

Where in the World Is Mrs. Waffenschmidt? # 19

Name _____

Date _____

Read the paragraph below. In that paragraph, everybody's favorite adventurer, Mrs. Waffenschmidt, offers clues about the place she is visiting today. Use those clues to help you figure out where in the world Mrs. Waffenschmidt is. Write your answer on the line at the bottom of the page.



Could you hold on for a moment as I get a passerby to take a picture of me trying to hold up this famous landmark?

Construction of this famous building began in the year 1173 and was completed around 1350. That's almost 175 years, but they weren't building the structure all that time. Wars and a lack of funding held up the construction. Legend has it that Galileo, the famous scientist, went to the top of this site and dropped all types of things off the side -- gold, silver, wood, and even cannon balls. He saw that all the objects hit the ground at the same time. That was the day Galileo discovered that gravity pulls all objects at the same rate, no matter what they are or what their mass is. No, Galileo's experiments didn't cause this building to tip to one side. The structure has tilted almost from the minute construction began because of the unstable soil on which it is built. In the 1990s, the building was shut down as experts worked to find a way to stop it from eventually crashing over onto its side. They were able to bring it back a few inches. It is safe again for tourists to climb more than 290 steps to the top of this 8-story building.

Can you name the place I am visiting? Where in the world is this place found?

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