

# Alfabet

A B C D E F G

H I J K L M N O P

Q R S T U V W

X Y Z ß

# Umlaut

Umlauts only on A, O, U

ä = German “e”

Mädchen

ö = German “e” with rounded lips

hört

ü = German “i” with rounded lips

küsst

# Sibilants

- No sh. Instead use sch, st, sp
- The sch sound is “harsch”
- Hard ch after a, o, u  
“Buch”
- Soft ch after e, i or umlauts  
“Bücher”
- ß always at the end of a syllable
- ß basically stands for ss

- S at the beginning of a syllable sounds like English Z  
“singt”
- S at the end of a syllable sounds like a regular S  
“Brust”
- Z sounds like “ts”  
“zehn”

# Notizen

- All nouns capitalized
- ie vs. ei: Sounds like 2nd letter
- If it ends with b, d, g  
it will sound like p, t, k  
“gelb”, “Hand”, “Tag”
- Guess K more than C
- Y as vowel sounds like ü  
“System”

- No silent “h” at the beginning of a syllable
- An “h” after a vowel lengthens the vowel
- Light “L” sound
- -ig can sound like -ch or -k
- J sounds like y
- V sounds like f
- W sounds like v

- If you hear a schwa sound, guess “e”
- German is famous for combining words.
- High German vs. Low German
- A note on pronunciation...