

Deutsch lernen und unterrichten – Arbeitsmaterialien

Radio D – Teil 1

Episode 07 – Ludwig the Fairytale King

Paula and Philipp introduce King Ludwig to their listeners in the radio play. Night-time sledding, wild parties and strange inventions make for a first impression of Ludwig and his time.

The two journalists take their listeners back in time to the 19th century. They get to know the fantastical King Ludwig, his love of nature and Richard Wagner's music and his connection to his cousin, the legendary Empress Sissi. Everyone is amazed by an original table that Ludwig himself had invented.

This episode is all about King Ludwig's preferences, which lends itself to learning the verb "**lieben**" (to love). The same endings apply to the verb "**kommen**" (to come), which you will also hear.

Manuscript of Episode 07

You're listening to Radio D, the radio language course of Redaktion D, a joint project of the Goethe Institut and Deutsche Welle Radio. The author is Herrad Meese.

Moderator

And a warm welcome to Episode Seven of your German language course, Radio D. Our two reporters, Paula and Philipp, had been looking into the mystery surrounding the death of the Bavarian king, Ludwig II. This time they want to tell us about his life. But unfortunately they haven't actually reported in, yet.

Compu

Stimmt nicht. Hier sind drei neue Minidisks von Paula und Philipp.

Moderator

What? Three new mini-discs? Let's play them right away for our listeners.

Paula

Hallo, liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer.

Philipp

Willkommen...

Paula

... bei Radio D.

Philipp

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Paula

... das Hörspiel.

Moderator

As you already know, King Ludwig II lived in the 19th century. He was a melancholic man who loved to be driven through the lonely forests at night, in winter in a sleigh. Imagine a night with a full moon, and mountains full of snow, and listen to what King Ludwig loved so much.

Szene 1: Schlittenfahrt

Diener

Ruhig, ruhig.

Der König kommt gleich.

Achtung, der König kommt.

Hüa, los geht's.

König Ludwig

Ach, hm – wie schön! Das ist wunderschön.

Ich liebe die Natur.

König Ludwig

Und ich liebe die Musik.

Musik von Richard Wagner.

Moderator

It was music King Ludwig loved so much, especially that of his friend, Richard Wagner.

König Ludwig

Und ich liebe die Musik.

Musik von Richard Wagner.

Moderator

A sleigh ride – it's like an image like from a fairytale, wouldn't you think? That's one of the reasons why they called Ludwig "the fairytale king".

You know, you can still take a sleigh ride like that now. Though it might not be quite as romantic as you expect, because it's pretty cold and you drive on the roads. It was better for King Ludwig. He was snuggled into a thick fur and could enjoy the nature that he loved so much and dream of the music of his friend Richard Wagner.

König Ludwig

Ach, hm – wie schön! Das ist wunderschön.

Ich liebe die Natur.

Und ich liebe die Musik.

Musik von Richard Wagner.

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Moderator

But in his youth, when King Ludwig wasn't quite as lonely as he was in adulthood and also quite not so "off his rocker", as some call it, he celebrated wild parties in his palaces with dancing and music and colourful lights. And as often as possible, he sought the company of his cousin, Sissi, to whom he had a romantic attachment all his life. Try to imagine a royal feast. What might King Ludwig ask from Sissi?

Szene 2: Ballnacht

König Ludwig

Sissi, tanzen wir.

Sissi

Ja, gern, Ludwig, gern.

Stimme eines Dieners

Entschuldigung, Majestät...

König Ludwig

Später, später.

Kommen Sie, Sissi, wir tanzen.

Moderator

King Ludwig asks the beautiful Sissi, the later empress of Austria, to dance.

König Ludwig

Sissi, tanzen wir.

Kommen Sie, Sissi, wir tanzen.

Moderator

And he wants no one to disturb them, because Sissi enjoys dancing with him – and it would be discourteous to keep her waiting.

König Ludwig

Sissi, tanzen wir.

Sissi

Ja, gern, Ludwig, gern.

Moderator

And when King Ludwig wanted to be quite alone with Sissi, he'd invite her to dinner in one of his palaces. Now you're probably wondering, how one could be alone for dinner in such a big palace. Well, at his Linderhof palace the king had a special table device built. And when Sissi sees it for the first time, she's quite amazed.

Can you imagine what kind of construction this table – **TISCH** – might be?

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Szene 3: Tischszene

Sissi

Essen und kein Tisch?
Wie geht das, liebster Ludwig?
Wo ist der Tisch?

König Ludwig

Moment, Moment!

Sissi

Was ist denn das?

König Ludwig

Ein Tisch, liebe Sissi.

Sissi

Das sehe ich – aber woher kommt der Tisch?

König Ludwig

Von unten.

Sissi

Von unten?

König Ludwig

Ja, schauen Sie mal.

Jetzt ist er weg.
Ich klinge! – der Tisch kommt.
Ich klinge! – der Tisch verschwindet.

Sissi

Und wie geht das?

König Ludwig

Das ist eine besondere Konstruktion.

Moderator

Maybe you've seen in the theatre how people or things are lowered out of sight – and that's the kind of machinery King Ludwig had built for himself. But back to Sissi. Having been invited to dinner, she's understandably quite surprised to see no table when she enters the dining hall in Linderhof Palace.

Sissi

Essen und kein Tisch?
Wie geht das, liebster Ludwig?
Wo ist der Tisch?

Moderator

Well, recognising a table is not that hard. So when Sissi asks "What's that?" she gets the bemused reply from the king, "a table".

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Sissi

Was ist denn das?

König Ludwig

Ein Tisch, liebe Sissi.

Moderator

It's not the table as such she means, of course, she wants to know from where it's come from so suddenly. The answer "from below" isn't really much of an explanation.

Sissi

Das sehe ich – aber woher kommt der Tisch?

König Ludwig

Von unten.

Moderator

So as not to have so many servants hovering around him and his dinner guests, Ludwig ordered a special construction built. On the ground floor was the kitchen. The table was laid there. Then the king rang a bell, and the laid table was raised up through a trapdoor in the floor of the dining room.

König Ludwig

Ich klinge! – der Tisch kommt.

Moderator

And when dinner was over, King Ludwig rang again and the table was lowered back to the kitchen – it simply disappeared.

König Ludwig

Ich klinge! – der Tisch kommt.

Ich klinge! – der Tisch verschwindet.

Moderator

When she asks how that works, Sissi gets only the general explanation that this is a special construction – which she has no doubt figured out for herself.

Sissi

Und wie geht das?

König Ludwig

Das ist eine besondere Konstruktion.

Moderator

Maybe the king didn't know any more about such a complex bit of technology either. We just don't know. And it was at that table that Paula and Philipp met the man wearing Ludwig's mantle and claiming to be the king. Let's try again to get in touch with them. Hallo, hallo Philipp, Paula, do you hear me?

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Philipp

Ja, da sind wir wieder. Noch einen Moment, bitte.

Paula

Und nun kommt – unser Professor.

Ayhan

Radio D...

Paula

... Gespräch über Sprache.

Sprecher

kommen – lieben

Sprecher

komm

Sprecherin

kommen

Sprecher

lieb

Sprecherin

lieben

Moderator

You heard them. You'll have to wait a little longer, I'm afraid. Well, we'll use the time to talk to our professor surely.

Moderator

What are we dealing with this time?

Professor

We're going to look some more at verbs. There's any amount to say about them yet. Listen to the verbs again in the infinitive form, for example to come – KOMMEN and to love – LIEBEN.

Moderator

But our listeners already know that verbs change their form.

Professor

Right, more precisely, the endings attached to the roots of verbs change. First hear the verb root and then the infinitive with the ending **-en**.

Professor

Now you know the ending of the infinitive, **-e-n** spoken -en. What other endings do you hear in the following example?

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Sprecherin
kommt – liebt

Moderator
Well, I heard a **-t**.

Professor
Perfect. Instead of **-e-n** sounding -en at the end of the verb, there's a **-t** if one talks about a person, for example King Ludwig.

Diener
Der König kommt gleich.
Achtung, der König kommt.

Moderator
And if one's talking about oneself, that is in the I-form...

Professor
... then the verb ending also changes. Which ending do you hear in the following example?

Sprecherin
liebe – ich liebe

König Ludwig
Ich liebe die Natur.

Moderator
When **ich**, that is I, is used, the ending has to be **-e**.

Professor
Yes, ah, that's right, most of the time, anyway.

Moderator
And next time we meet you'll hear how the conversation between our reporters and the man who claimed to be King Ludwig continued after it was unfortunately interrupted. See you then.

Paula
Liebe Hörerinnen und Hörer, bis zum nächsten Mal.

You've been listening to Radio D, a German course of the Goethe Institut and Deutsche Welle Radio.

Ayhan
Und tschüs.

Herrad Meese

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