

Text 2: Prasat Thom, Koh Ker

Read and speak

You are going to read about and discuss two more pyramid heritage sites. First, read your text and choose the correct words to complete the sentences. Then find this key information in the text.

- What the pyramid is called
- Where it is located
- When it was built
- Why it was built
- Details of its structure
- Why it's special
- What mystery is associated with the pyramid
- Information for visitors

In pairs, discuss the ways in which the pyramids are similar and different.

Text



Many tourists visit the

city Angkor Wat in Cambodia
each year, and they learn
that it was the capital of the
Khmer civilization. However,
for a period of 20 years, from
928, the capital was moved

to Koh Ker, and during this short period, the Khmer built 180 temples there.

One such temple is Prasat Thom. Standing 36m high, this pyramid has seven levels, and is not as highly decorated as similar Khmer structures. Statues of lions at the top of the pyramid might have supported a linga, or representation of a god. The pyramid could have been to connect the earth and the sky.

Visitors to the city can only see 25 ; there are a number of
land mines left over from wartime, so the rest of the area is closed to
visitor safety. However, the city is worth a visit. No one today has

together why the Khmer moved their capital city to this spot for such a short time, but they must have had a good reason.