

The Burj Khalifa

The Burj Khalifa, formerly known as the Burj Dubai, stands as a testament to human ingenuity and architectural marvel. Located in the heart of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, this towering skyscraper holds several records, making it one of the most iconic landmarks in the world.

Rising to a staggering height of 828 meters (2,717 feet), the Burj Khalifa surpasses all other structures globally, including the previous titleholder, the 508-meter tall Taipei 101 in Taiwan. Its construction began in 2004 and was completed in 2010, with an estimated cost of approximately \$1.5 billion USD. Designed by the renowned US architect Adrian Smith, the Burj Khalifa boasts a sleek, modern design inspired by Islamic architecture, featuring a distinctive spire-like structure.



The construction of the Burj Khalifa required groundbreaking engineering and technological innovations. To support its immense height and withstand the harsh desert climate, the building incorporates a reinforced concrete core and a steel exoskeleton. The exterior is clad in reflective glass panels, which not only provide stunning panoramic views but also help regulate interior temperatures and reduce energy consumption.

The Burj Khalifa, named after the president of Abu Dhabi, is not only the tallest building but also boasts the highest occupied floor, highest outdoor observation deck, and highest elevator in the world. Visitors can ascend to the observation deck on the 148th floor, known as At the Top, which offers breathtaking views of the Dubai skyline, the Arabian Gulf, and the surrounding desert landscape.

Beyond its architectural feats, the Burj Khalifa serves as a symbol of Dubai's rapid urban development and economic prosperity. It has become a global icon, attracting millions of tourists and visitors each year. The building houses luxurious residential apartments, corporate offices, world-class restaurants, and prestigious hotels, including the renowned Armani Hotel Dubai.

Moreover, the Burj Khalifa serves as a focal point for various cultural events, celebrations, and fireworks displays, particularly during New Year's Eve, when it hosts one of the most spectacular fireworks shows in the world. Its illuminated facade and dynamic lighting installations further enhance its allure, transforming it into a dazzling spectacle against the night sky.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Comprehension Quiz Practice – The Burj Khalifa

● **Choose the best answers.**

- Where is the Burj Khalifa building located?**
 - Dubai
 - Sharjah
 - Abu Dhabi
 - Doha
- What is the height of the Burj Khalifa Building?**
 - 508 meters
 - 101 meters
 - 1,102 meters
 - 828 meters
- The design of the Burj Khalifa was inspired by what kind of architecture?**
 - American
 - Islamic
 - Art Deco
 - Classical
- What building material is used on the outside of the building?**
 - sandstone
 - glass and steel
 - concrete and marble
 - gold and stucco
- What was the original name of the Burj Khalifa?**
 - Burj Al Arab
 - Burj Abu Dhabi
 - Burj Dubai
 - Burj Emirates
- Which of the following does the Burj Khalifa NOT have? The world's highest ...**
 - flagpole
 - elevator
 - occupied floor
 - outdoor observation deck
- Which of the following is NOT mentioned as being housed in the Burj Khalifa?**
 - apartments
 - offices
 - restaurants
 - movie theaters
- What special event is the Burj Khalifa famous for hosting annually?**
 - symphony concert
 - fashion show
 - fireworks display
 - marathon

● **Discuss the following questions with a classmate.**

- Would you like to visit the top floor of the Burj Khalifa? Why? / Why not?
- Why do you think cities across the world like to build taller and taller buildings?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in a very tall building?
- Do you think there is a limit to how tall a building can be? Why? / Why not?
- Do you think the city where you now live should encourage the construction of a building even taller than the Burj Khalifa? Why? / Why not?
- Would you like to be an architect? Why? / Why not?
- Do you think humans should construct underwater buildings in lakes and oceans? Why? / Why not?

Level Advanced

Time Approximately 20 minutes

“The Burj Khalifa”

As **Reading Quiz Practice** – or as **Listening Quiz Practice**



Downloadable Audio File: 2 minutes and 46 seconds



ANSWER KEY

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. A | 5. C |
| 2. D | 6. A |
| 3. B | 7. D |
| 4. B | 8. C |

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Grades as percentages

$$8 / 8 = 100\%$$

$$7 / 8 = 87.5$$

$$6 / 8 = 75$$

$$5 / 8 = 62.5$$

$$4 / 8 = 50$$

$$3 / 8 = 37.5$$

$$2 / 8 = 25$$

$$1 / 8 = 12.5$$

$$0 / 8 = 0$$