

A2

IDIOMS & COLLOCATIONS

≈ 27 MIN

False Friends: German-English (1) – *practice on paper*

You have built the lesson — now lock in thirteen traps, brick by brick. New sentences, same rule.

Same shape, different meaning: check every **false friend** in context before you use it.

NAME

DATE

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING

2 · FILL-IN

3 · CORRECT

4 · WRITE

BRICK 1 · SORT: CORRECT OR FALSE FRIEND? · APPROX. 4 MIN

● ○ ○

Read each phrase. If the English word carries the correct meaning, it goes in the left column. If it is the German lookalike trap, it goes in the right column.

check messages on your handy

ask the boss for approval

tour the factory floor

send the prospect to the client

we are currently testing the new tool

check messages on your mobile phone

ask the chef for approval

send the brochure to the client

we are actually testing the new tool

tour the fabric floor

THE ENGLISH WORD IS USED CORRECTLY

FALSE-FRIEND MISTAKE COPIED FROM GERMAN

BRICK 2 · FILL IN THE CORRECT WORD · APPROX. 6 MIN

● ● ○

Fill each gap with the correct English word. A German word looks similar — that is exactly the trap.

- 01 Our new _____ starts on Monday and will manage the sales team.
- 02 Please switch your _____ to silent before the training begins.
- 03 The new plant in Poland replaced our old _____ near the harbour.
- 04 Could you email me the digital _____ before the trade fair?
- 05 The _____ version of the manual is online, not the printed one.
- 06 The board will _____ approve the merger next quarter.
- 07 Client feedback forms are _____ information and must stay confidential.
- 08 Did you already _____ my invoice for last month?

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING

2 · FILL-IN

3 · CORRECT

4 · WRITE

BRICK 3 · FIND AND CORRECT THE MISTAKE · APPROX. 7 MIN



Each sentence hides exactly one false-friend mistake. Underline it and write the whole sentence correctly.

01 My chef signed off on the new marketing budget yesterday.

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02 Warning: this cleaning product contains a strong gift and should be locked away.

.....

03 After thirty years with the firm, she now lives comfortably on her rent.

.....

04 The trainee got the best note in the entire onboarding group.

.....

05 We finally agreed on a consequent pricing policy for all regions.

.....

06 Every December, the company spends two thousand euros to local charities.

.....

BRICK 4 · WRITE YOUR OWN SENTENCES · APPROX. 8 MIN



Write one sentence for each prompt. Use the correct English word, not the false friend.

01 Write a sentence about your boss — use the correct English word for a manager.

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02 Describe what is in your bag — use the word "mobile phone".

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03 Write a sentence about a company donation — use the word "donate".

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04 Write a sentence about a future event — use "possibly" or "eventually" correctly.

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MINI-CHECK — CAN I DO THIS YET?

☐ I know German "Chef" is English "boss", not "chef".

☐ I no longer confuse "possibly" and "eventually".

☐ I can spot typical false-friend mistakes in a sentence.

☐ I can use the correct English words in everyday office life.

Not every box ticked? Reread the lesson and practise again tomorrow.



Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why** — the rule matters more than the result.

BRICK 1 · SORTING

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| <p>01 false friend check messages on your handy
<i>English "handy" means useful, not a phone.</i></p> <p>02 correct ask the boss for approval
<i>"Boss" is the correct word for manager.</i></p> <p>03 correct tour the factory floor
<i>"Factory" correctly means the production building.</i></p> <p>04 false friend send the prospect to the client
<i>English "prospect" means potential customer, not brochure.</i></p> <p>05 correct we are currently testing the new tool
<i>"Currently" correctly means at the moment.</i></p> | <p>06 correct check messages on your mobile phone
<i>"Mobile phone" is the correct English term.</i></p> <p>07 false friend ask the chef for approval
<i>English "chef" means cook, not manager.</i></p> <p>08 correct send the brochure to the client
<i>"Brochure" is the correct word for Prospekt.</i></p> <p>09 false friend we are actually testing the new tool
<i>English "actually" means in fact, not current.</i></p> <p>10 false friend tour the fabric floor
<i>English "fabric" means cloth, not factory.</i></p> |
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BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

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| <p>01 boss
<i>"Boss" is the English word for manager.</i></p> <p>02 mobile phone
<i>"Mobile phone"; not "handy", is English for phone.</i></p> <p>03 factory
<i>"Factory" means Fabrik; "fabric" means cloth.</i></p> <p>04 brochure
<i>"Brochure" is the correct translation of Prospekt.</i></p> | <p>05 current
<i>"Current" means aktuell, not "actually".</i></p> <p>06 possibly
<i>"Possibly" means eventuell; "eventually" means "in the end".</i></p> <p>07 sensitive
<i>"Sensitive" means sensibel, not reasonable.</i></p> <p>08 get
<i>"Get" means bekommen; "become" means turn into.</i></p> |
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BRICK 3 · CORRECT

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| <p>01 My boss signed off on the new marketing budget yesterday.
<i>"Boss" means manager; "chef" means cook.</i></p> <p>02 Warning: this cleaning product contains a strong poison and should be locked away.
<i>German "Gift" means "poison" in English.</i></p> <p>03 After thirty years with the firm, she now lives comfortably on her pension.
<i>"Pension" means Rente; "rent" means Miete.</i></p> | <p>04 The trainee got the best mark in the entire onboarding group.
<i>A school grade is "mark"; "note" means message.</i></p> <p>05 We finally agreed on a consistent pricing policy for all regions.
<i>"Consistent" means konsequent; "consequent" means resulting.</i></p> <p>06 Every December, the company donates two thousand euros to local charities.
<i>"Donate" means spenden; "spend" means paying money.</i></p> |
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BRICK 4 · WRITE

Your sentences may differ — just check you used the right word.

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|---|---|
| <p>01 "My boss is very supportive of new ideas."
<i>"Boss" is correct for manager, not "chef".</i></p> <p>02 "I always carry my mobile phone in my jacket pocket."
<i>"Mobile phone" is the English word for Handy.</i></p> | <p>03 "The firm donated five thousand euros to the local hospital."
<i>"Donate" means give, not spend money.</i></p> <p>04 "We will possibly extend the deadline, but nothing is confirmed yet."
<i>"Possibly" shows uncertainty — unlike "eventually".</i></p> |
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NEXT BRICKS — KEEP BUILDING FREE ONLINE

PAIR WITH THIS

Make vs Do

englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/make-do-collocations

NEXT STEP

Around the Office

englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/office-vocabulary

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