



Read each passage and decide: did the author write to Persuade, Inform, or Entertain? Answer the questions in complete sentences.

Berlin's Lifeline in the Sky



After World War II ended in 1945, Germany was divided into four zones, controlled by the United States, Great Britain, France, and the Soviet Union. Its capital, Berlin, also lay divided deep within the Soviet zone. Tensions quickly grew, marking the beginning of the Cold War. The Soviets wanted to control all of Berlin. In June 1948, they blocked all land and water routes into West Berlin, cutting off vital supplies to two million residents.



The Soviet blockade aimed to force the Western Allies out of Berlin.

However, the Allies refused to abandon the city. Instead, they launched an extraordinary mission: the Berlin Airlift. For nearly a year, American and British pilots flew supplies into West Berlin, day and night. General Lucius Clay, the American military governor, organized this massive effort. Planes landed every few minutes at Tempelhof Airport, bringing flour, medicine, and coal.

The operation was incredibly complex and dangerous. Pilots faced bad weather, mechanical failures, and constant pressure to deliver thousands of tons of supplies daily. They flew specific air corridors, often at low altitudes, constantly landing and taking off. Children in Berlin watched the planes, nicknamed "raisin bombers" because pilots sometimes dropped candy. This act of kindness became a symbol of hope amidst the hardship.



By May 1949, after 322 days, the Soviet Union finally lifted the blockade.

The Berlin Airlift had successfully delivered over 2.3 million tons of supplies on more than 277,000 flights. It was a triumph of logistics and determination,



demonstrating the Western Allies' commitment to West Berlin. It also served as a powerful symbol of resistance against Soviet expansion, solidifying Germany's division and setting the stage for decades of Cold War rivalry.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) What is the MAIN purpose of this passage?

- A To convince people that air travel is the best way to deliver supplies during a crisis.
- B To share factual details about the Berlin Airlift and its role in the Cold War.
- C To tell an exciting story about brave pilots and their dangerous flights.
- D To explain how the Berlin Airlift helped West Berliners survive the Soviet blockade.

(2) The author wrote this passage mainly to _____ the reader.

— continue writing on the lines below

(3) Which detail from the passage BEST shows the author's purpose?

- A "The Soviets wanted to control all of Berlin."
- B "General Lucius Clay, the American military governor, organized this massive effort."
- C "Children in Berlin watched the planes, nicknamed 'raisin bombers' because pilots sometimes dropped candy."



- D "The Berlin Airlift had successfully delivered over 2.3 million tons of supplies on more than 277,000 flights."

(4) How do you know the author's purpose? Use TWO details from the passage to support your answer.

(5) What is the PRIMARY purpose of this passage? Is there a secondary purpose? Use details from the text to explain.

