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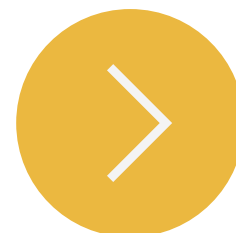
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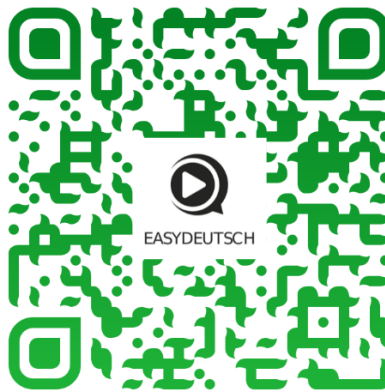


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ADVERBS

ADVERBS L6 – MODAL PARTICLES (MODALPARTIKEL)

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Video Lesson:

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WHAT ARE MODAL PARTICLES?

Modal particles are also known as "shading particles" because they show different shades of meanings of other words. They are mainly used in spoken language and show the speaker's feelings, attitude and mood. They can strengthen or weaken the statement. They are usually in the middle of the sentence after the verb and any pronouns.

USE OF "VIELLEICHT"

Expresses uncertainty or annoyance:

- „Ist das **vielleicht** ein Ufo?“
- „Das ist **vielleicht** beschissen gelaufen!“

USE OF "JA"

A single modal particle can often have several very different meanings:

1. It expresses that everything happened as expected:

- „Das musste **ja** passieren.“

2. It expresses surprise or wonder:

- „Das war **ja** einfach.“

3. It expresses a warning:

- „Mach das **ja** nie wieder.“

USE OF "EIGENTLICH"

1. To politely change the subject:

- „Was kommt heute **eigentlich** im Fernsehen?“

2. When you are contemplating something specific, in reality, in actuality:

- „Ein neues Auto ist **eigentlich** zu teuer.“
- „**Eigentlich** kennt sie sich mit Computern nicht aus.“

3. Normally, theoretically, a disappointed surprise:

- „**Eigentlich** müsste die Uhr jetzt funktionieren.“

USE OF "DENN"

1. To make requests or demands more friendly:

- „Wie spät ist es **denn** (eigentlich)?“
- "It is often combined with "eigentlich" to make it even friendlier."

2. Negative Surprise:

- „Was hast du **denn** gemacht?“
- „Was habt ihr **denn** wieder gemacht?“

USE OF "DICH"

1. To make requests or demands sound more friendly:

- „Vielleicht holen wir **doch** lieber einen Elektriker?“

2. To make an accusation or explanation → unfriendly

- „Ruf **doch** endlich den Elektriker an.“
- „Ich hab ihn **doch** schon angerufen.“

3. To remind the listener of something that is already known:

- „Darüber haben wir **doch** gestern gesprochen.“

USE OF "MAL"

To make requests or questions friendlier:

- „Komm **mal** hier her!“
- „Schaltest du **mal** bitte das Licht an?“

USE OF "EBEN/HALT"

Expresses resignation or acceptance of something. It can't be changed or you don't want to talk about it anymore.

- „Das funktioniert **halt** nicht! Akzeptier es!“
- „Das kann man **eben** nicht ändern.“

There is no difference between "eben" and "halt"; they are synonyms.

USE OF "WOHL"

Expresses uncertainty:

- „Ob das **wohl** richtig ist?“
- „Wo ist Anna?“ – „Die wird **wohl** zu Hause sein.“

USE OF "SCHON" & "RUHIG"

Expresses encouragement. The listener should think positively.

- „Das wird **schon** wieder!“
- „Versuch es **ruhig**! Du kannst nichts verlieren!“

They are not 100% synonyms, but they express the same idea.

USE OF "BLOß" & "NUR"

Expresses a warning or strengthens a command:

- „Stell die Vase **bloß** wieder hin!“
- „Überlege dir **nur** gut, was du sagst!“

There is no difference between "bloß" and "nur", they are synonyms.

TASK



- Listen carefully to your German-speaking friends.
- Try to understand when and how they use particles.
- If you aren't sure whether to use one, DON'T use it in serious situations! **If you use them in the wrong way, a polite sentence can turn into an insult!**
- Practice them with your friends! Not with your boss!
- And LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN! But, first, you have to get the feeling of when and how to use them.

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