**Grammar**

GCSE students will be expected to have acquired knowledge and understanding of German grammar during their course. In the examination they will be required to apply their knowledge and understanding, drawing from the following lists. The examples in brackets are indicative, not exclusive.

**Straightforward grammatical structures are considered to be:**

● repetitive, simple word order

● short, simple sentences that use a repetitive range of common, high-frequency structures

● simple ideas, opinions and thoughts that are expressed but are not justified.

**Complex grammatical structures are considered to be:**

● varied and complex word order

● using extended sentences that include a range of structures, for example conjunctions, pronouns, reported speech and/or a range of lexis, for example to express abstract ideas/convey justified arguments

● conceptually more challenging language.

**Foundation tier**

The case system

Nouns:

● gender;

● singular and plural forms, including genitive singular and dative plural;

● weak nouns: nominative and accusative singular (Herr, Junge, Mensch, Name)

● adjectives used as nouns (ein Deutscher).

Articles:

● definite and indefinite;

● kein.

Adjectives:

● adjectival endings: predicative and attributive usage, singular and plural, used after

definite and indefinite articles, demonstrative and possessive adjectives;

● adjectival endings after etwas, nichts, viel, wenig, alles

● comparative and superlative including common irregular forms (besser, höher, näher);

● demonstrative (dieser, jeder);

● possessive;

● interrogative (welcher).

Adverbs:

● comparative and superlative including common irregular forms (besser, lieber, mehr);

● interrogative (wann, warum, wo, wie, wie viel);

● adverbs of time and place (manchmal, oft, hier, dort);

● common adverbial phrases (ab und zu, dann und wann, letzte Woche, nächstes;

Wochenende, so bald wie möglich).

Quantifiers/intensifiers:

● sehr, zu, viel, ganz, ziemlich, ein wenig, ein bisschen.

Pronouns:

● personal: all subjects, including man;

● reflexive, accusative;

● reflexive: dative;

● relative: nominative;

● relative: other cases and use of was;

● indefinite: jemand, niemand;

● interrogative: wer, was, was für;

● interrogative: wen, wem.

Verbs:

● regular and irregular verbs;

● reflexive;

● modes of address: du, Sie;

● modes of address: ihr;

● impersonal verbs (most common only, eg es gibt, es geht, es tut weh);

● separable/inseparable;

● modal: present and imperfect tenses, imperfect subjunctive of mögen;

● infinitive constructions (um … zu …; verbs with zu …);

● negative forms;

● interrogative forms;

● tenses;

● present;

● perfect: excluding modals;

● imperfect/simple past: haben, sein and modals;

● imperfect/simple past: other common verbs;

● future;

● pluperfect;

● imperative forms.

Prepositions:

● fixed case and dual case with accusative and/or dative;

● with genitive.

Clause structures:

● main clause word order;

● subordinate clauses, including relative clauses.

Conjunctions:

● coordinating (most common, eg aber, oder, und);

● subordinating (most common, eg als, obwohl, weil, wenn).

Number, quantity, dates and time:

● including use of seit with present tense.

**Higher**

All grammar and structures listed for Foundation tier, as well as:

Nouns:

● weak nouns.

Adjectives:

● adjectival endings after etwas, nichts, viel, wenig, alles.

Pronouns:

● reflexive: dative;

● relative: all cases, and use of was

● interrogative: wen, wem.

Verbs:

● mode of address: ihr;

● impersonal;

● infinitive constructions (ohne … zu …; um ... zu ...; verbs with zu…, eg beginnen, hoffen,

versuchen);

● modal: imperfect subjunctive of können, sollen;

● tenses: imperfect/simple past of common verbs;

● future;

● conditional: würde with infinitive;

● pluperfect;

● imperfect subjunctive in conditional clauses: haben and sein.

Prepositions:

● with genitive (most common, eg außerhalb, statt, trotz, während, wegen).

Conjunctions:

● coordinating and subordinating.

Time:

● use of seit with imperfect tense.