

READING. TEXT 1

Read the first part of the text and decide which statements are True, False, or Not Stated according to the text.

Galileo Galilei, often called the founder of modern science, was born in Pisa, Italy in 1564. His father sent him to the University of Pisa to study medicine, but young Galileo was more interested in science and mathematics. So, he left Pisa without completing his medical degree and began teaching mathematics in Florence.

Galileo made one of his greatest discoveries as he sat in a cathedral of Pisa. As he watched a chandelier swing back and forth, he noticed that longer and shorter swings took the same time. This discovery became known as the law of the pendulum. It brought the young scientist considerable fame in the academic world, and Galileo became a professor at the University of Pisa. When a position of a professor of mathematics became vacant at the University of Padua, he accepted it and remained there for the next 18 years.

Galileo often questioned the ideas that were considered facts at his time. Back then, people thought that heavier objects fall to Earth faster than lighter ones. By dropping objects of the same size but different weights from the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Galileo showed that this wasn't true.

1. Galileo Galilei favoured exact sciences.

Answer:

True



2. Galileo Galilei invented the pendulum clock.

Answer:

Not stated



3. Having discovered the law of the pendulum, Galileo Galilei became famous worldwide.

Answer:

True



4. Galileo Galilei was a professor at the University of Pisa during his whole life.

Answer:

False



5. Galileo Galilei dispelled his doubts about scientific facts by doing experiments.

Answer:

True



Read the second part of the text and choose the correct option for each task.

In 1609, Galileo constructed his first telescope. He used it to observe stars and planets. He saw things that nobody had ever seen before. Galileo discovered that the Moon's surface was not smooth and flat, like everyone thought, but had a rough surface and was full of craters.

In January 1610, Galileo discovered 4 moons revolving around the Jupiter, so they were named after him - the Galilean moons. These observations proved that not the Earth was the centre of the Solar System, but the Sun. It was a discovery that Copernicus had made 60 years earlier but couldn't prove.

The Roman Catholic Church did not always like what Galileo taught. It still believed

that the Earth was the centre of the universe and everything revolved around it. The Church ordered him not to teach such ideas any more.

In 1633, Galileo was brought before the Inquisition, the Church's court. It sentenced him to life in prison because of his teachings. Galileo was put under house arrest due to his age and poor health. He spent the last years of his life in Florence, where he continued to work on his theories and even published his final book. He became blind and died in 1642.

In 1992, Pope John Paul II published a document that said that the Church had made a mistake by condemning Galileo.

6. Galileo ...

Answer:

invented the telescope



7. People used to think that the Moon ...

Answer:

was flat



8. Galileo discovered that ...

Answer:

Jupiter had four moons



9. After the Inquisition, Galileo ...

Answer:

was sent to prison



10. Finally, ...

Answer:

Galileo was allowed to continue teaching

READING. TEXT 2

Read the first part of the text and choose the correct option for each task.

In 1631, Emperor Shah Jahan's beloved wife Mumtaz died. In her honour, the emperor decided to build an earthly replica of paradise to embody their perfect love and project the power of the Mughal Empire for all time.

The construction of the Taj Mahal began roughly seven months later. Royal architects worked to bring Shah Jahan's vision to life at a site chosen by the emperor in the bustling imperial city of Agra. The area was already dotted with exquisite residences, gardens, and mausoleums. But the Taj Mahal would be the most magnificent structure of all.

In addition to housing Mumtaz's mausoleum, the plans included a garden, a mosque, a bazaar, and several caravanserais to house visiting merchants and diplomats. Altogether, this complex would seamlessly blend Persian, Islamic, Indian, and European styles, establishing the Taj Mahal as the culmination of Mughal architectural achievement.

Most of the structures were made of brick and red sandstone, with white marble accents. This was a common motif in Mughal architecture, inspired by ancient Indian traditions associating white with spiritual purity and red with warriors and royalty.

But the central mausoleum took more inspiration from the Islamic tradition. Framed by four minarets, the structure was covered entirely in white marble from quarries over 400 kilometres away. Its main dome towered above the skyline, and those within the cavernous chamber experienced an otherworldly echo lasting almost 30 seconds.

11. The Taj Mahal was supposed ...

Answer:

to commemorate the late empress



12. The Taj Mahal was built ...

Answer:

in a large prosperous area



13. The complex was ...

Answer:

a mix of orthodox styles



14. The choice of colours ...

Answer:

underlined the religious significance



15. The central mausoleum ...

Answer:

was covered with a rare type of marble

Read the second part of the text and fill in the gaps with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR NUMBERS from the text.

Perfecting the Italian stone-working technique, craftsmen used all kinds of semi-precious stones to create floral designs representing the eternal gardens of paradise. Calligraphers covered the walls with Quranic inscriptions. And because, according to the Islamic tradition, paradise has eight gates, the mausoleum's rooms were designed to be octagonal. The garden in front of the mausoleum was split into four parts in the Persian style, but its flora reflected the Mughals' nomadic Central Asian heritage. Flowers and trees were carefully selected to add colour and sweet scents. Masons built intersecting walkways, pools, and channels of water to weave through the lush greenery.

Even before its completion, Shah Jahan used the Taj Mahal to host the annual commemoration of Mumtaz's death, celebrating her reunion with the divine. Directly across the river, Shah Jahan built another sprawling garden with a central pool, the waters of which perfectly reflected the mausoleum.

It took 12 years and employed thousands of skilled craftsmen and artisans, from masons to masters of calligraphy, in order to build this intricate mausoleum. After the Taj Mahal was completed in 1643, Shah Jahan hired some of these craftsmen to do routine works and maintain the complex. He compensated the workers of the Taj Mahal by creating a massive endowment, which was used to pay the labourers until the early 19th century.

Since the day it was opened, the Taj Mahal has drawn travellers from around the world. And every time a visitor is awed by the mausoleum, the emperor's goal to create an eternal monument is achieved anew.

16. The workers utilised different gemstones to make



while depicting the eternal gardens of paradise.

17. Since there are eight principal gates in Islamic paradise, the rooms of the grand

17. Since there are eight principal gates in Islamic paradise, the rooms of the grand structure were planned to be ✖ .
18. Created according to the Persian tradition, the front garden was made up of four parts, however, the plants grown there depicted the nomadic Asian ✖ of the Mughals.
19. The annual commemoration ✔ of Mumtaz's death took place in the unfinished Taj Mahal.
20. The construction of the ✖ lasted 12 years and engaged a lot of highly qualified workers of various professions.
21. After the Taj Mahal was built, the emperor kept some workers for the upkeep of the building, and employed more people to ✖ .
22. A(n) compensation ✖ was set up to pay the workers of the Taj Mahal.
23. When a tourist is ✖ by the magnificent structure, Shah Jahan's aim is reached again.