

Churvaness!

BILINGUAL CLASSICS

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Alice im Wunderland

Lewis Carroll

ENGLISH
GERMAN



English • German Parallel Text Edition

Für Deutschlernende

Read the classic novel side-by-side in both languages

A LANGUAGE LEARNER'S EDITION

Churvaness! Alice's Adventures in Wonderland – A Bilingual Edition (English → German)

Sentence-by-sentence bilingual reading for German learners

CEO of Churvaness! and Churvaness! Team

This book is available at

<https://leanpub.com/churvaness-alice-german>

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German Cheat Sheet

Pronunciation

Highly regular — once you learn the rules, you can pronounce almost any word.

Letter(s)	Sound	Example
a	<i>a</i> as in father (short)	Mann
a/ah/aa (long)	<i>a</i> as in father	Waal (whale)
e (short)	<i>e</i> as in bet	nett
e (unstressed)	schwa	habe
e/eh/ee (long)	<i>ay</i> without glide	See (lake)
i (short)	<i>i</i> as in bit	bitte
ie (long)	<i>ee</i>	sie (she)
o (short)	<i>o</i> as in pot	kommen
o/oh/oo (long)	<i>o</i> as in go	Boot
u (short)	<i>oo</i> as in foot	Mutter
u/uh (long)	<i>oo</i> as in fool	gut
ä	<i>e</i> as in bet	Männer
ö	say “e” with rounded lips	schön
ü	say “ee” with rounded lips	über
ei/ai	<i>eye</i>	Eis
au	<i>ow</i> as in cow	aus
eu/äu	<i>oy</i> as in boy	neu

Letter(s)	Sound	Example
b (end)	<i>p</i>	lieb → “leep”
ch (after a/o/u)	Scottish lo ch	Buch
ch (after e/i)	Softer <i>ch</i>	ich
chs	<i>x</i>	Fuchs
d (end)	<i>t</i>	Hund → “Hunt”
g (end)	<i>k</i>	Tag → “Tak”
h (after vowel)	Silent — lengthens vowel	ge h en
j	y as in yes	ja
r	Guttural/rolled	Rose
s (before vowel)	<i>z</i>	See
ß/ss	s (marks long vowel)	gro ß
sch	<i>sh</i>	Schiff
sp/st (initial)	<i>shp/sht</i>	Spiel, Stein
v	<i>f</i>	Vater
w	<i>v</i>	Wasser
z	<i>ts</i>	Zeit

Stress: first syllable of root (prefixes be-, ge-, ver-, ent-, zer- are unstressed).

Basic Grammar

Three genders, four cases. This is the single biggest challenge.

Word Order

Main clause (V2): Verb MUST be second element: *Heute sehe ich den Wal.* (Today see I the whale.)

Subordinate clause: Verbs go to END: *Ich weiß, dass er den Wal sieht.* (I know that he the whale sees.)

Separable verbs: Prefix detaches to end: *ankommen* → *Er kommt morgen an.*

Articles & Cases

Case	Masc.	Fem.	Neuter	Plural
Nom.	der	die	das	die
Acc.	den	die	das	die
Dat.	dem	der	dem	den
Gen.	des	der	des	der

Indefinite: ein/eine/ein (Nom.), einen/eine/ein (Acc.), einem/einer/einem (Dat.).

All nouns are capitalized.

Plurals

Five patterns: *-e, -er, -(e)n, -s, -* (umlaut). Memorize with each noun.

Verbs

Present endings: *-e, -st, -t, -en, -t, -en*

Past: Weak: *-te (sagte)*. Strong: vowel change (sah, kam, ging).

Perfect: *haben/sein + past participle: Ich habe den Wal gesehen.*

Key irregulars: sein (ist, war, gewesen), haben (hat, hatte, gehabt), werden (wird, wurde, geworden), können (kann), müssen (muss), wollen (will), sollen (soll), dürfen (darf), mögen (mag), wissen (weiß), gehen (geht, ging, gegangen), kommen (kommt, kam, gekommen), sehen (sieht, sah, gesehen), geben (gibt, gab, gegeben), nehmen (nimmt, nahm, genommen), sprechen (spricht, sprach, gesprochen)

Adjectives

Complex endings based on case, gender, determiner presence. Predicative adjectives have NO ending: *Der Wal ist weiß.*

Function Words

Articles: der, die, das, ein, eine, dieser/diese/dieses, jener/jene/jenes, jeder/jede/jedes, alle, welcher/welche/welches

Pronouns: ich/mich/mir/mein, du/dich/dir/dein, er/ihn/ihm/sein, sie/sie/ihr/ihr, es/es/ihm/sein, wir/uns/uns/unser, ihr/euch/euch/euer, sie/sie/ihnen/ihr, Sie/Sie/Ihnen/Ihr, man/einen/einem, sich

Prepositions: durch, für, gegen, ohne, um (Acc.); aus, bei, mit, nach, seit, von, zu (Dat.); an, auf, hinter, in, neben, über, unter, vor, zwischen (two-way — Dat.=location, Acc.=direction)

Conjunctions: und, oder, aber, sondern, denn (coordinating — no word order change); dass, weil, wenn, als, ob, obwohl, während, bevor, nachdem, bis, damit, da (subordinating — verb to END)

Adverbs/Particles: nicht, kein, ja, nein, doch, schon, noch, erst, nur, auch, sogar, fast, sehr, viel, wenig, mehr, immer, nie, oft, manchmal, jetzt, dann, hier, da, gern, vielleicht, eigentlich

Question: wer, was, wo, wohin, woher, wann, warum/wieso, wie, wie viel, welcher/welche/welches, wessen

Numbers: eins, zwei, drei, vier, fünf, sechs, sieben, acht, neun, zehn

Common Phrases

Hallo/Guten Tag (hello), Auf Wiedersehen/Tschüss (goodbye), Ja/Nein (yes/no), Bitte (please), Danke (thank you), Entschuldigung (sorry), Wie geht es Ihnen? (how are you?), Sehr gut (very well), Gott!/Mein Gott! (God!), Zum Teufel! (the devil!)

Language Notes

- **Compounds:** *Wal* + *Fang* + *Schiff* = *Walfangschiff* (whaling ship). Superscript numbers mark roots within compounds.

- **du** (informal) vs. **Sie** (formal) — crew uses *du*, formal contexts use *Sie*
- Nautical: *Wal* (whale), *Schiff* (ship), *Segel* (sail), *Mast* (mast), *Anker* (anchor), *Deck* (deck), *Bug* (bow), *Heck* (stern), *Steuerbord* (starboard), *Backbord* (port), *Harpune* (harpoon), *Kapitän* (captain), *Mannschaft* (crew), *Walfang* (whaling)
- False friends: *also* = so/therefore, *bald* = soon, *bekommen* = to receive, *fast* = almost, *Gift* = poison, *Rat* = advice, *See* = lake (m.) or sea (f.), *will* = want (not future)

* * *

Now turn to Chapter 1 and begin reading.

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