



Dear Alexandra

I hope you received the questionnaire attachments in my email to you but true to my promise I am writing to you! I don't know whether this letter will add anything to the comments I made but, at least, in a letter one is not confined by boxes.

I enjoyed my four-week course very much indeed. I think your teachers are all extremely good and very patient, not only in dealing with the students' slow speech but also with their questions. I thought they also dealt very skilfully with the differences in the characters of the students and with the difficulties that can arise in group dynamics.

Dorle has a hard task in that she has to teach a specific amount of grammar in a given time but her knowledge is so sound and she is so enthusiastic about her subject that she makes it enjoyable. (Ask her if she is yet ready to address me as "Du?")

Sybille is delightful. As well as teaching grammar from the text-book she brings a lot of interesting material of her own which can be emotive and amusing yet is relevant to the subject.

Norbert is very encouraging. He persuades even the most reluctant student to tell a story or an anecdote in German and makes his topics appropriate to the class, though discussions about drunkenness and trendy proverbs seem to go on a bit. Take no notice of that – remember my age group! I haven't been drunk for fifty years!

Carola is very generous with her time and took me to interesting places so as to widen the scope of the lessons. She is also very intuitive in her teaching and obviously assesses a student's mistakes with a view to correcting them. Every day she would produce an explanation and a set of homework tailored to my needs. I really appreciated that.

I must congratulate you on the ambience in the school, which is due for the most part to *your* own character, efficiency and enthusiasm. It is all very friendly and encouraging and makes the students keen to speak German to the staff and to each other. We didn't waste even the "pause!" I enjoyed the walks round the city and the Stammtisch. These were great fun and I would have come to more of them if I hadn't had so much homework (which I did gladly nonetheless.)

Frau Gockel is a very good landlady. She took a lot of trouble to speak to me in German and showed me round the city and into the countryside. Her house is very convenient to the bus stop and I enjoyed finding my way about the public transport. You would have been amused to see us in London yesterday, talking in both English and German as I took her on a boat trip up the Thames.

My family were amazed! What more can I say? Just - thank you for a very stimulating and rewarding four weeks and I shall start to save up for next year, I hope.

My regards and thanks to all the teachers and to any students who might still be there and know me - like Masaki and Jorge and of course, especially to yourself

*Christine Grosvenor*