

## zu Albert Schweitzer, Kriterien Sprachmittlung ausgefüllt

1. **Kommunikative Situation**, Textsortenmerkmale
  - Informal letter, informal register
2. **Inhalt**: “Zentrale Aspekte”
  - While agriculture and crafts would help the natives most, Europeans train them to work for them with excellent results among the cleverest students.
  - These experts are Africans but share their colonial masters’ education and so find themselves “caught between two cultures”, belonging to neither.
  - Their economic position is precarious.
  - Traditional manufacturing skills are being lost because of European imports.
3. **Interkulturelle Aspekte**
  - Schweitzer was on a humanitarian mission and shows insight and understanding.
  - However, his eurocentric view of native Africans as “primitive” and taking colonialism for granted are quite obsolete.

### Sprachmittlungsaufgabe

#### **Mediation**

*Your African friend Onyeka has been studying Chinua Achebe at the University of Lagos and he knows you know Achebe, too. He has therefore asked you to summarise this passage in English because he needs it for his studies. Write an informal letter (~200 words).*

### Erwartungshorizont

Dear Onyeka,

Thank you for your message and thank you for trusting in my judgment. Just briefly, about this passage from Albert Schweitzer’s book. Here he reflects on native Africans.

In his view, African natives ought to cultivate their traditional crafts and develop trades and agriculture. He argues that colonisation has had two nasty side effects that hinder development.

The first is that the colonial administration recruits talented and highly-skilled natives. These officials are perfectly literate, numerate and bilingual but according to the author, they are socially isolated, separate from their own community and not full members of the colonial class either.

The second problem is that their cost of living is high and there are always the temptations of embezzlement and alcoholism that, Schweitzer claims, natives are susceptible to.

In Schweitzer’s opinion, another negative effect of colonisation is that native traditional crafts based on processing natural materials are being replaced by cheap and shoddily-made European manufactured goods which have been flooding the market.

In his day, Schweitzer was seen as a humanist, not a colonialist or a racist. But judging from what he says here, he seems to look down on African culture and take colonialism for granted, which is definitely a thing of the past.

However, the world has changed since 1925 so Albert Schweitzer probably would have if he was alive.

Kind regards

N. N.

(~230 words)

Text online verfügbar, in dieser Datei auf Seite 7:

[http://www.gellhardt.de/literatur/Soziale\\_Probleme\\_in\\_Afrika.pdf](http://www.gellhardt.de/literatur/Soziale_Probleme_in_Afrika.pdf)

Zum weiteren Zusammenhang von Inhalt und Aufgabe: Stellungnahmen von und über Chinua Achebe, Linksammlung

<http://www.schule-bw.de/unterricht/faecher/englisch/mat-med/deal-texts/lit/narratives/achebe/>