

# Escape From Berlin Worksheet Answer Key

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## Quiz & Worksheet - History of the Berlin Wall

1. The Berlin Wall was constructed in August of 1961, why was the city divided in the first place?

- ☐ the United States, United Kingdom and Soviet Union could not come to an agreement for the control of the German state
- ☐ the Soviets blockaded the city and the Allies were only able to re-capture the western portion of Berlin
- ☐ It was divided to split the power of capitalist and communist rule in eastern Europe
- ☐ the western allies did not want the traditional German seat of power completely in Soviet hands

2. The Berlin Wall eventually fell after a communist official announced that free passage would again be allowed between East and West Berlin. What year was this and what prompted this announcement?

- ☐ 1980; it was prompted by the fact that the Wall was becoming increasingly more difficult to defend from escape
- ☐ 1961; it was prompted by the Soviet's fear of having an empty city to govern
- ☐ 1990; the Soviet economy was on the upswing, opening up the city demonstrated their desire to begin trade with the rest of Europe
- ☐ 1989; it was prompted by a stagnant economy and the erosion of the Soviet Union's authority in Eastern Europe

3. Escape attempts from East Berlin after the erection of the wall were risky, as \_\_\_\_.

- ☐ Soviet soldiers were instructed to shoot on sight anyone near the wall
- ☐ Soviets arrested and exiled anyone attempting to escape
- ☐ a successful escape was never completed
- ☐ the Allied forces would send escapees back if they were caught

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**Escape from Berlin worksheet answer key** is a topic that often arises in educational settings, especially in history classes focused on World War II and the Cold War. This worksheet typically provides students with various exercises related to the historical events surrounding the Berlin Wall, the division of Berlin, and the broader implications of the Cold War. In this article, we will explore the context of the Berlin Wall, the significance of escape attempts, and how educators can utilize worksheets to enhance learning, along with a guide to effectively creating an answer key.

## Historical Context of Berlin and the Berlin Wall

The Berlin Wall was a fortified barrier that divided East and West Berlin from August 13, 1961, until November 9, 1989. Its construction was a response to the mass emigration of East Germans to the West, primarily through Berlin. The wall became a powerful symbol of the ideological conflict between the communist Eastern bloc and the capitalist West.

# Key Events Leading to the Construction of the Wall

1. Post-World War II Division: After WWII, Germany was divided into four occupation zones controlled by the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the Soviet Union. Berlin, located deep in East Germany, was similarly divided.
2. Economic Disparities: Over the years, West Berlin prospered economically while East Berlin struggled under a communist regime. This disparity led many East Germans to seek refuge in the West.
3. Increasing Emigration: By the late 1950s, thousands of East Germans were fleeing to the West, prompting the East German government to take drastic measures to stop the exodus.
4. Construction of the Wall: On August 13, 1961, East German authorities erected the Berlin Wall overnight, effectively sealing off West Berlin. This event marked the beginning of a tense period in Cold War history.

## Understanding Escape Attempts

The Berlin Wall was not just a physical barrier; it represented the struggle for freedom and the lengths to which people would go to escape oppression. Many East Germans attempted to flee to the West, facing significant risks.

## Methods of Escape

Escapees employed various methods to cross the border, including:

- Tunnels: Some groups dug elaborate tunnels beneath the wall.
- Hot Air Balloons: Creative attempts included using homemade hot air balloons to fly over the wall.
- Disguises: Many used disguises or posed as soldiers or officials to gain access to the West.
- Vehicles: Some attempted to drive through checkpoints with stolen or borrowed vehicles.

## Consequences of Escape Attempts

The consequences of escape attempts were severe. Many were caught and imprisoned, while others faced fatal repercussions. The East German government established a strict regime to deter escapes, including surveillance and armed guards.

# Educational Value of Worksheets

Worksheets like the "Escape from Berlin" worksheet serve multiple educational purposes. They help students engage with complex historical events, develop critical thinking skills, and enhance knowledge retention.

## Components of an Effective Worksheet

An effective worksheet should contain:

1. Historical Background: A brief overview of the Berlin Wall and its significance.
2. Comprehension Questions: Questions that challenge students to think critically about the material. For example:
  - What were the main reasons for the construction of the Berlin Wall?
  - Describe the various methods people used to escape from East Berlin.
3. Creative Activities: Activities that encourage creativity, such as writing a diary entry from the perspective of an escapee or designing a poster about the Berlin Wall.
4. Discussion Prompts: Questions that promote group discussion, such as:
  - How did the Berlin Wall impact families and communities?
  - What lessons can we learn from the history of the Berlin Wall?

## Creating an Answer Key

Creating an answer key for the "Escape from Berlin" worksheet involves summarizing the correct responses to the comprehension questions and providing clear explanations for the answers.

## Sample Answer Key Structure

1. Historical Background: The Berlin Wall was erected in 1961 to stop the mass emigration from East to West Berlin.
2. Comprehension Questions:
  - Question: What were the main reasons for the construction of the Berlin Wall?
  - Answer: The primary reasons included preventing emigration to the West and maintaining the East German government's control.
  - Question: Describe the various methods people used to escape from East Berlin.
  - Answer: Escape methods included digging tunnels, using hot air balloons, disguises, and attempting to drive through checkpoints.
3. Creative Activities: Provide guidelines for evaluating student submissions based on creativity, historical accuracy, and engagement with the topic.

4. Discussion Prompts: Suggest potential responses that highlight the emotional and social impact of the Berlin Wall, encouraging students to draw parallels to contemporary issues of freedom and oppression.

## **Conclusion**

The topic of the Berlin Wall and escape attempts offers a rich field for exploration in educational settings. Worksheets, such as the "Escape from Berlin" worksheet, can facilitate engaging discussions around history, human rights, and the quest for freedom.

Educators can enhance learning by providing well-structured worksheets and comprehensive answer keys that guide students through the complexities of the past. By understanding the significance of the Berlin Wall and the courage of those who sought to escape, students gain valuable insights into not only their own history but also the ongoing struggles for freedom across the globe. The creation of an answer key not only aids in assessment but also serves as a valuable resource for students to reflect on their learning journey.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the primary focus of the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet?**

The worksheet focuses on the historical context and events surrounding the Berlin Wall, including the various methods of escape used by East Germans.

### **What key events are highlighted in the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet?**

The worksheet highlights events such as the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, notable escape attempts, and the eventual fall of the wall in 1989.

### **How does the worksheet assess students' understanding of the topic?**

The worksheet includes multiple-choice questions, short answer prompts, and discussion questions that encourage critical thinking about the implications of the Berlin Wall.

### **What types of escape methods are discussed in the worksheet?**

The worksheet discusses various escape methods, including tunnels, hot air balloons, and disguises, providing examples of successful and failed attempts.

## **Are there any primary sources included in the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet?**

Yes, the worksheet often includes primary sources such as quotes from escapees, photographs of the Berlin Wall, and newspaper articles from the time.

## **What skills does the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet aim to develop in students?**

The worksheet aims to develop critical thinking, historical analysis, and empathy by encouraging students to consider the human experiences behind the events.

## **Is the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet suitable for all grade levels?**

The worksheet is typically designed for middle to high school students, but it can be adapted for younger students with appropriate guidance.

## **How can teachers use the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet in the classroom?**

Teachers can use the worksheet as a standalone lesson, as part of a unit on the Cold War, or for group discussions on themes of freedom and oppression.

## **Where can educators find the answer key for the 'Escape from Berlin' worksheet?**

The answer key is usually provided along with the worksheet on educational resource websites or can be obtained from the publisher of the worksheet.

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