

## *Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

In *Unsere Geschichten 1*, you will find culturally relevant and heartfelt stories to encourage your students to reflect on their own lives and think about the world around them. This curriculum framework is ideal for both middle and high school students receiving their first exposure to the German language as well as those who have gained superficial experience in an elementary and/or middle school exploratory program. Each unit features four short stories and one longer, culminating story carefully written to introduce both high-frequency and high-interest structures. We have included stories that highlight some of the most compelling and beautiful aspects of the German world while instilling valuable insight into the practices and perspectives of target cultures. Our hope is that each story will not only teach students the language, but also provide you, the teacher, a springboard for some interesting conversations in class.

Each story includes varying levels of comprehension activities that provide repeated exposure to targeted structures in novel ways. Each activity is designed to prompt students to think critically about the text and demonstrate their comprehension through various modes of communication. Teacher tips for presenting target structures, such as Total Physical Response (TPR®) methods, Personalized Questions and Answers (PQAs), and Story Scripts, are provided to support teachers who are new to the best practices of teaching with comprehensible input.

To give your students an even deeper CI experience, *Unsere Geschichten* comes equipped with engaging supplemental resources. Explore the supplemental resources under the Let's German Together section. Investigate the richness of the German world with native speaker interviews, culturally inspired photographs, and panoramas in the *Extra! Extra!* section. Enjoy extensive, compelling context with the comprehensible reader *Verschollen in den Katakomben*. With *Unsere Geschichten*, the possibilities for impactful comprehensible input are as limitless as your imagination!

### Profiles

In this guide, you will find four options for pacing the material of *Unsere Geschichten 1*. *Unsere Geschichten* is designed as a curriculum framework, acting as a strong foundation of language learning and knowledge intended to be supplemented where desired with materials the teacher deems most suitable for the needs of their classroom. The most full-bodied unit in *Unsere Geschichten 1* is Unit 1, which offers teachers a comprehensive example of how they can choose to enhance the following five units. You can apply the formatting and structure of various elements present in Unit 1 of *Unsere Geschichten 1* to all units within the title seamlessly through the use of the Voces Editor.

This pacing outlined herein is meant to be an example of what a teacher *could* do, not an example of what a teacher *should* do. Just choose the profile that best fits your teaching situation and dive in!

- **Rock Skipper:** This is the teacher who regularly dips into *Unsere Geschichten* but also uses other instructional materials and/or has limited time with their students. The Rock

## *Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

Skipper teacher will focus primarily on the *Kurzgeschichten* with a quick *Geschichte* thrown in as an assessment and a video or *Extra! Extra!* activity for novelty.

- **Surface Skimmer:** A Surface Skimmer teacher uses *Unsere Geschichten* as the backbone of their curriculum but also supplements frequently with external instructional materials and/or takes a slow approach to language acquisition. This teacher will focus primarily on the *Kurzgeschichten* and the *Geschichte*, with carefully selected videos and cultural lessons to further students' experience with comprehensible input.
- **Knee Deep:** When going Knee Deep, a teacher uses *Unsere Geschichten* as the primary curriculum. This teacher selects the most engaging and relevant of the copious supplemental resources available in *Unsere Geschichten* and schedules them frequently into lesson plans to vary course routines and give students a rich cultural understanding.
- **Deep Diver:** For the Deep Diver, *Unsere Geschichten* is a treasure trove of instructional materials. In a Deep Dive, *Unsere Geschichten* serves as the exclusive curriculum. Because students have both the time and the proficiency level, the Deep Diver incorporates as many resources as possible within every unit.

### Flexibility

As you look over this pacing guide, keep in mind that our pacing and timing for these tasks is approximate and may need to be adapted for different contexts. Of course, you should be prepared to adapt your instruction to spend more time on topics that your students really connect with and move on more quickly when your students' interest is low. Remember that the main goal is to provide compelling, comprehensible input. If you are talking with your students—about a story, a culture, or their personal lives—and your students are engaged, then they are acquiring language! A successful CI program shouldn't fit into neat boxes, so don't let an ideal schedule prevent you from exploring further.

Take some time to discover what might best suit your students' needs. Take advantage of the plentiful resources at your fingertips or use the Voces Editor to create activities of your own. Again, the goal of Comprehensible Input is to engage and connect with your students in such a way that they acquire language subconsciously. As long as they are engaged and you are delivering comprehensible input, do not worry too much about how fast or slow you're moving in the curriculum. Ultimately, *Unsere Geschichten* is meant to be a responsive, student-driven curriculum framework.

For more information on how to edit material or for more ideas on how to implement the curriculum, call 800-848-0256 or email [info@vocesdigital.com](mailto:info@vocesdigital.com).

*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

<b>Profile: Rock Skipper</b>		<b>3-4 weeks</b>
Section	Description	Duration
<i>Kurzgeschichte 1</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 2</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 3</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 4</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Geschichte 1</i>	Read story Assign activities	2-3 days
<i>Geschichte 2</i>	Read story Assign activities	2-3 days
<i>Roman: Verschollen in den Katakomben</i>	Have students read one chapter from this digital novel weekly and listen to the audio in class. Supplement the reading with guided activities or group work to test comprehension.	As needed
<i>Extra! Extra!</i>	Choose a topic to explore as needed to supplement students' learning and provide extra CI.	As needed
Let's German Together!: Supplemental Activities and Interviews	Have students complete activities from the supplemental resource Let's German Together! to further support the development of their vocabulary.	As needed

*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

<b>Profile: Surface Skimmer</b>		<b>3-4 weeks</b>
Section	Description	Duration
Introductory Sections	Can-Do Pre-Assessment Essential Question Connection	1 day
<i>Kurzgeschichte 1</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 2</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 3</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Read Story Script and story Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 4</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Read Story Script and Story Review <i>Grammatik-Tipp!</i> Assign activities	3-4 days
<i>Geschichte 1</i>	Read story Assign activities	2-3 days
<i>Geschichte 2</i>	Read story Assign activities	2-3 days
<i>Roman: Verschollen in den Katakomben</i>	Have students read one chapter from this digital novel weekly and listen to the audio in class. Supplement the reading with guided activities or group work to test comprehension.	As needed
<i>Extra! Extra!</i>	Choose a topic to explore as needed to supplement students' learning and provide extra CI.	As needed
Let's German Together!: Supplemental Activities and Interviews	Have students complete activities from the supplemental resource Let's German Together! to further support the development of their vocabulary.	As needed

*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

<i>Anhang</i>	Take time as a class to review the helpful resources available in the <i>Anhang</i> to better prepare your students for their first German assessment. You can also choose to supplement story structures with vocabulary found in this section.	As needed
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*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

<b>Profile: Knee Deep</b>		<b>5-6 weeks</b>
Section	Description	Duration
Introductory Sections	Can-Do Pre-Assessment Essential Question Connection <i>Besuchen wir Deutschland!</i> <i>In meiner Lebenswelt</i>	1-2 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 1</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script and story Assign activities Presentational Writing Task	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 2</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script and story Assign activities Interpersonal Writing Task	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 3</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script and story Assign activities Interpersonal Speaking Task	3-4 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 4</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read story and review <i>Grammatik-Tipp!</i> Assign activities Interpretive Reading Task	3-4 days
<i>Geschichte 1</i>	Read story Assign activities Presentational Speaking Task	2-3 days
<i>Geschichte 2</i>	Read story Assign activities Interpretive Listening Task	2-3 days
<i>Extra! Extra!</i>	Explore the cultural materials in the <i>Extra! Extra!</i> section. You can choose to break up story days with activities from this section to add some diversity to the lesson planning or choose to pack the materials in this section together for an	3-4 days

*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

	end-of-unit review.	
<i>Anhang</i>	Take time as a class to review the helpful resources available in the <i>Anhang</i> to better prepare your students for their first German assessment. You can also choose to supplement story structures with vocabulary found in this section.	1-2 days
End of Unit	Can-Do Checklist End-of-Unit Review and Assessment	1-2 days
Let's German Together!: Supplemental Activities and Interviews	Have students complete activities from the supplemental resource Let's German Together! to further support the development of their vocabulary.	As needed
<i>Roman: Verschollen in den Katakomben</i>	Have students read one chapter from this digital novel weekly and listen to the audio in class. Supplement the reading with guided activities or group work to test comprehension.	As needed

*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

Profile: Deep Diver		5-7 weeks
Section	Description	Duration
Introductory Sections	Can-Do Pre-Assessment Essential Question Connection <i>Besuchen wir Deutschland!</i> <i>In meiner Lebenswelt</i>	1-2 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 1</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script Read story and review <i>Konzentration bitte!</i> section Assign activities Presentational Writing Task	5-6 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 2</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script Read story and review <i>Konzentration bitte!</i> section Assign activities Interpersonal Writing Task	5-6 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 3</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script Read story and review <i>Konzentration bitte!</i> section Assign activities Interpersonal Speaking Task	5-6 days
<i>Kurzgeschichte 4</i>	<i>Wichtiges Vokabular</i> <i>Persönliche Fragen</i> Ask a class story and follow up Read Story Script and story Assign activities Review <i>Grammatik-Tipp!</i> Interpretive Reading Task	5-6 days
<i>Geschichte 1</i>	Read story Assign activities Presentational Speaking Task	2-3 days
<i>Geschichte 2</i>	Read story Assign activities	2-3 days



*Unsere Geschichten 1 Pacing Guide*

	Interpretive Listening Task	
<i>Extra! Extra!</i>	Explore the cultural materials in the <i>Extra! Extra!</i> section. You can choose to break up story days with activities from this section to add some diversity to the lesson planning or choose to pack the materials in this section together for an end-of-unit review.	3-4 days
<i>Anhang</i>	Take time as a class to review the helpful resources available in the <i>Anhang</i> to better prepare your students for their first German assessment. You can also choose to supplement story structures with vocabulary found in this section.	1-2 days
End of Unit	Can-Do Checklist End-of-Unit Review and Assessment	1-2 days
Assessment	Integrated Performance Assessment	1-2 days
Let's German Together!: Supplemental Activities and Interviews	Have students complete activities from the supplemental resource Let's German Together! to further support the development of their vocabulary.	As needed
<i>Roman: Verschollen in den Katakomben</i>	Have students read one chapter from this digital novel weekly and listen to the audio in class. Supplement the reading with guided activities or group work to test comprehension.	As needed