

## **Sacred Buildings**

In many parts of the world, sacred structures are the most visible and stunning elements of the cultural landscape. In other places and traditions, houses of worship are modest. Even where there is no sacred structure, sacred places or objects are present. This activity will give you practice with identifying famous or typical sacred structures from around the world.

Some of the structures pictured on the page following the chart are located in Southeast Asia. Southeast Asia has examples of Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, and Christian sacred structures. The many kinds of religion present there are a result of the variety of cultural influences over the past 2,000 years. Today, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity are the most widely practiced religions.

While Hinduism died out hundreds of years ago in most parts of the region, it remains alive on the Indonesian islands of Bali and Lombok. Spectacular remains of Hinduism's past importance are found throughout the region in the form of architecture and other arts.

Southern or Theravada Buddhism is the major religion of lowland Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia. Chinese or Mahayana Buddhism is most common in Vietnam. Indonesia is the world's most populous Muslim country. The majority of Malaysia is also Muslim. In the Philippines, most of the people are Roman Catholic.

Sacred structures from other parts of the world have been included in this activity. The ability to recognize these types of structures will help you identify images of places correctly. This ability will improve your skill of "reading" something about a culture from its landscape.

### **YOU ARE THE GEOGRAPHER**

Now look through your textbook and consult other sources with pictures of sacred buildings from around the world as needed. Match each feature with its correct label or name and then with its location (country). Then write a brief paragraph comparing and contrasting the building styles of the different religions.

---

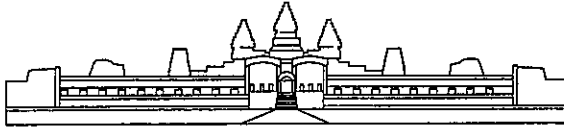
---

---

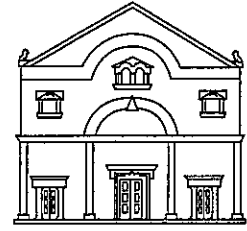


| Picture   | Location |   |
|-----------|----------|---|
| 1. _____  | _____    | Ancient Egyptian Temple (Temple of Horus, Edfu)     |
| 2. _____  | _____    | Ancient Greek Temple (Temple of Athena Nike)        |
| 3. _____  | _____    | Hindu Temple (Brahmeshvara Temple, Bhuvaneshvar)    |
| 4. _____  | _____    | Hindu-Buddhist Temple Complex (Angkor Wat)          |
| 5. _____  | _____    | Buddhist Temple and Pagoda (Foguang Temple, Shanxi) |
| 6. _____  | _____    | Buddhist Temple-Stupa (Ananda Temple, Pagan)        |
| 7. _____  | _____    | Buddhist Temple-Mountain (Borobudur)                |
| 8. _____  | _____    | Shinto Shrine (Izumo Shrine)                        |
| 9. _____  | _____    | Mayan Temple (Tikal)                                |
| 10. _____ | _____    | Synagogue (Capernaum)                               |
| 11. _____ | _____    | Islamic Mosque (Suleymaniye Mosque)                 |
| 12. _____ | _____    | Roman Catholic Cathedral, Gothic Style (Chartres)   |
| 13. _____ | _____    | Eastern Orthodox Church (St. Basil's)               |
| 14. _____ | _____    | Baptist Church (Delphi Falls)                       |

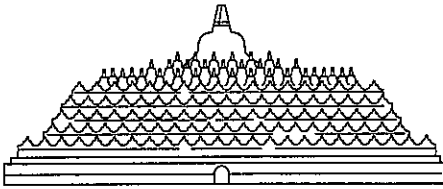
- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| a. Myanmar (Burma) | h. India         |
| b. Cambodia        | i. Indonesia     |
| c. China           | j. Japan         |
| d. Egypt           | k. Russia        |
| e. France          | l. Turkey        |
| f. Greece          | m. United States |
| g. Guatemala       | n. Israel        |



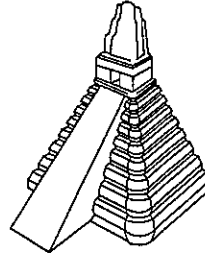
A



B



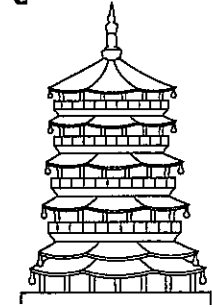
C



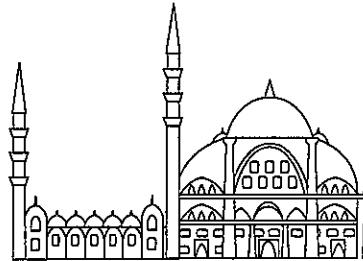
D



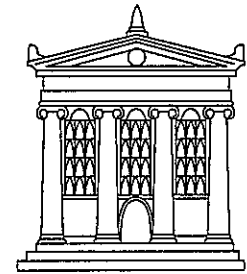
E



F



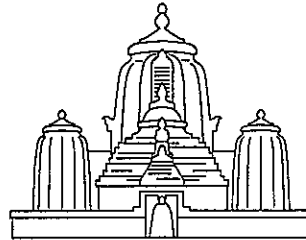
G



H



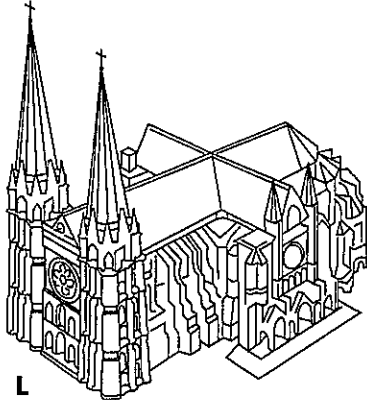
I



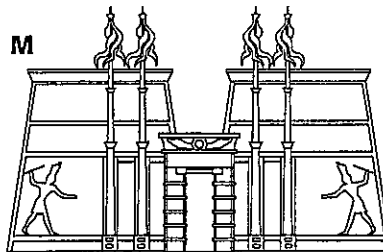
J



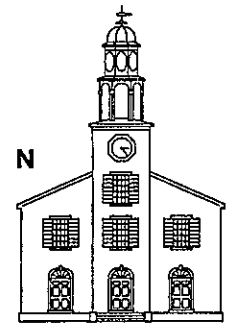
K



L



M



N