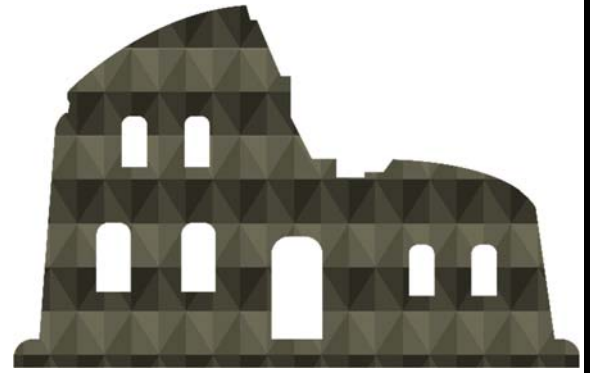


Name _____

The Colosseum

The Colosseum, located in the heart of Rome, Italy, is one of the most famous landmarks in the world. This gigantic amphitheater was built nearly 2,000 years ago during the reign of the Roman Empire. Construction began in 72 CE under Emperor Vespasian and was completed in 80 CE by his son, Emperor Titus. Its grand design and fascinating history have captured imaginations for centuries.



Standing tall with its oval shape, the Colosseum could hold up to 50,000 spectators. Imagine a building so massive that it could fit several football fields inside! It was built to host thrilling events, such as gladiator battles, animal hunts, and even mock sea battles. Yes, the Romans were so innovative that they could flood the arena with water to stage naval battles!

The Colosseum was made of concrete and stone, featuring multiple levels of arches and columns. Its outer walls were adorned with statues and carvings, showcasing the advanced engineering skills of the Romans. Each level had a specific style of column, from simple Doric at the bottom to elaborate Corinthian at the top. These arches not only made the structure strong but also created a beautiful and balanced design.

Why did the Romans build the Colosseum? It served as a place for entertainment, bringing people together to watch spectacular shows. It was also a symbol of the emperor's power and the greatness of Rome. By hosting these grand events, the emperor could win the loyalty and admiration of the Roman people.

Despite its age, the Colosseum remains a powerful symbol of ancient Rome and its incredible achievements. Over time, parts of it have been damaged by earthquakes and stone removal, but restoration efforts keep it standing as a reminder of history. Today, millions of visitors from around the world come to marvel at this architectural masterpiece and imagine what it was like during its glory days.

The Colosseum is more than just a building. It tells a story of innovation, ambition, and human creativity. It stands as a testament to what people can achieve with skill and imagination, making it one of the most treasured landmarks in the world.