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Understanding English-German Contrasts

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von
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und
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ERICH SCHMIDT VERLAG

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Preface to the third edition

After its first publication in 2007, a second edition of *Understanding English-German Contrasts* was prepared in 2009, the most important changes consisting in the adoption of the editorial style of the 'ESVbasics' series and the addition of author and subject indexes. This third edition represents a considerable extension in comparison to the second. In addition to updating a few references, we have added three chapters, one on modal verbs (Ch. 6), one on compounding (Ch. 15) and one on derivation (Ch. 16). Moreover, the chapter on *Contrasts in the lexicon* (Ch. 13 of the second edition) has been split up into two parts, one on content words (now Ch. 14) and one on function words (Ch. 17), because we felt that the chapter was too 'heavy' and heterogeneous in its previous form.

The addition of three chapters entails an increase in price. We regret this, but we understand that the additional production costs incurred by the publisher have to be covered. Moreover, we feel that the additional 60-odd pages justify the slightly higher price, and we hope that the book will still be affordable to students.

Several colleagues have helped us in the preparation of this edition. In particular, the chapter on modality has greatly benefited from the comments and suggestions made by the participants of a workshop on modality that took place in Jena in October 2011. Werner Abraham, Łukasz Jedrejski and Jakob Maché have drawn our attention to important literature, and Łukasz Jedrejski has moreover provided interesting authentic examples. We are also indebted to Olga Barsukova, Lisa Deringer, Franziska Kurtz and Christoph Rzymiski for helping us with proofreading and matters of typesetting. Finally, we would like to thank all students that have given us feedback when using the book in class. The participants of a course on English-German contrasts taught in the winter of 2011/12 at the university of Jena were particularly helpful, pointing out a dozen of typos and some infelicities in examples as well as the text itself.

Jena, 31.01.2012
Ekkehard König, Volker Gast

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