

PETER RICE (1935-1992) AND RICHARD ROGERS (1933)

Peter Rice was one of the most imaginative and gifted structural engineers of the late 20th century. He was much loved by the architects with whom he collaborated, and together they achieved some of the most technically ingenious buildings of the period. He was born in Dundalk, Ireland, in 1935 and studied engineering at Queens University in Belfast and Imperial College London. In 1956, he joined the engineering practice of Ove Arup and Partners, which he collaborated with for 30 years. His first major project was working on the Sydney Opera House (designed by Jørn Utzon) when he was only 28. It was this project which gave him the experience of working on a large and complex project – a knowledge he would put to good use in his future career. Rice worked closely on major projects with architects such as Norman Foster, Ian Ritchie, Kenzo Tange and Renzo Piano. Piano said of him, “*Peter Rice is one of those engineers who has greatly contributed to architecture, reaffirming the deep creative inter-connection between humanism and science, between art and technology.*” The long list of significant buildings for which his rigorous approach created poetic results includes a series studies of structural forms and the possibilities of various materials – concrete at **Lloyd’s of London** (designed by Richard Rogers), glass at **Les Serres** at La Villette in Paris, ferro-cement and iron at the **Menil Collection Museum** in Houston (designed by Renzo Piano), and stone at the **Pabellón del Futuro, Expo ’92** in Sevilla, Spain, to name a few. Among his numerous awards, he was made Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects and in 1992 he was awarded the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture by the Royal Institute of British Architects for his engineering work.



Sydney Opera House.

Richard Rogers (1933, Florence) is an Italian-born British architect noted for what he described as “*celebrating the components of the structure*”. His high-tech approach is most evident in the Pompidou Centre in Paris, which he designed with the Italian architect Renzo Piano. Rogers studied at the Architectural Association in London (1954–59) and Yale University (1961–62). He returned to London to open a partnership with Norman Foster, in a firm called Team 4 (1963–66). From 1970 to 1977 he worked with Renzo Piano, and together they planned the world-wide famous Pompidou Centre. In 1977 Rogers created the Richard Rogers Partnership. He gained more international attention for his spectacular Lloyd’s of London Skyscraper (1978–86), a highly polished mechanistic tower. Rogers’s work reached its greatest audience when he designed the Millennium Dome (1996–99) in Greenwich, England. Among Rogers’s later works is Terminal 4 (2005) at Madrid Barajas International Airport. Rogers received a number of awards, including the Japan Art Association’s Praemium Imperiale prize for architecture in 2000 and the Pritzker Prize in 2007.



The Lloyd’s of London skyscraper.



The Millennium Dome, Greenwich.

1 Read the text and complete the chart.

WHAT	PETER RICE	RICHARD ROGERS
Date of Birth		
Nationality		
Education		
Profession		
Architectural philosophy		
Early works		
Firms		
Collaborations		
Famous works		
Awards		