

## Mining

Listen to the following song of the Bee Gees, and fill the blanks below :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMPD6lqc1Cs> (2'09'')

**Title: New York** **1941**

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Have you seen my wife, Mr. Jones?

Do you know what it's like on the outside?

Don't go talking too \_\_\_\_\_, you'll cause a \_\_\_\_\_, Mr. Jones.

I keep \_\_\_\_\_.

Maybe someone is \_\_\_\_\_ underground,  
or have they given up and all gone home to bed,  
thinking those who once \_\_\_\_\_ must be \_\_\_\_\_.

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### *The Aberfan disaster*

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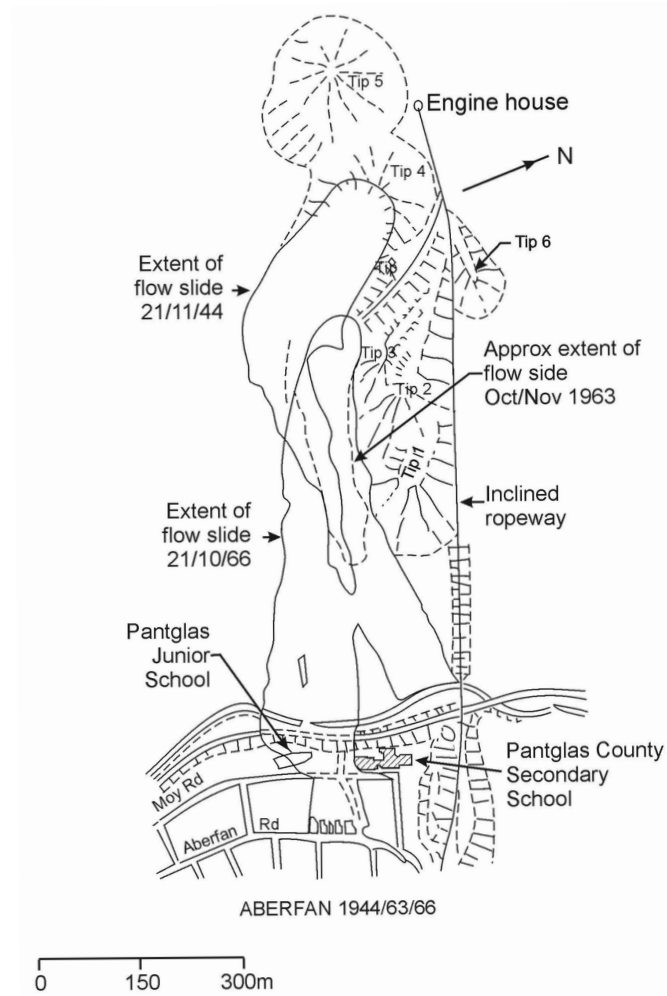
Listen to the report, then answer the questions.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqZns\\_Cj0aY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqZns_Cj0aY)

1. Did the action take place in the afternoon?
2. What was the weather the days before?
3. Is the topic about a gold mine?
4. The name of the village is Aberfan. Where is it located?
5. How many children died? \_\_\_\_\_ How many adults? \_\_\_\_\_
6. The tragedy took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October. What was the year?
7. Can you tell David Davis' story?



8. Evan Price was one of the first persons to arrive. Why did she suffer from a PTSD (*Post-traumatic Syndrome Disease*)?
9. "It was a dreadful accident but all natural". Do you agree?



**Now have a look at another BBC report.** You can change some of your answers.

**Script from Aberfan News report**

To learn more: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVtYZdzjmMQ>

It happens soon after morning classes had become at the school. Sodden with rain, undermined by the mountains streams which ran beneath it the enormous refuse pit from Aberfan’s coal mine lost its footing on the steep slopes of the village and a black avalanche slid onto the houses and the school below.

When the days of digging were over, the list of the dead had reached a hundred and forty-four. A hundred and sixteen of them were children between the age of eight and ten.

Twenty years later a visible break in the line of houses at the edge of the village where the school once stood still betrays the path of the man-made landslide and a few hundred yards away in the village cemetery, the children who died lie beneath a line of identical stone arches.

For many children of Aberfan, born long afterwards caring for the graves is a regular event in their lives. The twentieth anniversary of the disaster is something the villagers themselves do not seek to commemorate. They

remember it at the chapel's service every year. They tend the graves of the children who never grew up with as much care every week.

Tragedy and death of a large scale is part of the history of the south Wales coal fields but no peak disaster invoked as much grief as the dreadful accident part natural, part man-made which buried a school and its pupils in a matter of minutes. There sheer scale of that tragedy broke Aberfan's heart.

One of the first to arrive was Evan Price, mother of one and policewoman. Her boy was dead; she suffered later from PTSD.

It was the last day of the term...A generation was lost.

It made the community more united.

**Make a scheme of a cross section through the mine and Pantglas junior school.**

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