

First assignment: Short introduction

Please answer, in no more than 300 words, the following questions:

- Why are you taking German classes at this level?
- What do you hope to get out of this class?
- What specific aspects of the German language do you find puzzling, difficult, or just plain weird?
 - Give 2-3 examples and explain precisely how and why you find them puzzling, difficult or weird.
 - These can come from any aspect of German — language structure (pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary) or the way German is used by speakers (regional or social differences).
 - And they should be really concrete: particular constructions or patterns or ways that people use German, not sweeping generalizations. So, that people in the far north pronounce *sprechen* and *Sturm* with an 's' sound rather than a 'sh' sound is good. Saying that north German speak differently is not good. That you find German 'r' hard to pronounce is a good example, but saying German pronunciation is hard is too vague.