

GERMAN PUNCTUATION

German punctuation is very similar to that of English, however, there are 4 German punctuation marks that work in different ways to their English equivalent.

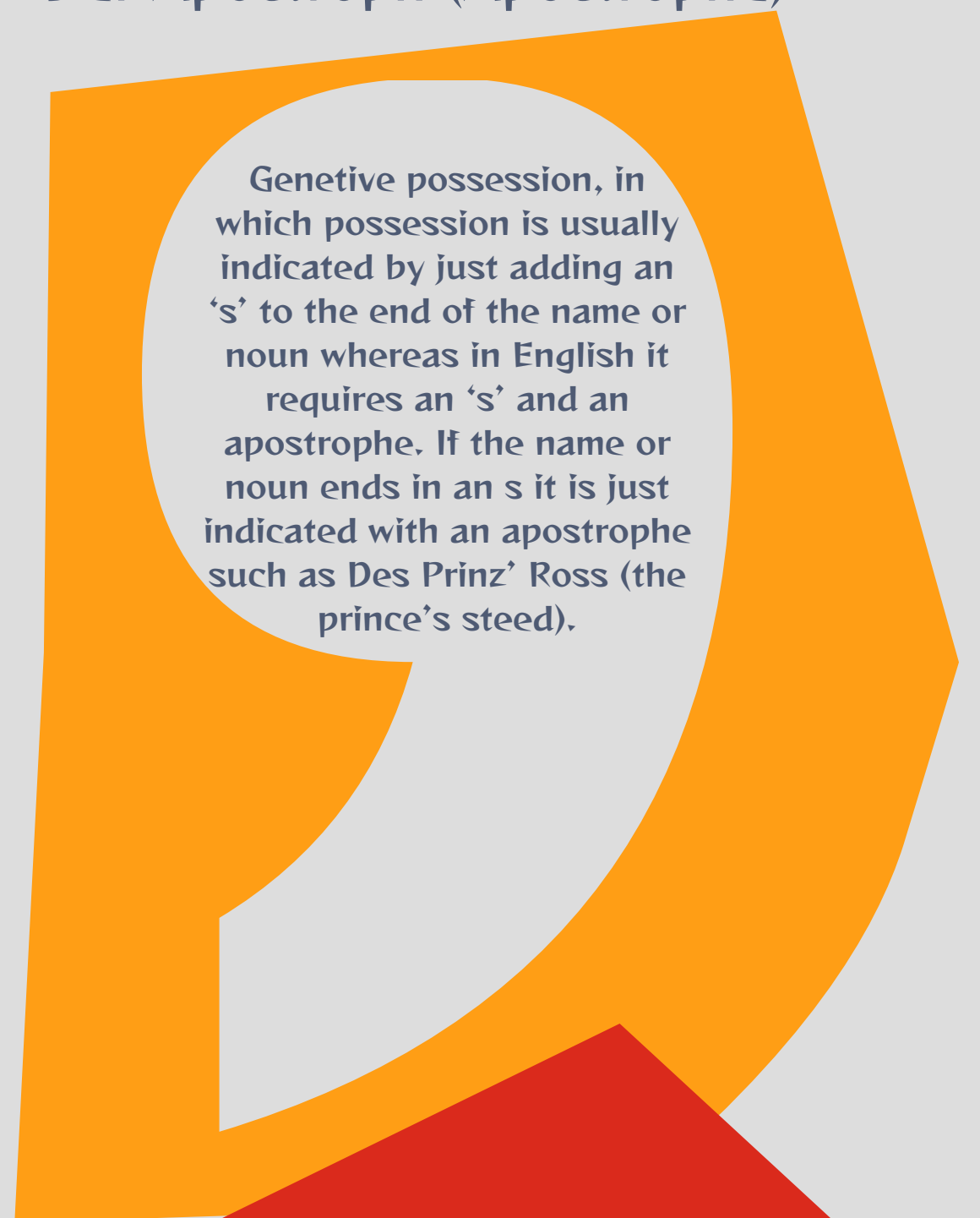
Anführungszeichen (Quotation Marks)

German uses quotation marks similarly to English except that the opening quotation mark is below rather than above: Er sagte: „ich mag fussball” Unlike English, German introduces a direct quotation with a colon rather than a comma. German uses quotation marks whereas English would use italics (Kursiv). They are used in English for the titles of poems, articles, short stories, songs and TV shows. German expands this to the titles of books, novels, films, dramatic works and the names of newspapers or magazines.



Der Apostroph (Apostrophe)

Genitive possession, in which possession is usually indicated by just adding an 's' to the end of the name or noun whereas in English it requires an 's' and an apostrophe. If the name or noun ends in an s it is just indicated with an apostrophe such as Des Prinz' Ross (the prince's steed).



Das komma (comma)

Amongst its various uses, the German comma is used to list items, but never comes before 'und' or 'oder'. It is also used to separate two main clauses, which is not correct in English.

As English would require a conjunction such as 'and' or a semicolon or full stop.



Der Ergänzungsstrich/Der Gedankenstrich

The dash is used to symbolise a pause, or contrast. Or to indicate a change in speaker. And its final use is to replace the 0s in prices such as, €5,— rather than the english £5.00

