



## German Research: Alsace-Lorraine

Germany “How to” Guide, Beginner Level: Answer Key

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### INSTRUCTIONS

Refer to the following “How to” Guides on the *FamilySearch* Wiki to help you solve this activity:

- [Alsace-Lorraine: Translating German and French Names and Place Names](#)
- [Alsace-Lorraine: Department Archive Records Online](#)
- [Alsace-Lorraine: Converting French Republican Calendar Dates](#)

### QUESTIONS

1. Translating given names:

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|--|------------|
| What is the French equivalent of the German male name Friedrich?<br><br>Hint: Review the <b>Translating German and French Names and Place Names</b> handout. | Frédéric   |
| What is the French equivalent of the German female name Margaretha?<br><br>Hint: Use the <a href="#">First Names Translator on NamepediA</a> .               | Marguerite |
| What is the German equivalent of the French male name Guillaume?   | Wilhelm    |
| What is the German equivalent of the French female name Françoise?   | Franziska  |

2. Translating surnames:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| What is the French equivalent of the German surname Weber? | Tisserand |
|--|-----------|

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| Hint: Double-check that the translated word is a French surname by looking it up on <a href="http://geopatronyme.com">geopatronyme.com</a> .  |        |
| What is the German equivalent of the French surname Petit?<br><br>Hint: Use an online translator, such as <a href="https://www.google.com/translate">Google Translate</a> .   | Klein  |
| What is the French equivalent of the German surname Schäfer?  | Berger |
| How many people in Haut-Rhin have the surname Berger between 1916 and 1940?<br><br>Hint: Look up <b>Berger</b> on <a href="http://geopatronyme.com">geopatronyme.com</a> , select the year range, and look at the department list on the right. | 152    |

### 3. Translating place names:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| What is the French commune equivalent of the German Gemeinde <b>Maursmünster</b> ?<br><br>Hint: Use the <a href="http://www.francegenweb.org/wiki/Communes_d%27Alsace-Lorraine">Communes d'Alsace-Lorraine</a> FranceGenWeb Wiki page. | Marmoutier  |
| What is the German Gemeinde equivalent of the French commune <b>Magny</b> ?  | Menglatt (in Haut-Rhin) or Manningen (in Moselle) |
| What is the French commune equivalent of the German Gemeinde <b>Jungholz</b> ?   | Jungholtz   |

### 4. Accessing records on the [Archives du Bas-Rhin website](http://www.archives-bas-rhin.fr):

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Is the commune of Ringendorf in the department of Bas-Rhin?<br><br>Hint: Use the <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communes_of_the_Bas-Rhin_Department">Communes of the Bas-Rhin Department</a> Wikipedia page. There are 514 communes in Bas-Rhin. | Yes      |
| Does the commune of Dachstein in Bas-Rhin have a Catholic parish, a Protestant parish, or both?  | Catholic |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Hint: Look up Dachstein on the Bas-Rhin website and see which religion is listed above the image of the books on the shelf.   |  |
| <p>What is the name of the child being baptized in the Catholic parish of Tieffenbach on 26 July 1788, and what town are his parents residing in?</p> <p>Hint: Use the <a href="#">Latin Genealogical Word List</a> to look up the date. The name and town are in the column to the left of the baptismal entry.</p>  | <u>Joannes Georgius Walter in Frohmühl</u> |
| <p>Open the 1840 civil marriages book for Tieffenbach. In entry #4, who is Christine Eberhard marrying, and how might her husband's name be written if he is German?</p> <p>Hint: Locate entry #4 (listed with <b>N° 4</b> in the column to the left of the marriage entry; note that the surnames here are listed first). Then use <a href="#">NamepediA</a> to translate the French name into its German counterpart.</p> | <u>Jacques Peter, Jakob</u>                |

5. Accessing records on the [Archives du Haut-Rhin website](#):

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Is the commune of Rahling in Haut-Rhin?</p> <p>Hint: Use the <a href="#">Communes of the Haut-Rhin Department</a> Wikipedia page. There are 366 communes in Haut-Rhin.</p> | No   |
| What is the French name for the German Gemeinde of Ottendorf in Haut-Rhin?  | Courtavon  |
| <p>What is the name of the person who died in Courtavon on 14 December 1866?</p> <p>Hint: Look at the small yearly index directly after the 1866 Courtavon death records.</p> | Agathe Godat   |
| What image is Agathe's death record on?   | Image 17 (incidentally the same image as the yearly death index) |

6. Republican calendar practice:

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| <p>What date is <b>3 December 1800</b> (Gregorian calendar) in the French Republican calendar?</p> <p>Hint: Use the Napoleon.org <a href="#">calculator for the French Republican Calendar</a>.</p> | <p>12 Frimaire an IX</p> |
| <p>What date is <b>30 Messidor an V</b> (French Republican calendar) in the Gregorian calendar?</p>   | <p>18 July 1797</p>      |

7. Putting it all together: Find **Willmann** (the husband's surname) in the "**1793–an X**" decennial marriage table (i.e., ten-year marriage index) of **Walf**. Translate his **given name** and convert the **marriage date** to the current/Gregorian calendar.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>What is the French commune equivalent of the German Gemeinde <b>Walf</b>?</p> <p>Hint: Use the <a href="#">Communes d'Alsace-Lorraine</a> FranceGenWeb Wiki page.</p>  | <p>Valff</p>  |
| <p>What French department of Alsace-Lorraine is the commune in the previous question in? (This lets you know which department website to refer to for records.)</p> <p>Hint: Use the various commune Wikipedia pages, such as the <a href="#">Communes of the Bas-Rhin Department</a> page.</p>   | <p>Bas-Rhin</p>   |
| <p>What years does the first decennial table for marriages in Valff cover?</p> <p>Hint: Type <b>Valff</b> into the <b>search bar</b> on the <a href="#">Archives du Bas-Rhin website</a>. Right-click on the website and select <b>Translate to English</b>.</p>  | <p>1793–an X</p>  |
| <p>Open the "<b>1793–an X</b>" marriage decennial book. What image is the surname <b>Willmann</b> found on, what is his <b>given name</b>, his <b>marriage date</b>, and his <b>bride's name</b>?</p> <p>Hint: The index is pseudo-alphabetical by the husband's surname—e.g., all the surnames starting with the letter V are listed together, but otherwise not alphabetically.</p> | <p>Image 4, Jacques, 21 Floréal 10, Marie Anne Lutz</p> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>What date is <b>21 Floréal 10</b> in the Gregorian calendar?</p> <p>Hint: Use the Napoleon.org <a href="#">calculator for the French Republican Calendar</a>.</p>  | <p>11 May 1802</p>                                     |
| <p>What is the German equivalent of the French male name <b>Jacques</b>?</p> <p>Hint: Review the <b>Translating German and French Names and Place Names</b> handout or use the <a href="#">First Names Translator on Namepedia</a>.</p> | <p>Jakob</p>   |
| <p>Open the “<b>an X</b>” <b>civil marriage</b> record book. What image is Jacques Willmann’s marriage located on, and how is his name written? Who is he marrying?</p> <p>Hint: The names are written in the margin.</p>               | <p>Image 5, Johann Jacob Willmann, Maria Anna Lutz</p> |