

Year 2 General Studies
Wonders of the World

The Great Wall of China

The Great Wall of China is an ancient series of walls and fortifications, totalling more than 21,000 km in length, located in northern China. Perhaps the most recognisable symbol of China. It has a long and vivid history; the Great Wall was originally conceived by Emperor Qin Shi Huang in the third century B.C. as a means of preventing incursions from barbarian nomads.



Machu Picchu



This Incan site near Cuzco, Peru, was “discovered” in 1911 by Hiram Bingham, who believed it was Vilcabamba, a secret Incan stronghold used during the 16th-century rebellion against Spanish rule. Although that claim was later disproved. Machu Picchu is one of the few major pre-Columbian ruins found nearly intact.

The Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal, a mausoleum complex in Agra, India, is regarded as one of the world’s most iconic monuments. It is the finest example of Mughal architecture, and was built by Emperor Shah Jahān (reigned 1628–58) to honour his wife Mumtāz Maḥal. It took about 22 years and 20,000 workers to construct the complex, which includes an immense garden with a reflecting pool.



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Questions

1. What is the length of the Great Wall of China?

2. Who created the Great Wall of China?

3. Which country can you find the famous Inca ruins of Machu Picchu?

4. What did Hiram Bingham believe he discovered in 1911?

5. It took about 22 years and 20,000 workers to build the Taj Mahal.

True / False

6. Choose a Wonder of the World and draw it below.

