



6 The Tower is a star

The Tower in movies

It is said that the Lumière brothers invented cinema. They made their first movie in 1895. In 1897, Louis Lumière made a film called *Panorama pendant l'ascension de la Tour Eiffel* (Panoramic view while climbing the Eiffel Tower). It was the first time the Tower was filmed in the form of a documentary, and shown to the public. It was shown for the first time in Paris.

In 1900, Georges Méliès filmed the Tower on the occasion of the Paris Universal Exhibition.

In 1906, George Hatot shot « La course à la perruque » (*Running after the wig*).

It was much later, in 1913-1914, that the first fiction movies set

in Paris with the Eiffel Tower in the background were made by film director Louis Feuillade, with the series called *Fantômas*.

A few years later, in 1923, film director René Clair made the first ever 35 minutes long fiction movie in which the main character was the Tower. In this short movie a scientist puts Paris to sleep except for the Tower's night watchman and five people arrived by plane. The survivors find refuge in the Tower.

In 1930, film director Abel Gance filmed the Tower and highlighted its structure in his fiction movie called *La fin du monde*. (*The end of the world*).



Picture of the movie called *Zazie dans le métro*.
Philippe Noiret at the foot of the Tower.

In the movie *Zazie dans le métro* (1960), adapted from Raymond Queneau's novel, a ten-year-old girl called Zazie goes to Paris and absolutely wants to visit the « metro » but she discovers Paris and the Parisians without ever going on the underground. On various occasions she is filmed in front of the Eiffel Tower to remind us that she is in the capital.

The movie *Un Indien dans la ville* (1994) (*An Indian in town*) shows a young boy who has arrived from Amazonia and discovers the capital with his father whom he has just recently met, and in fact the Tower becomes his favourite playground; the Tower becomes just another climbing toy!

The Tower can be seen in many foreign films when the directors want to set the action in Paris. This is the case of *Moulin Rouge*, an Australian movie directed by Baz Luhrmann in 2001 and the *Da Vinci Code* by American film director Ron Howard in 2005. More recently, in 2006, film director Simon Brook made a documentary that tells the story of the construction of the Tower and of his designer: *La légende vraie de la Tour Eiffel*. (*The true legend of the Eiffel Tower*).

In 2007, Brett Ratner's movie *Rush Hour III* was set in Paris and at the Eiffel Tower. The Tower was actually shown on the poster of the movie.



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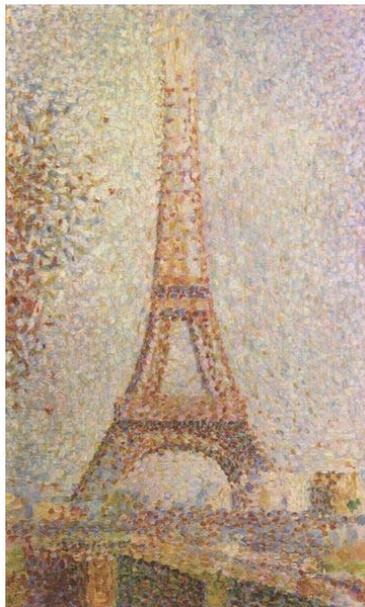
Painters and the Tower

One of the first artists to have drawn the Tower is Georges Seurat (1859-1891) who painted it using the pointillist method in 1888-89, by juxtaposing coloured dots so that the shapes and movements of the Iron Lady stood out.

The Tower was one of Robert Delaunay's favourite subjects and he painted it or drew it some thirty times from different angles, in black and white and in colour. He was first influenced by neo-impressionism and fauvism at the beginning of the 20th century then cubism inspired his style. He was born in 1885 and died in 1941.

This painter born in 1887 in former tsarist Russia, studied Art in Paris and travelled a lot. Among his friends, let us mention Max Jacob, Guillaume Apollinaire and Robert and Sonia Delaunay. His workshop

was next to Modigliani's. He painted original works influenced by the surrealist movement. He died in 1985 in the South of France. Other painters such as le Douanier Rousseau, Signac, Bonnard, Utrillo, Gromaire, Vuillard, Dufy also immortalized the Tower in their works.



Seurat « La Tour Eiffel »



Robert Delaunay
« La Tour Eiffel »



Marc Chagall « Paris à travers la fenêtre »
(Paris through the window)

Talking about photography and advertising

The Eiffel Tower was used by Citroen as support for a luminous advertisement from 1925 to 1936.

The Tower is the symbol of Paris and France and therefore it often appears in a simplified form, in advertisements related to Parisian or national companies (advertisements for Paris airports in 2008).

Danish born American painter Winnie Denker fell in love with the Eiffel Tower and has taken many pictures of it.



Do Delaunay's reflection of the Eiffel Tower in the fountains of the Trocadero Gardens



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Exercises

CP - CE1

French / Reading / Visual arts

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The pupils read a text or instructions silently and have to understand what is expected of them.

Practising artistic expression, drawing and executing fixed or mobile images regularly.

- Prepare some cardboard stencils (circle of 7 to 9 cm radius) that will be used by the pupils to trace the circles.

The drawings contained herein can be used for younger children after having enlarged them.

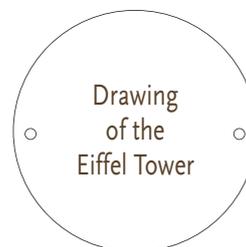
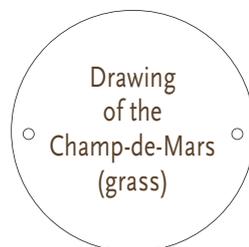
- Make a thaumatrope

Supplies :

- paper (A4),
- cardboard (for example, packs of cereals)
- scissors, glue
- colour pencils or felt pens
- two rubber bands

Method :

- draw two circles on the sheet of paper using the stencils ;
- draw a circle on the cardboard ;
- cut out the three circles ;
- draw an object or a person on one of the paper circles;
- draw a scenery on the other paper circle ;
- stick the paper circles on both sides of the cardboard ;
- make two holes on both sides (see the diagram) ;
- pull a rubber band through both sides and twist the rubber bands between the fingers.

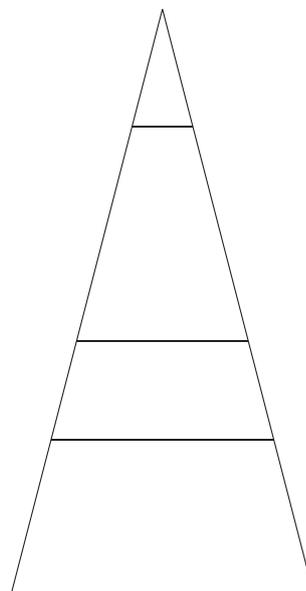


Mathematics

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Reproducing simple geometrical shapes using tools and techniques: ruler, grids, tracing paper.

- Reproduce this drawing using a ruler and tracing paper.





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Exercises

CE2 - CM1 - CM2

French / Reading/ Grammar

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Find understanding the difference between the active and passive voice

- Read the following two sentences and find the alterations that were made.

Louis Lumière a tourné un documentaire sur la Tour Eiffel en 1897.
Un documentaire sur la Tour a été tourné par Louis Lumière en 1897.

The subject becomes a direct object and the direct object a subject; sequence of tenses: the auxiliary verb “be” is used in the tense of the verb and the verb becomes a past participle.

- Match the sentences written in the same tense.

Seurat peint la Tour.
Seurat peignait la Tour.
Seurat peignit la Tour.

La Tour est peinte par Seurat.
La Tour était peinte par Seurat.
La Tour fut peinte par Seurat.

- Change the sentences into the passive voice.

Georges Méliès filme la Tour.
Zazie visitait Paris.
Les élèves fabriquent un thaumatrope.

Mathematics / Geometry

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Drawing a circle with a compass and writing a construction programme.

- Use the activity of CP-CE1 to draw circles and indicate the length of the diameter (to be divided by 2) for 4th and 5th grade pupils and the radius for 3rd grade pupils.

- Draw the requested shape.
 - mark a point O in the center of the sheet
 - draw a circle of center O and radius OA = 4 cm
 - draw AB passing by O
 - draw a circle of center A and radius = 3 cm
 - draw a circle of center B and radius = 5 cm

- Write the various steps and method used to draw this shape.

