

If I Were a Skyscraper Lift











An activity of "How high can a skyscraper go?"

Read "How high can a skyscraper go?" (page 11 *What's Up* June 2026). The article is about how engineers design very tall, safe skyscrapers.

1. Based on the article, fill in the table below to describe the challenges of designing a super high skyscraper.

Challenge	Why it is a challenge
Strong wind.	
Heavy materials.	
Building sways at the top.	
People need to reach the top.	
Wind creates vortices.	

2. Match the challenges on the left to the possible solutions on the right.

The building become very heavy.			Design lifts that are fast but still comfortable.
Wind pushes against the building.			Use strong materials and a strong base.
The building sways too much.			Use a giant pendulum to absorb the wind energy.
Wind creates vortices.			Use systems or designs to reduce movement.
People need to travel very high up.			Use a wind-resistant shape.

3. Imagine you are a lift inside a super-tall skyscraper like the Jeddah Tower, the Burj Khalifa or an imaginary skyscraper taller than these.

I am a lift inside this building: _____ . My building is _____ storeys tall.

As a lift, my personality is as follows ↓. (You can circle more than one.)

<i>brave</i>	<i>tired</i>	<i>dramatic</i>	<i>proud</i>	<i>nervous</i>
<i>funny</i>	<i>grumpy</i>	<i>helpful</i>	<i>easily dizzy</i>	<i>lazy</i>
<i>enthusiastic</i>	<i>pessimistic</i>	<i>secretly afraid of heights</i>		

4. Now, write a diary entry as the lift. Here are some points to include:

- at least two science facts from the article
- at least one feeling that you have as the lift
- at least one problem you face
- one funny, dramatic or surprising moment you witnessed
- a clear ending.

