

HANDOUT 3.5 E - THE WALL CAME DOWN

Directions: Read the following poem and answer the questions based on the document and your knowledge of social studies.

The Wall Came Down

by Ruth Carlson

Brothers and Sisters torn apart
Longed for each other with pain in the heart
Mothers in tears held their arms toward the sky
“Where are my children, who took them and why”
A wall stood between them and gave them no rest
The wall in Berlin, between East and West.
Thousands tried passing, were caught and would fall
She claimed her victims, the cursed wall
But their longing and pain was stronger than fear
As they tried to come home year after year.
Their country divided, that’s why they tried
And their hope for reunion never died.
East Germans, West Germans all felt the same
Through tunnels and over the Wall they came.
Many were captured, suffered torture and shame
Still they fought that wall again and again.

At Last their pain gave birth to a cry
“Free us! Unite us! before we all die”
Against their oppressors their outrage they hurled
And their plea found an echo all over the world,
Then they marched, like in battle, with tools in their hand,
And attacked the concrete that divided their land
Each chip that fell, fell toward victories crown
And they never stopped till the wall was down
Through blood and through tears, through sorrow and strife
East Germany kept her dream alive
And today, 1990, October three
There’s no East, there’s no West, they are one, they are “Free!”

1. What never died?

2. In what city and country is the Wall located?
3. Quote the words which mean the world joined in the demand for the wall to be taken down.
4. How did the removal of the wall change a political map ?
5. The author states that they are “Free!” From whom are the people free?
6. Explain how this country became divided into East and West.

Now review the formula for a diamonte poem, and create one of your own about the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall. All poems should be mounted on construction paper. You may choose to decorate the edge around the poem with appropriate symbols depicting the theme. Once completed you will present your poems to the class and place them on display.

Title

Noun (opposite of last noun)

two adjectives describing line 1

three words related to first noun- -ending in “ing” or “ed”

two words relating to line 1; and two words relating to last line

three words related to last noun (line 7) - -ending in “ing” an “ed”

two adjectives describing line 7

Noun (opposite of first noun)