

## LOST CITIES OF THE WORLD

### POMPEII

Pompeii was an ancient city. It is located in what is now the comune of Pompei near Naples in the Campania region of Italy.

It was built about 40 metres (130 ft) above sea level on a coastal lava plateau created by earlier eruptions of Mount Vesuvius, (8 km (5.0 mi) distant).

Pompeii, along with other surrounding villas, was buried under 4 to 6 m (13 to 20 ft) of volcanic ash and pumice in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79.

### TROY

The city was destroyed at the end of the Bronze Age – a phase that is generally believed to represent the end of the Trojan War – and was abandoned or near-abandoned during the subsequent Dark Age.

After this, the site acquired a new, Greek-speaking population, and the city became, along with the rest of Anatolia, a part of the Persian Empire.

Troad, the region containing the former city, was then conquered by Alexander the Great, an admirer of Achilles, who he believed had the same type of glorious (but short-lived) destiny.

After the Roman conquest of this now Hellenistic Greek-speaking world, a new capital called Ilium (from Greek: Ἴλιον, Iliion) was founded on the site in the reign of the Roman Emperor Augustus. It flourished until the establishment of Constantinople, became a bishopric, was abandoned, repopulated for a few centuries in the Byzantine era, before being abandoned again.

### TIKAL

Tikal is the ruin of an ancient city, which was likely to have been called Yax Mutal, found in a rainforest in Guatemala. It is one of the largest archaeological sites and urban centers of the pre-Columbian Maya civilization. It is located in the archaeological region of the Petén Basin in what is now northern Guatemala. Situated in the department of El Petén, the site is part of Guatemala's Tikal National Park and in 1979 it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Tikal was the capital of a conquest state that became one of the most powerful kingdoms of the ancient Maya. Though monumental architecture at the site dates back as far as the 4th century BC, Tikal's apogee was reached during the Classic Period, c. 200 to 900.**

**There is evidence that Tikal was conquered by Teotihuacan in the 4th century BC. Following the end of the Late Classic Period, no new major monuments were built at Tikal and there is evidence that elite palaces were burned. These events were coupled with a gradual population decline, culminating with the site's abandonment by the end of the 10th century.**

## **BABYLON**

**It has been estimated that Babylon was the largest city in the world c. 1770 – c. 1670 BC, and again c. 612 – c. 320 BC. It was perhaps the first city to reach a population above 200,000. Estimates for the maximum extent of its area range from 890 to 900 hectares (2,200 acres).**

**The remains of the city are in present-day Hillah, Babil Governorate, Iraq, about 85 kilometres (53 mi) south of Baghdad. They comprise a large tell of broken mud-brick buildings and debris.**

## **MEMPHIS**

**According to legends related in the early third century BC by Manetho, a priest and historian who lived in the Ptolemaic Kingdom during the Hellenistic period of ancient Egypt, the city was founded by King Menes.**

**It was the capital of ancient Egypt (Kemet or Kumat) during the Old Kingdom and remained an important city throughout ancient Egyptian history.**

**It occupied a strategic position at the mouth of the Nile Delta, and was home to bustling activity. Its principal port, Peru-nefer, featured a high density of workshops, factories, and warehouses that distributed food and merchandise throughout the ancient kingdom.**

**During its golden age, Memphis thrived as a regional centre for commerce, trade, and religion.**

## **CARTHAGE**

**Carthage was the capital city of the ancient Carthaginian civilization, on the eastern side of the Lake of Tunis in what is now Tunisia.**

**Carthage was the most important trading hub of the Ancient Mediterranean and one of the most affluent cities of the classical world.**

The archaeological site was first surveyed in 1830, by Danish consul Christian Tuxen Falbe. Excavations were performed in the second half of the 19th century by Charles Ernest Beulé and by Alfred Louis Delattre. The Carthage National Museum was founded in 1875 by Cardinal Charles Lavigerie. Excavations performed by French archaeologists in the 1920s first attracted an extraordinary amount of attention because of the evidence they produced for child sacrifice. There has been considerable disagreement among scholars concerning whether child sacrifice was practiced by ancient Carthage.

**I. READ THE TEXT.**

**II. EXTRACT THE PASSIVE STRUCTURES FROM THE TEXT.**

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**III. TURN THE SENTENCES FROM ACTIVE VOICE TO PASSIVE VOICE:**

- 1. This company builds hotels all over the world.  
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- 2. Tom was repairing his bike when the storm started.  
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- 3. She had not noticed me until we were classmates.  
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- 4. We suppose that he is the winner of the competition.  
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- 5. Susan will give her mother a present.  
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**IV. TURN THE SENTENCES FROM PASSIVE TO ACTIVE VOICE:**

- 1. "Romeo and Juliet" was written by William Shakespeare.

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**2. This composition has been written by Richard.**

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**3. The car will be driven by the pilot in the race.**

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**4. This game is played by all my friends on-line.**

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**5. The novel had been finished before the author left the country.**

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## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Babylon>**

**<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carthage>**

**[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memphis,\\_Egypt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memphis,_Egypt)**

**<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pompeii>**

**<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tikal>**

**<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Troy>**

## SOLUȚII DE REZOLVARE

### II. EXTRACT THE PASSIVE SENTENCES FROM THE TEXT.

1. It is located;
2. It was built
3. was buried
4. was conquered
5. was founded
6. was declared
7. It has been estimated
8. was first surveyed
9. was practiced
10. was abandoned

### III. TURN THE SENTENCES FROM ACTIVE VOICE TO PASSIVE VOICE:

1. This company builds hotels all over the world.  
**Hotels are built all over the world by this company.**
2. Tom was repairing his bike when the storm started.  
**The bike was being repaired when the storm started.**
3. She had not noticed me until we were classmates.  
**I had not been noticed by her until we were classmates.**
4. We suppose that he is the winner of the competition.  
**He is supposed to be the winner of the competition.**
5. Susan will give her mother a present.  
**Susan`s mother will be given a present.  
A present will be given to Susan`s mother.**

### IV. TURN THE SENTENCES FROM PASSIVE TO ACTIVE VOICE:

1. "Romeo and Juliet" was written by William Shakespeare.  
**William Shakespeare wrote "Romeo and Juliet".**

2. **This composition has been written by Richard.**  
**Richard has written this composition.**
3. **The car will be driven by the pilot in the race.**  
**The pilot will drive the car in the race.**
4. **This game is played by all my friends on-line.**  
**All my friends play this game on-line.**
5. **The novel had been finished before the author left the country.**  
**The author had finished the novel before he left the country.**