



Social Studies Virtual Learning

10th/World History

TARGET: Explain the causes of division of Germany/Berlin into E & W post 1945. (Lesson 21, April 20)

April 20, 2020

Lesson 21

Warm Up

Examine the image. The Bear represents what? Why do you think there are 3 other flags inside of the Bear's clutches? The caption suggests the Bear "Close the Gap." What do you think will be done to stop the Bear from "Closing the Gap?" Respond on a sheet of paper we will use for the lesson.



Warm Up responses

The Bear represents the Communist Soviet Union. The Russian Bear is similar to the American Eagle as a symbol.

Berlin was divided up among the USSR, France, USA, and Great Britain. However, the city was ENTIRELY within the Soviet Eastern German territory.

Closing the Gap refers to the USSR closing all aid/food from entering the other Allied (Western) sectors of Berlin.

What will be done to stop the Soviets from “Closing the Gap?” LET US FIND OUT!!!!

Lesson Activity

Examine the map and chart. Review the aims of the superpowers in Europe and make a list where their goals **CONFLICT**.

WHERE IS THE PRIMARY **CONFLICT** AND **GEOGRAPHICALLY**, WHY DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE SO **HOTLY CONTESTED**?

Superpower Aims in Europe

INTERACTIVE

United States

- Encourage democracy in other countries to help prevent the rise of Communist governments
- Gain access to raw materials and markets to fuel booming industries
- Rebuild European governments to promote stability and create new markets for U.S. goods
- Reunite Germany to stabilize it and increase the security of Europe

Soviet Union

- Encourage communism in other countries as part of a worldwide workers' revolution
- Rebuild its war-ravaged economy using Eastern Europe's industrial equipment and raw materials
- Control Eastern Europe to protect Soviet borders and balance the U.S. influence in Western Europe
- Keep Germany divided to prevent its waging war again



SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps and Charts

1. **Drawing Conclusions** Which countries separated the Soviet Union from Western Europe?
2. **Comparing** Which U.S. and Soviet aims in Europe conflicted?

Responses

Primary conflict --GERMANY

WHY?-- Germany has been divided and borders Western Europe and Communist Eastern Europe.

Lesson continued...

Examine the outline and slide show and review the situation in Europe and Germany.

Cold War

1. Experiences in WW2
 - a. USSR
 - i. 7.5 million military deaths
 - ii. 19 million civilian deaths
 - iii. Massive destruction of property/cities
 - b. USA
 - i. 405,000 military deaths
 - ii. No civilian deaths or damage of property
 - iii. US is leading economy post WW2
 1. 50% of all goods/services made in world are from US
 - c. Provide motivation for different priorities in post WW2 world
 - i. USSR seeks to protect itself
 - ii. USA seeks to keep economic prosperity
2. Europe Divided
 - a. Germany divided amongst WW 2 victors
 - i. Britain, France, US = West Germany
 - ii. USSR = East Germany
 - b. West Germany holds free elections to form gov't
 - i. USSR refuses to allow free elections in E. Ger
 - ii. Establish communist puppet gov't
 - c. USSR expands control to all of Eastern Europe
 - i. Satellite Nations act as buffer against West
 - d. USA responds with Truman Doctrine
 - i. "Contain" the spread of Communism
 - ii. Marshall Plan to rebuild non-communist European nations
 - e. "Iron Curtain"
 - i. Imaginary barrier between East & West Europe
 - ii. Metaphor for the complete division of Europe
 - f. Berlin Wall
 - i. Divides Berlin into two separate cities
 - ii. built in 1963 by Communists to prevent people of Eastern Europe from leaving for the 'West' – people shot as they tried to cross
 - iii. *becomes leading symbol of the division caused by Cold War*

Practice

[Berlin Airlift](#)

View the clip and respond to the questions.

- 1) Why was the divided city of Berlin susceptible to Soviet aggression and blockade?
- 2) The Western nations decided to use a new ___ in West Germany which ANGERED Stalin and the Soviets prompting the BLOCKADE of Berlin.
- 3) Fearing WWII, Truman does not want to invade, but he does NOT want to lose Berlin to the Soviets. Detail his plan and its success.

Practice responses

1. Berlin was entirely INSIDE the Soviet part of East Germany. Hence, surrounded by Communist USSR.
2. Currency...the Deutchmark
3. Vary but should refer to the Airlift of food and supplies. At its height, a plane was taking off/landing every 30 seconds to supply the people of West Berlin.

Practice 2

The Airlift saved the people from Berlin from starvation at the end of the 1940s. But just over a decade later, the USSR's Premier Nikita Khrushchev, will order a wall built that would close East Berlin (Communist) off from West Berlin. So, in August, 1961, East Berlin was closed and no citizen could leave and go into the West without being shot. **SOME** Westerners **COULD** enter EAST if they had proper work verification...**BUT NO EASTERNERS WERE PERMITTED TO LEAVE!!!**. In a brief paragraph, predict why the Soviets/East Germans built the wall.

After making your prediction, watch the link to see why they closed their border and would not allow their citizens to leave.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXzODWITWgk>

Reflection

East Germany participated in the Olympics, separate from West Germany from 1966-1988 and were determined to show their superiority over their non-communist neighbors.

Although East Germany had a small [population](#) of about 16 million, they did very well. From 1976 to 1988, they won the second most medals in each of their three summer Olympics, behind the Soviet Union. They did much better than the West Germany. In five winter games, they placed second four times and first in the [1984 Winter Olympics](#).

Why do you think the USSR and East Germany had such great success in the Olympic Games during this time period? Take into consideration the USSR's behavior in the many years after WWII.

Reflection ????

Varied answers...but consider this link

<https://www.wired.com/2000/07/e-german-olympic-dopers-guilty/>

