FORM 5

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UNIT 10: WHERE ON EARTH?

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Reading

1 What makes a place worth visiting? Look at the criteria and tick the ones you agree with. Then think of a place that represents them.

1 It's an area of natural beauty. ☐
2 It was important in the past. ☐
3 It is home to an endangered species. ☐
4 It's a creative masterpiece. ☐
5 It's a major geological feature. ☐
6 It has a rich cultural tradition. ☐

2 Read the texts quickly. What can happen to a site after it has been added to the list?

A

UNESCO *World Heritage*

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) seeks to identify, protect and preserve the cultural and natural heritage of the world that is of value to all human beings.

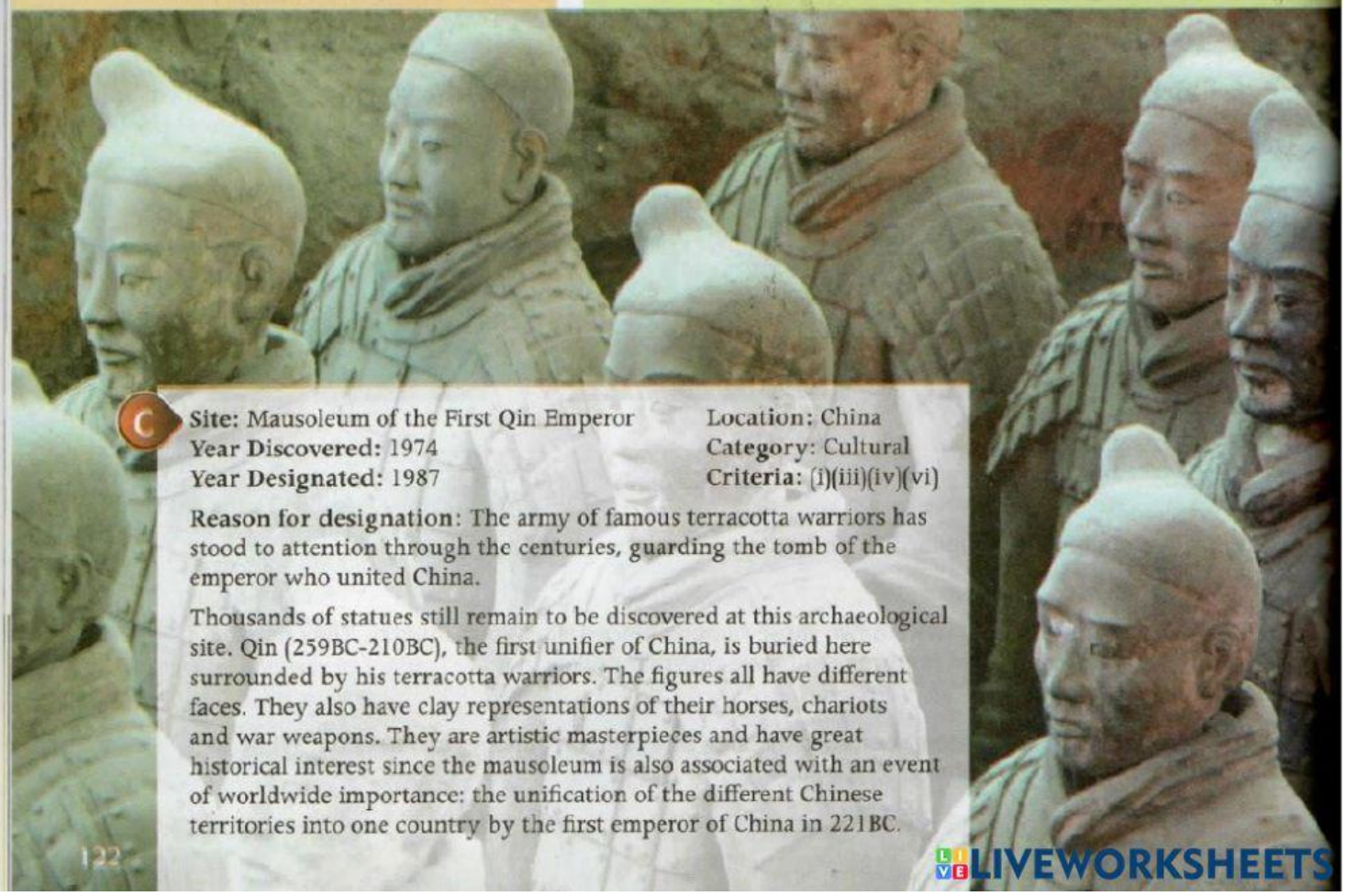
Heritage is what we receive from the past, live with today, and pass on to future generations. Our cultural and natural heritage are sources of life and inspiration, and cannot be replaced. Places as unique and varied as the wilds of Africa's national parks, the Acropolis of Athens and the Great Barrier Reef in Australia make up our world's heritage.

The World Heritage List includes 981 properties made up of 759 cultural, 193 natural and 29 mixed properties.

B

To be included on UNESCO's World Heritage List, sites must meet at least one of the following ten criteria:

i be a masterpiece of human creative genius
ii show an important exchange of human values
iii be proof of a cultural tradition or of a living or past civilisation
iv be an outstanding example of a place from a significant stage in human history
v be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement that represents a culture
vi be associated with events, ideas, beliefs, artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance (the Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used together with other criteria)
vii contain outstanding natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty
viii be outstanding examples of major stages in earth's history
ix be outstanding examples of significant ecological and biological processes
x contain significant natural habitats for biological diversity including threatened species



C

Site: Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor
Year Discovered: 1974
Year Designated: 1987
Location: China
Category: Cultural
Criteria: (i)(iii)(iv)(vi)

Reason for designation: The army of famous terracotta warriors has stood to attention through the centuries, guarding the tomb of the emperor who united China.

Thousands of statues still remain to be discovered at this archaeological site. Qin (259BC-210BC), the first unifier of China, is buried here surrounded by his terracotta warriors. The figures all have different faces. They also have clay representations of their horses, chariots and war weapons. They are artistic masterpieces and have great historical interest since the mausoleum is also associated with an event of worldwide importance: the unification of the different Chinese territories into one country by the first emperor of China in 221BC.

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3 **Use the information in the texts to answer the questions.**

Questions 1 and 2 refer to section A.

1 What is the aim of UNESCO?
- a to find the most important properties in the world
- b to ensure the continued existence of special places
- c to pass on the list of places to future generations
- d to find inspiration in unique locations worldwide

2 What are 'mixed properties'?
- a places of cultural value close to natural areas
- b sites that are not as important as cultural places
- c areas that combine both life and inspiration
- d culturally important sites in special natural settings

Question 3 refers to section B.

3 Which of the criteria is usually not used on its own?
- a iv
- b viii
- c vi
- d iii

Questions 4 and 5 refer to section C.

4 What is true about the figures in the mausoleum?
- a Thousands of them have been found.
- b They are not identical to each other.
- c Their actual weapons were buried with them.
- d Archaeologists discovered them in 1987.

5 Which event are the figures associated with?
- a The beginning of the Chinese empire.
- b The war that divided China.
- c The birth of a new Chinese emperor.
- d The discovery of new territories in China.

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The four related texts may include information about the history or development of something. In these cases, you may have to answer questions about dates. Make sure you understand what each date refers to. What do the dates in text C refer to?

Questions 6 and 7 refer to section D.

6 Which year had the lowest number of oryx living in the sanctuary?
- a 1972
- b 1994
- c 1996
- d 2007

7 The sanctuary was delisted because
- a oil had been found on the site.
- b it couldn't protect an endangered species.
- c only 90% of it could be conserved.
- d the oryx had moved to other areas.

Question 8 refers to sections A, B, C and D.

8 Which sections give examples of cultural properties?
- a sections A and B
- b sections A and C
- c sections B and C
- d sections C and D

D

Arabian Oryx Sanctuary: first site ever to be deleted from UNESCO's World Heritage List

June 28, 2007

The World Heritage Committee today decided to remove the Arabian Oryx Sanctuary from UNESCO's World Heritage List. The sanctuary, which was placed on the list in 1994, has become the first site to be delisted since the establishment of UNESCO World Heritage in 1972.

UNESCO's reason for this was the fact that 90% of the site is being used to search for oil so that the sanctuary could not be conserved.

In 1996, there were 450 Arabian Oryx living on the site, but that number has fallen to 65 and its future is uncertain.

4 **Match these words to their meanings.**

diversity heritage inspiration
masterpiece representation
sanctuary values

1 _____: something that gives you ideas
2 _____: a work of art made with great skill
3 _____: the beliefs people have about what is most important in life
4 _____: a picture or model of someone or something
5 _____: the quality of showing a great deal of variety
6 _____: a protected natural area where animals live freely
7 _____: valued historic buildings and cultural traditions passed down from previous generations

5 **Think of a place that is or you believe should be on the World Heritage List. Why is it significant? Write down the reasons why it is or should be considered a part of our cultural or natural heritage.**

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