

Descriptive Text Reading Materials: Historical Buildings

ENGLISH FOR GRADE 11 (SMA/MA) - CEFR A2 LEVEL

Text 1: The Magnificent Prambanan Temple

IDENTIFICATION

Prambanan Temple is a very famous historical building in Indonesia. It is located in Yogyakarta, a special city in Java. It is the largest Hindu temple site in Indonesia and one of the biggest in Southeast Asia. Many tourists from all over the world come to visit this beautiful place every year because they want to see its amazing shape.

DESCRIPTION

This temple is very tall and beautiful. The highest building in the center is 47 meters tall. There are three main temples in the Prambanan area. They are for the three main Hindu gods: Shiva, Vishnu, and Brahma. The Shiva temple is the biggest one. Visitors can see many amazing statues inside the temples. The walls of the temples also have beautiful stone carvings. These carvings are very long and tell old stories about the Hindu religion. People love to look at these details.

Prambanan Temple was built a long time ago, in the 9th century. In the past, there was a big earthquake, and the temple was broken. However, people worked very hard to fix it for many years. Now, it looks great again. Around the temple, there is a large green park. It is a very nice place to walk, sit, and take pictures with friends or family. The sky looks very beautiful from here, especially in the late afternoon.

Sometimes, visitors can watch a traditional dance show near the temple at night. It is called the Ramayana Ballet. The dancers wear colorful clothes and dance beautifully under the moon. Visiting Prambanan Temple is a wonderful experience. It helps

Text 2: The Great Colosseum of Rome

IDENTIFICATION

The Colosseum is a very famous historical building in Italy. It is located in the center of Rome, the capital city of Italy. It is a very old and big amphitheater, which is like a very large outdoor stadium. Today, the Colosseum is one of the most popular tourist places in the world.

DESCRIPTION

The Colosseum is made of stone and concrete. It is very large. In the past, it could hold about fifty thousand people. It has four floors and many arches on the outside. An arch is a curved shape over a door or window. Inside, there are many seats around a big flat area in the middle. The flat area is called the arena. Under the arena, there were many secret rooms and tunnels.

This amazing building was built a long time ago. They started building it in the year 72 AD and finished in 80 AD. In the past, people went to the Colosseum to watch shows. They watched gladiators fight. Gladiators were strong men who fought each other or fought wild animals like lions and tigers. It was a very popular entertainment for the people of Rome.

Today, the Colosseum is partly broken because of old earthquakes and weather. However, it is still very beautiful, big, and strong. Every day, thousands of visitors can walk inside and see the old stone walls and the dark tunnels. When we stand inside this place, we can easily imagine the loud sounds of the past. The Colosseum is a great symbol of the Roman Empire and a very important piece of world history. It is a must-visit place for everyone.

Word Count: 280 words

Language Features Focus (CEFR A2)

- **Simple Present Tense:** Used to state facts and current conditions (e.g., "It is located in the center of Rome." "The Colosseum is made of stone.")