

Leaked Reports Say, Eiffel Tower Needs Serious Repairs

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Leak /li:k/ (verb) to share secret or private information
Example: Several scenes from the new film have already been leaked online.
2. Rust /rʌst/ (noun) a red-brown substance that forms on some metals when they oxidize
Example: The mechanic said he found a lot of rust on the chassis.
3. Useless /'ju:sləs/ (adjective) not helping to do or achieve something
Example: I can't understand this useless manual.
4. Shape /ʃeɪp/ (noun) the specified condition of someone or something
Example: The house was in pretty bad shape when we bought it, but now it's as good as new.
5. Properly /'prɒ:pəli:/ (adverb) in a way that is correct, acceptable, or appropriate
Example: The brakes on this bike don't seem to be working properly.
6. Corrosion /kə'reʊʒn/ (noun) the process of being gradually damaged or destroyed by chemical action; damage caused by this process
Example: Engineers found spots of corrosion all over the bridge and suggested it be repainted.



The Eiffel Tower is one of Paris' most popular tourist attractions, getting almost 7 million visitors a year. But it may be in danger. French magazine Marianne has shared **leaked** reports that say the Eiffel Tower has a huge amount of **rust** and needs a lot of repair work. The tower is getting a \$61 million paint job before the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Marianne wrote that the paint job will be the most expensive ever done on the Eiffel Tower — but may also be the most **useless** if the rust problems aren't fixed.

"We've seen Notre Dame burn, will we see the Eiffel Tower fall?" wrote the magazine, referring to the 2019 fire that destroyed large parts of the famous church in the center of Paris.

One expert who spoke to Marianne said that the tower "isn't at risk of falling down tomorrow morning," but that it's true that it's in bad **shape**.

Other experts told the magazine that the tower needs to have all of its old paint removed so that it can be repaired and repainted **properly**. They said that painting over old paint is making the **corrosion** worse.

The Eiffel Tower, designed by and named after Gustave Eiffel, was built between 1887 and 1889 for the World's Fair in Paris. It was 300 meters tall when it was built, but today it's 330 meters high because of a radio antenna that has been added to the top.

DISCUSSION

1. What are your thoughts on reports that the Eiffel Tower needs serious repairs?
2. Have you been to Paris? If so, did you visit the Eiffel Tower? If not, would you like to?
3. Have you been to any landmarks or attractions that were in bad condition?
4. Are there any buildings or structures in your town or city that are in need of repairs?
5. What are the most famous landmarks in your town or city?