



SECRET CITIES

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A In 1963, a resident of the Cappadocia **region** of Turkey was doing some renovations¹ on his house. When he knocked down one of his walls, he was surprised to find a **hidden** room carved into the stone. He explored the room, and found that it led to an **underground** city—the city of Derinkuyu.

B The underground city is over 60 meters **deep**—deep enough for a 20-story building. It contains **massive** stone doors that could only be opened or closed from the inside. This piece of evidence leads experts to believe that the underground city was built to protect the city's residents from enemies. More than 20,000 people could hide inside it. Over 600 doors lead to the city, hidden under and around existing homes.

C The hidden city had its own religious centers, livestock stables,² kitchens, and even schools. Wells, water tanks, and at least 15,000 air shafts³ made the city a comfortable place. However, experts are not sure exactly how old the underground city is, because any records of its construction and use have disappeared.

¹renovations: works that improve the design or condition of a house or building

²stable: a place to keep horses and cows

³shaft: an opening that goes all the way through a building



Until recently, Derinkuyu was the largest known underground city in Cappadocia. In 2013, however, construction workers **discovered** another underground city during the building of a housing project. This city—**located** beneath the city of Nevşehir—is one of the largest known underground cities in the world. According to researchers, this newly discovered **ancient** city could cover over 450,000 square meters and is over 110 meters deep. This means that using only simple tools, the ancient builders dug an area big enough for 65 soccer fields, and deep enough to contain a 35-story building!

Researchers have found **artifacts** in this city such as tools and bowls. These artifacts suggest that the city is probably up to 5,000 years old. Like Derinkuyu, it was probably built as a place where people could stay safe during times of war.

In the future, other people may **experience** the same excitement that the homeowner and the construction workers felt. There are already more than 30 known underground cities in the Cappadocia region, but experts believe there may be more than 200. So there are likely to be other hidden wonders, just waiting to be discovered.

Task 3: Complete the summary of the passage (p. 125-126) with the list of words, A-I, below.

The Largest Underground City

The largest underground city was discovered 1) _____ the city of Nevsehir, in the Cappadocia region of Turkey. It can be up to 450,000 square meters, which is about 65 modern day's soccer fields. What's more, it is more than 110 meters deep, which is about a building of 35 2) _____. This is astonishing for builders at that time to just use simple tools to accomplish. Many ancient 3) _____ have been unearthed that revealed that the city can be about 5,000 years old. It is speculated that the city was built for people to hide during war time.

Another large underground city in this region is Derinkuyu. It is about 60 meters deep, which is enough for a building of 20 levels. It has very 4) _____ stone doors, which makes experts believe that the city is also built for citizens to 5) _____ from enemies. This underground city has most of everything that a normal city has such as religious centers, kitchens, schools, and wells. Unlike the other city, researchers have not had a clear 6) _____ of how old this city is because there are no records about its construction and use.

A. objects
B. under
C. region

D. floors
E. hide
F. discover

G. understanding
H. hidden
I. large