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# ASSIGNMENT#2

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French



Submitted by:

Saira Tariq (SP22-BDS-044)

Sabahat Tariq (SP22-BDS-042)

Mahnoor Awan (SP22-BDS-023)

Umma Noor (SP22-BDS-049)

Muhammad Ahmad (SP22-BDS-028)

Jawad Idrees (SP22-BDS-020)

# About Paris

Paris is more than a city; it's a living museum of art, emotion, and human creativity. Among its most iconic landmarks, the **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, **Arc de Triomphe**, and **Eiffel Tower** tell stories that go far beyond stone and steel. They echo with history, dreams, and the spirit of France itself.

Let's begin with the **Notre-Dame Cathedral**, the heart of Paris, which has stood for over 850 years. Rising on the Île de la Cité, it's not just a church, it's a masterpiece of Gothic imagination. The tall spires, stained glass windows, and mysterious gargoyles seem to whisper tales from the Middle Ages. A fascinating detail: each gargoyle was crafted with a unique face, inspired by real citizens of medieval Paris! When a devastating fire struck in 2019, the world wept — but it also united. Thousands donated to rebuild it, proving that Notre-Dame is more than architecture; it's a *symbol of resilience, faith, and French identity*.

A short walk away stands the **Arc de Triomphe**, a monument that radiates power and pride. Commissioned by Napoleon after his victory at Austerlitz, it celebrates those who fought for France. The intricate carvings on its surface tell stories of courage, sacrifice, and triumph. But here's a lesser-known twist: the Arc has seen not just parades, but also protests, peace marches, and even a daring airplane flight - yes, in 1919, pilot Charles Godefroy flew his plane through the arch! Beneath it burns the Eternal Flame, honoring unknown soldiers whose bravery shaped the nation.

And then there's the **Eiffel Tower**, the iron lady of Paris. When Gustave Eiffel built it in 1889, many called it an "eyesore." Today, it's the world's most visited paid monument and a universal symbol of love. The tower sparks every night for five minutes every hour, a glittering heartbeat of the city. During storms, it can sway up to 7 centimeters but remains perfectly safe. Recently, it's been repainted in a warmer shade called "Eiffel Tower Brown" to match modern Parisian aesthetics. Today, the Eiffel Tower stands as a **symbol of love, innovation, and French pride**, attracting over **7 million visitors** each year from around the world.

Together, these landmarks represent France's **cultural brilliance, historical pride, and architectural genius**. They remind the world that beauty can rise from stone, steel, and even ashes, timeless icons that continue to inspire millions.