



DTZ Prüfung Guide

Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer A2-B1 Preparation Guide

A clear and practical guide for learners preparing for the DTZ, the Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer. It explains the exam structure, A2/B1 result logic, Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking, plus useful Wortschatz and a 14-day study plan.

Inside this guide

- What the DTZ is and who it is for
- How A2 and B1 results are calculated
- Listening and Reading: task types and strategies
- DTZ Schreiben: short letter / e-mail structure
- DTZ Sprechen: self-introduction and planning phrases
- Daily life topics and useful Wortschatz
- A 14-day DTZ study plan and exam day checklist

Best use

Read one section, then practise the same skill with a real task. For Writing and Speaking, write or record an answer and review it. Do not only read examples.

Prepare for DTZ with Test German

Practise at A1, A2 and B1 levels with realistic exam-style tasks. Train Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking in exam format, then use instant AI feedback to improve your productive skills. Start at app.testgerman.de.

Note: This guide is learning support. Always check official BAMF, g.a.s.t. and your local exam centre for exact registration rules, dates and local procedures.

1. What is the DTZ?

The DTZ means Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer. It is a standardized German language exam for levels A2 and B1. It is used as the final language exam in integration courses in Germany.

The exam focuses on everyday communication. You work with situations from daily life, official offices, work, school, housing, health and learning German. This makes the DTZ very practical for life in Germany.

Question	Simple answer
What does DTZ test?	German skills in Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking.
Which levels can I receive?	Your result can show A2 or B1. If the result is below A2, you receive a result notification, not a certificate.
Why is B1 important?	B1 can support integration goals, permanent residence or citizenship steps. Always check your personal case with the authority.
Is it only grammar?	No. The DTZ tests whether you can communicate in real daily situations.

Teacher note

The DTZ is not about perfect German. It is about clear communication. You need to understand everyday texts, write a useful message and speak actively in common situations.

Test German practice tip

Start with short Listening and Reading tasks. Then write a short message and record a short speaking answer. Check your mistakes after each task. For Writing and Speaking, feedback helps you understand task points, grammar, word order, pronunciation and clarity. This is more useful than checking only a score.

2. Exam structure and A2/B1 result logic

The DTZ Prüfung has two main parts: a written exam and an oral exam. The written exam contains Listening, Reading and Writing. The oral exam tests Speaking.

Part	What you do	Time / key facts
Listening	You listen to announcements, radio information, conversations and opinions.	4 parts, 20 tasks, about 25 minutes.
Reading	You read everyday texts such as notices, ads, short news, messages, letters and information texts.	5 parts, 25 tasks, 45 minutes.
Writing	You write one semi-formal or formal message, letter or e-mail. There are two tasks to choose from.	1 task, 30 minutes.
Speaking	You introduce yourself, answer questions, talk about an experience or topic and plan something together.	3 tasks, about 16 minutes. Usually pair exam. No preparation time.

2.1 How the level result works

The DTZ does not use only one simple score. It looks at three evaluated areas: Listening and Reading, Writing and Speaking.

To receive B1 overall, you need B1 in Speaking. You also need B1 in at least one written area: either Listening and Reading or Writing.

So the shortest rule is: B1 Speaking + one B1 written area = B1 overall.

Area	B1 score range	A2 score range
Listening and Reading	33-45 points	20-32 points
Writing	15-20 points	7-14 points
Speaking	75-100 points	35-74.5 points

Important

Speaking is very important in the DTZ. If you want B1 overall, you need B1 in Speaking. Therefore, practise speaking regularly, not only at the end.

3. Listening: understand everyday audio

In DTZ Listening, you hear practical texts from everyday life in Germany. You hear each text once. So you must read the task quickly, listen for the main idea and notice key details.

What you may hear

- Telephone announcements and public announcements.
- Short radio information, for example weather or traffic.
- Everyday conversations between people.
- Short opinions about one topic.

Before the audio starts

- Read the question quickly.
- Underline names, places, times and numbers.
- Predict the situation: doctor, school, office, station or course.
- Do not translate every word.

During the audio

- Listen for who, where, when and why.
- Mark the answer while you listen.
- Stay calm if you miss one detail.
- Watch negative words: nicht, kein, nie, nur.

Teacher tip

After each Listening task, write down three useful words from the audio. Then repeat the task once. This trains your ear and builds DTZ vocabulary.

3.1 Useful Listening words with meaning and sample sentences

Situation	Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Appointment	Termin	appointment	Ich habe morgen einen Termin beim Arzt.
Appointment	verschieben	to postpone / reschedule	Ich möchte den Termin auf Freitag verschieben.
Appointment	absagen	to cancel	Leider muss ich den Termin absagen.
Travel	Gleis	platform	Der Zug fährt von Gleis 3 ab.
Travel	Verspätung	delay	Der Zug hat heute 20 Minuten Verspätung.
Travel	umsteigen	to change trains/buses	Sie müssen in Köln umsteigen.
Course	Unterricht	lesson / class	Der Unterricht beginnt um 9 Uhr.
Course	Anmeldung	registration	Die Anmeldung für den Kurs ist im Büro.
Course	Pause	break	Nach der Aufgabe machen wir eine kurze Pause.
Official office	Antrag	application	Bitte füllen Sie den Antrag vollständig aus.
Official office	Bescheinigung	certificate / confirmation	Bringen Sie bitte die Bescheinigung mit.
Official office	Ausweis	ID card	Zeigen Sie bitte Ihren Ausweis.

Practice Listening with Test German

Build listening focus with short tasks first. Then try longer exam-style sessions and track your progress across the full DTZ format at app.testgerman.de.

4. Reading: find the information quickly

In DTZ Reading, you work with everyday texts. You may read notices, ads, short reports, e-mails, letters, forms, brochures or instructions. Your goal is to find the information that answers the task.

What to practise

- Global understanding: What is the text about?
- Selective reading: Find one detail fast.
- Text matching: Match a person or situation with the right text.
- Functional reading: Understand forms, notices and instructions.

Safe strategy

1. Read the task first.
2. Mark key words in the question.
3. Scan the text for the same idea, not only the same word.
4. Check dates, times or words like only.
5. Move on if one question takes too long.

Common traps

- A similar word appears, but the meaning is different.
- The answer is true, but not for this question.
- You miss a date, time or condition.
- You choose before reading the whole relevant sentence.

Mini rule

For every wrong answer, ask: "Where exactly is the answer in the text?" This teaches you to prove your answer, not guess it.

4.1 Useful Reading words

German word	Meaning	Example context
gültig	valid	Tickets, documents, offers.
erforderlich	required	Official letters and forms.
spätestens	at the latest	Deadlines and appointments.
beantragen	to apply for	Documents and permits.
stattfinden	to take place	Courses, events and appointments.

5. DTZ Writing: short letter or e-mail

In DTZ Writing, you write one text. The task gives you a situation and four content points. You usually write a semi-formal or formal message, letter or e-mail. You have 30 minutes.

Criterion	What it means for your text
Inhalt	You answer all task points. The reader gets the needed information.
Kommunikative Gestaltung	Your text has a clear structure, suitable greeting and closing.
Ausdruck	You use useful words and phrases for the situation.
Korrektheit	Your grammar, word order and spelling are understandable.

5.1 A safe DTZ Writing structure

- Greeting: Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren, / Liebe Frau Müller,
- Opening: Ich schreibe Ihnen, weil ...
- Point 1: Give the first important information.
- Point 2: Explain or describe the situation.
- Point 3: Ask, suggest or request something.
- Point 4: Complete the last task point.
- Closing: Ich freue mich auf Ihre Antwort.
- Sign-off: Mit freundlichen Grüßen / Viele Grüße

Practice Writing with Test German

Do not just read model answers. Write your own DTZ Writing answer in real exam format, then get instant AI feedback on task completion, grammar, word order, spelling and clarity. You see what to fix and why it matters. Start your practice at app.testgerman.de.

5.2 DTZ Writing phrases

Function	Useful phrase
Opening formal	Ich schreibe Ihnen, weil ... / Ich möchte Sie informieren, dass ...
Reason	Leider kann ich nicht kommen, weil ...
Request	Könnten Sie mir bitte ... schicken?
Appointment	Ich möchte einen neuen Termin vereinbaren.
Apology	Es tut mir leid, dass ...
Closing formal	Vielen Dank im Voraus. / Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Closing informal	Ich freue mich auf deine Antwort. / Viele Grüße

5.3 DTZ Writing sample texts

Use simple phrases. Good DTZ writing should be clear and complete. Do not write very long sentences if they become difficult to control. The examples below are about 80-100 words each.

Sample task 1: Course absence

Task: You cannot come to your German course tomorrow. Write to your teacher. Apologize, explain why, ask for the homework and say when you will come again.

Sample answer

Sehr geehrte Frau Schneider,

leider kann ich morgen nicht zum Deutschkurs kommen. Ich habe am Vormittag einen wichtigen Termin beim Arzt, weil ich seit zwei Tagen starke Schmerzen habe. Es tut mir sehr leid. Können Sie mir bitte die Hausaufgaben per E-Mail schicken? Ich möchte den Unterricht nicht verpassen und zu Hause üben. Am Mittwoch komme ich wieder in den Kurs. Wenn es neue Arbeitsblätter gibt, können Sie mir diese bitte auch senden?

Vielen Dank im Voraus.
Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Ahmed

Sample task 2: Neighbor problem

Task: Write to your neighbor. Explain that the music was very loud, say why it was a problem, ask politely for quiet after 22:00 and suggest a conversation.

Sample answer

Liebe Frau Weber,

ich schreibe Ihnen, weil die Musik gestern Abend in Ihrer Wohnung sehr laut war. Ich konnte lange nicht schlafen, denn ich musste heute früh zur Arbeit gehen. Ich verstehe, dass man manchmal Besuch hat, aber nach 22 Uhr brauche ich Ruhe. Können Sie bitte in Zukunft nach 22 Uhr die Musik leiser machen? Vielleicht können wir am Wochenende kurz darüber sprechen. Ich möchte gern eine freundliche Lösung finden. Ich danke Ihnen.

Vielen Dank für Ihr Verständnis.
Viele Grüße
Nina

Sample task 3: Appointment at the Bürgeramt

Task: You have an appointment at the Bürgeramt, but you cannot come. Write an e-mail. Explain the reason, ask for a new appointment and ask which documents you need.

Sample answer

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

ich habe am Dienstag um 10 Uhr einen Termin im Bürgeramt. Leider kann ich zu diesem Termin nicht kommen, weil mein Kind krank ist und ich zu Hause bleiben muss. Ich möchte den Termin deshalb gern verschieben. Können Sie mir bitte einen neuen Termin in der nächsten Woche geben? Außerdem möchte ich fragen, welche Unterlagen ich mitbringen muss. Brauche ich meinen Ausweis, die Meldebescheinigung und ein Foto?

Vielen Dank im Voraus.
Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Sara Demir

Sample task 4: School absence

Task: Your child cannot go to school. Write to the teacher. Say why, ask about homework, and say when your child will come back.

Sample answer

Liebe Frau Müller,

mein Sohn Emir kann heute leider nicht zur Schule kommen. Er hat Fieber und starke Kopfschmerzen. Wir gehen am Nachmittag zum Arzt. Deshalb soll er heute zu Hause bleiben und sich ausruhen. Können Sie mir bitte sagen, welche Hausaufgaben die Klasse heute bekommt? Ich möchte ihm die Aufgaben geben, wenn er sich besser fühlt. Wahrscheinlich kommt Emir am Donnerstag wieder in die Schule. Wenn er länger krank bleibt, informiere ich Sie noch einmal.

Vielen Dank.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Leyla Yilmaz

Sample task 5: Jobcenter documents

Task: The Jobcenter asks for documents. Write a message. Explain what you send, say one document is missing, ask about the deadline and offer to bring it later.

Sample answer

Sehr geehrte Damen und Herren,

vielen Dank für Ihren Brief. Ich sende Ihnen heute die Kopie von meinem Ausweis und meinen Arbeitsvertrag. Leider fehlt mir noch die aktuelle Bescheinigung von meiner Krankenkasse. Ich habe sie schon beantragt, aber ich habe sie noch nicht bekommen. Können Sie mir bitte sagen, bis wann ich die Bescheinigung nachreichen kann? Wenn es möglich ist, bringe ich das Dokument nächste Woche persönlich vorbei. Das wäre hilfreich.

Vielen Dank für Ihre Hilfe.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Omar Hassan

5.4 DTZ Writing checklist

Check	Question to ask yourself
Task points	Did I answer all four content points?
Greeting	Does my greeting fit the person or office?
Structure	Can the reader follow my message easily?
Word order	Did I check weil, dass, wenn and deshalb?
Verb forms	Do verbs fit the subject and tense?
Closing	Did I end with a suitable closing and name?
Clarity	Can the reader understand what I want?

Common mistakes to avoid

- You answer only three of four task points.
- You write too little because you spend too much time planning.
- You use informal language in an official letter.
- You forget the closing phrase.
- You write very long sentences with many mistakes.
- You do not check word order after weil or dass.

6. DTZ Speaking: speak actively and clearly

In DTZ Speaking, you show that you can communicate in everyday situations. The speaking part usually happens as a pair exam. There is no preparation time, so routine is important.

Task	What you do	How to prepare
Task 1: Introduce yourself	You give personal information and answer follow-up questions.	Prepare a short natural introduction. Practise questions about work, family, course and daily life.
Task 2: Talk about an experience or topic	You describe, compare, report or give your opinion.	Practise short opinions with reasons and examples.
Task 3: Plan something together	You discuss a plan with your partner and agree on details.	Practise suggesting, asking, agreeing and disagreeing politely.

What helps you get a better result

- Speak in full sentences, not only one-word answers.
- Give short reasons: "weil ...".
- Ask your partner clear questions.
- React to your partner: "Das stimmt", "Gute Idee", "Ich bin nicht sicher".
- Stay friendly, calm and active.

Practice Speaking with Test German

Record your DTZ Speaking answer, listen to yourself and improve with instant AI feedback. Test German helps you see what to practise next: fluency, pronunciation, structure, task relevance and better phrases. Start speaking practice at app.testgerman.de.

6.1 Self-introduction and useful phrases

Do not memorize a very long text. Prepare flexible phrases. Then you can answer naturally when the examiner asks a follow-up question.

Self-introduction template

Guten Tag. Ich heiße ... und komme aus Ich lebe seit ... in Deutschland. Zurzeit besuche ich einen Deutschkurs / arbeite ich als Ich möchte Deutsch lernen, weil In meiner Freizeit

Function	Useful phrases
Personal information	Ich heiße ... / Ich komme aus ... / Ich lebe seit ... in Deutschland.
Work and course	Zurzeit arbeite ich als ... / Ich besuche einen Integrationskurs.
Opinion	Meiner Meinung nach ... / Ich finde, dass ... / Das ist wichtig, weil ...
Experience	Ich habe die Erfahrung gemacht, dass ... / Früher ... aber jetzt ...

Function	Useful phrases
Ask partner	Wie ist das bei dir? / Was meinst du? / Hast du auch diese Erfahrung gemacht?
Planning	Sollen wir ...? / Wir könnten ... / Wann passt es dir?
Agree	Einverstanden. / Das ist eine gute Idee. / Dann machen wir das so.

6.2 DTZ Speaking sample answers

Practise these examples aloud. Then change the details so the answer fits your own life.

Example 1: Self-introduction

Sample answer

Guten Tag. Ich heiße Maria und komme aus Spanien. Ich lebe seit zwei Jahren in Deutschland. Ich wohne mit meinem Mann und meiner Tochter in Köln. Zurzeit besuche ich einen Integrationskurs, weil ich besser Deutsch sprechen möchte. Ich habe früher in einem Supermarkt gearbeitet. In Deutschland möchte ich auch wieder arbeiten. In meiner Freizeit koche ich gern und gehe mit meiner Familie spazieren.

Example 2: Talk about a topic - learning German

Sample answer

Meiner Meinung nach ist Deutschlernen sehr wichtig für das Leben in Deutschland. Man braucht Deutsch beim Arzt, im Kindergarten, im Jobcenter und bei der Arbeit. Am Anfang war es für mich schwer, weil die Grammatik anders ist. Aber jetzt lerne ich jeden Tag neue Wörter. Ich finde, man sollte jeden Tag ein bisschen sprechen. Zum Beispiel spreche ich im Kurs mit anderen Teilnehmern und übe zu Hause kurze Sätze.

Example 3: Planning together - study meeting

Sample answer

A: Sollen wir am Samstag zusammen für die DTZ Prüfung lernen?
B: Ja, das ist eine gute Idee. Wo treffen wir uns?
A: Wir könnten uns in der Bibliothek treffen. Dort ist es ruhig.
B: Einverstanden. Um wie viel Uhr passt es dir?
A: Vielleicht um 14 Uhr. Ich bringe mein Buch und meine Notizen mit.
B: Gut. Ich bringe auch Kopien für Schreiben mit.
A: Dann treffen wir uns am Samstag um 14 Uhr in der Bibliothek.

7. Common DTZ topics and useful Wortschatz

The DTZ uses everyday topics from life in Germany. Learn words by situation. Then use the words in short sentences, not only as a list.

Jobcenter / work

Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Termin	appointment	Ich habe morgen einen Termin beim Jobcenter.
Antrag	application	Ich muss den Antrag bis Freitag abgeben.
Leistung	benefit / support	Ich habe eine Frage zu meiner Leistung.
Bewerbung	job application	Ich schreibe heute eine Bewerbung.
Arbeitsvertrag	work contract	Ich bringe meinen Arbeitsvertrag mit.

Doctor / health

Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Arzt	doctor	Ich habe um 10 Uhr einen Termin beim Arzt.
Rezept	prescription	Der Arzt gibt mir ein Rezept.
Schmerzen	pain	Ich habe starke Schmerzen im Rücken.
Untersuchung	examination	Die Untersuchung dauert nur zehn Minuten.
krankmelden	to report sick	Ich muss mich heute krankmelden.

School / children

Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Schule	school	Mein Kind kann heute nicht zur Schule kommen.
Kindergarten	kindergarten	Der Kindergarten ist morgen geschlossen.
Elternabend	parents' evening	Am Donnerstag ist Elternabend in der Schule.
Entschuldigung	excuse note / apology	Ich schreibe eine Entschuldigung für mein Kind.
Hausaufgaben	homework	Mein Sohn muss die Hausaufgaben machen.

Appointments

Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Termin	appointment	Ich möchte einen Termin vereinbaren.
verschieben	to reschedule	Ich möchte meinen Termin verschieben.
absagen	to cancel	Leider muss ich den Termin absagen.
vereinbaren	to arrange	Ich möchte einen neuen Termin vereinbaren.
pünktlich	on time	Bitte kommen Sie pünktlich zum Termin.

Neighbors

Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Nachbar	neighbor	Mein Nachbar wohnt neben mir.
Lärm	noise	Der Lärm war gestern sehr laut.
Ruhe	quiet / peace	Nach 22 Uhr brauche ich Ruhe.
Hausordnung	house rules	Die Hausordnung steht im Flur.
sprechen	to speak	Ich möchte mit Ihnen sprechen.

Official letters

Word	Meaning	Example sentence
Formular	form	Bitte füllen Sie das Formular aus.
Frist	deadline	Die Frist endet am 15. Mai.
Bescheinigung	certificate / confirmation	Ich brauche eine Bescheinigung vom Kurs.
Ausweis	ID card	Bitte bringen Sie Ihren Ausweis mit.
Unterlagen	documents	Bitte bringen Sie alle Unterlagen mit.

7.1 How to learn this Wortschatz

- Choose one topic per day.
- Write five useful sentences with the topic words.
- Say the sentences aloud.
- Use two sentences in a Writing answer.
- Use two sentences in a Speaking answer.

8. Daily life topic practice

These topic cards help you prepare for both DTZ Writing and DTZ Speaking. For each topic, practise one written message and one short speaking answer.

Jobcenter

- Ask for an appointment.
- Explain that a document is missing.
- Ask what you need to bring.

Doctor

- Describe symptoms simply.
- Ask for an appointment.
- Explain why you cannot come to a course.

School

- Write an apology for your child.
- Ask about a meeting.
- Explain a problem with homework.

Neighbor

- Explain a noise problem.
- Ask politely for quiet.
- Suggest a short conversation.

Official letter

- Ask for information.
- Send missing documents.
- Ask about a deadline.

Appointment

- Cancel an appointment.
- Ask for a new date.
- Give a reason.

Test German routine

Pick one topic. Write a short message. Then record a one-minute speaking answer about the same topic. This connects vocabulary with real communication.

9. How to use a DTZ Übungssatz / Modelltest

A DTZ Übungssatz or Modelltest is most useful when you review it actively. Do not only check how many answers are correct. Find out why mistakes happened.

9.1 The active review method

- Simulate: Use real time limits for Listening, Reading and Writing.
- Mark: Write the skill next to each mistake: Listening, Reading, Writing or Speaking.
- Explain: Write one short reason for each mistake.
- Repeat: Redo the weak task two days later.
- Rewrite: Improve your DTZ Writing after feedback.
- Record: Practise your DTZ Speaking answer again.

If your weak area is...	Do this next
Listening	Repeat short audio tasks and collect key words.
Reading	Practise scanning for dates, names and conditions.
Writing	Use the checklist and rewrite the answer.
Speaking	Record a one-minute answer and check if it has a reason and example.
Wortschatz	Make five sentences with words from one daily life topic.

Use Test German for smarter practice

On Test German, you can practise realistic exam-style tasks for Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. You can train under exam conditions, follow your progress and get instant AI feedback for your productive skills. Start at app.testgerman.de.

10. 14-day DTZ study plan

This plan is simple and practical. Use it when you have two weeks before a practice test or before your real DTZ Prüfung.

Day	Focus	Task
1	Exam structure	Learn the parts and take one short diagnostic task.
2	Listening 1	Practise announcements and telephone messages. Note key words.
3	Reading 1	Practise notices, ads and short messages.
4	Writing 1	Write one short formal e-mail. Check four task points.
5	Speaking 1	Prepare your self-introduction and answer follow-up questions.
6	Wortschatz 1	Study Jobcenter, doctor and appointment words. Write sentences.
7	Mini review	Repeat weak tasks from days 1-6.
8	Listening 2	Practise conversations and opinions. Repeat difficult audio.
9	Reading 2	Practise forms, official letters and brochures.
10	Writing 2	Write one message about school, neighbor or appointment.
11	Speaking 2	Practise planning something together with phrases.
12	Wortschatz 2	Study school, neighbor and official letter words.
13	Full practice	Take a full DTZ Übungssatz / Modelltest under time pressure.
14	Final review	Repeat weak points. Prepare documents. Rest well.

Do not overload the last days

The final days are for routine and confidence. Repeat what you already know. Do not start too many new grammar topics.

Do the full 14-day plan with Test German

You can complete this plan on Test German: practise Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking, repeat weak areas, use exam-style tasks and review your progress. Continue at app.testgerman.de.

11. Exam day checklist

The exam day is not the time to experiment. Use simple routines. Focus on one task at a time.

Before you leave	During the written exam	During the speaking exam
Bring your ID and required documents.	Read each task carefully.	Speak clearly.
Arrive early.	Mark answers clearly.	Ask your partner questions.
Check the exam centre rules.	Watch the time.	React politely.
Bring water if allowed.	In Writing, answer all four points.	Use full but simple sentences.

Final reminder

You do not need perfect German. You need clear exam practice, steady review and confidence. Write and speak so the other person understands your message.

Prepare for DTZ with Test German

Continue with realistic exam-style tasks for A1, A2 and B1. Train all four skills in real exam format and use instant AI feedback to improve your Writing and Speaking. Start at app.testgerman.de.

Good luck with your DTZ Prüfung!

Sources and accuracy note

This guide uses official DTZ information from BAMF and g.a.s.t. for the exam structure, skill areas, timing, result logic and task descriptions. Always check your exam centre for local registration dates and procedures.

Official BAMF source: BAMF - Abschlussprüfung / Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer

Official g.a.s.t. source: g.a.s.t. - Der DTZ auf einen Blick

Practice platform: Test German - app.testgerman.de

Prepared for Test German learners

Use this guide as a study companion. The best result comes from practice, feedback and review, not from reading alone.