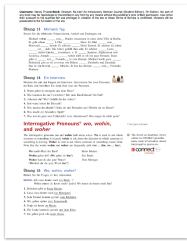


German 1 Online: Reading Guide for Pages 163: Wo, wohin und woher

For this reading assignment, enter page "163" in the search bar for the eText and begin your reading.



Page 163: Interrogative Pronouns *wo*, *wohin*, and *woher*

Because we spent a lot of time last week on the dative case, the grammar section for this week is quite small and short. Please be aware that you should probably also review the dative case information, as it will be tested on the chapter quiz and the final exam, and it's important to keep that material fresh in your mind. But the small topic for this week is simply the three words for "where" in German: *wo*, *wohin*, and *woher*.

Please read the short explanation on page 163. It is as simple as it looks!

Things to notice:

- The basic word for the stationary location 'WHERE' something is located is simply **WO**.

Wo ist das Buch?

Where is the book?

Wo wohnst du?

Where do you live?

Wo spricht man Deutsch?

Where does one speak German?

Wo kauft man Wurst?

Where does one buy sausage?

- The word for 'WHERE FROM' indicating a source or place of origin is **WOHER**. *Woher* is almost always used with the verb "kommen" for coming from. In rare examples, the verb "haben" (where do you have it from = where did you GET it from?) and even "sein" (where is it from?) may also occur with **WOHER**.

Woher kommst du?

Where are you from?

Woher kommt dieser Name?

Where does that name come from?

Woher ist Helmut?

Where is Helmut from?

Woher hast du diese Blumen? *Where do you have those flowers from? (Where did you get them?)*

- The word for 'WHERE TO' indicating a destination or direction of motion is **WOHIN**. *Wohin* is used with motion and travel verbs like "gehen", "fahren", "fliegen", "reisen". In English, the 'to' is rather optional: "Where are you going?" is really "Where are you going to?" but we usually don't say the "to" part. In German it is required to use **WOHIN** with these types of motion verbs:

Wohin gehst du jetzt?

Where are you going (to)?

Wohin reist ihr im Sommer?

Where are you traveling (to) in the summer?

Wohin fährt dieser Bus?

Where does this bus go (to)?

Wohin fliegt er?

Where is he flying (to)?

- The only other thing to understand is that sometimes the "**wohin**" and "**woher**" words might be placed into two pieces: "**wo ... hin**" and "**wo ... her**". It is casual and you never have to separate them, but you may sometimes hear them as two different words. If they are separated, the '**hin**' or '**her**' part of the word will always appear at the end of the sentence bracket, just like a separable-prefix.

Wo gehst du so schnell **hin**?

Where are you going (to) in such a hurry?

Wo kommt ihr denn **her**?

Where do you guys come from, then?

It may help to look at the following link, which is a handout I used when I teach German in a face-to-face class. It gives some extra examples and practice, since the book exercise is fairly short in practicing the *wo-wohin-woher* usage.

[Handout: Practice with Wo-Wohin-Woher](http://www.nthuleen.com/saddleback/handouts/Wo-Wohin-Woher-Practice.pdf)

(<http://www.nthuleen.com/saddleback/handouts/Wo-Wohin-Woher-Practice.pdf>)



Page 163: Übung 15

You will complete exercise 15 as part of your Connect Aufgabe, so you can skim the textbook page for now until you complete that assignment.

Now that you have learned the information about the words for *WHERE* in German, you should complete the Aufgabe on the Connect website. You should also complete the Videoclips for this chapter. After you have completed those exercises, move on to the last reading guide (pages 154 and 164-169), where we learn cultural information about shopping, stores, and spending habits in Germany.