

Task Sheet 2

Burj Time Traveler — Labour, Scale & Teamwork

We can only hope to understand the present and future by looking at evidence from the past. Historians, engineers, and architects document their work — in blueprints, site reports, photographs and testimonies — so that others can learn from their achievements. This is the work of researchers, designers and educators who expand our knowledge of how the world's greatest structures are built.

Today you will be taking part in a virtual construction experience by exploring a digital reconstruction of the Burj Khalifa and its surrounding Downtown Dubai site, re-created inside Fortnite as **Burj Time Traveler**. This UEFN island takes you back through four key eras of the tower's eight-year construction — 2002, 2004, 2007 and 2010 — as it might have looked while the world's tallest building was being built. Many of the construction floors, foundation pits and site machinery are recreated from real historical data.

With your group, explore the island and collect evidence that responds to the following statement in some way:

The Burj Khalifa was built not by machines alone, but by thousands of workers operating around the clock. Their precision, coordination and safety culture were just as critical to the tower's success as the engineering blueprints that guided them.

Suggested Focus Area: Time Tunnel 2 (2004) and Level 2 — The Foundation Phase

Focus particularly on the concrete-pouring tasks, the scattered tools and the voltage stabilization mini-games. Consider what the scale of the foundation pit (50 metres deep) and the 24-hour work cycle tell you about the human effort behind the build.

Look for features — the architecture, its layout, the construction site, the characters and the tasks they assign you — that back up the statement above in some way, and record this evidence by either:

- Taking screenshots
- Recording short videos or GIFs
- Putting together an itinerary for a virtual tour of the island

The island does have a series of objectives for you to complete, but you do not need to complete all of them to finish this task.

You will also need to **prepare a short presentation** of your collected evidence for your fellow classmates, explaining how it supports the statement above. Your presentation should also include:

- One thing that you found that **surprised you**, or challenged what you thought you knew about the Burj Khalifa or Dubai,
- One thing that you found which made you feel that the **engineers and workers of the Burj Khalifa were not that different from you**,

- One thing that **posed more questions than it answered** — questions about construction, design or leadership that are difficult to fully understand from a game environment alone.

This presentation could take the form of a short tour of the Fortnite island itself, a slide presentation of your screenshots and videos, a talk, or another format if agreed on first with your teacher.
