

# New York WTC redesign - again (Fri 6 May, 2005)

## WARM-UPS

**CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics look most interesting:

Freedom Tower / new buildings / drawing boards / Ground Zero / New York / 9-11 / skyscrapers / freedom

Have a chat about the ones you liked. For more conversation, change topics and partners frequently.

**9-11:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with 9-11. Share your words with your partner / group and talk about them.

**NEW YORK:** Have you ever been to New York? Do you want to go? What's your image of this city? Is it one of the greatest cities in the world? Talk with your partner about New York. Here are some things you might like to talk about:

melting pot / Central Park / Statue of Liberty / Wall Street / Yankees / The Big Apple / Brooklyn Bridge / yellow cabs / Harlem / musicals

**WTC OPINIONS:** Talk with a partner about these comments made about the Freedom Tower's planners going back to the drawing board.

- a. Politicians always mess things up.
- b. People should be fired. This is an embarrassment for New York City.
- c. This is just a hiccup. The Freedom Tower will be finished.
- d. Putting security issues first is the best thing to do.
- e. The new tower will make Manhattan's skyline famous again.
- f. If I were a New Yorker, I'd be angry about this delay.
- g. Any new building will always be a target for terrorists.
- h. Leave Ground Zero as it is now.
- i. I feel sorry for the families of the 9-11 victims.

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## PRE-READING

**WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'ground' and 'zero'.

**TRUE / FALSE:** Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- a. Plans for New York's WTC replacement are finished. T / F
- b. New York police fear the building might be easy for terrorists to attack. T / F
- c. Architects have to go back to the drawing board. T / F
- d. Freedom Tower will be the world's tallest building. T / F
- e. The new plans will be released some time towards the end of the year. T / F
- f. The 2009 completion date for the building is doubtful. T / F
- g. New York State Governor Pataki has lost confidence in the building. T / F
- h. The site's developer said the building will be made from clear crystal. T / F

**SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article:

- |    |                           |                        |
|----|---------------------------|------------------------|
| a. | stop                      | concerns               |
| b. | fears                     | released               |
| c. | back to the drawing board | freedom                |
| d. | rebound                   | as plain as day        |
| e. | liberty                   | doubtful               |
| f. | unveiled                  | bounce back            |
| g. | due                       | back to the square one |
| h. | unlikely                  | wonderful              |
| i. | magnificent               | come to a halt         |
| j. | crystal clear             | expected               |

**PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- |    |                             |                      |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| a. | the building that           | design               |
| b. | Construction of the project | of liberty           |
| c. | it's back to the            | to freedom           |
| d. | show                        | weeks                |
| e. | symbol                      | started in July 2004 |
| f. | designs are being           | the world            |
| g. | within                      | will be built        |
| h. | magnificent                 | drawing board        |
| i. | a fitting tribute           | clear                |
| j. | It is crystal               | redrawn              |

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### **READING:**

**WORD ORDER:** Put the underlined words back in the correct order.

### **New York WTC redesign - again**

**BNE:** Freedom Tower, the built building will be that on New York's Ground Zero, has to be redesigned. Construction of the project started in July 2004, but now has to stop. The reason is that New York police fear that too is building the easy to attack using truck bombs. This means it's back to the drawing board for the 1,776-foot (540 meters) tall skyscraper. The tower world show was the to how New York can rebound from the shocking and tragic September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. It meant one of was to be the world's tallest buildings and a symbol of liberty.

New York City officials said redrawn designs are being building and will be unveiled within weeks. The building was due to be completed by 2009, unlikely now that is but. New York State Governor Pataki said he is very confident that things will move forward. He said designers will "yet come with up another magnificent design that will...inspire the nation and [be] a fitting tribute to freedom." The site's developer Larry Silverstein agreed: "It is crystal clear that goal we share one all: delivering a spectacular and secure Freedom Tower as quickly as possible."

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## DISCUSSION

- a. Were you surprised at the news in this article?
- b. What did you think after reading the article?
- c. Did you like any of the words or idioms used in the article?
- d. Are you interested in Ground Zero?
- e. What do you think should happen with the site?
- f. Will the finished building be a suitable tribute to the people who died in 9-11?
- g. Should designers build the tallest skyscraper in the world?
- h. Is Freedom Tower a good name for the building?
- i. Should the New York politicians responsible for this delay be fired?
- j. Would you like to work in the new building?
- k. Would you like to live or work on the 100<sup>th</sup> floor of a skyscraper?
- l. Where were you and what were you doing when you heard the news of 9-11?
- m. What images can you recall of the news reports of 9-11?
- n. Were you glued to the TV after 9-11?
- o. How do you think 9-11 changed the world?
- p. How has 9-11 changed your world?
- q. Do you think another 9-11 will happen again?
- r. What kind of building do you think would be best for Ground Zero?
- s. Do you think the new building will be a prime target for terrorists?
- t. Did you like this discussion?
- u. Teacher / Student additional questions.

## HOMEWORK

- 1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.
- 2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find information on the Freedom Tower. Share your findings with your class in the next lesson.
- 3. BACK TO SQUARE ONE:** Write a story about a time when plans of yours went wrong and you had to go back to the drawing board. Share it with your classmates in your next lesson.
- 4. NEW YORKER:** Imagine you are a New Yorker. Write a letter to the New York Times expressing your feelings about the delay in building the Freedom Tower. Show your classmates your letter in your next lesson.

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## SPEAKING:

**GROUND ZERO PLAN:** In pairs, create plans for the new design for the Ground Zero building. Complete the following table. When you have finished, show your plan to other classmates to see what they think. Have a class vote on the best ideas.

<b>Building name:</b>	
<b>Concept:</b>	
<b>Number of stories:</b>	
<b>Memorial to those who died:</b>	
<b>Building shape:</b>	
<b>Shopping:</b>	
<b>Offices:</b>	
<b>Leisure:</b>	
<b>Message to the world:</b>	
<b>Other:</b>	

## **New York WTC redesign - again** (Fri 6 May, 2005)

**TEXT**

**WORD ORDER:**

### **New York WTC redesign - again**

**BNE:** Freedom Tower, the building that will be built on New York's Ground Zero, has to be redesigned. Construction of the project started in July 2004, but now has to stop. The reason is that New York police fear that the building is too easy to attack using truck bombs. This means it's back to the drawing board for the 1,776-foot (540 meters) tall skyscraper. The tower was to show the world how New York can rebound from the shocking and tragic September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. It was meant to be one of the world's tallest buildings and a symbol of liberty.

New York City officials said building designs are being redrawn and will be unveiled within weeks. The building was due to be completed by 2009, but that is now unlikely. New York State Governor Pataki said he is very confident that things will move forward. He said designers will "come up with yet another magnificent design that will...inspire the nation and [be] a fitting tribute to freedom." The site's developer Larry Silverstein agreed: "It is crystal clear that we all share one goal: delivering a spectacular and secure Freedom Tower as quickly as possible."