

1. The Chocolate Room

WORKSHEET

1

COMPREHENSION

Read the following story and answer the questions below.

About 2.3 million blocks make up the Great Pyramid of Giza [2600 B.C.], which is also the tomb of Pharaoh Khufu. The pyramid's four sides face almost perfectly north, south, east and west, a precise alignment that hints that the pyramid might also have been a sky observatory. Mysterious passageways in the pyramid might have been placed for viewing the stars at certain points of the year. Perhaps ancient stargazers made their observations from these openings while the pyramid was under construction, before the passageways were sealed shut. Another theory is that the airshafts guided Khufu's soul towards his ancestors living among the stars.

Throughout the jungles of Central and South America are spectacular ruins of ancient flat-topped pyramids. The Aztec, Toltec and Maya people built them, starting around 1200 B.C., as royal tombs and temples. To the Aztecs, the most important god and 'star' was Venus. When Venus appeared in the night sky, according to one 16th century historian, the Aztecs sacrificed captives in its honour.

Like the Egyptian pyramids, the New World temple plazas are laid out so precisely that experts believe they were for studying the night sky. The Mayans also made detailed astronomical observations. In fact, their elaborate solar calendar was the most accurate in the world till our Gregorian Calendar was created in 1582.

—Young Discoverer Series 'Universe'

A Answer the following questions.

1. How many blocks were used to build the Pyramid of Giza?

2. What hints at the pyramid having been a sky observatory?

3. Where do we find the ruins of ancient flat-topped pyramids?

4. What was the most important god of the Aztecs?



5. Who made an elaborate solar calendar?

6. When was the Gregorian Calendar created?

B Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the passage.

1. The Great Pyramid of Giza is also the tomb of _____ .
2. There are _____ passageways in the pyramid.
3. The flat-topped pyramids were built as _____ and temples.
4. When Venus appeared in the night sky, the Aztecs sacrificed _____ in its honour.



GRAMMAR

A Change the sentences as mentioned in the brackets.

1. This is your book. [change into Interrogative]

2. Shut the door. [change into request]

3. Has Mr Sharma gone out? [change into declarative]

4. They have won the match. [change into exclamatory]

5. Mohit must have reached home. [change into interrogative]

B Add suitable question tags to the following sentences.

1. You gave this book to Meeta, _____?

2. This pen costs ₹80, _____?

3. Nalini has gone to the doctor, _____?

4. The train will be an hour late, _____?

5. They have decided to put up a play, _____?

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A Each group of words below begins with a common letter. Fill in the letter to complete the words.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. (a) ___ramid | (b) ___recise | (c) ___laza |
| 2. (a) ___ertain | (b) ___reate | (c) ___entury |
| 3. (a) ___targazers | (b) ___acrificial | (c) ___pectacular |
| 4. (a) ___lignment | (b) ___ncient | (c) ___ccurate |
| 5. (a) ___bservation | (b) ___bservatory | (c) ___pening |

B Use the following words in sentences of your own.

1. accurate: _____
2. precise: _____
3. opening: _____
4. certain: _____
5. spectacular: _____

C Write a paragraph of six sentences to describe what you see in a night sky.
