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91395



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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa  
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

## Level 3 Classical Studies 2024

### 91395 Analyse the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world.	Analyse, in-depth, the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world.	Analyse, with perception, the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should attempt ONE of the questions in this booklet.**

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (//////). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

High Achievement

TOTAL 04

## Page 1

### INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ONE of the questions below with reference to one or more **classical art works or buildings**.

You must answer using paragraphs.

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss how and why mythical and / or historical imagery features in one or more classical art works.
2. Discuss the extent to which naturalism was effectively conveyed in one or more classical art works.
3. In what ways was the form of one or more classical art works impacted by its location and / or the social activities that were associated with it?
4. Discuss the extent to which the decoration techniques and / or design used to create one or more classical art works were typical of their time.

### SELECTED QUESTION

Copy and paste the question you have chosen into the space below.

In what ways was the form of one or more classical art works impacted by its location and / or the social activities that were associated with it?-3

### CLASSICAL ART WORK(S) OR BUILDING(S)

The Colosseum (Flavian Amphitheatre)

### PLANNING

imperable propaganda/divial approval  
civil and social purpose  
religious

social activity- brutal fights-arena sand floors  
social seats  
and civil and social purpose of pleasing the people of rome- arches  
divine aproval

### ANSWER

Type your answer in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of no more than 800–900 words. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.) The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer.

Support your answer with evidence from one or more classical art works or buildings.

B I U ☰ ▾ ☰ ▾ ↶ ↷ ?

The Colosseum, also known as the Flavian Amphitheatre, is one of the most prominent landmark/structure of the Ancient World, and is an engineering marvel, made up of stone, marble and concrete, that was a reflection of the significance and power of Rome. The Colosseum was constructed during the Flavian Dynasty between 70-72 AD, by Emperor Vespasian and as time goes by, completed by his son Emperor Titus. The Colosseum was an amphitheatre built as a public display of entertainment, showcasing and holding gladiator fights that slaves or criminals would be involved in for freedom, mock naval battles, executions, and animal hunts. Emperor Vespasian had built the colosseum, to demonstrate Rome's wealth, cultural significance, and military power, to give back to the people, as well as gain power and popularity throughout his reign which will then reflect the power of Rome. This essay will analyse and explore why Emperor Vespasian, built and formed the Colosseum and how it was impacted through the social activities of social status of Rome, the purpose of pleasing the people of Rome, the significance of giving back to the gods and the thrill the Roman people had for brutal wars and battles.

In Rome, the social activity of status determined how a citizen of Rome was to live, to be treated, and what advantages/disadvantages the citizen would hold. In Rome, the order of society was very significant as it was seen to be the only way that the public of Rome could function and live, so the population could thrive and grow. The formation of social status Colosseum was impacted, through the arrangement of seating, as the status that one held determine their view of the games, battles, and sacrificial traditions that were held in the arena of the Colosseum. The Social statuses of Rome were split into 5 categories. Emperors/royalty who were sat in the very front as it displayed their high status and importance in Rome, therefore gave them the advantage of having the best view of the arena. The High officials and Senators, sat in the front tier, closest to the emperors/royalty and with a good view to spectate the arena, which symbolised their significance to the society of Rome and their respected duty. The Equestrians who were also known as the more upper-class citizens, sat in the second tier which had a good view of the arena, which showcased their wealth, but also showcased that they were not held at a higher status than the high officials and senators. The common people, also referred to as the Plebians, sat on the third and fourth tier, which reflected that they did not hold a high significant status in the society of Rome, but held a standard that was considered middle class therefore having a good view, but not as clear of a view, as the higher statuses would have had. The top tier would be for women and slaves, as they were considered the lowest class of Roman society, as slaves were owned and had little to no rights in society at all, and women were dependent on families therefore having no significance to the society of Rome. The form of the seating arrangements in the Colosseum impacted by the social activity of social status, determined who has more advantage and respect at one of Rome's primary sources of entertainment, and who was more respected, which also reflected the propaganda of Rome.

The priority of pleasing the people of Rome and maintaining Pax Romana (Roman Peace), was one of the social activities that were significant to an Emperor and the Empire itself, because without the public approval of the Emperor, the empire and the Emperors reign will go through a downfall, along with the people. This is because the Emperor must gain the public trust and liking, in order to run the population, create a stronger and powerful army, and uphold the cultural significance of Rome. The formation and construction Colosseum was impacted by the social activity of pleasing the Roman people, as Emperor Vespasian had built the Colosseum to give back to the people of Rome and showcase that he cares and wants to maintain the well being of the Roman population by providing them with free entertainment. He had built in arches that would hold up all the weight distribution and made sure that the structure had the capacity to last longer. It was also built to provide easier access for larger crowds, therefore most, if not the whole population of Rome were able to take part in the entertainment provided by the Emperor. This also meant that the form of the Colosseum was impacted by the social activity of Pax Romana, which means the Romans peace, as the emperor used the Colosseum as a way to distract the public of Rome from all the social and political issues occurring in Rome, which led to the peace of mind of all Romans, and less panic of the Society of Rome. The social activity of Pax Romana and pleasing the people heavily impacted the making of the Colosseum as it not only pleased the people of Rome and maintained peace within the population, but also gained Emperor Vespasian more power and dominance therefore a reflection of Rome's power and significance.

The religious sacrifices before the battles held at the colosseum, were impacted by the social activity of pleasing the Gods. The Romans believed that if they had sacrificed the living, that they would be granted good luck by the gods. The gods were the most significant traits and reasons to the actions that the Roman people had done, as they believed that when you please the gods, you are granted an after life of grace. Pleasing the Gods also impacted the reasoning behind the form of the Colosseum, as the Emperors used it as a way for imperial propaganda and divine approval. They made the social activity of pleasing the gods to be the reason for the construction of the Colosseum, which gave the Emperor a sense of power, especially given the fact that the colosseum was built off of war and money. This gave the impression that the emperors and rulers were favoured by the gods. The social impact of religious traditions that please the gods impacted the colosseum as it gave the rulers a sense of higher power, and impacted the tradition of religious sacrifice before every battle held at the arena.

The brutal wars and battles were one of Ancient Rome's traits that they held significantly as becoming the most powerful empire. The social activity of power and ambition that were shown through barbaric battles and deathly wars were one of the biggest impacts of the formation of the Colosseum, as it was the primary source of entertainment in Ancient Rome. Ancient Rome had significant thrills when it came to war, because when conquering a war or a battle, it is seen to show and display power, ambition, and dominance. It is the reason why the Roman population and society were so fascinated and thrilled by the being entertained by death and brutality in war, as it gave the people a figure of superiority if a gladiator (slave or criminal who is fighting in battle for freedom) wins, as it demonstrates power, dominance, and significance. The Arena ground where all the action was displayed had sand grounds, that would absorb the of the competitors who were fighting in battle, as it was a thrilling display for the audience, and the blood symbolised the dominance and power of the gladiator who had won. The blood absorbed by the sand was also known to be a reflection of Roman Power. The social activity of battle and war that the society of Rome held was significant that it had impacted the Colosseum as an inspiration to be the source of entertainment of the Roman society, which demonstrated the Emperor's care for his people and their well beings.

Through the analysis of the Colosseum, it is evident that the social activities of social status, Pax Romana, pleasing to the gods, and battles and war, had an immense impact to form of the construction, origins, and entertainment of the Colosseum. The social activity of social status was displayed in the design of the Colosseum, as the arrangements of where a citizen of Rome were to be seated, and was dependent on the social standard that one held. The social activity of Pax Romana was evident as an impact of the Colosseum which reflected gain of power and popularity the emperor held, as well as the people's peace, well being and blind eye to the social and political issues that occurred in Ancient Rome. The significance of the gods was the social activity that impacted the Colosseum's traditions and reflection of the power of the Emperor, as it was viewed that they were favoured by the gods. Lastly, the thrill the Roman people had for war and battle that was the social activity that impacted the primary purpose of entertainment to the Colosseum and the reflection of Rome's power and dominance. These four social activities that the society of Ancient Rome held, had significant impacts on the form of one of the ancient world's most prominent landmark/ structure, which was a reflection of the culture and society of Ancient Rome.

**1548 WORDS / 900 RECOMMENDED**

## Achievement

**Subject:** Classical Studies

**Standard:** 91395

**Total score:** 04

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
Three	A4	This response demonstrates an understanding of the art work and attempts to answer the question. Examples of the art work are provided, but some lack specific detail. There is an understanding of the context for which the art work was created, however, it is not consistently supported with detailed specific examples. Whilst this response includes some detailed and relevant discussion, it lacks specific evidence to achieve a higher grade.