

## SEVEN WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86FyWTKzxpI>

Welcome to I Am Your Target Demographic and today we're beginning a three-part series looking at the wonders of the world.

We often hear the phrase that there are seven wonders of the world, but these lists have changed throughout time.

We're going to begin with the seven wonders of the *ancient* world, followed next week by the seven wonders of the middle ages, then leading to the seven wonders of the modern era, which is a much more engineering and innovation-focused list.

But let's start at the beginning. This list was believed to be created around the 1st century, as the first tourists began to really explore Greece and Egypt and the rest of the Mediterranean, so this list is geographically confined to that area. They also existed in a pretty wide range of time, with only 60 years that all seven of them supposedly existed at the same time, if they all existed at all. We'll get to that later.

## The great pyramid of Giza

Let's begin with the only one of these wonders to still **exist** today, the Great Pyramid of Giza.

While there are a few pyramids in Egypt, the largest pyramid belongs to the Pharaoh Khufu, and this pyramid was singled-out as a sight to see. It was supposedly built in about 2560 BC, **surviving** today for a **momentous** 4,000 year plus **lifespan**. For almost 3,800 of those years, it was the tallest man-made structure on Earth, until modern **engineering** allowed **skyscrapers** to exist. We're still unsure how this pyramid was built and it's **debated** if slave labor was used or if skilled craftsmen were **recruited**, either way totaling an **average** workforce of 14,000 people at a time over the course of ten years. It's also **debated** if this pyramid was meant to be a tomb or not, as Khufu's remains were never found. Some believe an **elaborate** undiscovered room in the pyramid may still hold his body, but only time and slow **meticulous** investigations will tell.

## The lighthouse of Alexandria

Our second wonder is also in Egypt, the Lighthouse of Alexandria. The lighthouse was created under the reign of Ptolemy the first and the second, taking about 12 years to build. This lighthouse had a giant **furnace** at the top, becoming the first of its kind and the model for all future lighthouses, used to guide ships into a harbor at night. It was destroyed over time by **several**

earthquakes, which slowly caused the lighthouse to **crumble** into the sea. A fort was built over the lighthouse's **ruins** so it wasn't able to be studied or examined until only recently, with most of the ruins still underwater.

## The colossus of Rhodes

Our next wonder takes us away from Egypt and now to Greece where we have the Colossus of Rhodes. The city of Rhodes is a **harbor** city and the giant Colossus was built in honor of the Greek god Helios. They built the statue to celebrate **victory** of defending their city against an attacking force. The statue was said to be about as tall as the Statue of Liberty and the pose of the statue is hotly **debated**, with the current belief that it couldn't have actually **straddled** the opening of the harbor as it's shown in pictures, but it likely stood to one side. Building the statue in the center of the harbor would have closed the actual **harbor** to traffic and that seems unlikely, or so experts believe. It only stood for about 50 or 60 years before a massive earthquake caused it to snap at the knees and fall onto the city. For a long time, people still traveled to see its ruins but eventually most of the bronze used to make it was melted down and sold, so there's no **evidence** left in Rhodes of the statue.

## The statue of Zeus

We now move onto the Statue of Zeus, which was **located** in the city of Olympia in Greece. This giant statue was made out of wood but then covered in gold and **precious** metals. Zeus was the highest of the gods, so it was only fitting to build this statue in their largest temple to him. Eventually the Roman emperors that took over control of the temple forbid worship of "pagan gods", so the temple was **abandoned** and the statue **crumbled**. Earthquakes and fires helped to **expedite** the process. Some theories point to the statue being torn apart and taken to sell, since little to no **evidence** of the statue remains.

## The temple of Artemis

Our last Greek site is the Temple of Artemis, **located** in an area called Ephesus, which now falls into the geography of modern-day Turkey. This temple was built to **worship** the goddess of the hunt Artemis and there is a theory that the Greek Amazons had a **major** role in building the temple to their patron Goddess. This temple was destroyed and rebuilt many times, by floods, fires, and earthquakes. It was rediscovered and **excavated** in the mid 1800s. The site is **commemorated** now by a single **column** that's been built by discovered pieces from the wreckage.

## The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus

The next wonder is also in Turkey, the **Mausoleum** at Halicarnassus. This wonder stems from the ruler named Mausolus who wanted to build a city beautiful and **intricate**, so he transformed the city of Halicarnassus into a sight to behold. He died relatively young, though he had planned for this with an elaborate tomb and surrounding **architecture**. This tomb looked down over the city and included a stairway **flanked** by statues. At the time, it looked much more like a temple than a tomb. Tombs like this today, usually large rooms that hold the coffin, are called **mausoleums** after him. It was destroyed when Catholic knights took over the city and built Bodrum castle, using the **mausoleum's** bricks to fortify it. Following this, the rest of the treasures and even the body of Mausolus and his wife went missing. You can visit this castle now and likely spot bricks and pieces that are from the old Mausoleum. You can also see the spot where the **mausoleum** used to sit.

## The hanging gardens of Babylon

Our last Wonder is the only Wonder that there is no **physical evidence** of, it may not have even **existed** at all. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon. The ancient city of Babylon existed in what is now called Iraq and it's said to have featured a garden, with **tiers** upon **tiers** of hanging flowers that poured down into it. What we're seeing on the screen is either what they believed this garden looked like or

gardens that have been inspired by it. The leading theory of who created these gardens fall to Nebuchadnezzar the second, who likely built them for his wife. There is an **opposing** theory that these gardens never **existed** in Babylon but instead were built by an Assyrian king in the city of Nineveh. There are many references in ancient texts that discuss this Assyrian garden that line up with what we imagine.

## Vocabulary words:

**exist** - *verb* have an existence, be extant; support oneself

**survive** - *verb* continue to live; endure or last; continue in existence after (an adversity, etc.); support oneself; live longer than

**momentous** - *adj.* of very great significance

**lifespan** - *noun* the period during which something is functional (as between birth and death)

**engineering** - *noun* a room (as on a ship) in which the engine is located; the discipline dealing with the art or science of applying scientific knowledge to practical problems; the practical application of science to commerce or industry

**skyscraper** - *noun* a very tall building with many stories

**debate** - *noun* the formal presentation of and opposition to a stated proposition (usually followed by a vote); a discussion in which reasons are advanced for and against some proposition or proposal; *verb* argue with one another; discuss the

pros and cons of an issue; have an argument about something; think about carefully; weigh

**recruit** - *noun* any new member or supporter (as in the armed forces); a recently enlisted soldier; *verb* cause to assemble or enlist in the military; seek to employ; register formally as a participant or member

**average** - *adj.* lacking special distinction, rank, or status; commonly encountered; around the middle of a scale of evaluation of physical measures; approximating the statistical norm or average or expected value; lacking exceptional quality or ability; relating to or constituting the middle value of an ordered set of values (or the average of the middle two in a set with an even number of values); relating to or constituting the most frequent value in a distribution; *noun* a statistic describing the location of a distribution; *verb* compute the average of; achieve or reach on average; amount to or come to an average, without loss or gain

**elaborate** - *adj.* marked by complexity and richness of detail; developed or executed with care and in minute detail; *verb* work out in detail; add details, as to an account or idea; clarify the meaning of and discourse in a learned way, usually in writing; produce from basic elements or sources; change into a more



developed product; make more complex, intricate, or richer

**meticulous** - *adj.* marked by extreme care in treatment of details; marked by precise accordance with details

**furnace** - *noun* an enclosed chamber in which heat is produced to heat buildings, destroy refuse, smelt or refine ores, etc.

**several** - *adj.* distinct and individual; (used with count nouns) of an indefinite number more than 2 or 3 but not many; considered individually

**crumble** - *verb* break or fall apart into fragments; fall apart; fall into decay or

**harbor** - *noun* a place of refuge and comfort and security; a sheltered port where ships can take on or discharge cargo; *verb* maintain (a theory, thoughts, or feelings); hold back a thought or feeling about; keep in one's possession; of animals; secretly shelter (as of fugitives or criminals)

**victory** - *noun* a successful ending of a struggle or contest

**straddle** - *noun* the option to buy or sell a given stock (or stock index or commodity future) at a given price before a given date; consists of an equal

number of put and call options; the act of sitting or standing astride; a gymnastic exercise performed with a leg on either side of the parallel bars; a noncommittal or equivocal position; *verb* be noncommittal; sit or stand astride of; range or extend over; occupy a certain area

**evidence** - *noun* your basis for belief or disbelief; knowledge on which to base belief; an indication that makes something evident; (law) all the means by which any alleged matter of fact whose truth is investigated at judicial trial is established or disproved; *verb* provide evidence for; stand as proof of; show by one's behavior, attitude, or external attributes; give evidence; provide evidence for

**locate** - *verb* discover the location of; determine the place of; find by searching or examining; assign a location to; take up residence and become established; determine or indicate the place, site, or limits of, as if by an instrument or by a survey

**precious** - *adj.* of high worth or cost; obviously contrived to charm; characterized by feeling or showing fond affection for; *adv.* extremely

**abandon** - *noun* the trait of lacking restraint or control; reckless freedom from

inhibition or worry; a feeling of extreme emotional intensity; *verb* stop maintaining or insisting on; of ideas or claims; leave someone who needs or counts on you; leave in the lurch; give up with the intent of never claiming again; forsake, leave behind; leave behind empty; move out of

**crumble** - *verb* break or fall apart into fragments; fall apart; fall into decay or ruin

**expedite** - *verb* process fast and efficiently; speed up the progress of; facilitate

**worship** - *noun* the activity of worshipping; a feeling of profound love and admiration; *verb* show devotion to (a deity); attend religious services; love unquestioningly and uncritically or to excess; venerate as an idol

**major** - *adj.* greater in number or size or amount; greater in scope or effect; of full legal age; of a scale or mode; of the field of academic study in which one concentrates or specializes; of greater importance or stature or rank; of greater seriousness or danger; *noun* the principal field of study of a student at a university; a commissioned military officer in the United States Army or Air Force or Marines; below lieutenant colonel and above captain; a university student who is studying a particular field as the principal subject; British

statesman who was prime minister from 1990 until 1997 (born in 1943); *verb* have as one's principal field of study  
definition.

**Excavate** - *verb* to dig up something old.

**commemorate** - *verb* call to remembrance; keep alive the memory of someone or something, as in a ceremony; be or provide a memorial to a person or an event; mark by some ceremony or observation

**column** - *noun* (architecture) a tall cylindrical vertical upright and used to support a structure; a vertical cylindrical structure standing alone and not supporting anything (such as a monument); a vertical glass tube used in column chromatography; a mixture is poured in the top and washed through a stationary substance where components of the mixture are adsorbed selectively to form colored bands; an article giving opinions or perspectives; a line of (usually military) units following one after another; a linear array of numbers one above another; anything tall and relatively thin that approximates the shape of a column or tower

**Mausoleum** - *noun* a large burial chamber, usually above ground

**intricate** - *adj.* having many complexly arranged elements; elaborate

**architecture** - *noun* the profession of designing buildings and environments with consideration for their esthetic effect; an architectural product or work; the discipline dealing with the principles of design and construction and ornamentation of fine buildings; (computer science) the structure and organization of a computer's hardware or system software

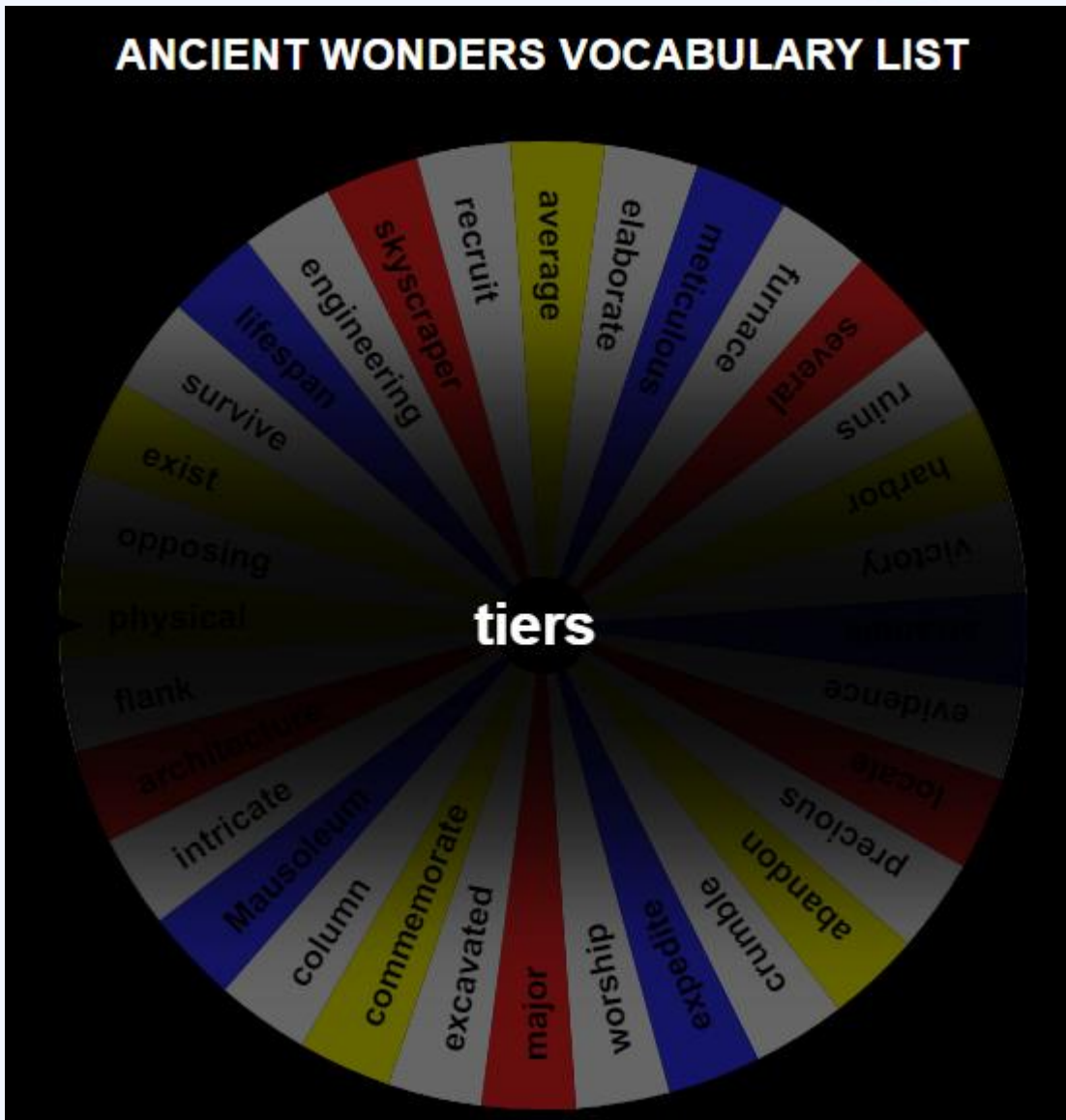
**flank** - *noun* the side between ribs and hipbone; a cut from the fleshy part of an animal's side between the ribs and the leg; the side of military or naval formation; a subfigure consisting of a side of something; *verb* be located at the sides of something or somebody

**physical** - *adj.* having substance or material existence; perceptible to the senses; concerned with material things; characterized by energetic bodily activity; according with material things or natural laws (other than those peculiar to living matter); involving the body as distinguished from the mind or spirit; relating to the sciences dealing with matter and energy; especially physics; impelled by physical force especially against resistance

**opposing** - *adj.* characterized by active hostility; in opposition to (a policy or attitude etc.)



Vocabulary word	Synonym	Antonym	Definition
survive			
momentous			
debate		---	
intricate			
		Occupy	To leave behind
	Against	United	
		Build	Fall apart
	-----	-----	The remains of an old structure
	Win	Lose	To beat something or someone.



**Link:** <https://wheeldecide.com/index.php?id=463191>

Spin the wheel and get students to say a word. The first student who is able to do so gets a point for their team.

## Wonders of Vietnam

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6vgb\\_GzwOM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6vgb_GzwOM)

What are some amazing *natural* wonders in Vietnam? Why?

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What are some incredible cities or towns in Vietnam? Why?

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What are some of the best things to do in Vietnam?

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