

Reading

The Louvre

The Louvre Museum in Paris is one of the largest and most famous art museums in the world. The Louvre was built at the beginning of the 13th century and it was first a palace for the kings and queens of France. During the French Revolution the Louvre became a museum and it now has about 35,000 different works of art. Perhaps the most famous painting in the museum is the *Mona Lisa* by Leonardo Da Vinci, which thousands of people see every year. To enter the museum you have to go through the famous glass pyramid.

A lot of people didn't like the pyramid when it was first built but now it is a famous part of the museum. If you are under eighteen, you don't have to pay to go into the museum. Apart from the works of art there are lots of things to do and see in the Louvre. There are dance performances, storytelling and animated films. If you go in the summer, it is sometimes crowded. The Louvre has appeared in many books and films. Perhaps the most famous book and film was *The Da Vinci Code*, which was written by Dan Brown.



1 Read the text. Circle the correct option.

- 1 When was the Louvre built?
 - a At the end of the 13th century.
 - b At the beginning of the 14th century.
 - c At the beginning of the 13th century.
- 2 The Louvre was first used as ...
 - a a house.
 - b a museum.
 - c a palace.
- 3 The Louvre became a museum ...
 - a during the French Revolution.
 - b in the 13th century.
 - c this century.
- 4 To enter the museum you have to ...
 - a go through the door.
 - b go through a glass box.
 - c go through a pyramid made of glass.
- 5 Which of these sentences is true?
 - a The Louvre is cheap if you are under eighteen.
 - b The Louvre is expensive if you are under eighteen.
 - c The Louvre is free if you are under eighteen.

6 *The Da Vinci Code* was written by ...

- a Leonardo Da Vinci.
- b Dan Brown.
- c someone in the Louvre.

Listening

2 Listen. True (t) or false (f)?

- 1 The population of Paris is thirty million people. ___
- 2 Every year there are more than twenty million tourists in Paris. ___
- 3 A famous cathedral in Paris is the Arc de Triomphe. ___
- 4 The river which goes through Paris is called the Seine. ___
- 5 You can see a small Statue of Liberty in Paris. ___
- 6 The French Open tennis championship takes place in Paris. ___