Unit 7 — Mediation as a Skill — Teacher copy

Track E · Klasse 11 · Niveau E (Basisfach / Leistungsfach)

Niveau E

1. Vocabulary

Match each item to its meaning or use it in a sentence.

Term	Your note
to say	
to explain	
to claim	
to argue	
to assert	
to maintain	
to concede	
to admit	
to deny	
to stress	
to add	
to point out	
to note	
to dismiss	
to caution	
to warn	
to remark	

2. Reading

Read the text and use it for the activities below.

Source — *Fictional German teaching passage on Mietpreisbremse*

Fiktives Unterrichtsszenario. Der folgende Text ist eigens für eine Sprachmittlungsübung verfasst. Die Datierung im Mai 2027 und die behauptete Verlängerung sind Bestandteile dieser erfundenen Situation, keine überprüfte Nachricht und keine Darstellung der geltenden Rechtslage. Behandle alle Aussagen als Behauptungen dieses Szenarios und kennzeichne sie entsprechend.

Reader context. Your Canadian addressee is taking part in the same classroom simulation. Identify the passage as fictional in your English text.

Die sogenannte Mietpreisbremse, die 2015 als Reaktion auf den Druck auf den Wohnungsmarkt eingeführt wurde, gilt heute als Beispiel für eine regulatorische Maßnahme, deren Wirkung umstritten ist. Befürworter führen an, dass die Mieten in Ballungsgebieten weniger schnell steigen als ohne die Regelung. Kritikerinnen entgegnen, dass die Bremse Investitionen in Neubau bremst und das Angebot

dadurch langfristig verknappt. Die Bundesregierung hat im Mai 2027 die Verlängerung der Regelung um sechs Jahre beschlossen.

Cultural-note conventions

When a German term has no clean English equivalent, use:

- *the term + a concise explanation in brackets*: *Mietpreisbremse* (a federal cap on rent increases in tight housing markets).
- *the German label, italicised, on first mention only*; English on subsequent mentions.
- *brief contextual sentence after the term* if a structural feature needs framing.

Reporting-verb toolkit (12+)

to say, to explain, to claim, to argue, to assert, to maintain, to concede, to admit, to deny, to stress, to add, to point out, to note, to dismiss, to caution, to warn, to remark.

3. Practise

Niveau E — controlled

1. Match: behaupten → ?, einräumen → ?, betonen → ?, bestreiten → ?, anmerken → ?
2. Cultural-note: build a concise English bracketed explanation for *Mietpreisbremse* and for *Bundesregierung*.

Niveau E — productive

3. Write one sentence reporting the supporters' position and one reporting the critics' position. Use a fitting reporting verb for each; do not add claims merely to increase the verb count.

4. Your turn

Concise mediation, 4–6 sentences. Read the fictional passage above. Write for a Canadian housing researcher participating in the classroom simulation. Identify the scenario as fictional, preserve the two attributed viewpoints and explain the two German institutional terms briefly. Use reporting verbs where the source actually attributes a claim; do not add evidence or political predictions absent from the source.

Sample — faithful to the fictional passage

The fictional teaching passage presents the German *Mietpreisbremse* (a rent-control measure) as a contested intervention introduced in 2015. Supporters argue that rents in urban areas increase less quickly with it, while critics contend that it discourages new construction and reduces long-term supply. Within the invented scenario, the *Bundesregierung* (Germany's federal government) decided in May 2027 to extend the measure for six years. These are claims made by the classroom text, not verified information about current housing law.

Source check. The passage supplies no rent dataset, comparison with Vienna, or prediction about the political cost of repeal. A mediation must not invent those details. Compare every statement in your draft with the source before handing it to the addressee.

5. Further reading / listening

- Goethe-Institut — Sprachmittlungs-Beispielaufgaben Oberstufe.
- Cambridge — *Translation and Mediation* guidelines.

6. Teacher answer key

Controlled. 1. claim / concede / stress / deny / note.

2. *Mietpreisbremse (a federal cap on rent increases in tight markets); Bundesregierung (Germany's federal government).*

Productive. 3. Open.