



GSO German Trivia Answers Sheet

- 1) **ANSWER: BAVARIA!** The clothing that most people think of as traditionally “German” actually originates from the state of Bavaria, in southern Germany! In fact, a lot of features that we think of as German in nature actually come from Bavaria, such as pretzels. Pictured below are Lederhosen (left) and a Dirndl (right).



- 2) **ANSWER: SEPTEMBER!** The festival was originally held in October, but as festivities expanded as the celebration became more popular, the festival’s start date was moved to September. The festival’s end date is always the first Sunday of October.
- 3) **ANSWER: MAGAZINE!** The first magazine was *Erbauliche Monats Unterredungen* (*Edifying Monthly Discussions*), published by Johann Rist, a German theologian and poet. The literary and philosophy magazine inspired others across Europe to publish their own literary journals.
- 4) **ANSWER: MERCEDES!** While all of these car brands are German, Mercedes took the taxi cab world by storm! The dominance of Mercedes has actually made it difficult for Uber to compete since it is hard to compete with the quality of a Mercedes.



- 5) **ANSWER: HANSEL & GRETEL and PIED PIPER!** Hansel & Gretel and the Pied Piper both have purely German origins. Sleeping Beauty is an original French story, while Cinderella's origins are either Chinese (Ye Xian) or Egyptian (Rhodopis).
- 6) **ANSWER: ALL OF THE ABOVE!** *Lecker* (English: yum!)
- 7) **ANSWER: A WEDDING!** In October 1810, the Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig married Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen, with festivities lasting from October 12 to October 17. In the following years, the celebrations were repeated, until they became what we know today as "Oktoberfest."
- 8) **ANSWER: A JELLY DONUT!** JFK said the phrase "Ich bin ein Berliner" to try to mean "I am a Berliner". However, in some regions of Germany, the Berliner is short for a type of pastry in Germany, the *Berliner Pfannkuchen*. Therefore, his phrase can be taken to mean "I am a jelly doughnut". However in Berlin, most people would not refer to the pastry as such and thus understood what the former president was trying to say.
- 9) **ANSWER: TRUE!** Don't get to cocky comparing time zones though, because the date for Daylight Savings is different in different parts of the world! Daylight Savings started on March 28th, 2021, two weeks after in the United States.
- 10) **ANSWER: 5!**

Since 1815, the capitals of Germany have included:

- Frankfurt
- Berlin
- Bonn
- Brunswick
- Wiesbaden

Bonn was the capital of West Germany during the Cold War.



- 11) ANSWER: TRUE!** There are four additional letters in the German alphabet, in addition to the same letters found in the English alphabet: “ä”, “ö”, “ü”, and “ß”. This makes the number of letters a total of 30.
- 12) ANSWER: CHRISTMAS TREE and ADVENT CALENDAR!** St. Lucia is a Swedish holiday and Christmas caroling is an Austrian tradition!
- 13) ANSWER: ZOOS!** Germany has 919 zoos spread across the whole country in all shapes and sizes!
- 14) ANSWER: TRUE!** However, Fanta actually IS from Germany originally! Made during WWII, Fanta originally consisted of “leftover” products such as whey and apple pomace.
- 15) ANSWER: 1990!** The Federal Republic of Germany, or *Bundesrepublik Deutschland*, was only created in 1990!
- 16) ANSWER: ACCORDION!** The accordion was invented in 1822 by Christain Freidrich Buschmann!
- 17) ANSWER: ALL OF THE ABOVE!** There are many ways of saying “goodbye” in German! Six countries have German as the official language, and several dialects of German are spoken throughout the world. The most common farewell is “Auf Wiedersehen!”