

Was ist **bloß/nur** mit dir
los?

*What on earth is the matter
with you?*

16.4 doch

Doch is one of the most frequently used modal particles and defies neat classification.

- **16.4.1** **Doch** can occur in isolation as an answer contradicting a negative question:

Hat er dich **nicht** angerufen? *Didn't he call you?*
Doch. *Yes (he did).*

- **16.4.2** Similarly, statements where **doch** is stressed contradict a previous statement or question:

Sie hatte **doch** recht. *She was right after all.*
Du warst **doch** neulich hier. *You did come here recently,
didn't you?*

However, the more frequently unstressed **doch** can convey many different meanings:

- appealing for agreement
Das war **doch** ein schöner Tag. *That was a nice day, wasn't it?*
- providing an explanation
Die Geschäfte waren **doch** schon geschlossen. *The shops were already closed.*
- giving a reminder
Du warst **doch** neulich noch hier. *Don't you remember? You were here only recently.*
- expressing disapproval
Das kannst du **doch** nicht machen. Das ist **doch** Betrug. *But you can't do that! That's fraud!*

- **16.4.3** In questions **doch** asks for confirmation or repetition:

Du hast **doch** das Gas abgedreht? *You did turn the gas off, didn't you?*
Wie hieß **doch** dieser Film noch? *What was that film called again?*

- **16.4.4** In imperatives **doch** may emphasize a command or piece of advice and often conveys a sense of impatience:

Lass es **doch** bitte sein. *Do stop it, please.*
Geh **doch** bitte zum Arzt. *Please do go and see a doctor.*

Doch is also often used to make requests sound less harsh:

Setzen Sie sich **doch**! *Do sit down, please.*
Nimm dir **doch** noch ein Stück Kuchen! *Please help yourself to another piece of cake.*

- **16.4.5** Exclamations with **doch** can express surprise:

Was das **doch** wieder geschneit hat! *Look how much it has snowed again!*
Das ist **doch** das Letzte! *That's really not on!*

16.5 eben

- **16.5.1** In statements **eben** is used to restate or confirm something, often adding an explanatory note. It may also occur in isolation or at the beginning of a sentence:

Ist mir das wirklich passiert? *Did this really happen to me?*
Du hast **eben** einen Moment die Nerven verloren. *You just lost your nerve for a moment.*
Wir sollten gemeinsam dagegen ankämpfen. *We should fight this together.*
Eben, deshalb organisiere ja ein Treffen. *Exactly, that's why I am organizing a meeting.*