Reading:

The Golestan Palace - Tehran

The city of *Tehran* was one of the residences of the *Safavid* dynasty in the 16th century, and the first defensive walls were built at that time. Speaking of the *Golestan Palace*, it could be said that it closely follows the history of the city of Tehran.

The *Arg* (500*800m) was part of the northern section of the old town. Sometime during the *Zand* dynasty, the *Arg* underwent some renovation works to which *Divan Khaneh* was built. *Divan Khaneh* which is the first part of the *Golestan Palace* was constructed in the existing Persian garden from the *Safavid* period. With the *Qajar* family coming to power in 1785, they chose *Tehran* as the Capital of the country, and the *Golestan Palace* as the seat of government.

The city of *Tehran* maintained its traditional form until the 19th century before *Qajar* kings decided that it was time for some renovation processes. At that time, *Qajar* kings had ideas of modernization and strengthening of the country as well as the political status. Aiming to do so, they managed to dig in western models and integrate them with Persian ones in their efforts to make the new architecture and planning policies.

As part of the wider renovation process, the *Golestan Palace* had to undergo some renovation works. In 1874, the main building of the palace was completed and the separated traditional gardens were integrated into one garden. The new unified garden is exactly the same one that was joined with the western part, forming the *Golestan Palace* we know today. The rest of the old *Arg* was replaced over time by governmental buildings.

As an influential monument of Tehran, the *Golestan Palace* consists of 17 buildings including palaces, halls and museums surrounding the large garden layout. They are different in ages and are richly ornate with marbles, mirror works, tile works with illustrations, motifs and paintings. The artistry work in the Palace reflects a considerable variety of historic, cultural and natural themes.

Questions:

A- Match words from Column A with their meaning in Column B

Column A	Column B
Dynasty	combine
constructed	search
Seat of government	a very old building or place that is important historically
dig in	fairly large
integrate	a period of time when a particular family ruled a country or area
monument	ruling center
considerable	built

B- According to the article, Divn Khaneh was built during:

1) The Zand dynasty
2) The Safavid dynasty
3) The Pahlavi dynasty

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4) Qajar dynasty

C- As a monument, the Golestan Palace consists of how many buildings??

1) 17
2) 12
3) 13
4) 22

D- According the article, what was the first part of the Golestan Palace to be built??

1) The Arg
2) The royal bridge
3) The queen's throne
4) Divan Khaneh

E- It could be implied from the article that _____ had great influence on the renovation works done to the city of Tehran in the 19th century!!

1) Qajar traders
2) Qajar kings
3) Greek philosophers
4) Safavid kings.

Answer Keys:

A-

Column A	Column B
Dynasty	a period of time when a particular family ruled a country or area
constructed	built
Seat of government	ruling center
dig in	search
integrate	combine
monument	a very old building or place that is important historically
considerable	fairly large

B- The Zand dynasty
C- 17
D- Divan Khaneh
E- Qajar kings

Resources:

UNESCO "Nomination of Golestan Palace For Inscription on the world heritage list"

Disclaimer:

I'm neither a native speaker of English nor a professional educationalist. I'm just a simple person whose native tongue is Arabic. I'm trying to make a positive impact on this world, a little bit at a time.

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knowledge to them young minds coming after us is one way to do that. If you have any suggestions regarding the content of this worksheet, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at Skype: YemeniMind@outlook.com. Please remember that I'd always be pleased to hear from you all!!

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