

GCSE GERMAN

**NAME**:

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjW4-zbsp_KAhVMaRQKHfrjDlYQjRwIBw&url=http://es.mario.wikia.com/wiki/Donkey_Kong&psig=AFQjCNFF0_6Y6S1aX5ilxGgul-SY7JU2xA&ust=1452520481922155)

*AIMING FOR GRADE 9*

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| **1. Introduce and give and your opinions …**  Practise using these key types of word and clever phrases so that you can really impress the examiner in your speaking and writing.  The ‘star factor’ is just a guide to how impressive/ different they are.  **REMEMBER variety is the spice of life!!!** | | | |
| **Tip:** You will have to give your opinions A LOT so you need to use a wide variety of expressions confidently …  Make sure you can do positive, negative, in between AND say what other people think! | | | |
| PHRASE | | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| Laut mir ist es/ sind sie … | | According to me it is/ they are … | \*\* |
| Ich glaube / Ich denke, dass\*\* | | I believe that/ I think that … | \*\* |
| Es scheint mir, dass\*\* | | It seems to me that … | \*\*\* |
| Meiner Meinung nach\* / Nach meiner Ansicht\* | | In my opinion/ The way I see it  (from my point of view) | \*\*\* |
| Soviel ich weiß, … ( verb, verb) | | As far as I am concerned | \*\*\* |
| Man sagt, dass \*\* | | They say that … | \*\*\*\* |
| Er/Sie glaubt / denkt, dass\*\* | | He/ she believes/ thinks that | \*\*\* |
| Das kann sein… | | It can be … | \*\*\* |
| Ich weiß, dass\*\* | | I know that … | \*\*\* |
| + | Ich mag / Ich liebe / Ich mag lieber ...  Ich ... gern/ sehr gern/ lieber | I like/ I love/ I prefer … | \* |
| ... gefällt(sing)/ gefallen ( pl) mir | I like ( literally ... is pleasing to me) | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich ziehe ... vor ( seperable verb) | I prefer | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich schätze (hoch) ... | I appreciate/ I like … | \*\*\* |
| ... ist/sind meine Leidenschaft | I’m passionate about … ( literally ... is/ are my passion) | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich interessiere mich für ... | I’m interested in … | \*\*\*\* |
| Was ich **am liebsten**/ wenigsten **mag**, ist | What **I like** the most/least is … | \*\*\*\* |
| +/- | Das ist mir egal, (dass\*\*) | I don’t mind/ it’s all the same to me (that) | \*\*\* |
| Ich habe nichts dagegen | I don’t mind | \*\*\* |
|  | Das macht mir gar nicht aus, (dass\*\*) | I don’t care/ I am not bothered (that) | \*\*\* |
| - | Ich kann ... nicht leiden | I can’t stand … | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich mag nicht… / Ich mag gar nicht ...  Ich ... nicht gern/ Ich ... gar nicht gern | I don’t like doing …/ I don’t like doing … at all …  I don’t like …/ I don’t like … at all | \*\* |
| Das ärgert mich/ das geht mir auf die Nerven | It annoys me / It gets on my nerves | \*\*\* |
| Das langweilt mich so | It bores me | \*\*\* |
| Was ich nicht leiden kann, ist … | What I can’t bear is…… | \*\*\*\* |

**Practice makes perfect**

1. I’m passionate about playing football because it is fun however they say that it can be boring

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2. I’m interested in cinema because I’m fascinated by films.

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3. I can’t stand playing tennis, the way I see it sports are all the same to me, it bores me.

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4. My mum thinks that reading is interesting however my brother believes that books are boring.

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5. What I like the most is to go shopping with my friends because I’m passionate about it.

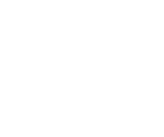
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6. What I can’t bear is swimming, in my opinion it is really tiring, although it is easy.

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| **2. Use intensifiers and a variety of adjectives …** | | | |
| **Tip:** These make your comments and opinions better. Remember not to over-use the most common words … | | | |
| WORD | | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| sehr | | very | \* |
| total / wirklich | | absolutely/ really/ truly | \*\*\* |
| zu | | too | \*\*\* |
| viel | | a bit/ a lot | \*\* |
| ganz | | quite | \*\* |
| + | großartig / toll/ klasse/ super | great … | \*\* |
| spannend / aufregend | exciting/ thrilling | \*\*\* |
| Spaß (haben)/ lustig / witzig / unterhaltsam | fun/ funny/ amusing | \*\* |
| bedeutsam/ ungewöhnlich / komisch | unmissable/ extraordinary/ unbelievable | \*\*\* |
| herrlich, hervorragend/ verwunderlich | marvellous/amazing | \*\*\* |
| fantastisch/ cool | awesome/ cool | \*\*\* |
| praktisch/ nützlich / wichtig | practical/ useful/ important | \*\* |
| Das gefällt mir / das freut mich  das stellt mir zufrieden, dass\*\* … | It makes me happy that … | \*\*\*\* |
| Das war super/ Ich habe eine Menge  Spaß gehabt! | It was great/ I had a great time! | \*\*\*\* |
| - | quatsch/ schlimm | rubbish/ bad | \* |
| ermüdend/anstrengend | tiring | \*\*\* |
| langweilig / eintönig / fad | boring | \*\*\* |
| schwer/ schwierig/ kompliziert | difficult/ hard/ complicated | \*\* |
| nutzlos  / unbequem/hässlich | useless/ uncomfortable/ ugly | \*\* |
| Das macht mich fertig!/  das macht mich sehr nervös | It stresses me out | \*\*\* |
| Wie schrecklich! | How dreadful! | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich habe kein Spaß gehabt | I did not enjoy myself | \*\*\*\* |

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| **3. Use clever, higher level connectives to extend & contrast …** | | |
| **Tip:** Obviously the more you say/write, the more marks you may get – remember that you can’t lose marks for getting something wrong, but gain them for everything decent .…SO LINK YOUR LANGUAGE TOGETHER! | | |
| WORD | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| und/ auch/ aber | and/ also/ but | \* |
| außerdem\* /darüber hinaus\* | furthermore | \*\*\*\* |
| jedoch\*/ doch\* / aber | however | \*\* |
| obwohl\*\* / trotzdem\*\* … … ist | Although/ despite the fact that (+subjunctive) it is | \*\*\*\* |
| wobei\*\* | whereas | \*\*\*\* |
| während\*\* | whilst | \*\*\*\* |
| selbst wenn\*\* | even if | \*\*\*\* |
| nicht nur … sondern auch … | not only… but also … | \*\*\* |
| entweder … oder … | either … or … |  |
| deshalb\* / deswegen\* | therefore | \*\*\* |
| weil\*\* / da\* / denn | because | \* / \*\* |

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj_-d-O5J_KAhVLbRQKHXvlCikQjRwIBw&url=http://www.clipartpanda.com/categories/clipart-star-borders&psig=AFQjCNGka5C9qGxKaKJGytKzcHKl_oQGRw&ust=1452533770686453)

**Practice makes perfect**

1. From my point of view playing videogames is not only exciting but also it can be educational.

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2. Whilst I like to dance because it improves my health, it seems to me that it is very tiring.

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3. I think that watching TV is a bit boring therefore yesterday I went to the cinema, I had a great time!

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4. I can’t stand to play golf because it annoys me, furthermore they say that it is really difficult.

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5. What I hate about maths is that it stresses me out because it’s hard even if I know that it is important.

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6. Maths can be complicated, whereas Spanish is awesome because it makes me better at communicating.

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| **4. Use time phrases followed by the correct tense …** | | | |
| **Tip:** A key element of achieving at least a Grade C in your speaking and writing is to use a VARIETY of tenses. Add time markers to improve your phrases and let the examiner know you know which tense you are in! | | | |
| WORD | | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| PRESENT | normalerweise\*/ im Allgemeinen\* | normally/ generally/ usually | \*\* |
| manchmal\* / von Zeit zu Zeit\* | Sometimes/ from time to time | \*\*\* |
| am Wochenende | at the weekend | \*\* |
| nach der Schule | after school | \*\*\* |
| jetzt\*/ im Moment\* | [http://alexshye.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/infinity-time1.jpg](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjynI7V5p_KAhWFXhQKHe_aBdkQjRwIBw&url=http://alexshye.com/2014/01/04/what-time-frame-do-you-optimize-for/&psig=AFQjCNFoBhP2z-RGhcMaGu64OuYIEnWbTQ&ust=1452534452539626)now | \*\* |
| jeden Tag | Everyday | \*\* |
| immer | All the time | \*\*\* |
| wenn ich so will, … (verb, verb) | When I feel like it | \*\*\*\* |
| jederzeit es möglich wäre, … (verb, verb) | Whenever it’s possible | \*\*\* |
| So schnell wie möglich | As soon as possible | \*\*\* |
| PAST | gestern | Yesterday | \*\* |
| letztes Wochenende | Last weekend | \*\* |
| letzte Woche | Last week | \*\* |
| als ich jünger war, … (verb,verb) | When I was younger | \*\*\*\* |
| FUTURE | in der Zukunft\* | In the future | \*\* |
| nächstes Wochenende\* | Next weekend | \*\* |
| nächstes Jahr\* | Next year | \*\* |
| nächste Woche\* | Next week | \*\* |
| wenn ich älter bin, … (verb, verb) | When I am older | \*\*\*\* |
| Wenn ich mir das leisten kann, …  (verb, verb) | When I can afford it | \*\*\*\* |

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| **5. Know key verbs in all tenses. Try to use sentences containing more than one tense!** | | | | |
| [http://s3.thingpic.com/images/z1/BMifhggfoRYnTXSyAh8AdwMy.jpeg](https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiSgKD65p_KAhWEUBQKHWYNAK4QjRwIBw&url=https://www.thinglink.com/scene/668506794733076482&psig=AFQjCNEXgT6yIGI5YzVokxXCOpV9_YScjw&ust=1452534530701216)**Tip:** Using a variety of tenses correctly improves your range of language. | | | | |
| IMPERFECT | PERFECT | PRESENT | FUTURE | CONDITIONAL |
|  | Ich bin …gegangen  /gefahren (I went) | Ich gehe/ fahre  (I go) | Ich werde … gehen/  fahren (I will go) | Ich würde … gehen/  fahren (I would go) |
| Ich hatte (I had) | Ich habe … gehabt  (I had) | Ich habe (I have) | Ich werde … haben  (I will have) | Ich hätte …  (I would have) |
|  | Ich habe …gemacht  (I did) | Ich mache (I do) | Ich werde … machen  (I will do) | Ich würde … machen  (I would do) |
|  | Ich habe … gespielt  (I played) | Ich spiele (I play) | Ich werde … spielen  (I will play) | Ich würde … spielen  (I would play) |
| Ich was (I was) | Ich bin … gewesen  ( I have been/ was) | Ich bin (I am) | Ich werde … sein  (I will be) | Ich würde … sein  / wäre (I would be) |
|  | Ich habe/ bin gern …  + pp (I liked) | Ich mag/  Ich … gern (I like) | Ich werde gern+ infin  (I will like) | Ich möchte … (I would like) |
| Es war (it was) | Es ist … gewesen  (it has been/ was) | C’est (it is) | Ce sera (it will be) | Es wäre (it would be) |
| Es gab (there was/ were) | - | Es gibt  (there is/ are) | Es wird … geben  (there will be) | Es würde … geben  (there would be) |
| **Practice makes perfect** | | | | |

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiSgKD65p_KAhWEUBQKHWYNAK4QjRwIBw&url=http://www.taka.com.vn/xu-huong-marketing-online-duoc-dau-tu/&psig=AFQjCNEXgT6yIGI5YzVokxXCOpV9_YScjw&ust=1452534530701216)

1. When I was younger I played tennis all the time, but now I play football.

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2. Last weekend I went to the cinema, I had a great time because the film was really interesting.

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3. When I am older I would like to have a family because it would be marvellous.

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4. Next weekend I will go to the park where I will play football with my friends, it will be awesome.

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| **6. Make more complex phrases with subordinate clauses …** | | |
| **Tip:** Relative pronouns or the word ‘where’ can easily replace a noun or connective to make a much more complex phrases … always think to extend your phrase and add it more information! | | |
| WORD | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| **der/ den, die, das, die\*\***  e.g. Ich wohne in Redcar, **die** an der Küste sich befindet.  e.g Ich habe einen Bruder, **der** Dave heißt.  e.g. Ich habe einen Kuli, **den** ich sehr gern habe. | **which/ who/ that**  e.g. I live in Redcar, **which/ that** is on the coast  e.g. I went with my friend, **who** is called Dave  e.g. I have a pen, **which/ that** I really like. | [http://www.tbshs.org/images/General/1594-Link.jpg](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiZo_GR_Z_KAhUDThQKHXqSCV0QjRwIBw&url=http://www.tbshs.org/links.aspx&psig=AFQjCNGf_v_UrxhwANjSIiTjtog-oEPkWg&ust=1452540481580714)\*\*\*\* |
| **wo\*\***  e.g. Es gibt ein Wohnzimmer, **wo** man fernsehen kann. | **where**  e.g. there is a lounge **where** you can watch TV | \*\*\*\* |

**Practice makes perfect**

1. Last week I went to the cinema where I saw a film which is called Star Wars.

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2. I have a mobile phone which I use every day to contact my friends.

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3. In my school there is a canteen where you can eat, which is really big.

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: a) Infinitive constructions …** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| **um … zu + infinitive**  e.g. **um** mein Deutsch **zu** verbessern | In order to + infinitive  e.g. in order to improve my German | \*\*\*\* |
| **ohne … zu + infinitive**  e.g**. ohne** den Film **zu** sehen, …  ( verb, verb) | Without (+ing)  e.g. without seeing the film … | \*\*\*\* |
| **(an) statt …** + infinitive  e.g. Ich spiele Gitarre, (**an)statt** meine Hausaufgaben **zu** machen | Instead of (+ing)  e.g. I’m playing the guitar instead of doing my homework | \*\*\*\* |
| **Modal verbs** \*\* + infinitive dürfen,  können, mögen, müssen, sollen, wollen | To be allowed to, tob e able to, to like,  to have to, to should, to want | \*\*\* |

**Practice makes perfect**

1. In order to earn money, I need to study and work hard.

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2. Instead of eating in the restaurant we went to the park.

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3. Without doing my homework I will fail my exams.

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: b) Different types of negative …** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| **nicht**  Goes after the verb | not | \*\* |
| **nie/ niemand/nichts**  Goes after the verb | never/ nobody/ nothing | \*\*\* |
| **weder … noch …**  e.g. Ich esse **weder** Käse **noch** Schinken | neither … nor …  e.g. I like neither cheese nor ham | \*\*\* |



**Practice makes perfect**

1. I don’t have a computer therefore I never go online at home.

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2. I neither like to read nor go for a walk.

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3. I no longer drink alcohol therefore I would never go to a bar.

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: c) Comparatives and superlatives …** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| adjective +er als … | more … than | \*\*\* |
| nicht so … wie … | not as … as/ less … than | \*\*\* |
| so … so … | (just) as … as | \*\*\* |
| je … je/ desto … | the more … the more … | \*\*\*\* |
| der, die, das, die adjective+ ste  e.g. das bequemste Bett | The most + adjective  e.g. the most comfortable bed | \*\*\*\* |

**Practice makes perfect**

1. I think that my house is bigger than my friend’s house even though my house has less bedrooms.

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2. I love chocolate; the more I eat it the more I love it.

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3. Last year I went to Greece and it was just as amazing as the USA because I saw the most wonderful views.

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: d) Exclamations!!!** | | |
| PHRASE | http://i.istockimg.com/file_thumbview_approve/12615485/5/stock-photo-12615485-exclamation.jpg MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| Wie argerlich! | What a nuisance! | \*\*\* |
| Mann, ist das langweilig! | What a drag! | \*\*\*\* |
| (Wie) schade! | What a pity! | \*\*\* |
| Wie eckelhaft! | How revolting/ disgusting! | \*\*\* |
| Was für eine Überraschung! | What a surprise! | \*\*\*\* |

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: e) Impersonal verbs** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| Es gelingt mir | I am successful | \*\*\*\* |
| Es hat mir geschmeckt | It was tasty | \*\*\* |
| Es fehlt mir (+an) | I miss | \*\*\*\* |
| Es kommt darauf an, ob … + infin | It depends, if … | \*\*\*\* |
| Es fällt mir schwer | I find it difficult | \*\*\*\* |

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: f) subjunctive phrases & idioms …** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| soweit ich mich erinnern kann | As far as I remember | \*\*\*\* |
| soviel ich weiß | As far as I know | \*\*\*\* |
| koste es, was es wolle | Whatever the cost | \*\*\*\* |
| Egal was wir auch sonst machen | Whatever we do | \*\*\*\* |
| Egal was auch sonst passiert | Whatever happens | \*\*\*\* |
| sei es, wie es will | Be that as it may | \*\*\*\* |

**Practice makes perfect**

1. Whatever happens in the summer, I would like to go to university to study science.

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2. Whatever we do, it isn’t good enough for my mum. She makes me help all the time. What a nuisance!

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3. I can’t stand vegetables – how revolting! Be that as it may I know that they are good for my health.

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| **7. Use ambitious and clever structures: g) Si clauses + if only …** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| Wenn Ich … … gewinne, / kann, verb + future | If I win/ can … | \*\*\*\* |
| Wenn ich … … könnte, verb+ conditional | [https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQ3HIpSLWrWTUaVQQ-nFEWOvQuLQuw2NXKkF5CyFAMbEPkodLzrBw](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&ved=0ahUKEwiR3b3D8J_KAhWKuxQKHWKnBd0QjRwIBw&url=http://www.wpclipart.com/education/encouraging_words/wow.png.html&psig=AFQjCNHRg-lC2DG3fX6MbZlQKNAY5XL7aQ&ust=1452537096004602)If I could … | \*\*\*\* |
| Wenn ich wählen musste, verb + conditional | If I had to (choose) … | \*\*\*\* |
| Hätte ich nur mehr Geld/ Zeit, verb + conditional | If only I had more money/ time … | \*\*\*\* |
| Wäre ich reich / verantwortlich, verb + cond | If I were rich/ in charge … | \*\*\*\* |
| Wäre es möglich, verb + conditional | If it were possible … | \*\*\*\* |

**Practice makes perfect**

1. If I could, I would change the garden in my house because I think it’s too small.

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2. If only I were in charge, there would be no rules. How exciting!

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| [http://images.tutorvista.com/cms/images/80/idiom.jpg](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiOitqY_5_KAhVBshQKHYgeCxAQjRwIBw&url=http://english.tutorvista.com/literary-response/idioms.html&psig=AFQjCNFhKTpuzWHQDULNnxhjxXYcYaAn6Q&ust=1452541021402622)**8. Use idioms and idiomatic expressions …** | | |
| PHRASE | MEANING | STAR FACTOR |
| So ist das Leben! | That’s life! | \*\*\* |
| ich war am Boden zerstört | I was shattered | \*\*\*\* |
| Es ist stark/ irre ! | It is great! | \*\*\* |
| Es ist Babyleicht/ Kinderleicht ! | It is easy! | \*\*\* |
| Es ist ein Kinderspiel ! | It is a piece of cake! | \*\*\* |
| Es ist knüppelhart! | It is difficult! | \*\*\* |
| Ehrlich gesagt, verb | To tell you the truth | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich war überglücklich! | I was over the moon! | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich werde ganz selig sein! | I’ll be over the moon! | \*\*\*\* |
| Es war so langweilig! | It was so boring! | \*\*\*\* |
| So ein Ärger! | What a nightmare! | \*\*\*\* |
| Was für ein Tag! | What a day! | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich war rot wie eine Tomate | I was as red as a tomato (i.e. sunburnt) | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich war sauer | I was enraged | \*\*\* |
| Ich bin vor Hunger gestorben | I was famished (Lit: I died of hunger) | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich war zu Tode/ zu Tränen gelangweilt! | I was bored to death/ tears! | \*\*\*\* |
| Ich hatte die Schnauze/ Nase voll | I was fed up (Lit: I had the snout/ nose full) | \*\*\*\* |