

Read Naturally Encore II

Level 70

Paired Story Comparison Questions

Stories 1 & 3

Great Wall of China & China's Ancient Buried Army

1. Based on his terracotta army and his desire for the Great Wall of China, what kind of an emperor do you think Qin Shi Huang was? What was important to him?
2. What is similar about the way the Great Wall of China and the terracotta army were created? Given the size and scale of each project, why is the method of building remarkable?
3. What do the Great Wall of China and Qin Shi Huang's buried army show about the emperor's expectations for peace?

Stories 2 & 4

The Leaning Tower of Pisa & The Colosseum

1. What physical characteristics do the Colosseum and the Leaning Tower of Pisa have in common?
2. What factors have damaged or weakened the Leaning Tower and the Colosseum since their initial construction?
3. Compare and contrast the construction stages of the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Colosseum.

Stories 5 & 7

The Great Pyramids of Egypt & The Mexican Pyramids

1. Which features of the Mexican pyramids suggest that they were used for public occasions? Which features of the Egyptian pyramids suggest that they were not used for public occasions?
2. How are the two sets of pyramids alike?
3. Do you think the Mexican pyramids were inspired by the Egyptian pyramids? Why or why not?

Stories 6 & 8

The Mysterious Nazca Lines & Easter Island's Statues

1. What do the locations of Easter Island's statues and the Nazca Lines have in common?
2. What building challenges were faced by both the Polynesians who once lived on Easter Island and the Nazca people who once lived in Peru?
3. The Polynesians on Easter Island had a purpose in building the giant statues. Explain how it differs from the purpose of the Nazca Lines.

Stories 9 & 11

The Tangshan Earthquake & Earthquakes

1. Would a seismograph have helped Chinese scientists save the city of Tangshan or protect its residents in 1976? Why or why not?
2. How was the Tangshan earthquake similar to the Tohoku earthquake? How was it different?
3. What happened beneath the surface of the earth in Tangshan on July 28, 1976?

Stories 10 & 12

The Chernobyl Accident & Radiation

1. Why did 31 people die shortly after the Chernobyl explosion?
2. Both stories discuss the harmful effects of too much radiation. Make a list of all these harmful effects. You should be able to list at least five.
3. Did Chernobyl give off radiation before the accident or only after?

Stories 13 & 15

Statue of Liberty & The Eiffel Tower

1. The construction of the Statue of Liberty took longer than that of the Eiffel Tower, even though the Eiffel tower is more than three times as tall. Why do you think this was the case?
2. How are these two structures similar? How are they different?
3. How do you know Gustave Eiffel was a talented engineer?

Stories 14 & 16**The Brooklyn Bridge & The Golden Gate Bridge**

1. How were the dangers of building the Brooklyn Bridge different from the dangers of building the Golden Gate Bridge?
2. Compare the opening celebrations of the two bridges. Why were people eager for these bridges to be completed?
3. What advantage did Joseph Baermann Strauss have over John Roebling when Strauss designed the Golden Gate Bridge?

Stories 17 & 19**The Black Hills & Mount Rushmore**

1. Some American Indian groups objected to the choice of Mount Rushmore as the site for Borglum's sculpture. Using information from both stories, tell why you think they may have objected to the monument being built on this site.
2. Using information from both stories, give examples that support the statement, "The Black Hills are still very rich."
3. Based on information from both stories, how is the Black Hills region different today than it was in the 1870s?

Stories 18 & 20**Tornadoes & Hurricanes**

1. How are tornadoes and hurricanes similar? How are they different?
2. What aspects of a tornado could make it more deadly than a hurricane? What aspects could make it less deadly?
3. How is tracking a tornado different from tracking a hurricane?

Stories 21 & 23**The Golden Temple & The Taj Mahal**

1. How are religious values expressed through the structures of the Golden Temple and Taj Mahal?
2. How does nature add beauty to each of the structures?
3. What are some similarities and differences between the Taj Mahal and the Golden Temple?

Stories 22 & 24**King Henry VIII & The Tower of London**

1. Where and how did Katherine Howard die? How do you know?
2. King Henry VIII and the Tower of London are both infamous. Why?
3. What did the Tower complex include around the time of Henry VIII?

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Additional Comparison Questions

Stories 1 & 22

Great Wall of China & King Henry VIII

How were Qin Shi Huang and King Henry VIII similar leaders?

Stories 3 & 5

China's Ancient Buried Army & The Great Pyramids of Egypt

Compare the contents of Qin Shi Huang's tomb to the contents of the pharaohs' tombs in the Egyptian pyramids. What do the contents say about these leaders' ideas about death?

Stories 3, 5 & 23

China's Ancient Buried Army, The Great Pyramids of Egypt & The Taj Mahal

How is the tomb at the Taj Mahal similar to the tombs for Qin Shi Huang and the Egyptian pharaohs? How is it different?

Stories 2, 7, 8 & 21

The Leaning Tower of Pisa, The Mexican Pyramids, Easter Island's Statues & The Golden Temple

These stories all describe structures with some religious element to them. What is the religious element of each structure?

Stories 2 & 23

The Leaning Tower of Pisa & The Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal and the Leaning Tower of Pisa are both famous for being architecturally interesting. What makes each structure interesting? Are these structures interesting in the same way?

Stories 6 & 7

The Mysterious Nazca Lines & The Mexican Pyramids

Both the Mexican pyramids and the Nazca Lines were created by early civilizations in the Americas. What are some similarities and differences between these creations?

Stories 8 & 19

Easter Island's Statues & Mount Rushmore

How is Mount Rushmore similar to the Easter Island statues? How is it different from them?

Stories 9 & 10

The Tangshan Earthquake & The Chernobyl Accident

What are some similarities and differences between the Chernobyl disaster and the Tangshan earthquake?

Stories 11 & 20

Earthquakes & Hurricanes

Compare the tools that scientists use to study earthquakes with the tools they use to study hurricanes. How do the scientists use these tools to help keep people safe?

Stories 13 & 14

Statue of Liberty & The Brooklyn Bridge

The Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn Bridge are two of the most famous landmarks in New York. How are they similar? How are they different?

Stories 13 & 19

Statue of Liberty & Mount Rushmore

The landmarks of Mount Rushmore and the Statue of Liberty each celebrate a characteristic of the United States. Name the characteristic associated with each and explain how the two characteristics are related.

Stories 14, 15 & 19

The Brooklyn Bridge, The Eiffel Tower & Mount Rushmore

What are some similarities between these three projects? What are some differences?

Stories 17 & 21

The Black Hills & The Golden Temple

Based on the information in the stories, what does India's Golden Temple have in common with the Black Hills region of South Dakota?

Stories 21 & 24

The Golden Temple & The Tower of London

When they were built, did the structures of the Golden Temple and the Tower of London send the same message to visitors? Use examples from both stories to support your answer.

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Answer Key for Paired Story Comparison Questions

Note: The Answer Key may not include all possible answers.

Stories 1 & 3

Great Wall of China & China's Ancient Buried Army

1. *Based on his terracotta army and his desire for the Great Wall of China, what kind of an emperor do you think Qin Shi Huang was? What was important to him?*

Qin Shi Huang's authority must have been great to command so many people to work so long on these two projects. The types of projects he ordered show that security was important to him. The quality of the work shows that he had high standards and that his subjects worked hard to meet those standards. The fact that he wanted to protect his empire and have eternal glory show that power was important to him.

2. *What is similar about the way the Great Wall of China and the terracotta army were created? Given the size and scale of each project, why is the method of building remarkable?*

Both projects were massive undertakings that took a long time to complete and required skilled work from thousands of people. Both projects were built with manual labor. It is remarkable that projects of such magnitude were done by hand, without the benefit of modern tools and machinery.

3. *What do the Great Wall of China and Qin Shi Huang's buried army show about the emperor's expectations for peace?*

China's emperor must have expected that he and China would both face enemies for a long time. It took 36 years and many people to build the emperor's tomb. The emperor believed that the buried army would continue to guard him long after his death. The Great Wall took a long time to build and many people to build it, and it too was made to last a long time. Such huge commitments indicate that the emperor expected that China would continue to be threatened by hostile invaders for many more years.

Stories 2 & 4

The Leaning Tower of Pisa & The Colosseum

1. *What physical characteristics do the Colosseum and the Leaning Tower of Pisa have in common?*

Both used marble—the Colosseum for its benches and the Leaning Tower for its exterior. Both are round—the Colosseum is oval-shaped and the Leaning Tower is circular. Both have multiple levels—the Colosseum has stories and the Leaning Tower has tiers. Both were constructed with features that were considered beautiful.

2. *What factors have damaged or weakened the Leaning Tower and the Colosseum since their initial construction?*

The Colosseum was damaged by earthquakes and by people using it as a quarry. The Leaning Tower's foundation was weakened because it was built on soft soil.

3. *Compare and contrast the construction stages of the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Colosseum.*

Both were built in stages—the Leaning Tower over 200 years and the Colosseum with the fourth story being added later. The Colosseum was mostly complete and able to be inaugurated after 10 years, whereas the Leaning Tower took 200 years.

Stories 5 & 7

The Great Pyramids of Egypt & The Mexican Pyramids

1. *Which features of the Mexican pyramids suggest that they were used for public occasions? Which features of the Egyptian pyramids suggest that they were not used for public occasions?*

The Mexican pyramids were located in cities near lots of people. Many of the Mexican pyramids have steps and temples on top for people to use. They also have elaborate exteriors for people to see. In contrast, the Egyptian pyramids were located out in the desert, where they were not as easy to reach. They have smooth sides and pointed tops, indicating that people were not meant to climb them. Each Egyptian pyramid was built as a tomb for one pharaoh, and entrances into the burial chamber were hidden and eventually sealed.

2. *How are the two sets of pyramids alike?*

Both reflect the values of ancient cultures and time periods. Both had the potential to be used as tombs. Both are architectural masterpieces.

3. *Do you think the Mexican pyramids were inspired by the Egyptian pyramids? Why or why not?*

Answers will vary but may include that it is unlikely that the Mexican pyramids were inspired by the Egyptian pyramids much, if at all, because the two sets of pyramids are so vastly different in both design and purpose. The Mexican pyramids were built on the opposite side of the world during a time when travel and communication were difficult, so it seems unlikely that the ancient Mexicans even knew about the Egyptian pyramids.

Stories 6 & 8

The Mysterious Nazca Lines & Easter Island's Statues

1. *What do the locations of Easter Island's statues and the Nazca Lines have in common?*

Both locations were home to early civilizations. The earliest Polynesians to inhabit Easter Island arrived centuries before the Dutch explorer Roggeveen found the island in 1772; the Nazca people inhabited the plateau in Peru from about 200 B.C.E. to 600 C.E. Both locations are difficult to reach or see. The statues stand on a remote island in the Pacific Ocean, and the Nazca Lines are found on a high plateau of a desert in Peru. Both locations remained unknown to outsiders for centuries. Both locations were rediscovered to the marvel of the outside world.

2. *What building challenges were faced by both the Polynesians who once lived on Easter Island and the Nazca people who once lived in Peru?*

Both the Polynesians and the Nazca people had to make their creations without the aid of modern tools and machinery. The Polynesians had to carve and then move heavy stones out of a volcano. The Nazca people had to remove several inches of gravel in intricate patterns and for long stretches in order to expose the lighter earth beneath for their large ground drawings.

3. *The Polynesians on Easter Island had a purpose in building the giant statues. Explain how it differs from the purpose of the Nazca Lines.*

Archeologists have suggested that the Easter Island statues were meant to honor the dead ancestors of the people who lived on the island. The statues have no obvious practical features and, therefore, seem ceremonial or symbolic in nature. In contrast, the purpose of the Nazca Lines has not been so easy to explain. Some people believe the drawings could have been made to please the gods of the Nazca people or to be used in various rituals. Others suggest a more practical purpose for the geoglyphs as walking paths, a huge calendar, or even a map to sources of water.

Stories 9 & 11

The Tangshan Earthquake & Earthquakes

1. *Would a seismograph have helped Chinese scientists save the city of Tangshan or protect its residents in 1976? Why or why not?*

A seismograph would not have helped Chinese scientists save Tangshan or protect its residents, because this instrument is not useful in measuring a quake until the quake is happening.

2. *How was the Tangshan earthquake similar to the Tohoku earthquake? How was it different?*

Both were extremely destructive, and both were surprising to the residents. Scientists did not believe Tangshan was at risk of a large earthquake, so the residents were not prepared when one happened. The Japanese government had spent a lot of money attempting to predict the next quake in Japan, but the Tohoku quake still came as a surprise. On the Richter scale, the Tohoku earthquake registered about one point higher (equal to ten times more powerful) than the Tangshan earthquake.

3. *What happened beneath the surface of the earth in Tangshan on July 28, 1976?*

In response to heating underneath the earth's crust, the plates (pieces of the crust) moved and slid past each other, causing an earthquake.

Stories 10 & 12**The Chernobyl Accident & Radiation**

1. *Why did 31 people die shortly after the Chernobyl explosion?*

These people were exposed to an extremely large dose of radiation, which can be fatal.

2. *Both stories discuss the harmful effects of too much radiation. Make a list of all these harmful effects. You should be able to list at least five.*

The harmful effects of too much radiation include health problems such as weakened immune systems; cancers like thyroid cancer, breast cancer, and leukemia; miscarriages, stillbirths, and birth defects; and altered genes. Environmental problems, such as contaminated water and soil, lead to contaminated food supplies. Contamination can also cause economic problems and psychological strain. Large doses of radiation can be fatal.

3. *Did Chernobyl give off radiation before the accident or only after?*

Chernobyl gave off radiation before the accident as well, because all nuclear power plants give off radiation.

Stories 13 & 15**Statue of Liberty & The Eiffel Tower**

1. *The construction of the Statue of Liberty took longer than that of the Eiffel Tower, even though the Eiffel tower is more than three times as tall. Why do you think this was the case?*

The Statue of Liberty may have taken longer to construct because it is a statue with artistic details. For example, it must have taken extra time to sculpt the outer skin of the statue. Gustave Eiffel had recently completed Liberty at the time he started the Eiffel Tower, so he may have learned a lot from building Liberty and found more efficient methods that he applied to the construction of the Eiffel Tower. Liberty was built in France and transported to the United States, which may have necessitated extra time.

2. *How are these two structures similar? How are they different?*

The structures are similar in that both constructions relied on the use of steel and riveting, and both have elevators running through the interiors. Both are famous landmarks that welcome many tourists.

Each statue has become a national symbol. Eiffel designed both, and each was partially assembled in a workshop. Both were made in France. The structures are different in appearance, and they were built for different purposes. The Statue of Liberty was built as a permanent monument, while the Eiffel Tower was intended to stand for only 20 years. The Eiffel Tower stayed in France, whereas the Statue of Liberty was sent to the United States as a gift.

3. *How do you know Gustave Eiffel was a talented engineer?*

Many things prove that Gustave Eiffel was a talented engineer. He demonstrated how steel could be used with other metals to build structures. He designed two of the most famous landmarks in the world. The Eiffel Tower was the tallest structure in the world for 40 years. His designs have proven to be strong and flexible and have lasted over 100 years.

Stories 14 & 16**The Brooklyn Bridge & The Golden Gate Bridge**

1. *How were the dangers of building the Brooklyn Bridge different from the dangers of building the Golden Gate Bridge?*

The crews were building in different locations with different geography. The dangers of the Brooklyn Bridge related to the underground caissons and the bends; the dangers of Golden Gate Bridge related to working high in the air while hanging onto wire cables or relying on scaffolds. The Golden Gate Bridge was built later, so the underwater dangers might have been better understood and therefore more avoidable by that time.

2. *Compare the opening celebrations of the two bridges. Why were people eager for these bridges to be completed?*

A total of 150,300 people crossed the Brooklyn Bridge on opening day and paid a penny; over 200,000 people crossed the Golden Gate Bridge on opening day and paid a nickel. In both cases, the bridges made travel easier to and from important areas.

3. *What advantage did Joseph Baermann Strauss have over John Roebling when Strauss designed the Golden Gate Bridge?*

The Golden Gate Bridge and the Brooklyn Bridge are both suspension bridges. Roebling's bridge was the first to use steel cables, and it was the longest bridge of its day. Strauss designed the Golden Gate Bridge decades after Roebling's design for the Brooklyn Bridge was completed, so he was able to learn from what was done on the Brooklyn Bridge. Both bridges required setting the tower foundations under water. Strauss would have been able to study the dangers encountered by Roebling's crew so he could try to avoid them. Dangers described in the Golden Gate Bridge story all relate to falling from heights, so it seems that engineers understood enough about the dangers of building underwater to do it more safely.

Stories 17 & 19

The Black Hills & Mount Rushmore

1. *Some American Indian groups objected to the choice of Mount Rushmore as the site for Borglum's sculpture. Using information from both stories, tell why you think they may have objected to the monument being built on this site.*

The land was sacred to American Indians, so they may not have wanted the granite outcroppings carved. The monument pays tribute to the United States, but many American Indians felt that people from the United States had invaded their land.

2. *Using information from both stories, give examples that support the statement, "The Black Hills are still very rich."*

The land of the Black Hills is still rich with beauty. The Black Hills continue to be an important and sacred place for American Indians, and visitors can learn about their culture. The Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse memorials have attracted millions of tourists to the Black Hills. The area is rich in history, with newer history being added to the old.

3. *Based on information from both stories, how is the Black Hills region different today than it was in the 1870s?*

The Black Hills region is less natural than it was in the 1870s because the sculptures have been carved into the hills. People flock to the Black Hills today to experience their beauty and to see attractions like Mount Rushmore, the Crazy Horse memorial,

and Deadwood; in the 1870s, however, gold was a main attraction for immigrants. It is likely that many more people visit the area today than in the 1870s. There is probably less gold in the Black Hills than there was in the 1870s.

Stories 18 & 20

Tornadoes & Hurricanes

1. *How are tornadoes and hurricanes similar? How are they different?*

They are similar in that they are both powerful storms that involve strong winds and can cause severe destruction. They both have a circular structure, with the storm's energy swirling around a center: an eye or a vortex. Moist air gives energy to both types of storms. They differ in that they are different sizes; a hurricane covers a much larger area. Also, hurricanes tend to last longer, develop over oceans, involve heavier rains, and can be easier to track. Tornadoes can have more powerful winds and, in the United States, have greater frequency in non-coastal areas.

2. *What aspects of a tornado could make it more deadly than a hurricane? What aspects could make it less deadly?*

More deadly: Tornadoes have more powerful winds; their movement may be unpredictable once they touch ground; and they can form quickly, so by the time they are noticed, there may not be enough time to warn people to take cover.

Less deadly: Tornadoes usually have a smaller path of destruction than hurricanes; tornadoes do not last as long as hurricanes; tornadoes do not bring the heavy rains and flooding associated with hurricanes; and since tornadoes cause less flooding, hurricanes can impact a wider area than most tornadoes do.

3. *How is tracking a tornado different from tracking a hurricane?*

Meteorologists use anemometers to measure wind speed, but tornadoes have winds powerful enough to destroy these devices. Tornadoes can form quickly, so meteorologists need to watch conditions in the atmosphere to predict whether a tornado is likely. There may be very little time to warn people. Hurricanes form over water, so there is more time to warn communities on land if the storm is moving in their direction. The meteorologists need to spend a longer time

tracking a hurricane than a tornado. They use satellite, aircraft, and radar to predict if and where the hurricane will reach land, how powerful it will be, and how large an area will be affected.

Stories 21 & 23

The Golden Temple & The Taj Mahal

1. *How are religious values expressed through the structures of the Golden Temple and Taj Mahal?*

Passages from the Koran, the Muslim holy book, decorate the outside of the Taj Mahal. Four prayer towers stand at the corners of the Taj Mahal. The Golden Temple was built on a holy lake; it sits on low land to symbolize humility, and it has four entrances to symbolize the accepting nature of the Sikh faith.

2. *How does nature add beauty to each of the structures?*

Classical gardens and pools surround the Taj Mahal. Marble and semi-precious stones add beauty to the interior of the structure. The Golden Temple was built amidst a peaceful lake, which reflects its beautiful exterior.

3. *What are some similarities and differences between the Taj Mahal and the Golden Temple?*

The two buildings are similar in several ways: both are located in India, both were built near water, both were built about 500 years ago, both are beautiful and attract visitors from all over the world, both have domes, and both have religious elements in their structures. They are different in that the Taj Mahal was built at the command of one man and was built as a tomb to honor one person, while the Golden Temple was built by the Sikh community as a central place of worship. They are also different in appearance in that the Golden Temple is gold, and the Taj Mahal is white marble.

Stories 22 & 24

King Henry VIII & The Tower of London

1. *Where and how did Katherine Howard die? How do you know?*

She was beheaded at the Tower of London. The Tower of London story says that Henry VIII had two wives beheaded there. The King Henry VIII story says that two of his wives were beheaded and that Katherine Howard was one of them.

2. *King Henry VIII and the Tower of London are both infamous. Why?*

Important parts of their histories have unfavorable elements—the Tower of London because it served as a prison where aristocrats met their deaths, and Henry VIII because he had an offensive habit of discarding wives, in two cases by having them beheaded.

3. *What did the Tower complex include around the time of Henry VIII?*

King Henry VIII reigned in the 16th century. At that time, the Tower complex included the White Tower and the Bloody Tower, the prison where executions were carried out. The Tower's armor museum was also established during the 16th century.

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Answer Key for Additional Comparison Questions

Note: The Answer Key may not include all possible answers.

Stories 1 & 22

Great Wall of China & King Henry VIII

How were Qin Shi Huang and King Henry VIII similar leaders?

Both rulers brought lasting change to their countries. Qin Shi Huang unified his country and separated it from invading nomads by building the Great Wall. King Henry VIII formed the Church of England and separated his country from Roman Catholicism. In doing so, he transformed England from a medieval, Catholic country into a Protestant country with a more modern social structure.

Stories 3 & 5

China's Ancient Buried Army & The Great Pyramids of Egypt

Compare the contents of Qin Shi Huang's tomb to the contents of the pharaohs' tombs in the Egyptian pyramids. What do the contents say about these leaders' ideas about death?

The contents of Qin Shi Huang's and the pharaohs' tombs symbolized their power and wealth—Qin Shi Huang's army involved a great deal of work from people under his leadership; the pharaohs' treasures were extremely valuable. Both Qin Shi Huang and the Egyptian pharaohs were buried with items designed to safeguard them after death. This suggests they believed in an afterlife and thought that worldly objects could still be useful to them after death.

Stories 3, 5 & 23

China's Ancient Buried Army, The Great Pyramids of Egypt & The Taj Mahal

How is the tomb at the Taj Mahal similar to the tombs for Qin Shi Huang and the Egyptian pharaohs? How is it different?

All of these tombs were for leaders of the countries in which they were built. Like the other tombs, the Taj Mahal is very grand and required lots of money and work to build. However, the Chinese and Egyptian tombs were ordered by the leaders themselves, whereas the Taj Mahal was commissioned by the emperor for his wife after she had died.

Stories 2, 7, 8 & 21

The Leaning Tower of Pisa, The Mexican Pyramids, Easter Island's Statues & The Golden Temple

These stories all describe structures with some religious element to them. What is the religious element of each structure?

The Leaning Tower of Pisa was built as a bell tower to accompany the Pisa Cathedral. Most of the Mexican pyramids served as public temples. The Easter Island statues were built to honor tribal ancestors, and early Polynesian islanders probably worshiped them. The Golden Temple was built by members of the Sikh religion to reflect the values of their religion and symbolize the fortitude of their faith.

Stories 2 & 23

The Leaning Tower of Pisa & The Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal and the Leaning Tower of Pisa are both famous for being architecturally interesting. What makes each structure interesting? Are these structures interesting in the same way?

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is famous because it leans to one side, which was an accident. The Taj Mahal is famous for its symmetry and the architect's attention to detail. So, the two structures are interesting in different ways: the Leaning Tower because it is an imperfect "object of curiosity," and the Taj Mahal because it is beautiful, elaborate, and symmetrical.

Stories 6 & 7

The Mysterious Nazca Lines & The Mexican Pyramids

Both the Mexican pyramids and the Nazca Lines were created by early civilizations in the Americas. What are some similarities and differences between these creations?

The Nazca Lines and Mexican pyramids are similar in that both are large in scale. Some of the Nazca Lines stretch for miles, and many of the pictures are hundreds of feet in length; the Mexican pyramids are large enough to have temples sitting at the top. Both the Nazca Lines

and the Mexican pyramids may have been used in ceremonies or rituals. Both may also have been used to follow the passage of time. The Nazca Lines are thought by some to have been part of a large calendar, and one of the Mexican pyramids casts a shadow of the serpent god twice a year on the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. Both the Nazca Lines and the Mexican pyramids also showcase the artistic aspect of early American civilizations. Many of the Nazca geoglyphs depict animals, plants, and geometric designs, while sculptures, decorations, and the parallel lines of many steps adorn the exteriors of the Mexican pyramids.

The Nazca Lines and Mexican pyramids are different in where they were created. The Nazca lines were made on a high desert plateau, far from any cities. The Mexican pyramids, on the other hand, were built in the middle of big cities. A second difference is in their known uses. While archeologists are quite clear on the place and purpose of the Mexican pyramids in public life of early cultures, the true purpose of the Nazca Lines remains uncertain.

Stories 8 & 19

Easter Island's Statues & Mount Rushmore

How is Mount Rushmore similar to the Easter Island statues? How is it different from them?

The Easter Island statues and Mount Rushmore are similar in that both are giant stone sculptures. Scientists believe the Easter Island statues were carved to show respect to tribal ancestors, which means that they possibly honored real people, just as Mount Rushmore does. They are different in that Mount Rushmore was carved into rock using dynamite, hammers, chisels, and drills. Conversely, the creators of the Easter Island statues had only stone tools to work with. The Easter Island statues are smaller, and unlike Mount Rushmore, they had to be moved from the place where they were initially carved.

Stories 9 & 10

The Tangshan Earthquake & The Chernobyl Accident

What are some similarities and differences between the Chernobyl disaster and the Tangshan earthquake?

Both events resulted in great loss of life and damage to property. However, Chernobyl was an accident that resulted from human actions, while the Tangshan earthquake was a natural disaster. It is possible to measure the amount of damage caused by the Tangshan earthquake, but we may never know how much damage resulted from the Chernobyl explosion. The reactor explosion at Chernobyl was preventable, but no one could have prevented the Tangshan earthquake. Both events can provide insight into how to prevent similar disasters in the future: people can study Chernobyl in the hopes of preventing a similar nuclear accident, or at least reducing the damage if one should occur again, and they can also study Tangshan to learn how to minimize losses in the event of an earthquake.

Stories 11 & 20

Earthquakes & Hurricanes

Compare the tools that scientists use to study earthquakes with the tools they use to study hurricanes. How do the scientists use these tools to help keep people safe?

Scientists who study earthquakes have sensitive instruments that can measure the intensity of an earthquake. By studying the intensity of earthquakes that have already happened and the damage resulting from those earthquakes, scientists can work with engineers and architects to design more earthquake-resistant buildings. Scientists who study hurricanes track weather conditions such as air pressure, water temperature, and wind speeds to predict the formation of a hurricane. They are able to see a hurricane developing far out at sea and then use satellite, aircraft, and radar to monitor it and warn communities in the storm's path.

Stories 13 & 14**Statue of Liberty & The Brooklyn Bridge**

The Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn Bridge are two of the most famous landmarks in New York. How are they similar? How are they different?

The Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn Bridge are similar in that both are beloved and influential. Both were celebrated when they were unveiled to the public. They are different in that the Brooklyn Bridge serves a practical purpose for commuters, whereas the Statue of Liberty serves as a national symbol. The construction of the Brooklyn Bridge was plagued with misfortune, which was not the case for the construction of the Statue of Liberty.

Stories 13 & 19**Statue of Liberty & Mount Rushmore**

The landmarks of Mount Rushmore and the Statue of Liberty each celebrate a characteristic of the United States. Name the characteristic associated with each and explain how the two characteristics are related.

The Statue of Liberty is a tribute to liberty, or freedom, and Mount Rushmore is a shrine to democracy. Democracy and freedom are related because a democracy gives people the chance to elect leaders instead of being under the control of a leader (or leaders) who cannot be replaced and who might restrict the freedom of the people.

Stories 14, 15 & 19**The Brooklyn Bridge, The Eiffel Tower & Mount Rushmore**

What are some similarities between these three projects? What are some differences?

The projects were similar in that, in each case, an engineer or designer took on a challenging project. They all involved work high off the ground at some point during construction. The projects were different in that the Eiffel Tower was intended to stand for only 20 years, while the Brooklyn Bridge and Mount Rushmore seem to have been intended to stand for much longer. Also, the Eiffel Tower and Mount Rushmore were both mostly decorative, while the Brooklyn Bridge served an important function for commuters in New York.

Stories 17 & 21**The Black Hills & The Golden Temple**

Based on the information in the stories, what does India's Golden Temple have in common with the Black Hills region of South Dakota?

The Golden Temple and the Black Hills are both places that have long been considered sacred by a group of people—the Golden Temple by members of the Sikh faith, and the Black Hills by American Indians. Both locations are also known for their natural beauty. Even before the Golden Temple was built, people visited the lake and its surrounding forest to pray. The Black Hills region is similarly recognized for its scenery, which includes beautiful lakes, forests, and waterfalls. Both places attract many visitors.

Stories 21 & 24**The Golden Temple & The Tower of London**

When they were built, did the structures of the Golden Temple and the Tower of London send the same message to visitors? Use examples from both stories to support your answer.

The two structures sent different messages to visitors. The Tower was intended to keep people out, so its buildings had thick walls and the complex was surrounded by two stone walls and a moat. People from outside would have had to get through several barriers in order to get inside the Tower complex. In contrast, the Golden Temple was built with the intention that all people would feel welcome there. Its design reflects this idea in that the temple has four doors to welcome visitors.