

① A Wall to Keep us Safe

Why do nations build walls?

1 Compare two walls

- A. What do you know about these two walls?
B. Compare them and make an assumption about their goal.

HELP!

Nouns

- remains /rɪ'meɪnz/: (ici) vestiges
- stone wall
- ice wall

Adjectives

- thick /θɪk/: épais(se)
- majestic
- higher
- huge = impressive = imposing



Hadrian's Wall was built between AD 122 and AD 127 in England



The Wall in Game of Thrones

2 Hadrian's Wall as a source of inspiration

- A. Focus on the text from line 1 to 5. Who is this document about?
B. Explain what happened in the 1980s. What was the effect on the author?
C. What was the original purpose of Hadrian's Wall?

- D. Clarify the changes the author made to "The Wall" in his novel. Why did he do that?
E. Go further. What do you think the purpose of both walls is?

The author of the bestselling Game of Thrones books, which have been turned into the award-winning TV show on Sky Atlantic, has revealed that seeing Hadrian's Wall planted the seeds¹ of inspiration back in the 1980s for his popular fantasy tale.

In an interview with American magazine Rolling Stone, George R.R. Martin said it was the Northumberland landmark² which first got him thinking about the plot and inspired The Wall, an integral part of the series.

¹⁰ Martin said "The Wall predates anything else. I can trace back the inspiration for that to 1981. I was in England visiting a friend, and as we approached the border of England and Scotland, we stopped to see Hadrian's Wall. I stood up there and I tried to imagine what it was like to be a Roman legionary, standing on this wall, looking at these distant hills.

"It was a very profound feeling. For the Romans at that time, this was the end of civilization; it was the end of the world. We know that there were Scots beyond³ the hills, but they didn't know that. "It could have been any kind of monster. It ²⁰ was the sense of this barrier against dark forces – it planted something in me. But when you write fantasy, everything is bigger and more colourful, so I took The Wall and made it three times as long and 700 feet high, and made it out of ice."

In the TV show, The Wall is a massive fortification which ²⁵ stretches for 300 miles along the northern border of the Seven Kingdoms, defending the realm from the wildlings⁴ who live beyond.

¹ to plant an idea • ² (ici) a monument • ³ further away • ⁴ barbarous people

Sarah Scott, [redacted], 5 June 2014

2 American Frontiers

What kinds of walls exist in the United States?

VIDEO N°02

1 The history of the border

- A. Look at the still. Compare both sides. In your opinion, why did they build the wall?
- B. Watch the video and take notes about: historical events, the border, divisions.
- C. What is the position of American presidents on the subject?
- D. Explain how things have evolved since 2001.
More families are trying to cross the border...

Help!

- boundary
- conflict zone
- draw a border
- natural border



2 It's a long road to the "Land of Milk and Honey"

- A. Read the text and turn to [Worksheet n°01](#) for help.

- B. How does the narrator feel? Justify your answer.
- C. Sum up the text in your own words.

Back then, all we wanted was the simplest things: to eat good food, to sleep at night, to smile, to laugh, to be well. We felt it was our right, as much as it was anyone's, to have those things. Of course, when I think about it now, I see ⁵ that I was naive. I was blinded by the swell of hope and the promise of possibility. I assumed that everything that would go wrong in our lives already had.

Thirty hours after crossing the border, we arrived, the three of us in the backseat of a red pickup truck that smelled of ¹⁰ cigarette smoke and gasoline.

"Wake up," I whispered, nudging Maribel as the driver turned into a parking lot.

"Hmmm?"

"We're here, hija.¹"

¹⁵ "Where?" Maribel asked.

"Delaware."

She blinked at me in the dark.

Arturo was sitting on the other side of us. "Is she okay?" he asked.

²⁰ "Don't worry," I said. "She's fine."

It was just after sunset and darkness bled in from the outer reaches of the sky. A few minutes earlier, we'd been on a busy

road, driving through four-way intersections, past strip malls and fast-food restaurants, but as we neared the apartment

²⁵ building, all of that had given way. The last thing I saw before we turned onto the long gravel lane that led to the parking lot was an abandoned auto body shop, its hand-painted sign on the ground, propped up against the gray stucco facade. [...] Arturo climbed out first, straightened his cowboy hat, and

³⁰ surveyed the building. Two stories, made of cinder blocks and cement, an outdoor walkway that ran the length of the second floor with metal staircases at either end, pieces of broken Styrofoam in the grass, a chain-link fence along the perimeter of the lot, cracks in the asphalt. I had expected it to be nicer.

³⁵ Something with white shutters and red bricks, something with manicured shrubs and flower boxes in the windows. The way American houses looked in movies. This was the only option Arturo's new job had given us, though, and I told myself we were lucky to have it.

¹ daughter (Spanish)

The Book of Unknown Americans,
Cristina Henriquez, 2014



3 Ghetto 4 Life

- A. In what type of neighbourhood do you think this wall is located? Justify.
- B. Look at the characters and explain why they contrast with the setting.
- C. Guess why the artist chose to picture this disparity.



Ghetto 4 Life, South Bronx (New York) by Banksy, 2013

4 The Hate U Give

- A. Read the text and explain who the narrator is and what happened.
- B. Read the text again and answer the questions on **Worksheet n°02**.

I've seen it happen over and over again: a black person gets killed just for being black, and all hell breaks loose. I've tweeted RIP hashtags, reblogged pictures on Tumblr, and signed every petition out there. I always said that if I saw it happen to somebody, I would have the loudest voice, making sure the world knew what went down. Now I am that person, and I'm too afraid to speak. I wanna stay home and watch *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, my favorite show ever, hands down. I think I know every episode word for word. Yeah it's hilarious, but it's also like seeing parts of my life on screen. I even relate to the theme song. A couple of gang members who were up to no good made trouble in my neighborhood and killed Natasha. My parents got scared, and although they didn't send me to my aunt and uncle in a rich neighborhood, they sent me to a bougie private school¹. I just wish I could be myself at Williamson like Will was himself in Bel-Air. I kinda wanna stay home so I can return Chris's calls too. After last night, it feels stupid to be mad at him. Or I could call Hailey and Maya, those girls Kenya claims don't count as my friends.

I guess I can see why she says that. I never invite them over. Why would I? They live in mini-mansions². My house is just mini.

²⁵ I made the mistake of inviting them to a sleepover in seventh grade. Momma was gonna let us do our nails, stay up all night, and eat as much pizza as we wanted. It was gonna be as awesome as those weekends we had at Hailey's. The ones we still have sometimes. I invited Kenya too, so I could finally ³⁰ hang out with all three of them at once.

Hailey didn't come. Her dad didn't want her spending the night in "the ghetto." I overheard my parents say that. Maya came but ended up asking her parents to come get her that night. There was a drive-by³ around the corner, and ³⁵ the gunshots scared her.

That's when I realized Williamson is one world and Garden Heights is another, and I have to keep them separate.

¹ a rich school • ² villa • ³ people shooting guns from a car

The Hate U Give,
Angie Thomas, 2017



YOUR TURN! 5 Leaving or staying?

Starr, the narrator (activity 4), finally decides to tell her parents she does not want to live in Garden Heights or go to Williamson anymore. Imagine the conversation.

HELP!

Adjectives

- dangerous
- ashamed /əʃeɪmd/

Verbs & expressions

- be discriminated against
- fit in

- Our neighborhood is... dangerous / filled with gangs...
- I want to have opportunities...

Fear of the Unknown

Are people only divided by walls?

1 Drawing borders

- A. **Groupwork.** Choose one cartoon, describe it and analyse it.
- B. What are the cartoonist's goals in each one?
- C. What do these cartoons have in common? Justify the title of the page.
- D. **Go further.** What would it take to overcome these differences and build bridges?

- be cut off from
- close the borders
- promote isolationism
- shut relationships with
- stop immigration



Monte Wolverton, American cartoonist,
3 June 2018

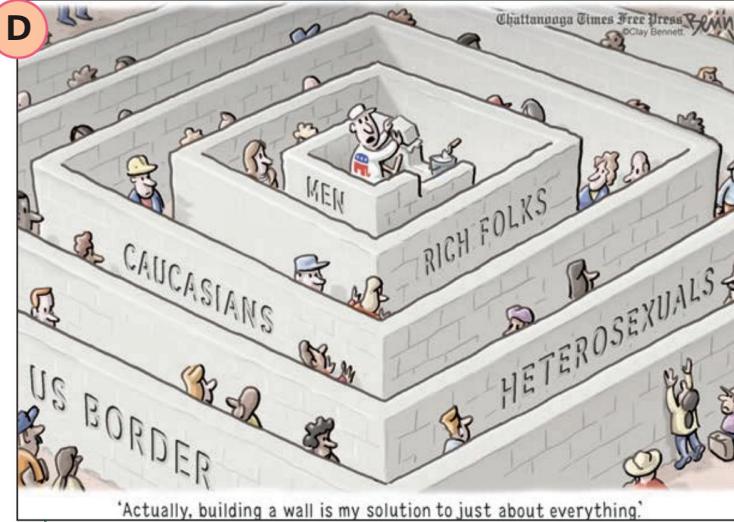


Joel Pett, American cartoonist,
8 February 2018

- Statue of Liberty
- opportunity
- hope for / dream of a better life
- protect against sb / sth
- shield = protect
- stop people from trespassing

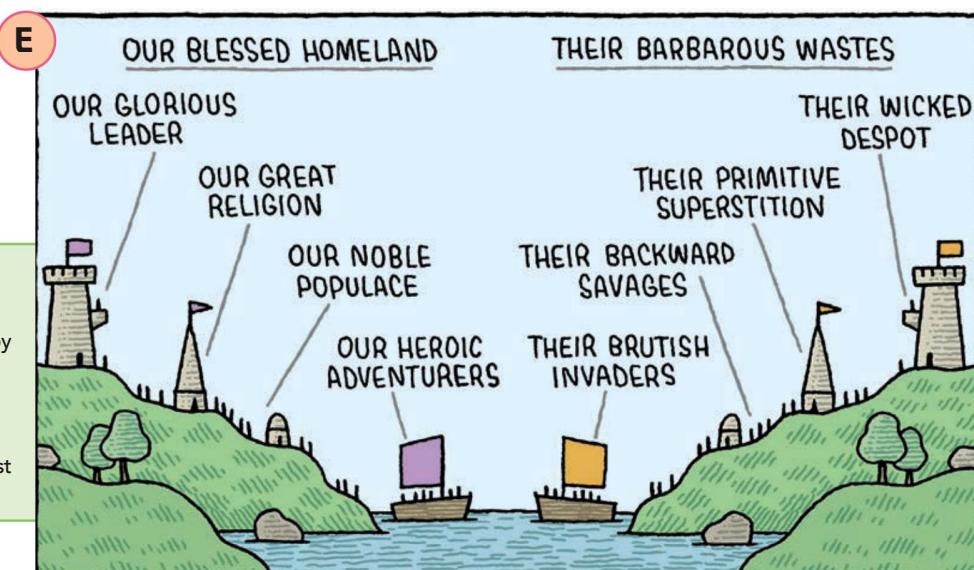


Signe Wilkinson, American cartoonist, 1 September 2017



Clay Bennett, American cartoonist, 8 September 2015

- be the centre
- cast sb out
- Caucasian = a white person
- control
- keep apart ≠ mix
- label people: mettre des étiquettes
- pigeonhole /pɪdʒənhəʊl/ sb: mettre qqn dans une case
- out of reach



Tom Gauld, British cartoonist, 2014

YOUR TURN! 2 Prepare a TED-talk

You have been invited to give a TED-talk about borders. Explain why people want to build borders between countries and communities, and what reasons are pushing them to do so.

Give examples and justify. Use these cartoons and

[Worksheet n°03](#)

At home. Visit [TED.com](#) to watch some videos to get inspiration.

HELP!

Nouns

- difference
- diversity
- ideologies
- ignorance

Verbs & expressions

- defend oneself against sth / sb
- embrace difference
- feel threatened by sth / sb
- prejudiced against sth / sb

- I would like to talk about...

- First / Second...
- Therefore...
- That is why...
- To put it in a nutshell...
- Thank you for your attention

4 Building Bridges

How can solidarity tear walls apart?

1 “Border Angels”

VIDEO N°03



- A. Look at the picture and read the testimonies.
- B. Watch the video and check your hypotheses.
- C. Present the association and its work in your own words.
- D. **Have your say.** What do you think about this initiative?
- E. **Go further.** Do you think that solidarity can tear walls apart?

HELP

Words

- dehydration /dih'eɪdrēfən/
- water jugs
- hike
- save lives

Why am I a Border Angel?

“I had not heard of Border Angels before but my sister had and she invited me to the water drop. So we are both the daughters of immigrants, refugees. And I think this has always been a huge part of who we are. Until they change our laws I’m going to be out there leaving water and trying to save lives, and trying to help people get into this country safely and at the very least let them know they are welcome.”

Kirsten Z.

“I’m a border angel because I’m a human being. There is really no difference between me and them in terms of you know, which place we could have been in. So having that on the front of my mind on a daily basis that is what keeps me involved with the organization. If you really are a human being, you have to step up and take action.”

Jonathan Y.

2 Humans first

- A. Look at the picture and read the caption. What happened to the people who dropped water jugs?
- B. Comment on the slogan “Humanitarian aid is never a crime”.



Members of “No More Deaths” demonstrate in Tucson (Arizona) after the sentencing in Federal Court of 4 members of the group who left water on federal lands for migrants, March 2019

YOUR PROJECT

You have decided to participate in the art project “Tearing Walls Apart”. Create a friendship wall to fight an injustice and raise awareness about an inequality between two groups. Use [Worksheet n°04](#).

