The Empire State Building is in New York City. It opened in 1931 after one year and 45 days of construction. It was the tallest building in the world for more than 40 years, until the World Trade Center opened in 1972. Since the collapse of the World Trade Center, it is once again the tallest building in New York.

The Empire State Building has been named one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World. It has 102 floors and a total height of 1,250 feet.

The Empire State Building survived an air tragedy in 1945 when an American B-25 bomber flying in fog crashed into the building. 14 people were killed, but the building survived.

The Empire State Building is considered by many to be America’s favorite building. A symbol of New York City from the beginning, it is visited by millions of people every year, from average tourists to celebrities and world leaders.
Answer the questions about THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

1. Where is the Empire State Building?
   a. New York City, NY
   b. Washington, D.C.
   c. Los Angeles, CA
   d. Chicago, IL

2. How many floors does the Empire State Building have?
   a. 45
   b. 102
   c. 1,454
   d. 1,931

3. What was the building’s claim to fame when it was built?
   a. It was visited by many people.
   b. It was the most popular building in the country.
   c. It was the tallest building in the world.
   d. It survived a plane crash.

4. Why is the building thought to be a favorite?
   a. Because it is so considerate
   b. Because it is so popular
   c. Because it is so durable
   d. Because it is so old

5. What word best describes the Empire State Building?
   a. anonymous
   b. fictional
   c. notorious
   d. majestic

6. Describe a real or imaginary visit to the Empire State Building.
   ____________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________
Use complete sentences to answer the questions below.

1. Imagine you are standing on the top of the Empire State Building, looking at the city. Describe the experience.
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

2. Tell how the story of the Empire State Building reminds you of something you have done.
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

3. After reading the story what do you think is meant by “celebrities”?
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

4. What did you learn about the Empire State Building that you did not know? In what situation might this information be useful?
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
Answers to THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

Multiple-choice:

1. a
2. b
3. c
4. b
5. d
6. Answers will vary

Short answer:

1. Answers will vary. Accept appropriate answers.
2. Answers will vary. Accept appropriate answers.
3. celebrities = famous people, stars
4. Answers will vary. Accept appropriate answers.