

Egypt has opened two of its oldest pyramids. The pyramids are in Dahshur, about 40 kilometers south of the Egyptian capital city Cairo. They are now open to the public for the first time since 1965. Hundreds of people gathered outside the Bent Pyramid at a special opening ceremony on Saturday. The Bent Pyramid was built 4,600 years ago. It was built for the ancient Egyptian pharaoh Sneferu. It is 101 meters high. Builders used new techniques to build it and archaeologists say it was an important step in the development of pyramid building. Tourists can also enter an 18-metre high "side pyramid" next to the Bent Pyramid. This was built for King Sneferu's wife Hetepheres.

The two pyramids are part of the Memphis Necropolis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Egypt hopes the opening of the pyramids will boost the country's tourism industry. Egypt was a top tourist destination but tourist numbers fell after the 2011 uprising. Ancient sites in Egypt are on the bucket lists of many people around the world. At the Bent Pyramid, tourists will be able to go through a 79-meter narrow tunnel to reach two chambers deep inside. They will also be able to see ancient treasures found inside the pyramid. Egyptian archaeologists uncovered a collection of stone, clay and wooden sarcophagi - the coffins people were buried in. Some of the sarcophagi contained mummies.

1. Vocabulary - match the following definitions: 20p

1. gathered	a. A formal religious or public occasion, typically one celebrating a particular event.
2. ceremony	b. A way of carrying out or doing a task, especially an artistic work or a scientific procedure.
3. ancient	c. Very, very, very old
4. pharaoh	d. Came together.
5. techniques	e. A ruler in Egypt thousands of years ago.
6. boost	f. A body of a human being wrapped in bandages and buried (especially in Egypt thousands of years ago).
7. tourism	g. Help something to increase or improve.
8. industry	h. The commercial organization and operation of vacations and visits to places of interest.
9. destination	i. A number of experiences or things that a person hopes to have or do during their lifetime.
10. bucket list	j. The place to which someone or something is going or being sent.
11. treasure	k. Economic activity concerned with the processing of raw materials and manufacture of goods in factories.
12. mummy	l. A very valuable object.

2. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if 1-8 below are true (T) or false (F). 8p

1. Egypt has opened five newly-discovered ancient pyramids. **T / F**
2. The newly-opened pyramids are north of the capital city Cairo. **T / F**
3. One of the pyramids is over 4,500 years old. **T / F**
4. Tourists and visitors will not be allowed to go inside the pyramids. **T / F**
5. Egypt hopes the new pyramids will bring more tourists to the country. **T / F**
6. Archaeologists found many ancient buckets at the pyramids. **T / F**
7. A 79-meter tunnel leads to two deep chambers inside one pyramid. **T / F**
8. Some of the sarcophagi found at the pyramids contain mummies. **T / F**

3. Comprehension questions 10p

1. How many pyramids has Egypt recently opened?
2. How far are the pyramids from Egypt's capital city?
3. How high is the Bent Pyramid?
4. What did the builders use to build the pyramids?
5. How high is the smallest of the pyramids?

6. What is the UNESCO site the pyramids are part of?
7. When did the article say tourist numbers started to fall?
8. What lists did the article say people around the world have?
9. How long is a tunnel that leads to two chambers in the Bent Pyramid?
10. What was found inside some sarcophagi?