

Uses of punctuation marks – Writing well-structured sentences

A. Discuss with a partner:

1. What makes a monument famous? What features do famous monuments have in common?
2. Can you name a famous monument that you'd like to visit? What interests you about it?
3. How can monuments help us learn about history and culture?

B. Read the sample text about the Great Wall of China. Identify and mark the punctuation marks in the text. Look for commas, full stops (USA - periods), exclamation marks, and question marks.

The Great Wall of China is one of the most remarkable structures in the world. It is over 13,000 miles long in northern China and demonstrates the ancient engineering skills of the Chinese people. Some of the oldest parts are from the 7th century BC. But why was such a big wall built so long ago?

This monumental wall was primarily built to protect against invasions from the north. The Great Wall consists of walls, towers and natural barriers. It was constructed using different materials such as stone, wood and bricks. Furthermore, the wall passes through some of China's most breathtaking landscapes which provides a historic experience and some of the most picturesque views ever seen.

Every year, over 10 million tourists visit the Great Wall. If you are interested in history and architecture, you must visit!



C. Discuss with a partner why each punctuation mark is needed in the text above.

D. Read the five texts about famous monuments. Add the appropriate punctuation marks.

Text 1:

The Eiffel Tower is a famous landmark situated in the heart of Paris it is a symbol of the country the tower was built for the 1889 World's Fair and it was the tallest tower in the world until 1931 what an amazing structure

Text 2:

The Statue of Liberty is located on Liberty Island in New York Harbour have you ever seen it in 1886 it was a gift from the people of France to the United States the statue is a huge figure of a woman holding a torch representing enlightenment and liberty

Text 3:

Machu Picchu is aa amazing Inca citadel in the Andes mountains of Peru it's famous for its beautiful architecture and attracts many tourists every year also the site is known for the impressive engineering achievements of the Inca civilization

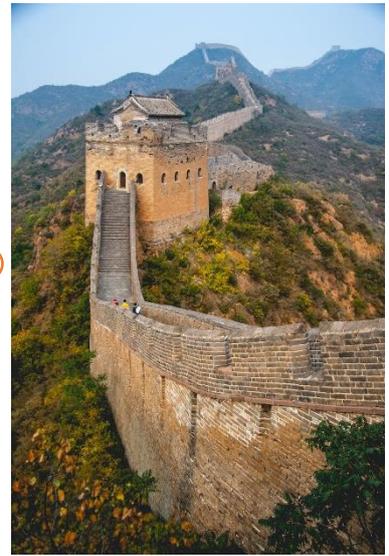
ANSWER KEY

C.

The Great Wall of China is one of the most remarkable structures in the world. It is over 13,000 miles long in northern China and demonstrates the ancient engineering skills of the Chinese people. Some of the oldest parts are from the 7th century BC, but why was such a big wall built so long ago?

This monumental wall was primarily built to protect against invasions from the north. The Great Wall consists of walls, towers and natural barriers. It was constructed using different materials such as stone, wood and bricks. Furthermore, the wall passes through some of China's most breathtaking landscapes, which provides a historic experience and some of the most picturesque views ever seen.

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Full stops: used to mark the end of a sentence

Question marks: used to mark the end of a question

Exclamation marks: used to mark the end of a sentence that requires emphasis

Commas: used to...

- separate items in a list (note: in US English a comma is also required before the word "and" in a list)
- separate connected independent clauses (they could exist alone, but are connected with a linking word)
- separate introductory word or phrase
- separate subordinate clauses

D.

Text 1:

The Eiffel Tower is a famous landmark situated in the heart of Paris. It is a symbol of the country. The tower was built for the 1889 World's Fair and it was the tallest tower in the world until 1931. What an amazing structure!

Text 2:

The Statue of Liberty is located on Liberty Island in New York Harbour. Have you ever seen it? In 1886, it was given as a gift from the people of France to the United States. The statue is a huge figure of a woman holding a torch representing enlightenment and liberty.

Text 3:

Machu Picchu is a breathtaking Inca citadel in the Andes mountains of Peru. It's famous for its beautiful architecture and attracts many tourists every year. Also, the site is known for the impressive engineering achievements of the Inca civilization.

Text 4:

The Taj Mahal, which is a stunning marble mausoleum found in India, is an architectural masterpiece. It was constructed in the 17th century by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal. The structure is famous for its intricate design and detailed decoration. People from around the world are captivated by its beauty.

Text 5:

The Pyramids of Giza have existed for centuries. These massive monuments were built as tombs for pharaohs. They are made of limestone, granite and mortar. Travellers from all over the world come to see the history of these iconic pyramids. How did they survive for so long?