

Hello students of class 10a,

We can't have our English lessons on Tuesday because of the "Kompetenztest Englisch", that I have to do in class 8.

So, I'd like you to work on the following "reading corner". Please, ***print the worksheets, do all the tasks and bring them to school on Wednesday (28<sup>th</sup> February)!!!***

See you,

S. Schünemann

## Wonders of our world



Pyramids of Giza



Christ the Redeemer statue

1 More than 2,000 years ago seven monuments  
 were named 'wonders of the world' by the Greeks.  
 All of these buildings and monuments are gone  
 now except for one – the Pyramids of Giza in  
 5 Egypt. So in 2000 a man named Bernard Weber  
 decided that the world needed new wonders. He  
 and his team made a list of 200 monuments from  
 all around the world. Then people from all the  
 different countries could vote for their favourite  
 10 'wonder' on the internet or by telephone. Some of  
 the monuments on the list were Neuschwanstein  
 Castle in Füssen (Germany), the Eiffel Tower in  
 Paris (France), the Statue of Liberty in New York  
 (United States) and Stonehenge in Wiltshire  
 15 (England). However, these monuments did not  
 make it onto the list of the New 7 Wonders of the  
 World. The winners were the city of Petra in  
 Jordan, the Great Wall of China, the city of  
 Chichén Itzá in Mexico, the city of Machu Picchu  
 20 in Peru, the Colosseum in Rome, the Christ the  
 Redeemer<sup>1</sup> statue in Rio de Janeiro and the Taj  
 Mahal in India. The announcement was made on  
 7th July 2007, or 07.07.07, and 7 Wonders Day is  
 celebrated every year on 7th July.

25 These monuments have a number of things in  
 common. They were all built by people, they are  
 in good condition, they are respected because of  
 their architecture and beauty, they are known all  
 over the world and they celebrate different  
 30 cultures. Because the internet does not work very  
 well in some areas, not everybody around the  
 world had the same chance to vote and so some  
 people were critical of the project.  
 One of the monuments that was voted onto the  
 35 list is the Taj Mahal in India. It was built between  
 1632 and 1648 by the emperor<sup>2</sup> Shah Jahan for his  
 favourite princess, Mumtaz Mahal, who had died  
 the year before. The building was a present to her  
 and a symbol of his love. Her body was brought to  
 40 the Taj Mahal later and her husband's body was  
 also brought there when he died in 1666.  
 When most people think of the Taj Mahal, they  
 think of the big white building where the two  
 bodies are kept. All of the building is made of  
 45 white marble<sup>3</sup> with colourful stones, gold, floral<sup>4</sup>  
 designs and writing. It is called a jewel of Muslim  
 art. The size of the building also impress visitors.



The seven wonders of the world

In the middle it is 115 metres high. If the Taj Mahal were built today, it would cost 827 million US dollars. More than 20,000 different people worked on the building and more than 1,000 elephants were used to transport building materials<sup>5</sup>.



The Taj Mahal

1 redeemer [ˈriːdiːmə] – *Erlöser*, 2 emperor [ˈempəɹə] – *Kaiser*, 3 marble [ˈmɑːbl] – *Marmor*, 4 floral [ˈflɔːrəl] – *Blumen* ..., 5 material [məˈtɪəriəl] – *Material*, 6 brick [brɪk] – *Backstein*, 7 mosque [ˈmɒsk] – *Moschee*

Taj Mahal is more than just the main white building. There are beautiful gardens and peaceful pools around it and at one end there is a guest house made with red bricks<sup>6</sup>. The Taj Mahal is a religious place too. There is a mosque<sup>7</sup> also built of red bricks and the main building has four towers. But the Taj Mahal is more than just buildings and gardens and it wouldn't be a wonder of the world if it didn't also have magic and mystery. The 6 million visitors every year shouldn't just see the Taj Mahal – or any of the other wonders; they should feel it. They should discover it as a real place of beauty and love. After they visit, it should be connected to their own lives. They should leave a little part of themselves at the monument and carry part of the Taj Mahal in their soul when they leave. And it doesn't matter if you are Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Sikh or any other religion. Places of wonder draw attention to what we have in common. That's why the old wonders named by the Greeks and the new wonders named by us are so important.

## 1 Complete the map on page 39. → ○ ☞

- Label the New 7 Wonders of the World on the map.
- Can you find the location of other monuments from the list that didn't win? Mark them on the map.
- Put a red circle around the ones you have heard of before. If you have visited any of them, put a blue circle around them.

## 2 Match the numbers with the information. → ○ ☞

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 1. 2000     | A This is the year in which the Taj Mahal was finished.                   |
| 2. 200      | B This is the number of monuments on Bernard Weber's list.                |
| 3. 7th July | C This is how many millions of US dollars the Taj Mahal would cost today. |
| 4. 1648     | D This is the year Bernard Weber started his new 7 wonders project.       |
| 5. 115      | E This is the date of 7 Wonders Day.                                      |
| 6. 827      | F This number says how many metres high the Taj Mahal is in the middle.   |

3 Make sentences about the text.

- |                                  |                            |                              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Greeks choose seven monuments | 7 Wonders Day              | celebrate different cultures |
| 2. Bernard Weber and his team    | make list of 200 monuments | 2,000 years ago              |
| 3. all new monuments             | + of the Taj Mahal         | + celebrate                  |
| 4. every year on 7 July          | in good condition          | people can vote              |
| 5. most famous part              | call wonders of the world  | big white building           |

- The Greeks chose seven monuments and called them wonders of the world 2,000 years ago.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

4 Skimming the text.

- Skim each part of the text.
- Underline important words and ideas.
- Write a headline for each part of the text.
- What's each part of the text about? Sum it up in one sentence.

Skim the text:  
Überfliege den Text.  
Erfasse das Wesentliche.

Scan the text:  
Suche gezielt nach  
Informationen im Text.

5 Scan the text and answer these questions.

- Whose idea was the competition for the new seven wonders? It was Bernard Weber's idea.
- Who was allowed to vote? \_\_\_\_\_
- Why were some people critical of the competition? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which monument was built by an emperor? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where are the bodies kept at the Taj Mahal? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many animals helped build this monument? \_\_\_\_\_
- What do places of wonder do for us? \_\_\_\_\_