

NAME: _____

Reading Activity – Passive Voice Practice

Construction: past, present ...

Humans have built shelters, homes and other buildings and structures for many thousands of years. The earliest homes were probably **tents** made of animal skin. Over time, people learned to use **stone** and wood to build **huts**. Then, about 7,000 years ago in Turkey, one of the most important inventions in the history of construction was born – the **brick**. The first bricks were made of **mud**, and were left in the sun to go hard. Bricks were used to make some of the world's most famous structures, including the Great Wall of China, which is thought to contain nearly four billion bricks.

As our knowledge of engineering improved, buildings grew higher and higher. The Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt was the world's tallest structure for 3,800 years. New materials brought new possibilities and in the 19th century, architect Gustave Eiffel designed a **tower** made of **iron** in Paris that became one of the world's most famous buildings. Around the same time, a new type of very high building made using **steel** started to appear in the USA. The first 'skyscraper' was only 10 **storeys** high, but just a few decades later, the Empire State building became the world's first 100-storey building.

These days, some of the world's most impressive skyscrapers are found in cities across Asia, particularly China. They're built using steel and **concrete**, but they usually have glass walls to let in a lot of light.



Read the text "Construction: past, present..." and complete the activities below.

A. Choose the correct passive form. (Multiple Choice)

1. The first bricks _____ from mud.
 - a) were made
 - b) are made
 - c) was made
2. The Great Wall of China _____ to contain nearly four billion bricks.
 - a) is thought
 - b) was thought
 - c) were thought
3. The tower in Paris _____ by Gustave Eiffel.
 - a) is designed
 - b) was designed
 - c) were designed
4. New types of high buildings _____ using steel in the USA.
 - a) are started
 - b) were started
 - c) was started
5. Many modern skyscrapers _____ of steel and concrete.
 - a) are built
 - b) were built
 - c) is built

B. True or False

Read each statement and choose **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

6. The earliest homes were made of wood. A) TRUE B) FALSE
7. Bricks were left in the sun to become hard. A) TRUE B) FALSE
8. The Great Pyramid was the tallest structure for 3,800 years. A) TRUE B) FALSE
9. The first skyscraper was 100 storeys high. A) TRUE B) FALSE
10. Modern skyscrapers usually have glass walls. A) TRUE B) FALSE

