

The Tower of London



The first part of the Tower of London was built by William the Conqueror in 1078 but what we now call the Tower is actually a collection of several different buildings.

The Tower of London has been used for many things since it was first built. Hundreds of years ago it was most famous as a prison where some prisoners were even tortured or killed! Now it is just as famous as the home of the crown jewels which have been kept there since the year 1303.



This was **traitor's gate**. Many prisoners of the tower were brought there by boat.

Locked up!

The most famous people to be locked up in the Tower of London were Queen Elizabeth I and Guy Fawkes.

Did you know?

The full name of the Tower of London is actually **Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress**.

Ghosts!

Many people say that the Tower is the most haunted building in England. The most famous ghost is said to be Anne Boleyn. She was married to King Henry VIII but in 1536 he had her head chopped off!!

TLHT Retrieve information from a non fiction text - The Tower of London.

Answer the following questions in your exercise book or on paper.

- 1) When was the first part of the tower built?
- 2) There are 3 different sub-headings, what are they?
- 3) Who is claimed to be the most famous ghost?

Retrieve



The Gherkin



The Gherkin was completed in December 2003. It is 180 metres tall and has 40 floors! The building was designed by Norman Foster who also designed City Hall, the Millennium Bridge and Wembley Stadium!

On 21st February 2007, the Gherkin was sold for an amazing £630 million! The building today is used as offices but also has a restaurant on the 39th floor.

Did you know?

The full name of the Gherkin is actually **30 St Mary Axe**.



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The bottom of the tower.



Work began on the Gherkin in March 2001

What a view!

The building is so big that it can be seen from the M11 motorway over 20 miles away!

Green Gherkin

The Gherkin was designed to be very environmentally friendly and only uses half the power of other towers like it.

TLHT Retrieve information from a non fiction text - The Gherkin.

Answer the following questions in your exercise book or on paper.

- 1) How much was the Gherkin sold for?
- 2) How far away can the Gherkin be seen from?
- 3) It is claimed to be very environmentally friendly - why?

Retrieve



Big Ben



Big Ben is the name given to the large bell inside the clock tower of the Palace of Westminster (also known as the Houses of Parliament). The tower was built by Charles Barry after the old one was destroyed by fire in 1834.

Did you know?

The tower is over 96 metres tall!



Cold hands!

On December 31st 1962, the clock slowed down because of the ice and snow on the hands!



About time!

The clock was finished in 1854, but the tower wasn't completed until 1859 so for 5 whole years they had nowhere to put the clock!

The hour hand on the clock is nearly 3 metres long and the minute hand is over 4 metres long! These men are cleaning the clock face.

TLHT Retrieve information from a non fiction text - Big Ben.

Answer the following questions in your exercise book or on paper.

- 1) How tall is the tower?
- 2) What are the men doing in the picture?
- 3) When was the tower completed?

Retrieve



TLHT Retrieve information from a non fiction text - Challenge Task.

Answer the following questions in your exercise book or on paper. Find the correct text in order to retrieve the right answers - you may have to skim and scan across all three texts.

- 1) How were prisoners brought to Traitor's Gate?
- 2) What is also known as The House of Parliament?
- 3) What is 30 St Mary Axe?

Retrieve

