

Preserving the past 保存历史

Vocabulary: History 词汇: 历史

What **historical site** impresses you the most? I've always been fascinated by the **pyramids** in Egypt. A few years ago I **braved** a long queue and climbed through a narrow passage to reach the main **chamber** deep inside one of them. Like millions of other tourists I marvelled at stoned-walled rooms full of the magic of this **ancient** civilisation.



Tutankhamun ruled Egypt from 1336 BC - 1327 BC

But popularity might be the **undoing** of such **archaeological treasures**.

Take Tutankhamun's **tomb** in the Valley of the Kings, for example. It lay **untouched** for more than 3,000 years until the British **archaeologist** Howard Carter **uncovered** it in 1922. Now more than 1,000 people a day walk through it.

But as more and more people visit, the temperature and **humidity** inside the tomb change. As a result, the beautifully decorated **plaster** is coming away from the rock.

In order to preserve its **heritage**, a **replica** of the monument is being opened about 1km away from the actual **burial site**. Specialists have recorded every detail of Tutankhamun's tomb and used the data to recreate it.

Adam Lowe from the organisation behind the project, Factum Arte, says the copy is identical to the original. He believes visitors will want to "become part of the force that protects it rather than a force that is leading to its destruction", so won't mind seeing a replica.

But for historian Tom Holland, a copy is still a copy. He believes that although preservation is important, there is something unique about places like Tutankhamun's tomb.

He says it was built "by people who believed in the world of the spirits, the dead and the **supernatural**. You don't have to believe in a god or gods to feel a place is **consecrated** and has a particular quality that can't be reproduced."

What about you: would you visit a **replica** of a monument rather than the original to help preserve it?

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. What did the author have to endure when visiting the pyramids?
2. How many people visit Tutankhamun's tomb each day?
3. What is damaging the paintings on the walls of the tomb?
4. Which words are used to describe something which is not original?
5. Which words are used to describe the maintenance of something in good condition?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Many people visit the Terracotta Army in Xi'an. There's nothing like it. It's _____.

untouched	identical	unique	a replica
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2. I missed the party yesterday but I want to know everything. Tell me every _____.

data	copy	example	detail
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3. The Colosseum is a well-known _____ in Rome.

ancient civilisation	historical site	chamber	pyramid
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4. The only person who could tell Tom and Terry apart was their mother. They were _____ twins.

identical	original	copied	reproduced
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5. The Eiffel Tower is part of France's cultural _____.

replica	archaeological treasures	heritage	civilisation
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. What did the author have to endure when visiting the pyramids? **A long queue and climbing a ladder in a narrow corridor.**
2. How many people visit Tutankhamun's tomb each day? **More than 1,000 a day.**
3. What is damaging the paintings on the walls of the tomb? **Changes in temperature and humidity.**
4. Which two words are used to describe something which is not original? **Copy and replica.**
5. Which two words are used to describe the maintenance of something in good condition? **Conservation and preservation.**

Exercise 练习

1. Many people visit the Terracotta Army in Xi'an. There's nothing like it. It's **unique**.
2. I missed the party yesterday but I want to know everything. Tell me every **detail**.
3. The Colosseum is a well-known **historical site** in Rome.
4. The only person who could tell Tom and Terry apart was their mother. They were **identical** twins.
5. The Eiffel Tower is part of France's cultural **heritage**.

Glossary 词汇表

historical site	历史遗址
pyramid	金字塔
to brave	不怕（排场队）
ancient	古老的
chamber	屋子
undoing	毁灭
archaeological treasure	考古珍宝
tomb	墓穴
untouched	没有触动过的
archaeologist	考古学家
to uncover	发掘
humidity	湿度
plaster	石膏，灰泥
heritage	遗迹
replica	复制品
burial site	墓地遗址
supernatural	超自然的
to consecrate	使圣化