

GRAMMAR B1 EINHEIT 10

Once again, the grammar introduced in this unit does not amount to much. This, however, does not mean it is not useful. The first point is the use of *je...desto*. This combination is used to connect two comparative forms. In English, we use *the more the merrier*. Probably the most frequent use is in the expression, *the more the merrier*. How would you say, the older I get the dumber I become? *Je älter ich werde, desto dümmer werde ich*. Notice that *je* introduces a subordinate clause with the verb at the end. *Desto* introduces the main clause and is followed by the comparative form and then the main verb. *Je kleiner ein Handy ist, desto teurer ist es meistens auch*.

The other point of grammar introduced in this unit is the present participle used as an adjective (*Partizip I als Adjektiv*).

In English, the present participle is the infinitive + *ing*. It may be used as an adjective *boiling water*. In German, instead of adding *ing* to the infinitive, you add a *d* to the infinitive to form the present participle. It too may be used as an adjective and gets the normal adjective endings *köchendes Wasser*.

*Zum ersten Mal wohne ich in einem Haus mit fließendem Wasser.
Kein denkender Mensch tut so etwas.*