

Name _____ Date _____

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY



The Statue of Liberty has become one of America's national symbols. About five million people visit the statue every year. Funds have been raised to make repairs to the statue so that people can continue to visit it.

A French sculptor named Auguste Bartholdi began construction of the statue in 1875. It took him nine years to complete the statue. He received help from French engineer Gustave Eiffel. Bartholdi built the statue of steel and copper. There are 62,000 pounds of copper and 250,000 pounds of steel in the Statue of Liberty. The statue stands about 150 feet high from the base to the torch. Bartholdi named his statue "Liberty Enlightening the World".

On July 4, 1884, while the statue was still in France, it was presented to America by the people of France. Then it was dismantled and shipped to the United States in 1885. The statue was separated into 350 pieces and packed into crates for the voyage to America. Mr. Bartholdi had suggested Bedloe's Island (now popularly called "Liberty Island") as the ideal place for the statue to be erected. The Americans agreed, and so the statue was put together piece by piece on top of a marble pedestal. The assembly was completed in 1886. With the pedestal included, the Statue of Liberty stood over 300 feet high. On October 28th of that year, President Grover Cleveland presided at a ceremony to formally accept this special gift from France.

In 1903, an addition was made to the statue. A bronze plaque with a poem written by Emma Lazarus was added to museum inside the marble pedestal. The poem was called "The New Colossus". She had written it in 1883 in order to help raise money for the pedestal. The poem contrasts the Greek Colossus with the Statue of Liberty. In descriptive language it expresses heartfelt compassion of America to the homeless, broken people of the world.

On October 15, 1924, the Statue of Liberty was declared a National Monument.

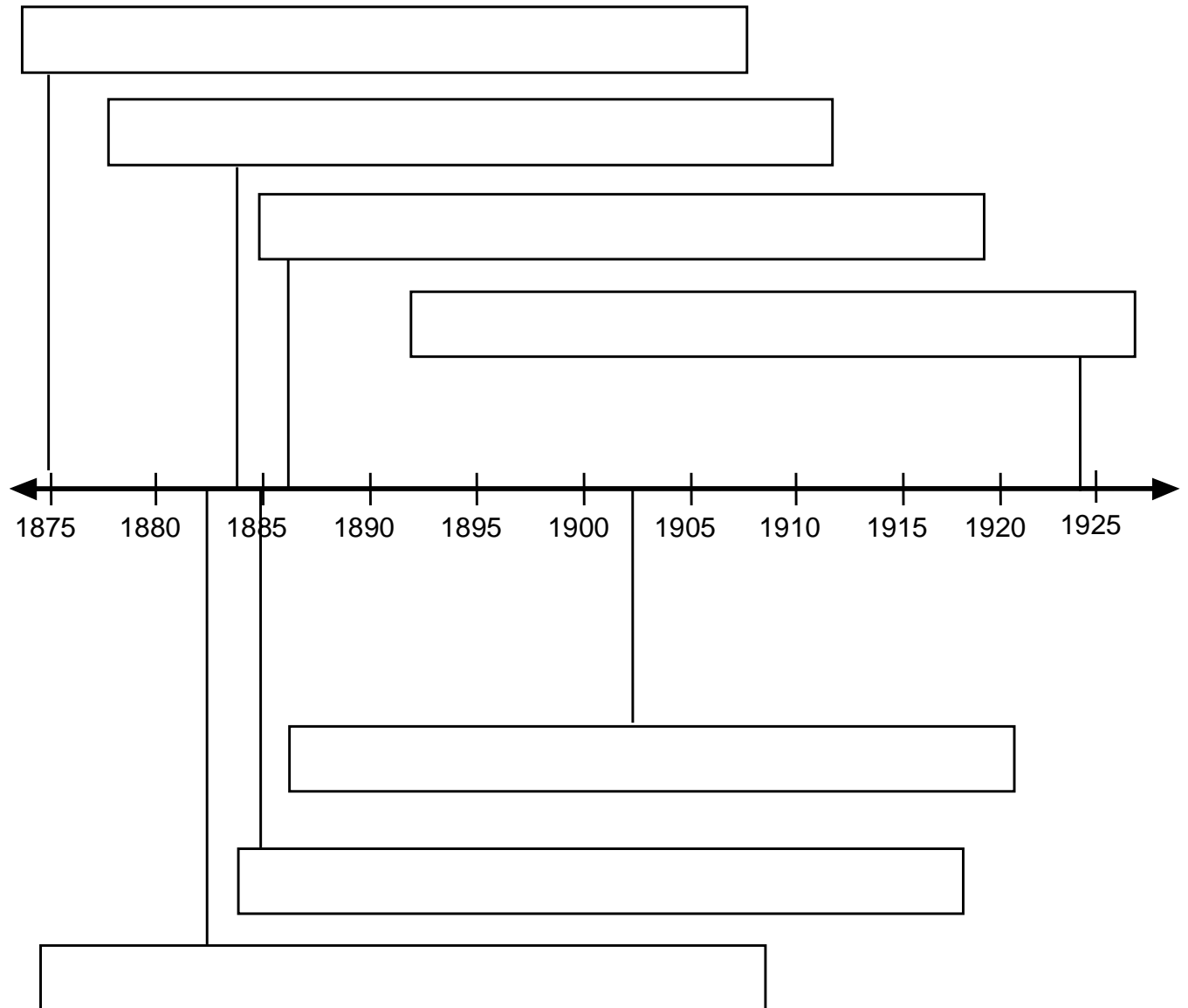
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Working with Timelines

Directions: Using the story about the Statue of Liberty, copy the events below into their correct spaces on the timeline.

- A bronze plaque with the words of Emma Lazarus's poem is added to the pedestal
- Auguste Bartholdi begins to construct the Statue of Liberty
- Emma Lazarus writes the poem "The New Colossus"
- President Grover Cleveland accepts the Statue from France
- The Statue of Liberty is designated as a National Monument
- The Statue of Liberty is presented to the Americans by France
- The Statue of Liberty is shipped to the United States



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Reading Comprehension

Directions: Write the letter of the correct answer on the space to the left of each question.

- ___ 1. Who helped Auguste Bartholdi build the Statue of Liberty?
- a. Gustave Eiffel
 - b. Auguste Renoir
 - c. Emma Lazarus
 - d. Grover Cleveland
- ___ 2. Auguste Bartholdi was a _____.
- a. chef
 - b. engineer
 - c. painter
 - d. sculptor
- ___ 3. From the time that the statue was completely assembled in the United States until the time that it became a national monument was _____ years.
- a. eighty-four
 - b. eighty-three
 - c. forty-eight
 - d. thirty-eight
- ___ 4. Emma Lazarus wrote a poem for the statue _____.
- a. because she had been an immigrant to Ellis Island
 - b. by accident
 - c. to raise money for the pedestal
 - d. because she was inspired by its appearance on Bedloe's Island
- ___ 5. The Statue of Liberty is *not* made of...
- a. copper
 - b. silver
 - c. steel
 - d. marble

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Answers

Timeline

- 1875 Auguste Bartholdi begins to construct the Statue of Liberty
- 1883 Emma Lazarus writes the poem "The New Colossus"
- 1884 The Statue of Liberty is presented to the Americans by France
- 1885 The Statue of Liberty is shipped to the United States
- 1886 President Grover Cleveland formally accepts the Statue from France
- 1903 A bronze plaque with the words of Emma Lazarus's poem is added to the pedestal
- 1924 The Statue of Liberty is designated as a National Monument

Reading Comprehension

1. a
2. d
3. d
4. c
5. b