

Jerusalem

Upper Secondary Level

WS: The Barrier in the Occupied Palestinian Territories

1. Research the West Bank Barrier in the occupied Palestinian territories:
 - a. Where does the barrier stand today? Which areas are being separated by it?
 - b. When was the barrier built?
 - c. Who prompted its construction? Which grounds were officially given for its construction?

View of Jerusalem; Photo: Smers

2. What consequences does the barrier have on daily life for Jerusalem's residents and its immediate surroundings?
3. How did the global public react to the construction of the barrier in the occupied Palestinian territories? Read the report on this below by the International Court of Justice.



ES-10/15. Report by the International Court of Justice on the

Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem

The General Assembly, Guided by the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, ...

- A. The construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime, are contrary to international law;
- B. Israel is under an obligation to terminate its breaches of international law; it is under an obligation to cease forthwith the works of construction of the wall being built in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, to dismantle forthwith the structure therein situated, and to repeal or render ineffective forthwith all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, in accordance with paragraph 151 of this Opinion;
- C. Israel is under an obligation to make reparation for all damage caused by the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem;
- D. All States are under an obligation not to recognize the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the wall and not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by such construction; all States Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 have in addition the obligation, while respecting the United Nations Charter and international law, to ensure compliance by Israel with international humanitarian law as embodied in that Convention;

United Nations A/RES/ES-10/15

United Nations, New York. 2. August 2004, 10th Emergency Meeting, Item 5
Resolution adopted by the General Assembly.

Jerusalem	Upper Secondary Level
WS: Quiz on Jerusalem's Holy Sites	

Take the quiz below. There is only one answer possible per question. Afterwards you can check your answers using the text and the answer key found on Page 2.

1. Which famous Mosque is in Jerusalem?		
Al-Aksa Mosque <input type="checkbox"/>	Blue Mosque <input type="checkbox"/>	Hassan II Mosque <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Which world religion(s) has/have important holy sites in Jerusalem?		
Judaism und Christianity <input type="checkbox"/>	Judaism, Christianity and Islam <input type="checkbox"/>	Islam <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Why aren't any excavations allowed on the Temple Mount even though historians and archeologists hope to find new information about the history of Jerusalem's first temple?		
tectonic reasons <input type="checkbox"/>	financial reasons <input type="checkbox"/>	political and religious reasons <input type="checkbox"/>
4. What complex of buildings was the present-day Wailing Wall once a part of?		
the burial site of saints <input type="checkbox"/>	the first temple of Jerusalem <input type="checkbox"/>	a hospital <input type="checkbox"/>
5. In addition to prayer, what do the Jews often use the Wailing Wall for?		
They lay small stones down in order to symbolically rebuild the temple. <input type="checkbox"/>	They pour water on the wall in order to symbolically keep it alive. <input type="checkbox"/>	They place small notes with prayers and wishes in the space between the stones. <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Where is the Dome of the Rock?		
on Temple Mount <input type="checkbox"/>	on the cathedral square <input type="checkbox"/>	at the foot of the Temple Mount <input type="checkbox"/>
7. What is the Dome of the Rock?		
a mosque <input type="checkbox"/>	an Islamic holy site <input type="checkbox"/>	a Christian holy site <input type="checkbox"/>
8. What is the interior and exterior of the Dome of the Rock adorned with?		
with reliefs portraying the builders <input type="checkbox"/>	with pictures of the saints <input type="checkbox"/>	with Arabic calligraphy <input type="checkbox"/>
9. What is Golgatha?		
The point of departure for Muhammad's journey to heaven <input type="checkbox"/>	Where Jesus of Nazareth was crucified <input type="checkbox"/>	The grave site of an ancient saint <input type="checkbox"/>
10. What can be found at Golgatha today?		
The Church of the Holy Sepulchre <input type="checkbox"/>	The Dome of the Rock <input type="checkbox"/>	Pauliner Church <input type="checkbox"/>
11. Who has long been responsible for the keys to Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre?		
A Christian Politician <input type="checkbox"/>	A Muslim Family <input type="checkbox"/>	A Jewish Clergyman <input type="checkbox"/>
12. When was Jerusalem's old city declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO?		
1981 <input type="checkbox"/>	2001 <input type="checkbox"/>	It still hasn't been <input type="checkbox"/>

- 5 The Wailing Wall, The Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Al-Aqsa Mosque are monuments to Jerusalem's eventful history – they hold great value for the three monotheistic religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
- 10 King David and his son Solomon erected the First Temple in Jerusalem – it was destroyed by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar II, rebuilt by Herod and razed a second time by the Romans. Excavations would be necessary to find out more specific details about the destroyed Jewish sanctuary, but
- 15 are not possible on the Temple Mount due to political and religious reasons.
- 20 Today, only the Wailing Wall (Hebrew: Ha'kotel ha'ma'arawi), which is venerated by the Jews, remains of the temple. It consists of the southwest outer wall of the previous Jewish temple area, is 48 meters long and 18 meters high (when viewed from the current ground level). It consists of gigantic
- 25 rectangular stones with spaces in between where praying Jews put small notes with wishes. To the left of the Wailing Wall is the Wilson Arch, which was excavated at the end of the 19th century by its namesake. The
- 30 arch originally bridged a valley and was the entrance to the temple area. A synagogue is found under it today.
- 35 The large area in front of the Wailing Wall came into being in 1967 with revenue from the Israeli Army and was originally built to be impervious.
- 40 The Dome of the Rock (Arabic: qubbat as-sakhra) is found on the Temple Mount (Hebrew: Har haBait, arab: haram ash-sharif) and can be seen from far away. The gigantic golden dome arches above the holy rock – the departure point for Muhammad's journey
- 45 to heaven and the founding father Abraham's site of sacrifice. The magnificent structure is not a mosque, but rather a general sanctuary. Byzantine and Arabic artists erected the Dome of the Rock between 687
- 50 and 691 under appointment from the Umayyad Caliph, Abdel Malik. Earthquakes, neglect and conversion to a church during the Crusades repeatedly affected the gorgeous structure. The building was broadly
- 55 restored and reconstructed in 1964. The beautiful tiles and colorful windows, the octagonal form and its impressive proportions with a 54-meter high dome roof make it unmistakable. Around the inside and
- 60 outside of the building are beautiful inscriptions in Arabic calligraphy.
- 65 The Al-Aqsa Mosque with its lead covered dome was erected on the south side of the Temple Mount and is visible from a great distance. The original 8th century structure is 80 meters long and 55 meters wide. It houses a pulpit donated by the Sultan Saladin.
- 70 The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is found in the Christian neighborhood. It is surrounded by additions that limit the view of the Late Roman construction. The church lies on
- 75 Golgatha – the site of crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth – and an empty grave that is said to be his burial site. Architectural elements from the period of the Crusades can be found on the outer facade. The interior
- 80 design of the structure is confusing. Every denomination represented here – Greek, Armenian, Latin, Coptic, Syrian and Ethiopian – has its own area. There are 17 chapels and many altars and prayer niches
- 85 and the building is full of balustrades.
- 90 The German Prince Pückler-Muskau's evaluation of the church is still valid today: *"It must be lamented that the mutual jealousy of the different sects has repeatedly filled the beautiful dome with transverse walls and barriers in order to isolate their respective property as much as possible, disfiguring the whole thing. Necessary restoration work frequently collapses due to conflict; disunity between the churches has been recorded for a long time. For this reason, the power of the keys has been assigned to a Muslim family for centuries."*
- 100 In 1981 the Jerusalem old city was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wandering through the old quarter of Jerusalem within the city wall, it is as if strolling through a
- 105 medieval city. Half arches line the streets – the remains of old buildings that were partly integrated into new constructions.

1 - a; 2 - b; 3 - c; 4 - b; 5 - c; 6 - a; 7 - b; 8 - c; 9 - b; 10 - a; 11 - b; 12 - a