



Roman Architecture – Answer Key

Part 1: Vocabulary Matching – Answers

1. Basilica – C. A rectangular Roman public building with side aisles and a central platform.
2. Triumphal Arch – B. A freestanding arch built to commemorate a person or event.
3. Aqueduct – G. A channel or bridge used to carry water into cities.
4. Amphitheater – F. A Roman structure used for entertainment such as gladiator combat.
5. Concrete – H. A strong building material made from volcanic ash and lime.
6. Vault – A. A curved structure used to support a ceiling or roof.
7. Dome – D. A round roof or ceiling in the shape of a hemisphere.
8. Colonnade – E. A series of columns placed at regular intervals.

Part 2: Fill in the Blanks – Answers

1. Roman architects used materials like volcanic stone, travertine, marble, and **concrete**.
2. The Romans were influenced by **Greek** architecture, especially ideas of order and harmony.
3. **Arches**, domes, and vaulting allowed for more complex interior designs.
4. The **Colosseum** was used for public spectacles like animal slayings and executions.
5. An **aqueduct** carried fresh water over long distances to Roman cities.
6. A **basilica** was a public Roman building flanked by side aisles and colonnades.
7. Roman architecture was impressive both inside and out, thanks in part to **concrete**.
8. The **Maison Carrée** is a well-preserved Roman temple in modern-day France.
9. Roman architecture emphasized harmony and **symmetry** in its design.
10. **Gladiator** combat was a popular spectacle in Roman amphitheaters.

Part 3: Short Answer – Sample Responses

1. Roman architecture was different because it focused on both exterior and interior beauty. New materials like concrete and the discovery of arches, domes, and vaults allowed for large, open, and richly decorated interiors.
2. Concrete was important because it could be molded into different shapes and sizes, allowing for the construction of arches, domes, and vaults that weren't possible before. Concrete was strong and could even be set underwater.