Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Datum \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Klasse: Deutsch

**Literacy Initiative Writing Prompt 2**

**Prompt:** The tradition of Christmas Markets (Weihnachtsmarkt or Christkindlmarkt) goes back to the 14th Century in Germany and the 13th Century in Austria! People throughout German speaking countries flock to the Christmas Markets during December to buy presents, food, see the lights, play games and ride the rides. This year, Baltimore has its own Christmas Market modeled after the markets in Germany. The administration at your school has denied approval of a field trip for your German class to visit the Christmas market in Baltimore, saying that religion and school should not mix. Your task is to either persuade your classmates (who are upset over the denied field trip) that religion and school should not mix and the administration made the right decision OR persuade administration to change their minds by highlighting the cultural benefits of the field trip. Please describe the tradition of Christmas Markets in your essay, including the types of foods, gifts and attractions that are available. Provide a clear argument in favor of the field trip to the Christmas Market or against the field trip.

**Sources:**

**All About Christmas Markets**

Source A: Video to be viewed as a whole class: <http://cleanvideosearch.com/media/action/yt/watch?videoId=ewkzs5ai9JY>

Source B: Article about the history and tradition of Christmas Markets in Germany

<https://germangirlinamerica.com/history-of-german-christmas-markets/>

Source C: Article about the history of Christmas Markets in Germany highlighting some specific famous markets.

<https://www.german-way.com/history-and-culture/holidays-and-celebrations/christmas/christmas-markets-in-germany/>

**Baltimore Christmas Market**

Source D: Article and video highlighting the Christmas Village in Baltimore

<http://www.baltimore-christmas.com/about.html>

**Religion in Schools**

Source E: Article exploring the pros and cons to teaching religion in public schools.

https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/religion-in-public-schools/curriculum

**Day 1**

Step 1: Read and take notes from the articles and websites. Be sure to note which website you got your information from!

Step 2: Form an opinion: Should the class be allowed to visit the Christmas Market in Baltimore on a class field trip?

Step 3: Complete the pre-writing graphic organizer.

**Day 2**

Step 1: Write your essay.

Step 2: Proofread your essay for mistakes.

Step 3: Correct your essay and turn in your final copy.

**Pre-Writing:**

**All About the Christmas Markets**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In the space below, describe Christmas Markets. What types of items are sold? What sorts of foods are traditionally found at Christmas Markets? What attractions can be found? | Which source (A, B, or C) did you find this information? |
|  |  |

**Baltimore Christmas Market**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In the space below, describe the Christmas Market in Baltimore. Where is it located? How does it resemble a traditional market in Germany? | Source: Cite your source here. |
|  |  |

**Religion in Schools**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In the space below, record reasons why public schools should not teach religion. | Cite your source here: |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In the space below, record reasons why public schools should be allowed to teach religion. | Cite your source here: |
|  |  |