

# UNIT 08

## Wonders Around Us

### Activity 1



#### Act out

**Teacher :** The world is a big place. If you could go anywhere in the world and discover something new, where would you go and what would you hope to see?

**Hansana:** I would like to go to India and see the Taj Mahal. I have heard that it is a beautiful place.

**Teacher :** Yes. It's famous for its beauty. Emperor Shah Jahan built it in memory of his beautiful wife Mumtaz.

**Mohmed:** Oh, really? I would like to climb Mt. Everest, the highest mountain peak in the world. It will be a great adventure.

**Teacher :** Of course. How about you Radha?

**Radha :** I would like to see The Great Wall of China and The Eiffel Tower.

**Teacher :** So you want to visit two places?

**Radha :** Yes. I would like to see the pyramids of Egypt too, if possible.

**Teacher :** Well, we have only discussed a few famous places in the world but there are many more. Let's learn about them on another day.

Read the dialogue and fill the table.

Name of the student	Place/places he or she would like to visit

## Activity 2

Read the descriptions about some famous monuments / constructions and match them with the pictures.

1

### ***The Great Wall of China***

It is the largest man-made structure in the world. It was built over a long period of time since 700 B.C. The wall is 21196 kilometres long and is made of stone, brick, wood, tampered earth etc. It is said that, this is the only structure on the earth that can be seen from space. It is considered as a world heritage site by UNESCO.

2

### ***Taj Mahal, India***

Taj Mahal is a tomb that was built between 1631 A.D. and 1652 A.D. on the orders of the emperor, Shah Jahan, the 5<sup>th</sup> Muslim Moghal emperor to honour his late wife, queen Mumtaz. It is made of white marble with beautiful gardens surrounding it. It is one of the famous tourist attractions in the world.

3

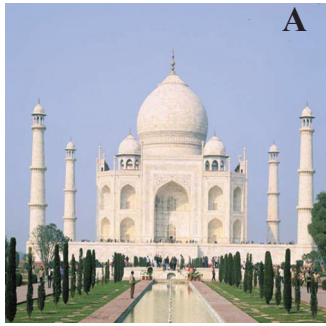
### ***Mayan Temple City, Mexico***

The temple city of Chichen Itza was built by people of the ancient Mayan civilization of Latin America. It is located in Mexico. This site is famous for the different architectural styles of the buildings. Annually about 1.2 million tourists visit this place.

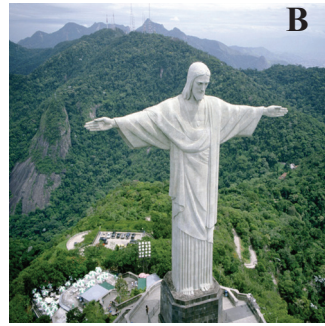
4

### ***The Statue of Christ, the Redeemer***

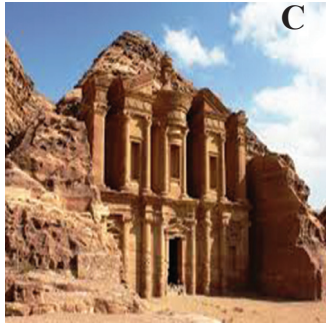
This famous statue was built by the French sculptor Paul Landowski and the Brazillian engineer Heitor Da Silva Costa between 1922 and 1931. It is 30 metres tall. It is on the peak of the Corcovado Mountain. The statue is an icon for Brazil.



**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**



**G**

### Activity 3

Complete this table using the above descriptions.

Name	Country	Size	Period of Construction	Built by	Amazing Fact
The Great Wall of China	China	21196 km	-	-	Can be seen from space



### Reading

## New Seven Wonders of the World Chosen

The Great Wall of China, Rome’s Colosseum, India’s Taj Mahal and three architectural constructions from Latin America were among the new seven wonders of the world. “About 100 million votes were cast by the Internet and mobile text messages,” according to **New 7 Wonders**, the nonprofit organization that conducted the poll.

The chosen seven beat 14 other nominated landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower, Easter Island in the Pacific, the Statue of Liberty, the Acropolis, Russia’s Kremlin and Australia’s Sydney Opera House. Almost 200 nominations came in, and the list was reduced to the 21 most-voted. The Colosseum, the Great Wall, Machu Picchu, the Taj Mahal and Petra had been among the leading candidates since January 2007, while the Statue of Christ Redeemer received an increase in votes more recently.

The campaign to name new wonders was launched in 1999 by the Swiss adventurer Bernard Weber. Weber’s Switzerland-based foundation aims to promote cultural diversity by supporting, preserving and restoring monuments.

adapted from :- <http://www.washingtonpost.com>

## Activity 4



### Writing

1. What is the organization that selected these seven wonders?
2. What is the method used to select them?
3. How many were selected for the final round?
4. Who is the owner of the organization that selects the seven wonders?
5. What is the aim of this organization?

## Activity 5



### Writing

Select the correct monument and complete the blank.

.....a city in the clouds built around 1440 by the founder of the Inca Empire.

.....built on the orders of Shah Jahan, the fifth Muslim Moghal emperor, to honour the memory of his wife.

.....great amphitheatre in the centre of Rome.

.....stands 38 metres tall on top of the Corcovado mountain overlooking Rio de Janeiro.

.....the last and greatest of all Mayan temples.

.....the glittering capital of the Nabataean empire of King Aretas IV.

.....built to link existing fortifications into a united defence system and better keep invading Mongolian tribes out of China.

Christ the Redeemer, Great Wall of China, Machu Picchu,  
Colosseum, Petra, Taj Mahal, Chichen Itza

Read these statements.

We visited Kataragama last month. When we went to *Kiri Wehera*, a lot of people **were bathing** in the Menik River.

My family and I went on a trip to Sigiriya. When we visited the ancient fortress, a guide **was explaining** the history of the rock to a group of tourists.

My friends and I were in Jaffna last weekend. A lot of devotees **were praying** at Nallur kovil.



## Past Continuous Tense

The past continuous tense describes an action which started before a certain time in the past and was still in progress at that time.

- e.g. :-*
- A lot of people **were bathing** in the Menik River.
  - A guide **was explaining** the history of the rock to a group of tourists.
  - A lot of devotees **were praying** at Nallur kovil.

### Formation

*was / were + verb + ing*

## Past Continuous Tense - Negative Form

- e.g. :-*
- **I wasn't watching** TV at 3 p.m.; I was playing.
  - Kamal **wasn't having** breakfast at 7a.m.; he **was getting** ready to go to school.

### Formation

*was / were + not + verb + ing*

## Activity 6

1) Write your typical schedule of your usual everyday activities.

6.30 a.m. - *e.g. :-* Have breakfast

7.30 a.m. - .....

2.30 p.m. - .....

3.30 p.m. - .....

5.00 p.m. - .....

6.00 p.m. - .....

8.00 p.m. - .....

10.00 p.m. - .....

- 2) Take turns and say what your friend was doing at a certain time.  
*e.g.:-* Surani was having breakfast at 7.00 a.m.
- 3) Then, make comparisons.  
*e.g.:-* I was studying. He was watching television.

### Activity 7

- 1) Now use negative sentences to compare your schedule with that of your friend.

*e.g. :-* I was having breakfast at 6.30 a.m. but Hansana was not having breakfast.

One day a **ladybird** was getting ready for **breakfast**. She was expecting a **houseguest**. Just as she began heating up the **frying pan** for pancakes, the **doorbell** rang. She took the **frying pan** off the stove and went to answer the door. As she opened the door, **sunshine** spilled in through the **doorway**. The **sunshine** actually made the carpet look a different colour. “Welcome,” she said to her **houseguest**. “I’m glad you could come by for **breakfast**.” **Ladybird** opened the door wide. “Come in and have a seat.” she said. The **ladybird** went to the **linen closet** and pulled out her finest **tablecloth**. She spread the **tablecloth** on the table and set out her **teapot** beside the vase of **sunflowers**. The **ladybird** and her **houseguest** sat down and had a delicious **breakfast** together.



## Compound Nouns

Compound nouns are words for people, animals, places, things, or ideas, made up of two or more words. Sometimes we write them as one word, sometimes as two words, and sometimes with a hyphen.

*post + office = post office*  
*hair + dresser = hairdresser*  
*passer + by = passer-by*

Here are some more compound nouns.

- Teacher-in-charge
- Board of Members
- Forget-me-not
- Cooking-oil
- foot print
- swimming pool
- fish tank
- river bank
- firefly
- fireworks
- grandmother
- finger mark

### Activity 8

Match a word in A with a word in B to make a new compound noun. Then fill in the blanks in the sentences below the table with a compound noun formed in Activity 8 (A).

(A)

A	B
a. railway	( ) park
b. traffic	( ) way
c. book	( ) station
d. bus	( ) port
e. rush	( ) stop
f. air	( ) shop
g. children's	( ) light
h. high	( ) hour

**(B)**

1. Stop the bicycle! The \_\_\_\_\_ is red!
2. We waited at the \_\_\_\_\_ for an hour before the bus arrived.
3. 7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. is a \_\_\_\_\_ and the road is full of traffic.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ was very big. There were trains arriving and departing all the time.
5. “No, I didn’t borrow this book from the library. I bought it at a \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Activity 9**

Put the two smaller words together to make a compound word.

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. sun + shine =    | 9. butter + fly =    |
| 2. camp + fire =    | 10. some + thing =   |
| 3. back + pack =    | 11. pepper + mint =  |
| 4. address + book = | 12. foot + prints =  |
| 5. sun + flower =   | 13. water + melon =  |
| 6. check + in =     | 14. dinner + table = |
| 7. ready + made =   | 15. well + known =   |
| 8. table + tennis = |                      |