

2024 specification
first exams in 2026

Practice Papers for GCSE AQA German

Listening: Foundation



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Teacher's Introduction

These Practice Papers have been written to help your students prepare for the **Listening** examination for the GCSE AQA German **2024 specification**.

This pack contains three **Foundation** tier practice papers. They have been designed in the style of the real AQA exam but with completely original content, including questions, transcripts and mark schemes.

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The papers contain the question types that appear in the new SAMs, so that students can revise effectively. Each paper includes Section A: Listening Comprehension and Section B: Dictation, totalling 40 marks.

How to use this resource:

Set the paper under exam conditions to give students an idea of what level they are working at. Go over the answers in class to identify strategies, such as:

- reading the questions and predicting plausible answers before listening to the recordings
- applying a mixture of grammatical awareness and common sense
- using the context to aid intelligent guessing

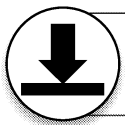
Students should be encouraged to note down, and learn, any new vocabulary from the questions they got wrong. The same paper could be set again after a couple of months, when students should aim to get 100%.

Each paper is provided in two formats: a write-on version, which typifies the format of the exam paper, and a non-write-on version, where students write the answers in their exercise books, designed to reduce photocopying.

Additional note:

Dictation is a new skill for the 2024 specification. Students should be encouraged to practise this in class and discuss specific techniques. ZigZag Education has a Dictation Skills Pack available to support knowledge and skill-building in this area. Marking criteria and exemplification for Section B dictation can be found on the AQA website.

October 2025



All audio tracks are provided on the ZigZag Education Support Files system, which can be accessed via **zzed.uk/productsupport**

Specification Match Grid

The grid below shows how the audio tracks for the questions correspond with the 2024 specification:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Identity and relationships with others | 6. Celebrity culture |
| 2. Healthy living and lifestyle | 7. Travel and tourism |
| 3. Education and work | 8. Media and technology |
| 4. Free-time activities | 9. The environment and where people live |
| 5. Customs, festivals and celebrations | |

| Paper 1 | | Paper 2 | | |
|---------|--|---------|--|-------|
| Track | Topic | Track | Topic | Track |
| 2 | The environment and where people live | 2 | Healthy living and lifestyle | 2 |
| 3 | Healthy living and lifestyle | 3 | Identity and relationships with others | 3 |
| 4 | Free-time activities | 4 | Media and technology | 4 |
| 5 | Identity and relationships with others | 5 | Free-time activities | 5 |
| 6 | Travel and tourism | 6 | The environment and where people live | 6 |
| 7 | Education and work | 7 | Education and work | 7 |
| 8 | Media and technology | 8 | Travel and tourism | 8 |
| 9 | Customs, festivals and celebrations | 9 | Free-time activities | 9 |
| 10 | Education and work | 10 | Customs, festivals and celebrations | 10 |
| 11 | Free-time activities | 11 | Identity and relationships with others | 11 |
| 12 | The environment and where people live | 12 | Healthy living and lifestyle | 12 |

Track Listings

| Paper 1 | | Paper 2 | | |
|---------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Track | Title | Track | Title | Track |
| 1 | Introduction | 1 | Introduction | |
| 2 | Places to live | 2 | Eating out | |
| 3 | Sports centre | 3 | Family relationships | |
| 4 | Cinema | 4 | Gaming | |
| 5 | Relationships | 5 | Shopping habits | |
| 6 | Transport in the region | 6 | Weather report | |
| 7 | Job advertisement | 7 | School subjects | |
| 8 | Technology | 8 | Holidays | |
| 9 | Customs and festivals | 9 | Films | |
| 10 | School uniform | 10 | Part-time jobs | |
| 11 | Music | 11 | Rights and responsibilities | |
| 12 | Environment | 12 | Sport | |
| 13 | Dictation sentence 1 | 13 | Dictation sentence 1 | |
| 14 | Dictation sentence 2 | 14 | Dictation sentence 2 | |
| 15 | Dictation sentence 3 | 15 | Dictation sentence 3 | |
| 16 | Dictation sentence 4 | 16 | Dictation sentence 4 | |

Teacher's note:

Before starting the first track for a mock exam, students should be given 5 minutes of time. All tracks include the correct number of pauses and repetitions.

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ZigZag Practice Exam

Supporting GCSE AQA German: 2024

Write-on paper

German
Listening

Foundation Tier Practice Paper 3

Name

Time allowed:

Approximately 35 minutes, including:

- 5 minutes' reading time before the test. You may make notes during this time.
- 2 minutes' checking time at the end to check your work.

Information:

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.

Instructions:

- Fill in the box at the top of this page.
- Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.

For each part of the exam:

- Read the instructions and questions.
- Listen carefully to the recording and then re-read the questions.
- Listen to the recording one more time, and then answer the questions.
- You are allowed to write at any time during the test.
- You will hear a beep when the next question is about to start.
- In **Section A**, answer the questions in **English**. In **Section B**, which is the dictation, write in **German**.
- You must answer **all** the questions neatly in the spaces provided. Give all the information you are asked for.
- **Ask any questions now. You must not ask questions or interrupt during the test.**

Your teacher will tell you when to begin the exam.

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Section A

Listening comprehension

Family

You hear some Swiss teenagers describing their families.

Which description matches each person? Write the correct letter in each box.

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| A | three children |
| B | two sisters and one brother |
| C | one half-brother |
| D | one stepbrother |
| E | three brothers |
| F | one brother and one sister |
| G | one sister |

1. Yasmin

2. Arda

3. Sascha

4. Jana

5. Bente

Leisure activities

You are listening to a podcast about leisure activities.

Write ONE word in each gap. Answer **both** parts of questions.

Example: In his free time, Felix plays tennis and goes hiking/walking.

6.1 Alina likes to in her free time because

she favours

6.2 Elias loves to but he

hates.....

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Holiday accommodation

You hear a report about different holiday accommodation in Austria.

Identify the advantages and disadvantages of each type of accommodation.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| A | restaurant |
| B | popular |
| C | peaceful |
| D | small flat |
| E | city centre |
| F | scenery |

For each question, identify an **advantage** and a **disadvantage**.

Write the correct letters in the boxes.

7. **Holiday apartment:**

Advantage

Disadvantage

8. **Hotel:**

Advantage

Disadvantage

Festivals

You are listening to an advertisement for an Austrian festival.

9. What activities are mentioned?

| Last year's festival | This year's festival |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| competition | |

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Film stars

You are listening to a Swiss teenager talk about film stars.

What does she say about her favourite film star? Which **two** statements are correct?

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| A | His films have interesting stories. |
| B | His is very famous. |
| C | He doesn't give in a few. |
| D | He was always in a good mood. |

10. Write the correct letters in the boxes.

My home

You are listening to some Swiss teenagers talking about their homes.

Which statements are correct?

Write **A** if only statement **A** is correct.

Write **B** if only statement **B** is correct.

Write **A+B** if **BOTH** statements are correct.

11.

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|--|
| A | The bathroom is big. | |
| B | There is no garden. | |

12.

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| A | She lives in a flat. | |
| B | She lives in a village. | |

13.

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|--|
| A | The house has three bedrooms. | |
| B | He doesn't mind sharing a bedroom. | |

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Well-being

You hear a public announcement about well-being.

Complete the sentences in **English**. Answer **both** parts of question 14.

14.1 As well as doing fitness, it is necessary to...

.....

14.2 To feel well, it is important to...

.....

**A recent shopping trip**

You are listening to a friend talk about a recent shopping trip. What does he say about it?

Write **P** for a **positive** opinion.

Write **N** for a **negative** opinion.

Write **P+N** for a **positive AND negative** opinion.

15.1 Shopping at the supermarket

15.2 Eating in the supermarket café

Live music

You are listening to your German friend talking about watching live music.

Choose the correct response. Write the correct letter in each box.

Complete **both** parts of question 16.

16.1 When watching a concert, she likes to...

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| A | dance to the music |
| B | see everything clearly |
| C | sing the words |

16.2 She prefers watching a concert online because...

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| A | going out is tiring |
| B | there are too many people there |
| C | the sound is better |

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The natural world

A Swiss teenager is talking about the issues facing the natural world.

Which issue concerns him, and why?

Write the answers in the boxes.

17. Issue

Reason

Future plans

You hear some German teenagers talking about their future plans.

Which future plan does each person mention?

Write the correct letter in each box.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| A | have lots of money |
| B | become a doctor |
| C | get a good education |
| D | own a business |
| E | do volunteer work |
| F | have a family |

18. Marie

19. Arda

20. Elif

21. Jona

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Section B

Dictation

You will now hear four short sentences.

Listen carefully and using your own knowledge of German sounds, write down in German for each sentence.

You will hear each sentence three times: the first time as a full sentence, the second time as two separate sentences, and the third time again as a full sentence.

Use your knowledge of German sounds and grammar to make sure that what you write is correct. Check carefully that your spelling is accurate.

Sentence 1

.....

.....

Sentence 2

.....

.....

Sentence 3

.....

.....

Sentence 4

.....

.....

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ZigZag Practice Exam

Supporting GCSE AQA German: 2024

Non-write-on paper

German
Listening



Foundation Tier Practice Paper 3

Time allowed:

Approximately 35 minutes, including:

- 5 minutes' reading time before the test. You may make notes during this time.
- 2 minutes' checking time at the end to check your work.

Information:

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.

Instructions:

- **Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.**

For each part of the test:

- Read the instructions and questions.
- Listen carefully to the recording and then re-read the questions.
- Listen to the recording one more time, and then answer the questions.
- You are allowed to write at any time during the test.
- You will hear a beep when the next question is about to start.
- In **Section A**, answer the questions in **English**. In **Section B**, which is the dictation, write in **German**.
- You must answer **all** the questions neatly. Give all the information you are asked for.
- **Ask any questions now. You must not ask questions or interrupt during the test.**

Your teacher will tell you when to begin the exam.



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Section A

Listening comprehension

Family

You hear some Swiss teenagers describing their family.

Which description matches each person? Write the correct letter for each question.

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| A | no siblings |
| B | one sister and one brother |
| C | half-brother |
| D | one stepbrother |
| E | three brothers |
| F | one brother and one sister |
| G | one sister |

1. Yasmin
2. Arda
3. Sascha
4. Jana
5. Bente

Leisure activities

You are listening to a podcast about leisure activities.

Write ONE word in each gap for **both** parts of question 6.

Example: In his free time, Felix plays tennis and goes hiking/walking.

- 6.1** Alina likes to in her free time because she has a favourite
- 6.2** Elias loves to but he hates.....

Holiday accommodation

You hear a report about different holiday accommodation in Austria.

Identify the advantages and disadvantages of each type of accommodation.

| | | | |
|----------|------------|----------|-------------------|
| A | restaurant | D | sports facilities |
| B | popular | E | peaceful |
| C | peaceful | F | cherry |

For each question, identify an **advantage** and a **disadvantage**.

Write the correct letters.

- 7. Holiday apartment:** Advantage Disadvantage
- 8. Hotel:** Advantage Disadvantage

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Festivals

You are listening to an advertisement for an Austrian festival.

9. What activities are mentioned?

| Last year's festival | This year's festival |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| competition | |

Film stars

You are listening to a Swiss teenager talk about film stars.

What does she say about her favourite film star? Which two statements are correct?

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| A | His films have interesting stories. | C | He doesn't give interviews. |
| B | His is very famous. | D | He always seems in a good mood. |

10. Write the correct **two** letters.

My home

You are listening to some Swiss teenagers talking about their homes. Which statements are correct?

Write **A** if only statement **A** is correct.

Write **B** if only statement **B** is correct.

Write **A+B** if **BOTH** statements are correct.

11. A The bathroom is big. B There is no garden.
 12. A She lives in a city. B She lives in a village.
 13. A He has three bedrooms. B He doesn't mind sharing.

Well-being

You hear a public announcement about well-being.

Complete the sentences in **English**. Answer **both** parts of question 14.

14.1 As well as doing fitness, it is necessary to...

14.2 To feel well, it is enough to...

A recent shopping trip

You are listening to a friend talk about a recent shopping trip. What does he say about it?
 Answer **both** parts of question 15.

Write **P** for a **positive** opinion.

Write **N** for a **negative** opinion.

Write **P+N** for a **positive AND negative** opinion.

15.1 Shopping at the supermarket

15.2 Eating in the supermarket café

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Live music

You are listening to your German friend talking about watching live music.

Choose the correct response. Complete **both** parts of question 16.

16.1 When watching a concert, she likes to...

- A dance to the music
- B see everything clearly
- C sing the words

16.2 She prefers watching concerts online because...

- A she can't hear the music
- B there are too many people there
- C the sound is better

The natural world

A Swiss teenager is talking about the issues facing the natural world.

Which issue concerns him, and why?

- 17.** Issue:
Reason:

Future plans

You hear some German teenagers talking about their future plans.

Which future plan does each person mention? Write the correct letter for each one.

| | | | | | |
|----------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|-------------------|
| A | have lots of money | C | get a good education | E | do volunteer work |
| B | become a doctor | D | own a business | F | have a family |

- 18.** Marie
- 19.** Arda
- 20.** Elif
- 21.** Jonas

Section B
Dictation

You will now hear four short sentences.

Listen carefully and using your own knowledge of German sounds, write down in German the meaning of each sentence.

You will hear each sentence **three** times: the first time as a full sentence, the second time as a sentence with a missing word, and the third time again as a full sentence.

Use your knowledge of German sounds and grammar to make sure that what you write is correct. Check carefully that your spelling is accurate.

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Preview of Questions Ends Here

This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of questions ends here to avoid students previewing questions before they are set. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.

Transcripts

Practice Paper 1

Section A: Listening Comprehension

| Track | Question | M/F | Places to live |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 2 | 1 | M1 | Ich wohne in einem kleinen Haus in der Stadtmitte. |
| | 2 | M1 | Ich mag meine Stadt, aber ich möchte später auf der Landschaft schön. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Sports centre |
|-------|----------|-----|--|
| 3 | 3 | F1 | Im Freizeitzentrum gibt es viel für sportliche Menschen. Ein Fitnessstudio joggen und am Wochenende gibt es ein Fußballfeld. Es gibt es einen Basketballverein. Leider gibt es keinen Tennisplatz. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Cinema |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 4 | 4 | M1 | Welchen Film willst du sehen? Die Komödie oder den Krimi? |
| | | F1 | Wir haben letzte Woche eine Komödie geschaut. Das war lustig. |
| | | M1 | Toll. Nächste Woche sehen wir uns den neuen Fußballfilm an. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Relationships |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 5 | 5 | F1 | Früher war die Ehe normal, aber in letzter Zeit hat sich das geändert. |
| | 6 | F1 | Eine zivile Partnerschaft ist beliebt, weil man keine Ehe eingetragene Partnerschaft hat man auch Rechte. |
| | 7 | F1 | Leute finden eine Hochzeit teuer, also bleiben sie lieber zivil. |
| | 8 | F1 | Viele Leute leben zusammen, aber heiraten nicht. Warum? Sie haben keine Rechte. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Transport in the region |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 6 | 9 | M1 | Ich wohne auf dem Land, wo es fast keine öffentlichen Verkehrsmittel gibt. Es gibt keine Buslinie, die zweimal am Tag fährt. Es gibt keine Bahnstationen. |
| | 10 | F1 | Ich wohne in der Stadtmitte, also sind die Verkehrsmittel mit der Bahn oder mit dem Bus, aber ich gehe lieber zu Fuß. |
| | 11 | M1 | Leider braucht man bei mir auf dem Land ein Auto und das ist nicht umweltfreundlich. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Job advertisement |
|-------|----------|-----|--|
| 7 | 12 | M1 | Suchen Sie einen neuen Job? Arbeiten Sie bei uns. Wir sind ein junges, gesundes Unternehmen, mit starken Armen, und auch unabhängig. |
| | 13 | F1 | Wenn Sie einen kreativen Beruf suchen, oder andere Fähigkeiten, dann ist diese Stelle nichts für Sie. |

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| Track | Question | M/F | Technology |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 8 | 13 | F1 | Ich hasse die Technik, also habe ich keinen Computer. Ich finde es langweilig. Zu Hause sehe ich fern, und manchmal spreche ich am Telefon. |
| | 14 | M1 | Die Technik ist nützlich. Ich habe eine App für jedes Smartphone. Ich benutze mein Handy für die Fitness, weil ich keine Zeit zum Computern, zum Spielen oder Herunterladen habe. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Customs and festivals |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 9 | Example | F1 | Wie willkommen in Deutschland! Wie lange bleiben Sie in Deutschland? |
| | 14 | M1 | Meine Schwester hatte neulich Geburtstag, also haben wir eine Party gemacht. Wir bleiben vier Tage. |
| | 15 | F1 | Wie finden Sie die Gebäude hier? |
| | | M1 | Sie sind historisch. Die Geschichte ist interessant. Wir haben viel gemacht und haben viel gesehen. |
| | 16 | F1 | Weihnachten ist hier wunderbar. Was möchten Sie auf dem Markt kaufen? |
| | | M1 | Wahrscheinlich etwas zu Essen, besonders Wurst. Wir haben viele Restaurants. |

| Track | Question | M/F | School uniform |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 10 | 17 | F1 | Meiner Meinung nach ist die Uniform ärgerlich, besonders in der Hitze. Es ist total unbequem. Wenn man die Schularbeit schwierig findet, ist es noch schlimmer, wenn die Kleidung bequem ist. |
| | 18 | M1 | Für mich ist die Uniform kein Problem. Das Hemd geht in der Hitze. Obwohl es im Winter nicht so schlimm ist, weil es zu kalt ist. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Music |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 11 | 19 | M1 | Ich spiele ein Instrument in der Kirche und ich singe in der Chor. Ich bin in einer Rockgruppe und wir machen Konzerte. Am Wochenende höre ich Musik vom Internet herunter. |

| Track | Question | M/F | Environment |
|-------|----------|-----|---|
| 12 | 20.1 | M1 | Müll ist ein Problem. Die Landschaft ist schmutzig, weil viele Leute auf den Straßen werfen. Das ist verboten. |
| | 20.2 | F1 | Der Verkehr ist meine große Sorge. In jeder Stadt gibt es Staus, die verschmutzt die Luft. |
| | 20.3 | M2 | Die Erde wird heißer. Die Temperaturen steigen. Das ist ein Problem in allen Ländern, wo es extremes Wetter gibt. |

Section B: Dictation

| Track | Sentence | M/F | Section B: Dictation |
|-------|----------|-----|--|
| 13 | 1 | F1 | Sentence 1 Ich gehe / ins Stadion. |
| 14 | 2 | M1 | Sentence 2 Meine Kollegin / ist launisch*. |
| 15 | 3 | F1 | Sentence 3 Ich empfehle / dieses / Gericht*. |
| 16 | 4 | M1 | Sentence 4 In der Zukunft / möchte ich / ins Ausland reisen. |

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Mark Schemes

Practice Paper 1

Section A: Listening comprehension

| Question | Answers | |
|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | A | |
| 2 | B | |
| 3 | B, C, D (in any order) | |
| 4.1 | F | |
| 4.2 | | |
| 4.3 | N | |
| 5 | popular | |
| 6 | rights | |
| 7 | expensive | |
| 8 | unmarried / not married | |
| 9 | A | |
| 10 | A+B | |
| 11 | B | |
| 12.1 | D, F (in any order) | |
| 12.2 | A, B (in any order) | |
| 13 | B, C (in any order) | |
| 14 | A, C (in any order) | |
| 15 | the buildings | |
| 16 | buy at the (Christmas) market | |
| 17 | N | |
| 18 | P+N | |
| 19 | (rock) group band | download |
| 20.1 | F | |
| 20.2 | | |
| 20.3 | D | |

Section B: Dictation

Sentence 1: Ich gehe regelmäßig ins Stadion.

Sentence 2: Meine Kollegin ist launisch*.

Sentence 3: Ich empfehle dieses Gericht*.

Sentence 4: In der Zukunft möchte ich ins Ausland reisen.

(* = off-list word)

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Preview of Answers Ends Here

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