

## Louvre art museum opens in Abu Dhabi

### Elementary

#### 1 Warmer

These are some of the most famous art museums in the world. Can you match the museums with the cities in which you can find them?

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. the Hermitage   | a. London           |
| 2. the Prado       | b. New York         |
| 3. the Rijksmuseum | c. Madrid           |
| 4. the Tate Modern | d. Paris            |
| 5. the Louvre      | e. Saint Petersburg |
| 6. the Guggenheim  | f. Amsterdam        |

#### 2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences with these key words from the text. The paragraph numbers will help you.

exhibit

architect

valuable

peninsula

ancient

1. If something is \_\_\_\_\_, it is worth a lot of money. (para 1)
2. An \_\_\_\_\_ is something you can look at in a museum. (para 2)
3. If something is \_\_\_\_\_, it relates to people who lived thousands of years ago. (para 2)
4. An \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who designs buildings. (para 3)
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a long piece of land with water on three sides. (para 3)

#### 3 Find the information

Find the following information in the text as quickly as possible.

1. Where is the largest art museum in the world?
2. How many people visited the Louvre in 2016?
3. When did the Louvre open?
4. How many works of art are there in the Louvre?
5. Where is the new Louvre museum?
6. How much has it cost?

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#### Louvre art museum opens in Abu Dhabi

7 December, 2017

- 1 What is the most famous art museum in the world? For many people, the answer is probably the Louvre in Paris. It is the largest art museum in the world and it also has more visitors than any other art museum. In 2016, more than 7.3 million people visited the Louvre. Many of those people probably wanted to see its most famous painting, the *Mona Lisa*, painted by Leonardo da Vinci in about 1503. The *Mona Lisa* is also the world's most valuable painting at 800 million dollars.
- 2 The Louvre opened in 1793. Today, it contains 380,000 exhibits and 35,000 works of art, including paintings by Raphael and Michelangelo. The museum is very large, with a total area of more than 72,000 square metres. Apart from paintings, the museum also has works of art from Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome.
- 3 Now, there is a new Louvre art museum in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. It was designed by the French architect Jean Nouvel and is the result of an agreement between the French government and the government of Abu Dhabi. Construction of the new museum began in 2007 and it has cost around 100 million euros. It is situated on Saadiyat Island in Abu Dhabi and is the largest art museum in the Arabian Peninsula at 24,000 square metres.
- 4 The French President, Emmanuel Macron, opened the new Louvre on 8 November, 2017. The museum will show works of art from the Middle East as well as works of art from the Louvre in Paris. The directors of the museum hope that it will be a bridge between East and West. There are also plans to build a Guggenheim museum and other museums on Saadiyat Island.

#### 4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings to the endings to make statements about the text.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. The Louvre in Paris has ...                | a. ... designed the new Louvre in Abu Dhabi.                 |
| 2. The most famous painting in the Louvre ... | b. ... more visitors than any other art museum in the world. |
| 3. Most visitors to the Louvre want ...       | c. ... opened by the French President, Emmanuel Macron.      |
| 4. The French architect Jean Nouvel ...       | d. ... has cost around 100 million euros to build.           |
| 5. The new Louvre ...                         | e. ... is the <i>Mona Lisa</i> .                             |
| 6. The new Louvre was ...                     | f. ... to see the <i>Mona Lisa</i> .                         |

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#### 5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. art in largest museum the world the
2. most world's painting the valuable
3. 72,000 more square than metres
4. Ancient art of from Egypt works
5. between West and a East bridge
6. the in world the famous most museum art

#### 6 Two-word phrases

Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. total   | a. museum    |
| 2. square  | b. area      |
| 3. art     | c. Peninsula |
| 4. Arabian | d. metres    |

#### 7 Prepositions

Complete the phrases from the text using these prepositions.

around

of

in

between

1. works \_\_\_\_\_ art
2. an agreement \_\_\_\_\_ France and Abu Dhabi
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 100 million euros
4. opened \_\_\_\_\_ 1793

#### 8 Discussion

- What was the last art museum you visited?
- Have you visited any of the art museums from activity 1? Which one would you most like to visit?
- Do you like visiting art museums? Why? Why not?

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#### KEY

#### 1 Warmer

1. e
2. c
3. f
4. a
5. d
6. b

#### 2 Key words

1. valuable
2. exhibit
3. ancient
4. architect
5. peninsula

#### 3 Find the information

1. Paris
2. more than 7.3 million
3. 1793
4. 35,000
5. Abu Dhabi (in the United Arab Emirates)
6. around 100 million euros

#### 4 Comprehension check

1. b
2. e
3. f
4. a
5. d
6. c

#### 5 Chunks

1. the largest art museum in the world
2. the world's most valuable painting
3. more than 72,000 square metres
4. works of art from Ancient Egypt
5. a bridge between East and West
6. the most famous art museum in the world

#### 6 Two-word phrases

1. b
2. d
3. a
4. c

#### 7 Prepositions

1. of
2. between
3. around
4. in