December traditions in the Netherlands.

- 1. We start with Sinterklaas. He celebrates his birthday on the 5th of december. The celebration is especially for children in the age of 0 till 10 years old.
- 2. Sinterklaas comes from Spain with a boat and is accomponied by more than hundred pieten.
- 3. The arrival of Sinterklaas is in different city every year. This year it's in Apeldoorn
- 4. When Sinterklaas arrives by boat he travels further by his white horse Amerigo
- 5. We have a special Sinterklaas journal on the television during 6 days of the week. It starts 4 weeks before his birthday and it's always an exciting story about Sinterklaas and his Pieten
- 6. The reporter from the Sinterklaasjournal is in the city of arrival.
 - The Pieten are the assistence of Sinterklaas and help him wit hall the presents.
 - Diewertje Blok is the host of the Sinterklaas journal.
 - You also can play games, sing and mail Sinterklaas on the internet.
- 7. We're going to watch a part of a movie about the arrival of Sinterklaas in Bakel (01.00 1.50 sec)
- 8. When he arrives in Bakel we go to the gym and there are a lot of children. Some of them do performances for Sinterklaas and his Pieten.
- 9. Traditions of Sinterklaas:
- 10. We put our shoes in front of the chimnee and put some carrots for the horse. The next day the children become little presents or sweets.
- 11. The most popular sweet is pepernoten, schuimpjes, spiced bisquit, almond bar and chocolat letter. Piet is throwing the sweets towards the children
- 12. On the 5th of december it's present night. The pieten brings the sack full of presents to the little ones and they can open all their gifts.
 - The older children and adults make nice surprises for each other.
- 13. The 6th of december Sinterklaas is leaving with his Pieten back to Spain. Primary school has the day off to play with their new toys.

The next tradition is Christmas

- 14. Everybody has a Christmas tree in their house
- 15. Everybody has a natavity scene under or nearby their Christmas tree
- 16. At school and in the church we listen to the Christmas story
- 17. Families eat together on 1st and 2nd Christmas day
- 18. Children have 2 weeks of vacation at Christmas time
 - Christmas in Bakel
- 19. In our village Bakel we also have a Christmas market. Let's watch for an impression 0.00- 0.41 sec
 - Christmas in our school
- 20. Once every 3 years we have at school a charity action
- 21. The other years we play the Christmas story in our classrooms.
- 22. There is a Christmas dinner in the evening. All children bring a dish
- 23. At the end of the evening we sing Christmas songs together outside at the schoolyard.

24. After the Christmas party at school our 2 weeks vacation starts