

**Reading 3** Read these texts about three cable-stayed bridges. Are sentences 1–5 *true* (T) or *false* (F)? Correct the false sentences.

The Sutong Yangtze River Bridge in China has a main span of 1,088 m. There are also side spans, making the total bridge length 8,206 m. The two highest towers in the bridge are 306 m high. The bridge opened in May 2008.



The Rion-Antirion Bridge is in Greece. Completed in August 2004, the bridge is 2,880 m long and 28 m wide. The cable-stayed deck is 2,252 m long. It has four towers, each 220 m high.



The Tatara Bridge in Japan has a total length of 1480 m, with a main span of 890 m. The deck width is 30.6 m and the towers are 220 m high. The Tatara Bridge was completed in May 1999.



- 1 The longest bridge is the Sutong Yangtze River Bridge. (T / F)
- 2 The oldest bridge is the Tatara Bridge. (T / F)
- 3 The Tatara Bridge is longer than the Rion-Antirion Bridge. (T / F)
- 4 The Rion-Antirion Bridge has the highest towers. (T / F)
- 5 The Sutong Yangtze River Bridge has the shortest main span. (T / F)

#### Language

##### Comparative and superlative adjectives

We use **comparative adjectives** to compare two people or things. We use **superlative adjectives** to describe one in a group of three or more people or things.

*The Rion-Antirion Bridge is longer than the Tatara Bridge.*

*The oldest bridge is the Tatara Bridge.*

*long → longer than → the longest*

*old → older than → the oldest*

*high → higher than → the highest*

*short → shorter than → the shortest*

*new → newer than → the newest*

**4** Complete these sentences. There is more than one correct answer.

- 1 The Tatara Bridge is \_\_\_\_\_ than the Sutong Yangtze River Bridge.
- 2 The Sutong Yangtze River Bridge is \_\_\_\_\_ than the Rion-Antirion Bridge.
- 3 The Rion-Antirion Bridge is \_\_\_\_\_ than the Tatara Bridge and \_\_\_\_\_ than the Sutong Yangtze River Bridge.
- 4 The Sutong Yangtze River Bridge is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 The Tatara Bridge is the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Speaking 5** Work in pairs. Make comparisons about the bridges in this table.

	Completed	Length	Type	Height (above water)
Firth of Forth Bridge, Scotland	1890	8,296 feet	cantilever	151 feet
Golden Gate Bridge, USA	1937	8,981 feet	suspension	220 feet
Howrah Bridge, India	1943	705 m	cantilever/suspension	8.8 m

1 m = 3.28 feet