Reading Buildings

1. Can you describe a building for somebody who has never seen it? In words? In pictures?
2. Estimate the size of the building; high, length, breadth. (Pace the building out, one step is about one meter.)
3. Why has the building these measurements?
4. Make a general description of the building: does it have windows, doors, colours, scale?
5. Can you enter the building? How does it smell? How does it taste? How does it feel? How does it sound?
6. Can you go in different rooms? Does every room feel the same? Does it smell/ taste/ sound the same in every room?
7. What shape has the building? Round, quadratic, rectangular etc ?
8. What material/s is it made of?
9. Why did they choose this material?
10. What are the pluses and minuses of this material?
11. What raw material as used for the building materials?
12. How is the shape of the building influenced by the material
13. How is the function influenced by the material?
14. Can you reuse the material?
15. Is the building an ecological or environmentally sound building?
16. Is it symmetrical or asymmetrical?
17. What colour is the building? Is the colour influence by light, shadow? How? Describe
18. Is there any decoration? Sculptures, pattern, details. Does the material of the facade define a pattern?
19. Do you like this building? Please explain, don't just answer yes or no !
20. Is this building modern or old. Classical? Traditional?
21. Does the building stand alone or is it part of a series?
22. Is it made by hand or by machine?
23. How is the building used? (ask someone who lives/works there?)
24. Has it been changed in any way?
25. Does it need renovation?
26. Is it a functional building, can everyone use it?
27. Can you measure the building quality in any way?
28. How much do you estimate that it is worth? In money? In another way of measuring?
29. What is most typical or significant with this building? What stands out most?
30. Is there any text on the building? What does it say? Why is it there?
31. Are there any symbols on the building?
32. What would this building have looked like 100, 200, 500, 1000 years ago?