

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Golden Gate Bridge

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions from the reading.



The Golden Gate Bridge is a suspension bridge spanning the opening of the San Francisco Bay onto the Pacific Ocean. The Golden Gate Bridge was the longest suspension bridge span in the world (8,981 feet) when it was completed in 1937, and has become an internationally recognized symbol of San Francisco and California.

Before the bridge was built, the only practical short route between San Francisco and Marin County was by boat across a section of San Francisco Bay. Many experts said that a bridge couldn't be built across the 6,700 ft strait. Experts said that constant winds of 60 mph and blinding fogs would prevent construction and operation. However Leon Moisseiff, the principal engineer of the project introduced his "deflection theory" by which a thin, flexible roadway would flex in the wind, greatly reducing stress by transmitting forces via suspension cables to the bridge towers.

The famous International Orange color was originally used as a sealant for the bridge. Many locals persuaded project leaders to paint the bridge in the vibrant orange color instead of the standard silver or gray, and the color has been kept ever since.

The bridge is considered one of the most beautiful examples of bridge engineering as a structural design challenge and for its appeal. It was declared one of the modern Wonders of the World and is "possibly the most beautiful, certainly the most photographed, bridge in the world."

1. **What body of water does the bridge cross?** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **What is the constant wind speed at the bridge?** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **What type of bridge design was used?** \_\_\_\_\_

4. **What is the total length of the bridge?** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **What color is the bridge?** \_\_\_\_\_

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1. What body of water does the bridge cross?

San Francisco Bay

2. What is the constant wind speed at the bridge?

60 mph

3. What type of bridge design was used?

Suspension Bridge

4. What is the total length of the bridge?

8,981 feet

5. What color is the bridge?

International Orange