1) Reading

Opus by Zaha Hadid Architects (Dubai, U.A.E.)

Over the past two decades, Dubai has become a virtual playground for architects who want to put their wildest dreams to the test (and **make money i**n the bargain). And perhaps no architect has explored the potential curve of an angle more than the late Zaha Hadid. The firm that still bears her name, Zaha Hadid Architects, (ZHA), will soon complete a building that will surely stand out in a city chock-full of head-turning architecture. They got there by **doing their due diligence** regarding amenities. Sure, there will be a place where you can **do your laundry and your exercise**. But magic will be in other standout offerings. The Opus, as the building is being called, will house a hotel, 12 restaurants, a rooftop bar **(where you can make new friends**), and 56,000 square feet of office space. Don't worry about quality. Far from just being mere window-dressing each bar and restaurant features renowned chefs (including the Michelin-star-winning Alain Boulud.) But you can excuse those of us who will quickly forget what's inside of the building when we simply look at what's outside. It is a celebration of mind-bending incongruity, shouting it to the rafters. The structure miraculously has a gaping hole in the middle of it, continuing the firm's lengthy tradition of designing objects that seem to perform a dance with the same trio: gravity, space, and voids. Let's raise the roof for this roof raising structure. While the design seems like something we'd likely see on another planet or just a bit off the beam, ZHA's method in creating such a striking structure is rather logical. "We designed the Opus as two separate towers that are connected at their base and top where many of the guest amenities and services are located," says Christos Passas, ZHA's director on the project. "These connections coalesce the two towers into a singular cube with the void at its center." To do this, the firm detailed the "void's surface with a combination of glass with varying thickness, bent in different ways and fitted by using several different techniques," Passas explains. One of those techniques was making glass pieces to provide the illusion. The process is far from bargain basement as it involves casting the pieces by hand. They **made the pieces** by heating pieces of glass in temperatures as high as 1,300 degrees Fahrenheit before molding and quickly cooling them to increase their breaking strength.

2) Vocabulary

Look at the words written in blue. See if you can us the surrounding context sentence to infer their meanings.

3) Grammar

Why is differentiating "make" and "do" hard? How would you translate both words into your language? What is the problem when employing make and do and when do you make the most mistakes with either one?

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4) Make versus Do

We use the word "make" when we are producing a _____ product. We also use make when we are referring to _____ or _____.

However, we use the word "do" when we are talking about a _____ of activites in a category like "doing the laundry." We also use the word "do" when referring to_____.

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By Ian Johnson

- Nov. 24, 2018

BEIJING — Rising out of the farmlands of southern Beijing in a web of concrete, rebar and glass, one of the world's largest airports is preparing to open [ ] after just five years of construction — a striking contrast to the infrastructure **travails** of far richer places. (See: New York City, subway; Britain, train service; Berlin, airport.)

Just as impressive as its speed are the airport's broader goals. It is meant to shift the Chinese capital's **center of gravity** [ ] away from its high-tech university district in the north toward its poorer southern suburbs — part of an even more ambitious plan to remake Beijing and its **hinterland** [ ] into an 82,000-square-mile economic locomotive for northern China. And it will do so by relocating thousands of residents with few protests, at least so far.

Yet the airport also reflects a less glamorous side of China's rapid change: a reliance on the **heavy hand** of big infrastructure as **a salve** for deeper problems in politics and economics.

[ ] [ ]

These **intractable** [ ] problems include an [ ] **overbearing** military, whose **hobbles** [ ] existing airports, as well as a broad retreat from market-driven economic reforms, leading to a dependence on infrastructure investment to increase growth.

Center of activity	cripples	A solution/medicine	Problems/challenges
Strong influence	Uncharted areas	controlling	unchangeable

"In China everything is related to economic development," said Guo Yufeng, chief executive of Q&A Consulting, a China-based aviation advisory firm that has studied the new airport.

"They needed something to drive growth."

Cue the new airport.

Scheduled to open next September, the Beijing Daxing International Airport will lift China's capital into the **stratosphere of aviation superlatives**. The golden, starfish-shaped terminal designed by the Iraqi-British star architect Zaha Hadid, who died in 2016, is billed as the world's largest at 7.5 million square feet (700,000 square meters) but promises short walking distances despite its size.

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