Year: Year 9

Subject: German

Topic/Unit: In der Jugendherberge (Youth Hostels, Routines, Directions, and Festivals)

When: Spring 1

Overview: **Why this? Why now?:** This unit develops practical communicative skills through real-world German travel, accommodation, and cultural scenarios. Learners explore youth hostel rules, describe daily routines, navigate towns, and discuss cultural festivals in German-speaking countries. It introduces key structural concepts—modal verbs, separable prefixes, reflexive pronouns, imperative forms, and adjectival agreements.

Building on…building to: The unit builds on basic present tense verb conjugations, time expressions, town vocabulary, and nominative & accusative articles. It builds towards multi-tense transactional conversations, narrative writing in past and future tenses, and detailed cultural comparisons.

Sequence summary:

- **Week 1:** Youth Hostel Rules (In der Jugendherberge): Exploring German hostel culture. Expressing regulations (die Hausordnung) using modal verbs müssen and dürfen with infinitives placed at the end of clauses.
- **Week 2**: Daily Routine (Mein Tagesablauf): Describing daily habits and times. Applying reflexive pronouns (mich, dich, sich) and separable prefix verbs (aufstehen, anziehen).
- **Week 3**: Directions & Town (Wie komme ich zum/zur...?): Asking for and giving directions using town locations and prepositions zum/zur.
- **Week 4:** Giving Instructions (The Imperative): Formulating commands using singular (du), plural (ihr), and formal (Sie) imperative forms (Geh! / Geht! / Gehen Sie!).
- **Week 5:** Festivals & Fairs (Auf einem Fest): Cultural study of celebrations such as the Schützenfest in Hannover. Acquiring vocabulary for parades, funfairs, and stalls.
- **Week 6:** Adjective Endings & Unit Synthesis: Applying nominative and accusative adjective endings after indefinite articles (ein langer Umzug, ein buntes Kostüm).

Key Vocabulary:

- *Hostel & Rules*: die Hausordnung, müssen, dürfen, aufstehen, das Bett machen, das Zimmer sauber halten.
- *Daily Routine:* sich waschen, sich duschen, sich anziehen, frühstücken, ausgehen, zurückkommen.
- *Directions:* der Bahnhof, die Ampel, die Kreuzung, nach links/rechts, geradeaus, zum/zur.
- *Festivals:* der Umzug, der Festwagen, die Kirmes, das Kostüm, das Fahrgeschäft, der Imbiss.

Assessments:

- **Formative**: Mini-whiteboard translation drills, listening comprehension tasks on hostel rules and directions, and paired direction dialogues.
- **Summative**: End-of-unit reading and writing assessment evaluating modal verb precision, direction giving, and festival descriptions with correct adjective endings.

Able and interested: Extended past-tense reporting on hostel stays (übernachten) and festival experiences.

Inclusion, Personal Development and Wider Skills: Fostering cultural curiosity regarding international travel, shared living responsibilities, and regional traditions.

Homework and Independent Learning: Weekly vocabulary learning via ActiveHub and vocab lists. Short translation tasks reinforcing reflexive verb patterns, modal word order, and direction prompts.