

# Alltag: Describing Everyday Life with Four Kinds of Sentences

If you can turn an infinitive expression into one of the four types of sentences below, you will feel confident in most situations.

Here are the four **infinitive expressions** represented in the sentence examples below:

- 1 den Müll rausbringen – to take the rubbish out
- 2 aus dem Bett springen – to jump out of bed
- 3 auf einen Kaffee gehen – to go for a coffee
- 4 Videospiele spielen – to play video games

**1 Present Tense:** Jede Woche bringt er den Müll raus. –  
Every day he takes the rubbish out.

**2 Future Tense:** Morgen werde ich früh aus dem Bett springen. – Tomorrow I'll jump out of bed early.

**3 Modal Verb:** Möchtest ihr auf einen Kaffee gehen? –  
Would you all like to go for a coffee?

**4 Perfect:** Ich habe die ganze Nacht Videospiele gespielt. –  
I played video games all night.

Present Tense	Future Tense
Modal Verb	Perfect Tense

## Question 1: Constructing a Present Tense Sentence

Example: Morgens trinke ich immer eine Tasse Tee.

In a **present-tense sentence**, the **conjugated verb** is placed in the \_\_\_\_\_ position.

- a second    b first    c third    d last



## Question 2: Identifying an Accurate Present-Tense Sentence

Which sentence correctly describes the picture and is written in the **present tense**?

- a Ich bin um halb acht aufgewacht.    b Ich wache um halb acht auf.  
c Ich wache um sieben Uhr auf.    d Ich werde um halb acht aufwachen.



## Question 3: Constructing a Future Tense Sentence

Example: Ich werde dich vermissen. – I shall miss you.

To construct a sentence in the **future tense**, you place...

- a ...a conjugated form of werden in the **second position** and a **verb** in the **infinitive form** at the end.  
b ...a **verb** in the **infinitive form** in the **second position** and a **conjugated form** of **werden** at the end.



## Question 4: Selecting a Future Tense Sentence

Which sentence below is in the **future tense** and also represents the **picture**?

- a Ich muss meinen Hund zum Tierarzt bringen.  
b Meine Schwester wird morgen ein neues Haustier bekommen - eine Katze!  
c Morgen werde ich mit dem Hund spazieren gehen, ehrlich!  
d Gestern Abend habe ich den Hund gefüttert.



## Question 5: Two Kinds of Sentences

In this conversation, the first speaker uses a **modal verb** and an **infinitive verb**; the second speaks in the **future tense**. Can you write the correct word for each space?

gehen • werde • möchte • haben

Diana: Nach der Schule ich \_\_\_\_\_ auf einen Kaffee \_\_\_\_\_. Kommst du mit?



Paige: Leider \_\_\_\_\_ nicht genug Zeit \_\_\_\_\_.

## Question 6: Constructing Sentences with a Modal Verb

Example: Ich **muss** morgen ziemlich viel **erledigen**. - I have to get quite a lot done tomorrow.

To construct a sentence with a **modal verb** such as **möchten** or **müssen**, you place...  
a...a **verb in the infinitive form** in the **second position** and a **conjugated modal verb** at the end.  
b...a **conjugated modal verb** in the second position and a **verb in the infinitive form** at the end.

## Question 7: Two Modal Verbs in Sentences

In the sentences below, the first speaker describes what he **would like** to do. The second describes what he **must** do. Can you select the correct word for each space?

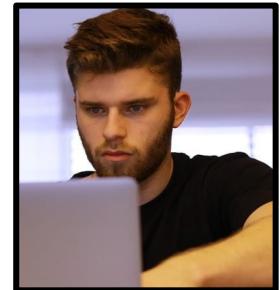
**muss • spielen • lernen • möchte**

**Karl:** Heute Abend \_\_\_\_\_ ich dieses spannende

Videospiel \_\_\_\_\_. Spielst du mit?

**Patrick:** Tut mir leid, leider \_\_\_\_\_ ich für eine

Prüfung \_\_\_\_\_. Vielleicht morgen Abend?



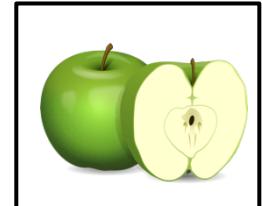
## Question 8: Constructing a Perfect Tense Sentence

Example: Ich **habe** einen Apfelkuchen **gebacken**.

Which two elements are essential in a **perfect tense sentence**?

a The **conjugated form** of the **auxiliary verb** (either **haben** or **sein**) in the **2nd position** and the **past participle** of any verb, usually placed at the end.

b The **infinitive form** of any verb, placed in the **2nd position**, and the **conjugated form** of **haben** or **sein**, usually placed at the end.



## Question 9: Constructing a Perfect Tense Sentence, Part 1

The two students below are discussing their weekends. Can you select the correct words?

**ausgegangen • bin • geblieben • sind**

**Julia:** Am Wochenende \_\_\_\_\_ wir zum Essen \_\_\_\_\_. –

At the weekend we went out for a meal.



**Astrid:** Mein Wochenende war ziemlich langweilig. Ich \_\_\_\_\_ die ganze Zeit zu Hause \_\_\_\_\_. – My weekend was fairly dull. I stayed at home the whole time.

## Question 10: Constructing a Perfect Tense Sentence, Part 2

In the two sentences below, friends are being helpful to travellers. Can you select the correct word for each space?

**abgesetzt • haben • abgeholt • hat**

**a** Mein Freund \_\_\_\_\_ mich netterweise am Bahnhof

\_\_\_\_\_. – My friend dropped me off at the railway station.



**b** Meine Freunde in Deutschland \_\_\_\_\_ mich vom Flughafen

\_\_\_\_\_. – My friends in Germany picked me up from the airport.

## Extension Activities

1 Choose any everyday activity and write the four types of sentences for that activity. You can choose one of the infinitive expressions at this [blog page](#) or use an idea of your own.

2 Blank out the verbs that you have used and swap your sentences with your partner in the class. See if you can fill in the missing verbs from each other's sentences.

**Answers:** 1 a • 2 b • 3 a • 4 c • 5 möchte, gehen, werde, haben • 6 b • 7 möchte, spielen, muss, lernen 8 a • 9 sind, ausgegangen, bin, geblieben 10 hat, abgesetzt, haben, abgeholt