

Religious Structures

5th period grammar

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Christ the Redeemer

Christians and Catholics around the world worship the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In Brazil there are also a lot of Christians. They made a statue of Jesus Christ called Christ the **Redeemer**. Millions of people around the world come to see it. Even non-Christians or Catholics come to see Christ the Redeemer.

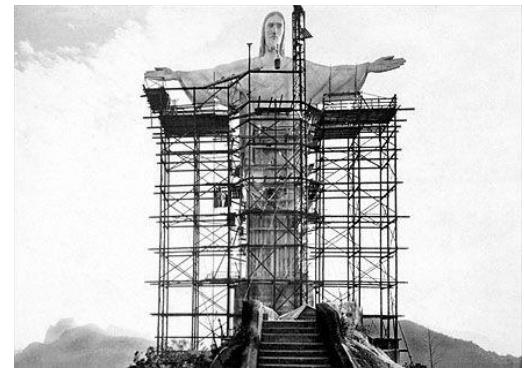
How was Christ the Redeemer built?

Statues can take a long time to build. One of those statues that took a long time was Christ the Redeemer. The creators picked out Mount Corcovado to build the statue on. Construction was overseen by an

engineer named Silva Costa. They started construction on the statue on the mountain and resources were transported up via railway. Clay molds

gradually extended upwards and once they built the core they covered the statue in tiles made out of a rock called **soapstone**. Christ the Redeemer was built to honor Isabella, princess **regent** of Brazil and the daughter of Emperor Pedro II. The French sculptor Paul Lodawnski who collaborated with Silva Costa has been credited as the primary designer of the head and hands. Construction started on April 9th 1922 and was finished on October 12 1931. That is nine years of total construction. It cost 250,000 U.S. dollars which is 3,000,000 U.S. dollars today. The construction of Christ the Redeemer was a hard and long process but in the end it was successful.

Fun Fact
The original design of Christ the Redeemer had Christ holding a globe and a cross



This is a picture of Christ the Redeemer and the balance support beams around it which helps it keeps its balance during construction and provides a place where the builders can work.

How is Christ the Redeemer Today?



This is a picture of the seven wonders of the world. These are Chichen Itza, Christ the Redeemer, The Colosseum, The Great Wall of China, Machu Picchu, Petra, and Taj Mahal.

People all over the world come to see Christ the Redeemer. It is a major tourist attraction. If you are not catholic or you are of another religion you can still see and marvel at this statue. Nearly two million people come to see Christ the Redeemer every year. Christ the Redeemer has maintained its form without withering for nearly a century. The soapstone



helps it not to break down. Soapstone will not stain, burn, or be harmed by acids. That is why it still looks brand new if you went to see it. Christ the Redeemer was added to the seven wonders of the world list on July 7th, 2007. It is one of the seven wonders because a

panel of experts felt it qualified to be nominated based on predetermined **criteria**, then after that the public voted it to be on the list. Without the statue being famous or the qualities it has, who knows where it might be today.

Where is Christ the Redeemer?

Brazil is home to many structures. One of those structures is Christ the Redeemer. Christ the Redeemer is located in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, on top of Mount Corcovado. The Creators placed it on top of a mountain because they wanted all of Rio to see it. They thought placing it there



would represent a way of reclaiming Rio to Christainity. Houses with a view of Christ the Redeemer will go up in price because people want to see the statue. The house can

Fun Fact
Because Christ the Redeemer is on a mountain it gets struck by lightning six times a year

go up to or even more than 315,000 U.S. dollars. The elevation of Mount Corcovado is 2,329 feet. Corcovado actually means humped in english. They named it this because the mountain looks hunched over. The location of Christ the Redeemer matters because it will help people know where to go to see this statue.

Mecca

All the religions of the world have a special place for their religion, and Mecca is this place for Muslims. Mecca is the holiest of cities, where they go to worship Allah, their God.

Where Is It Located?

Mecca is located in Western Saudi Arabia,

inland from the Red Coast.

Entrance to the city is gained through four gaps in the surrounding mountains; the Sirat mountains. These gaps in the mountains have also defined the direction of

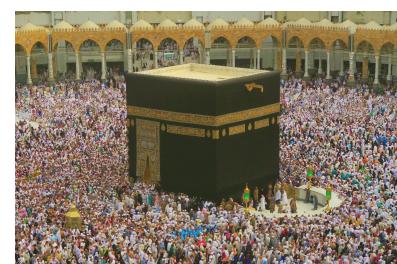
expansion. Mecca is also threatened by seasonal flash floods, even though they receive low amounts of annual precipitation. This is because of the city's low-lying location. Plants and animals are also scarce, so most food has to be imported. This is because many animals can not withstand the aridity and heat.



This is a picture of the Sirat mountains; the only place people can gain entrance to the city.

Did You Know?
Muslims pray five times a day; dawn, after midday, afternoon, after sunset, and nighttime.

According to the Quran, Abraham and Ishmael, his son by Hagar, built the **Kaaba**. This building has been rebuilt several times. It was the start of Mecca.



This is a picture of the Kaaba, the center point of pilgrimage in Mecca.

The **Kaaba** is a cube-shaped stone building that is the center point of **pilgrimage** in the city. It is also the building that many people travel there to see. Many muslims pray there every day, and multiple times a day, since muslims have a prayer schedule. All in all, this building started the great city of Mecca, and just may be the most important building to the Muslim faith.

How Has It Changed?

Mecca has changed in many ways since it was first built. For one, the people that live there now have better housing. They also have enhanced their transportation in the city, and

have improved sanitation.

Did You Know?

Allah means
"the God" in
English!

They have also cleared

the religious area around
the **shrines** to their God Allah,
and expanded the **mosque**.

Despite all of these changes,

the city still has some problems the people need to address. Political turmoil and violence have often plagued the city, and some people have died from this. All in all, Mecca has endured good and bad throughout history.



This is one of the many shrines in Mecca, and the land around it has been cleared.

Vatican City

Roman Catholics live in every part of the world. Did you know that there is a city where only Roman Catholics live. That place is called Vatican City and it has a lot of famous places and people.

What is Vatican City?

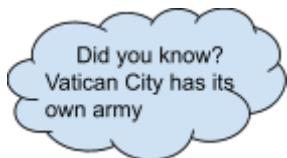
There are many things humans want to see in their lifetimes.

One of those things is Vatican City.

Vatican City is in Rome, Italy. Signed by Benito Mussolini the pacts established



This is Benito Mussolini, Italian Dictator, and the guy who signed the pact to make Vatican City a country.



Vatican city as a **sovereign** district from the Holy See. He also granted the church \$92 million dollars for the loss of the papal states, these are lands owned by popes. The entire population of Vatican City is 800 Roman Catholics making it the smallest country in the world. Vatican City as a country is 93 years old from 1929-2022. The Vatican economy minister, Juan Antonio Guerro, said that the Vatican's total net assets in 2019 are about 4 billion Euros. That equals to 4,434,800,000.000 U.S. dollars. Vatican City is a city with a bunch of sights to see.

What can you do in Vatican City?

There are a lot of things to do in the world. One of those things to do is to do the many things of Vatican City. Vatican City is a huge tourist attraction. Especially Catholics looking to celebrate

their faith or to meet the famous pope. The food in Vatican is largely Italian consisting of various pastas, polenta, or **risotto** dishes. Famous buildings

in Vatican City are St.Peter's Basilica, Sistine Chapel, Apostilice Palace, and the many Vatican museums. There are 26 museums in Vatican City and 6.9 people visited these museums in 2019. Although 1.3 million people came to see the museums in 2020 due to Covid. You can do a bunch of attractions in Vatican City.



This building is one of the many of the Vatican musuems.

What is the Government of Vatican City?



This is a picture of Pope Francis the King of Vatican City.

All countries have a government so Vatican City also has one. Vatican City is a monarchy where the pope is the “king” with the pope being voted by the College of **Cardinals**. The Pope is in charge of the judicial, legislative, and executive powers. Pope Francis the 266th pope of the Roman

Did you Know?
No one is born in
Vatican City.

Catholic church and the leader of 1.29 billion adherents. He has lived within the walls of the city since he was appointed in 2013. The College of Cardinals is the whole body of Cardinals. How many Cardinals are 212 that is the current membership. The Government of Vatican City may sound weird but it works.

St. Peter's Basilica

St. Peter's Basilica is a church that is named after St. Peter, who was the first pope. It is also one of the most important buildings in the Catholic faith.

Who Built It?

For almost two thousand years, people have been traveling to Vatican City to see the many celebrations that take place at St. Peter's Basilica. St Peter's is a church that took one hundred and fifty years to build, starting on April 18, 1506. Paul V adopted Carlo Maderno's plan, giving the church the form of a Latin Cross by extending the **nave** to the east, thus completing the 615 ft. long main

Did You Know?
Michelangelo
was the
architect of St
Peter's Basilica
for eighteen
years!

structure. He also completed the **facade** of the Basilica, and added an extra bay on each end to support **campaniles**. All in all, this building's original design has been changed multiple times.



This is a picture of St. Peter's Basilica during the construction of the dome.

Who Painted The Dome?

Did You Know?
Michelangelo
had back and
neck problems
for the rest of
his life after
laying there and
painting the
dome of St.
Peter's for four
years!

One reason people travel to Rome, more specifically the Vatican, is to see the famous dome of St. Peter's. Michelangelo di Lodovico



This is a picture of the painted dome of St. Peter's Basilica.

Buonarroti Simoni. He is the painter of the dome, and a sculptor. He has sculpted many famous statues, like David, and Madonna of Bruges. He was born on March 6th, 1475, and lived to be eighty eight years old, and for four of these years, he was painting the dome of the church. He is known for his statues, and he is famous because of them, but the dome of St. Peter's Basilica was his greatest work.

Where Is It?

St. Peter's Basilica is located in Vatican City, in Rome, Italy. Vatican City is an **enclave** in Rome. It is one of the many things that makes Rome one of the most popular cities in Italy. Masses are held daily at St. Peter's,

----- and the service is free to
Did You Know? the public, so many
St. Peter's people attend Sunday
Basilica is the Mass at St. Peter's when
world's largest they are staying in Rome,
church! and many people would
----- also call Vatican City the

center of the Catholic faith. In conclusion, the Basilica of St. Peter is located in one of the most religious cities in the world.



This is a picture of Vatican City, where St. Peter's is located

Glossary

Campaniles- an Italian bell tower, especially a freestanding one

Cardinals- a cardinal is a senior member of the clergy of the church.

Chapel- a small building for Christian worship, typically one attached to a intuition or a private house

Criteria- a principle or standard by which something is judged or decided

Enclave- a portion of territory within or surrounded by a larger territory whose inhabitants are culturally or ethnically distinct

Facade- the face of a building, especially the principal front that looks onto a street or open space

Kaaba- a small stone building in the court of the Great Mosque at Mecca that contains a sacred black stone and is the goal of Islamic pilgrimage and the point toward which Muslims turn in praying

Mosque- a building used for public worship by Muslims

Nave- the central part of a church building, intended to accommodate most of the congregation. In traditional Western churches it is rectangular, separated from the chancel by a step or rail, and from adjacent aisles by pillars.

Pilgrimage- a journey to a place associated with someone or something well known or respected

Quran- the Islamic sacred book, believed to be the word of God as dictated to Muhammad by the archangel Gabriel and written down in Arabic

Redeemer- a person who redeems someone or something soft rock consistently largely of talc

Regent- a person appointed to administer a country because the monarch is a minor, absent, or incapitated.

Risotto- an Italian dish of rice cooked in stock with other ingredients such as meat or vegetables

Shrines- a place regarded as holy because of its associations with a divinity or a sacred person or relic, marked by a building or other construction

Soapstone- a soft rock consistently largely of talc

Sovereign- a supreme ruler, especially a monarchy

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