



Unit 7 — Mediation: An Academic Text

Track E · Klasse 12 · Niveau E (Basisfach / Leistungsfach)

Learning objectives

- *I can mediate a 500-word German academic text into 15 English sentences for a named addressee.*
- *I can preserve hedge structure, modal nuance, citation conventions, and disciplinary register.*
- *I can use the full reporting-verb toolkit and add cultural / disciplinary notes where needed.*

Lead-in

The class received a 500-word German social-science abstract from a 2026 paper on intergenerational income mobility in OECD countries. The addressee: an English-speaking PhD-track economist who reads abstracts to triage what to read in full. The task: mediate the abstract honestly enough that the researcher can decide whether to read the full paper.

Key points

- **Hedges to preserve:** *legen nahe* → *suggest*; *vorsichtig diskutieren* → *discuss with caution*; *Limitationen umfassen* → *limitations include*.
- **Modal nuance:** *kann sein* → *may be* (not *can*); *dürften* → *are likely to*.
- **Citation conventions:** preserve the (*Author, Year*) format if present.
- **Disciplinary register:** *Two-Sample IV* is a specific econometric estimator — keep the term, add a cultural / disciplinary note if needed.

Practise

- Match German hedge → English: *legen nahe* → ?, *dürften* → ?, *vorsichtig* → ?
- Decide for the addressee profile: keep, paraphrase, or drop — *Two-Sample IV-Schätzer* (for a PhD-track economist).
- Build a 5-sentence English mediation of the abstract above for a science-journalism reader (NOT an economist).

Your turn

Academic mediation, 15 sentences. Read the source above. Write 15 English sentences for an English-speaking PhD-track economist. Preserve hedges + modal nuance + disciplinary register + use 8 reporting verbs + 1 cultural-disciplinary note bracket.

Reflect

- I can mediate a 500-word academic abstract into 15 English sentences.
- I can preserve hedge structure, modal nuance, and disciplinary register.
- I can use 8 reporting verbs accurately.