

2020 Dubai Expo

The 2020 Dubai Expo has finally opened after being delayed by the covid-19 pandemic. An extravagant opening ceremony ushered in the global event, which will run until March 2022. A host of stars from the music world joined the spectacular ceremony. These included the world-renowned opera singer Andrea Bocelli, China's flamboyant pianist Lang Lang and Saudi Arabian singer Mohammed Abdu. International news agencies reported on the dazzling ceremony. CNN said: "Dubai doesn't do anything by half. The city always goes big." The Reuters news agency wrote about "the lavish ceremony of fireworks, music and messaging about the power of global collaboration for a more sustainable future".

The World Expo is a global event that takes place in a different city every five years. Its aims are to showcase solutions to fundamental challenges faced by humanity, and to bring people of the world together. Organizers of the Dubai Expo selected the theme: "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future". The Expo will also be dedicated to the sub-themes of sustainability, mobility and opportunity. It is the first Expo to be held in the Middle East. Over the next six months, 25 million visitors will see cutting-edge and cultural exhibitions from almost 200 countries. When Dubai made its bid to host the Expo, the city's ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum promised Dubai would "astonish the world".

1) What would you include if Expo came to your town? Complete this table.

Music	
Dance	
Celebrities	
Aims	

2) Rank these. Put which of these things will be best in the future at the top.

- ◆ Food ____
- ◆ Education ____
- ◆ Jobs ____
- ◆ Weather ____
- ◆ Happiness ____
- ◆ Mobility ____
- ◆ Peace ____
- ◆ Technology ____

3) Match these words with the correct meanings.

Paragraph 1:

Delayed - Extravagant - Ushered - Renowned

Lavish - Collaboration – Sustainable

- 1- Expensive, grand and fantastic. _____
- 2- Very, very rich, elaborate, or luxurious. _____
- 3- Known or talked about by many people; famous. _____
- 4- Caused or marked the start of something. _____
- 5- Made someone or something late or slow. _____
- 6- Conserving an ecological balance by avoiding depletion of natural resources.

- 7- The action of working with someone to produce something. _____

Paragraph 2:

Showcase - Fundamental - Dedicated - Opportunity

Cutting-edge - Bid – Astonish

- 1- An attempt or effort to achieve something. _____
- 2- Exhibit; display. _____
- 3- The latest or most advanced stage in the development of something.

- 4- Surprise or impress someone greatly. _____
- 5- Exclusively allocated to or intended for a particular purpose. _____
- 6- A chance for employment or promotion. _____
- 7- Affecting or relating to the essential nature of something or the crucial point about an issue. _____

4) Match the following synonyms from the article.

Delayed

Famous

Extravagant

State-of-the-art

Renowned

Gorgeous

Flamboyant

Proposal

Lavish

Expensive

Fundamental

Amaze

Dedicated

Energetic

Cutting-edge

Devoted

Bid

Postponed

Astonish

Basic

5) Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

renowned - ushered - half - collaboration

spectacular - lavish - delayed - news

The 2020 Dubai Expo has finally opened after being (1) _____ by the covid-19 pandemic. An extravagant opening ceremony (2) _____ in the global event, which will run until March 2022. A host of stars from the music world joined the (3) _____ ceremony. These included the world-(4) _____ opera singer Andrea Bocelli, China's flamboyant pianist Lang Lang and Saudi Arabian singer Mohammed Abdu. International (5) _____ agencies reported on the dazzling ceremony. CNN said: "Dubai doesn't do anything by (6) _____. The city always goes big." The Reuters news agency wrote about "the (7) _____ ceremony of fireworks, music and messaging about the power of global (8) _____ for a more sustainable future".

6) Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

aims - cutting - selected - promised

global - held - bid - dedicated

The World Expo is a (9) _____ event that takes place in a different city every five years. Its (10) _____ are to showcase solutions to fundamental challenges faced by humanity, and to bring people of the world together. Organizers of the Dubai Expo (11) _____ the theme: "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future". The Expo will also be (12) _____ to the sub-themes of sustainability, mobility and opportunity. It is the first Expo to be (13) _____ in the Middle East. Over the next six months, 25 million visitors will see (14) _____ -edge and cultural exhibitions from almost 200 countries. When Dubai made its (15) _____ to host the Expo, the city's ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum (16) _____ Dubai would "astonish the world".

7) Listen and then choose the correct option

- 1) What delayed the 2020 Dubai Expo?
 - a) security
 - b) finances
 - c) availability of singers
 - d) the covid-19 pandemic

- 2) Where was the pianist from who played at the opening ceremony?
 - a) Japan
 - b) China
 - c) India
 - d) Thailand

- 3) Which news agency said Dubai doesn't do anything by half?
 - a) BBC
 - b) ABC
 - c) CNN
 - d) Al Jazeera

- 4) What did a news agency say about the fireworks at the ceremony?
 - a) It was lavish
 - b) It was colourful
 - c) It was unprecedented
 - d) It was cool

- 5) What kind of collaboration did the news agency write about?
 - a) daily collaboration
 - b) community collaboration
 - c) global collaboration
 - d) intensive collaboration

6) How often does the World Expo take place?

- a) every for years
- b) every five years
- c) every ten years
- d) every few years

7) What is the theme of the Dubai Expo?

- a) Correcting Minds, Creating a Future
- b) Connecting the Globe, Creating the Future
- c) Connecting the Future, Creating Minds
- d) Connecting Minds, Creating the Future

8) How many previous Expos had been held in the Middle East?

- a) none
- b) 1
- c) 2
- d) 3

9) How many visitors could attend the Dubai Expo?

- a) 27 million
- b) 24 million
- c) 25 million
- d) 28 million

10) Who said Dubai would "astonish the world"?

- a) singers at the opening ceremony
- b) Dubai's ruler
- c) the US President
- d) the people of Dubai

