B2 Seviye İngilizce Okuma Metni: Mimar Sinan: The Master Builder

WORKSHEET

Konu: Tarih / Türkiye · Seviye B2 · 286 kelime · dersimizingilizce.com

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

A Read the text and choose

Read the text. Then choose the best answer. *(Metni okuyun ve her soru için en uygun seçeneği işaretleyin.)*

Few architects have shaped a city as deeply as Mimar Sinan shaped Istanbul. Born around 1490 in the region of Kayseri, Sinan did not begin his career as an architect at all. As a young man, he was recruited into the Janissary corps, the elite infantry of the Ottoman army. During military campaigns, he worked as an engineer, building bridges and even boats, and these practical experiences taught him how to solve structural problems under pressure.

In 1539, Sinan was appointed chief architect of the empire, a position he held for nearly fifty years under three sultans: Suleiman the Magnificent, Selim II and Murad III. During this time, he and his workshop were responsible for an astonishing number of buildings. Hundreds of works are attributed to him, including mosques, schools, hospitals, bridges, public kitchens, baths and caravanserais.

His most famous building in Istanbul is the Süleymaniye Mosque, completed in 1557. Standing on one of the city’s hills, it dominates the skyline and is surrounded by a complex of schools, a hospital and other charitable buildings. Yet Sinan himself considered a later building to be his masterpiece: the Selimiye Mosque in Edirne, completed in 1575. Its enormous dome, supported by eight massive pillars, creates a vast, open interior filled with light. For centuries, architects have admired the way it seems almost weightless.

Sinan’s genius lay not only in beauty but also in engineering. Many of his buildings have survived centuries of earthquakes in a region where the ground is rarely still. He died in 1588 and is buried in a modest tomb that he designed for himself, close to the Süleymaniye Mosque. His influence can still be seen in the work of architects throughout the former Ottoman world.

1. How did Sinan begin his career?

a) As a painter in the palace

b) As a member of the Janissary corps

c) As a teacher in Kayseri

d) As a merchant on the Silk Road

e) As a student in Europe

2. What did his military experience teach him?

a) How to write poetry
b) How to fight at sea
c) How to solve structural problems under pressure
d) How to lead an army
e) How to trade with other countries

3. Which building did Sinan consider his masterpiece?

a) The Süleymaniye Mosque
b) A bridge in Kayseri
c) His own tomb
d) A caravanserai in Anatolia
e) The Selimiye Mosque in Edirne

4. What is special about the interior of the Selimiye Mosque?

a) It is vast, open and filled with light.
b) It has no windows.
c) It is very small.
d) It is underground.
e) It is made of wood.

5. What does the text say about Sinan’s engineering?

a) His buildings were often damaged.
b) He ignored the risk of earthquakes.
c) He copied European engineers.
d) Many of his buildings have survived centuries of earthquakes.
e) He used only wooden structures.

B Vocabulary

Match the words from the text with their Turkish meanings. *(Metindeki kelimeleri Türkçe anlamlarıyla eşleştirin.)*

1. recruit
2. appoint
3. attribute
4. dominate
5. masterpiece
6. modest

a) atamak
b) hâkim olmak
c) askere almak, saflarına katmak
d) başyapıt
e) mütevazı, sade
f) atfetmek

C Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences from the text. Use the words in the box. *(Metindeki cümleleri kutudaki kelimelerle tamamlayın.)*

appointed • attributed • elected • enormous • modest • skyline

1. In 1539, Sinan was _____ chief architect of the empire.
2. Hundreds of works are _____ to him.
3. Standing on one of the city’s hills, it dominates the _____ .
4. He is buried in a _____ tomb that he designed for himself.

D Your turn

Write a short answer based on the text. *(Metne dayanarak kısa bir cevap yazın.)*

1. Choose a building you admire (in Turkey or anywhere else). Describe it and explain what makes it special.