



## Unexplained Phenomena and Events

### Task: The Lemp Mansion in St. Louis, Missouri

#### Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 8.

You are going to hear a talk about **the Lemp mansion in St. Louis, Missouri**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

#### Audio Script

How far would you go to see a haunted house? Well, in the city of St. Louis, in Missouri, you should know that there is the Lemp mansion, that is well known for its hauntings and ghosts. Today it is a historical house located in Benton Park.

The house was originally built in 1890. The Lemp business was that of a brewery and in 1911 further construction of the house happened, creating office space that used to be utilized for the brewery. The head of the Lemp family was Johann Adam Lemp. He came from Germany, becoming a U.S. naturalized citizen in November of 1841. He had a grocery store, where he sold his own beer and vinegar. Later this would cause him to only concentrate on the production and selling of beer. With the increase of German population in the area, the Lemp beer went up in popularity, especially since it was one of the first breweries to produce German lager in the United States. This helped set itself apart from the more available English ale and porters, which gave it a competitive advantage. As it grew, a cave in the south of St. Louis was used for storage, and since it was a natural refrigeration for the beer, it worked towards their benefit. Through three generations the brewery passed from father to son, grew, prospered and was later to decline, eventually shutting down when prohibition began in the 1920s.

Returning back to the house, it has been the home of the Lemps, later on it would become a boarding house and nowadays it is a restaurant and inn. If you were to go to the Lemp mansion these days, you would be able to enjoy participating in a murder mystery dinner theater and halloween parties. They also have historical tours and ghost tours. There have been several reports of ghost sightings in the hotel. The Lemp family had three reported suicides of family members. Some ghost investigators claim that there are nine identifiable spirits in the Lemp mansion. On the third floor, the ghost of a little boy from the Lemp family was seen by some of the people that have toured and stayed at the Lemp mansion. Many people have spotted the lavender lady ghost on the second floor as well. Strange voices and sounds have been heard in the mansion and in the restaurant. Some ghosts are harmless, but others the restaurant workers claim that people must be careful because signs of forceful actions have been seen before, making most of the living that was present rather scared.

You ought to visit this mansion if haunted and historical houses are your thing. It may be a once in a lifetime experience for you and who knows, you might even see a ghost!



Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me about **the facts of the Lemp brewery and the Lemp mansion.**

Now tell me about **the facts of the Lemp brewery and the Lemp mansion.** You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

**Answers:**

The Lemp Brewery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Grocery store / made his own beer and vinegar</li><li>● become popular / increase German population</li><li>● first to produce German Lager in the United States</li><li>● used a cave for beer storage / refrigeration</li><li>● shut down in the 1920s / prohibition</li></ul>
The Lemp Mansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● was a boarding house / is now a restaurant and inn</li><li>● murder mystery dinner / halloween parties</li><li>● historical tours / ghost tours</li><li>● three suicides</li><li>● nine identified ghost / little boy on the third floor / lavender lady on the second floor</li></ul>

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