

G E R M A N  
COURSE SUPPLEMENT  
BASIC STRUCTURES

MODULE 26

"Wer" and "Was" as Relative Pronouns;

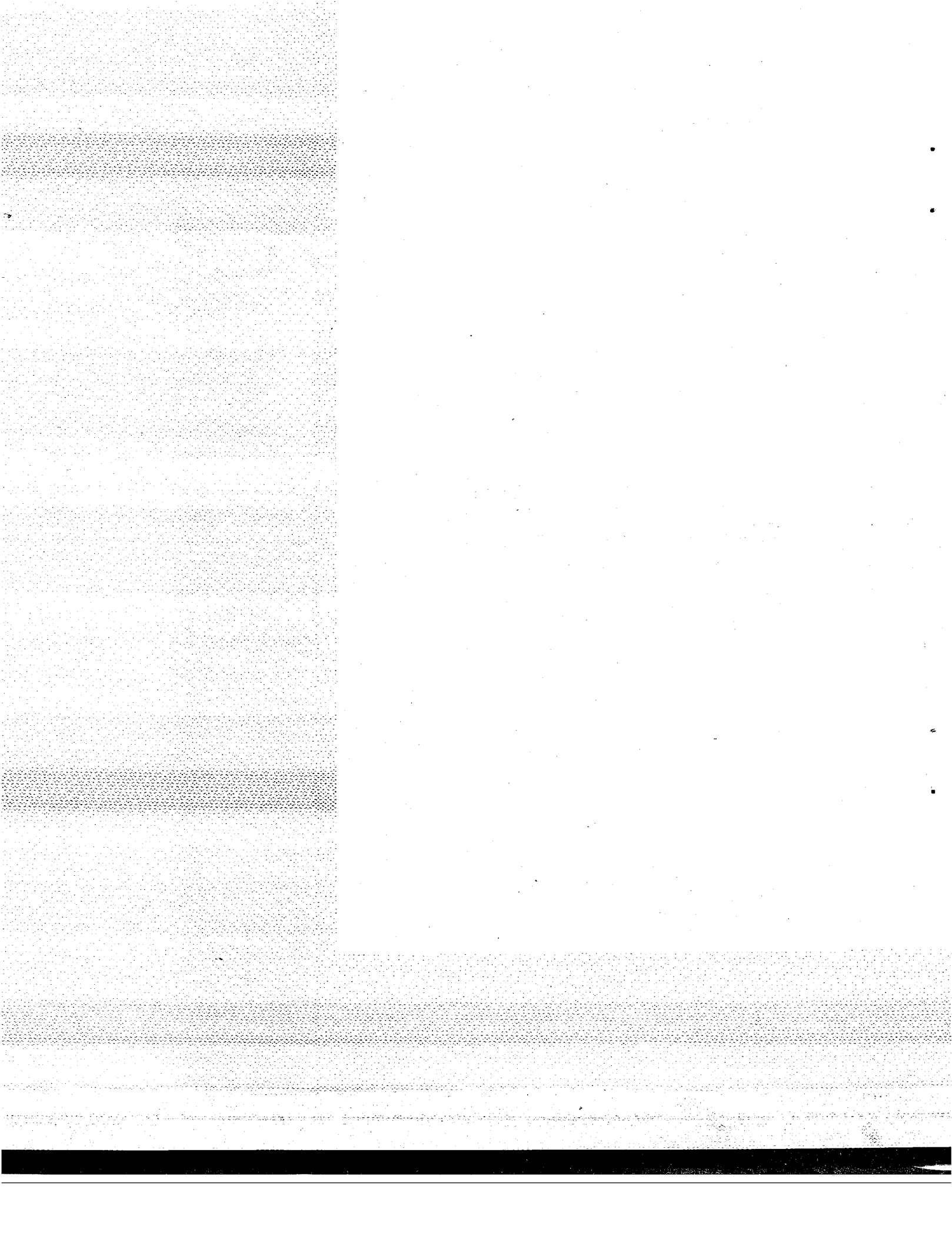
Wo" and "Da-" Compounds

Prerequisite Modules:

Modules 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

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DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE  
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"Wer" and "Was" as Relative Pronouns;  
"wo-" and "da-" Compounds

You are already familiar with wer and was as interrogative pronouns. In this module, you will learn the use of wer and was as relative pronouns. In addition, the so-called "wo-" and "da-compounds" will be introduced and practiced.

The module is divided into the following sections:

1. Wer and Was as Relative Pronouns
2. Wo- Compounds
3. Da- Compounds

Section 1

"wer" and "Was" as Relative Pronouns

## 1. "Wer" and "Was" as Relative Pronouns

In Modules 23 and 24, you learned the forms and uses of the relative pronoun der (die, das, den, etc.) in sentences such as:

Das ist mein Nachbar, der das Haus verkauft.

(This is my neighbor, who is selling the house.)

Das ist die Lampe, die Inge gekauft hat.

(That is the lamp Inge bought.)

In the above two examples, and in the other practice sentences of Modules 23 and 24, the noun to which the relative pronoun referred was always present in the main clause. When the noun to which the relative pronoun refers is not present in the main clause, der (or other forms of der) cannot be used. Instead, the pronouns wer or was are used. Wer refers to persons, and was refers to things or ideas.

For example, suppose you wanted to say the German equivalent of:

I don't know who sold the house.

What would the German for the main clause be?

The main clause would be

Ich weiss nicht ....

Since there is no noun present in the main clause to which the "who" of the subordinate clause would refer, a form of der cannot be used.

Which of the two pronouns wer or was would be used instead?

Since a person is being referred to ("I don't know who ...."), the appropriate form of wer must be used, rather than a form of was. Thus:

I don't know who sold the house.

would be rendered:

Ich weiss nicht, wer das Haus verkauft hat.

Now consider the English sentence:

He does exactly what he wants [to do].

The German main clause for this sentence would be

Er macht genau ....

Does the relative pronoun (in the English sentence, "what") refer to a person or a thing or idea?

It refers to a thing or idea, so the appropriate form of was would be required:

Er macht genau, was er will.

(He does exactly what he wants.)

Note that the main clause does not necessarily have to express a "lack of information" on the speaker's part in order for the wer/was principle to apply.

Again, the determining factor in the use of wer or was (rather than der) is whether or not the noun to which the relative pronoun refers is actually present in the main clause.

Wer and was as relative pronouns may also occur in subject clauses frequently of the proverb type, such as:

Wer nicht wagt, gewinnt nicht.

(He who doesn't dare doesn't win.)

Was der Bauer nicht kennt, [das] isst er nicht.

(What the farmer doesn't know he doesn't eat.)



For each of the following sentences, make a check mark under der, wer, or was to indicate which of these relative pronouns (or a form thereof) would be used in the corresponding German sentence. It will be helpful for you to remember that relative pronouns are often omitted in English sentences (for example, "That is the lamp Inge bought," "This is the man I saw in the street"). By thinking of the more formal English pattern ("That is the lamp which Inge bought," "This is the man whom I saw in the street"), the correct German pattern becomes more evident.

	<u>der</u>	<u>wer</u>	<u>was</u>
1. That is the lady to whom I gave the flowers.	---	---	---
2. I know exactly what he is thinking about.	---	---	---
3. This is the new car we bought.	---	---	---
4. I don't know who took the book.	---	---	---
5. Hans won't tell me whom he's accompanying.	---	---	---
6. That's the child who was sick so long.	---	---	---
7. You can say what you want.	---	---	---
8. This is the gentleman we invited.	---	---	---
9. I don't know whom Franz met at school.	---	---	---

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

The correct answers are:

1. der

2. was

3. der

4. wer

5. wer

6. der

7. was

8. der

9. wer

START THE TAPE.

26-9

We will first practice sentences which use wer in its different forms and will later discuss and practice sentences using was. Listen to and repeat the following sentences, noticing especially the form of the relative pronoun.

1. Ich weiss, wer das Buch genommen hat.  
(I know who took the book.)
2. Hans sagt mir nicht, wem er das Auto verkauft.  
(Hans won't tell me to whom he's selling the car.)
3. Ich kann mir denken, wen sie übers Wochenende besucht hat.  
(I can imagine whom she visited over the weekend.)

In what case is the relative pronoun in sentence 1?

It is in the nominative case, since it serves as the subject of the relative clause:

<u>wer</u>	<u>das Buch</u>	<u>genommen hat.</u>
subject	direct object	verb

You can also notice that transposed word order (inflected verb at the end of the clause) applies here, as is true of all relative clauses.

In what case are the relative pronouns in sentences 2 and 3?

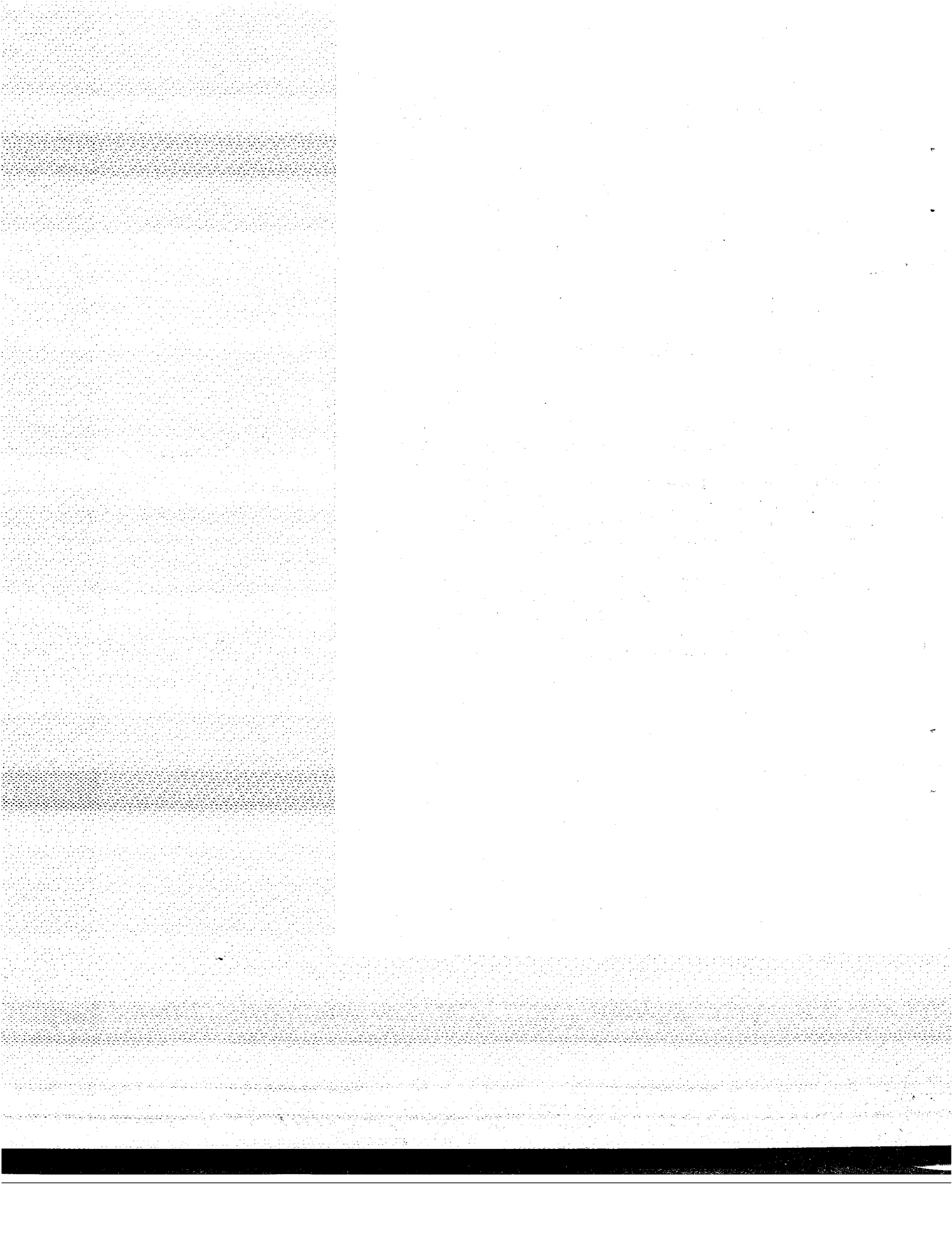
In sentence 2, the relative pronoun is in the dative case, because it is the indirect object of the relative clause:

<u>wem</u>	<u>er</u>	<u>das Auto</u>	<u>verkauft.</u>
indirect object	subject	direct object	verb

In sentence 3, the relative pronoun is in the accusative case, since it is the direct object of the relative clause:

<u>wen</u>	<u>sie</u>	<u>übers Wochenende</u>	<u>besucht hat</u>
direct object	subject		verb

You have probably observed that the endings of wer, wem, and wen are the same as the nominative, dative, and accusative masculine forms of the relative pronoun der. Indeed, these three forms of wer are the only forms used, regardless of the gender or number of the person or persons implied. In other words, your only task in determining the proper form of wer to use in a given context is to identify the case in which it is being used. This is found by considering whether the relative pronoun serves as subject, indirect object, or direct object within the relative clause, or is preceded by a preposition which requires the dative or the accusative.



Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of wer.  
Notice also the English translation of each sentence.

1. Ich kann Ihnen nicht sagen, \_\_\_\_\_ hier wohnt.  
(I can't tell you who is living here.)
2. Wir wollen nicht wissen, \_\_\_\_\_ du den Brief  
geschrieben hast.  
(We don't want to know to whom you wrote the  
letter.)
3. Ich bin nicht sicher, \_\_\_\_\_ sie eingeladen  
haben.  
(I am not sure whom they invited.)
4. Weisst du, mit \_\_\_\_\_ Helga gerade getanzt  
hat?  
(Do you know with whom Helga just danced?)
5. Ich kann mir denken, für \_\_\_\_\_ die Blumen  
sind.  
(I can imagine for whom the flowers are.)

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. wer

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. wen

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. wen

TURN THE PAGE.



6. Hans hat uns nicht gesagt, bei \_\_\_\_\_ er wohnt.  
(Hans didn't tell us whom he is living with.)
7. Schlagen Sie bitte vor, \_\_\_\_\_ mitgehen soll.  
(Please suggest who should go along.)
8. Warum sagst du uns nicht, \_\_\_\_\_ dein neuer Freund ist?  
(Why don't you tell us who your new friend is?)
9. Inge möchte wissen, nach \_\_\_\_\_ ihre Freundin gefragt hat.  
(Inge would like to know whom her girl friend asked about.)

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. wer

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. wer

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. wem

START THE TAPE.

Say complete German sentences, using the appropriate form of wer.

1. Ich weiss nicht, .... das Spiel gewonnen hat.
2. Von diesem Fenster aus kann man gut sehen, .... über die Strasse geht.
3. Er hat schon vergessen, von .... er das Geschenk bekommen hat.
4. Haben Sie gesehen, .... aus dem Haus gekommen ist?
5. Der Kellner weiss nicht, .... den Wein bestellt hat.
6. Inge hat mir immer noch nicht geschrieben, mit .... sie auf Urlaub fährt.
7. Ich möchte gern wissen, von .... das Kind das gelernt hat.
8. Er will mir nicht sagen, mit .... er arbeitet.
9. Sie weiss nicht mehr, durch .... sie ihn kennengelernt hat.
10. Franz weiss noch nicht, .... er in Deutschland besuchen möchte.

The relative pronoun was operates in a somewhat different manner from wer. When the relative clause is not introduced by a preposition, only the form was is used, regardless of the gender, number, or case of the noun referred to.

Listen to and repeat the following sentences, noticing that there is no preposition used in the relative clause and that the relative pronoun is always was, regardless of gender, number, or case.

1. Hans sagt uns nicht, .... er dieses Wochenende macht.  
(Hans doesn't tell us what he's going to do this weekend.)
2. Ingrid weiss nie, .... sie will.  
(Ingrid never knows what she wants.)
3. Ich kann mir nicht vorstellen, .... passiert ist.  
(I can't imagine what happened.)
4. Wir haben keine Ahnung, .... das ist.  
(We have no idea what that is.)
5. Du musst dir unbedingt ansehen, .... Herr Meyer seiner Frau mitgebracht hat.  
(You simply must see what Mr. Meyer brought his wife.)

Was is often used in combination with alles, vieles, manches, etwas, and nichts, with the following meanings:

alles, was	(all that, everything that)
vieles, was	(much that, many things that)
manches, was	(a number of things that)
etwas, was	(something that)
nichts, was	(nothing that)

As you have noticed, there is a progressive decrease in "quantity" as one goes from alles, was (all that) to nichts, was (nothing that). In this respect, vieles, was implies a much larger number or quantity than manches, was, as for example:

Ich glaube vieles, was er sagt.

(I believe much that he says.  
[implying that there are few areas of  
disagreement])

Ich glaube manches, was er sagt.

(I believe a number of things that he says.  
[implying that there are nonetheless several  
areas of disagreement])

All of the above expressions are used with a singular verb, even though there may be a plural connotation:

Manches, was sie sagen, ist nicht richtig.

(A number of things they say are not right.)

Vieles, was er kauft, ist zu teuer.

(Many things he buys are too expensive.)

Study the above expressions until you feel you know them thoroughly, then turn the page for spoken and written exercises.

START THE TAPE.

Listen to and repeat the German sentences, noticing the English translations.

1. Er versteht alles, was im Lehrbuch steht.  
(He understands everything that is in the textbook.)
2. In diesem Laden ist nichts, was er kaufen will.  
(There is nothing in that store he wants to buy.)
3. Er redet über etwas, was ich geschrieben habe.  
(He is talking about something I wrote.)
4. Die Schüler vergessen vieles, was die Lehrerin erklärt.  
(The students forget many things the teacher explains.)
5. Im Koffer ist manches, was er nicht braucht.  
(There are a number of things in the suitcase that he doesn't need.)

Fill in the blanks on the basis of the given English. Remember to insert the necessary commas. Where a second blank is shown, write in the proper verb form as well.

1. There are many things in this town I haven't seen yet.

In dieser Stadt gibt es \_\_\_\_\_ ich noch nicht gesehen habe.

2. A number of things he brought along are expensive.

\_\_\_\_\_ er mitgebracht hat, \_\_\_\_\_ teuer.

3. There is nothing Professor Schulz doesn't know.

Es gibt \_\_\_\_\_ Professor Schulz nicht weiss.

4. Don't you have something that's easy to read?

Haben Sie nicht \_\_\_\_\_ leicht zu lesen ist?

5. Peter writes down everything his teacher says.

\_\_\_\_\_ sein Lehrer sagt, schreibt Peter auf.

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. vieles, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Manches, was .... ist

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. nichts, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. etwas, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Alles, was

TURN THE PAGE.



6. She is ordering something she never ate before.

Sie bestellt \_\_\_\_\_ sie noch nie  
gegessen hat.

7. A number of things he said were interesting.

\_\_\_\_\_ er gesagt hat, \_\_\_\_\_  
interessant.

8. There are many things I don't understand.

Es gibt \_\_\_\_\_ ich nicht  
verstehe.

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. etwas, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Manches, was .... war

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. vieles, was ....

START THE TAPE.

Say a complete German sentence on the basis of the given English.

1. He says a lot for which he is sorry later.  
Er sagt .... ihm später leid tut.
2. In this movie were a number of things I didn't understand.  
In diesem Film war .... ich nicht verstanden habe.
3. We can't buy everything he needs.  
.... er braucht, können wir nicht kaufen.
4. There is nothing in this town one would care to look at.  
In dieser Stadt gibt es .... man sich ansehen möchte.
5. He hears a number of things he cannot understand at all.  
Er hört .... er gar nicht verstehen kann.
6. There is something in the basement that I haven't seen up to now.  
Im Keller ist .... ich bis jetzt noch nicht gesehen habe.
7. The teacher says something which pleases the entire class.  
Der Lehrer sagt .... der ganzen Klasse gefällt.

Another use of was is to refer to the idea expressed in an entire preceding clause, as in the following examples. Listen to and repeat the German sentences, noticing the English translation.

1. Sie hat fünf Kleider gekauft, was ihrer Mutter nicht gefällt.

(She bought five dresses, a fact that doesn't please her mother.)

2. Er ist schon vierzig Jahre alt, was ich nicht glauben kann.

(He is already 40 years old, which I cannot believe.)

3. Die Soldaten müssen jeden Morgen um fünf Uhr aufstehen, was sie nicht gern tun.

(The soldiers have to get up every morning at five o'clock, which they don't like to do.)

4. Herr Müller geht jeden Tag spazieren, was eine gute Idee ist.

(Mr. Müller goes every day for a walk, which is a good idea.)

Most German adjectives can be converted into neuter nouns by capitalization and adding the ending -e to the positive, comparative, or superlative forms:

das Kleine (the small thing; the small things)

das Kleinere (the smaller thing; the smaller things)

das Kleinste (the smallest thing; the smallest things)

Whenever the superlative form of an adjective-noun is used in conjunction with a relative clause, the relative pronoun "was" is used. Listen to and repeat the following examples:

Das ist das Billigste, was man kaufen kann.

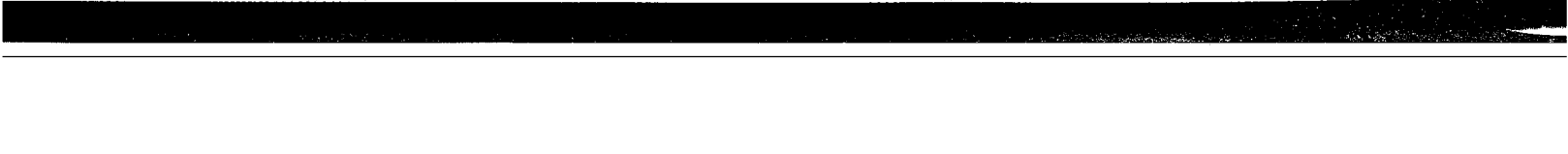
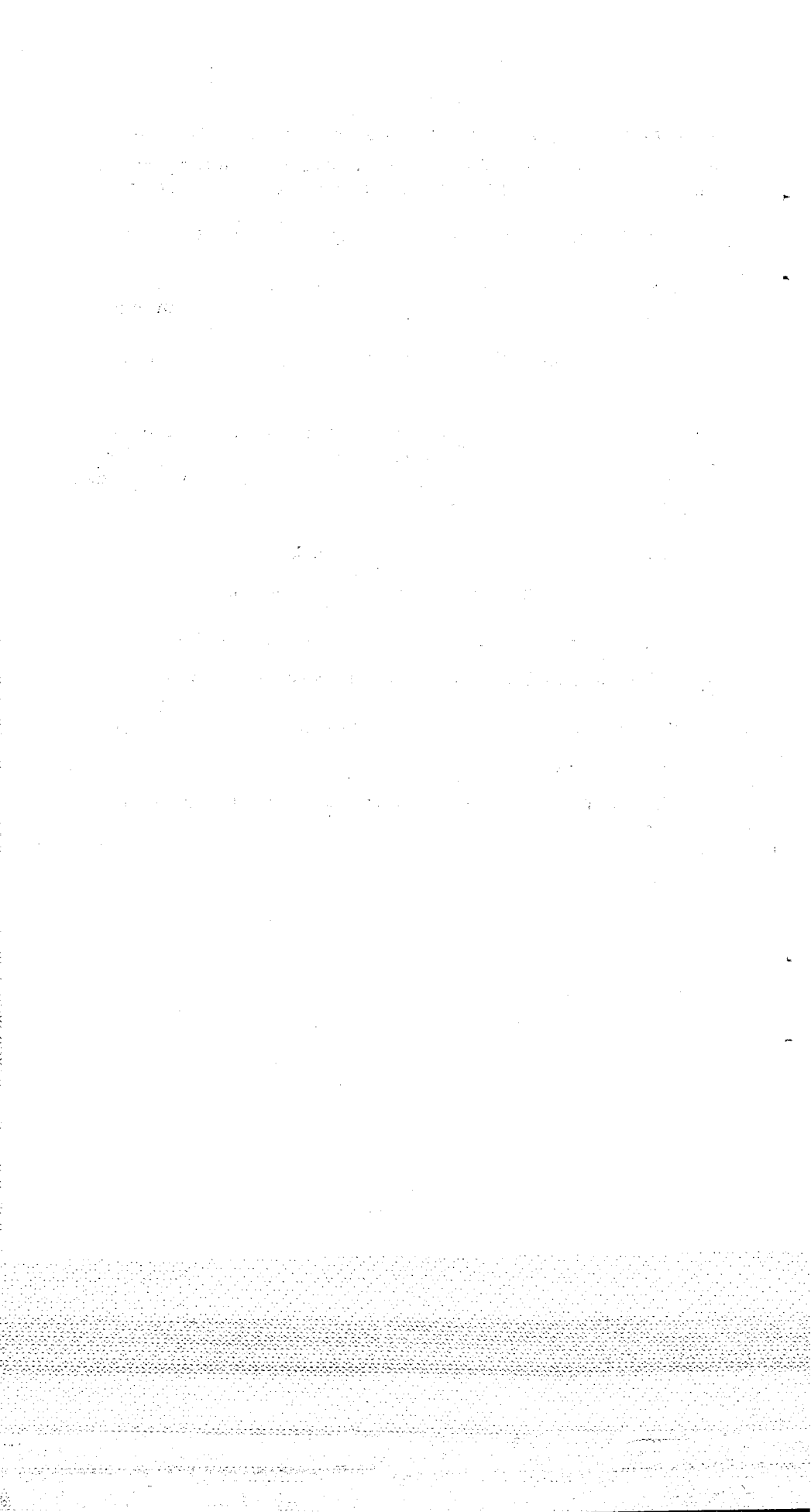
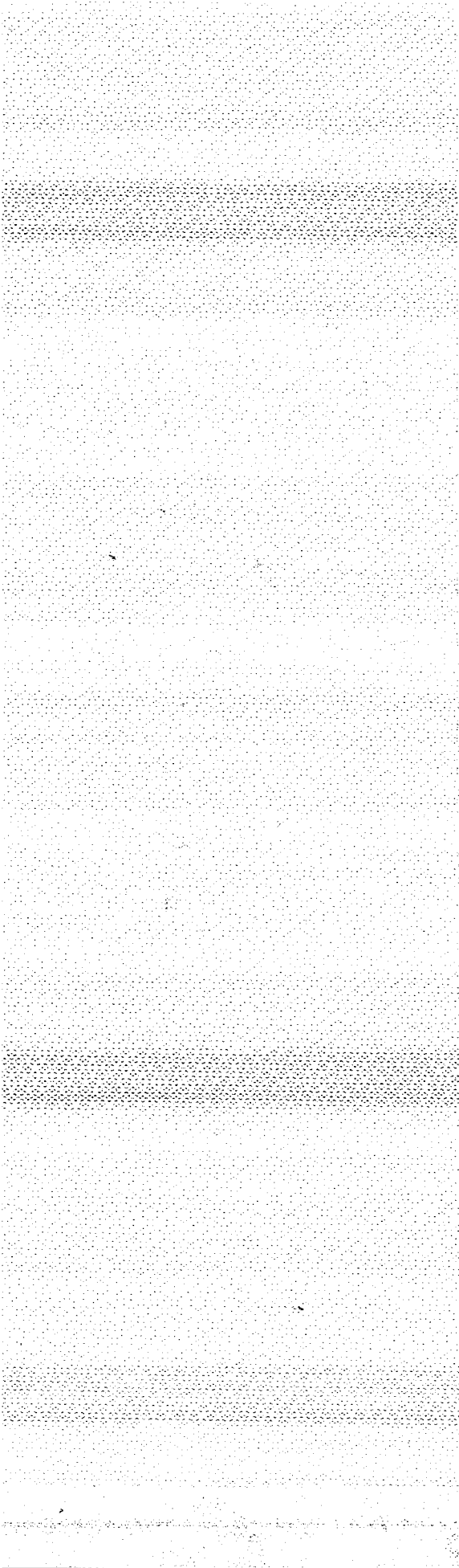
(That's the cheapest thing one can buy.)

Das ist das Beste, was ich je gehört habe.

(That's the best thing I've ever heard.)

Seine Bücher sind das Interessanteste, was ich gelesen habe.

(His books are the most interesting thing I've read.)



The following exercises combine all the forms and uses of wer and was that you have studied in this section. Fill in the blanks on the basis of the given English, adding any necessary commas. Some sentences use a form of der.

1. I don't know who closed the door.

Ich weiss nicht, \_\_\_\_\_ die Tür zugemacht hat.

2. That is the best thing I have read.

Das ist das Beste, \_\_\_\_\_ ich gelesen habe.

3. I don't believe everything I hear.

Ich glaube nicht \_\_\_\_\_ ich höre.

4. Is that the book you read yesterday?

Ist das das Buch, \_\_\_\_\_ du gestern gelesen hast?

5. Do you know what's being shown at the movies tonight?

Weisst du, \_\_\_\_\_ heute abend im Kino gezeigt wird?

6. Hans buys nothing he doesn't need.

Hans kauft \_\_\_\_\_ er nicht braucht.

7. Can you tell me to whom you gave the book?

Können Sie mir sagen, \_\_\_\_\_ Sie das Buch gegeben haben?

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. wer

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. was

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. alles, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. das

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. was

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. nichts, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. wem

TURN THE PAGE.



8. Ingrid forgot whom she is supposed to call.

Ingrid hat vergessen, \_\_\_\_\_ sie anrufen soll.

9. Maria doesn't know yet what she should wear tonight.

Maria weiss noch nicht, \_\_\_\_\_ sie heute abend anziehen soll.

10. Is that the lady to whom you brought the present?

Ist das die Dame, \_\_\_\_\_ du das Geschenk gebracht hast?

11. Karla cannot go out tonight, which doesn't please her at all.

Karla kann heute abend nicht ausgehen, \_\_\_\_\_ ihr gar nicht gefällt.

12. Mr. Meyer buys his wife a lot of things she does not like.

Herr Meyer kauft seiner Frau \_\_\_\_\_ ihr nicht gefällt.

13. That is the most beautiful thing I have seen in this town.

Das ist das Schönste, \_\_\_\_\_ ich in dieser Stadt gesehen habe.

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. wen

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. was

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. der

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. was

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. vieles, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. was

TURN THE PAGE.

14. Is that the man whom you invited?

Is das der Mann. \_\_\_\_\_ du eingeladen hast?

15. When mother goes to town she always buys something that tastes good.

Wenn Mutter in die Stadt fährt, kauft sie immer  
\_\_\_\_\_ gut schmeckt.

16. This is the student who was absent yesterday.

Das ist der Schüler, \_\_\_\_\_ gestern gefehlt hat.

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. den

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. etwas, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. der

START THE TAPE.

Say complete German sentences on the basis of the given English.

1. That is the best thing you can do.

Das ist das Beste, .... Sie tun können.

2. Show me the lady who owns the house!

Zeig mir die Dame, .... das Haus gehört!

3. He is selling everything he has.

Er verkauft .... er hat.

4. Hans still goes out with Paula, which I don't understand.

Hans geht immer noch mit Paula aus, .... ich nicht verstehe.

5. Have you heard who is in this class?

Haben Sie gehört, .... in dieser Klasse ist?

6. Who is the gentleman who bought the car?

Wer ist der Herr, .... das Auto gekauft hat?

7. We don't understand everything he says in German.  
Wir verstehen nicht .... er auf Deutsch sagt.
8. These pictures are the most beautiful thing I've  
seen in this museum.  
Diese Bilder sind das Schönste, .... ich in diesem  
Museum gesehen habe.
9. Hans says something that I didn't know before.  
  
Hans sagt .... ich vorher nicht gewusst habe.
10. This new suit has a number of things I don't like.  
An diesem neuen Anzug ist .... mir nicht gefällt.
11. Do you know with whom she is going out tonight?  
Weisst du, mit .... sie heute abend ausgeht?
12. Is that the newest thing you have heard?  
Ist das das Neueste, .... du gehört hast?

## Section 2

### "Wo-" Compounds

## 2. "Wo-" Compounds

Let us now consider the pronoun wer (wem, wen) as an interrogative pronoun. In Modules 4 and 7 you learned that wer, when it follows a preposition, must be in the case form required by that preposition; that is to say, either wen or wem must be used. Some prepositions don't lend themselves to natural-sounding constructions with interrogative pronouns; therefore, we will work with the restricted list below.

### Dative Only

bei	(with; at the home of)
mit	(with)
von	(from; about, of)
zu	(to, toward)

### Accusative Only

durch	(through, by)
für	(for)
gegen	(against, opposed to)

### Dative-or-Accusative

an	(of, about [ <u>Accusative only</u> after verbs of saying or thinking])
hinter	(behind)
neben	(next to)
über	(about [ <u>Accusative only</u> after verbs of saying or thinking])

As you remember, "either-case" prepositions use the dative form when absence of motion or motion with no particular destination is expressed in the sentence. The accusative form is used when there is motion with a specific destination.

Study this list to refresh your memory of these prepositions and the category to which they belong. Then turn the page for exercises.



Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of wer.

1. With whom are you going shopping tomorrow?

Mit \_\_\_\_\_ gehst du morgen einkaufen?

2. Against whom did they play soccer yesterday?

Gegen \_\_\_\_\_ haben sie gestern Fussball  
gespielt?

3. At whose place did Inge spend her vacation?

Bei \_\_\_\_\_ hat Inge ihren Urlaub verbracht?

4. Of whom are you thinking?

An \_\_\_\_\_ denkst du?

5. Behind whom were they driving?

Hinter \_\_\_\_\_ sind sie gefahren?

6. From whom is that letter?

Von \_\_\_\_\_ ist dieser Brief?

7. For whom does your brother work now?

Für \_\_\_\_\_ arbeitet dein Bruder jetzt?

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. wen

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. wen

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. wen

START THE TAPE.

Say complete German sentences, supplying the appropriate interrogative pronoun on the basis of the given English.

1. To whom did Franz say that?

Zu .... hat Franz das gesagt?

2. About whom is he talking?

Über .... spricht er?

3. With whom are you going out tonight?

Mit .... gehen Sie heute abend aus?

4. Through whom did you find a job?

Durch .... hast du Arbeit gefunden?

5. Next to whom did you sit last night?

Neben .... hast du gestern abend gegessen?

6. From whom did you get this beautiful present?

Von .... hast du dieses schöne Geschenk bekommen?

When the interrogative pronoun wer is preceded by a preposition, there is never any contraction or alteration in the two words: bei wem, mit wem, über wen, ohne wen, and so forth. In other words, when referring to persons, the proper formula is: preposition + a form of wer.

Now let us consider the interrogative pronoun was. When referring to things, it is NOT possible to use preposition + was. Constructions such as \*mit was, \*von was, \*bei was, and so forth are considered substandard in both speech and writing. Instead, the so-called wo-compound is used, that is to say, a combination of the question word wo- and the preposition. Instead of mit was, womit is used. Instead of von was, wovon is used, and so forth. (There is one exception, to be discussed.)

Listen to and repeat the wo-compounds below, noticing the preposition + was combinations which they replace. Remember that the latter are never used in correct speech or writing:

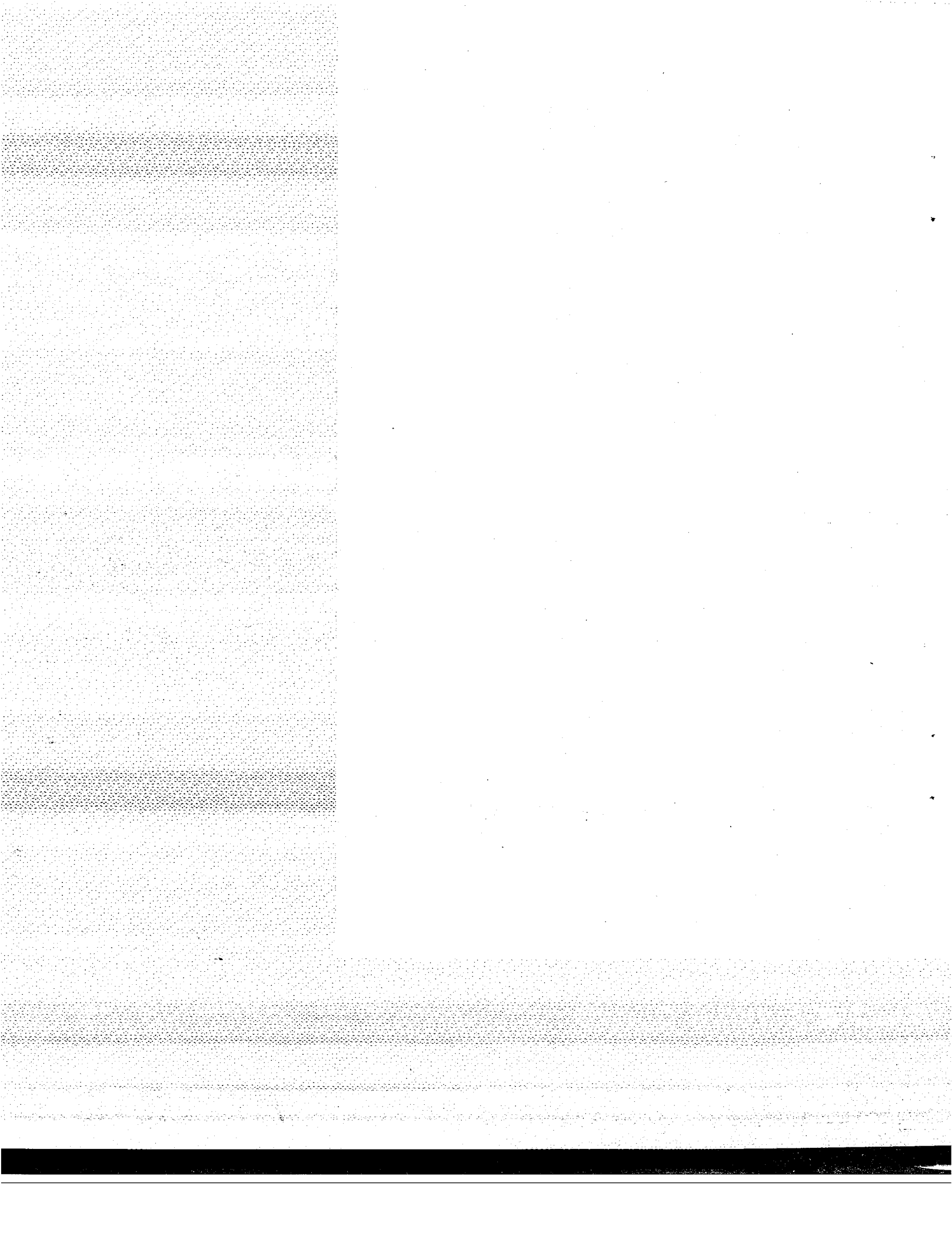
	(*)
wobei	(bei was)
wodurch	(durch was)
wofür	(für was)
wogegen	(gegen was)
wohinter	(hinter was)
womit	(mit was)
wonach	(nach was)
woneben	(neben was)
wovon	(von was)
wovor	(vor was)
wozu	(zu was)
wozwischen	(zwischen was)

If the preposition begins with a vowel, an -r- is inserted between wo- and the preposition to facilitate pronunciation. Listen and repeat:

woran	(an was)
worauf	(auf was)
woraus	(aus was)
worin	(in was)
worüber	(über was)
worum	(um was)
worunter	(unter was)

The one preposition below does NOT follow the wo-compound formula but instead uses preposition + was.

ohne was



For each of the prepositions below, write the appropriate combination with wo-, except where this compounding is not possible. In the latter case, write the preposition plus the interrogative pronoun referring to things or ideas.

1. nach \_\_\_\_\_
2. um \_\_\_\_\_
3. gegen \_\_\_\_\_
4. bei \_\_\_\_\_
5. ohne \_\_\_\_\_
6. an \_\_\_\_\_
7. für \_\_\_\_\_
8. neben \_\_\_\_\_
9. unter \_\_\_\_\_
10. auf \_\_\_\_\_
11. mit \_\_\_\_\_
12. vor \_\_\_\_\_
13. durch \_\_\_\_\_
14. von \_\_\_\_\_
15. zu \_\_\_\_\_
16. in \_\_\_\_\_
17. aus \_\_\_\_\_
18. über \_\_\_\_\_
19. hinter \_\_\_\_\_
20. zwischen \_\_\_\_\_

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

- |       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| _____ | 1. wonach      |
| _____ | 2. worum       |
| _____ | 3. wogegen     |
| _____ | 4. wobei       |
| _____ | 5. ohne was    |
| _____ | 6. woran       |
| _____ | 7. wofür       |
| _____ | 8. woneben     |
| _____ | 9. worunter    |
| _____ | 10. worauf     |
| _____ | 11. womit      |
| _____ | 12. wovor      |
| _____ | 13. wodurch    |
| _____ | 14. wovon      |
| _____ | 15. wozu       |
| _____ | 16. worin      |
| _____ | 17. woraus     |
| _____ | 18. worüber    |
| _____ | 19. wohinter   |
| _____ | 20. wozwischen |

START THE TAPE.



Look at each of the following sentences, then say the question for which the printed sentence would be an answer. For example:

You see: Er schreibt mit einem Bleistift.

You say: Womit schreibt er?

1. Er fragt nach dem Buch.
2. Hans wohnt neben der Kirche.
3. Ingrid geht ohne Bücher zur Schule.
4. Das Auto fährt gegen eine Mauer.
5. Der Brief liegt unter den Zeitschriften.
6. Er hat sich beim Schwimmen erkältet. (caught a cold)
7. Gisela liest in einem Buch.
8. Wir warten noch auf den Bus.
9. Der Soldat spricht von seinem Urlaub.

10. Er braucht das Buch zum Lernen.
11. Sie interessieren sich für Musik.
12. Wir sprechen über den Film.
13. Der Schüler hat keine Angst vor der Prüfung.
14. Er hat kein Geld für seinen Urlaub.
15. Durch Arbeit ist er reich geworden.
16. Er denkt immer an Geld.
17. Herr Meyer bittet um Hilfe.
18. Das Kleid ist aus Wolle.
19. Er schreibt mit dem roten Bleistift.

The wo-compounds with prepositions can also be used in relative clauses. Listen to and repeat the following examples:

1. Ich weiss, woran er denkt.

(I know what he is thinking of.)

2. Er will uns nicht sagen, wogegen er das Auto gefahren hat.

(He doesn't want to tell us what he crashed the car against.)

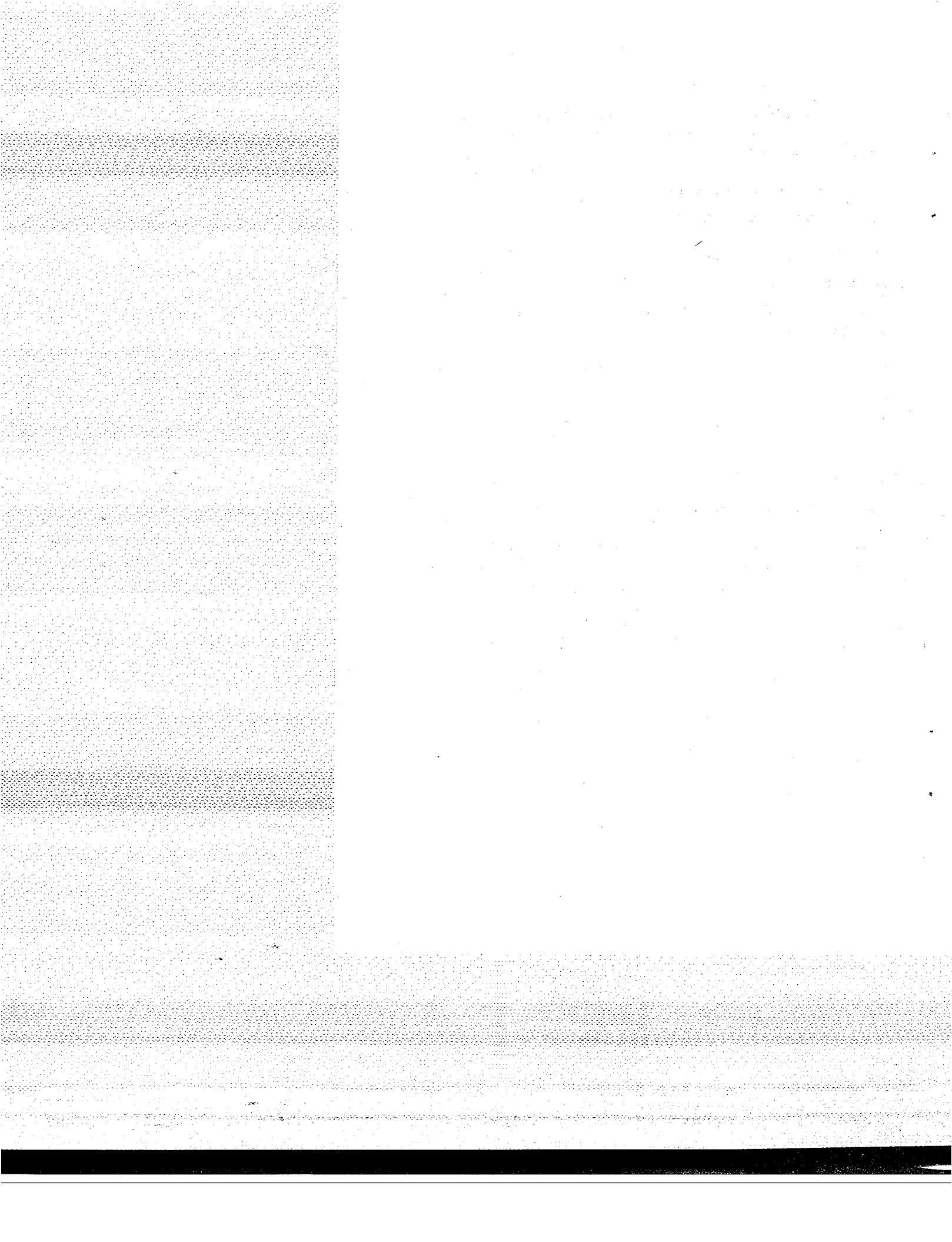
3. Wir wissen nicht, worüber Professor Schulz morgen spricht.

(We don't know what Professor Schulz will be speaking about tomorrow.)

4. Ich kann mir denken, wofür er das Geld braucht.

(I can imagine what he needs the money for.)

The following exercises combine all the material you have learned in this and the preceding section.



Fill in the blanks on the basis of the given English.  
More than one word may be required.

1. I know what he is thinking of. (use an)

Ich weiss, \_\_\_\_\_ er denkt.

2. With what did he write the letter?

\_\_\_\_\_ hat er den Brief geschrieben?

3. I can't tell you to whom he gave the book.

Ich kann Ihnen nicht sagen, \_\_\_\_\_ er das  
Buch gegeben hat.

4. I am against horse races; what are you against?

Ich bin gegen Pferderennen; \_\_\_\_\_ bist du?

5. Professor Schulz wants to know who is going to  
the library.

Professor Schulz will wissen, \_\_\_\_\_ zur  
Bibliothek geht.

6. What did you talk about? (use über)

\_\_\_\_\_ habt ihr gesprochen?

7. What is this all about? (use um)

\_\_\_\_\_ handelt es sich?

8. What do you need this for? (use zu)

\_\_\_\_\_ brauchst du das?

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. woran

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Womit

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. wogegen

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. wer

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Worüber

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. Worum

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. Wozu

TURN THE PAGE.

9. With whom did you go on vacation?

\_\_\_\_\_ bist du auf Urlaub gefahren?

10. Hans would like to leave school, a fact his mother does not like at all.

Hans möchte von der Schule abgehen, \_\_\_\_\_ seiner Mutter gar nicht gefällt.

11. Mrs. Müller buys a lot that she doesn't need.

Frau Müller kauft \_\_\_\_\_ sie nicht braucht.

12. Next to whom did you sit in the plane?

\_\_\_\_\_ hast du im Flugzeug gesessen?

13. There are a number of things in this newspaper which one cannot believe.

In dieser Zeitung steht \_\_\_\_\_ man nicht glauben kann.

14. For what [purpose] did you buy a new bicycle?  
(use zu)

\_\_\_\_\_ hast du ein neues Fahrrad gekauft?

15. That is the best I have heard.

Das ist das Beste, \_\_\_\_\_ ich gehört habe.

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. Mit wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. was

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. vieles, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. Neben wem

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. manches, was

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. Wozu

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. was

START THE TAPE.



Say complete German sentences based on the given English.

1. Everything he buys is expensive.  
.... er kauft, ist teuer.
2. There is nothing cheap in this restaurant.  
In diesem Restaurant gibt es .... billig ist.
3. For what [purpose] does Peter need two bicycles?  
(use zu)  
.... braucht Peter zwei Fahrräder?
4. The poor woman doesn't know what she is supposed to live on. (use von)  
Die arme Frau weiss nicht, .... sie leben soll.
5. Mrs. Müller always orders something that tastes good.  
Frau Müller bestellt immer .... gut schmeckt.
6. I don't know what she told him.  
Ich weiss nicht, .... sie ihm gesagt hat.
7. Hans would like to know who took his car.  
Hans möchte wissen, .... sein Auto genommen hat.

8. I don't know by what means he got rich.  
(use durch)  
Ich weiss nicht, .... er reich geworden ist.
9. This church is the most beautiful thing I've  
ever seen.  
Diese Kirche ist das Schönste, .... ich je  
gesehen habe.
10. I don't know what he is waiting for. (use auf)  
Ich weiss nicht, .... er wartet.
11. Inge doesn't remember to whom she said that.  
Inge kann sich nicht erinnern, .... sie das  
gesagt hat.
12. What is Professor Schulz interested in? (use für)  
.... interessiert sich Professor Schulz?
13. That is the newest thing I hear.  
Das ist das Neuste, .... ich höre.
14. In this town there are a number of things I don't  
like.  
In dieser Stadt gibt es .... mir nicht gefällt.
15. Mr. Meyer takes a walk every night, which is very  
healthy for him.  
Herr Meyer geht jeden Abend spazieren, .... sehr  
gesund für ihn ist.

Section 3

"Da-" Compounds

### 3. "Da-" Compounds

In Modules 4 and 7, you learned the use of personal pronouns following prepositions, in sentences such as:

Der Mann spricht von Hans und Peter.

Der Mann spricht von ihnen.

Wir kaufen die Blumen für unsere Mutter.

Wir kaufen die Blumen für sie.

In all of the exercises of Module 4 and 7, the pronouns used referred to a person (or persons), NOT to things or ideas. Whenever the pronoun following a preposition refers to things or ideas, it is not possible to use a preposition + pronoun combination. Instead, the so-called da-compounds are used. These are formed in a manner analogous to the wo-compounds you studied in the preceding section.

For example, suppose that you wanted to replace the underlined words in the following sentence by a pronoun:

Ich schreibe mit dem Bleistift.

In other words, instead of saying the German equivalent of "I am writing with the pencil," you would want to say the German equivalent of "I am writing with it." Since the pronoun following the preposition refers to a thing (rather than a person) it is NOT possible to say: \*Ich schreibe mit ihm. Instead, a da-compound would be used:

Ich schreibe damit.

(I am writing with it.)

Whenever the preposition begins with a vowel, the corresponding da-compound uses an inserted -r- for the sake of pronunciation, as you have already seen with wo-compounds. For example, the da-compound for um is darum. Ohne does not form a da-compound, but is simply followed by the appropriate pronoun ("ihn," "es," "sie," etc.), even when referring to things or ideas.

Write the appropriate da-compound for each of the prepositions below:

1. vor \_\_\_\_\_
2. um \_\_\_\_\_
3. durch \_\_\_\_\_
4. neben \_\_\_\_\_
5. in \_\_\_\_\_
6. zu \_\_\_\_\_
7. an \_\_\_\_\_
8. mit \_\_\_\_\_
9. unter \_\_\_\_\_
10. von \_\_\_\_\_
11. auf \_\_\_\_\_
12. gegen \_\_\_\_\_
13. über \_\_\_\_\_
14. zwischen \_\_\_\_\_
15. aus \_\_\_\_\_
16. bei \_\_\_\_\_
17. für \_\_\_\_\_
18. nach \_\_\_\_\_
19. hinter \_\_\_\_\_

TURN THE PAGE AND CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

If you made any mistakes, write the correct German.

- |       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| _____ | 1. davor       |
| _____ | 2. darum       |
| _____ | 3. dadurch     |
| _____ | 4. daneben     |
| _____ | 5. darin       |
| _____ | 6. dazu        |
| _____ | 7. daran       |
| _____ | 8. damit       |
| _____ | 9. darunter    |
| _____ | 10. davon      |
| _____ | 11. darauf     |
| _____ | 12. dagegen    |
| _____ | 13. darüber    |
| _____ | 14. dazwischen |
| _____ | 15. daraus     |
| _____ | 16. dabei      |
| _____ | 17. dafür      |
| _____ | 18. danach     |
| _____ | 19. dahinter   |

START THE TAPE.

In colloquial speech, the -a- preceding the inserted -r- is sometimes omitted, producing combinations such as: drin, drauf, drüber, drunter and so forth. In this module, we will actively practice only the full forms, darin, darauf, etc. which are acceptable in all contexts.

Say each of the sentences below, replacing the underlined words by the appropriate da-compound. For example:

You see: Er steht vor dem Haus.

You say: Er steht davor.

1. Ich bitte ihn um das Buch.

Ich bitte ihn ....

2. Hans und Peter sprechen oft von ihrem Urlaub.

Hans und Peter sprechen oft ....

3. Wir warten auf den Bus.

Wir warten ....

4. Gegen das Wetter kann man nichts machen.

.... kann man nichts machen.

5. Dr. Lange spricht gern über die Presse.

Dr. Lange spricht gern ....

6. Karl liegt unter dem Auto.

Karl liegt ....

7. Ich trinke nicht aus diesem Glas.

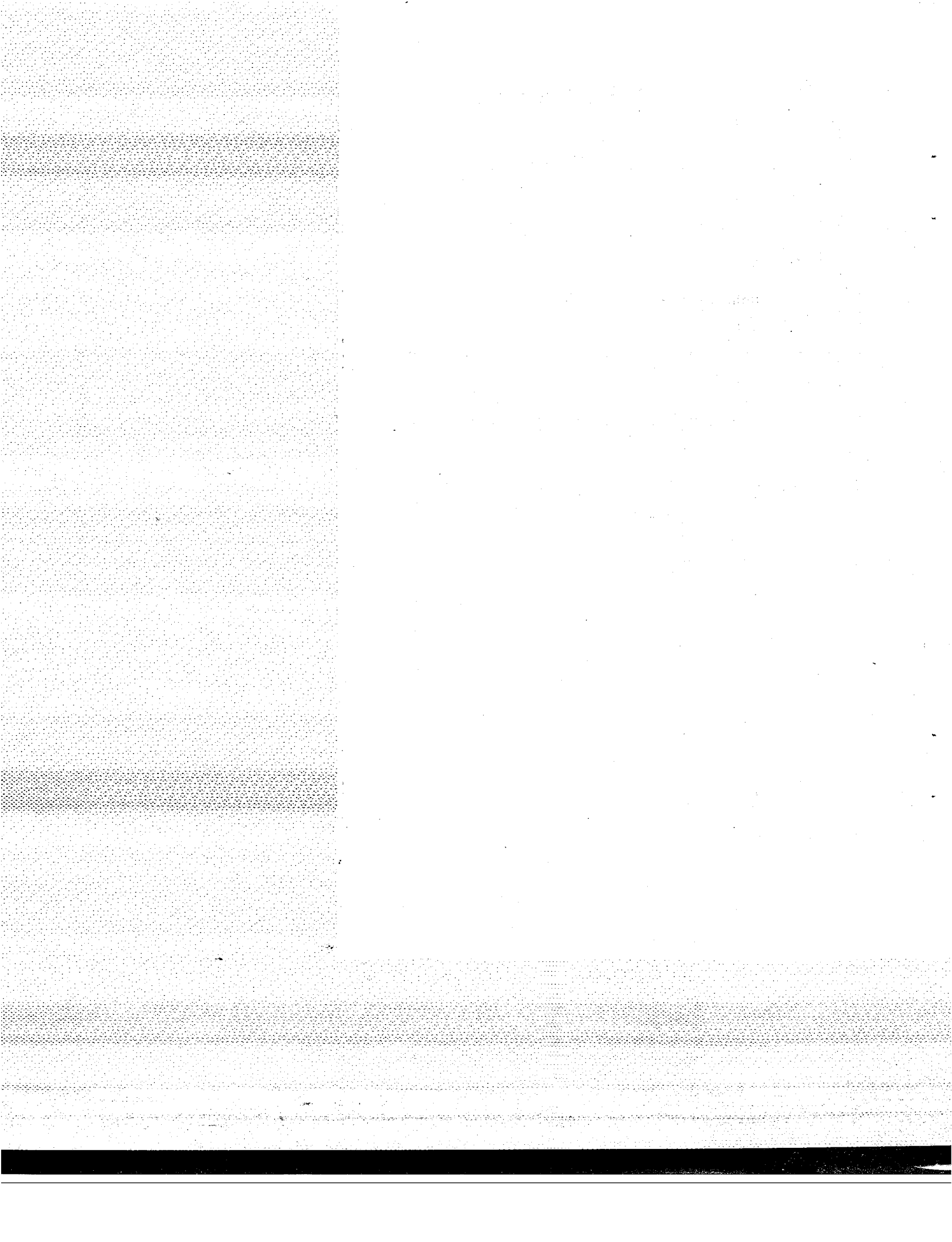
Ich trinke nicht ....

8. Nach dem Kino gehen wir essen.

.... gehen wir essen.



9. Inge fährt gern mit dem neuen Sportwagen.  
Inge fährt gern ....
10. Der Brief liegt zwischen zwei Büchern.  
Der Brief liegt ....
11. Was sagst du zu dem schlechten Wetter?  
Was sagst du ....?
12. Herr Meyer wohnt neben der Schule.  
Herr Meyer wohnt ....
13. Park dein Auto hinter dem Haus!  
Park dein Auto ....!
14. Wieviel hast du für das alte Fahrrad bekommen?  
Wieviel hast du .... bekommen?
15. Ist Peter auch beim Fussballspiel gewesen?  
Ist Peter auch .... gewesen?
16. Was ist in dem Koffer?  
Was ist ....?



Module 26

Test

26-61

Test

Say complete German sentences on the basis of the given English.

1. We don't know to whom that dictionary belongs.  
Wir wissen nicht, .... das Wörterbuch gehört.
2. Karl won't tell me what he is thinking about.  
(use an)  
Karl will mir nicht sagen, .... er denkt.
3. Peter says a number of things that he doesn't mean.  
Peter sagt .... er nicht meint.
4. I don't know what he is talking about. (use von)  
Ich weiss nicht, .... er spricht.
5. Karl wants to buy an expensive sports car, a fact I can't quite understand.  
Karl will einen teuren Sportwagen kaufen, ....  
ich nicht ganz verstehen kann.
6. With what did he repair the chair?  
.... hat er den Stuhl repariert?
7. These pictures are the most beautiful thing I've ever seen.  
Diese Bilder sind das Schönste, .... ich je  
gesehen habe.

8. I can't tell you who is living in that big house.  
Ich kann Ihnen nicht sagen, .... in diesem grossen  
Haus wohnt.
9. I really don't know what he said this morning.  
Ich weiss wirklich nicht, .... er heute morgen  
gesagt hat.
10. What did he ask you about? (use nach)  
.... hat er dich gefragt?
11. Mr. Meyer always buys his wife something she  
likes.  
Herr Meyer kauft seiner Frau immer .... ihr  
gefällt.
12. What can he get along without? [Without what can  
he get along?]  
.... kann er auskommen?
13. Frau Schulz talks a lot, which her husband doesn't  
like at all.  
Frau Schulz spricht viel, .... ihrem Mann gar  
nicht gefällt.
14. For what reason did Mr. Müller buy another house?  
(use zu)  
.... hat Herr Müller sich noch ein Haus gekauft?

Say complete German sentences, replacing the underlined words by the appropriate da-compound.

1. Ich stelle den Tisch unter die Lampe.
2. Peter hat den ganzen Tag auf das Paket gewartet.
3. Mit dem schnellen Wagen fährt Herr Müller gern.
4. Aus diesem schmutzigen Glas trinke ich nicht.
5. Hinter dem Haus ist ein grosser Parkplatz.
6. Der Herr parkt sein Auto zwischen dem Haus und der Kirche.
7. Liegt das Telefonbuch noch immer neben dem Telefon?
8. Ich habe nicht an deinen Geburtstag gedacht.

Fill in the blanks on the basis of the given English.  
Note that more than one word may be required.

1. What did you talk to Peter about last night?  
(use über)

\_\_\_\_\_ hast du gestern abend mit Peter  
gesprochen?

2. This is the biggest ship I've ever seen.

Das ist das grösste Schiff, \_\_\_\_\_ ich je  
gesehen habe.

3. From whom did you get the present?

\_\_\_\_\_ hast du das Geschenk bekommen?

4. Hans always reads something that is interesting.

Hans liest immer \_\_\_\_\_ interessant ist.

5. With whom is he working today?

\_\_\_\_\_ arbeitet er heute?

6. What is your candidate against?

\_\_\_\_\_ ist Ihr Kandidat?

7. There is a lot in this paper that one cannot  
believe.

In dieser Zeitung steht \_\_\_\_\_ man nicht  
glauben kann.

8. Peter didn't tell me who asked for me.

Peter hat mir nicht gesagt, \_\_\_\_\_ nach mir  
gefragt hat.

Fill in the blanks on the basis of the given English.  
Note that more than one word may be required.

1. What did you talk to Peter about last night?  
(use über)

Worüber hast du gestern abend mit Peter  
gesprochen?

2. This is the biggest ship I've ever seen.

Das ist das grösste Schiff, das ich je  
gesehen habe.

3. From whom did you get the present?

Von wem hast du das Geschenk bekommen?

4. Hans always reads something that is interesting.

Hans liest immer etwas, was interessant ist.

5. With whom is he working today?

Mit wem arbeitet er heute?

6. What is your candidate against?

Wogegen ist Ihr Kandidat?

7. There is a lot in this paper that one cannot  
believe.

In dieser Zeitung steht vieles, was man nicht  
glauben kann.

8. Peter didn't tell me who asked for me.

Peter hat mir nicht gesagt, wer nach mir  
gefragt hat.

TURN THE PAGE.



9. Franz has to sell his car, which he doesn't like to do.  
Franz muss sein Auto verkaufen, \_\_\_\_\_ er nicht gern tut.
10. Professor Meyer didn't tell us for what purpose he needs our help. (use zu)  
Professor Meyer hat uns nicht gesagt, \_\_\_\_\_ er unsere Hilfe braucht.
11. This Sauerbraten is the best thing I ever ate.  
Dieser Sauerbraten ist das Beste, \_\_\_\_\_ ich je gegessen habe.
12. Under what did you put the book?  
\_\_\_\_\_ hast du das Buch gelegt?
13. Ingrid never knows what to wear.  
Ingrid weiss nie, \_\_\_\_\_ sie anziehen soll.
14. Mr. Müller won a Volkswagen, about which he is very happy. (use über)  
Herr Müller hat einen Volkswagen gewonnen, \_\_\_\_\_ er sehr glücklich ist.
15. There is nothing in this museum that interests me.  
In diesem Museum gibt es \_\_\_\_\_ mich interessiert.

TURN THE PAGE.

9. Franz has to sell his car, which he doesn't like to do.

Franz muss sein Auto verkaufen, was er nicht gern tut.

10. Professor Meyer didn't tell us for what purpose he needs our help. (use zu)

Professor Meyer hat uns nicht gesagt, wozu er unsere Hilfe braucht.

11. This Sauerbraten is the best thing I ever ate.

Dieser Sauerbraten ist das Beste, was ich je gegessen habe.

12. Under what did you put the book?

Worunter hast du das Buch gelegt?

13. Ingrid never knows what to wear.

Ingrid weiss nie, was sie anziehen soll.

14. Mr. Müller won a Volkswagen, about which he is very happy. (use über)

Herr Müller hat einen Volkswagen gewonnen, worüber er sehr glücklich ist.

15. There is nothing in this museum that interests me.

In diesem Museum gibt es nichts, was mich interessiert.

TURN THE PAGE.

Fill in the blanks, replacing the underlined words by the appropriate da-compound.

1. Interessierst du dich für diesen Film?  
Interessierst du dich \_\_\_\_\_?
2. Karl ist gegen unseren Urlaub.  
Karl ist \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Hans und Inge haben nichts von dem Kuchen bekommen.  
Hans und Inge haben nichts \_\_\_\_\_ bekommen.
4. In dieser Zeitung steht nicht viel.  
\_\_\_\_\_ steht nicht viel.
5. Nach der Prüfung gehen wir sofort nach Hause.  
\_\_\_\_\_ gehen wir sofort nach Hause.
6. Über das Wochenende möchte ich jetzt nicht sprechen.  
\_\_\_\_\_ möchte ich jetzt nicht sprechen.
7. Was sagst du zu dem neuen Sportwagen von Inge?  
Was sagst du \_\_\_\_\_?
8. Wie lange hast du vor dem Haus gestanden?  
Wie lange hast du \_\_\_\_\_ gestanden?
9. Was hast du mit dem vielen Geld gemacht?  
Was hast du \_\_\_\_\_ gemacht?

END OF TEST.

Fill in the blanks, replacing the underlined words by the appropriate da-compound.

1. Interessierst du dich für diesen Film?

Interessierst du dich dafür ?

2. Karl ist gegen unseren Urlaub.

Karl ist dagegen .

3. Hans und Inge haben nichts von dem Kuchen bekommen.

Hans und Inge haben nichts davon bekommen.

4. In dieser Zeitung steht nicht viel.

Darin steht nicht viel.

5. Nach der Prüfung gehen wir sofort nach Hause.

Danach gehen wir sofort nach Hause.

6. Über das Wochenende möchte ich jetzt nicht sprechen.

Darüber möchte ich jetzt nicht sprechen.

7. Was sagst du zu dem neuen Sportwagen von Inge?

Was sagst du dazu ?

8. Wie lange hast du vor dem Haus gestanden?

Wie lange hast du davor gestanden?

9. Was hast du mit dem vielen Geld gemacht?

Was hast du damit gemacht?

END OF TEST.





