

The Shard

VIDEO RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. INTRODUCTION (0-0.28)

Fill in the gaps with the missing function words:

The Shard, London's newest skyscraper 1. tallest building
..... western Europe, 2. opened 3. doors to the
public.

Construction may still 4. finishing below, 5. 244 meters
above the hustle and bustle 6. serene 360 degree viewing gallery
offers visitors a view of 7. city previously only possible
8. aircraft.

2. EDWIN HEATHCOTE, ARCHITECTURE COLUMNIST, FINANCIAL TIMES (0.29-0.53)

Fill in the gaps with the missing words and identify the word class they belong to:

The observation deck 1. attention away from what's 2.
at ground level. It's not the most sophisticated tower in the way that it
3. the ground; it hits the station rather messily, it doesn't
4. for a very good public space beneath it, and I 5. in a
way the building is 6. to 7. your attention upwards to
the point and 8. your attention away from some of the problems that
this huge building 9. at ground level.

3. THE VIEWS FROM THE SHARD (1-2.18)

Fill in the gaps with the missing words and identify the word class they belong to:

On a clear 1. there is no denying that the views are spectacular, with
2..... discernible from over ten miles away.

But beware of London 3. if it turns for the worse, you are stuck in
the 4. Organizers say 5. who arrive with poor
6....., will be able to reschedule their 7. Technology can
also lend a helping 8.....

Seb Morton-Clark (FT): "What they have in their viewing 9. are these
telescopes, which help you by augmenting the view. So you can see as far as
Wembley Stadium for 10. in the far West of London, or over to the
BT Tower* in the West End. Close to us there is London Bridge, there's St. Paul's
Cathedral, over the 11. there's the Tate Modern, and we can even spy
our own 12. in the Financial Times 13. And you can look
at these views in the 'live' or the prerecorded 'day', 'sunset' and 'night'."

You might be brought back down to earth all too quickly by the ticket
14. though, almost 25 pounds per 15. and just under
19 pounds for a 16. For a family of four that's almost 90 pounds.

* The BT Tower is a communications tower located in Fitzrovia, London, owned by BT Group. It has been previously known as the Post Office Tower, the London Telecom Tower and the British Telecom Tower. The main structure is 177 meters tall, with a further section of aerial rigging bringing the total height to 191 meters.

4. OTHER OBSERVATION DECKS IN THE WORLD (2.37-3.25)

a) Tick the observation decks mentioned in the video:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Empire State Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Burj Khalifa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eiffel Tower | <input type="checkbox"/> Willis Tower |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CN Tower | <input type="checkbox"/> Tokyo Sky Tree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shangai Tower | <input type="checkbox"/> Rockefeller Centre |

b) Are they cheaper or more expensive than The Shard?

5. CONCLUSION (3.26- 4.13)

Fill in the gaps with the missing words and identify the word class they belong to:

Pound per meter, the Shard comes in as one of the most 1. observation decks in the world. Of course it has something that none of the others do: London. Surely an 2. selling point.

Edwin Heathcote: "London maybe is not the 3. city to see from above, it's a 4., evolving organism. It's not a place of 5. panoramas like Rome, or Venice, or New York, or Hong Kong with the sea sparkling in the distance and ruins, and 6. boulevards. So I think quite possibly London is a city that is actually 7. experienced from ground level".

Operators argue that no way gives the same 8. overview of the city and its history. London's tourists will no doubt be thrilled, its citizens perhaps a little less convinced.

The Financial Times, video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qE66oD70x4Y>

FURTHER ACTIVITIES

6. Write an email to your English speaking friend Leila. Invite her to join you in London.

You are going to see The Shard together, tell her that it is really worth seeing and why.

(120-150 words)