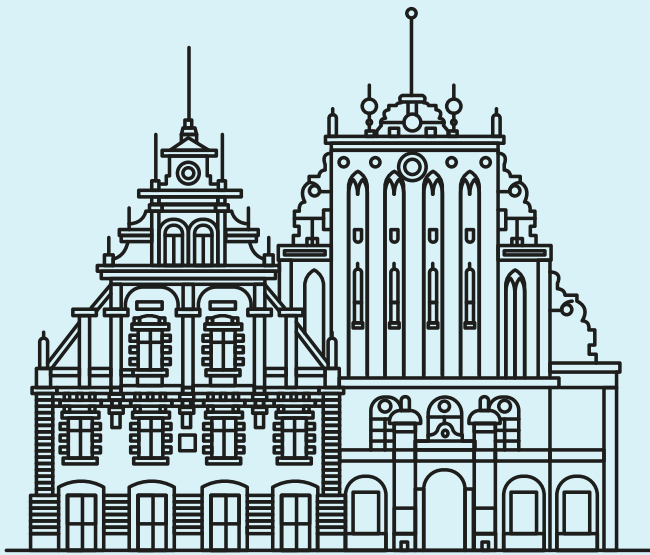


# ***Discover Your World 2020***

**WEEK 2**

## **THE CONSTRUCTED WORLD**



This week focuses on the things in the world built by humans. Bridges, buildings, and monuments will all be covered this week. Less physical human creations, like governments, languages, and currencies, will be covered next week while historic inventions come later.

## What's new this year?

- Labeled maps to help you find all of the features.
- 1 gathering place, 3 bridges, 2 tunnels, 1 extreme architecture, 3 canals, 8 historic places, and 1 statue.

## What should you study to do well?

- Know the names of these human constructions.
- Know what makes them noteworthy.
- Be able to find them on a map.
- Be able to recognize them from a picture.
- For challenge questions, have an idea of how these features might relate to each other.

## What will the categories be?

- Superlatives (Be able to name the biggest in each category)
- What is this? (Know different features by description)
- Picture this? (Recognize them from a picture)
- On the Map (Place the features on the map)
- Travel Guide (Know locations by their landmarks)
- Which one doesn't belong?

## Example Challenge Questions

- Where would you find Botticelli's famous painting "The Birth of Venus?"
- At what church were Louis II of Hungary and Mary of Austria married?

# Statues

Statues are sculptures that depict something, usually important people. The statues below are not ones you would find in a museum, they are destinations in and of themselves.

## Leshan Giant Buddha

Sitting 233 ft tall, this depiction of Maitreya is the tallest statue created without modern technology. The statue is carved into a cliff in Sichuan China along the Min and Dadu Rivers.



## Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue

Just outside Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, is this 131 foot tall statue of the medieval conqueror that founded the Mongolian empire.



## Motherland Calls

A monument to those who died in the Battle of Stalingrad during World War II, likely the bloodiest battle in history with 2 million casualties, the Motherland Calls is the tallest statue in Europe at 279 ft. It is in Volgograd, Russia.



## Spring Temple Buddha

A 420 ft. (502 ft. with base) depiction of Vairocana Buddha, this statue is built directly atop a monastery in Henan China. Until 2018 it was the world's tallest statue.



## Moai

The mysterious monoliths of Easter Island, the Moai baffled the European explorers who found them with few other traces of the civilization that made them.



## Sphinx

The Great Sphinx of Giza is the oldest known monumental structure in Egypt. Erected around 2250 BC, it depicts a mythical creature with a human's head and a lion's body.



## Little Mermaid

Sitting on a rock in Copenhagen Harbor, the Little Mermaid pays tribute to the character of the same name, authored by Dutch author Hans Christian Anderson. The statue has been vandalized in protest many times.

## Cristo Redentor

Overlooking the bay of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, Cristo Redentor is a 125 foot tall Christian religious statue that is an engineering wonder due to the fact it is built on top of a mountain.



## Statue of Unity

This 597 ft tall statue depicts Sardar Patel, independence activist and first prime minister of India. It is currently that tallest statue in the world and stands over Gurjrat, India.



# Bridges, Tunnels, and Canals

Sometimes nature gets in the way. Waterways, mountains, valleys, or even entire land masses block a route. People make bridges to go over these obstacles, tunnels to go under them, and canals to pilot boats through them.

## Tower Bridge

While not long, Tower Bridge is one of Britain's most iconic sites. The ornately detailed towers of the bridge hold the mechanisms that raise and lower the drawbridge. Finished in 1894, Tower Bridge crosses the Thames River in London..



## Johor-Singapore Causeway

Connecting Singapore to Malaysia, the Johor-Singapore Causeway is the busiest border crossing in the world with over 300,000 people traveling between countries each day, mostly commuting to work.



## Millau Viaduct

The highest bridge in the world, the Millau Viaduct crossed the gorge valley of the Tam in France. At 1,104 ft, it is taller than the Eiffel tower.



## Akashi Kaikyō Bridge

Linking Japan's largest island Honshu to Kobe, the Akashi Kaikyō Bridge has the longest suspension span of any in the world. Frequent earthquakes in the area required engineers to employ many complicated techniques to keep this structure stable, leading it to be regarded as an engineering marvel.



## Stari Most

This Ottoman Bridge crosses the river Neretva in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Originally built by order of Suleiman the Magnificent in 1557, the bridge stood for 427 years before being destroyed in the Croat-Bosniak War. It was rebuilt in 2004 and is an exemplary piece of Balkan architecture from the Islamic era.



## Rialto Bridge

Rialto Bridge is the oldest bridge in Venice and the first dry crossing of Venice's Grand Canal. It is now one of the most popular tourist attractions in Italy, which is one of the world's most popular countries for tourism.



## Danyang-Kushan Grand Bridge

At 102.4 miles, the Danyang-Kushan Grand Bridge is the longest bridge in the world. This railway consists of beam and occasional suspension areas that run parallel to the Yangtze River in one of the most populated areas of the world, the Yangtze River Basin in China.





## Channel Tunnel

A 31 mile tunnel under the English Channel, the Channel Tunnel connects the UK to mainland Europe by way of France. This extremely expensive rail tunnel helped with the European Union's common market and free movement, but has complicated things now that the UK has decided to leave the EU. The Channel Tunnel has the world's longest undersea segment.



## SMART Tunnel

A dual use tunnel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the SMART Tunnel contains three layers. The top two help spread out the heavy traffic in the city while the third redirects water from Malaysia's rainy climate. In case of heavy storms, all three layers can be used to redirect water, which has already prevented a great deal of flood damages to the city.



## Seikan Tunnel

Going under the Tsugaru Strait, the Seikan Tunnel is a railway that connects the two largest Japanese islands of Honshu and Hokkaido. At 33.4 miles is the second longest tunnel in the world and the longest tunnel with an undersea segment.



## Guoliang Tunnel Road

Nicknamed "The Road that Tolerates no Mistakes", this tunnel built through a mountain in Henan, China. The village of Guoliang's location behind the mountains made it extremely isolated, so using only hand tools the villagers built a .75 mile long tunnel to connect them to the world. The area has become a tourist attraction, which is a mixed blessing as it brings traffic to the very narrow and dangerous roadway.

## TAZARA Railway

This railway system between Tanzania and Zambia contains 22 tunnels and 26 bridges due to the mountainous terrain. The TAZARA system helped bring opportunities to rural areas and lowered the countries' dependence on Rhodesia and South Africa for trade, two countries that at the time had Apartheid enforcing governments.



## Gotthard Base Tunnel

The longest and deepest tunnel in the world, the Gotthard Base Tunnel is a rail tunnel that goes under the Swiss Alps. The tunnel reaches a depth of over 8,000 feet, about the same as the deepest mines in the world.



## Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal

The Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal has the odd distinction of being both the oldest and longest canal in the world. Crossing multiple provinces in its 1,104 mile length, the Grand Canal connects the Yellow and Yangtze rivers easing transportation across China.



## Suez Canal

An extremely busy shipping route, the Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea by running through the Suez Peninsula in Egypt. Built by the British Imperialists, the shipping lane is so important that three countries declared war when the recently independent Egyptian government nationalized it.



## Panama Canal

Cutting trade route distance from New York to California by about 8,000 miles, the Panama Canal is a hugely important trade route to the United States. It was so important that the United States backed a revolution in Panama when the Colombian government wouldn't agree to letting the US build the canal.



# Skyscrapers

There is no pressing reason to build buildings this tall, but humans just can't stop building higher and higher. Skyscrapers are proof that humans have an obsession with altitude.

## Burj Khalifa

At 2,722 ft., Burj Khalifa is by far the tallest structure on earth.

Towering over Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, this skyscraper is over half a mile in height and its highest floor is about 2,000 ft. above the ground.



## Taipei 101

At 1667 ft., Taipei 101 in Taipei, Taiwan held the record for the world's tallest building from 2004-2010. The New Years fireworks displays launched around this skyscraper are world famous.



## Petronas Towers

Petronas Towers are the world's tallest twin towers and held the record for world's tallest building from 1998-2004 at 1,483 ft. Found in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, one of the towers is the headquarters of the country's state oil company, Petronas.



## Abraj Al-Bait Clock Tower

Found in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the Abraj Al-Bait Clock Tower serves as a hotel, often for travelers making the Hajj to the Kaaba. At 1,972 ft, it is the world's 3rd tallest building



## Shanghai Tower

Over the last thirty years China has built hundreds of skyscrapers. Shanghai Tower, at 2,073 ft. is the tallest of them and the second tallest building in the world.



## International Commerce Center

Hong Kong has the most skyscrapers of any city in the world. Of these the International Commerce Center comes in as the tallest at a height of 1588 ft.



# Find It Maps

Use these maps to help you find all of this week's geographic features!

## Statues      Bridges, Tunnels, and Canals      Skyscrapers

- |                                   |                              |                                  |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Leshan Giant Buddha            | 10) Tower Bridge             | 18) SMART Tunnel                 | 26) Burj Khalifa                  |
| 2) Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue | 11) Johor-Singapore Causeway | 19) Seikan Tunnel                | 27) Taipei 101                    |
| 3) Moai                           | 12) Millau Viaduct           | 20) Guoliang Tunnel Road         | 28) Petronas Towers               |
| 4) Cristo Redentor                | 13) Akashi Kaikyō Bridge     | 21) TAZARA Railroad              | 29) Abraj Al-Bait Clock Tower     |
| 5) Motherland Calls               | 14) Stari Most               | 22) Gotthard Base Tunnel         | 30) Shanghai Tower                |
| 6) Spring Temple Buddha           | 15) Rialto Bridge            | 23) Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal | 31) International Commerce Center |
| 7) The Sphinx                     | 16) Danyang Kushan Bridge    | 24) Suez Canal                   |                                   |
| 8) Little Mermaid                 | 17) Channel Tunnel           | 25) Panama Canal                 |                                   |
| 9) Statue of Unity                |                              |                                  |                                   |





# Gathering Places

Some events in history involved masses of people coming together. Some gathering are for protest and rebellion while others are for sport and celebration. Gathering places allow for events to be experienced by many people at once. Even with the inventions of radio, television, and the internet, there is something special about being there.

## Maracana Stadium

A sports arena in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Maracanã Stadium has hosted some of the largest sporting events in history including multiple World Cups and the Olympics. While remodeled to a smaller size, the original design could hold 200,000 people, which it did for the 1950 World Cup final.



## Coliseum

One of the most iconic features of the Roman Empire, the Coliseum was a sporting arena that held many events in ancient Rome. Built in the first century AD, the Coliseum could hold about 80,000 spectators, which is about the capacity of Met Life Stadium.



## Sydney Opera House

One of Australia's most recognizable features, the Sydney Opera House is a historic piece of architecture and a performing arts center that hosts 1,500 events each year.



## Teatro Colón

Considered one of the finest concert venues in the world, Teatro Colón is in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Originally finished in 1908, the building has attracted many of the world's greatest performers. It was fully refurbished in 2010 in celebration of Argentina's bicentennial.



## Tiananmen Square

Tiananmen Square is a plaza in Beijing that contains monuments celebrating leaders of the Communist Revolution.

In 1989 hundreds of protesters were killed by government troops after martial law was declared, an event known as the Tiananmen Square Massacre.



## Azadi Square

Azadi Square in Tehran has seen two large protests over the last 40 years. First, protesters demanded the removal of the Shah, a US backed puppet government.

Later, the younger generation protested the fundamentalist government that replaced it.



## Gwangwamun Square

In recent history, massive protests in Seoul, South Korea were successful in forcing the impeachment of President Geun-Hye Park on corruption charges. At its peak, 1.9 million people were protesting in the streets of Seoul.





# Religious Sites

Whether you are religious or not, it can't be denied that religion has played a major role in both human history and culture. These sites are famous places of worship or holy locations that are important to their religion.

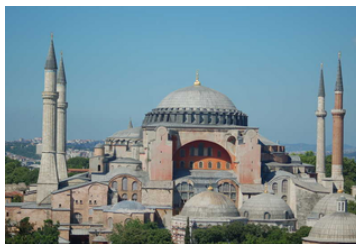
## al-Masjid al-Ḥarām

A mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, this is the home of the Kabba, the holiest object in Islam. By tradition, all Muslims are expected to make a pilgrimage to visit the Kabba once during their life, a journey called the Hajj.



## Hagia Sofia

The Hagia Sofia has had a long, but rocky history. Built with by the Byzantines in 537 AD as a cathedral in Constantinople (now Istanbul), it was converted to a mosque when the Ottoman's conquered Constantinople in 1453 and it is now a museum in Turkey.



## Notre Dame

An unfinished cathedral in Paris, France is one of the most famous and recognizable buildings in the world. A fire in 2018 damaged the building and while it is repairable, it is a reminder that many of the wonders of history are fragile and many are lost forever.



## Rock-Hewn Churches of Lalibela

Ethiopia is one of the oldest Christian kingdoms in the world. These churches were ordered by King Lalibela of Aksum and were built directly into solid stone about 900 years ago. A system of tunnels connects many of them.



## Angkor Wat

Although originally created as a Hindu Temple, Angkor Wat grew into a large Buddhist complex in the 12th century. Angkor Wat is in Cambodia and is one of the greatest remaining examples of the Khmer architecture style.



## Borobudur

The world's largest Buddhist temple, Borobudur was built on the Indonesian island of Java in the 9th century before being abandoned in the 14th century when the majority of people of Java converted to Islam.



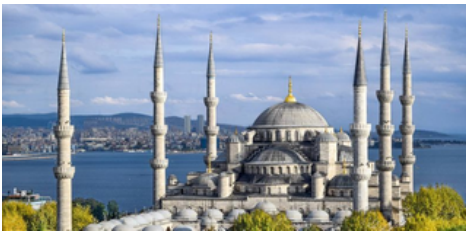
## Mosque Djenné

A religious structure in Mali, this is the largest adobe structure in the world. This building was one of the centerpieces of the Mali Empire. Originally built in the 14th century, the current building is over 100 years old which is impressive when you consider that its made from mudbrick.



## Sultan Ahmed Mosque

Called "The Jewel of Istanbul" or just "The Blue Mosque," this religious building in Turkey is an Ottoman take on the Hagia Sofia.



## St. Peter's Basilica

Arguably the masterpiece of renaissance architecture, St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican is one of the holiest places to the Catholic religion. Partly designed by and containing many of the works of Michelangelo, it is also the largest church in the world.



## St. Stephen's Cathedral

Located in Vienna, Austria, St. Stephen's was built in 1160 AD and was the site of many important in the history of the Hapsburg and Austro-Hungarian Empires.



## St. Basil's Cathedral

While it is one of the most iconic buildings in Moscow, there are no other buildings in Russia that share its unique style. St. Basil's was built in the 16th century as an Orthodox Church and was fortunate to survive Soviet rule.



## Sagrada Familia

An unfinished cathedral in Barcelona, Spain, the Sagrada Familia is a beautiful and unique piece of architecture.

Construction began in 1882, but controversies and lack of funds have stalled its completion for over a century.



## Brihadisavara Temple

A temple complex dedicated to the Hindu deity Shiva in Thanjuvar, India, Brihadisavara is about 1,000 years old. Besides its religious significance, the temple is one of the greatest examples of Dravidian architecture.



## Dome of the Rock

A holy site to the Muslim faith in the Old City of Jerusalem, the Dome of the Rock is built on top of the Foundation Stone, the holiest site to the Jewish faith. The fact that only Muslims are allowed to enter the shrine is one of the many religious tensions in the Middle East.



## Prambanan

The second largest Hindu temple in the world, Prambanan is on the Indonesian island of Java. Built in 850 AD, it, like its neighbor Borobudur, was abandoned when Islam became the island's dominant religion.





# Towers

People can't fly. That might explain why they like building things that touch the sky. These towers serve different purposes, but all of them show mankind's love of elevation.

## Eiffel Tower

Built for the 1889 World's Fair in Paris, France, the Eiffel Tower has become the most visited monument in the world. It was the tallest structure in the world for 41 years and is the subject of many stories and legends, like that of "Count" Victor Lustig, the man who sold the tower twice.

The tower is a regular feature in film, literature, and photography.



## CN Tower

A freestanding mixed use tower in Toronto, Canada, the CN Tower is the tallest structure in the western hemisphere. Like most towers of this type, it is used for both radio/television broadcasting and as a tourist attraction.



## Tower of Pisa

This bell tower in Pisa, Italy probably wouldn't be famous except for the fact it was built on soft ground and leans about 4 degrees. Construction on the tower began in the 12th century, which is a long time to be leaning.

Work was done to stabilize the tower in the 1990s as the tilt had increased to 6 degrees.



## Tokyo Skytree

A broadcast tower in Tokyo, Japan, the Tokyo Skytree is the tallest tower in the world if you count the antenna.



## Stele

Obelisks in Ethiopia, the Stele were built in the Empire of Aksum. Made from stone the largest of these, called The Obelisk of Aksum (pictured), was built in the 4th century and is 79 ft. tall.



## Galata Tower

A medieval stone tower in Istanbul, Turkey, Galata Tower overlooks most of the historic landmarks in this city that is filled with them.



# Find It Maps

Use these maps to help you find all of this week's geographic features!

## Gathering Places

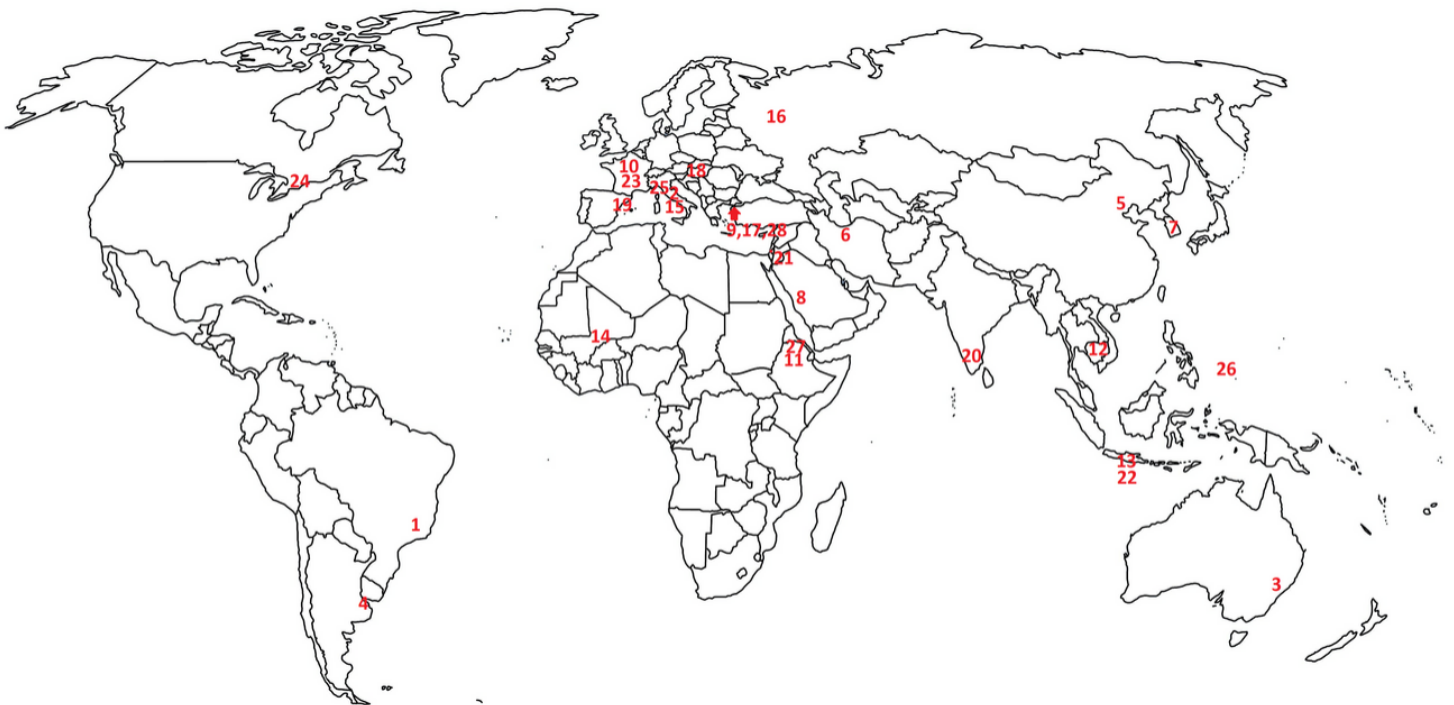
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- 4) Teatro Colón
- 5) Tiananmen Square
- 6) Azadi Square
- 7) Gwangwamun Square

## Religious Sites

- 8) al-Masjid al-Ḥarām
- 9) Hagia Sofia
- 10) Notre Dame
- 11) Rock Hewn Churches of Lalibela
- 12) Angkor Wat
- 13) Borobudur
- 14) Mosque Djenne
- 15) St. Peter's Basilica
- 16) St. Basil's Cathedral
- 17) Sultan Ahmed Mosque
- 18) St. Stephen's Cathedral
- 19) Sagrada Familia
- 20) Bhrihadisavara Temple
- 21) Dome of the Rock
- 22) Prambanan

## Towers

- 23) Eiffel Tower
- 24) CN Tower
- 25) Tower of Pisa
- 26) Tokyo Skytree
- 27) Stele
- 28) Galata Tower





# Historic Sites

Taking many different forms, these places are famous because of their age and their relationship to important events of the past. All of the listed sites can still be visited today.

## Acropolis

An ancient citadel in Athens, Greece, the Acropolis was the political center of Athens during the Golden Age of Athens, thought to be the world's first democratic government. The construction of the iconic buildings on the Acropolis was supervised by Pericles in the 5th century BC.



## Isandlwana

A battlefield in South Africa, Isandlwana was the site of one of the most famous routs in military history. The British Army, thought to be the most powerful force in the world, was defeated by the Zulu led by Shaka, even though the British possessed far superior weapons.



## Pantheon

A classical temple from the first century AD, the Pantheon is the best preserved building from ancient Rome, giving us a glimpse at the architecture and art from that era.



## Great Pyramid of Giza

The largest structure of the ancient world, the Great Pyramid still stands at 481 feet tall. Completed in around 2500 BC, the Great Pyramid was an amazing accomplishment, particularly considering that technologies like the pulley and the wheel were not yet available.



## Chichen Itza

Located on the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, Chichen Itza is a city containing the largest and most studied of the Mayan Pyramids. Named "El Castillo", the pyramid is 98 feet tall and is around 1000 years old. This pyramid seems to have been a temple and was built directly over another smaller and older temple.



## Machu Picchu

A citadel in the Andes Mountains, Machu Picchu was built by the Inca. Machu Picchu remained undiscovered by Europeans until the mid 19th century, so it is much better preserved than other Inca cities that were destroyed by conquistadors.



## Brandenburg Gate

Built in the 18th century as a gate to the city of Berlin, Germany, the Brandenburg Gate has been the site of many of Germany's historic events, both violent and peaceful. This landmark serves as a symbol both of Europe's tumultuous, war-stricken past and also as a symbol of hope for a more peaceful future.



## Taj Mahal

A mausoleum in Agra, India, the Taj Mahal is considered by many to be the world's most beautiful building. Its construction was ordered by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in 1632 and is the most iconic example of their architecture.



## Lahore Fort

A Mughal Fort in Lahore, Pakistan, the fort is both a historic military location and a beautiful park.



## Hiroshima Peace Garden

This park in Japan was created to remember the dropping of an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima in World War II. There are memorials both to remember the people who died as well as to document the horrors of nuclear weapons and to advocate for peace.



## Stonehenge

A circle of standing stones in the British countryside, Stonehenge is a prehistoric monument that may have been a burial ground. The recent discovery of another massive monument in the area may give more information about the purpose of this early engineering marvel.



## Arc de Triomphe

The French Revolution shook the world and altered history. The revolution symbolically started with the storming of the Bastille, a Parisian prison. The Arc de Triomphe in Paris is a memorial to those who died in the revolution and the Napoleonic Wars that followed.



## Himeji Castle

Resting on a hill in Hyōgo, Japan, Himeji castle is the finest standing example of classic Japanese castle architecture.

Built in the 1500's, the castle was given as a gift to a Daimyo for his help in the Battle of Sekigahara, a pivotal moment in Japanese history. Having survived major earthquakes and the bombings of World War II, the condition of Himeji Castle is a historic miracle.



## Hadrian's Wall

A Roman fortification in the UK, Hadrian's Wall was used by the Romans to defend their captured lands in Britain. While most of the wall was plundered as a source of free stone, some sections in the highlands can still be seen today.



## National Palace

Built in the same location as the seat of the Aztec Empire, the National Palace has been the political center of Mexico for 500 years. It is built from many of the same materials that were used in the palace of Montezuma II. The National Palace is in Mexico City.





# Historic Cities

Cities are places where people lived. Cities are constantly changing to keep up with the demands of their people, but sometimes cities are abandoned or neighborhoods are preserved, giving us a look at how life was long ago.

## Cartagena

A city in Colombia, Cartagena was an Imperial Spanish settlement. There you will find Castillo de San Felipe de Barajas, a well preserved Spanish fort, and Old Town, a neighborhood with well preserved traditional architecture. Cartagena gives the world of glimpse of colonial life in South America.



## The Great Zimbabwe

The largest medieval stone ruin found in southern Africa, the Great Zimbabwe was likely a seat of power in the Kingdom of Zimbabwe. Occupied from the 11th to 14th centuries, the modern country Zimbabwe where it is located takes its name from this civilization and the ruins themselves are a national monument,...



## Karnak

A temple complex near Luxor, Egypt, Karnak is called by some "The World's Greatest Open Air Museum". Hieroglyphics, architecture, and sculpture of Ancient Egypt can be seen here in its original context. Historic places rarely survive as well preserved as the ruins of Karnak, making it popular among tourists and archaeologists alike.



## Stone Town

A neighborhood in Zanzibar, Tanzania, Stone Town combines Swahili, Islamic and European influences to create a blend of culture and architecture like nowhere else in the world. The oldest buildings here date back to the 17th century.



## Persepolis

A ruined city in Iran, Persepolis was the capital of the Achaemenid Empire, an ancient Persian civilization. The ruins are one of the last examples of the Achaemenid architecture style and contain bas-relief artwork and inscriptions from this powerful historic civilization that was once the largest in the world.



## Mohenjo-Daro

A ruined city in Pakistan, Mohenjo-Daro was a large metropolis in the Indus Valley civilization. This site has taught archeologists much about the people of this region, including their advances in civil engineering that including bath and drainage systems that were unheard of in 2500 BC when the city was occupied.



## Petra

A historic city in Jordan, Petra is carved directly into the wall of a gorge. Called The Rose City due to the color of the stone, Petra is a unique cultural landmark that shows off the creativity and determination of humans. New excavations are taking place on the site that could uncover more information about the city.



## Quito Old Town

A district in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, Quito Old Town is filled with historic Spanish architecture. With churches and basilicas built across four centuries, Quito Old Town contains a wealth of cultural and religious history.



# Find It Maps

Use these maps to help you find all of this week's geographic features!

## Historic Sites

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Acropolis             | 9) Lahore Fort             |
| 2) Isandlwana            | 10) Hiroshima Peace Garden |
| 3) Pantheon              | 11) Stonehenge             |
| 4) Great Pyramid of Giza | 12) Arc de Triomphe        |
| 5) Chichen Itza          | 13) Himeji Castle          |
| 6) Machu Picchu          | 14) Hadrian's Wall         |
| 7) Brandenburg Gate      | 15) National Palace        |

## Historic Cities

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| 16) Cartagena          |
| 17) The Great Zimbabwe |
| 18) Karnak             |
| 19) Stone Town         |
| 20) Persepolis         |
| 21) Mohenjo-Dojo       |
| 22) Petra              |
| 23) Quito Old Town     |





# Political Sites

While human history is filled with war, the greatest achievements of humanity are all driven by people working together. These buildings are related to governments, the organizations that people use to pool their resources and do things greater than themselves.

## Big Ben

A clock tower in London, Big Ben sits on the North Side of the Palace of Westminster, the seat of the British Parliament. Big Ben was finished in 1859 while Britain was the largest empire in history.



## Kremlin

Kremlins are forts built in Russia, but when people talk about "The Kremlin" they are referring to the Moscow Kremlin, which serves as the seat of the Russian Government.



## United Nations

With its headquarters in New York City, the United Nations is an international diplomatic organization whose mission is to resolve global issues and maintain peace. The United Nations recognizes 193 countries as members.



## Reichstag

The seat of government in Germany, the Reichstag was severely damaged in a fire that was used by Hitler to secure power, an event that would lead to World War II and the Holocaust. Rebuilt in 1960's, the Reichstag has seen Germany reunify as a democracy and become one of the most influential nations in the world.



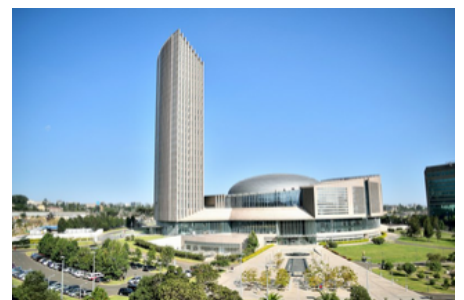
## Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban

The seat of government in Bangladesh, The National Parliament Building is a unique building designed by famed architect Louis Kahn. Built on the banks of three lakes it is one of the largest legislative buildings in the world.



## African Union

With headquarters in Addis Ababa Ethiopia, the African Union is a diplomatic organization similar to the United Nations, but focuses on the issues of the continent of Africa. 55 countries are recognized as members.



# Extreme Architecture

Humans can do some amazing things when they put their mind to it. Adding to some of the extreme tunnels and skyscrapers listed elsewhere in this packet, here are some other incredible engineering feats.

## 3 Gorges Dam

The largest dam in the world, the 3 Gorges spans the Yangtze River in China. With 32 turbines it is the world's largest power station. While it is a major source of renewable energy, the dam's construction displaced over a million people and destroyed surrounding ecosystems and cultural sites.



## Deltaworks

Much of the Netherlands is below sea level making it vulnerable to flooding. It also has an extremely long coastline, making it difficult to create flood barriers. The Deltaworks is a system of dams, locks, levies, dikes, and sluices that work together to shorten the country's coastline and make it easier to protect.



## Palm Islands

The city of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates is very rich and likes to do big things. The Palm Islands are artificial islands that are being built to look like Palm Trees, a truly audacious display of wealth. Of the three planned, only one has been completed.



## Large Hadron Collider

The world's largest machine can be found deep underground near the border of France and Switzerland. The Large Hadron Collider contains 17 miles of tunnels used to run experiments on particles that will hopefully help scientists answer difficult physics questions.



## Itaipu Dam

Found on the Parana River between Paraguay and Brazil, the Itaipu Dam is a large power generation facility. The building of this dam caused Guaira Falls, at that point the world's largest waterfall by volume, to become inundated by the dam's reservoir.



## Bailong Elevator

The highest and heaviest outdoor elevator in the world, the Bailong Elevator is built into the side of a cliff in Zhangjiajie, China. Made for sightseeing, the trip up takes about two minutes.



## Great Wall

Built by multiple Chinese dynasties over hundreds of years, this is a series of fortifications in Northern China intended to defend against various nomad groups and enforce taxes on trade goods. The best preserved sections were built by the Ming Dynasty in 14th-16th centuries.





# Museums

Museums are collections of the history of our world. They document the culture and achievements of humans through time. Having so many relics and great works of art organized together in a single place makes museums one of the best places for those interested in history and art to visit.

## Forbidden Palace

Formerly the Palace of the Emperor of China, the Forbidden Palace in Beijing is now the world's largest museum. The museum's massive collection gives visitors a tour of China's history and the grounds themselves were the setting where over two thousand years of historic decisions were made.



## Louvre

Right in the center of Paris, France, the Louvre is the world's largest art museum. It has eight collections including antiquities from Greece, Rome, Egypt and the Islamic Caliphates as well as some of the world's most famous paintings and sculptures, like the Mona Lisa.



## Uffizi

It should not be surprising that a museum in Florence, Italy has the world's largest collection of Renaissance art. Uffizi has been open to the public since 1865 and includes works by Raphael, Michelangelo, Botticelli, and Leonardo di Vinci.

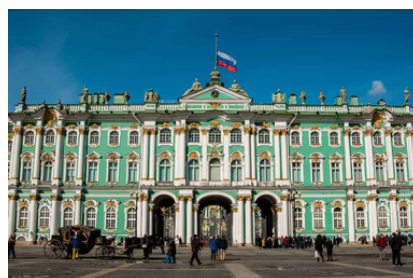


## Museum of Egyptian Antiquities

During the colonial period many artifacts were taken from Egypt by European archeologists. While the British Museum still has a large collection, the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo, Egypt has recovered many of them and now has the world's largest collections of items from ancient Egyptian.

## The Hermitage

Opening in 1852 in St. Petersburg, the Hermitage has largest collections on paintings in the world. With over 3 million total items, the collection is very broad with focuses of Russian works, renaissance art, and antiquities.



## National Palace Museum

Never to be outdone by Beijing, the National Palace museum in Taipei, Taiwan has over 700,000 items going back through 8,000 years of Chinese history. This museum shares its roots with the Forbidden Palace: part of that collection was transported to Taiwan during the Chinese Communist Revolution and used to start this museum.

# Find It Maps

Use these maps to help you find all of this week's geographic features!

## Political Sites

- 1) Big Ben
- 2) Kremlin
- 3) United Nations
- 4) Reichstag
- 5) Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban
- 6) African Union

## Extreme

### Architecture

- 7) 3 Gorges Dam
- 8) Deltaworks
- 9) Palm Islands
- 10) Large Hadron Collider
- 11) Itaipu Dam
- 12) Bailong Elevator
- 13) Great Wall

## Museums

- 14) Forbidden Palace
- 15) Louvre
- 16) Uffizi
- 17) Museum of Egyptian Antiquities
- 18) The Hermitage
- 19) National Palace Museum

