

Unique structures

1

8.4.2.1 Look at the pictures and read the titles of the texts. What is special about these buildings?

Listen and read to find out.



Khan Shatyr, Kazakhstan

Situated in Astana, Khan Shatyr is a modern shopping and entertainment centre, offering a wide variety of shopping and leisure activities in a friendly atmosphere. It opened in 2010 and today it's one of Kazakhstan's main tourist attractions.

It imitates the tent structure of the yurt, providing a constant reminder to urban Kazakhs of their roots out on the steppe. But that's not all! Khan Shatyr is one of the world's most eco-friendly buildings with a see-through covering that helps to maintain a constant warm temperature inside whatever the weather. Its distinctive shape also means it can withstand high winds. It is a unique structure for all kinds of weather!

The Crystal – UK

Next to the waters of the River Thames there is a remarkable building – the Crystal. It opened in 2012 and contains an exhibition on sustainability which gives visitors the opportunity to explore issues such as energy, water and the environment.

The Crystal is the most eco-friendly building in London. It is covered with solar panels that provide all of its electricity and has special pipes which store extra energy underground. It also produces 90% of its own water by collecting rainwater and waste water. The Crystal is a great example of how modern architecture can work with nature to save the planet.



Check these words

- imitate
- see-through
- covering • maintain
- distinctive
- withstand
- remarkable
- exhibition
- sustainability
- solar panel • pipe
- produce • collect

2

8.4.2.1 Read the texts again and complete the sentences.

- 1 Since 2010, Khan Shatyr is one of Kazakhstan's
- 2 Khan Shatyr's shape imitates
- 3 Because of its characteristic shape Khan Shatyr
- 4 The Crystal gives visitors the chance to
- 5 The Crystal stores energy underground in