

Daily life and leisure activities in the city

A. The living environment

Housing:

- The rich people live in beautiful *domus* with several rooms, including:
 - the *atrium*: a living room with an opening in the roof to collect rainwater
 - the *triclinium*: the dining room
 - the *peristyle*: a green space surrounded by a colonnade.
- The poor people live in apartments or rooms in the *insulae*, housing units with 2 or 3 floors without any comfort.

Public buildings :

- Imposing stone buildings stand on the *forum*, the main square: temples, a basilica (a court and meeting place), a covered market, administrative buildings, etc.
- Fountains rise everywhere in the streets, and several public baths offer their 'spa' to the population with rooms of different temperatures: *caldarium*, *tepidarium*, *frigidarium*. An aqueduct brings the water into the city.
- Vast public spaces are created for leisure activities: theatres, amphitheatres and sometimes hippodromes (see below).
- The town is surrounded by a wall pierced by monumental gates.

B. A Day in the life of a Roman

The course of a day:

- The wealthy Romans work in the morning, going to the forum if their work calls for it.
- At lunchtime, they eat a light lunch, then take a rest.
- The afternoon is devoted to leisure: Romans especially enjoy going to the thermal baths and attending the shows.
- In the evening, Romans often dine with friends, organizing banquets.

The public games, which are free and very popular, are organised by the town's elected representatives. They attract large crowds during the numerous public holidays:

- At the amphitheatre (like the famous Colosseum in Rome), gladiator and animal fights take place.
- At the theatre, plays are staged, often funny ones such as comedies or atellanes, or dance and song performances.
- At the hippodrome, chariot races take place.

Women look after their homes and children, but they also go out to town and to the shows, just like the men.

Children have a teacher at home if their parents are rich; they go to school if they are less well-off; they have no school if they are poor.

Slaves rarely have any leisure time.

See the 'Daily life and leisure documents' file

Worksheet based on 'Danger in Pompeii'

Name:

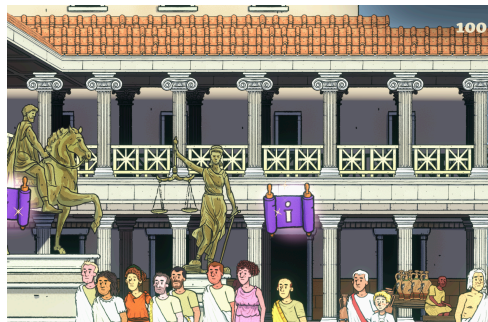
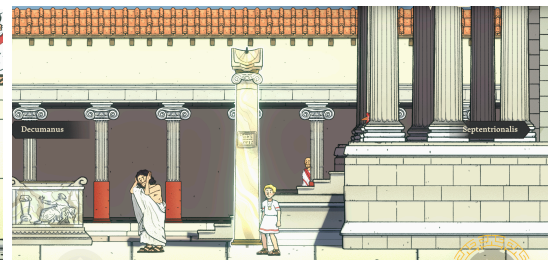
1. Walk around [the domus](#) to find the different rooms, then link the names of the rooms in the house to their descriptions:

Cubiculum	Dining room
Atrium	Bedroom
Tablinum	Living room
Peristyle	Office
Triclinium	Colonnaded garden

2. Go to [the forum](#) and use the map to locate the following places:

Temple of Jupiter, Temple of Apollo, Altar and Temple of Vespasian, Basilica, *Macellum* (= the covered m.....).

Indicate which place corresponds to each of these images:



3. Draw one of the fountains you see in [the streets](#):

Are there any women near these fountains?

4. Go to the [forum thermal baths](#) to observe the rooms, then write down the name of each room below and specify the temperature of the room:



Name:



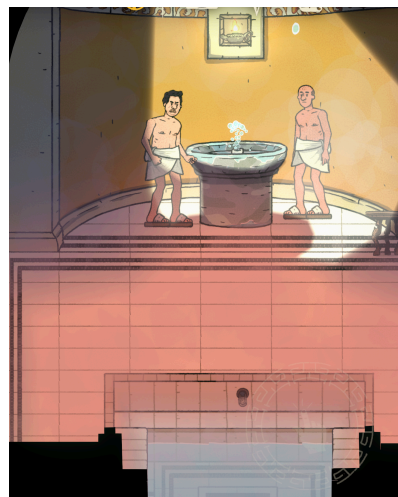
Name:

cold/warm/hot



Name:

cold/warm/hot.



Name:

cold/warm/hot

You didn't see any women in the thermal baths because: (underline the two right answers): they have different rooms, they have different timeslots, they never go there.

5. What is the name of the structure that brings water into the town? an
Find an image of this structure from afar *in the city*.

6. Which parts of the city are shown in these images? the g.....



7. What are the *game's quests* that show the public leisure activities?
.....
Are there any women in these leisure facilities?

8. Describe in a few lines the type of shows in each of the venues in question 7 :

A. In the th....., there were at least 5 kinds of shows:

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B. In the am....., there were at least 3 kinds of shows between the morning and the afternoon:

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9. What is the main place of public recreation that Pompeii did not have?

The, where races were held.

10. What evening entertainment is prepared in the *domus II quest*:

11. By looking at the *secondary quest 'At school' in the Decumanus and the point of interest just to the right of the school*, explain the difference in education between the children of the rich, the poor and the slaves:

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12. By starting the *secondary quest 'Freedom' on the Meridionalis and looking at point of interest right next to it*, summarise the rights of a slave:

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