

Greek Temple Architecture – Answer Key

Part 1: Fill in the Blanks – Answers

1. The cella is the inner room of a Greek temple, often housing the statue of a god.
2. A peripteral temple has a single row of columns surrounding the building.
3. Greek architecture used a trabeated system, which means horizontal beams were supported by vertical posts.
4. The horizontal section above the columns, made up of the architrave, frieze, and cornice, is called the entablature.
5. The triangular upper part of the temple front, often filled with sculpture, is known as the pediment.

Part 2: Matching – Answers

1. Stylobate – B. A raised platform on which columns stand
2. Shaft – F. The vertical portion of a column between the base and the capital
3. Capital – C. The topmost element of a column
4. Architrave – G. The simple, unadorned beam directly above the columns
5. Frieze – A. The decorative horizontal band above the architrave
6. Cornice – I. The projecting horizontal section above the frieze
7. Base – D. The bottom part of a column
8. Colonnade – H. A row of columns supporting a roof or entablature
9. Opisthodomos – E. The room at the back of a Greek temple, used for storage or offerings

Part 3: Short Answer – Sample Response

Greek temples were not used as places of worship. Instead, they were considered the home of the gods. The temple interior was typically used to house a statue of the god and possibly storage for offerings. The exterior was purposely impressive and well-decorated. This served to honor the gods and also as a way to demonstrate the wealth and power of the city that built it.