

European Landmarks

A landmark is a special building or structure that is easily seen from a distance. Some of the world's most famous examples are found in Europe.

The Eiffel Tower

One of France's most famous landmarks was completed in Paris on 31st March 1889. It is called the Eiffel Tower. It was finished after two years, two months and five days. The tower was designed to be a temporary exhibit for the 1889 Exposition Universelle but it showed value during the First World War as a radio-telegraph station.



The tower's original height was about 300 metres although today it stands at around 330 metres. It is built from **wrought iron** and weighs roughly 10,100 tonnes. Since 1968, the Eiffel Tower has been painted 'Eiffel Tower Brown'. Amazingly, 20,000 light bulbs light up the tower for five minutes every hour at night.

Stonehenge

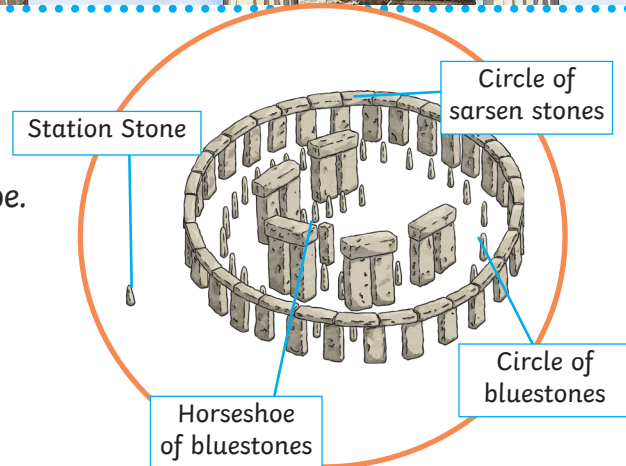
This famous, prehistoric landmark is located on Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, England. It is believed that Stonehenge was built in four stages and took over 1000 years to complete.

Interestingly, although it was created about 5000 years ago, no one can prove how. One legend claims that giants placed the stones on a mountain in Ireland before a wizard called Merlin magically moved them to England.



What Does Stonehenge Look Like?

- There are 52 stones in a circle that are called sarsens. There used to be 83.
- Inside, there are five large stone arches in a horseshoe shape.
- Station Stones are placed outside.
- Another two circles of smaller bluestones are also located within the main circle.



Did You Know...?

Stonehenge's last private owner bought it in 1915 for £6600!

Acropolis of Athens

The Acropolis of Athens is thought by many to be the most famous **acropolis** in Greece. It was built as a home for the goddess Athena around the 5th century. The Parthenon was the main temple. It was built from 13,400 white marble stones. Other smaller temples were used to honour Athena alongside other gods and heroes. These are called the Erechtheion and the Temple of Athena Nike. A bronze statue called Athena Promachos used to stand on the Acropolis of Athens. It is said to have been nine metres tall but has now been destroyed.



Glossary

acropolis: A fortified area of an ancient Greek city that was usually built on high ground.

wrought iron: A form of iron used to build attractive structures.

Questions

1. What was the original height of the Eiffel Tower? Tick one.

- about 333 metres
- about 330 metres
- about 300 metres
- about 303 metres

2. What colour has the Eiffel Tower been painted since 1968?

- Eiffel Tower Brown
- Eiffel Tower Blue
- Eiffel Tower Green
- Eiffel Tower Red

3. What date was the Eiffel Tower completed? Tick one.

- 31st March 1899
- 31st March 1889
- 31st March 1999
- 31st March 1989

4. How many sarsen stones are at Stonehenge today? Tick one.

- 30
- 83
- 33
- 52

5. Underline one word in the quotation below with a similar meaning to 'provide evidence for'.

Interestingly, although it was created about 5000 years ago, no one can prove how.

6. Fill in the missing words.

A landmark is a special building or _____ that is easily seen from a distance. Some of the world's most _____ examples are found in Europe.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about Stonehenge in 25 words or fewer.

Answers

1. What was the original height of the Eiffel Tower? Tick one.

- about 333 metres
- about 330 metres
- about 300 metres**
- about 303 metres

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- 30
- 83
- 33
- 52**

5. Underline one word in the quotation below with a similar meaning to 'provide evidence for'.

Interestingly, although it was created about 5000 years ago, no one can prove how.

Award 1 mark for:

- **prove**

6. Fill in the missing words.

A landmark is a special building or **structure** that is easily seen from a distance. Some of the world's most **famous** examples are found in Europe.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about Stonehenge in 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I have learnt that Stonehenge is a mystery because no one can say how it was built. There are legends about its construction.

European Landmarks

A landmark is a building or structure that is easy to see from a distance. They can become a familiar symbol of a country that many people will recognise.

The Eiffel Tower

On 31st March 1889, one of France's famous landmarks was completed in Paris. It was finished after two years, two months and five days and was named the Eiffel Tower after Gustave Eiffel who was its creator. He designed the tower to be a temporary exhibit for the 1889 Exposition Universelle. However, the tower proved valuable during the First World War as it was used as a radio-telegraph station. During this time, it helped to intercept enemy communication.



The original height of the Eiffel Tower was about 300 metres. After the French flag was placed at the top, it measured around 312 metres tall. Today, the tower stands at around 330 metres. It is built from **wrought iron** and its estimated weight is about 10,100 tonnes.

Since 1968, the Eiffel Tower has been painted 'Eiffel Tower Brown' but originally, it was dark red. Every evening, 20,000 lights twinkle on the tower for five minutes each hour.

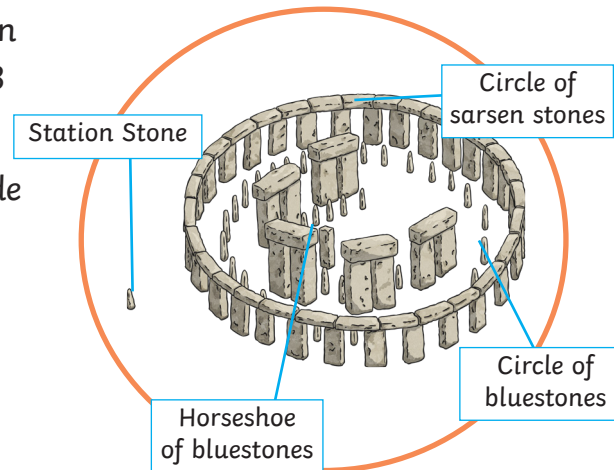
Stonehenge

On Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, England, there stands a famous prehistoric landmark. Stonehenge was built about 5000 years ago and is believed to have been built in four stages that took over 1000 years to complete. How the landmark came to be is a question that has confused people for centuries because nobody can prove the different theories that exist about its construction. One legend claims that giants placed the stones on a mountain in Ireland before a wizard called Merlin magically moved them to England.



What Does Stonehenge Look Like?

- Stonehenge consists of 52 standing stones that are placed in a circle. These stones are called sarsens. There used to be 83 of them.
- There are five large, stone arches in a horseshoe shape inside the outer ring.
- Station Stones were placed outside the main circle with a ditch and a bank surrounding the landmark.
- Another two circles, made up of smaller bluestones, can be found within the main circle.



Did You Know...?

Stonehenge's last private owner bought it in 1915 for £6600. This would be equal to about £836,600 today!

Acropolis of Athens

An **acropolis** was a key feature of ancient Greece. The Acropolis of Athens is believed by many to be the most famous one. It was built as a home for the goddess Athena around the 5th century and has a main temple that is called the Parthenon. This temple was built from around 13,400 white marble stones. There are also smaller temples to honour Athena alongside other gods and heroes called the Erechtheion and the Temple of Athena Nike. A statue called Athena Promachos used to stand on the Acropolis of Athens. It is said to have been nine metres tall and made of bronze although it no longer exists and many people think it was destroyed.



Glossary

acropolis: A fortified area of a Greek city that was usually built on high ground.
wrought iron: A form of iron used to build attractive structures.

Questions

1. What is an acropolis? Tick one.

- a fortified area of a Greek city that was usually built on high ground
- a village near a Greek city that was usually built on low ground
- a village near a Greek city that was usually built on high ground
- a fortified area of a Greek city that was usually built on low ground

2. What is the estimated weight of the Eiffel Tower? Tick one.

- 101 tonnes
- 1010 tonnes
- 10,100 tonnes
- 1,00,100 tonnes

3. Draw **four** lines and match each year or century to its event.

1889

Stonehenge was bought for
£6600.

1915

The Eiffel Tower was painted
'Eiffel Tower Brown'.

1968

The Eiffel Tower was completed.

5th century

The Acropolis of Athens
was built.

4. Underline one word in the quotation below that suggests that a landmark can be a visual representation of a country.

They can become a familiar symbol of a country that many people will recognise.

5. Fill in the missing words.

A landmark is a _____ or structure that is easy to see from a _____.

6. What type of landmark is Stonehenge?

7. Summarise what you have learnt about the Eiffel Tower in 25 words or fewer.

8. Which landmark would you most like to visit in person? Explain your answer.

Answers

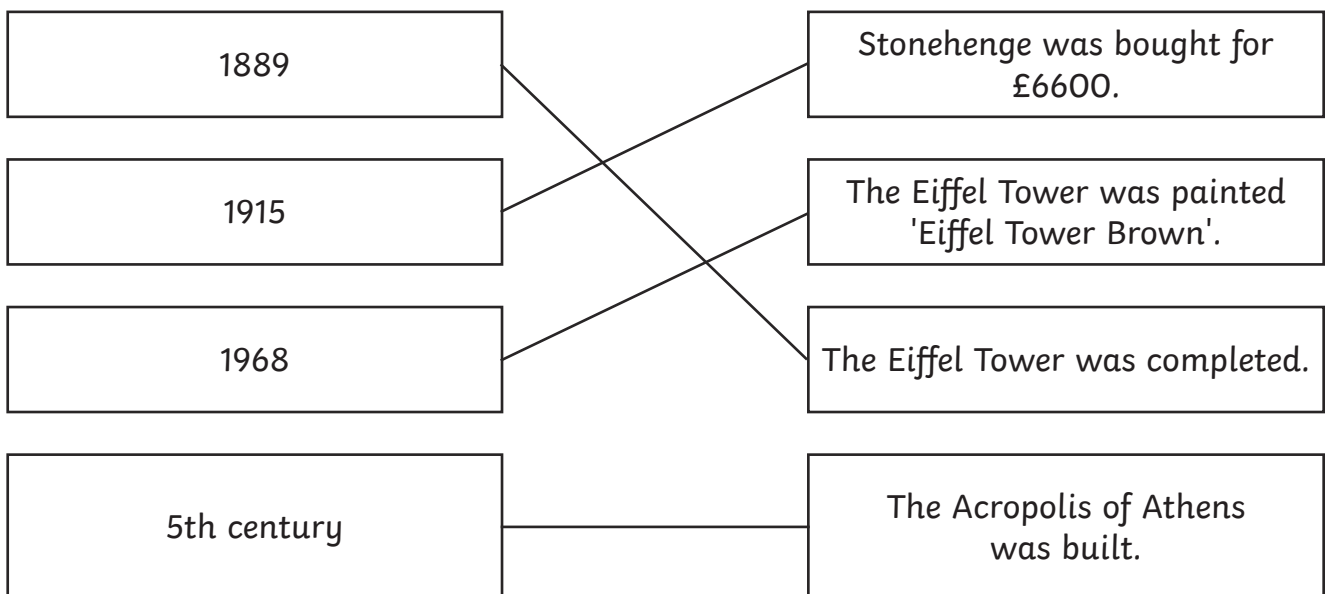
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- a village near a Greek city that was usually built on low ground
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4. Underline one word in the quotation below that suggests that a landmark can be a visual representation of a country.

They can become a familiar symbol of a country that many people will recognise.

Award 1 mark for:

- **symbol**

5. Fill in the missing words.

A landmark is a **building** or structure that is easy to see from a **distance**.

6. What type of landmark is Stonehenge?

Stonehenge is a prehistoric landmark.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about the Eiffel Tower in 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I have learnt that the Eiffel Tower was completed in 1889 and was originally built as a temporary exhibit. It also used to be dark red.

8. Which landmark would you most like to visit in person? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I would most like to visit Stonehenge because I find it very interesting that no one can prove how it was built. It is also would be fascinating to see a prehistoric monument in real life.

European Landmarks

Europe is home to a large number of different countries with famous landmarks. These structures help showcase a country's history and culture.

The Eiffel Tower

On 31st March 1889, the construction of one of France's most famous landmarks was completed. Located in Paris, the Eiffel Tower took approximately two years, two months and five days to build. Although designed as a temporary exhibit for the 1889 Exposition Universelle, Gustave Eiffel's tower was saved after it proved of high value during the First World War. During this time, it was used as a radio-telegraph station and helped to intercept enemy communication. The equipment located at the Eiffel Tower also sent out alerts and dispatched troops during emergencies.



Originally, the Eiffel Tower was 300 metres tall. When the French flag was placed at the top, it was closer to 312 metres tall. Intriguingly, the tower is now even taller, standing at around 330 metres. The Eiffel Tower is constructed of open-lattice **wrought iron** and has an estimated weight of about 10,100 tonnes. Since 1968, it has been painted 'Eiffel Tower Brown' but it was originally dark red. It is painted every seven years and has been repainted 19 times. Every night, 20,000 lights sparkle on the tower for five minutes at the beginning of every hour.

Stonehenge

On Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire, England, stands Stonehenge. It is thought by many to be the world's most famous prehistoric landmark. Built around 5000 years ago during the Neolithic Age, Stonehenge is thought to have been constructed in four stages, taking over 1000 years to complete.



What Does Stonehenge Look Like?

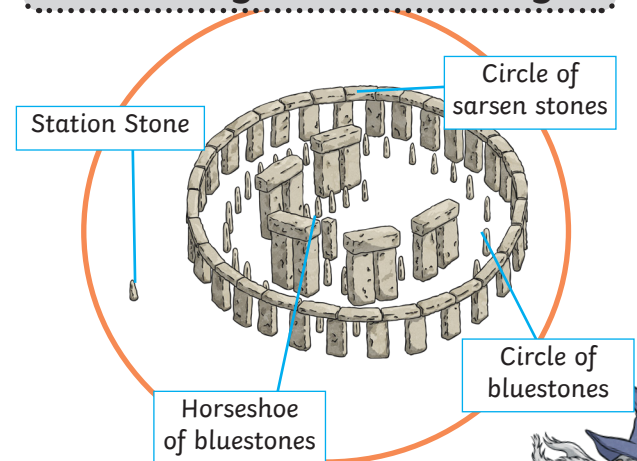
- Stonehenge consists of 52 standing stones called sarsens that are placed in a circle. There used to be 83 sarsens.
- Within this, there are five large, stone arches in a horseshoe shape.
- Station Stones are located outside the main ring with a circular ditch and bank surrounding the landmark.
- Another two circles, made up of smaller bluestones, can be found within the main circle.



Surprisingly, Stonehenge has confused people for centuries as no one can prove how it came to be. One legend claims that giants placed the stones on a mountain in Ireland before a wizard called Merlin magically moved them to England.

Before Stonehenge belonged to the public, Cecil Chubb purchased it in a local auction. He paid around £6600 for it at the time. This would be equal to about £836,600 today. Chubb passed Stonehenge into public ownership on 26th October 1918.

Stonehenge 5000 Years Ago



Acropolis of Athens

Built as a home for the goddess Athena in the 5th century, the Acropolis of Athens is thought by many to be the most famous **acropolis** from ancient Greece. It had a main temple called the Parthenon, which was built from 13,400 white marble stones.

Other structures at the Acropolis of Athens include the Propylaea, the Erechtheion and the Temple of Athena Nike. The Propylaea served as the entryway while the Erechtheion was a temple to honour Athena and other gods and heroes. The Temple of Athena Nike was a smaller temple for **worshipping** the goddesses Athena and Nike.



A statue called Athena Promachos used to stand on the Acropolis of Athens. It is said to have been nine metres tall and made of bronze but it has since been destroyed.



Glossary

acropolis: A fortified area of a Greek city that was usually built on high ground.

worshipping: Sharing prayers and showing respect for something or someone, such as a god.

wrought iron: A form of iron used to build attractive structures.

Questions

1. Underline one word in the quotation below that suggests that the Eiffel Tower was not originally meant to last.

Although designed as a temporary exhibit for the 1889 Exposition Universelle, Gustave Eiffel's tower was saved after it proved of high value during the First World War.

2. Number the facts from 1-5 to show the order they occur in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- There are five large, stone arches in a horseshoe shape.
- 1 On March 31st 1889, the construction of one of France's most famous landmarks was completed.
- When the French flag was placed at the top, it was closer to 312 metres tall.
- It was built from 13,400 white, marble stones.
- He paid around £6600 for it at the time.

3. Look at the paragraph called **The Eiffel Tower**. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'around' or 'roughly'.

4. Fill in the missing words.

The Eiffel Tower is constructed of open-lattice _____ iron and has an _____ weight of about 10,100 tonnes.

5. In which century was the Acropolis of Athens built?

6. What might have been the author's purpose when they wrote this text? Explain your answer.

7. Predict what you think would have happened if Cecil Chubb had not given ownership of Stonehenge to the public.

8. How do you know that the Eiffel Tower was useful during the First World War? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Underline one word in the quotation below that suggests that the Eiffel Tower was not originally meant to last.

*Although designed as a **temporary** exhibit for the 1889 Exposition Universelle, Gustave Eiffel's tower was saved after it proved of high value during the First World War.*

Award 1 mark for:

- **temporary**

2. Number the facts from 1-5 to show the order they occur in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- 3** There are five large, stone arches in a horseshoe shape.
- 1** On March 31st 1889, the construction of one of France's most famous landmarks was completed.
- 2** When the French flag was placed at the top, it was closer to 312 metres tall.
- 5** It was built from 13,400 white, marble stones.
- 4** He paid around £6600 for it at the time

3. Look at the paragraph called **The Eiffel Tower**. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'around' or 'roughly'.

approximately

4. Fill in the missing words.

The Eiffel Tower is constructed of open-lattice **wrought** iron and has an **estimated** weight of about 10,100 tonnes.

5. In which century was the Acropolis of Athens built?

The Acropolis of Athens was built in the 5th century.

6. What might have been the author's purpose when they wrote this text? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: The author's purpose could have been to educate the reader on what a landmark is and explain the history around three famous examples in Europe that they may be familiar with.

7. Predict what you think would have happened if Cecil Chubb had not given ownership of Stonehenge to the public.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that if the public had not been given ownership of Stonehenge then we may not know anything about it as historians may not have been allowed to research it in person.

8. How do you know that the Eiffel Tower was useful during the First World War? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I know that the Eiffel Tower was useful during the First World War as the text describes it as proving of 'high value'. This means that its use as a radio-telegraph station helped the war effort and was useful during this time.