

Futuristic Museum in the Middle East Awaits Visitors

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Algorithm /'ælgərɪðəm/ (Noun) a set of instructions or rules followed in a calculation or problem-solving process, especially by a computer.
Example: The ads you see on social media are determined by an algorithm.
2. Complicated /'kɑ:mpləˌkeɪtɪd/ (Adjective) complex or difficult
Example: The new system makes our lives less complicated.
3. Represent /ˌreprɪˈzent/ (Verb) to be a symbol or sign of something
Example: The color red represents love in some cultures.
4. Calligraphy /kə'lɪgrəfi/ (Noun) decorative handwriting done with special pens or brushes, or the art of producing such handwriting
Example: My friend is taking up calligraphy classes.
5. Rainforest /'reɪnˌfɒrɪst/ (Noun) a forest in a tropical part of the world that gets a lot of rain
Example: There are still some untouched rainforests in the country.
6. Oasis /əʊ'eɪsɪs/ (Noun) a pleasant or peaceful place in the middle of a difficult or stressful place or situation.
Example: He couldn't believe there's an oasis in the middle of the desert.



To some, it's a big eye. To others, it's a huge ring — or a donut. The prime minister of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, calls it, "The most beautiful building in the world." One thing is for certain: the Museum of the Future (MOTF) in the center of Dubai has got people talking. Designed with the help of a computer algorithm, the 77-meter-high museum has been described as one of the most complicated building projects of all time. Work on the MOTF began in June 2016, and it opened in February 2022.

Killa Design, the company behind the \$136-million, seven-floor museum, said the ring-shaped building represents the knowledge we have today, while the space in its middle represents all that we still do not know. Written on the outside walls in huge Arabic calligraphy are the words of Sheikh Mohammed, including one line that translates as, "The future does not wait." Inside, the museum imagines the ideas and technology that humans will need to live in the future.

Divided into five different "chapters," it includes a space travel experience, an area that uses technology to create the feeling of being in the Amazon rainforest, a calming "oasis," and a play area for kids — as well as robots, flying cars and more. The museum's Lath Carlson calls it: "The human story of the future." The MOTF is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day, with tickets costing about \$40.

DISCUSSION

1. What are the most futuristic places you've been to?
2. Are you generally optimistic about the future?
3. What future technologies are you most excited about?
4. If you could travel into the future, what would you want to see?
5. What do you imagine people living in the distant future will think of today's technology?