

# Prof. Dr. Helmut Seidl

# **Typical Mistakes**

This course, which is conducted entirely in English, offers a lively and up-to-date approach to the most frequently made mistakes in spoken and written English. German students are shown how to recognize these errors and avoid them for good.

Typical mistakes which German native speakers are liable to make include:

#### 1. PITFALLS IN PRONUNCIATION

(e.g. colleague / to gallop / recipe / tear / cough / donkey / to sew / princess / comb / cushion / glove / paradise / wrath / butcher / onion / gone / sandwich / forecastle / smooth / singer / England / Geoffrey / London / Chicago / Los Angeles / Arkansas)

#### 2. SPELLING PROBLEMS

(e.g. potatoes / developed / loser / victuals / forty / disaster / committee / successful)

### 3. INCORRECT WORD USAGE

(e.g. confusable terms: profession, trade, calling, vocation, occupation / remind, remember, recollect / blunder, defect, error, fault, mistake / admission vs admittance / careless vs carefree / at first vs first / masterful vs masterly / to raise vs to rise / to bring vs to take or "false friends": engaged / eventually / menu / sensible / to overhear / dome / warehouse / to blame / gymnasium / housemaster / gift / fabric / prospect)

## 4. GRAMMATICAL GAFFES

(e.g. sentence structure: *I want you to help me. /* tenses: *Yesterday I saw it on TV.* / prepositions: *typical of; solution to; good at*)

No textbooks required, the course is based on handouts, audio cassettes, and CD-ROMS.