

B1

EMAILS & FOLLOW-UP

MONOLOG · 3 MIN.

Why "I Will Become Your Reply" Does Not Mean "Ich bekomme Ihre Antwort" · Podcast

An email promises the customer to turn into a reply. Why German "bekommen" is not "become" — and how to phrase clean follow-up emails.

Listen to the episode +
comprehension test:

<https://www.englisch-lehrer.com/podcasts/why-i-will-become-your-reply-does-not-mean-ich-bekomme-ihre-antwort>

NAME

DATE

BRICK 1 · LEARN THE KEY PHRASES



Read the eight phrases with meaning and example. You will hear all of them in the episode.

ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	EXAMPLE
to receive	bekommen, erhalten (förmlich)	<i>We will receive the signed contract on Friday.</i>
to get	bekommen (informell)	<i>Did you get my email from yesterday?</i>
to become	werden (nicht „bekommen“!) – falscher Freund	<i>She became project manager last year.</i>
reply	Antwort (auf eine E-Mail)	<i>Thank you for your quick reply.</i>
I look forward to receiving ...	ich freue mich auf ... (förmlicher Mail-Schluss)	<i>I look forward to receiving your feedback.</i>
licence offer	Lizenzangebot	<i>The updated licence offer includes ten additional users.</i>
apologies	Entschuldigung (kurz, schriftlich)	<i>Apologies — the attachment was missing. Here it is.</i>
approved	genehmigt, freigegeben	<i>The budget was approved this morning.</i>



BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS



Complete the missing word from the conversation.

receiving

becoming

getting back

bekommen

sales

selling

sale

sells

01 I look forward to _____ your reply.

02 She became head of _____ in January.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?



Tick one. T = true, F = false.

01 In English, "to become" means to change into something.

T ☐ F ☐

02 Jens says "I will get your reply tomorrow" is wrong in English.

T ☐ F ☐

BRICK 4 · ORDER



Number the steps of the conversation (1–5).

01 ☐ The customer approves the offer

02 ☐ Tobias writes "I will become your reply tomorrow"

03 ☐ Tobias apologises and corrects the sentence

04 ☐ A customer in Leeds asks for an updated licence offer

05 ☐ The customer jokes about the transformation

BRICK 5 · YOUR VERSION



Write two sentences of your own using phrases from Brick 1.

.....

.....

.....

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I can announce a delay politely.
- ☐ I can propose an alternative.
- ☐ I can promise written confirmation.

Listened twice and ticked everything? Then you are ready for the real conversation.



Cut-out flashcards

× Cut out, fold on the line – English in front, German on the back. Or practise digitally:

<https://www.englisch-lehrer.com/podcasts/why-i-will-become-your-reply-does-not-mean-ich-bekomme-ihre-antwort>

to receive

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Thank you for your quick reply.

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licence offer

The updated licence offer includes ten additional users.

Lizenzangebot

apologies

Apologies — the attachment was missing. Here it is.

Entschuldigung (kurz, schriftlich)

approved

The budget was approved this morning.

genehmigt, freigegeben

Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why**.

BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS

01 **receiving**

The false friend is the trap: "becoming" would mean transforming. The formal closing is "I look forward to receiving your reply."

02 **sales**

"Head of sales" is the job title. Here "became" is correct because it describes a change: she took on the role.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?

01 **True**

True — "to become" means "werden": to change into something. It is used for change and development.

02 **False**

False — that is exactly the correct version: "The correct sentence is simple: I will get your reply tomorrow."

BRICK 4 · ORDER

01 **1.** A customer in Leeds asks for an updated licence offer

02 **2.** Tobias writes "I will become your reply tomorrow"

03 **3.** The customer jokes about the transformation

04 **4.** Tobias apologises and corrects the sentence

05 **5.** The customer approves the offer

KEEP PRACTISING LIVE

Want to practise these phrases in a real conversation?

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