

Wörter unter der Lupe:

The literal meaning of the title is *Words under a magnifying glass*. Throughout the book, this section will look at words from various angles, e.g., cognates (as presented here), words that change their meanings in different contexts, idioms.

Infobox: The Norman invasion of Britain in 1066 brought further changes to the English language. French became the language of the ruling class, and evidence of this can be seen in examples like the following: It was the lower-class farmer who raised *swine*, *cows*, and *sheep*, all words of Germanic origin (in modern German **Schwein**, **Kuh**, **Schaf**). However, when the meat of these animals was served to the nobility, it was called *pork*, *beef*, and *mutton* (French **porc**, **boeuf**, **mouton**).

Find out more about the Angles and Saxons at www.prenhall.com/treffpunkt, Kapitel 1: Web Resources, Kultur

1-520: Be sure to have students read the words aloud or read them yourself. Students will guess meanings more easily when they recognize the context for each set. Easy guessing games of this type expand vocabulary and are fun class activities. Suggested pair work activity: One partner says the German word, the other gives the English equivalent without looking at the book.

Wörter unter der Lupe

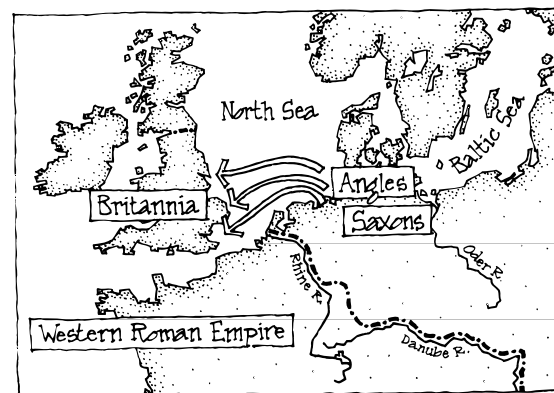
Cognates

In *Erste Kontakte* and this chapter you have seen that German and English are closely related languages. Many words are so close in sound and spelling to their English equivalents that you can easily guess their meanings. Words in different languages that are identical or similar in form and meaning are called *cognates*.

INFOBOX

Why German and English are similar: The Angles and Saxons

Many of the similarities between English and German can be traced back 1600 years to the time when the Angles and Saxons, Germanic tribes from what is today northern Germany, invaded Britain and settled there. Around 200 A.D. the Roman Empire encompassed not only the countries around the Mediterranean, but also included present-day Austria, Switzerland, Southern Germany, France, and most of the British Isles. Beginning about the fourth century A.D., shiploads of Angle and Saxon warriors crossed the North Sea to England and attacked the increasingly vulnerable defenses of the Roman Empire. When the Romans finally retreated from Britain in the fifth century, the Angles and Saxons remained and settled the country. It was the Germanic languages of these tribes that became the foundation for present-day English.



1-50 Leicht zu verstehen. Give the English cognates of the following sets of German words.

- Family:** die Mutter, der Vater, der Sohn, die Tochter, der Bruder, die Schwester
- Parts of the body:** das Haar, die Nase, die Lippe, die Schulter, der Arm, der Ellbogen, die Hand, der Finger, der Fingernagel, das Knie, der Fuß
- Descriptive words:** jung, alt, neu, hart, lang, laut, voll, frisch, sauer, dumm, gut, reich
- Animals:** der Fisch, die Ratte, die Maus, die Katze, die Laus, der Wurm, der Fuchs, der Bulle, die Kuh
- Food and drink:** die Butter, das Brot, der Käse, der Apfel, das Salz, der Pfeffer, das Wasser, das Bier, der Wein, die Milch

1-51 Wie heißt das Restaurant? In the German-speaking countries, many restaurants and hotels have ornate wrought-iron signs. Look at the sampling below and match them with the names in the box.



der Ochse	die Krone	die Sonne	das Lamm
der Schwan	das Kreuz	das Einhorn	die drei Könige

Zur Aussprache

German *ei* and *ie*

1-52 Hören Sie gut zu und wiederholen Sie!

Wein	Wien	sein	sie
dein	die	bei	Bier

Distinguish between *ei* and *ie* by reading the following sentences aloud.

- Wie viel ist drei und vier?
Drei und vier ist sieben.
- Wie heißen Sie?
Ich heiße Ziegler.
- Das ist nicht mein Bier.°
- Die Schweiz ist eine Demokratie.
- Dieter und Melanie reisen in die Schweiz.

colloquial for: *That's not my problem!*

Because of the inconsistencies of English spelling and pronunciation (e.g., *Neither* of my friends received a *piece* of *pie*), English-speaking students of German often confuse the pronunciation of the German *ie* and *ei* (e.g., **Die Sonne scheint**). When the two vowels appear together, use the second vowel as an indication of how the word is pronounced. To help you keep these two vowel combinations straight, you can also think of "Frankenstein is a fiend."