



Churvaness!

BILINGUAL CLASSICS

THE SECRET OF CHIMNEYS

Das Geheimnis von Chimneys

Agatha Christie

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! The Secret of Chimneys — A Bilingual Edition (English → German)

Sentence-by-sentence bilingual reading for German learners

Churvaness! Team

This book is available at

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

This version was published on 2026-07-13



This is a [Leanpub](#) book. Leanpub empowers authors and publishers with the Lean Publishing process. [Lean Publishing](#) is the act of publishing an in-progress ebook using lightweight tools and many iterations to get reader feedback, pivot until you have the right book and build traction once you do.

© 2026 Churvaness! Team

Contents

German Cheat Sheet	1
Pronunciation	1
Basic Grammar	2
Function Words	3
Common Phrases	4
Language Notes	4
CHAPTER 1. Anthony Cade Signs on	6
CHAPTER 2. A Lady in Distress	7
CHAPTER 3. Anxiety in High Places	8
CHAPTER 4. Introducing a Very Charming Lady	9
CHAPTER 5. First Night in London	10
CHAPTER 6. The Gentle Art of Blackmail	11
CHAPTER 7. Mr. McGrath Refuses an Invitation	12
CHAPTER 8. A Dead Man	13
CHAPTER 9. Anthony Disposes of a Body	14
CHAPTER 10. Chimneys	15
CHAPTER 11. Superintendent Battle Arrives	16

CHAPTER 12. Anthony Tells His Story	17
CHAPTER 13. The American Visitor	18
CHAPTER 14. Mainly Political and Financial	19
CHAPTER 15. The French Stranger	20
CHAPTER 16. Tea in the Schoolroom	21
CHAPTER 17. A Midnight Adventure	22
CHAPTER 18. Second Midnight Adventure	23
CHAPTER 19. Secret History	24
CHAPTER 20. Battle and Anthony Confer	25
CHAPTER 21. Mr. Isaacstein's Suit-case	26
CHAPTER 22. The Red Signal	27
CHAPTER 23. Encounter in the Rose Garden	28
CHAPTER 24. The House at Dover	29
CHAPTER 25. Tuesday Night at Chimneys	30
CHAPTER 26. The 13th of October	31
CHAPTER 27. The 13th of October (contd.)	32
CHAPTER 28. King Victor	33
CHAPTER 29. Further Explanations	34
CHAPTER 30. Anthony Signs on for a New Job	35
CHAPTER 31. Sundry Details	36

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 loch	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	gehen
j	y as in yes	ja
r	Guttural/rolled	Rose
s (before vowel)	<i>z</i>	See
ß/ss	s (marks long vowel)	groß
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.

CHAPTER 1. Anthony Cade Signs on

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 2. A Lady in Distress

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 3. Anxiety in High Places

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 4. Introducing a Very Charming Lady

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 5. First Night in London

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 6. The Gentle Art of Blackmail

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 7. Mr. McGrath Refuses an Invitation

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 8. A Dead Man

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 9. Anthony Disposes of a Body

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 10. Chimneys

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 11. Superintendent Battle Arrives

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 12. Anthony Tells His Story

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 13. The American Visitor

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 14. Mainly Political and Financial

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 15. The French Stranger

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 16. Tea in the Schoolroom

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 17. A Midnight Adventure

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 18. Second Midnight Adventure

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 19. Secret History

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 20. Battle and Anthony Confer

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 21. Mr. Isaacstein's Suit-case

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 22. The Red Signal

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 23. Encounter in the Rose Garden

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 24. The House at Dover

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 25. Tuesday Night at Chimneys

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 26. The 13th of October

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 27. The 13th of October (contd.)

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 28. King Victor

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 29. Further Explanations

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 30. Anthony Signs on for a New Job

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.

CHAPTER 31. Sundry Details

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/churvaness-chimneys-german>.