Ellie’s Roman Empire Expedition

Learning objective: To identify and categorise key aspects of Roman life and their lasting impact on Britain.

Ellie the Elephant has been visiting an archaeological site! She has found a collection of artefacts and facts, but they are all muddled up. Sort the items below into the correct categories: 'Roman Technology and Infrastructure', 'Daily Life and Culture', or 'Military and Defence'.

Word bank: Aqueducts · Hypocaust central heating · Toga wearing · Straight Roman roads · The Testudo (tortoise) formation · Public bathhouses · Centurions · Concrete construction · Mosaic flooring

1. 1. Which three items from the word bank are examples of Roman Technology and Infrastructure? Explain why they were important for the Empire. (3 marks)

2. 2. Categorise 'Public bathhouses' and 'Toga wearing'. Which category do they belong to and what do they tell us about Roman social habits? (2 marks)

3. 3. The Romans used 'Concrete construction' to build lasting structures. If a Roman builder wanted to build a bridge costing £500, but the price of stone rose by £150, what is the new total cost? (2 marks)

4. 4. Why was the 'Testudo' formation vital for the Roman army when attacking a defended fortification? (2 marks)

5. 5. Choose one item from the 'Daily Life and Culture' category. Describe how this might have been different for a wealthy Roman compared to a poor Roman living in Britain. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of a Roman road, labelling the layers such as the 'statumen' (large stones), 'rudus' (crushed stone and lime), and the 'pavimentum' (surface stones).

Extension challenge: Research how Roman roads influenced the layout of modern towns and cities in the UK. Write a short paragraph explaining why many major roads today follow the same routes as Roman ones.