

1. Brainstorming: what's a teardrop of love?

Clue 1	Taj Mahal → a name?
Clue 2	Teardrop → referring to the shape of a tear or sadness?
Clue 3	Love → referring to a sad story?

2. How to make your topic unique

With writers unique descriptions, places and times become **magical** and **full of imagination**.

Regular Example: Taipei 101: the tallest building in Taiwan.

Teacher's Example: Taipei 101: the giant shining cake in the sky.

My own line:



3. Essay Structure

- (1) General introduction of Taj Mahal
 - (2) Taj Mahal's historical background information
 - (3) Its beauty in the eyes of literary masters
 - (4) Detail depictions of Taj Mahal's perfection
 - (5) Conclusion of Taj Mahal's effect and future
- Today's Focus

Leave them to next time

4. Line by line interpretation and appreciation

There are a million ways to express deep affection for our loved ones. (1) To Shah Jahan, a Mogul (2) of India, building an incomparable (3) mausoleum (4) was how he memorized his love. Finished (5) more than three hundred years ago, this tomb remains (6) one of the most impressive (7) and glorious (8) wonders of the world to date. (9) It is known as (10) the Taj Mahal.

- (1) Please name (list) 3 ways you use to express affection for your love ones.

- (2) Define Mogul: _____
- (3) Incomparable is from the word compare(v.) → comparable(a.) → incomparable(a.) → incomparability(n.)
- (4) mausoleum [ˌmɔːsəˈliəm], mausoleum's synonyms are tomb, vault, crypt, shrine
- (5) Why use the word "finished" instead of "constructed?" Finished means the construction has been completed
- (6) Remain (v.). The differences between "remain" and "retain": remain 不及物, retain 及物
- (7) Impressive is from the word impress(v.) → impressible(a.) → impressibility(n.) → impressive(a.) → impression(n.) → impressionist(n.)
- (8) Glorious is from the word glory(n.) → glorious(a.) → glorify(v.) → glorification(n.)
- (9) To date 意指 迄今 synonyms : up to now; to this day; so far; (up) to date; up to today
- (10) Known as: 被認定為... ; known for: 以甚麼著名 (She is known for her beauty.)

Lesson 7: The Taj Mahal: A Teardrop of Love

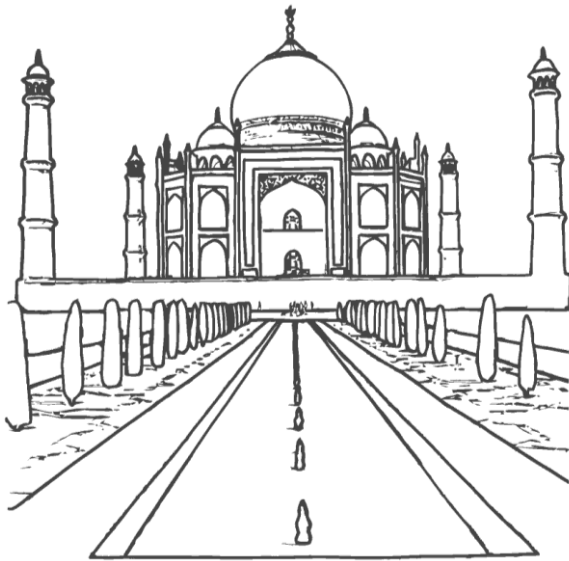
In fact, behind (11) this grand structure is a touching story. Legend has it that (12) Shah Jahan had numerous (13) wives. Among (14) them, Mumtaz Mahal was his favorite. He felt extremely (15) depressed (16) after she passed away (17) while giving birth. (18) Therefore, he recruited (19) twenty-thousand workers to construct a mausoleum in memory of (20) her. Building materials and valuable treasures were brought in from every part of the world. The emperor was particular about (21) every detail, so it took twenty-two years to complete the construction. Before long, however, the emperor was usurped (22) by his own son and imprisoned (23) in the Agra Fort on the other bank of the River Yamuna. From across the river, he gazed day and night (24) at this masterpiece (25) built for the love of his life until he finally died.

- (11) Behind (prep.) 在後面(behind the house)、晚於(behind her schedule)、支持(fully behind his family)
 Behind (adv.) 遺留在後 (stayed behind)
 Behind (n.) 屁股(口語化)
- (12) legend has it that: 傳說中、傳說是這麼說的。同句型，另有: rumor/fact has it. (謠言中、事實上)
 Legend 相關的字: legendary(a.), legendize(v.), legendarily(adv.)
- (13) numerous 意指許多，另有同義詞如 many, several, abundant
 與 Numerous 相關的字: numerate (v.), numeration(n.), numerator(n.), numerable(a.), numeracy(n.)
 GUESS: What does “numerology” mean? It means 命理學
- (14) Among 意指 在...之間，用於三者以上；between 用於兩者之間，如 between you and me.
- (15) extremely 意指極端的，另有同義詞: exceptionally, extraordinarily, unusually
 字源: “extreme,” 意指極端的(a.)或極端(n.)
- (16) depressed (a.) 易指沮喪、消沉、心灰意冷，另有 depress(v.), depression(n.)
- (17) passed away 意指[婉轉語]去世；另有其他說法: die, decease, perish
- (18) give birth to sb 意指生產
- (19) recruit [rɪˈkrut] 意指招募、雇用(新成員) EX: In Pu Tai, some teachers are recruited from abroad.
- (20) in memory of 意指紀念某人，前加做的事，後加要紀念之人。
- Q: What’s the difference between “in memory of” and “in honor of?” 前為過世之人，後為在世之人
- (21) particular about 意指講究的；苛求的，挑剔的，particular 為特別的(a.)之意，與 special, unusual, different 字意近。Particularly(adv.)= in particular (He particularly favored her. He favored her in particular.)
- (22) usurped [jʊˈzɜːp] 意指盜用、篡奪，另有 usurper(n.), usurpation (n.)
- (23) imprisoned 意指監禁，同義詞 jail, lock up, confine. 另有 imprisonment(n.)監禁 (life imprisonment)
- (24) day and night 意指日日夜夜，亦可說 everyday, from dusk to dawn. 稱托出其思念
- (25) masterpiece 意指傑作，可分為 master 和 piece 兩字。另有 masterwork, chef'd'oeuvre, magnum opus 等同義詞。

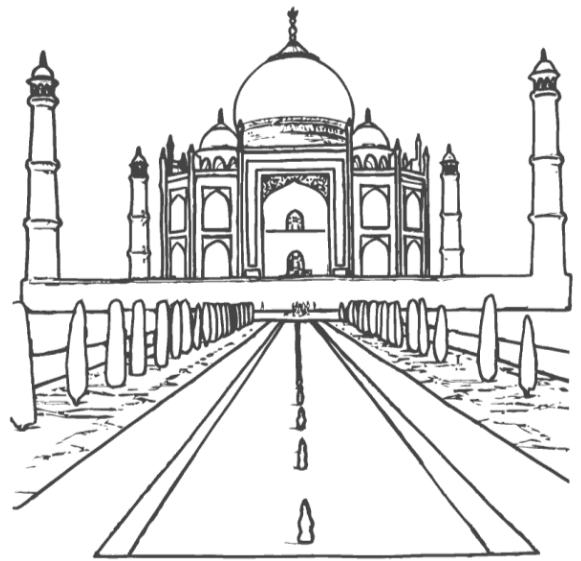
5. Homework: Make Taj Mahal colorful and magical!

In the text book, it says “The **magic lies in** its white marble dome, which reflects the sunlight and the moonlight.” Preview paragraph 3-6, and color the pictures below **according to the descriptions above it**. You can use whichever coloring materials you can get. **Be creative!**

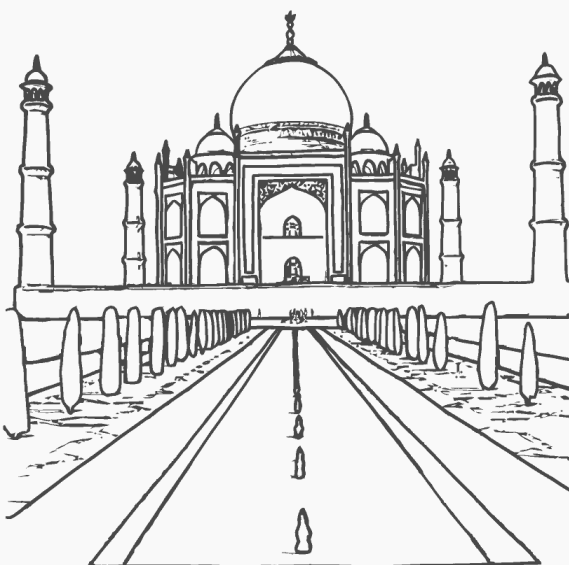
Bathed in the light of the setting sun, it carries a **glimmer of gold**.



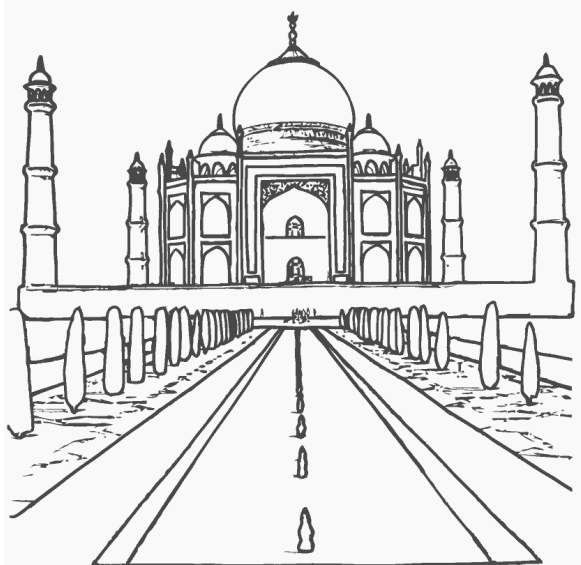
Under the **moonlight**, it shines brightly when the precious stones **reflect the moonlight** spilling upon the terrace.



When the sun rises, a **pink flush** appears on the white marble dome.



Its countenance is also **reflected in the waters of the River Yamuna**, which sits right in front of it, with **sunlight and clouds** adoring it each day.



Congratulations! You have added colors and life to Taj Mahal, which will always remain beautiful and unique in your memory. Show your masterpiece to your family and friends!

