Paris has got the Eiffel Tower, New York has got the Empire State Building and London has got the London Eye. The London Eye is an enormous Ferris wheel. It was built on the south bank of the River Thames. It has got 32 capsules for passengers. Each capsule holds 25 people who can sit on sits or walk around. The Ferris wheel travels 26 centimetres a second and each rotation takes 30 minutes.

The London Eye was the idea of architects of David Marks and Julia Barfield. When it was constructed in the late 1990s, it was called the Millennium Wheel. Marks and Barfield planned to open it on 31st December, 1990, to celebrate the new millennium. It was a gigantic project with hundreds of people working on its construction. Metal for the wheel came from the UK and the glass and cables were form Italy. Other parts were produced in Germany, France the Czech Republic and the Netherlands. Parts of the Ferris wheel were too big to transport through the streets of central London so they were taken down the River Thames on a boat.

The London Eye took 7 years to construct. The completed Ferris wheel is 135 metres tall and it’s the fourth tallest structure in London. It weighs 2100 tonnes, the same as 1272 London taxis. It can carry 800 people at a time, the equivalent of 11 red London buses! After it opened in March 2000, its name was changed to the London Eye. Since then, it has become one of London’s most famous landmarks. About 3.5 million passengers ride on it each year. The site is a popular attraction for tourists and Londoners. That isn’t surprising. The London Eye has got the best view in London. On a sunny day, from the top of the Eye you can see more than 40 kilometres north, south, east and west.

The London Eye, the Empire State Building and the Eiffel Tower are all…

1. Ferris wheels
2. Famous buildings
3. Landmarks
4. Rivers

One trip on the London Eye takes…

1. Half an hour
2. 60 minutes
3. An hour and a half
4. 26 minutes

The London Eye was built…

1. On 31st December, 1999
2. At the end of 19th century
3. In the year 2000
4. At the end of 20th century

Some parts of the wheel are from…

1. Italy and the UK
2. New York and France
3. Germany and China
4. The Netherlands and he US

The London Eye weighs… 1272 London taxis

1. A little more than
2. Less than
3. A lot more than
4. As much as

The London Eye can carry… passengers at one time

1. 32
2. 135
3. 800
4. 1272

**Answer the questions**

Who decided to create the London Eye?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How many countries were involved in the construction of the London Eye?

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How long did it take to build the London Eye?

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Why is the London Eye very popular?

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How long is the wedding ride in the London Eye?

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**Find the synonyms in the text**

Turn (1st paragraph) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Huge (2nd paragraph) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Made (2nd paragraph) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Build (3rd paragraph) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Finished (3rd paragraph) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_