# Grammatical Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>English Term</strong></th>
<th><strong>Definition</strong></th>
<th><strong>Example</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Noun**        | A person, place or thing  
In German nouns start with a capital letter and have one of three genders (masculine - *der*, feminine - *die* or neuter - *das*). | House – *das Haus*  
London  
Mark |
| **Verb**        | A “doing” word i.e. expresses an action or existence.  
Verbs in German can be regular (often called *weak verbs*) or irregular (strong or mixed verbs). | *I work*  
*I am*  
*They eat* |
| **Infinitive**  | The main part of the verb, the part found in the dictionary (the “default”). Usually ends in - *en* in German. | *To eat (essen)*  
*To sell (verkaufen)*  
*To work (arbeiten)* |
| **Adjective**   | Describes a noun. | *Large, a large company*  
*Blue, a blue car* |
| **Adverb**      | Gives more information about a verb. Often end in – *ly* in English. In German adverbs often have the same form as adjectives. | *He drives quickly*  
*She works well*  
*Speak slowly*  
*Very beautiful, quite nice* |
| **Article**     | Word placed before a noun e.g. the, a  
The (relates to a specific person, place or thing)  
A, an (used when not talking about a specific noun)  
There are three genders in German – masculine, feminine and neuter. | The (der, die, das, die)  
The house (*das Haus*)  
A, an (*ein, eine, ein*)  
A house (*ein Haus*) |
| **Preposition** | Shows the relationship of one word to another:  
Preposition of place  
Preposition of date and time | *In, on, under, next to, far from*  
*In August, on Sunday, at 3.00* |
| **Subject**     | The person or thing doing the action of the verb.  
In German the subject of the sentence needs to be in the nominative case. | *I play tennis*  
*The girl works*  
*The sun shines* |
| **Direct Object** | The person or thing to which the action is being done.  
In German the direct object requires the accusative case. | *I buy a computer*  
*We sell cars* |
| **Indirect Object** | The person or thing to whom something is given, told, shown, etc.  
In German the indirect object requires the dative case. | *We give the report to the manager.*  
*We sell cars to China* |
| **Pronoun**     | A word used to save repeating the noun. | *I saw Peter – I saw him*  
*The man works – he works* |