

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Breaking Barriers: The Fall of the Berlin Wall

### Short Answer Key

1. The East German government allowed its citizens to cross into West Berlin on November 9, 1989, in response to growing peaceful protests demanding freedom and an end to oppression. The government's control was weakening, and they made the announcement to ease tensions.
2. People in both East and West Berlin reacted to the fall of the Berlin Wall with joy and celebration. They climbed on top of the wall, chipped away at the concrete, hugged, cheered, and tears of happiness were shed. Families were reunited, and the city became whole again.
3. Following the fall of the Berlin Wall, other Eastern European nations gained independence and freedom from communist rule. The event marked the end of the Cold War's division and the Iron Curtain, leading to a new era of cooperation and change in Europe.
4. The remaining fragments of the Berlin Wall serve as symbols of hope and unity. They remind us of the past division and the triumph of breaking down barriers. These fragments are preserved to emphasize the importance of unity and the consequences of division in the world.
5. The fall of the Berlin Wall is considered a triumph of the human spirit because it demonstrated the power of unity and the collective will of people to overcome oppression and division.

