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Summary of Internship in Eutin

I very much enjoyed my time in Eutin this summer. I was an intern at the *Berufsschule*, where I got to experience the German school system firsthand. During my time at the school, Michael Stammeier and Silvia Langkabel, both English teachers, acted as my mentors. I went to the school every weekday morning and visited various classes. All of the teachers there were very inviting and let me sit in on their lessons. I observed many different types of classes while I was there. I visited an Accounting class, a Marketing class for students pursuing a career in hairstyling, a class on Law, and I even observed a class about how to properly hang wallpaper for students learning to become carpenters. I also visited a lot of English classes, and I was able to teach a few English lessons myself as well. While I spent most of my time at the school's main campus in Eutin, I was also able to visit the two *Außenstellen* in Bad-Malente and Bad-Schwartau.

I think that my trip to Eutin was beneficial to me for several reasons. First, it gave me a chance to experience high school in Germany, which is quite different from high school in the United States. It was great to interact with the students and teachers there. Second, I believe that the trip helped me to improve my German language skills. Every day, I would communicate in German with native speakers, and I would also get to hear them communicate with each other, which I think was beneficial to my listening skills. Third, it was a great cultural experience for me. Prior to this trip, I had not been to Germany for several years and had never been to Schleswig-Holstein. I was so happy to

have the opportunity to go back to Germany and visit a portion of the country that I had never seen before. Being able to experience German culture once again for myself has been beneficial in my teaching this semester, since I can make the cultural information explained in the textbook more relevant to my students by relating my personal stories to them.

If I could change something about the internship at the *Berufsschule*, I would have liked to have had more opportunities to actually teach English lessons to the students there. I did enjoy observing all the different types of classes, but I think it would have been a good idea to make better use of me as a native English speaker. All in all, though, I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Eutin and hope to visit the town again soon.