am <i>(day)</i> . |
| • Was macht er/sie gern in der Freizeit?
<i>(What do they like to do in their free time?)</i> | In seiner / ihrer Freizeit <i>(verbs)</i> er/sie gern.
Sein / Ihr Hobby ist <i>(verbing)</i> . |
| • Macht er/sie Sport? <i>(sports?)</i> | Er / Sie spielt gern/gut <i>(sport)</i> . |
| • Was für Musik hört er/sie gern? <i>(music?)</i> | Er / Sie hört gern <i>(music style)</i> . |
| • Spielt er/sie ein Instrument? <i>(music instrument?)</i> | Er / Sie spielt gern/gut <i>(instrument)</i> . |
| • Welche Bücher oder Autoren liest er/sie gern? <i>(books/authors?)</i> | Er / Sie liest gern <i>(genre/author)</i> . |
| • Welche Filme sieht er/sie gern? <i>(movies?)</i> | Er / Sie sieht gern <i>(movie styles)</i> . |
| • Welches Essen isst er/sie gern? <i>(food?)</i> | Er / Sie isst gern <i>(food)</i> . |
| • Fährt er/sie Auto, Motorrad oder Fahrrad? <i>(car, motorcycle, bike?)</i> | Er / Sie fährt <i>(vehicle)</i> . |
| • Was macht er/sie nicht gern? <i>(what don't they like?)</i> | Er / Sie <i>(verbs)</i> nicht gern. |
| • Welche Sprachen spricht er/sie? <i>(Which languages do they speak?)</i> | Er / Sie spricht <i>(languages)</i> . |
| • Was machen Sie zusammen, und wann?
<i>(What do you two do together, and when?)</i> | Wir <i>(verb)</i> gern zusammen.
Wir <i>(verb)</i> am <i>(day)</i> bei <i>(place)</i> zusammen. |

Below is an **example of what you could write**. Feel free to use similar formulations in your own writing, but you must **change the details** to fit your own best friend and create your own unique paragraph!

Mein bester Freund heißt Mike. Er kommt aus Illinois, aber er wohnt jetzt in Vista. Er hat ein Haus mit Freunden. Er ist 27 Jahre alt und er hat am neunzehnten März Geburtstag. Er studiert Psychologie an MiraCosta College: er hat montags und mittwochs Kurse. Er hat Mathe um sieben Uhr morgens! Er arbeitet am Wochenende bei Starbucks: er beginnt die Arbeit samstags um 5.30 Uhr. In seiner Freizeit fährt er gern Fahrrad, und er spielt auch gut Gitarre. Er hört Jazz nicht gern, aber er hört klassische Musik gern. Er liest gern Science Fiction, und er sieht sehr gern Game of Thrones. Er isst gern Pizza und trinkt gern Bier. Er spricht nur Englisch, aber er lernt auch Japanisch. Samstags gehen wir zusammen ins Kino, und manchmal gehen wir auch in die Kneipe.

This writing project will be graded according to the following rubric:

Element	Criteria	Score
Content	Length is approximately 10-12 full sentences. All or most of the prompt questions are answered describing a friend in detail. Meaning is clear.	_____ out of 20
Vocabulary	Student uses the vocabulary and idioms as learned in class , appropriately for each question. Stock phrases are used correctly. Student adds some vocabulary elements to build personalized content. Computer translations are avoided!	_____ out of 20
Verbs	Subject-verb agreement is correct. Both regular and stem-changing verbs are conjugated correctly to match their subjects .	_____ out of 20
Time Elements	Days of the week and times of day are correctly formulated. Dates are given as ordinal numbers in proper German format.	_____ out of 10
Case and Gender	Nouns have the correct gender and case . The accusative case is used for direct objects , and the nominative case for subjects and after the verb 'sein'.	_____ out of 10
Word Order	Student follows word-order rules in German, with the verb as the second element .	_____ out of 10
Spelling	All content is correctly spelled . Nouns are capitalized . Umlauts are correctly placed. Essay is typed .	_____ out of 10
Total	Total of All Criteria: (final score is percent out of 100 points total)	_____ out of 100