

# Warum Deutsch?

Why German?

## □ Why should I learn a foreign language?

This is a question many Americans ask. Learning a foreign language not only makes it possible for you to communicate in the country where that language is spoken, it also opens up a whole realm of opportunities for you here in America. Can you think of any **careers** or **situations** where knowing a foreign language might be helpful? Why should people learn a language?

- |                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. speaking with tourists   | 6. _____  |
| 2. impress employers        | 7. _____  |
| 3. international journalist | 8. _____  |
| 4. government/ politics     | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____                    | 10. _____ |



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## □ Okay, but why should I learn German?

Deutschland

We have just discussed the benefits of learning a foreign language in general; now let us talk about why one would want to learn German.

There are more than 2,700 languages in the world. Of these languages, German is the most widely spoken language in Europe. It is the mother language for over 140 million people in Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Vatican and Switzerland (which is more than the number of people who speak English as a first language in Europe)! It is also the second language for 20 million people around the world and 50 million U.S. citizens claim German descent.

You may not know it, but Germany plays a large role in your everyday life. Germany is the US's largest European trading partner and the third strongest economy in the world. Over 1,100 German companies do business in the US. The language also remains popular in international chemistry and engineering - and who has not admired the craftsmanship of German automobiles?

Can you think of any German **companies** or **instances** where knowing German could be helpful? List reasons to learn German!

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- |                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Bayer (chemistry/ pharmaceuticals) | 6. _____  |
| 2. psychology (Sigmund Freud)         | 7. _____  |
| 3. family heritage (25% of Americans) | 8. _____  |
| 4. BMG (large recording company)      | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____                              | 10. _____ |

