



Magdeburg before the war:

In the early 17th century, Magdeburg was not only a city of the Hanseatic League¹, but an archbishopric² as well. During the reformation it became an important centre of the protestant confession. Furthermore, it claimed to have the status as a free city³. To keep this very status, Magdeburg was a neutral city for a long time in the Thirty-Years War. After the first siege⁴ of Magdeburg, it formed an alliance with protestant Sweden.

1: = union of merchants in medieval times („Hanse“ or „Hansestadt“).

2: = administration of a certain territory within the ranks of the catholic church.

3: Free cities were only in command of the emperor.

4: military forces surrounding a city to take over.

Language help: Description of a picture

The picture shows ...

At the top / At the bottom there is ...

On the left / right of the picture ...

On the left (of something / somebody) stands ... Links (von etwas /

In the foreground / background you can see ...

In the middle / centre there are ...

In the middle of the picture ...

Behind / In front of ... you can see ...

Between ... there is ...

It is situated in ... Es befindet sich in ...

In the distance we can make out the outline of (something / somebody) ...



NN (1998): „... gantz verheeret!“. Magdeburg und der Dreißigjährige Krieg. In: Matthias Puhle (Hrsg): Magdeburger Museumsschriften; 6. mdv, 246.

TASK 1: Describe the events on the 10th of May in Magdeburg according to your source.

TASK 2: Note down consequences of the events for Magdeburg.
