Where is German spoken?

German is the official language of:

- Germany
- Austria
- Switzerland (plus French, Italian and Rumantsch)
- Luxembourg (plus French and Luxembourgish)
- Liechtenstein

90-95 million people in Europe speak German (1st most spoken native language in the EU, 2nd in Europe after Russian)
About me

Family Record

Family

Names

Parents

Born

When and where

Children

Married

Died

When and where
Translation vs. Interpreting
What’s the difference?

Translation
• Written

Interpreting
• Oral, spoken

The common goal: Effective COMMUNICATION!

Motivation
Motivation is the fuel that feeds the language learning lifestyle.
- John Fotheringham

I think we all understand the importance of motivation in our lives. We have all experienced times of great motivation. We wake up unfathomably early and put ourselves through significant discomfort to make the fishing trip happen; we drive through the night to be with family for Christmas morning; we forgo our daily dose of Starbucks for months in order to save for the new iPad. Motivation is powerful stuff. But we also know what it feels like to be unmotivated; to not want to get out of bed in the morning; to not want to step out the door for that run; to not want work on that project for work or school. But motivation is the fuel that feeds language learning and we must work to
What is the job like?
Where do translators work?

• Small teams – translator, editor, proofreader – often virtual teams around the world or with agencies
• Detail and project oriented – no typos allowed!
• Research
• Tools: computers, Skype, special software (not Google translate!), dictionaries (now many are online)
• Lots of different kinds of texts depending on specialization
• Many freelancers work at home

Text credit: Adapted from presentation by Barbara Bell
What is the job like?
Where do interpreters work?

• Interpreters often work in teams
• Work in front of small and large audiences
• Expert proficiency and speed in spoken language
• On the spot knowledge of terms
• Interpreting in business, medical, government, courtroom settings

Text credit: Barbara Bell
Translation & Interpreting
Necessary Skills

A good translator is...

• Fluent in at least one foreign language
• Curious
• Independent, creative
• A good researcher
• Self-motivated and good at time management
• A strong writer

A good interpreter is/has...

• Proficient at speaking two languages
• An excellent memory
• Able to speak before large and small groups
• Willing and able to travel
• Knowledgeable in various fields
• Flexible

Text credit: Adapted from presentation by Barbara Bell
Becoming a Translator or Interpreter

- Study languages and other subjects that interest you in high school and college
- Being bilingual isn’t enough – must be an excellent writer for translation and must have a specialization for both translating and interpreting
- Get an advanced degree in translation
- Live abroad
- Volunteer
- Join clubs and associations

Text credit: Adapted from presentation by Barbara Bell
To conserve resources, protect the environment and promote government measures, our company will no longer be providing plastic bags free of charge as of June 1, 2008. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Please excuse the trouble (inconvenience) that this construction site may cause.

Admission to the archaeological area is prohibited without an official tour guide.
Scene from a German Christmas Market
http://webserieschannel.co.nz/webseries/lifeswap/