



Spotlight 6

Reading

Task 6802

Read the texts and match the titles to the descriptions of the famous buildings. One title is extra.

1. THE COLOUR AS PART OF HISTORY
2. THE HIGHEST BUILDING OF THE CAPITAL
3. GHOSTS AND HISTORY
4. AN UNUSUAL CONSTRUCTION
5. A MASTERPIECE DUE TO THE FIRE

- A.** London's most famous building is St Paul's Cathedral. Its designer is a well-known English architect Sir Christopher Wren. Its famous dome is one of the largest in the world. It is 112 metres high. The original church was founded in the year 604. Christopher Wren began to work on the present English baroque church in the 17th century. It was after the Great Fire of London. It took 40 years to construct the building. St Paul's plays an integral part of London life, as a centre for tourism and religious worship.
- B.** The Leaning Tower of Pisa is one of the most remarkable architectural structures in Europe. The tower began to lean during the construction. The soft ground couldn't support the tower's weight. The work on the tower began in 1173. It went on for over 300 years. The height of the tower is 55.86 m from the ground on the low side and 56.70 m on the high side. Its weight is 16,000 tons. The tower has 296 steps. The true identity of the architect of the tower is not known. The design is by the artist Bon-nano Pisano but some documents implicate the architect Diotisalvi.
- C.** The Irish architect James Hoban designed the White House in Washington D.C. The work on it began in 1793 and in 1800 it was completed. The mansion is the home of American presidents. When it was built it didn't have the name 'White House'. During the war with the British in 1814, the second war for independence, the building was damaged. Some time later they painted the building white to hide the marks on the walls. The name "Executive Mansion" was used in official documents until President Theodore Roosevelt established the formal name "White House" in 1901.
- D.** The Eiffel Tower is an iron tower in Paris. It is named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower. It was constructed in 1889. Now it is a cultural icon of France and one of the most recognizable structures in the world. The tower is the tallest structure in Paris and the most visited monument in the world. The tower is 320 metres high. The walk from the ground level to the first level is over 300 steps. You can get to the third and highest level only by lift. When it was constructed it got a lot of criticism from artists. But it was an immediate success with the public.

A	B	C	D

