

The Statue of Liberty

Read the text. Then answer the questions on the next page.

- 1 The Statue of Liberty stands on a small island in New York Harbor. This famous statue was a gift from the people of France, and it took many years of hard work to build.
- 2 The idea for the statue began in France. The French people wanted to celebrate their friendship with the United States. They also wanted to honor the freedom that Americans had won. An artist named Auguste Bartholdi designed the statue.
- 3 Workers in Paris built the statue piece by piece. They hammered thin sheets of copper into shape over wooden molds. The copper skin is only about as thick as two pennies. A strong iron frame holds up the skin from the inside. Gustave Eiffel, who later built the Eiffel Tower, planned the frame.
- 4 The statue had to cross the ocean in pieces. Workers took it apart into 350 pieces and packed them into 214 wooden crates. In 1885, a ship carried the crates across the Atlantic Ocean to New York.
- 5 The work was finished in New York. Americans had to build a base, called a pedestal, for the statue to stand on, and it cost a lot of money. A newspaper asked its readers for help. More than 120,000 people sent in money, and most of them gave less than a dollar. When the base was ready, workers put the statue together on top of it. It was shown to the world on October 28, 1886.



The Statue of Liberty: Questions

Go back to the text to find your proof. Underline it in the color shown.

1. What is the topic of this text?

- ☐ the city of Paris
- ☐ ships and harbors
- ☐ the Statue of Liberty

2. Which sentence tells the main idea of the whole text?

red

- ☐ The statue was a gift from the people of France, and it took many years of hard work to build.
- ☐ The copper skin is about as thick as two pennies.
- ☐ New York has a large harbor.

3. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

orange

- ☐ Pennies are made with copper.
- ☐ Workers in Paris built the statue piece by piece.
- ☐ Gustave Eiffel planned the frame.

4. Write two details from paragraph 5 that tell more about its main idea.

yellow

5. What is paragraph 2 mostly about?

green

6. Which detail could the author add to paragraph 4?

- ☐ The torch of the statue is covered in gold.
- ☐ New York is a very large city.
- ☐ The trip across the ocean took about a month.

The Statue of Liberty: Answer Key

Answers are in green. The proof is where to find each answer in the text.

1. What is the topic of this text?

- ☐ the city of Paris
- ☐ ships and harbors
- ☒ **the Statue of Liberty**

Proof The topic is named in the title and comes up in every paragraph.

2. Which sentence tells the main idea of the whole text?

red

- ☒ **The statue was a gift from the people of France, and it took many years of hard work to build.**
- ☐ The copper skin is about as thick as two pennies.
- ☐ New York has a large harbor.

Proof Paragraph 1: "This famous statue was a gift from the people of France, and it took many years of hard work to build."

3. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?

orange

- ☐ Pennies are made with copper.
- ☒ **Workers in Paris built the statue piece by piece.**
- ☐ Gustave Eiffel planned the frame.

Proof Paragraph 3: "Workers in Paris built the statue piece by piece."

4. Write two details from paragraph 5 that tell more about its main idea.

yellow

A newspaper asked its readers for help. More than 120,000 people sent in money to pay for the pedestal.

5. What is paragraph 2 mostly about?

green

How the idea for the statue began in France.

6. Which detail could the author add to paragraph 4?

- ☐ The torch of the statue is covered in gold.
- ☐ New York is a very large city.
- ☒ **The trip across the ocean took about a month.**

Proof Only this detail is about the main idea of paragraph 4.