

# Christian Kehls

## Translator, Copy Editor, Content Writer

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📍 Zum Wenigenberg 15, 54516 Wittlich, Germany

## Professional Summary

Skilled and dedicated English-German translator with over 15 years of professional practice, profound expertise and a passion for the intricacies of both languages since an early age. Consistently relied upon for diverse translation and copy editing assignments by a broad variety of clients. Comprehensive familiarity with the source language as a result of considerable experience working in English-speaking environments. Exceptional attention to detail; well versed and confident in a multitude of writing styles. Determined to create accurately nuanced, purposeful and precisely tailored translation results. I am constantly driven by the urge to further refine my skills and a strong interest in developing imaginative ways to overcome cross-cultural language barriers.

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## Work Experience

### Translator (EN → DE)

07/2003 - present

*For private clients, agencies, publishers, companies and institutes*

- Translate text content as well as literary and non-fiction works
- Create accurate transcripts and translations of video and audio material
- Subtitle audiovisual content (spotting, translation, simulation, correction)
- Localize websites, software and video games, thoughtfully customized to satisfy the specific needs of the German market
- Proofread and copy edit human and machine translated text

### Content Writer and Copy Editor (DE & EN)

09/2002 - present

*For publishers, agencies and online portals*

- Create unique text content for print media and web publications (research, conceptualization, structuralizing, formulating, proofreading)
- Revise written material for search engine optimization (SEO)
- Provide precise transcription and subtitling services
- Copy edit print and online text, ensuring perfect results in terms of orthography, punctuation, grammar, syntax, readability, style, formatting, argumentation and factual accuracy

## Additional Work Experience

### Software Development Project Manager and Product Developer

03/2005 - present

*Attic Door Productions, Coralville, Iowa City, Iowa, USA 52241*

- Responsible for managerial duties such as structural project planning, requirements analysis, budgeting, personnel selection / evaluation, team coordination and product quality control
- Offer bilingual customer support; participate in business and management meetings
- Provide online marketing by copywriting and composing bilingual press releases
- Conceptualized, structured, crafted and marketed a crowdfunding campaign that exceeded its initial target by more than 50%

- Translate a variety of documents, transcripts of video / audio materials and subtitles between English and German; software and video game localization
- Heavily involved in creative writing processes, including plot organization, dramaturgy as well as character, theme and subtext development

**Product Developer (Casual / Mobile / Console Gaming)**

**07/2012 - 02/2015**

*Beau James Games, Los Angeles, CA, USA 90034*

- Translated project-related content between English and German
- Assisted in game development tasks such as level design, balancing and usability
- Involved in the strategic planning, implementation and social media marketing of a successful crowdfunding campaign
- Served as a mediator in critical management negotiations and received outstanding employee recognition

**Education**

**Quirinus Gymnasium, Neuss** (advanced courses: German, English)

**09/1992 - 06/2002**

**Skills**

**Languages**

- German (native speaker)
- English (fluent, C2)
- French (basic communication skills, A2)

**Computer**

- Windows operating systems, Internet, social media
- MS Office; Adobe InDesign, Photoshop
- CAT Tools (SDL Trados, memoQ, Wordfast)
- Subtitle Editors (Subtitle Workshop, Subtitle Edit, Aegisub)
- Video editing/compositing (Adobe Premiere, After Effects)
- Application programming (Unity, Java)
- Typewriting: 450 characters per minute (90 wpm)

**Other**

- Music theory, composing, orchestration and production

**Translation Fields**

**Arts and Culture**

- International mainstream/genre/arthouse cinema, film history
- Classical/art, popular and avant-garde music
- Literature, poetry; mythology, fairy tales, folklore
- Regional studies, tourism

**Media and Entertainment**

- Video games, video game development, consumer electronics
- Print media, radio broadcasting, TV
- Computers, Internet and multimedia
- Marketing, online marketing
- Sports journalism

**Education and Research**

- Linguistics and literary studies
- Archaeology, history and geology
- Astronomy, space exploration, spaceflight
- Psychology, sociology / social anthropology; philosophy