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What is the London Eye?

1

A landmark is a famous building or place. The Statue of Liberty is a landmark in New York City. Paris has its Eiffel Tower. The London Eye is an amazing landmark in London. It opened in 2000. But it is an unusual landmark.

2

The London Eye is a giant Ferris wheel. It was the tallest Ferris wheel in the world when it opened. Riders at the top of the wheel are 443 feet in the sky. They can see miles and miles around the city. They are higher than Big Ben, London's famous clock. The London Eye is England's fourth tallest structure.

3

The London Eye was built on the Thames River in London. The wheel is supported only on one side. This support frame is shaped like the letter A. There are 32 cars attached to the outer rim of the wheel. One for each of the city's boroughs.

4

The cars are shaped like an egg and have glass windows. They are large enough to hold 25 people. Riders can sit or they can walk around inside the car. The wheel never stops turning. It moves slowly enough that riders just walk on and off their car when it reaches the ground. A complete turn on the wheel takes 30 minutes. The London Eye has become one of the city's most popular landmarks.



Circle the correct answers. Write your answer to question 6.

1. Which word in paragraph 1 means “uncommon”?

- A famous
- B unusual
- C London
- D tower

 **Context Clues**

2. Which paragraph tells how the wheel is supported?

- A 1
- B 2
- C 3
- D 4

 **Details**


3. The article tells mostly about ____.

- A a new landmark in London
- B how cars are attached to a Ferris wheel
- C what people can see from a Ferris wheel
- D famous places in different cities

 **Main Idea**


4. A ride on the London Eye takes 30 minutes because the wheel ____.

- A is very tall
- B turns slowly
- C has 32 cars
- D is on the river

 **Cause & Effect**

5. The article does not say, but you can decide that the London Eye ____.

- A is no longer the tallest Ferris wheel in the world
- B is along a river that runs through the city
- C has lots of riders
- D turns very fast

 **Inference & Conclusion**

6. What is a famous landmark you have seen or visited? Tell what the landmark looks like and where it is located.

What type of bats do Major League Baseball players use?

- 1 Baseball bats are made of aluminum or wood. Each has its good and bad qualities.
- 2 A ball hit with an aluminum bat travels farther and faster. But these fast balls can be dangerous. Players may not be able to get out of the way of these faster moving balls. These fast balls can hurt the other team's pitcher. So Major League Baseball players do not use these bats.
- 3 All hitters in the major leagues use wooden bats. For a long time, wooden bats were made of wood from ash trees. Bats made of ash would become softer over time. This is because they chip or flake from being hit with fast pitches. Cracks would form in the ash bat. Then batters would switch to a new bat.
- 4 In 1997, players were allowed to use bats made from the wood of maple trees. Players like these bats because they are lighter than ash bats. These bats help players swing faster. Maple bats do not flake or chip over time like ash bats do. So players cannot tell from the outside if a maple bat is starting to crack in the inside. Maple bats would splinter suddenly. Major League Baseball players often use special bats. If you watch a baseball game on Mother's Day, you will see the players using pink bats. The bats honor their mothers.



Circle the correct answers. Write your answer to question 6.

1. Which word in paragraph 3 means "change one for another"?
A form
B flake
C chip
D switch
2. Which paragraph tells what bats Major League Baseball players used before they used maple bats?
A 1
B 2
C 3
D 4
3. Maple bats splinter suddenly because _____.
A they flake over time
B they chip over time
C they crack inside
D they are hit harder
4. The article does not say, but you can decide that aluminum bats _____.
A are used by players in lower levels of baseball
B are no longer made
C can splinter inside
D are expensive
5. Major League Baseball players use pink bats _____.
A on opening day
B in the World Series
C on Mother's Day
D on Memorial Day
6. Think of a baseball game you have seen. Tell about the players uniforms and equipment. What type of bats did the players use?