

# Ellie's Roman Empire Expedition

*Learning objective: To analyse and evaluate the impact of Roman innovations on life in Roman Britain.*

Ellie the elephant has been exploring ancient Roman ruins. Below is a list of Roman innovations. Sort these into two categories: 'Daily Life & Comfort' and 'Defence & Infrastructure'. Then, answer the deeper thinking questions to explain the impact of these advancements.

*Word bank: Aqueducts · Forts · Underfloor heating · Straight roads · Public baths · Hadrian's Wall · Togas · Mosaic floors*

**1. Sort the items from the word bank into two groups: 'Daily Life & Comfort' and 'Defence & Infrastructure'. Explain your reasoning for your placement of 'Public baths'. (3 marks)**

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**2. Compare and contrast the purpose of a Roman road with a modern-day motorway. Why were straight roads so important for the Roman army? (2 marks)**

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**3. Justify your answer: If you were living in Roman Britain, which innovation would you find the most useful for your family? Why? (2 marks)**

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**4. Explain why the Romans built Hadrian's Wall across the north of Britain. What might have happened if they had decided not to build it? (3 marks)**

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**5. How did the introduction of Roman technology change the way people lived in Britain compared to the Iron Age? Identify two significant improvements. (2 marks)**

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**6. Imagine you are an archaeologist finding a Roman mosaic. What does the complexity of the design tell you about the wealth and status of the person who lived there? (2 marks)**

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**Draw: Draw a cross-section of a Roman hypocaust (underfloor heating system), labelling where the fire is kept and how the warm air travels beneath the floor tiles.**



*Extension challenge: Write a short diary entry from the perspective of a Roman soldier stationed at a fort on Hadrian's Wall. Describe your daily duties and how you use Roman infrastructure to keep the empire safe.*