

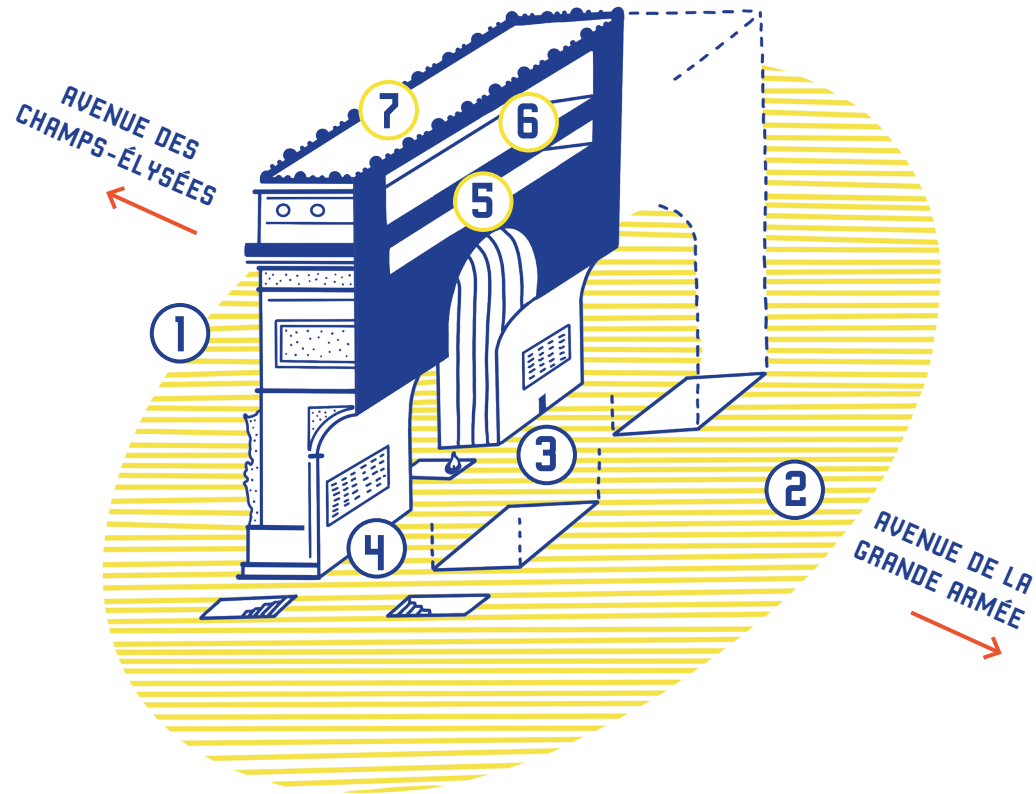


# ARC DE TRIOMPHE

KIDS' ACTIVITY BOOKLET

FOR AGES 7  
AND UP

## YOUR TOUR ROUTE



▶▶▶▶▶ The numbers on the route are indicated by this symbol throughout the booklet.

## AT THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE, YOU CAN:



Explore at your own pace.



Take photos or do drawings in your notebook.



Ask the people who work here questions.



Talk and share your ideas and feelings.



Let your imagination go wild.



Take a break.

## WELCOME TO THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE!

This booklet will take you on a tour of the monument with your family.

At each stage of your visit, you will find information about the monument and some questions. You will need to look around carefully to answer them.



Whenever you see this symbol, note down your answer on the last page and you'll discover a famous general.

About 200 years ago, Emperor **NAPOLEON I** ruled over France.

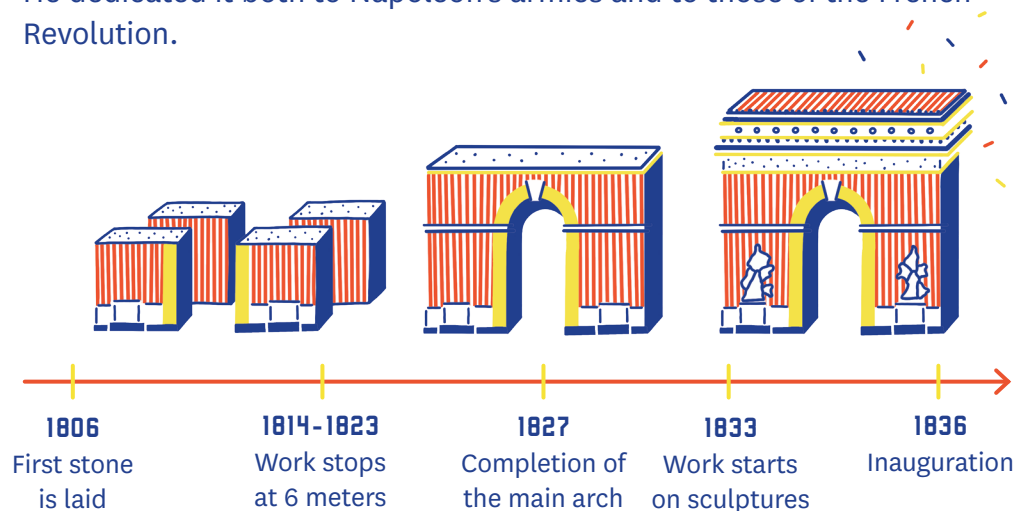
He is famous for his military campaigns in Italy, Egypt, Germany, Russia, and more. His most well-known victory was at the **BATTLE OF AUSTERLITZ**, on December 2, 1805, where he is believed to have told his soldiers:



"As you return to your homes you will pass below triumphal arches!"

On his return to Paris, he ordered the construction of the **ARC DE TRIOMPHE**, a project that was to take 30 years. He died before it was finished, having only seen the first 4 pillars built.

It was King **LOUIS-PHILIPPE I** who finished the Arc de Triomphe in **1836**. He dedicated it both to Napoleon's armies and to those of the French Revolution.



## WHY A TRIUMPHAL ARCH?

A triumphal arch is a bit like a **GATEWAY** through which soldiers march to **CELEBRATE THEIR TRIUMPH** over enemies. In antiquity, about 2,000 years ago, the Romans used to build them at the entrance to towns and cities to celebrate their armies and victorious generals.

Napoleon drew inspiration from this to remind people that he too was an emperor and to celebrate his army.



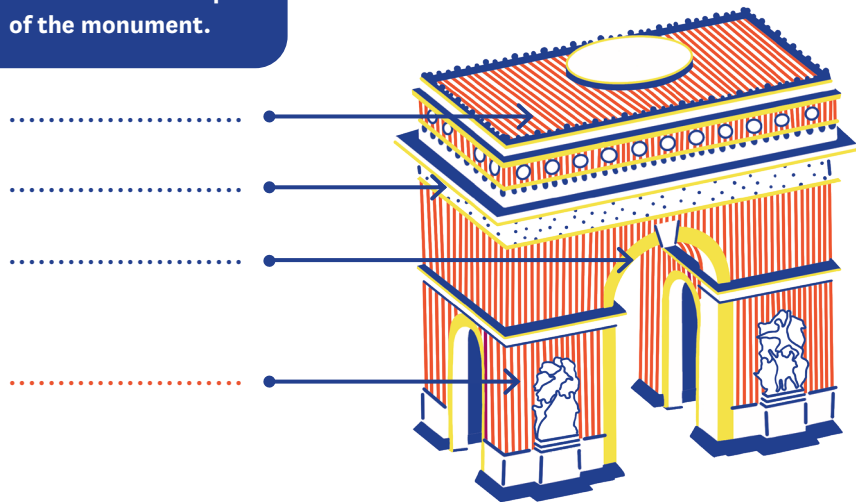
A triumphal arch can take various forms, with 1 or 3 arches, columns, statues crowning it, and so on.

Your turn! Imagine your own triumphal arch and draw it.

1 >>>>> Go and stand opposite the main façade of the Arc de Triomphe, with your back to the Champs-Élysées.

From here, the Arc de Triomphe has one main arch and two smaller ones, one on each side. Its decoration is structured by numerous architectural elements.

Find the name of each part of the monument.



**CORNICE:**

Projecting strip of stone separating 2 levels.

**PIER:**

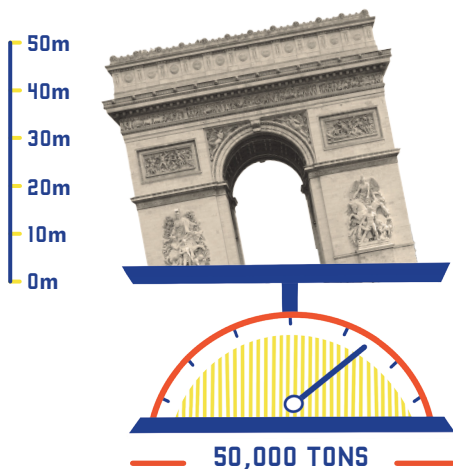
Square pillar that supports an arch.

**TERRACE:**

Flat roof you can walk on.

**ARCH:**

Rounded surface resting on piers.



This triumphal arch is one of the biggest in the world. It is the size of an 18-story building and weighs as much as 10,000 elephants!

**YOUR TURN!**

Use your steps to measure its width: one big step is approximately 1 meter.

— 5 meters

2 >>>>> Go up to the monument and look at the sculptures.

Can you see Napoleon?

He is surrounded by allegories, which are characters representing things or ideas.

**HISTORY** is engraving the names of his victories on her stone tablet so that they will always be remembered.

**P** \_\_\_\_\_  
**M** \_\_\_\_\_  
**A** \_\_\_\_\_

Which victories is she inscribing here?

Napoleon is resting his hand on the allegory of **THE CITY**, whose crown resembles a protective wall.

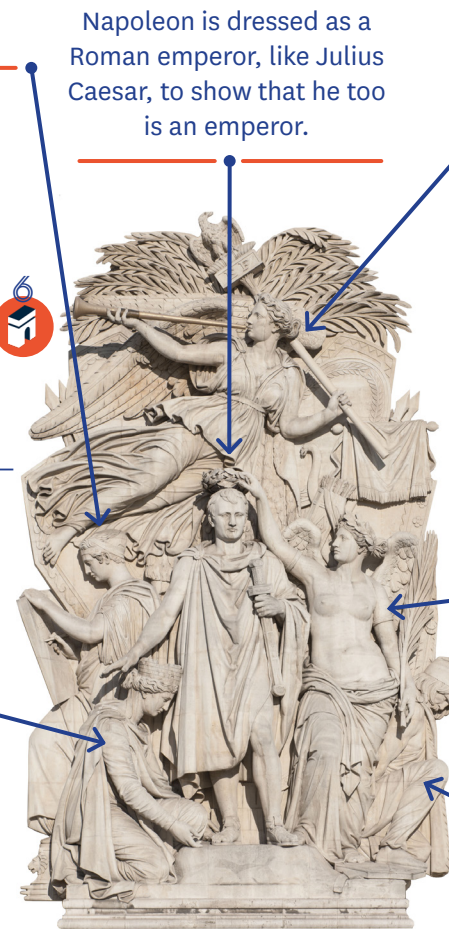
Napoleon is dressed as a Roman emperor, like Julius Caesar, to show that he too is an emperor.

**FAME** is shown trumpeting his victories.

There are 2 other statues of Fame holding a trumpet on this side of the Arch, can you see them?

**VICTORY** is placing a laurel wreath on his head, as a sign of triumph.

**THE CONQUERED COUNTRIES** are kneeling in the shadows.



**YOUR TURN!**

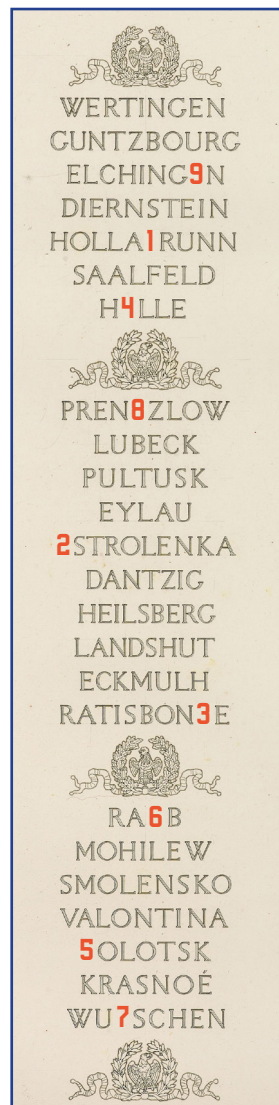
Mime one of the characters in the sculpture and see if anyone can guess who it is.

2 >>>>> Walk around the monument and look at the other walls.

You are sure to find other allegorical figures, there are many on the Arch.

**3** >>>>> Now go and stand under the monument.

So many names! 697 names of officers and 96 names of battles from the French Revolution and Napoleon's Empire are engraved here. The names that have been underlined are those of soldiers who died in combat.



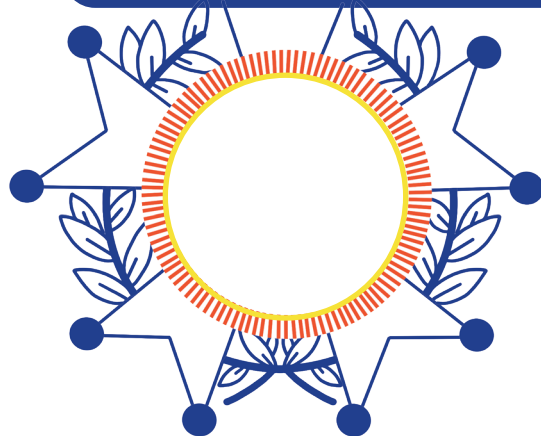
Look at the battles inscribed on the left, above the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Find the missing letters to spell out Napoleon's last name.



>>>>> Look at the ground and go up to the round plaque that marks the center of the monument.

An animal has been drawn on it. It is the symbol of the French Empire: do you recognize it? Draw it.

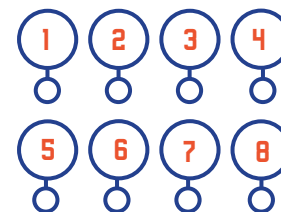


The plaque and branches form a **LEGION OF HONOR**, which is a medal created by Napoleon to reward individuals who had rendered services to the country. It still exists, and it is awarded to 2,800 people every year.

>>>>> In front of you is the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

After World War I, a soldier was buried here in homage to all those who died, especially those who were never found. His tomb blocks the passage, and armies no longer have the right to parade there, as if to mark an end to war. He was chosen at random, and no one knows his name.

To select him, a soldier, **AUGUSTE THIN**, was asked to choose from 8 coffins. Since he belonged to the 132nd regiment, he decided to add up these 3 digits.



Check the one he chose.

Read the inscription on his plaque. Do you know what it means?

HERE LIES A \_\_\_\_\_ SOLDIER WHO \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR HIS COUNTRY 1 \_\_ 4 - 19 \_\_ 8



The Flame of Remembrance never goes out. Every evening, at 6:30 PM, war veterans perform a ceremony here.

It's called the ceremony of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Flame.

KIN ING RE DL

**4** >>>>> Now go to the entrance of the monument, where you are going to climb 198 steps!

**5** You have now arrived above the main arch!



The **GRAND PAVOIS** is the flag raised for major commemoration ceremonies: July 14 (Bastille Day), May 8 and November 11 (end of World Wars I and II), May 9 (Europe Day), and so on.

In total, about ten times each year.

**Need a clue?**  
The Arc de triomphe is 50 meters high.

**How big do you think it is?**

- 2 meters high and 2 meters wide.
- 21 meters high and 15 meters wide.
- 60 meters high and 42 meters wide.

There are 3 other triumphal arches in Paris. This one is by far the biggest!

**Do you know the names of the other three?**

A PERSON OF AVERAGE HEIGHT

THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE DE L'ÉTOILE    THE PORTE    THE PORTE    THE ARC DE

DU

**6** Just a few more steps to climb to reach the next floor!



All the bronze **PALMS** you can see on the walls were given in the 1920s in honor of the Unknown Soldier. They come from all over the world. Look at the **POILU** in front of the palms. This is what the French call soldiers who fought in World War I.

**YOUR TURN!**

Look carefully at the central part of the palms, behind the statue of the Poilu. 7 differences have appeared in this picture: circle them.

**Now take a look at the model.**

It gives you a better view of the sculptures at the top of the monument. The frieze represents the departure and return of the armies. Remember that a triumphal arch is a gateway! In one direction, the armies are leaving the city to go to war, in the other, they are returning victorious.

**Join the dots to reveal this statue, brought back from one of Napoleon's wars. Which country does it come from?**

Find it on the frieze. The explanatory panels might help you to see it better.

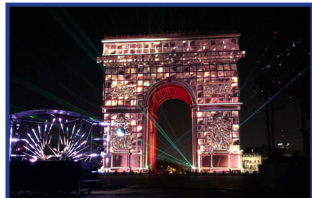
The Arc de Triomphe is a place of celebrations, and not just military ones. The French gather there to celebrate major events, New Year's, sports victories, great men, etc.



A



B



C



D



E

These major events were celebrated at the Arc de Triomphe. Connect each one to its image.

**THE WEDDING OF NAPOLEON AND MARIE-LOUISE**

**April 2, 1810**  
A fake wooden Arc de Triomphe was built because the real one was not finished in time.

**FUNERAL OF VICTOR HUGO**

**May 31, 1885**  
Over a million people came to see his coffin, draped in black, as it lay under the Arc de Triomphe, before the cortege processed to the Panthéon.

**VICTORY PARADE**

**July 14, 1919**  
After World War I, thousands of soldiers marched under the Arc de Triomphe. Every year, a military parade takes place on July 14.

**FRANCE WINS THE FIFA WORLD CUP**

**July 15, 2018**  
Thousands of people celebrated the victory around the Arc de Triomphe and along the Champs-Élysées.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
**January 1, 2020**  
Every year, Parisians celebrate New Year's in front of the Arc de Triomphe.

**YOUR TURN!**

Ask the people with you which events they associate with the Arc de Triomphe.

➔ Nearly there! Just a few more steps and you'll be on the terrace, having climbed a total of 284 altogether!

For a long time, Paris was not as big as it is now, and this area used to be countryside! Around 1660, Louis XIV landscaped the Champs-Élysées into gardens, and when the Arc de Triomphe was built, it was right on the edge of the city. Then, gradually, the buildings we see today appeared.

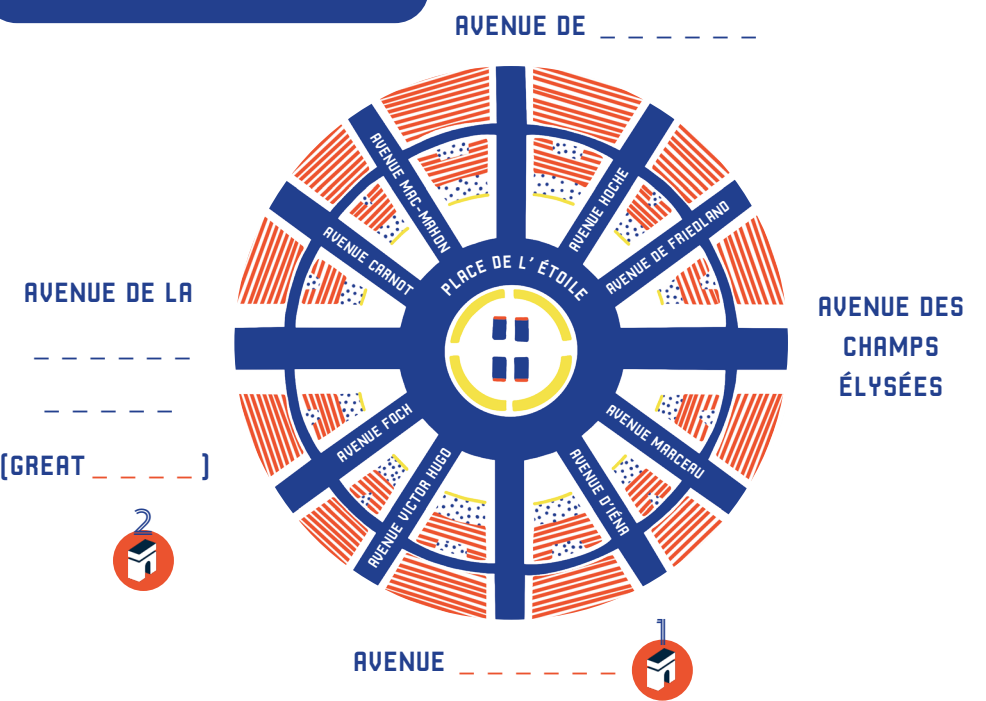
The Arc de Triomphe is at the center of the Place de l'Étoile, or "Star Square" in English, which owes its name to the avenues that radiate out from it.

How many are there?  
--

The most famous one is the Champs-Élysées Avenue to the East. It is 2 km long and leads to the Tuileries Gardens and the Louvre.

Can you see them in the distance?

Using the orientation tables as a guide, find the names of the other major avenues.





You are reaching the end of your tour, so make sure you've filled in all your answers!



General Jean-Baptiste \_\_\_\_\_ was born in Strasbourg in 1753. During the Revolution, he fought in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ Republic, notably in Vendée, in Western France.



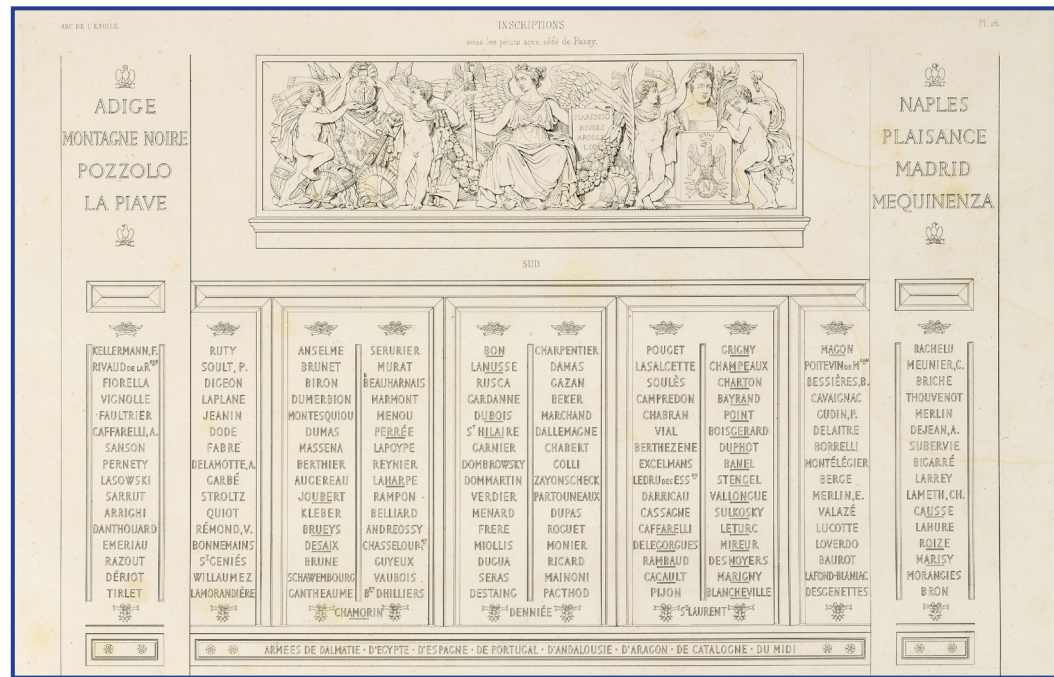
He followed General \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, where he died in 1800, just before the Battle of the \_\_\_\_\_. As an officer in the Napoleonic army, his name is engraved under the Arc de \_\_\_\_\_, on the south \_\_\_\_\_, near the avenue that bears his name. It's the 1\_ th name in the 3rd column.



He also appears on the west facade (Grande Armée side), on the bas-relief depicting the capture of Alexandria, where he distinguished himself in battle.



As you leave the monument, take one last look at the pillars and find this famous general.



We hope to see you again at the Arc de Triomphe.

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

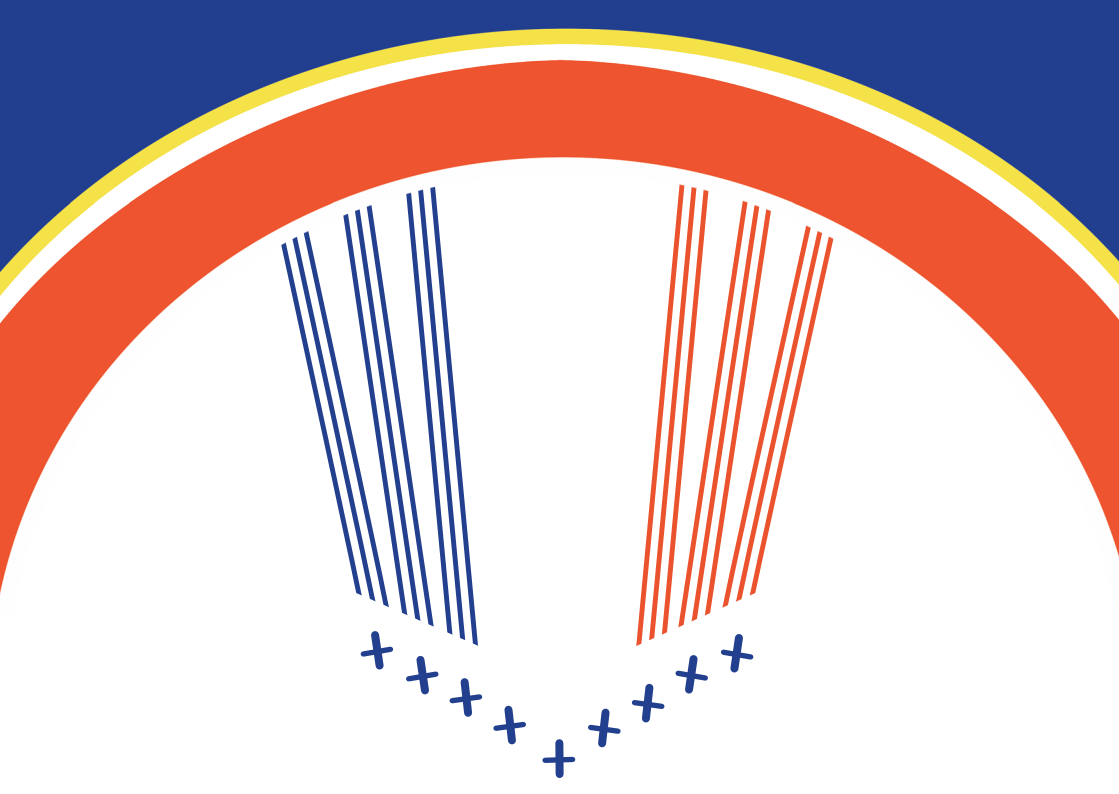
ANSWERS

- PAGE 6: 1-terrace, 2-cornice, 3-arch, 4-pier / 45 meters wide
- PAGE 7: Pyramides, Marengo and Aus(terlitz). Fame statues: on either side of the main arch
- PAGE 8: Bonaparte / an eagle
- PAGE 9: the 6th coffin / Here lies a French soldier who died for his country. 1914-1918 / Rekindling
- PAGE 10: 21 x 15m / The Porte Saint-Denis, the Porte Saint-Martin, the Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel
- PAGE 11: a sphynx, from Egypt
- PAGE 12: 1810-B / 1885-E / 1919-D / 2018-A / January 1st-C
- PAGE 13: avenue de la Grande Armée, avenue de Wagram, avenue Kléber

PAGE 14:

General Jean-Baptiste **KLÉBER** was born in Strasbourg in 1753. During the Revolution, he fought in the **ARMY** of the **FRENCH** Republic, notably in Vendée, in western France. He followed General **BONAPARTE** to **EGYPT**, where he died in 1800, just before the Battle of the **PYRAMIDES**. As an officer in the Napoleonic army, his name is engraved under the Arc de **TRIOMPHE**, on the south **PIER**, near the avenue that bears his name. It's the 11th name in the 3rd column.





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