



Dear learners, in today's page we are going to learn about famous bridges.

A. Bridges of Bangladesh

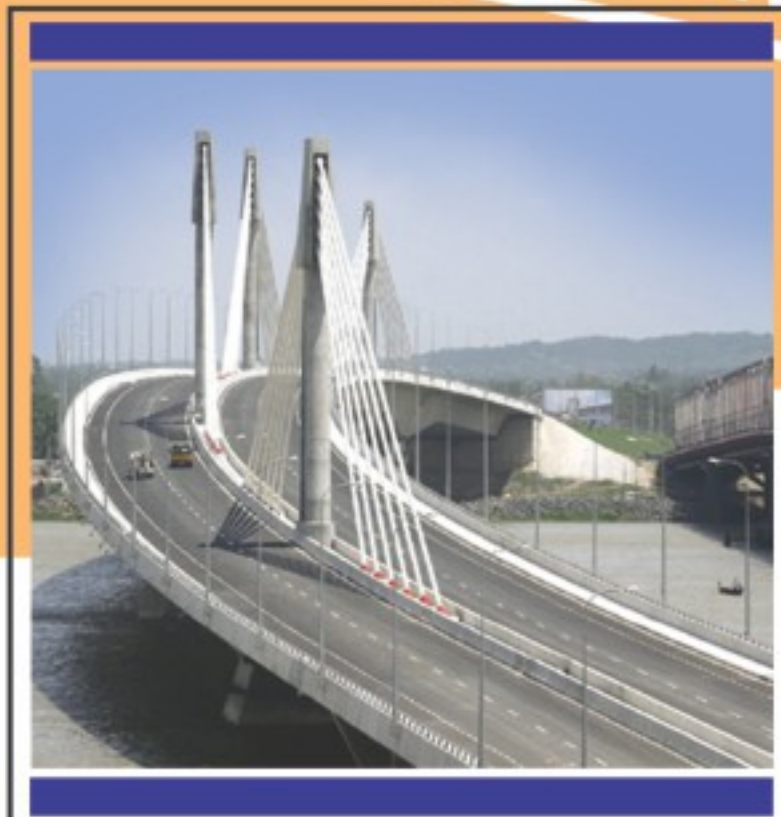


Meghna Bridge, a road bridge located along the Dhaka-Chittagong highway, is built by the support of Japan government. It is officially known as the Japan Bangladesh Friendship Bridge. It is 900 metres in length and 9.2 metres in width. The bridge has thirteen spans. Before the bridge was constructed in 1991, the people of southeast part of Bangladesh had to rely on ferries to cross the Meghna river. After the bridge was constructed, not only did it reduce the traffic time but also improved the life of people living near it.

Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge, the 11th largest bridge of the world, was built over the river Jamuna in 1998. Its length is 4.8 kilometres and width is 18.5 metres. The bridge has 49 spans. Before the construction of the bridge, the communication and trade between the western and the eastern part of Bangladesh was severely limited because of the long timing of the ferry communication. After the construction of the bridge, trade between these two important regions have increased.



Lalon Shah Bridge is a road bridge built over the Padma river in 2004. It is named after the famous mystic poet of the 19th century Lalon Shah. It connects Kushtia with Pabna. The length of the bridge is 1800 metres and its width is 18.5 metres. After construction of the bridge, important connections to Mongla port of Khulna district in the south from Rajshahi and Rangpur division, the northern part of Bangladesh were established.



Shah Amanat Bridge, which is also called the third Karnaphuli river bridge, plays a vital role by connecting the south-eastern side of Bangladesh. People who go to visit Cox's Bazar, Bandarban or the south side of Chittagong need to use the bridge built over the river Karnaphuli. The bridge, which is 950 metres long and 24.47 metres wide, was opened on 8 September 2010.

Fill the table with advantages and disadvantages.

Name of the bridge	Disadvantages before the bridge was built	Advantages after the bridge was built
Meghna Bridge		
Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge		
Lalon Shah Bridge		
Shah Amanat Bridge		

How to do: Work in pairs and share your answers with the class.

B. Write a paragraph on the special features and advantages of any of the bridges you have read above.

.....

.....

.....

.....

Learning Objectives:

Compare contrast, paragraph writing, vocabulary and critical thinking

Answer keys:

D. Across 1. region 3. suspension 4. inhabited
Down 2. officially 3. span

E. বুলিওন (c) নোভেলগুস (d) কনেক্ট (a)
কনস্ট্রাকশন (b)

All the instructions given here are for students to use materials as self-access. Teachers can use them as a guide.

C. Famous Bridges of the World



Akashi Strait Bridge in Japan has the longest central span, 1991 metres. It connects two islands of Japan. Its total width is 30 metres and length is 3991 metres which is the highest for any suspension bridge. The total cost of the bridge was 4.3 billion dollars. In terms of supporting towers which rise upto 282.2 metres, it is also the tallest bridge. It took two million workers ten years to complete the bridge.



Florence's Ponte Vecchio which means "Old Bridge", crosses the Arno river, and is an inhabited bridge. Its total length is 100 metres and width is 31 metres. It was built in the Middle Ages. It was rebuilt around 1345 making it one of the oldest bridges in Europe. It also survived the Nazi invasion.

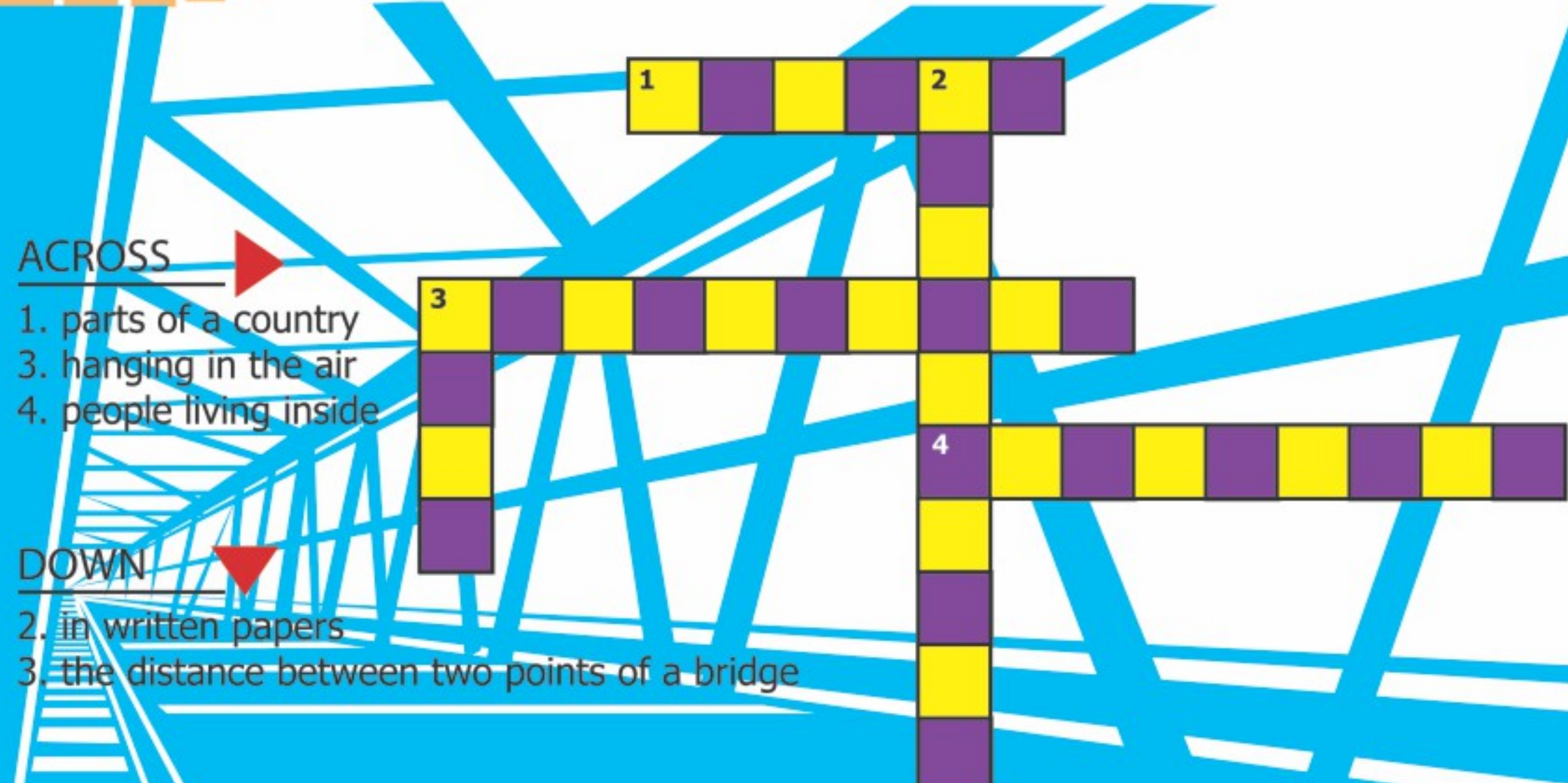
Compare the bridges using the table. One is done for you.

Criterion	Akashi Strait	Ponte Vecchio
Length and width	3991 metres and 30 metres	100 metres and 31 metres
Expense		
Age		
Historical importance		
Time to build		

How to do: Work in groups and share your answers with other groups.

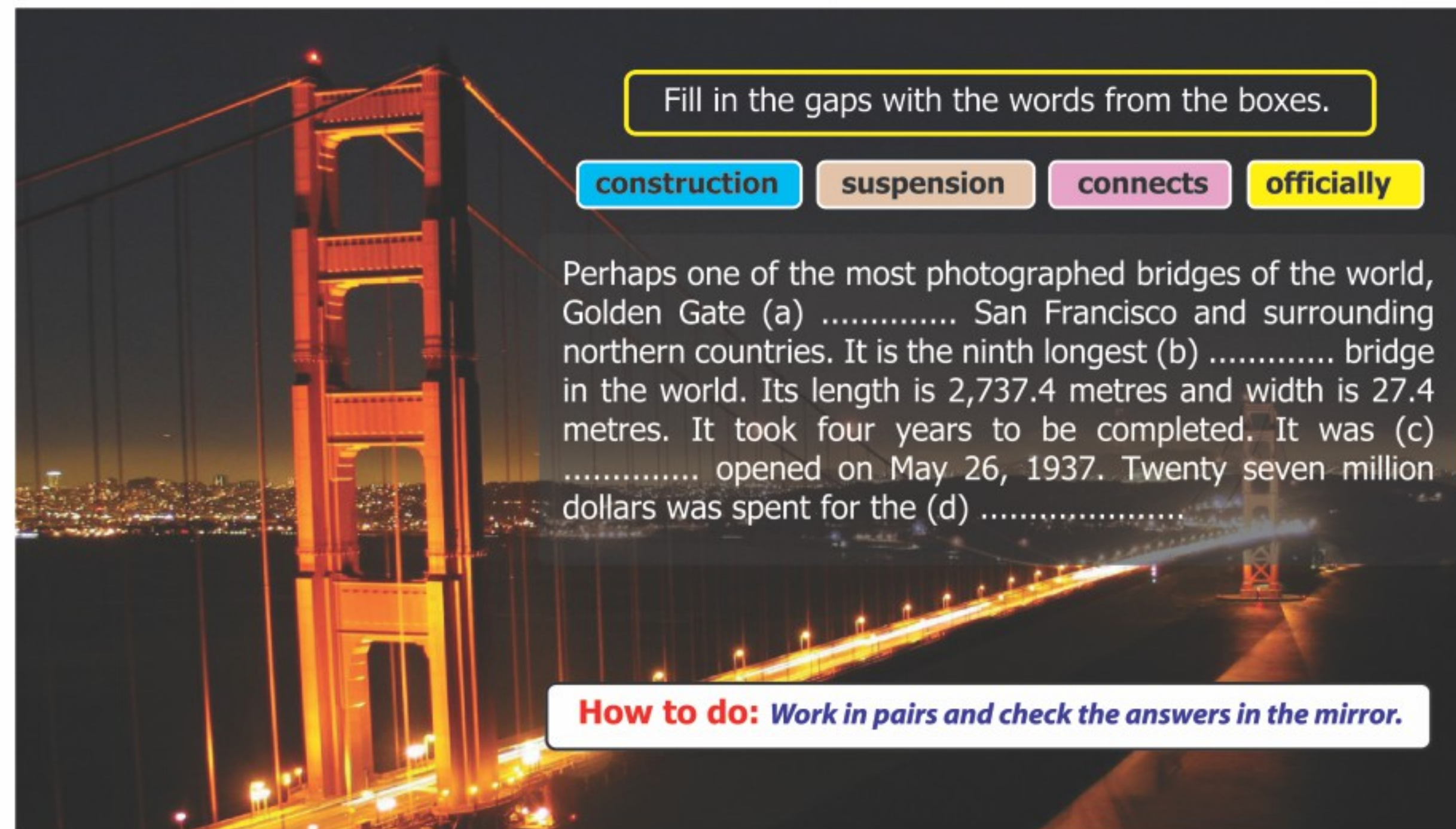
D. Vocabulary Puzzle

Did you find some difficult words in the reading above? Learn their meanings by solving the puzzle!



How to do: Work in pairs.

E. Golden Gate Bridge



Materials Designed by BRAC INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGES (BIL)



ROBI INTERNET CORNER

The Robi Internet Corners, available at 7 divisional public libraries, are helping many people stay in contact with the rest of the world. You can visit one too and surf the web!