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Vocabulary: repairs 词汇: 维修

London residents will have to **make do** without the **chimes** of Big Ben for a while. After 157 years of nearly **uninterrupted** service, the iconic clock in London has become **worn** and requires **repairs**.

Steve Jaggs, Keeper of the Clock, said: "This project will enable us to give one of Britain's most famous **landmarks** the **TLC** it so desperately needs and deserves."



The Big Ben began keeping time on 31 May 1859

The Elizabeth Tower, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, houses the clock and is visited by 12,000 people a year. It's said to be **structurally sound** but water caused damage to its **masonry** and there's **corrosion** in the **cast-iron** roof and belfry and the frame which holds the clock's bells. It all needs **fixing**.

Work will also help to bring the building up to modern **health and safety standards**. It will have a lift installed to make it easier and quicker to **evacuate** an injured person and give access to disabled people who can't climb its 334 steps. And at a time when energy efficiency is a concern, the lights which illuminate the clock dials and the belfry will be **replaced** by low energy **LEDs**.

Work, with an estimated cost of £29m, is set to begin early in 2017 and is planned to take three years. The clock will be silent for only a few months though and might come back to life in very special occasions.

The name Big Ben originally referred to the 13.5 tonne Great Bell within the tower, but ended up being used for the clock and tower too. The clock stands 96m above the **Houses of Parliament**. It was designed by **architect** Edmund Beckett Denison and began keeping time on 31 May 1859. Surely it might be our turn to give this famous symbol of Britain some time to rest and recover.

词汇表

to make do	将就着，凑合着用
chimes	报时钟声
uninterrupted	没有中断过的
worn	受到磨损的
repair (noun)	维修
landmark	地标性建筑
TLC	(tender loving care 的缩写) 细心护理
UNESCO World Heritage Site	联合国教科文组织世界文化遗产地
structurally sound	结构上没有问题
masonry	砖石结构
corrosion	生锈、腐蚀
cast iron	铸铁
to fix	修理、整修
health and safety standards	健康安全标准
to evacuate	转移，疏散
to replace	更换
LED	(light-emitting diode 的缩写) 发光二极管
Houses of Parliament	议会大厦
architect	建筑设计师

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why will the Big Ben fall silent?
2. Which part of the building was affected by leaks?
3. Which planned modification will benefit you if you faint while visiting the tower?
4. True or false? *Big Ben will be silent until 2020.*
5. Which expression in the text could be used to describe someone who needs a wheelchair continuously to move around?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. My sister has got a very bad cold. She needs a lot of _____ if she's to go back to work next week.

repairs	TLC	fixing	health and safety standards
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2. There's _____ on the metal gates and they need replacing.

cast iron	low energy	corrosion	water
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3. Joan is not going to miss her plane to London again - she _____ to be at the airport three hours before departure.

plans	estimates	is enabled	might
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4. The swimmer trained very hard. He _____ an Olympic medal for sure.

needs	deserves	requires	takes
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5. The CEO was determined to bring the company _____ to standard for it to have a better chance to compete in the market.

on	at	over	up
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why will the Big Ben fall silent?
It has become worn and the clock has to be stopped for repairs.
2. Which part of the building was affected by leaks?
Elizabeth Tower's masonry was damaged by water leaks.
3. Which planned modification will benefit you if you faint while visiting the tower?
A lift.
4. True or false? *Big Ben will be silent until 2020.*
False. The repairs to Elizabeth Tower might be made till 2020 but the plan is to keep Big Ben silent just for a few months.
5. Which expression in the text could be used to describe someone who needs a wheelchair continuously to move around?
A disabled person.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. My sister has got a very bad cold. She needs a lot of **TLC** if she's to go back to work next week.
2. There's **corrosion** on the metal gates and they need replacing.
3. Joan is not going to miss her plane to London again - she **plans** to be at the airport three hours before departure.
4. The swimmer trained very hard. He **deserves** an Olympic medal for sure.
5. The CEO was determined to bring the company **up** to standard for it to have a better chance to compete in the market.