



Article: *The Taj Mahal*



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1.1

Reading comprehension

The Taj Mahal

In 1612, a prince called Jahan met a pretty girl who was selling jewels in the market. Mumtaz Mahal was nineteen years old and of Tatar origin. They fell in love and decided to get married.

Sixteen years later, the prince became Shah Jahan, Emperor of India. His wife Mumtaz gave her husband advice about the administration of the country. She was very intelligent and determined, and she wanted to give more money to the poor and less to the rich.

Unfortunately she died when giving birth to her fourteenth child in 1630. The Shah was so sad that he wanted to abdicate, but it was impossible because his children were too young to take his place as Emperor.

In memory of his wife, he built a sort of temple which was called the Taj Mahal. It is on the bank of the Jumma River, in Agra. Mumtaz's tomb is situated in the middle of a room magnificently decorated with jewels, pearls, gold and silver, precious stones and rich carpets. The Taj Mahal is totally made of white marble, and the color of the marble changes with the weather.

When the Shah died, his son the Emperor buried him next to his beloved wife. ■



▲ Taj Mahal' temple.



▲ Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal.

Vocabulary:

- Jewels
- Tomb
- Beloved
- give birth
- Marble



Article:

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1.2

Reading Comprehension:

1. The story takes place in
☐ Australia
☐ India
☐ Indonesia
2. The prince met his wife in
☐ 1602
☐ 1622
☐ 1612
3. She was when they met.
☐ 20 years old
☐ 21 years old
☐ 19 years old
4. She lived in a tribe.
☐ Gallic
☐ Viking
☐ Tartar
5. She was a very woman.
☐ sweet and calm
☐ kind and happy
☐ intelligent and determined
6. She fought in favor of
☐ poor people
☐ pets
☐ the rich
7. The Shah was very sad because ...
☐ his wife died
☐ his wife wanted a divorce
☐ his wife run away
8. He could not abdicate because
☐ he refused to see his ministers
☐ his children were too young to become Emperor
☐ he was too sad
9. Then he decided to build
☐ Chichén Itza
☐ the Petra temple
☐ the Taj Mahal
10. The monument was built
☐ in Algeria
☐ in Dubai
☐ in Agra
11. It is made of
☐ white marble
☐ white mud
☐ white stone
12. It is decorated with
☐ blue pearls
☐ precious stones
☐ iron

1.3

Write examples with the following words:

- | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------|
| - Jewels | - Tomb | - Beloved |
| - give birth | - Marble | |
