

World Wonders

Around the World

Visit several amazing places in different countries.

Our world has many famous **landmarks**. A landmark is a building or place that is special to an area. Some landmarks are built by people. Other landmarks are things in nature, such as a volcano or a waterfall. In this issue, you will learn about six famous landmarks built by people.

Mount Rushmore



William Manning/Corbis

South Dakota, United States

Mount Rushmore is a rock sculpture. It was carved into a mountain from 1927 to 1941. The sculpture shows the faces of four presidents—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. Each face is as tall as a six-story building.

Machu Picchu



Bob Krist/Corbis

Andes Mountains, Peru

Machu Picchu (MAH-choo PEE-choo) was once a city located high in the Andes Mountains in Peru. Its name means “old peak.” The city was built nearly 600 years ago. The remains of about 200 stone buildings are found there. They include palaces, temples, and homes.

Great Sphinx



sculpies/Shutterstock

Giza, Egypt

The Great Sphinx is a huge statue. It has the head of a person and the body of a lion. It was built more than 4,000 years ago. No one knows for sure why it was built. Some say it honors an ancient king.

Leaning Tower of Pisa

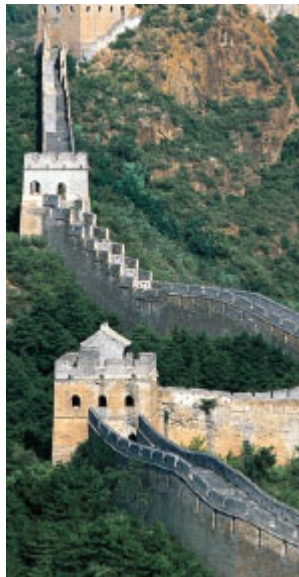


Gaetano
Barone/zefa/Corbis

Pisa, Italy

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is a bell tower. It was built on soft soil. That caused the tower to tilt to one side soon after workers began building it more than 800 years ago. Visitors can climb about 300 steps inside to see a great view of the city.

Great Wall of China



Keren Su/Corbis

China

The Great Wall of China is the longest structure ever built. It twists and turns through China for about 4,000 miles. The wall was built to keep out invaders. Parts of the wall are more than 2,000 years old.

Sydney Opera House



Peter Hendrie/Getty Images

Sydney, Australia

The Sydney Opera House was built from 1957 to 1973. This performing arts center looks like a ship with sails. It is located on a piece of land inside a **harbor**. A harbor is a part of a body of water where ships can stay safe from storms.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. Which four presidents are carved into Mount Rushmore?

2. What caused the Leaning Tower of Pisa to tilt to one side after workers started building it?

3. Why was the Great Wall of China built?

4. What is this passage mostly about?

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

When they are on vacation in Australia, tourists visit the Sydney Opera House.

Who? tourists

5. (do) What?

6. When?

7. Where?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

The Great Wall of China was built, _____ the Chinese could keep invaders out.

- A but
- B because
- C so

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **landmark** (land · mark): a building or place that is special to an area.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **landmark**.
- a. A landmark could be a volcano or a waterfall that is special to its area.
 - b. The old inn where George Washington once slept is a landmark in Virginia.
 - c. Sam wanted to show his guests something special in Australia, so he brought them to the Sydney Opera House, a famous landmark.
 - d. Many people stood in line to take a picture of the landmark because it is the only tower in the world that tilts to one side.
 - e. A landmark like the Great Sphinx is special because you can only find it in one place!

10. Which of the following is a landmark?



Teacher Guide and Answer Key

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 680

Featured Text Structure: Descriptive – the writer explains, defines, or illustrates a concept or topic

Passage Summary: The passage describes what a landmark is and gives six examples of famous landmarks built by people.

To the Teacher: Read the passage aloud to the class [TIP: while reading aloud, show the passage on a whiteboard or give all students a copy of the passage so that they can follow along].

Then, use the text-dependent questions 1-8 to facilitate a whole class discussion to ensure students comprehend the key details from the passage.

Finally, use questions 9-10 to deep-teach one important vocabulary word [TIP: you can use the model provided for teaching additional vocabulary].

1. Which four presidents are carved into Mount Rushmore? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln are carved into Mount Rushmore. [paragraph 2]

2. What caused the Leaning Tower of Pisa to tilt to one side after workers started building it? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: The Leaning Tower of Pisa tilted to one side because it was built on soft soil. [paragraph 5]

3. Why was the Great Wall of China built? [Important Detail]

Suggested answer: The wall was built to keep out invaders. [paragraph 6]

4. What is this passage mostly about? [Main Idea]

Suggested answer: The passage is mostly about six famous landmarks. These landmarks are Mount Rushmore, Machu Picchu, the Great Sphinx, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Great Wall of China, and the Sydney Opera House.

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

When they are on vacation in Australia, tourists visit the Sydney Opera House.

Who? tourists

5. (do) What? visit the Sydney Opera House

6. When? when they are on vacation

7. Where? in Australia

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

The Great Wall of China was built, _____ the Chinese could keep invaders out.

A but

B because

C so

To the Teacher: ReadWorks recommends that you teach this vocabulary word to the whole class out loud using the four steps listed below.

Vocabulary Word: **landmark** (land · mark): a building or place that is special to an area.

Step 1: Introduce the word

- a. Teacher writes the word on the board and divides it into syllables: (land · mark)
- b. Teacher says: "This word is landmark. What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "landmark."]

Step 2: Provide a child-friendly definition

- a. Teacher says: "A landmark is a building or place that is special to an area."
- b. Teacher says: "In the passage, the word 'landmark' is used when talking about world wonders that were built by people."
- c. Teacher says: "What is the word?" [All students reply together out loud: "landmark."]

Step 3: Practice the word

Teacher provides examples and additional opportunities to repeat the word. Read the first sentence out loud to your students. Begin reading it again and when you come to the vocabulary word prompt students to say the vocabulary word out loud. Then, finish reading the sentence out loud to your students.

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **landmark** (land · mark): a building or place that is special to an area.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **landmark**.

- a. A landmark could be a volcano or a waterfall that is special to its area.
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- d. Many people stood in line to take a picture of the landmark because it is the only tower in the world that tilts to one side.
- e. A landmark like the Great Sphinx is special because you can only find it in one place!

Step 4: Check for student understanding

To the Teacher: This step can be completed as a whole class activity or as an independent practice.

10. Which of the following is a landmark?



Suggested Additional Vocabulary: rock sculpture, statue, bell tower, invaders