

The Stories of Statues

Every statue has a story to tell. Statues give us clues about the people who built them and what they believed. They reflect what society feels is important. Statues express people's thoughts about gods and mythic creatures. They remind us of heroes and victims. They help us remember that people who were once considered important might not be so important after all. But the most amazing thing about statues is that they have the power to make us feel happy, sad, humble and proud, too.



The Statue of Liberty was given to the people of the USA by the people of France in the nineteenth century. It is a symbol of freedom and democracy.

Strategy to Skill

- 1 (Literal comprehension) What are some reasons statues are important?
- 2 (Making connections – draw conclusions) Why would the Great Sphinx of Giza have been carved entirely by hand?
- 3 (Making connections – draw conclusions) Why would the Spring Temple Buddha have been expensive to construct?
- 4 (Making connections – compare and contrast) How do statues show contrasting aspects of people's lives?
- 5 (Making connections – main points and bigger idea) What does the sentence *Every statue has a story to tell* mean?
- 6 (Making connections – visual elements) Why do you think copper material might have been chosen for the Spring Temple Buddha statue?
- 7 (Response) Which of the statues presented in this text do you find most appealing? Why?

