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Taj Mahal Video Activity

Shah Jahan (r. 1628-1658) had a strong interest in architecture. His most enduring monument is the Taj Mahal, the supreme example of a garden tomb. Twenty thousand workers toiled eighteen years to build this memorial in Agra to Shah Jahan's favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died at age of 39 giving birth to their thirteenth child.

As you watch the video make 15 notes about the Taj Mahal and Mughal Architecture.

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Part Two: Thesis Writing

The Taj Mahal has many levels of meaning. Imagine you are going to write an essay. For each of the statements below write a thesis sentence to prove it. DO NOT FORGET TO USE EVIDENCE from your notes and the video to support your thesis. Each thesis should be a single complete sentence.

→ The Taj Mahal was built to show Shah Jahan's love for his wife.

→ The Taj Mahal was built to show Shah Jahan's as the embodiment of perfection.

→ The Taj Mahal was built to show Shah Jahan's wealth and power.

→ The Taj Mahal was built to show paradise, as described in the Koran, and the contrast between the peaceful world within its walls and the chaos of the world outside.