

Questions to answer after the explanation.
Listen to what is said to you, and use your eyes!

ALCAZABA

from here we will see the Roman bridge (see the next page) and we will also see some Roman houses and an Arabic cistern or aljibe - for getting water. (For the last six years the way down into the aljibe has been closed. Some, but not all, of the questions below are about the inside of it.)

a) Which people built the Alcazaba - the Romans, the Visigoths or the Arabs?

b) What can you see **below ground level** over quite a large area of the Alcazaba? (i.e. What was it built on top of?)

c) They used Roman stones to build the defensive walls. There is **one type of stone** which can be seen in the walls and is very distinctive. (*You will see stones like this in other places.*) **What had these stones been used for by the Romans** before they were moved and put in the walls?

ALJIBE

a) Which people built the aljibe or cistern - the Romans, the Visigoths or the Arabs

b) What could they get from it? _____

c) Why was the aljibe necessary? _____

d) How many staircases are there when you go down inside? _____

e) Why? One for _____ and one for _____

f) What type of column was used to decorate the **outside of the entrances**? _____

g) Which people made these decorations - the Romans, the Visigoths or the Arabs?

h) Did they arrive in Spain before or after **the Romans**? _____

i) Did they arrive in Spain before or after **the Arabs**? _____

j) Why were the steps going down made so large (and uncomfortable for humans)?

ROMAN BRIDGE / PONS ROMANUS NOTISSIMUS

- a) How long is the bridge? metres
- b) How many arches does it have? _____
- c) Do a quick sketch of the **five arches nearest** to the Alcazaba.
- d) Which **two parts of the design** were to make the bridge stronger if the river should flood?
- i) _____
- ii) _____
- e) The bridge was cut twice. When and why?
- i) _____
- ii) _____
- f) What is the name of the river? _____
- g) Which sea does it flow into? _____
- h) Where does it flow into this sea? _____

HOUSE BY THE PLAZA DE TOROS (*The House of the Mithraeum*)

Cosmos Mosaic

a) What kind of things are shown in the mosaic called 'Cosmos'? _____

Which colours do you notice most? _____

What is the most valuable material used to make the mosaic? _____

Walls of house (not where the mosaic is)

b) How high above the ground are most of the surviving walls in this house? _____

Describe some **plaster (yeso)** you can still see on a wall that used to be inside.
(what colours and patterns are used)

Peristylum (near to the road)

c) Do a quick plan (a bird's eye view) of **the large peristylum**.
Make sure you show where **the columns** would have been.

d) Is the **place where water was stored** in the house (very near to the road) **above** or **below** the original ground level of the house? _____

Was it originally covered? _____

Where did the water come from? _____

e) What may the downstairs rooms have been used for? i) _____
ii) _____

AMPHITHEATRE

(cavea=seating; summa=top; media=middle; ima=lowest)

Draw **a rough plan** (a bird's eye view). Include the place where the governor (the ruler of the province) sat, and the place where the man who paid for the games sat, where the animals were kept, where the gladiators entered.

How many people could watch shows there in Roman times?

How did members of the audience reach their seats?

What were **naumachiae**?

What **two pieces of evidence** suggest that the amphitheatre was used for naumachiae?

a)

b)

Other information?

THEATRE

Sketch (very quickly) **the stage building**.

(Show where the **columns** and **statues** were.)

a) A lot of **marble** has disappeared from the stage-building. How was it fixed on to the walls?

i) _____ ii) _____

b) Why did people take it away? _____

c) **How many rows** / lines of seats survive? (Some of the rows are in a very bad state!)

d) **How many people** could watch plays here in Roman times? _____

e) Did a Roman theatre have a curtain? _____

f) Which part of the Theatre has not fallen down since Roman times? _____

g) Most of the theatre was buried. What was the belief about the part that was never buried?

INSCRIPTION

h) Who is mentioned in an inscription above the entrance for the audience?

Marcus

PERISTYLIUM

i) What was the purpose of **the large peristylum behind the theatre**?

j) What was found in the **little chapel** in this peristylum?

OTHER THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

THE ARCH OF TRAJAN

Who was **Trajan**? The first emperor born in . He reigned from AD to .

Did the arch always look so boring? _____

THE TEMPLE (OF DIANA?) / THE FORUMS

Why is it likely that this is where **one of the Roman forums** was?

i) _____

ii) _____

Can you see why the **temple has not fallen down** over the last 1500 years?

Do a drawing of **one of the columns**, and say what type of column it is.

Why were there **two forums in Mérida** (and in Corduba and Tarraco)?

Why/Where have they recently found evidence for the other forum?

AQUEDUCTS AND RESERVOIRS

- a) Most of the way the aqueduct from Proserpina's Lake goes along at ground level. How long is the whole aqueduct? _____
- b) How far is the reservoir from Merida? _____
- c) What two reasons are there for the aqueduct being **on arches high above the ground as it gets near to Mérida**?
- i) _____
- ii) _____
- d) Draw **one** of the arches of the *Acueducto de los Milagros*, showing what it was made from and how it was made.
- e) Why is one of the two Roman reservoirs called ***Proserpina's Lake***?

HOUSES BY THE AMPHITHEATRE

- a) An aqueduct ends near these houses. Where did it begin?
- b) What is the Latin name for the tower where the water was filtered (cleaned) and then allowed to flow on to other parts of the town?
- c) In one house you can see a kitchen. How can you know it is the kitchen?
- d) In another house, there is a mosaic with a large number of examples of a certain type of food which must have been expensive in Emerita Augusta. What type of food?

THE CIRCUS

1. Draw a diagram to show its shape.

How long was the *spina*? _____ metres

Why was the right hand side (the side further from the main road) a little wider?

2. How many people could watch the chariot races here?

3. What was the name of the man who won the most races ever in the Rome?

How many did he win?

Which province was he born in? _____

What was the capital town of this province?

MUSEUM

Ground floor

1. Wall-painting from the amphitheatre - what does it show?
2. The head of Octavian / Augustus - where was it found? What is unusual about it?
3. Why do many statues have heads or hands missing?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)
4. Inscriptions - why do many have DM or DMS on them?

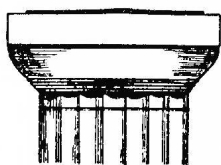
Both floors

5. Jewellery - what different materials were used?

First floor

6. Olive-oil lamps - how many flames would most have?
7. A strigil - how long is it?
8. Some golden thread - where was it found?

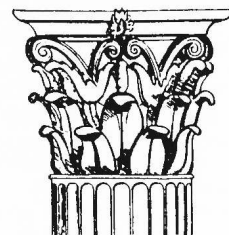
GREEK AND ROMAN COLUMNS



DORIC



IONIC



CORINTHIAN