



# WRITTEN COMPREHENSION

## READING

### THE STATUE OF LIBERTY



**READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS.**

The Statue of Liberty, arguably one of New York City's most iconic symbols, is a popular tourist attraction for first-time visitors to the city. This 150-foot monument was gifted to the United States from France in order to celebrate one hundred years of America's independence. The statue is located on Liberty Island, and it is accessible by taking a ferry from either Battery Park in New York City or Liberty State Park in Jersey City.

When Claire visited the Statue of Liberty for the first time, she instantly admired it as a symbol of freedom. Claire made sure to make reservations before her visit because only two hundred and forty people are permitted to climb the staircase to the top of the statue every day. After climbing almost four hundred stairs, Claire received spectacular views of the city from the statue's crown. During her visit, Claire learnt that the Statue of Liberty was not always the colour that it is now. She found out that because the statue's exterior is made of copper, the statue oxidised over time, giving it the greenish appearance it has in present day. When it was first constructed, the statue was the same colour as a shiny penny!

After touring the Statue of Liberty, Claire spent the rest of the day in New York City visiting other important monuments and historic landmarks. Claire left New York hoping to have had the time to explore more sites, but she can't wait to return to the city in the future.

#### **QUESTIONS**

- 1) Who gifted the Statue of Liberty to the United States?**
  
- 2) What was the Statue of Liberty intended to celebrate?**
  
- 3) How many people are permitted to climb the statue's stairs per day?**
  
- 4) From which part of the statue did Claire receive spectacular views of the city?**
  
- 5) Why has the Statue of Liberty changed colour over time?**
  - a) Its copper exterior oxidised**
  - b) It was painted green during restorations**
  - c) The statue is poorly maintained by the city**
  - d) New York's poor air quality has eroded the statue**