1. The First Book of Moses begins "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God divided the light from the darkness, God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning became the first day.

2. The two cities—Magdeburg and Halle—were important centers in the middle ages. The latter was a city that produced salt; the former was an imperial and ecclesiastical city. Still today both cities play a big role in the political life of the region.

3. In 1990 Magdeburg became the state capital of Saxony Anhalt. Before the Fall of the Wall (1989) Halle was the capital of this eastern state.

4. Martin Luther (1483-1546) lived and died in the neighboring city of Eisleben. He nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg church in 1517.

5. The well-known Cranach family of painters also worked in Wittenberg in the 16th Century. The elder Cranach created religious paintings, as for example, "Flight into Egypt" (1504).

6. In the art of the Renaissance, the representation of humans and their environment moved into the foreground. The beauty of the human body became important.

7. The works of aerodynamic experts in the last decades of the twentieth century confirm some old theories, but many (of these theories) haven't withstood this test.

8. California's total population rose very rapidly in the last decades. Such growth brought many complicated social problems.

9. The solution of this problem is difficult, but not impossible.

10. Some politicians spoke of a "reevaluation of all values." It sounded like Nietzsche.

11. Friedrich Nietzsche sensed the decline of mankind and advocated a new, vigorous and strong race of mankind, the "superman." He, too, spoke of the reevaluation of all values.

12. After the rain, the river's water became muddy.
13. The floods in some areas destroyed houses. Wheat and grain fields stood under water.

14. The President declared a state of emergency in the flood areas.

15. After each experiment the researcher wrote the results in his notebook.

16. Einstein did not explain all the details of his theory to the students. Such details were simply too complicated.

17. The Thirty Years War (1618-1648) began as a religious war between Protestants and Catholics. Later, however, it turned more and more into a war for the gain of power and territories.

18. The physicist, Otto von Guericke was mayor of the city of Magdeburg. In 1663 he demonstrated the effect of air pressure by means of his "Magdeburg hemispheric pump."