

UHG1003 German 1

Topic 7 *Wortstellung II*

by

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Word order II

- The aim of the seventh topic is to introduce students to the word order of interrogative sentences in German.
- Expected Outcome
 - At the end of the seventh topic, students will know and be able to use the word order constraints of interrogative sentences in German.

Wortstellung II – Word order II

Very simplified, there are two types of interrogative sentences:

1) Wh-question

This type of interrogative sentence starts with a question word like *was* (what), *wie* (how), *warum* (why), *wohin* (to where), *woher* (from where), *wo* (where), *wann* (when), *welch-* (which one), *wessen* (whose), etc., the verb remains the second followed by the subject and the rest of the sentence:

[Warum_[why]]¹ [fahren_[travel]]² [Sie_[you]]³ [nach Japan]_[to] .

Wortstellung I – Word order I

2) Yes-no question

To this type of interrogative sentence we can answer by saying 'yes' or 'no'. In this case, the verb occupies the first position, followed by the subject in the second and the rest of the sentence after them:

[Fahren_[to travel]]¹ [Sie_[you]]² [nach Japan_[to Japan]]^{rest?}

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