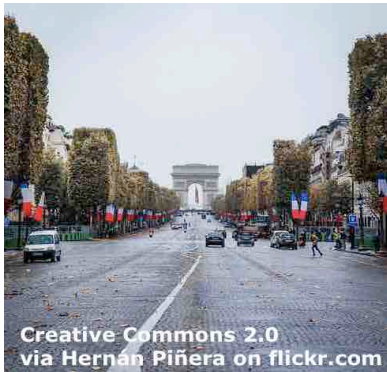


Paris' Champs-Elysees to be 'extraordinary garden'

16th January, 2021



The mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, has said there are ambitious plans to transform Paris' famous street the Champs-Elysees. She said she wants to turn the 1.9km avenue into an "extraordinary garden".

The Champs-Elysees is in the heart of the French capital. It joins the Place de la Concorde with the Arc de Triomphe. It is often called "the most beautiful avenue in the world". However, many Parisians believe it looks old. They want it to look more modern. Ms Hidalgo said she wants to reduce the amount of traffic on the avenue. She wants to cut the number of car lanes to make more room for pedestrians. She also wants to plant more trees to make it greener and more attractive.

The Champs-Elysees once showed how sophisticated and elegant Paris was. There were many car showrooms full of luxury cars, and chic designer fashion stores. It was a magnet for rich people who wanted to buy the latest brands. Today, it looks like many other streets in the world. It is full of international chain stores, fast food restaurants and coffee shops. It will take a decade to beautify the Champs Elysees. Work will start on it after the 2024 Paris Olympics. Ms Hidalgo said: "We will redo the Place de la Concorde before the Olympic Games, then the full length of the avenue afterwards. It will be an extraordinary garden." The budget for the project is around \$305 million.

Sources: [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com) / [thelocal.fr](https://www.thelocal.fr) / [artnet.com](https://www.artnet.com)

Writing

All towns and cities should increase the number and size of their gardens. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

mayor / ambitious / plans / garden / beautiful / avenue / modern / traffic / trees / sophisticated / elegant / luxury / fashion / decade / Olympics / length / budget

True / False

- a) The Champs Elysees is over two kilometres long. T / F
- b) The Champs Elysees is pretty much in the middle of Paris. T / F
- c) The Champs Elysees joins the Eiffel Tower with the Arc de Triomphe. T / F
- d) The mayor wants to create more space for people to walk. T / F
- e) The article says Paris didn't use to be elegant or sophisticated. T / F
- f) The article says the Champs Elysees now looks like many other streets. T / F
- g) Work on the Champs Elysees will take ten years. T / F
- h) The beautification work will cost around \$305 billion. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. plans | a. ten years |
| 2. transform | b. amazing |
| 3. extraordinary | c. pretty |
| 4. reduce | d. later |
| 5. attractive | e. change |
| 6. sophisticated | f. focus |
| 7. magnet | g. decrease |
| 8. decade | h. financial plan |
| 9. afterwards | i. cultured |
| 10. budget | j. ideas |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about Paris?
- b) What do you want to know about Paris?
- c) What is your town like for gardens?
- d) What do you think of the mayor of your town?
- e) Do you have any ambitious plans?
- f) How beautiful is your town?
- g) Should towns have more space for pedestrians?
- h) Should all towns have many more trees?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. there are ambitious plans to transform | a. traffic on the avenue |
| 2. The Champs-Elysees is in the | b. the latest brands |
| 3. she wants to reduce the amount of | c. more attractive |
| 4. make more room | d. length of the avenue |
| 5. make it greener and | e. elegant Paris was |
| 6. how sophisticated and | f. around \$305 million |
| 7. many car showrooms full | g. Paris' famous street |
| 8. people who wanted to buy | h. of luxury cars |
| 9. the full | i. heart of the French capital |
| 10. The budget for the project is | j. for pedestrians |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- How important are gardens?
- What is an extraordinary garden for you?
- How interested are you in the latest brands?
- Are international chains making the world's streets look the same?
- What would you do to beautify your town?
- What would you do as mayor?
- What questions would you like to ask the mayor?

Spelling

- there are ubitmsiao plans
- in the heart of the French catilpa
- They want it to look more ormnde
- ecderu the amount of traffic
- make more room for pedtnrissea
- greener and more rtaavtceti
- how sophisticated and eentgal Paris was
- showrooms full of xruyul cars
- It was a gantem for rich people
- fautyeb the Champs Elysees
- the full etgnlh of the avenue
- The tdubeg for the project

Answers – Synonym Match

1. j	2. e	3. b	4. g	5. c
6. i	7. f	8. a	9. d	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Paris

You think Paris is the best city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their cities. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Dubai, Tokyo or New York.

Role B – Dubai

You think Dubai is the best city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their cities. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Paris, Tokyo or New York.

Role C – Tokyo

You think Tokyo is the best city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their cities. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Dubai, Paris or New York.

Role D – New York

You think New York is the best city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their cities. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Dubai, Tokyo or Paris.

Speaking – Cities

Rank these with your partner. Put the best cities at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| • Nairobi | • Paris |
| • Rio De Janeiro | • Dubai |
| • Beijing | • Tokyo |
| • Sydney | • New York |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.