

German Language History | Tutor: Andrea Oberheiden

List of Topics

Extra Video:

Survey: German Language History (1)

Extra-Video:

Survey: German Language History (2)

Video 1:

The development of language and the two major perspectives on language (language as communication device & language as a shaper of thoughts), Sapir-Whorf-Hypothesis, Alexander von Humboldt, Louis Hjelmslev's tree-wood-lumber example, Ferdinand de Saussure (signifié & signifiant)

Video 2:

The scientific analysis of language (linguistics), ethnic & constructed languages (Esperanto & Klingon), non-standardized & standardized varieties, German-speaking countries

Video 3:

The German language periods and their differences, Old High German I (*Die Merseburger Zaubersprüche/ The Merseburg Incantations*, 10th century)

Video 4:

Old High German II (*Das Hildebrandslied/ Lay of Hildebrand*, 9th century), alliteration

Video 5:

Old High German III (*Das Hildebrandslied* addition: dialects in the written text), Old High German & Old Low German, first & second sound shift, Benrather Linie/ Line of Benrath, Middle High German I (*Die Tegernseer Briefe*, ars dictaminis, minnesong, end rhyme, *Das Falkenlied des Kürenbergers*, 12th century)

Video 6:

The origins of the heroic epic (Homer), metrical feet

Video 7:

Germanic heroic epics of the Middle Ages (Old Saxon, Anglo-Saxon) and late epic poems

Video 8:

Middle High German II, Das Nibelungenlied (The Nibelungen Saga, heroic epic)

Additional Video 'Die Nibelungen':

Brief corrections & additions

Video 9:

Excursus: general rhyme forms

Video 10:

Middle High German III, Walther von der Vogelweide, Minnesang & Sangspruchdichtung

Video 11:

Early Modern High German I (comparisons to MHG, humanism, social changes, letterpress)

Video 12:

Early Modern High German II (colloquial language, standard language, high level language, written languages of registries – Kursächsische Kanzlei, urbanization, Martin Luther + audio clip)

Video 13:

Summary: From Indo-Germanic to Modern High German

Extra Video:

German from an English perspective (Anglo-Saxon as Northern German dialect, German verb positions, German case endings)

Extra Video:

German present-day language (tendencies, language economics, varieties, decay, German as official and school language, GDR and FRG, language export)

Extra Video:

German as poetic language (Joseph von Eichendorff, Wilhelm Busch, Theodor Fontane, Goethe, Andreas Gryphius, Rainer Maria Rilke, Heinrich Heine, Paul Celan, Horst Bingel, Günter Kunert)