

Unit 7: “Tall structures”

Lesson A: “Highest towers”



The Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower) in Chicago

While you read

- 1- Read about the tallest towers in the world and put the following tower names in order, from the tallest to the lowest.

Willis Tower - Burj Khalifa - CN Tower

Tall structures

The CN Tower, located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, is a communications and observation tower standing 553.3 meters tall. It was recognized as the tallest free-standing structure on land in the world for 31 years until it was recently surpassed in height by the Burj Khalifa in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. The Burj Khalifa was built in 2009 and is 828 meters high. The third tallest is the Willis Tower (formerly known as Sears Tower) in Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., which stands at 527 m (1,729.0 ft) when measured to its pinnacle.

In January 2010, the world's highest outdoor observation deck located in Burj Khalifa, opened to the public. Hundreds of people, mostly families, queued up for tickets to Level 124 of Burj Khalifa. The view is similar to what you might see from an airplane. The ascent to the 124th floor is by a double-deck elevator, each deck carrying up to 14 people and travelling at 10 meters per second. In less than a minute, the elevator reaches the observation deck, the world's only public observatory at this height with an outdoor terrace.

Adapted from www.tryengineering.org



 **Read in detail**

1- Read the text again and complete the chart:

Details	CN Tower	Burj Khalifa	Willis Tower
1- Height (Altura)			
2- Place (Ubicación/lugar)			
3- Year of construction (Año de construcción)	-----		-----

2- Answer the questions about the Burj Khalifa:

a- How many floors does it have?

b- How many people can travel in the elevators?

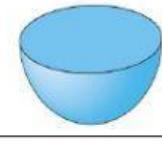
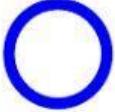
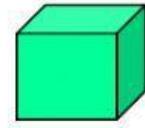
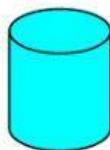
c- How fast do elevators reach the top?

 **Let's work with vocabulary: Shapes**

1- Match the nouns in the box to the shapes:

circle - cone - cube - cylinder - hemisphere-

rectangle - semicircle - sphere - square - triangle



2- Match each noun with an adjective (use a dictionary if you need it)

a) Cylinder	Rectangular
b) Cone	Circular
c) Cube	Cylindrical
d) Rectangle	Conical
e) Circle	Cubical
f) Semicircle	Triangular
g) Sphere	Square
h) Triangle	Spherical
i) Hemisphere	Semicircular
j) Square	Hemispherical

3- Look at the following buildings, what do they look like? Describe them using one of the examples shown in the box:



a-



b-



c-



d-



e-



f-

a- You can describe the shape or appearance of the building in picture 1 in different ways:

- ***The building looks like*** a cone.
- ***The building is shaped like*** a cone.
- ***It's a cone-shaped*** building.
- ***The building is in the shape of a cone.***
- ***It's a conical*** building.

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____