

**1. Read the text and do the following tasks.****THE OLDEST SCHOOLS IN THE WORLD**

Education has been a part of human life for thousands of years. While many schools have opened and closed over time, a few have survived for centuries, and are still active today. Let's explore three of the world's oldest educational institutions.



Shishi High School, China is the world's oldest school

1. Shishi High School – Chengdu, China

Founded in 141 BCE, Shishi High School is considered the oldest school in the world. It was built during the Han **Dynasty** to train young men to become government officials. The name "Shishi" means "stone house" in Chinese. Although the school has been destroyed and rebuilt several times due to wars and disasters, it has continued to educate students for over two thousand years.

Today, it is a modern secondary school with a strong **reputation** in China.

2. The King's School – Canterbury, England

The King's School was established in 597 AD by St. Augustine, the man who brought **Christianity** to England. It is the oldest school in Europe. The school received royal support from King Henry VIII in the 16th century. Many famous people studied there, including playwright Christopher Marlowe. Today, it offers a high-quality education and is well known for its academic success and history.

**3. Al-Qarawiyyin University – Fez, Morocco**

Al-Qarawiyyin was founded in 859 AD by Fatima al-Fihri, a well-educated woman who used her **inheritance** to build a **mosque** and learning center. Over time, it became a respected university where students studied subjects like religion, mathematics, and astronomy. Today, it is officially recognized as the oldest existing university in the world.

These schools are more than just old buildings, they are symbols of the importance of education throughout history. Even after centuries, they continue to shape young minds and prepare future leaders.

Match the words with the definitions.



Dynasty

A place where Muslims go to pray.

Reputation

A religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus.

Christianity

Money or property that someone receives when a family member dies.

inheritance

The opinion that people have about someone or something, based on what they have done in the past.

mosque

A family of rulers who lead a country for many years, one after another.



Choose the correct answers

1. What is special about Shishi High School?

- A. It was founded by a king.
- B. It teaches only Confucian values.
- C. It is the oldest still-operating school in the world.
- D. It has never been destroyed.

2. What does the name "Shishi" mean?

- A. Government school
- B. Knowledge center
- C. Royal building
- D. Stone house

3. Who started The King's School in England?

- A. King Henry VIII
- B. Christopher Marlowe
- C. St. Augustine
- D. William Shakespeare

4. What kind of support did The King's School receive in the 16th century?

- A. Religious support
- B. Financial help from citizens
- C. Royal support from King Henry VIII
- D. Donations from students

5. What subjects were studied at Al-Qarawiyyin University in the past?

- A. Art and Music
- B. Geography and Politics
- C. Religion, Mathematics, and Astronomy
- D. English and History

6. What do all three schools have in common?

- A. They were all started by kings.
- B. They are all located in Europe.
- C. They have never changed their buildings.
- D. They have continued to educate students for centuries.

2. If you could study at one of the oldest schools in the world, which one would you choose and why?

You should research & write at least 250 words:

- The name of the school you choose
- Where it is and what makes it special
- Why you would like to study there
- How it might help your future