

2. Sample Questions of *General Knowledge Quiz*

- A. Which article in West Germany's constitution or 'Basic Law' (*Grundgesetz*) was adopted for reunification?
1. Article 132: The German Democratic Republic (GDR) remains a sovereign nation but agrees to join NATO as a democratic member with full voting power.
 2. Article 146: Both German governments are dissolved and a new constitution is written.
 3. Article 23: Eastern Germany is absorbed by the West German government.
 4. Article 12: An agency, the *Treuhandanstalt*, is established to privatize East German industry.
- B. Why do you think some people referred to the GDR as a "Niche Society" (a term coined by Guenther Gauss, the first permanent representative to the GDR, 1974-1981)?
1. People looked for something special to do to set themselves apart from the rest.
 2. People were only permitted to work in one, specific area professionally.
 3. People retreated to a private realm, or niche, as a way to deal with overbearing political, social, and economic intrusion into their lives.
 4. People in the GDR were very cliquey and tended to think in small terms.
- C. The common name for the East German Ministry for State Security was:
1. The Company
 2. The Cheka
 3. The SS
 4. The Stasi

D. In the GDR, where the State boasted that women were given equal social, political, and economic opportunities alongside men, what percentage of men's wages did East German women earn?

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| 1. 50% | 3. 83% |
| 2. 75% | 4. 100% |

E. In 1945, at the end of World War II, Germany was divided up among the four allied forces. Which general areas did the Americans, the French, the British, and the Russians control? Match the area with the correct Allied force.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Americans | a) Southeastern Germany |
| 2. British | b) Northeastern Germany |
| 3. French | c) Southwestern Germany |
| 4. Russians | d) Northwestern Germany |

F. What did East Germany call itself? *Choose the correct answer.*

1. The Socialist State of the German Nation
2. The Socialist State of Workers and Farmers
3. The true Democracy of the German Nation
4. The Walled Fortress of Socialist Freedom

G. Which of the following names represent party secretaries of the GDR? Mark all the names that belong to party secretaries of the GDR.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Adenauer | 5. Honecker |
| 2. Strauss | 6. Pieck |

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 3. Ulbricht | 7. Grotewohl |
| 4. Meuser | 8. Dürrenmatt |

H. Which of the following was the leading party in the GDR? *Choose the correct answer.*

1. the PDS (Party of Democratic Socialism)
2. the CDU (Christian Democratic Union)
3. SPD (Social Democratic Party of Germany)
4. the SED (Socialist Unity Party of Germany)

I. How did the GDR regime justify and refer to the Wall? *Choose the correct answer.*

1. A "Wall of Freedom"
2. A "Bulwark against Capitalist Aggression"
3. An "Anti-fascist Protective Wall"
4. An "Iron Curtain"

J. Why did the GDR call its form of socialism "Real existing socialism"? Choose the correct answer(s).

1. It meant to imply that GDR socialism was better than other East Bloc socialisms
2. It meant to imply that people in the GDR could live true to their personal ideals
3. It meant to imply that the GDR as a state had achieved normalcy and established itself as its own nation in the world, apart from the 'other' Germany
4. It meant to imply that a socialism that provided security and well being for all by the State really existed?