

Unit Four : Architecture:

One : Famous buildings:

Look at the photos of the Taj Mahal , the Bank of China Tower and **Roman Colosseum** . Discuss the questions. Use words from the box to help.

Old modern tall style marble steel
glass stone city gardens architect



Roman Colosseum



Bank of China Tower

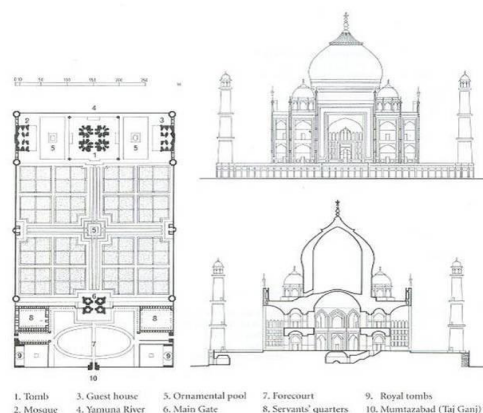


Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal is located in Agra, in the north of **India**.

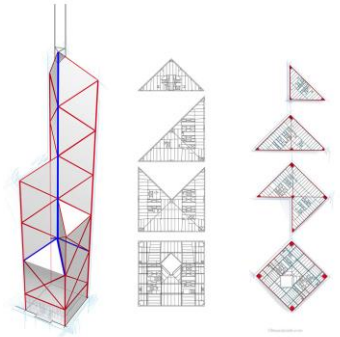
Many people think it is the most beautiful building in the world. It is situated in formal gardens just outside the city, so it is in a very **quiet place**. Nearby there is a river. The Taj Mahal was **built between 1631 and 1654** by **Shah Jehan**. It was a tomb for his wife, **Mumtaz Mahal**, who **died in 1631**. It is built in an **Islamic style**. It

symbolizes **Shah Jehan's** love for his wife. In the centre of the building is the **tomb**, which is made of **white marble**. The rest of the building is made of **sandstone**. Around the tomb there are four tall minarets.

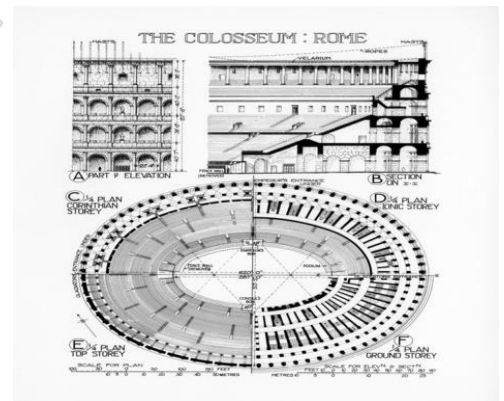


1. Tomb
2. Mosque
3. Guest house
4. Yamuna River
5. Ornamental pool
6. Main Gate
7. Forecourt
8. Servants' quarters
9. Royal tombs
10. Mumtazabad (Taj Ganj)

The Bank of China Tower is situated in *Hong Kong*. The architect was *leoh Ming Pei*. He is very well known. He designs large, unusual buildings. The Bank of China Tower was *built between 1982 and 1990*. It is a very tall skyscraper with *70 floors*. It is *367 metres high*. The style of the building is modern and it symbolizes strength and growth. The building is very light inside because it is made of glass and steel. There is a small viewing platform, which is open to the public. The platform is on the 42nd floor, so visitors can have a panoramic view of the whole city. It is one of the tallest buildings in Hong Kong and is used for offices.



The Colosseum stands today as a symbol of the power, commonly genius, and brutality of the Roman Empire. It is known as the Flavian Amphitheatre, named after the dynasty of emperors that presided over its construction. Vespasian, who ruled from 69-79 CE, began construction of the Colosseum. Titus, his older son, dedicated the Colosseum and presided over the opening ceremonies in 80 CE. Vespasian's younger son, Domitian, completed construction of the monument in 81 CE. The funding for building the Colosseum came from the spoils of the Judaic wars that the Flavians fought in .Palestine



Colosseum in Rome is the largest amphitheater ever built. Built of concrete and same, its construction began in A.D.72 and completed in A.D.90. It could hold between 50,000 and 80,000 spectators. It was used for gladiatorial contests and public events such as mock sea battles, animal hunts, executions, dramas, and re-enactments of famous battles. The outer wall is estimated to have required 3.5 million cubic feet of travertine stone which were set without mortar. It has suffered extensive damage over

the centuries mainly from earthquakes. Two hundred and forty mast corbels were positioned around the top to support a retractable awning that kept the sun and rain off spectators. The arena comprised a wooden floor covered with sand underneath which was an elaborate underground structure consisting of a two level network of tunnels and cages where gladiators and animals were held before contests began.

Because of earthquake and fire damage, the Colosseum underwent repair until the 6th century. However, after the 6th century, the Colosseum sat in disrepair, was neglected, and used as a quarry for hundreds of years. Some of the outer arcades and most of the inner skeleton of the Colosseum remain intact today.

Tow : questions : 1-

- 1- How are the three buildings different ?
- 2- What do you think they are made of ?
- 3- Where are they situated ?
- 4- Who do you think built them ? Why ?

2- Reread the texts about the three buildings and Make notes to complete the table.

Building	<i>Taj Mahal</i>	<i>Bank of China Tower</i>	<i>Colosseum</i>
built by	<i>Agra, north of India</i>		
located			
Date			
Building type		<i>Skyscraper</i>	
made of		<i>Glass, steel</i>	<i>Concrete , travertine stone</i>
style	<i>Islamic</i>		
other information	<i>Some say - most beautiful building in the world</i>		

Ex1: Use your notes to complete the summary about the Taj Mahal.

The Taj Mahal was built by between the years and

It is located in....., in the north of India. It is a, for Jehan's

wife. It is made ofand The style is

Three : Describing buildings: STUDY SKILL Linking ideas

Reason clauses – because . Use because to join sentences. It tells you the reason (why) something happens.

Look at sentences a and b. Underline becau

a- The building gets very hot in summer. It is made of glass.

b- The building gets very hot in summer because it is made of glass.

Ex2: Complete the sentences with a reason clause:

1- Find a sentence with because in the paragraph about the (Bank of China Tower).

2- A lot of people visit the Taj Mahal because.....(it is a very beautiful building)

3- Some people do not like skyscrapers because.....(they are afraid of heights)

4- Some jobs are unhealthy because.....(they are very stressful)

5- Most plants cannot grow in deserts because.....(there is not enough rain)

6- I like(name of a building) because.....(it is very unusual)

Ex4: Find sentences with so in the texts about the Taj Mahal and the Bank of China Tower and Colosseum . Underline so and circle the commas.

Result clauses – so Use so to join sentences. It tells you the result of something.

Look at sentences a and b .

a- The building is made of glass. It gets very hot in summer.

b- The building is made of glass, so it gets very hot in summer

Ex5 : Match sentences 1-5 with a-f. Rewrite them as one sentence using because or so.

Use a comma where necessary.

1- I want to visit the Louvre in Paris.

2- Paulo likes climbing mountains.

3- Nora wants to work for a newspaper as a journalist.

4- Land is very expensive in Hong Kong.

5- India has a lot of rain in the summer months.

6- In Russia people like to go to their 'dachas' in the summer

a- Most of the buildings are tall and narrow.

b- He is going to Switzerland for his holidays.

c- She loves writing and enjoys meeting people.

d- They want to get away from the noisy cities and stay in a quiet

e- It is better to visit the country in the dry season.

f- It has some beautiful paintings.

Ex6 : Complete the description The Tower Houses of Yemen. Use the words and phrases in the box.

because so are made of there is there are have were built
on the outside in the center are located

The Tower Houses of Yemen

The Tower Houses of Yemen'in the old city of Sana'a, the capital of Yemen. These houses are very beautiful and unusual, many visitors come to Yemen to see them. They..... by local builders and they are hundreds of years old. They stone and brick. The buildings are tall and theyat least five floors. of the house is the main staircase. This goes up to all of the floors. The family members usually live on the upper floors. They do not live on the ground floor or the first floor..... these floors are for food and animals. On the top floor..... usually a large sitting room. Visitors come there to chat and drink tea.....walls of the buildings there are beautiful decorations, such as stars and snakes, also decorations around the windows and the doors.



Marble

Glass

Building
Materials