
An Elementary German Grammar

Naftel Ernest L

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GERMAN SYNTAX

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NAFTEL'S CHEAP GERMAN SERIES.

AN

ELEMENTARY GERMAN GRAMMAR.

PART II.—SYNTAX.

BY

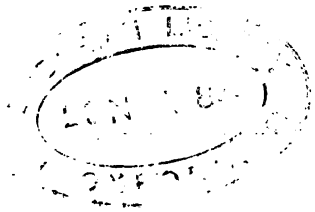
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P R E F A C E.

IN the hope of meeting the want that has long been felt of cheap German Class Books for Schools, I have ventured to bring out, on a similar plan to that pursued by M. Contanseau in his Elementary French Course, a series of German Class Books, which I trust may be favourably received.

The series consists of three sections: the first comprising a Grammar in two volumes—one containing the Accidence, and the other the principal Rules of Syntax.

The second section is a course of three Exercise Books, of which the first is adapted to the Accidence, the second to the Rules on Syntax, whilst the third contains a selection of passages for translation into German, the exercises being graduated in difficulty.

The third section consists of two 'German Readers,' the first of which being intended to be used together with the 'First Exercise Book,' and comprising graduated exercises on the Accidence, is designed to assist

the student in framing conversational exercises. The 'Second Reader' comprehends a selection of extracts, both in poetry and prose, from the best German writers.

The present volume, 'The Syntax,' treats of the grammatical construction of words and phrases, and is partly devoted to *Idiom*. A few sets of Examination Questions have been appended; by writing the answers to these sets of questions from time to time, the student who is preparing for any competitive examination will become accustomed to the work required. Though the questions given are limited in number, they can easily be supplemented by the teacher.

ERNEST L. NAFFEL.

LIVERPOOL, *December* 1876.

CONTENTS.



	PAGE
Simple and Compound Sentences	9
Formation of Sentences	9
Inversion of Predicate and Subject	11
Co-ordinate and Subordinate Sentences	12
Use of the Article	14
Suppression of the Article	15
Compound Substantives	16
Genitive Case and use of Preposition <i>ron</i>	16
Adjectives used predicatively and attributively	17
Adjectives, government of	18
Adjectives with certain Prepositions	19
Comparatives and Superlatives	20
Numeral Adjectives	21
Possessive „	23
Personal Pronouns	24
The Pronoun <i>er</i> , its use	24
The Pronoun <i>selbat</i> , its use	25
Demonstrative Pronouns	25
Relative „	26
Interrogative „	27
Indefinite „	27
Verbs, their agreement	28
Proper use of the Tenses	29
Use of the Moods	30
Infinitive with <i>su</i>	32
Infinitive without <i>su</i>	33
Position of the Infinitive	34
Participles—Present Participle	34
Past Participle	35
Gerundive Participle	36
Participial Clause	36

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Idiomatic use of the Auxiliary Verbs	36
Idiomatic use of the Verb <i>Lassen</i>	41
Passive Voice	42
Government of Verbs	43
Verbs with certain Prepositions	44
Prepositions, use of	45
Conjunctions, meaning of some	48
Examination Questions	53

GRAMMAR.

SYNTAX.

1. A sentence is the expression of one or more thoughts by words. A *simple* sentence is the expression of one thought, and contains one subject and one finite verb; as,

Der Hund läuft, *the dog runs.*

2. A *compound* sentence consists of two or more simple sentences closely connected; as,

Er konnte nicht kommen, denn er war krank.
He could not come, for he was ill.

3. In German, as in English, the components of a principal sentence are (i.) *the subject*; (ii.) *the predicate*; (iii.) *the completion of the predicate, or the object*; (iv.) *the extension of the predicate.*

4. *The subject* is the nominative case: *the predicate* is the verb; *the completion of the predicate* is the *object* of the verb; *the extension of the predicate* is commonly an adverb or a prepositional phrase.

5. The order of the words in a German sentence is generally different from that observed in English, and great attention must be given to this point. In a simple sentence, the order in both languages is usually alike. In German, the most emphatic word is generally placed at the *end* of the sentence.