PRIMARY SOURCE

One-Paragraph Quotation—Multiple Choice

Directions: This passage is from the brief speech President Kennedy made in Berlin after first seeing the Berlin Wall, which had been erected in August 1961. Use the information in the passage and your knowledge of U.S. history to answer the questions.

> There are many people in the world who really don't understand, or say they don't, what is the great issue between the free world, and the communist world.
>
> Let them come to Berlin!
>
> There are some who say that communism is the wave of the future.
>
> Let them come to Berlin! . . .
>
> And there are even a few who say that it is true that communism is an evil system, but it permits us to make economic progress.
>
> *Lass sie nach Berlin kommen.* Let them come to Berlin! . . .
>
> All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin, and, therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words *"Ich bin ein Berliner."* [I am a Berliner.]
>
> —President John F. Kennedy, Berlin, Germany, (June 26, 1963)

1. What is "the great issue between the free world and the communist world" that is visible in Berlin?
   A freedom
   B hunger
   C unemployment
   D disease

2. Which of the following does Kennedy believe?
   A Communism is the wave of the future.
   B Communism is not evil.
   C Economic progress justifies communism.
   D There is a struggle between communism and the free world.

3. By speaking in German, President Kennedy was
   A showing his language proficiency.
   B deliberately making his speech unintelligible to Americans.
   C speaking to the Russians in East Berlin.
   D demonstrating a personal connection with his audience.

4. When President Kennedy said "I am a Berliner" he meant
   A "I am moving to Berlin."
   B "I was born in Berlin."
   C "I share Berliners' struggle for freedom."
   D "My parents were German."

Test Your Knowledge

What is the name given to the era of Kennedy's presidency, and how did his trip to Berlin represent its major characteristics?