HOW EASY IS GERMAN!

Idea: Recognising international words in German
Topic: Alphabet
Objective: Students can recognise international words in German.
Activity: The teacher reads out the list of items on the poster BEFORE the students see it to establish prior knowledge – how many of the items can they identify before seeing the poster? How many of these words might they have used in English, without realising how connected the words were to German? Students then get together in pairs or small groups and have to find words that are very similar in English and German.

Idea: Alphabetise items
Topic: Alphabet
Objective: Students learn the German alphabet.
Activity: Ask the students to alphabetise the items listed on the poster.

Idea: Which article?
Topic: Articles, plural form
Objective: Students learn the definite articles in German.
Activity: More advanced students could use a dictionary to research the gender of the items depicted.

Idea: Memory Game
Topic: International words
Objective: Students memorise words from the poster.
Activity: Prepare a memory game by cutting out the individual pictures (with or without labels) and let students play and practice in pairs or groups.

Idea: Language tree
Topic: International words
Objective: Students identify that English and German are related languages.
Activity: Students are given the Indo-European language tree and find out what languages are related. The teacher asks students to focus on German, English, Spanish and another language of their choice. Students draw their own simplified language tree with 3 of their researched languages. Provide an Indo-European language tree that works best for the students' age group.
E.g.: www.theguardian.com/education/gallery/2015/jan/23/a-language-family-tree-in-pictures

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Idea: Word search
Topic: International words
Objective: Students construct their own word search.
Activity: Word searches are fun and challenging – particularly when they have designed their own. They can be easily designed online with Word Search Maker (thewordsearch.com).

Idea: Running Race
Topic: International words, spelling
Objective: Students memorise and spell words.
Activity: The class is divided into groups of three/four. Each group needs a piece of paper and a pencil. One student in each group is the scribe and the remainder of the group are the runners. The posters are displayed around the room and students at the front of the room will need to run to the back of the classroom, while students at the back of the room will need to run to the front of the room. (Try to evenly space the student groups from the poster). The runners have to run to the poster and memorise a pictured item of vocabulary. They then return to the scribe and relay the information. (Make sure the collectors explain capitalisation). Only one student from each group can be moving at a time. The teacher can set a target – the first group to have 10 answers, or can complete the whole list.

Idea: I, you, he, she, it …
Topic: Verb conjugations
Objective: Students conjugate the verbs *mögen*, *haben*, *essen*, *sein*, *fahren* and one additional verb of their choice.
Activity: Students are given a sheet with conjugation tables for verbs. All students stand up and put their hands behind their head. The teacher says the first verb to be conjugated and says "*Auf die Plätze, fertig los!".* Students sit down and conjugate the verb correctly and as fast as possible. Once they have finished conjugating, the student stands up. The first student to stand up wins the challenge and reads out his/her conjugation. The teacher then checks the correct spelling and writes out the conjugation on the board.

Idea: Roll the dice
Topic: Verb conjugations
Objective: Students conjugate verbs and formulate sentences.
Activity: The teacher prepares two dice for students to use in pairs or small groups. One dice covers the personal pronouns and the other has verbs in the infinitive form. Students can roll the dice, conjugate the verb accordingly and form a sentence using words from the poster.

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Idea: Develop your own poster
Topic: Any topic
Objective: Students can develop their own poster and practice vocabulary.
Activity: Students identify a theme, construct an appropriate vocabulary list, illustrate the vocabulary - with pen and paper or digitally using CANVA or other tools - and present their posters in a gallery in the classroom or online on a PADLET.

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