

Katapult and Authentik auf deutsch **(AUTHENTIK language magazines)**

This Dublin based language resource company has released two interesting magazines to support the learning of German: *Katapult* and *Authentik auf deutsch*. They are available on subscription basis with accompanying cassettes.

The magazines are packed with authentic up-to-date reading materials from such German media sources as *Frankfurter Presse*, *Die Woche*, *Bunte*, *Bild*, *Bravo* and *Popcorn*. The articles have been prepared for classroom and independent work and are well supported with activities and exercises.

Katapult

I was particularly attracted to this magazine, described as a resource for intermediate level students. It would suit our Stage 6 Continuers students. As well as longer articles, *Katapult* has a 2-3 page spread of snippets, ideal for skimming and scanning practice or just for a quick read! The focus throughout the magazine is the life and interests of young people in contemporary Germany. *Katapult* also has specific listening and responding activities (*Technik und Strategien*) and includes a reading and listening test section.

Authentik auf deutsch

In this magazine, the topics are broader than our senior Continuers syllabus and some of the articles are quite meaty, making them less useful at this level. However, the magazine would make an ideal resource for Extension students. The articles are accompanied by writing and/or listening exercises and grammar activities. Ideas for class activities and discussions are also provided. The layout is busy but manageable, with text and graphics attractively presented. The accompanying cassette contains additional information to the articles in the form of interviews, conversations and reports and is an excellent listening and responding resource. The audio texts are usually long, but transcripts of all the audio recordings are included at the back of the magazine. *Authentik auf deutsch* also includes a reading and listening test section.

While both magazines come with a magazine only subscription option, I would suggest that this is a false economy. The cassette materials are certainly value added and would also allow students to work independently.

***Katapult* subscription**

(3 issues – January, March and September):

Cassette plus one magazine subscription	\$99.00
Magazine only	\$39.00 (single copy)
	\$24.00 (for 2-12 subscriptions)

Suitable for Stage 6 continuer students. The magazine provides a range of articles which correspond to the senior syllabus topics and range in difficulty, interest and length.

***Authentik auf deutsch* subscription**

(5 issues – September, November, January, March and May):

*Reviewed by Yvonne Stöger, Duval High School
NSW Department of Education and Training, 2004*

Cassette plus one magazine subscription	\$180.00
CD plus one magazine subscription	\$190.00
Magazine only	\$58.00 (single copy)
	\$38.00 (for 2-12 subscriptions)

This magazine has fairly weighty articles on contemporary political and social topics and is more appropriate for HSC Extension students, tertiary students or as a teacher resource.

I will certainly be putting in my subscription and encouraging my senior students to purchase their own.

For further information on these magazines, please contact Tom Egan on 02 4573 6341 or email tegan@cdptek.com.au

Prices correct as at 02/04.

