

# Unit 8: The World Around us

## Amazing Places

A. Look at these pages from the book *Amazing Places* by Miralda Colombo.

1

5

2

3

4

6

**Ready to Go?**

It's time for your guided tour through fifteen of the world's most remarkable monuments!

<b>A</b> Taj Mahal, India	4	<b>I</b> Neuschwanstein Castle, Germany	36
<b>B</b> Pyramid of Khufu, Egypt	8	<b>J</b> Petra, Jordan	40
<b>C</b> Great Wall of China, China	12	<b>K</b> Parthenon, Greece	44
<b>D</b> Moai, Easter Island	16	<b>L</b> Christ the Redeemer, Brazil	48
<b>E</b> Sagrada Familia, Spain	20	<b>M</b> Stonehenge, England	52
<b>F</b> Chichén Itzá, Mexico	24	<b>N</b> Angkor Wat, Cambodia	46
<b>G</b> Colosseum, Italy	28	<b>O</b> Sydney Opera House, Australia	60
<b>H</b> Machu Picchu, Peru	32		

Our world is a round globe, but maps are flat. A flat map can't perfectly show where all of the places are on a round globe because things look different on a round surface and on a flat surface. This map shows the globe's round surface on a flat surface.

**Tips for Travel**

There are incredible sights to see all over the world, whether you travel around the globe or just to the next town. The fifteen landmarks in this book are only a few among countless amazing places on every continent. No matter where your travels take you, remember to come with a curious mind that is ready to learn and grow from trying new things. Speak and act with kindness and respect for the people you meet. And try to leave a place the way you found it, so that others can enjoy it after you.

**What's the most amazing place you've ever seen?**

**Types of Places**

Here are some of the places or **monuments** you will find in this book. A monument is a building or piece of art that is important to history, celebrates an event or helps us remember a person.

**amphitheatre:** an outdoor performance space shaped like a circle, with seats surrounding the stage so everyone has a good view. The Colosseum is an amphitheatre built by the ancient Romans.

**castle:** a building where nobles or royalty live, usually surrounded by a moat or other protective features. Neuschwanstein Castle was designed to look like older European castles.

**cathedral:** a type of church run by a bishop. The Sagrada Familia is one of the most famous cathedrals in the Roman Catholic religion.

**city:** a large town. No one lives in the ancient cities of Machu Picchu, Petra and Chichén Itzá anymore, but their buildings still stand. You can visit and imagine what life used to be like there.

**mausoleum:** a monument or building with a tomb inside. A tomb is where a dead body is buried. The Taj Mahal and Pyramid of Khufu are both mausoleums.

**opera house:** a type of theatre where operas, ballets and other arts events are performed. The Sydney Opera House is one of the largest in the world.

**statue:** a piece of art that usually represents a person, animal or mythical being. Statues can be sculpted or carved from rock, metal or other materials. The Moai of Easter Island and Christ the Redeemer are statues.

**stone circle:** an arrangement of tall stones in a circle. These monuments are found across northern Europe and Great Britain, but the most famous is Stonehenge.

**temple:** a building used for worship or to show respect. In some religions, temples are considered the actual homes of gods or goddesses. The Parthenon and Angkor Wat are temples.

**watchtower:** a tall structure with openings for guards to look out of for signs of danger. There are many watchtowers all along the Great Wall of China.

A.1. Label the following with these words

heading, contents, glossary, text, caption, illustration

1		2	
3		4	
5		6	

## B. Visiting the Pyramids of Giza.

Read the following text carefully.

### Enter and Be Amazed



You'll find three main pyramids at Giza: the Pyramid of Khufu, the Pyramid of Khafro and the smallest of the three, the Pyramid of Menkaure.

Take a deep breath and enter the Pyramid of Khufu. Don't get scared. The climb through the narrow, dark corridors doesn't take long.



Cross the Grand Gallery, which is 47m long, and arrive at Pharaoh Khufu's burial chamber. Inside there is only an empty coffin, called a sarcophagus - Khufu's body has never been found.

Next to the Pyramid, discover a giant ship in its own museum. It is 44m long and was buried here around the same time as Pharaoh Khufu, more than 4,500 years ago.



### The Word to Know

The Ancient Egyptians wrote using symbols called hieroglyphs that were carved or painted on walls. Hieroglyphs represent objects, animals, people or actions.



### Pack Your Bag

- A keffiyeh, similar to a scarf that is worn on the head. It protects people from sunburn.
- It can get very hot during the day so pack a big bottle of water.



B.1 Answer these questions about the text.

1. This text is

fiction

Non-fiction

2. How do you know? Mention 3 features.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why has the author written this text?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Who would read this text?

\_\_\_\_\_

B.2. Scan the text for the words in bold in these questions. Then answer the questions.

1. Which are the **three main pyramids** at Giza?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How are the **corridors** in the Pyramid of Khufu?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How long is the **Grand Gallery**?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Why is the **sarcophagus** empty?

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5. Where can you see a **giant ship**?

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6. What do **hieroglyphs** represent?

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B.3. Draw lines to match words that have similar meanings.

small

narrow

dark

empty

giant

ancient

void

tight

massive

old

shadowy

tiny

B.4. Complete the table of features of information books by drawing lines to match.

Contents page
Heading
Main text
Pictures/diagrams or photos
Glossary

Tells you what the topic is about.
Illustrates information so you can understand the text better.
Gives you meaning of some difficult words you come across while reading.
Tells you on which pages you read about a topic.
Gives you information to read and think about.