

Unit 8

Mending Wall

Column A contains a list of famous walls in the history of the world. Match each name with relevant information in column B.

A	B
a. Hadrian's Wall	i. Cusco, Peru
b. Western (Wailing) Wall	ii. Featured in Trojan War – 13 cent. BC
c. Berlin Wall	iii. In modern Iraq
d. Great Wall of China	iv. Built by Romans in England 122-130 AD
e. Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Wall	v. Jerusalem
f. Sacsayhuaman	vi. Longest human-built structure
g. Walls of Babylon	vii. Symbol of Cold War after WW2
h. Walls of Troy	viii. Washington D.C. USA



Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
That sends the frozen-ground-swell¹ under it,
And spills the upper boulders in the sun;
And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.

The work of hunters is another thing:

I have come after them and made repair
Where they have left not one stone on a stone,
But they would have the rabbit out of hiding,
To please the yelping² dogs. The gaps I mean,
No one has seen them made or heard them made,
But at spring mending-time we find them there.

I let my neighbour know beyond the hill;
And on a day we meet to walk the line



¹frozen-ground-swell earth that expands when frozen in deep winter ²yelping crying

And set the wall between us once again.
We keep the wall between us as we go.
To each the boulders that have fallen to each.
And some are loaves and some so nearly balls
We have to use a spell to make them balance:
"Stay where you are until our backs are turned!"
We wear³ our fingers rough with handling them.
Oh, just another kind of out-door game,
One on a side. It comes to little more:
There where it is we do not need the wall:
He is all pine and I am apple orchard.
My apple trees will never get across
And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.
He only says, "Good fences make good neighbours."
Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder
If I could put a notion⁴ in his head:
"Why do they make good neighbours? Isn't it
Where there are cows? But here there are no cows.
Before I built a wall I'd ask to know
What I was walling in or walling out,
And to whom I was like to give offence.
Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
That wants it down." I could say "Elves"⁵ to him,
But it's not elves exactly, and I'd rather
He said it for himself. I see him there
Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top
In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed.
He moves in darkness as it seems to me, *he lives in ignorance*
Not of woods only and the shade of trees.
He will not go behind his father's saying,
And he likes having thought of it so well
He says again, "Good fences make good neighbours."

ROBERT FROST



³wear damage ⁴notion idea, thought ⁵Elves supernatural creatures with magical powers