

DAS LIED DER DEUTSCHEN

LEVEL 2 POEM

Please memorize one new stanza for each quarter. For quarter 4 the entire poem is due.

BACKGROUND: The melody of the German national anthem comes from the old Austrian imperial anthem "Gott erhalte Franz den Kaiser" ("God Save Franz the Emperor") by Franz Joseph Haydn, which was first played on February 12, 1797. In 1841 Haydn's melody was combined with lyrics by August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben to create "Das Lied der Deutschen" or "Das Deutschlandlied." From the time of Bismarck's Prussia (1871) up to the end of the First World War this anthem was replaced by another. In 1922 the first president of the German Republic (the "Weimar Republic"), Friedrich Ebert, officially introduced "Das Lied der Deutschen" as the national anthem. During the 12 years of the Nazi era, the first stanza was the official anthem. In May 1952 the third stanza was proclaimed the official anthem of the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) by President Theodor Heuss. (East Germany had its own anthem.) The second verse, while never *verboten*, was not very popular because of its "wine, women, and song" theme.

Das Lied der Deutschen German Lyrics

Song of the Germans Literal English

Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,
Über alles in der Welt,
Wenn es stets zu Schutz und Trutze
Brüderlich zusammenhält,
Von der Maas bis an die Memel,
Von der Etsch bis an den Belt -
Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,
Über alles in der Welt.

Germany, Germany above all,
Above everything in the world,
When always, for protection,
We stand together as brothers.
From the Maas to the Memel
From the Etsch to the Belt -
Germany, Germany above all
Above all in the world.

Deutsche Frauen, deutsche Treue,
Deutscher Wein und deutscher Sang
Sollen in der Welt behalten
Ihren alten schönen Klang,
Uns zu edler Tat begeistern
Unser ganzes Leben lang,
Deutsche Frauen, deutsche Treue,
Deutscher Wein und deutscher Sang

German women, German loyalty,
German wine and German song,
Shall retain in the world,
Their old lovely ring
To inspire us to noble deeds
Our whole life long.
German women, German loyalty,
German wine and German song.

Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit
für das deutsche Vaterland!
Danach lasst uns alle streben
Brüderlich mit Herz und Hand!
Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit
Sind des Glückes Unterpfand;
Blüh' im Glanze dieses Glückes,
Blühe, deutsches Vaterland.

Unity and law and freedom
For the German Fatherland
Let us all strive for that
In brotherhood with heart and hand!
Unity and law and freedom
Are the foundation for happiness
Bloom in the glow of happiness
Bloom, German Fatherland.

Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,*
Und im Unglück nun erst recht.
Nur im Unglück kann die Liebe
Zeigen, ob sie stark und echt.
Und so soll es weiterklingen
Von Geschlechte zu Geschlecht:
Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,
Und im Unglück nun erst recht.

Germany, Germany above all*
And in misfortune all the more.
Only in misfortune can love
Show if it's strong and true.
And so it should ring out
From generation to generation:
Germany, Germany above all,
And in misfortune all the more.

*The fourth verse was written by Albert Matthäi during the French occupation of the Ruhr region in 1923. It is not part of the anthem today. Since 1952, only the third ("Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit") verse has been the official anthem.

MELODY: Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

WORDS: August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben (1798-1874)

For Quarter 4 you may sing (with the correct melody) the 3rd stanza, in place of reciting all 4 stanzas!!