



Word Quest  
Panorama of  
Scheveningen  
English  
~~MUSEUM PANORAMA MESDAG~~



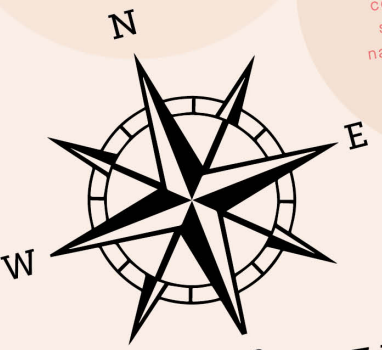
DOWN LOOK, LISTEN AND WRITE  
Age 6-12  
30 min

**Did you know?**  
That this painting weighs over 4,000 kilograms?

**Did you know?**  
That there is a special kind of seashell on the North Sea coast called a 'staircase shell'? Another English name for it is 'Wentletrap', which comes straight from the Dutch wenteltrap!

**Did you know?**  
That the entire panoramic canvas was painted in just four months?

**Did you know?**  
That when you stand on the platform, you can't just see birds but hear them too? Listen carefully – there's lots of them!



We hope you enjoyed your visit and that you will come back again soon!

~~MUSEUM PANORAMA MESDAG~~



SCAN ME TO GO TO THE WEBSITE

9

If you look north-east, you can see a tram running across the dunes. This was a(n)...

K – Electric tram  
N – Steam tram  
S – Metro train



**Did you know?**  
That the bottom of the painting was never entirely finished? You can see this if you look through the portholes (the round windows) in the dark corridor

12

The shadows on the Panorama are...

G – All painted  
K – All real  
N – Some are painted and some are real

**Did you know?**  
There were once hundreds of panorama paintings, but that there are now only about 20 of them around the world?

**Did you know?**  
That this enormous painting has actually travelled around a bit? It has also been shown in Munich (Germany) and in Amsterdam.

Welcome to Museum Panorama Mesdag. My name is Hendrik Willem Mesdag. This museum is the home of my most important work of art: the Panorama of Scheveningen. My wife, Sientje Mesdag-van Houten, and I created this life-sized circular painting in 1881. Three of our painter-friends helped us too: Bernard Blommers, Théophile de Bock and George Hendrik Breitner.



Hendrik Willem Mesdag

Sientje Mesdag-van Houten

10

Scheveningen did not yet have a sewage system in 1880. In front of the houses in the village you can see a horse and cart. They came by the houses once a week to collect something. The person next to the cart is holding a barrel. What's in it?

E – Garbage  
G – Poop  
D – Mail



11

Can you see the little white boxes on wheels near the shore? These were...

E – 'Bathing carriages' (mobile changing rooms for people to put on their swimsuits and step into the water)  
A – Floating huts for catching fish  
R – Cabins from which people could hunt for seashells



Take the 12 letters you found and fill them in:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

If you answered all the questions correctly, you will see the name of the village where Mesdag painted his Panorama. To be able to complete his huge, circular painting, Mesdag stood on top of Seinpost Dune, the highest dune in Scheveningen at the time. It was here that Mesdag had the best view.

Congratulations! There's a nice little surprise for you at the information desk.

WHERE DOES THE QUEST BEGIN?  
Your word quest starts at the top of the viewing platform for the Panorama of Scheveningen. It's easy to find: go through the glass sliding doors and the painting galleries, and walk through the dark corridor. When you get to the end of that, go up the winding staircase. At the top, you'll find yourself in the middle of the biggest painting in the Netherlands: a large circular canvas that measures 115 metres all the way round and is 14 metres high!

WHAT CAN YOU SEE?  
You're standing on the top of a sand dune, looking out over the village of Scheveningen, the sea, the beach with its boats, and more dunes. If you look closely, you can see the city of The Hague in the distance. This is how it all looked back in 1881. When you stand here, it's as if time has stood still.





# How do you answer the questions?

Choose the right answer to each question. Once you've answered all the questions, write all the letters one after the other in the space on the last page. This will spell out the word you need to find. Have fun!



1

What is the name of the staircase you just climbed up?

- J - Panorama Stairs
- O - Round Stairs
- S - Winding Stairs

Did you know?  
That when you're standing here, the canvas is just 14 metres away from you?

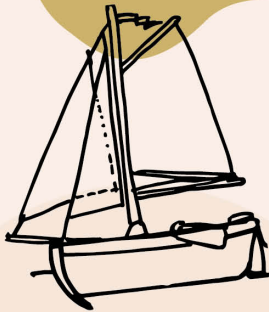


Did you know?  
That Vincent van Gogh once stood on this very spot to admire the panorama painting?

2

How many boats do you think there are in the Panorama?

- A - Fewer than 30
- C - More than 100
- O - More than 250



3

What's the name of the hardy type of grass that grows on the dunes and that you can also see here on the artificial dune?

- K - Green grass
- H - Marram
- S - Bamboo



Tip: There are little signs on the wooden poles showing the compass directions!

4

In among the boats, you can see Sientje Mesdag-van Houten painting. She has put her canvas on a(n)...

- E - Easel
- T - Tripod
- V - Tent pole



Look really closely! Somewhere on the canvas you can find something that isn't painted, but is actually real. Did you find it?

Did you know?  
That paint only began to be sold in tubes in 1842? The invention made it much easier for artists like Sientje Mesdag-van Houten, shown here, to take their paints with them so they could work in the open air.



5

If you look to the south-west, you can see the Scheveningen lighthouse. When was the lighthouse built?

- V - Before 1881
- D - In 1885
- A - After 1890



6

In the middle of the platform you're standing on, you can see a glass cylinder. Mesdag made the first sketch on it in brown paint. He painted this sketch...



- N - On the outside of the cylinder
- E - On the inside of the cylinder
- U - On both the outside and inside of the cylinder



Did you know?  
That when he painted the full-size Panorama, Mesdag not only used this glass cylinder but also photographs and other sketches?

7

Artillerymen and their horses often held military exercises on the beach in Scheveningen. If you look closely, you can see that they are pulling something across the sand. What is it?

- I - Anchors
- M - Fishing nets
- N - Cannons



8

The chair on the dune...

- E - Is painted
- N - Looks real
- I - Is real



Did you know?  
That Scheveningen didn't have a harbour until 1904? Before it was built, fishing boats had to be pulled up onto the beach by horses. The boats had flat bottoms which made this possible.

