

Famous Landmarks

STAGE 4



YELLOWSTONE PARK

Yellowstone National Park is actually a dormant volcano under the surface of the Earth. Lots of different animals live there, including elk, bobcats, wolves and bears.



MOUNT RUSHMORE MONUMENT

Mount Rushmore National Memorial is a sculpture carved from the rocks of Mount Rushmore. It was completed in 1941. It shows the faces of four US presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln



NIAGARA FALLS

Niagara Falls is actually three separate waterfalls. The largest of the three is called Horseshoe Falls. It lies across the border between the USA and Canada. It is the most powerful fall in North America. Over 168,000 m³ of water flow over it every minute.



GRAND CANYON

The Grand Canyon is 1 mile deep and is visited by 5.5 million people every year. It is 277 miles long and 18 miles wide at its widest point. You can reach the bottom by hiking, helicopter or mule rides.



GATEWAY ARCH

The Gateway Arch in St. Louis is the United State's tallest national monument. It is a phenomenal 630 feet tall. It was completed in 1965 and celebrates early pioneers heading out west.



EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

The Empire State Building is one of the most iconic skyscrapers in New York City. It is 102 stories high and measures 443.2m tall. It opened on May 1st, 1931. Until 1970, it was the world's tallest building. In the 1700s, the land where it stands was used as a farm.

RETRIEVAL FOCUS

1. Which monument stands 630 feet tall?
2. Yellowstone Park sits on the border of 3 states. Which are they?
3. Which is the most powerful waterfall in North America?
4. True or false: Mount Rushmore National Monument displays all of the Presidents of the United States?
5. When did the Empire State Building stop being the tallest building in the world?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

V

What does the word phenomenal tell you about the author's opinion on the height of the Gateway Arch?

S

What would a visitor have to do to get to the bottom of the Grand Canyon?

V

Which phrase tells you that Horseshoe Falls is in two different countries?

E

Look at the Empire State section. Why has the author included the fact at the end?

S

Which of the famous landmarks listed were man-made?

Answers:

1. Gateway Arch
2. Idaho, Wyoming, Montana
3. Horseshoe Falls (do not accept Niagara Falls as that is a collection of 3 separate falls)
4. False - only 4
5. 1970

V: The author thinks it is very high/surprisingly high

S: Either hike, take a helicopter ride, or ride a mule

V: It lies across the border between the USA and Canada

E: The idea of it being a farm contrasts with the tall building that it became. Accept answers that discuss this difference.

S: Empire State Building, Gateway Arch, Mount Rushmore National Monument