

Name: _____

QUIZ

Points: _____

Reading Explorer Foundations: Unit 9 Lesson B

DIRECTIONS: Choose the best answer for each question.

The Great Dome of Florence

[A] In 1419, a clockmaker named Filippo Brunelleschi started work on a very difficult project. He was building the dome of Florence's main cathedral,¹ the Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore. For 1,500 years, the world's largest dome belonged to the Pantheon in Rome. Brunelleschi's job was to build one even larger.

[B] The building of the cathedral began in 1296. By 1359, much of it was complete, but no one knew how to build its dome. Many builders could build concrete² domes. However, the dome in Florence needed to be wider than any dome ever built. A concrete dome would be too heavy and would easily fall. The cathedral, therefore, remained unfinished for many years.

[C] Filippo Brunelleschi promised to find a solution. He said he would build two domes, an inner dome made of stone and an outer one made of light bricks.³ He would use lighter materials as he worked upwards. Strong rings made of stone, wood, and iron would hold everything together.

[D] Brunelleschi also had to find a way to lift the materials high into the air. What did he do? He invented a new machine to do the job.

[E] Building the dome took 16 years. Brunelleschi had done something no one else could. However, he left no pictures of his design. So - even today - experts don't fully understand how this incredible structure was built.

Glossary Study

¹ A **cathedral** is a kind of church building, usually quite big and beautiful.

² **Concrete** is a hard material, similar to stone.

³ **Bricks** are small pieces of hard material used for building.

Questions

____ 1. What could another title for this passage be?

- a. Famous Domes in Italy
- b. Building Practices in the 1400s
- c. Brunelleschi's Work of a Lifetime
- d. A Day in the Life of a Dome Builder

____ 2. What is paragraph B mainly about?

- a. why the cathedral remained unfinished for many years
- b. how the cathedral was used for 100 years
- c. why the dome needed to be so wide

d. how popular concrete domes were in 1359

____ 3. In paragraph C, what does *one* refer to?

- a. dome
- b. brick
- c. stone
- d. solution

____ 4. Why did Brunelleschi have to invent a new machine?

- a. to help builders reach the top of the dome
- b. to make the roof of the dome lighter
- c. to lift materials high in the air
- d. to make concrete domes

____ 5. According to the passage, which of the following is true about the Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore?

- a. The cathedral is located in Rome.
- b. It has the world's largest concrete dome.
- c. The cathedral was completed in 1359.
- d. No one but Brunelleschi knew how he built the dome.

DIRECTIONS: Choose the best answer for each question.

The Great Wall of China

[A] Stretching across 8,850 kilometers of northern China, the Great Wall is one of the world's most famous pieces of architecture. But the Great Wall isn't just one wall. It's actually many walls that have been built up and connected over the centuries.

[B] As early as the eighth century B.C., Chinese rulers were building walls as a defense against attackers. The first walls were made of simple materials, but they were very effective. In 221 B.C., China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, ordered that a wall be built to keep out northern armies. Hundreds of thousands of workers built the wall using stones from the local mountains. During the 14th century, the Ming dynasty started to add other features to the walls. This included nearly 25,000 watchtowers, walls that soldiers could walk on, and openings in the walls for archers to shoot through.

[C] Today, the Great Wall is still under construction. However, this is no longer because of attacking armies. The wall welcomes millions of visitors each year, and so the wall is often getting damaged. As a result, the Chinese government is working hard to keep the wall in good condition, hoping to make sure the Great Wall stands for thousands more years to come.

____ 6. According to the passage, when were the first parts of the wall built?

- a. in the 8th century B.C.
- b. in 211 B.C.
- c. in the 14th century
- d. in the 16th century

____ 7. What is NOT true about Qin Shi Huang?

- a. He was China's first emperor.
- b. He wanted a wall to keep out northern armies.
- c. The wall he ordered to be built was made of stone.
- d. He lived during the Ming dynasty.

- ____ 8. In paragraph B, what is a *watchtower*?
- a person in the army
 - a damaged part of a wall
 - a tall building
 - a type of building material
- ____ 9. In paragraph C, why does the author mention *attacking armies*?
- to explain the main reasons for building the wall
 - to show a difference between the past and present
 - to give an example of how the wall has been damaged
 - to suggest a future danger to the wall
- ____ 10. What is the main purpose of paragraph C?
- to give a brief history of the wall
 - to suggest that readers do not visit the wall
 - to describe the dangers facing the wall today
 - to explain the plans to increase the size of the wall

DIRECTIONS: Choose the best answer for each question. There may be more than one answer.



- ____ 11. What information does the infographic NOT show?
- the names of the people who designed the buildings
 - the age of the buildings
 - the places where the buildings were constructed
 - the sizes of the buildings when compared to each other
- ____ 12. The buildings in the infographic are organized from left to right in order of ____.
- location
 - size
 - age
 - their names
- ____ 13. Which TWO domes are wider than the Gol Gumbad?
- Taj Mahal
 - U.S. Capitol
 - St. Peter's Basilica
 - Santa Maria del Fiore

- ____ 14. Which TWO buildings were built in the same century as St. Peter's Basilica?
- Taj Mahal
 - Gol Gumbad
 - Santa Maria del Fiore
 - St. Peter's Cathedral

- ____ 15. Which TWO buildings are similar in height to the Hagia Sophia?
- Pantheon
 - Taj Mahal
 - St. Paul's Cathedral
 - St. Peter's Basilica

DIRECTIONS: Match each sentence starter with the correct ending.

- it's *incredible*!
- very *light*.
- remain* closed.
- modern *design*.

- ____ 16. Until the weather improves, the airport will have to ____
- ____ 17. The entire hospital was built in less than a year; ____
- ____ 18. The apartment building has a ____
- ____ 19. This wire is strong but weighs almost nothing, it's ____

DIRECTIONS: Match each vocabulary word to its definition.

- the answer to a problem
- to be far from one side to the other
- to create something new
- to move up; to hold weight and push up

- ____ 20. lift
- ____ 21. invent
- ____ 22. solution
- ____ 23. wide

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23

Thanks!