

Harry – gefangen in der Zeit

Begleitmaterialien

Episode 028 – Grammar

1. The modal verb "wollen"

You've already learned nearly all the modal verbs: "müssen", "können", "möchten", "sollen" and "dürfen". There's one more - "wollen". Like all the other modal verbs, it is usually used in conjunction with a second verb, the main verb.

The modal verb "wollen" means to want to or intend to do something.

Example:

Harry will frühstücken.

Conjugation

The conjugation of "wollen" is irregular. Pay particular attention to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd person singular:

		<i>wollen</i>
Singular	ich	<i>will</i>
	du	<i>willst</i>
	er/sie/es	<i>will</i>
Plural	wir	<i>wollen</i>
	ihr	<i>wollt</i>
	sie	<i>wollen</i>

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The difference between "wollen" and "möchten"

"wollen" and "möchten" are similar in meaning. They both describe the intention and desire to do something, but with different intensities.

"möchten" expresses a wish or desire and sounds more polite.

"wollen" is stronger and more concrete.

Examples:

Bedienung: "*Was möchten Sie?*"

(= The waitress politely asks what Harry would like.)

Harry: "*Ich will Kaffee, Brötchen, Wurst und Käse.*"

(= Harry is hungry and wants to eat now.)

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2. The demonstrative determiners "dieser", "diese", "dieses"

Demonstrative determiners are used to refer more specifically to someone or something or to differentiate a particular person or object from a larger group. For example, when Harry discovers a few strands of gray hair, he can point to one of them and use the word "diese" - indicating "this one" or "that one". The demonstrative determiners answer the questions "Welcher?", "Welche?" and "Welches?" ("which one" in the three gender classes respectively).

- Masculine:* *Welcher Mann? – Dieser Mann.*
Feminine: *Welche Waffe? – Diese Waffe.*
Neuter: *Welches Haar? - Dieses Haar.*

As with definite and indefinite articles, the demonstrative articles precede the nouns they modify and are governed by the gender, number and case of those nouns.

More:

Demonstrative articles follow the same pattern of declension as definite articles. The following chart shows how they are inflected according to gender and case.

	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Plural
Nominative	dieser Mann der Mann	diese Waffe die Waffe	dieses Haar das Haar	diese Tabletten die Tabletten
Accusative	diesen Mann den Mann	diese Waffe die Waffe	dieses Haar das Haar	diese Tabletten die Tabletten
Dative	diesem Mann dem Mann	dieser Waffe der Waffe	einem Haar dem Haar	diesen Tabletten den Tabletten
Genitive	dieses Mannes des Mannes	dieser Waffe der Waffe	dieses Haares des Haares	dieser Tabletten der Tabletten