

Pre-IB Project – 1st Semester

German 3

The Pre-IB German project is designed to begin to prepare you for and to expose you to some of the requirements of IB German courses with more extensive reading, writing and speaking. The project requires researching a topic, writing an essay and presenting on the topic.

Choose a topic

Your topic this year should be related to a current event. Think about issues that you know are important and controversial in Germany right now, or look in German magazines or newspapers to find an important issue. Find something that interests you. In your paper and presentation, you should be able to explain what the issue is, why it is controversial (the pros and cons of both sides) and state what you think about the issue.

Das Problem der deutschen Patriotismus

Arbeitslosigkeit – was soll gemacht werden?

Genglish – die verlorene deutsche Sprache

Die EU – gut oder schlecht für Deutschland?

Research your topic

Once you have decided on your topic and received my approval, I will point you to some sources to gather information. For most topics, the Internet has a lot of valuable information, but be sure that you choose official, credible sights. “Wolfgang’s Homepage” is not reliable unless you are trying to find out opinions about an issue. Wikipedia is a popular site, but it is not a reliable source. You may use it to begin your research, but it should not be a source for your paper. I can let you borrow books, newspapers or magazines. I can put you in touch with German schools and organizations if you would like to do interviews or conduct a survey. You should have at least 5 sources.

Write a paper

Write a paper using the research you gathered. The paper should be typed, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font with 1 inch margins. You should include an introduction, supporting paragraphs and a conclusion. Be sure to make it clear where you got your information, both in the paper and with a list of sources at the end. The paper should be 3-4 pages long. You may use MLA, APA or Turabian style.

Give a presentation

Prepare and give a class presentation about your topic. Using PowerPoint for the presentation is **strongly** recommended. In the presentation, speak naturally. You can refer to notes, but please don’t read them. That will bore your audience! The presentation should use as many visual aids (pictures in PowerPoint, actual props, etc.) as possible, so that students unfamiliar with your topic can easily follow along. The presentation should be 4-6 minutes.

Grading

You will be graded according to the following criteria:

Preparation	5 met all due dates	4	3	2 wasn't prepared on due dates	1
Composition					
Content	5 thorough	4	3	2	1 brief
Grammar	5 easily understandable	4	3	2 impossible to understand	1
Flow	5 transitions well	4	3	2	1 very choppy
Style	5 followed requirements	4	3	2 did not follow requirements	1
Presentation					
Content	5 thorough	4	3	2	1 brief
Speech flow	5 spoke naturally	4	3	2	1 read
Comprehensibility	5 easily understandable	4	3	2 impossible to understand	1
Visuals	5 excellent visual aids	4	3	2	1 no visual aids

Important Dates

October 10 – Begin

October 13 – Tell me the topic for your project

January 8 – Turn in first draft of your paper

January 10-12 – Present your topic to the class

Day of Exam – Turn in final draft of your paper