Welcome to the German Frame-Semantic Online Lexicon (G-FOL)

Hi!

I'm Framey, your guide to the G-FOL!

The G-FOL is a free online vocabulary resource for German. The site arranges vocabulary by topic so you can learn words in groups where they all describe similar situations. We also give you lots of examples so you can see them in action!

Frame Example: Buying & Selling

In this frame, there is a Buyer, a Seller, some Goods and Money that is traded for the Goods. We all know that in the end, the Seller will end up with the Money and the Buyer will go home with the Goods.

WHAT IS A FRAME?
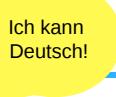
A frame is a scenario or mental concept that words or expressions can bring to mind. They are like templates that we use to organize, understand and express our experiences in the world. In the G-FOL, frames are the topics/themes that group similar words and expressions.

WHAT I CAN TEACH YOU

differences between German and English

in Culture

in Meaning

in Grammar

in Worldview

in Usage

Ich kann Deutsch!

ANATOMY OF A G-FOL ENTRY

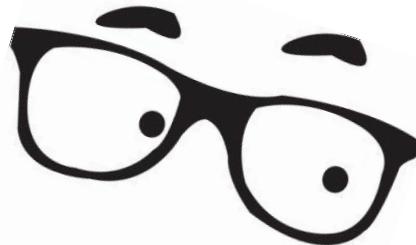| Details	Examples	Grammar Notes	Sentence Templates	Alternate Forms
Translation and prose explanation of meaning and any cross-linguistic differences	A mix of simple, practical examples and authentic examples from German publications	Explain relevant grammar topics	Templates that show how the word is used with relation to the frame's participants	Handy info about verb forms (e.g. past tense), plurals of nouns, etc.

Here's how you use the site...

First, select a frame!

1 Read the frame description and check out the "**frame elements**" (**FEs**) -- these are the participants in the frame, so they are important!

2 Look at the list of words/expressions -- we call them **LUs** (short for **lexical unit**: a word/ expression in one of its senses) -- and click the Details to see if there are any important differences between German and English.

3 See examples so that you can use these LUs yourself! The colors tell you which FE the words refer to (the colors match the FE descriptions at the top).

4 Further explore the LUs you need help with by selecting "See All Information."

5 Are there two similar LUs? Compare them to find the differences. Check the box in the "compare" column for each LU, then click the Compare button at the top. A new window will open with only the LUs you selected.

Now you're ready to try using these LUs on your own!

G[F○L] German

FRAME-SEMANTIC ONLINE LEXICON

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Frame: Buying and Selling

View   Edit

Frame description

These words describe various perspectives on the commercial transaction scenario, in which a Buyer buys some Goods from a Seller or a Store for some Money or other type of payment. ❶

Frame Elements

Frame Element descriptions (on hover): ❶

Buyer
Seller
Goods
Money
Store

Buying and Selling

		Details ❷	Examples ❸	Grammar Notes	Sentence Templates	Alternate Forms	See All Information ❹	Compare ❺
ausgeben	verb	to spend	○	○	○	○	○	□
billig	adjective	cheap	○	○	○	○	○	□
das Geschäft	noun	business, store	○	○	○	○	○	□