Look carefully at the image your teacher is projecting. This image of a marketplace in a European town during the 15th century. Circle items in the market scene that you already have an idea of what they might be—and those you are unsure of—and draw a line each detail to a connect note in the margin.

Section 4

1. What type of things did people first begin buying in towns? Why was this?

At first most trade was in luxury goods which only the wealthy could afford. People made everyday necessities for themselves.

2. What came to dominate the business life of towns and cities? How did this happen?

With the grown of trade and commerce, merchants grew increasingly powerful and wealthy. Merchants came to dominated the business life of towns and cities. In towns that had become independent, members of merchant guilds often sat on town councils.

3. Not everyone prospered in the towns. Who were those that did not? How did they make a living and how was this possible?

In Christian Europe, there was often a prejudice against Jews. Hostility toward Jews made it difficult for Jews to earn their living. They were not allowed to own land and could often be targets of violence. One opportunity that was open to Jews was to become bankers and money lenders. This work was generally forbidden to Christians because it was sinful.
Read this section. Be prepared to write about this section below.

Section 6 Disease and Medical Treatment

4. Describe the living conditions that led to the spread of many diseases.
   No running water; people used chamber pots that were emptied into nearby streams; garbage was tossed into the streams too; people usually only bathed once a week; rats and fleas were common.

5. Name five diseases that were spread and describe those in the bold blue writing.
   Measles, cholera, leprosy, bubonic plague and scarlet fever

   LEPROSY: a skin and nerve disease that causes open sores on the body and can lead to serious complications and death.

   BUBONIC PLAGUE: a deadly contagious disease caused by bacteria and spread by fleas.

6. What were the medical treatments or solutions for these diseases?
   Medieval doctors believed in a mixture of prayer and medical treatment. Many treatments involved herbs. Some treatments consulted the positions of the planets and relied on magic charms to heal people. Another common technique was to "bleed" patients by opening up a vein or applying leeches to the skin to suck out the "bad blood".

Now that you have read sections 1-6 in Chapter 4 (Life in Medieval Towns), pretend that you are an author that is beginning to write a realistic fictional book about a teenager that lives in a medieval town. On a separate piece of paper, set the opening stage of what (s)he might be experiencing.