

**4. READING****The New Seven Wonders of the World.**

Recently, people have talked a lot about the contest to choose the New Seven Wonders of the World; but, why do we need new ones?



Apparently, the original seven wonders of the ancient world were chosen around 200 BC by a group of historians of ancient Greece who noted those monuments caught their eye: the Lighthouse of Alexandria, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Statue of Zeus at Olympia, the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, and the Great Pyramid at Giza. All of them were located in and around the Mediterranean and had some kind of religious significance for the people who lived during

antiquity. But, only the Great Pyramid still stands today, despite being the oldest. The other six on the list haven't existed for centuries and the Hanging Gardens of Babylon may never have existed at all.



So, the New 7 Wonders Foundation decided to choose seven new monuments and help to their conservation. Through different media, the foundation tried to sensitize people to the beauty of the world's heritage and be alerted of its destruction and decay.

The Foundation was established in 2001 by Bernard Weber and today it is based at the Heidi-Weber-Museum in Zurich, Switzerland

The New 7 Wonders of the World campaign was launched in 2000 and after months of the global voting period, there were 21 finalists competing to get the title of "New Wonder", which were selected by the New 7 Wonders Panel of Experts: Acropolis, Greece; Alhambra, Spain; Eiffel Tower, France; the Statue of Liberty, USA, and Sydney Opera House, Australia were in that first list.

On July 7, 2007, the Official Declaration of the New 7 Wonders of the World took place during a live globally televised event. After receiving millions of votes, the winners and, now, officially New 7 Wonders of the World are: the Great Wall of China; Petra, Jordan; Christ Redeemer Statue, Brazil;

Machu Picchu, Peru; Pyramid at Chichen Itza, Mexico; Roman Colosseum, Italy; and Taj Mahal, India.

Answer these questions with complete sentences.

1. When were the original seven wonders chosen?
2. Who chose those old seven wonders?
3. Which monuments were the original Seven Wonders of the World?
4. Which is the only wonder of the ancient world that still exists?
5. Why did the Foundation decide to select seven new wonders?
6. When and where was the Foundation established?
7. How many finalists participated in the final voting campaign?
8. Name some of the finalists that didn't win.
9. When were the winners announced?
10. Which are the New 7 Wonders of the World?

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