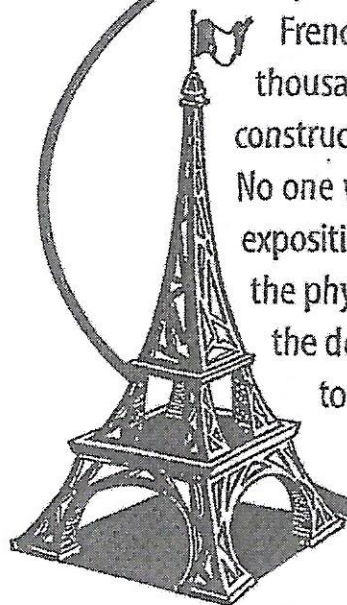
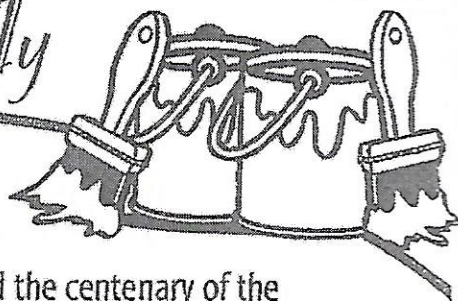


A Temporary Great Lady



The tower built by Gustave Eiffel for the 1889 Universal Exposition has become the symbol of Paris. The 1889 Universal Exposition marked the centenary of the French Revolution. Paris decided then to erect a tower, the tallest in the world. Twelve thousand pieces were moulded and assembled with twenty-five million bolts. Its construction aroused the strongest reactions. Either people found it quite superb or ugly. No one was indifferent to this tower that had to be taken down at the end of the exposition. However, its demolition was postponed because a medical team was studying the physical reactions of humans at this height. Then, the beginning of the radio settled the debate finally. People realized that the top of the tower was the best place in Paris to install the transmission antenna. An interesting fact was that forty tons of paint were needed to refresh this great Parisian lady when time left its signature on its structure.

1. Why did Gustave Eiffel build the famous tower? _____

2. How many tons of paint were needed to refresh the tower? _____

3. Why was the demolition postponed after the exposition? _____

4. What finally saved the Eiffel tower? _____
5. Was the tower admired by everyone? Explain. _____

6. How many bolts were needed to fix the structures? _____
7. How many pieces are there in the Eiffel tower? _____
8. Why do you think the city of Paris decided to erect such a tower? _____

9. The 1889 exposition marked which important anniversary? _____

10. What are there at the top of the tower? _____

