

Edith von Sundahl-Hiller

Ana im Kreis

Novel in Easy German

Level A1

Dear readers,

On the following pages, you will find all the texts that are in Spanish in your paperback or epub version of *Ana im Kreis* in English. We will start with the blurb below and then move on to the notes about the author on the inside flap of the book.

Below, you will find the page numbers as a reference. The preface, footnotes other than vocabulary, and the texts and exercises from the appendix are all there. All the footnotes related to vocabulary can be found in alphabetical order in the German-Spanish-English glossary at the end of the book.

Enjoy!

BLURB

Ana im Kreis is a beginner novel about Ana, a young woman from Barcelona who moves to Berlin to learn German and to work in a bar in the Kreuzberg neighbourhood.

In Berlin, she not only discovers a new language, but also a new way of loving and a different perspective on co-living. She falls in love with the city, which leads her to start writing a blog, describing places off the beaten track that the readers will most likely not find in any common city guide.

In spite of its simple vocabulary and grammar, this novella manages to talk about the hopes, fears and longing of an entire generation of young people. In fact, any person who had to leave their countries of origin in search of a better future behind can relate to Ana.

Ana im Kreis is the first instalment of the Ana trilogy about Ana's life abroad.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Edith von Sundahl-Hiller

Was born in 1967 in a town near Stuttgart in the south of Germany.

She trained to become a teacher in Ludwigsburg, Cardiff and Barcelona. During this period, she held a series of odd jobs as barista, language assistant, telephone operator and personnel manager in an engineering office, all of which proved to be great sources of inspiration for the characters in her novels. She is currently a teacher and author of novels for German language students and lives with her husband and their two boys in a town near Barcelona.

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Page 9

For all students of German.

Especially for Júlia, Andrea and Isra.

You are the best!

Page 11

"Freedom is always the freedom of dissenters."

ROSA LUXEMBURG

PREFACE

"Edith, could you give us a text that is both easy to read and interesting at the same time," my students would ask me over and over again.

I thought about it for a while until I came up with the story of Ana, a young woman from Barcelona who goes to Berlin to improve her German and then, while settling in there, finds a somewhat different kind of love.

Taking advantage of a summer holiday, I sat down every morning to write a chapter about Ana's life - checking meticulously that both vocabulary and grammar in German did not exceed Level A1. With each chapter, Ana's character developed more, inspired both by my students' linguistic reality, and their lives.

Once finished, I self-published a first version of the novel to give to my students.

A fun and participatory way of continuing Ana's story, I thought, could be through comments my students would make in response to Ana's posts in her blog. So, I organised a writing competition and, not surprisingly, there were many very creative submissions. Two of them, the texts by Andrea Valdivieso and Júlia Barangé, are published in the appendix. Israel Prieto Artigas, another student, instead of writing a text for Ana, gave her this word play:

**B
KREIS
R
BARCELONA
I
ANA**

It so happened that the character of this young woman from Barcelona began to come to life beyond the realms of my novella; gaining independence and circulating through social networks and schools until Ana came to the attention of the publisher Herder, whose edition you now hold in your hands.

In the footnotes, you will find the translation of all the words that do not form part of the standard A1 vocabulary. Verbs appear first in their infinitive form, followed by the third person singular in the present and in the past ("Perfekt"). Nouns are always in their singular form first, accompanied by their article and plural ending after the comma.

You will also find an appendix with some reading comprehension exercises, grammar exercises and a fun pictorial exercise. At the end of the book, we have left some space for your notes and the solutions to the exercises. Additionally, the book contains an alphabetical glossary with all the German words from the footnotes translated into English and Spanish.

I do hope I have met my students' challenge. The thought that you might enjoy it, too, fills me with joy. Now, if you want to contact Ana beyond these pages, you can follow her on Facebook at: (www.facebook.com/anaimkreis), and on Instagram at: (<https://www.instagram.com/ana.trilogie/>)

Edith von Sundahl-Hiller

FOOTNOTES other than vocabulary

Remember, the vocabulary in the footnotes can be found in the glossary at the end of the appendix.

Page 30

29. A picnic with organic products. Germans are quite fanatical about organic products.

31. Police patrol. To prevent drug trafficking, local police vans are often parked in Berlin's parks.

Page 33

45. Volunteer corps. In the inter-war period, this name was given to paramilitary troops with a strong nationalist and anti-communist character, made up of German First World veterans.

Page 36

52. The "Floßkino" is an independent open-air cinema on the banks of the canal in Kreuzberg. It is an initiative organised by a politically motivated NGO.

Page 46

83. Keule is a common nickname in the east of Germany. It is used in an affectionate way for a brother or close friend. In other words, Frank's character is probably from one of the east parts of Berlin or one of the states of the former GDR.

Page 52

106. The Berghain club is located in a former factory and preserves the industrial atmosphere inside. Its name is made up of the two neighbouring districts of Berlin, Kreuzberg and Friedrichshain, and is located right at the border between the two.

Page 55

120. The taxi driver speaks in a typical Berlin dialect: He says "ick" instead of "ich" and "dir" instead of "dich". In standard German, he says the following: "Ich bringe dich zum Kottbusser Tor".

Page 58

130. Literally: to thunder; here: to curse. Thunder is used here metaphorically to suggest that Max speaks loudly and angrily.

EXERCISES

I. READING COMPREHENSION

1. Questionnaire

a. Which neighbourhoods are named in the novel?

Write down some of the places Ana visits.

b. What is "Freundeskreis"?

c. What is the name of the café on *Wiener Straße* where Ana works?

(You will find the description of the café in Chapter 9, but you will have to look up its name on the internet.)

d. Where does Ana live?

2. Writing

Ana has received many comments on her blog. You can read two of them below.

What was Ana's reply?

Write a response from Ana's perspective to

a. Júlia's comment

Liebe Ana, mein Name ist Júlia und ich schreibe dir über den Zoo in Berlin:

Zoologischer Garten

Ich war hier am ersten Tag in Berlin. Ich liebe Tiere und ich gehe gewöhnlich einmal monatlich mit meiner Schwester in den Zoo. Hier gibt es viele verschiedene Tiere. Du kannst Fotos machen und sie füttern. Aber es gibt zu viele Menschen, besonders Familien mit Kindern. Am Abend ist es ruhiger.

b. Andrea's comment

Hallo Ana, ich mag deinen Blog! Mein Name ist Andrea und ich schicke dir meinen Beitrag über die Friedrichstraße:

Berlin ist sehr schön und einer meiner Lieblingsplätze ist die Friedrichstraße. Ich gehe besonders gern einkaufen und die Straße ist berühmt für viele Geschäfte. Hier kannst du alles finden: Kleidung, Essen, Fahrräder, Autos und vieles mehr. Ein Paradies für mich! Hier kannst du viele verschiedene Kulturen sehen und ich finde das sehr interessant! Du findest auch viele Cafés hier

und das ist gut für eine Pause, denn es gibt sehr viele Menschen. Aber in Berlin kannst du nicht weggehen ohne die Straße zu besuchen.

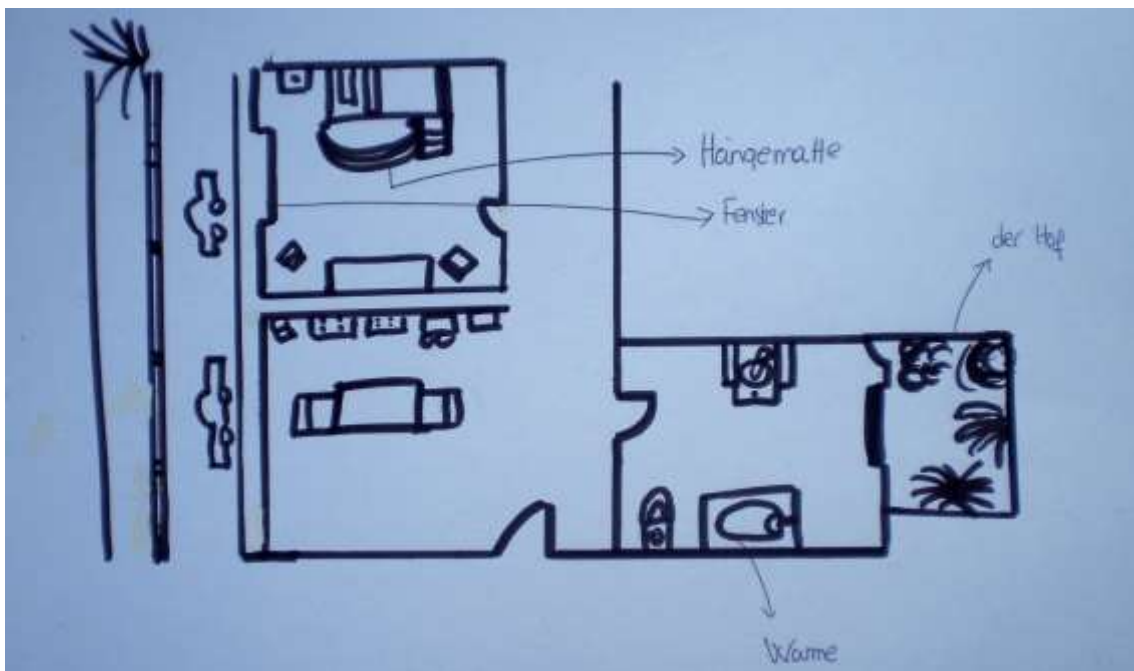
c. Do you know any places in Berlin? Write your own comment for Ana's blog.

II. ORIENTATION

1. Ana's flat.

a. Draw a map of Ana's flat. You will find the description in Chapter 12.

b. This map was drawn by a student. Spot and name the mistakes!



2. Ana's Berlin.

Search the internet for a map of Berlin and tag the following:

- Where does Ana live? Where does she work? Where does she meet her friends?
- Where are the rivers, canals and bridges that Ana frequents?
- Mark the places where Ana and Max meet.
- What are the neighbourhoods that Ana frequents?

III. GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

Find examples of the following grammatical constructions in the novel. Write the whole sentences and put the chapter where you found them in brackets.

a. A negation with "nicht"

Example: „Nein“, sagt Max, „das glaube ich nicht.“ (Chapter 4)

b. A negation with "kein"

c. An irregular verb

d. A separable verb

e. A masculine noun in accusative

f. A possessive pronoun

g. Three different modal verbs

h. A temporal preposition

i. A phrase with "ohne"

j. A phrase with "mit"

k. A sentence with "mögen" + noun

l. A sentence with a verb and the word "gern"

m. Four sentences in "Perfekt" (the Compound Past that translates into Simple Past in English) with "haben" or "sein".

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NOTES

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ANSWER KEY

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PHOTOS

Page 14: Crossword Ana im Kreis, Israel Prieto Artigas, 2016.

Pages 18 and 71: Entrance sign to Prinzenbad open air pool, Edith von Sundahl-Hiller, 2016.

Page 23: Berlin Alexanderplatz TV tower, Edith von Sundahl-Hiller, 2016.

Page 34: Rosa Luxemburg, with the kind permission of the Deutsches Historisches Museum Berlin (Inv. Historisches Museum Berlin (Inv. No. F 59/1341).

Page 41: Landwehrkanal Kreuzberg, Edith von Sundahl-Hiller, 2016.

Page 72: Landwehrkanal, Dreiländereck, Edith von Sundahl-Hiller, 2016.

Page 73: Rosa Luxemburg Flyer, Editorial Herder S. L., 2017.

Page 77: Facade of the squat on Köpenicker Straße, Edith von Sundahl-Hiller, 2016.

Page 79: Entrance to Berghain club, Edith von Sundahl-Hiller, 2009.

Page 82: Underground in Pankow, Hanna Knell, 2017.

Page 84: TV tower at Alexanderplatz, Hardy Hiller, 2016.

Page 90: Hand-drawn map of Ana's flat, Júlia Barangé, 2016.

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