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**Level 2 – 26th March 2026**

## Germany wants workers from India

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260326-germany-labour-shortage-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260326-germany-labour-shortage-2.html>

Germany is struggling to find enough skilled people to work. This is because older workers are retiring and the birth rate is falling. There are hundreds of thousands of job vacancies. Germany needs to get 288,000 foreign workers a year. The BBC said Germany wants to fix this problem by asking workers from India to fill vacancies. India has 600 million people below the age of 25. Germany needs people to work in engineering, healthcare, and manufacturing. It also needs thousands of nurses and caregivers, and thousands of IT professionals.

Germany is Europe's largest economy. It is famous for making cars. Companies like Volkswagen and BMW make some of the world's most popular cars. Germany is also a leader in renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, and financial services. It has made it easier for people to get work visas. It has increased the number of visas for Indians from 20,000 a year to 90,000. However, many businesses need more workers. Indian employment expert Aditi Banerjee said: "There's a huge labour surplus in India." She is helping many young Indian workers to find work in Germany.

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-launches-alliance-to-fairly-recruit-skilled-workers/a-76461953>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c3wlww83yv4o>  
<https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/why-indian-talent-is-in-high-demand-as-germany-struggles-with-workforce-shortages-11253593>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260326-germany-labour-shortage-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Germany is                    | a. are retiring     |
| 2. find enough skilled           | b. professionals    |
| 3. This is because older workers | c. of job vacancies |
| 4. the birth                     | d. people           |
| 5. hundreds of thousands         | e. rate is falling  |
| 6. people below                  | f. and caregivers   |
| 7. nurses                        | g. struggling       |
| 8. thousands of IT               | h. the age of 25    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Germany is Europe's largest  | a. get work visas  |
| 2. It is famous                 | b. popular cars    |
| 3. the world's most             | c. energy          |
| 4. a leader in renewable        | d. surplus         |
| 5. financial                    | e. economy         |
| 6. made it easier for people to | f. of visas        |
| 7. It has increased the number  | g. for making cars |
| 8. a huge labour                | h. services        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260326-germany-labour-shortage-2.html>

Germany (1) \_\_\_\_\_ find enough skilled people to work. This is because older workers (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the birth rate is falling. There are hundreds of thousands of job vacancies. Germany needs to get 288,000 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ year. The BBC said Germany wants to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ by asking workers from India to fill vacancies. India has 600 million people below (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 25. Germany needs people to work in engineering, healthcare, and manufacturing. It also needs thousands of (6) \_\_\_\_\_, and thousands of IT professionals.

Germany is Europe's largest economy. It (7) \_\_\_\_\_ making cars. Companies like Volkswagen and BMW make some of the world's (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Germany is also a leader in renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, (9) \_\_\_\_\_. It has made it easier for people to get work visas. It has increased the number (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Indians from 20,000 a year to 90,000. However, many businesses need more workers. Indian employment expert Aditi Banerjee said: "There's (11) \_\_\_\_\_ surplus in India." She is helping many young Indian (12) \_\_\_\_\_ work in Germany.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260326-germany-labour-shortage-2.html>

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# WORKERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2603/260326-germany-labour-shortage-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about workers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

