

The Statue of Liberty

Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Have you ever been to New York?
If so, have you seen the Statue of Liberty?
2. Look at the picture of the Statue of Liberty.
How tall do you think it is?
3. Do you know where the Statue of Liberty was built?
4. What does the Statue of Liberty symbolize?
5. What kind of public statues are there in
your city or town? What do they represent?



B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.

Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

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|--------------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. torch | a) normal or regular |
| _____ 2. entire | b) to give something without expecting a payment |
| _____ 3. ordinary | c) a large box for transporting large items |
| _____ 4. donate | d) a statue or piece of art that represents something important |
| _____ 5. fund-raising campaign | e) a place that people go to see or visit |
| _____ 6. pedestal | f) a flame on a stick |
| _____ 7. crate | g) a group effort to raise money for an event or thing |
| _____ 8. harbor | h) the place where boats dock |
| _____ 9. monument | i) the whole thing or amount |
| _____ 10. site | j) a thing that is inherited or important to one's history |
| _____ 11. heritage | k) a base that a tall or important item stands upon |

Reading

1. The Statue of Liberty is found at the entrance to New York **Harbor** on a small island known as Liberty Island.
2. The official name of this copper and steel structure is "Liberty Enlightening the World." The statue is of a woman with a book in one hand and a **torch** held high in her other hand. It stands on top of a giant pedestal. The **entire** structure is 305 feet (about 93 meters) tall from the ground to the tip of the torch.
3. The statue was a gift from the people of France to the people of the United States to celebrate America's independence and its democratic way of life. It has come to represent political freedom for new immigrants to America and is known around the world.
4. **Ordinary** citizens of both countries paid for the project by **donating** to **fund-raising campaigns**. American people paid for the **pedestal**, and French people paid for the statue.
5. Construction began in the 1880s. The statue was built in France and then broken down into 350 pieces, which were packed into 214 **crates** and shipped to the United States in July 1884. The ship arrived in New York Harbor a year later. It took four months to put the statue back together and place it on the top of the pedestal.
6. The completed statue and pedestal were dedicated by President Grover Cleveland on October 28, 1886. A million people attended the parade and other festivities that were held that day to celebrate the event.
7. In October 1924, the Statue of Liberty became a national **monument**. In 1965, Ellis Island, a famous New York entry point for new immigrants to the United States, became part of this national monument.
8. A restoration project on the statue took place from 1984 to 1986 at a cost of \$87 million. During this time, UNESCO named the Statue of Liberty a World **Heritage** Site. The **site** reopened on Liberty Weekend, July 3–6, 1986, 100 years after the original dedication.

*"Give me your
tired, your poor,
your huddled
masses yearning
to breathe free."*

—Inscription on the Statue of Liberty's pedestal. From a poem called *New Colossus* by Emma Lazarus.

Comprehension

A. True or False?

Read the statements below.

If the statement is true, write T beside the sentence.

If it is false, write F and correct the information.

- _____ 1. The Statue of Liberty was a present to the Americans from the people of France.
- _____ 2. The pedestal is 305 feet tall.
- _____ 3. Both American and French people contributed to the cost of the statue.
- _____ 4. The Statue of Liberty is located on Ellis Island.
- _____ 5. The Statue of Liberty is both a national monument and a World Heritage site.

B. Ask and Answer

Practice asking and answering the following questions with your partner.

Then write your answers in complete sentences in your notebook.

- 1. Where is the Statue of Liberty located?
- 2. What materials were used to make the statue?
- 3. Describe the Statue of Liberty.
- 4. Why did the people of France give the Statue of Liberty to the Americans?
- 5. What has the statue come to represent to new immigrants to America?
- 6. How was the statue transported from France to the United States?
- 7. Why did Ellis Island become part of the same national site where the Statue of Liberty is located?

Vocabulary Review

Choose the word or phrase with the closest meaning to the underlined word or phrase in the following sentences.

1. The Statue of Liberty stands on top of a giant pedestal.
 - a) building
 - b) support or base
 - c) rock
2. The statue is of a woman with a torch in one hand.
 - a) American flag
 - b) large book
 - c) burning light
3. The entire structure is 305 feet tall.
 - a) steel
 - b) whole
 - c) giant
4. Ordinary citizens helped pay for the statue.
 - a) regular
 - b) French
 - c) all
5. Ordinary citizens donated to fund-raising campaigns.
 - a) worked hard
 - b) helped build
 - c) gave money
6. The pieces of the statue were packed into crates.
 - a) big ships
 - b) large boxes
 - c) paper
7. The Statue of Liberty is found at the entrance to New York Harbor.
 - a) inlet
 - b) city
 - c) state
8. The Statue of Liberty is a national monument.
 - a) moment
 - b) something important
 - c) a statue or building that represents something
9. Ellis Island is part of this national site.
 - a) story
 - b) picture
 - c) place
10. The Statue of Liberty is a World Heritage Site.
 - a) famous in certain areas
 - b) coming from the past
 - c) regular

Discussion

1. The Statue of Liberty is a World Heritage Site. Name some other World Heritage Sites around the world.
2. Do you think it is important to maintain World Heritage Sites? Why or why not?
3. Who do you think should pay to maintain World Heritage Sites (the government of the country, the United Nations, etc.)?
4. Why do you think the American government chose New York Harbor as the place to locate the Statue of Liberty?
5. How many people do you think visit the Statue of Liberty every year?
6. Does the Statue of Liberty represent America's values today?