Where Liberation Happened

Match liberated camps with their locations and the forces that reached them.

SS24.HOS.18c "Identify the locations of concentration camps liberated by American, British, and Red Army soldiers."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each camp name, underline its nearby place or country, and write R, A, or B beside it for Red Army, American, or British soldiers.

Camps Across Europe

1. As World War II ended, Allied forces reached Nazi concentration camps from different directions. A camp's name alone does not tell you which army reached it, so read its location and the liberating force together. In July 1944, Red Army soldiers entered Majdanek, on the edge of Lublin in German-occupied Poland. In January 1945, they reached Auschwitz near Oświęcim, also in German-occupied Poland. The Nazis had deported people from many countries to these sites. Liberation brought survivors out of Nazi control, but many still needed urgent medical care, food, and help finding family members.

2. American soldiers reached several camps farther west. In Germany, they reached Buchenwald near Weimar in April 1945, after prisoners there had seized control as Nazi guards fled. Later that month, American soldiers liberated Dachau near Munich. In May, they liberated Mauthausen near the town of Mauthausen in present-day Austria, not far from Linz. Austria and Germany are different countries today. Nazi Germany had annexed Austria in 1938. The camps appear in accounts of the same war, but they were not in the same place. Matching each site with its country keeps the path of liberation clear.

3. British soldiers reached Bergen-Belsen near the towns of Bergen and Celle in northern Germany in April 1945. The camp was not in Poland or Austria, and it was not one of the sites reached by American soldiers named here. British troops found thousands of prisoners desperately ill. They provided aid, but many people died from disease and starvation even after liberation. To place these events, think of northern Germany, southern Germany, present-day Austria, and German-occupied Poland as distinct locations, not one single point. When you identify a liberated camp, name both its location and the force that reached it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two camps in German-occupied Poland did Red Army soldiers reach? Name the city or town near each camp.

2. Which camps near Weimar and Munich did American soldiers reach? Match each camp with its nearby city.

3. Which camp did American soldiers liberate in present-day Austria, and which larger city was it near?

4. Which camp did British soldiers reach in northern Germany, and which two towns were nearby?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum caption using one camp reached by each of the three forces. Give each camp's location, and end by explaining what the locations show about where liberation occurred.

ANSWER KEY

Where Liberation Happened

HIGH SCHOOL · SS24.HOS.18c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each camp name, underline its nearby place or country, and write R, A, or B beside it for Red Army, American, or British soldiers. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two camps in German-occupied Poland did Red Army soldiers reach? Name the city or town near each camp.	**Majdanek was near Lublin. Auschwitz was near Oświęcim.**
2	Which camps near Weimar and Munich did American soldiers reach? Match each camp with its nearby city.	**Buchenwald was near Weimar. Dachau was near Munich.**
3	Which camp did American soldiers liberate in present-day Austria, and which larger city was it near?	**Mauthausen was near Linz.**
4	Which camp did British soldiers reach in northern Germany, and which two towns were nearby?	**Bergen-Belsen was near Bergen and Celle.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Red Army soldiers reached Auschwitz near Oświęcim in German-occupied Poland. American soldiers liberated Mauthausen near Linz in present-day Austria. British soldiers reached Bergen-Belsen near Bergen and Celle in northern Germany, showing that liberation happened in different parts of Europe.

Accept present-day Poland for the locations of Auschwitz and Majdanek if students also correctly identify the Red Army. For the caption, check for one accurate camp, location, and liberating force for each of the three forces, plus a concluding geographic observation.