

## A1 EINHEIT 11 GRAMMAR

There is little new grammar introduced in this unit. Probably the most important new grammatical point is the simple past tense (*das Präteritum* or *das Imperfekt*) of the verbs *haben* and *sein*. For most verbs, this tense form is limited to newspapers and literature. It is seldom used in speaking. There are a few verbs, however, for which this is not true. The simple past tense forms of *haben* and *sein* are frequently used in conversation. The simple past tense forms are used in very much the same way as the present tense forms. There is no helping verb and the verb is second element unless it is a verb first question. The past tense forms of *haben* and *sein* are as follows:

	<u>sein</u>	<u>haben</u>
<i>Ich</i>	<i>war</i>	<i>hatte</i>
<i>Du</i>	<i>warst</i>	<i>hattest</i>
<i>Er, sie, es</i>	<i>war</i>	<i>hatte</i>
<i>Wir</i>	<i>waren</i>	<i>hatten</i>
<i>Ihr</i>	<i>wart</i>	<i>hattet</i>
<i>Sie, sie</i>	<i>waren</i>	<i>hatten</i>

*Ich war nicht zu Hause.* I wasn't home.      *Ich hatte keine Zeit.* I didn't have any time.

You also learn another modal verb *dürfen* (to be allowed to, may). It functions just like the other modal verbs you've learned- *mögen, müssen, können, and wollen*. The singular forms are very irregular with no endings in the first and third person singular. Like all verbs except *sein*, the plural forms are perfectly regular. The modal verb is in the second element position and is frequently used with another verb which is in the infinitive form at the end of the sentence. The forms of *dürfen* are: *ich darf, du darfst, er darf, wir dürfen, ihr dürft, sie dürfen. Ich darf nicht mit ins Kino(gehen).*

For the unit test you will also have to be able to recognize the ordinal numbers on dates on a calendar- first, second, third, etc. In German, for the numbers below 20, you form the ordinal number by adding *ten* to the number, e.g., *elf +t*. There are several exceptions, however. First = *erst*, third = *dritt*, seventh = *siebt*, eighth = *acht* (only one *t*) For the numbers greater than 20 you add *st* to the number, e.g., *einundzwanzigst*. In German, an ordinal number will always take an ending in addition to the one described above. The ending depends on several factors. To express a date, e.g., on the fifteenth of April, you use *am* before the ordinal number and add *en* as your additional ending. Look at the examples. *Am ersten Mai, am fünften Juni, am zehnten Juli, am fünfzehnten August, am zwanzigsten September, am fünfundzwanzigsten Oktober, am dreißigsten November.*

You will also have to know when to use *am, im, and um* with dates and times. *Ich komme im Sommer, am dritten Juli um sieben Uhr.* I'm coming in the summer, on July 3<sup>rd</sup> (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July) at 7 o'clock.