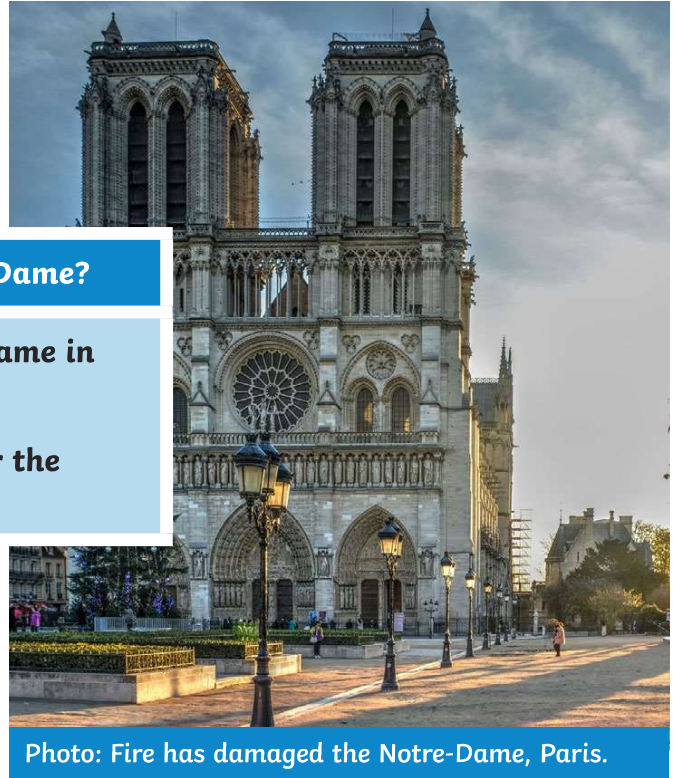




Notre-Dame Cathedral to Be Reconstructed



What has happened to the cathedral of Notre-Dame?

- A fire has damaged the cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, France.
- Millions of euros have been offered to pay for the reconstruction.

A fire has damaged the cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, France. French President Emmanuel Macron praised the bravery of the firefighters and their tireless work to control the fire.

The fire is believed to have started at 18:30. Firefighters have now brought it under control. During the fire, the cathedral's **spire** collapsed and the roof was damaged. Despite this, the head of the Paris fire brigade told reporters that the main structure of the cathedral had been "saved and preserved".

The cathedral is over 850 years old and is one of the most recognisable buildings in Paris, the capital city of France. 13 million visitors come to the landmark every year because of its artwork and **architecture**.

Notre-Dame also contains special **relics** which are important to some Christians. It was built in a style that architects call Gothic. This became popular during the Middle Ages and it often features pointed arches and gruesome gargoyles. The first brick was laid in 1163 and Notre-Dame was finally finished in 1345.

By the nineteenth century, however, it was in a bad state until the author, Victor Hugo, wrote a book called "The Hunchback of Notre-Dame". He was an influential author and the story convinced people to restore the ancient landmark.

The cathedral has undergone several difficult

situations during its history, such as the two world wars in the 20th century.

French politicians say that it will be **reconstructed** and Mr Macron has pledged to introduce a subscription fund. This is where people can send donations to help with the reconstruction of the cathedral.

People from around the world have said they will donate millions of euros to help with the future rebuilding of the cathedral.

Photo: Fire has damaged the Notre-Dame, Paris.

Glossary

spire	A cone-like structure on a church.
architecture	The practice of constructing and designing buildings.
relics	Belongings of a holy person that are important to people of faith.
reconstructed	To rebuild something after it has been destroyed.

Questions

1. When did the building of the cathedral of Notre-Dame begin?

2. Find and copy a word which is closest in meaning to 'have experienced'.

3. He was an influential author and the story convinced people to restore the ancient landmark.

Find and copy two different words from the sentence above which show that Victor Hugo was persuasive.

1.

2.

4. Notre-Dame has overcome a number of challenges during its history. Find two challenges that it has overcome.

1.

2.

5. What do you think the French government will do next? Explain your answer.

6. Why do you think so many people visit the cathedral every year? Explain your answer.

7. Summarise the story in 20 words or fewer.
