



Museum language

A museum is a building or institution that houses and conserves a collection of artefacts and other objects of scientific, artistic, or historical importance and makes them available for public viewing through permanent or temporary exhibits for purposes of study, education, and enjoyment.

Archaeology museums specialise in the display of archaeological artefacts. Many are in the open air, such as the Acropolis of Athens and the Roman Forum. Others display artefacts found in archaeological sites inside buildings.

An art museum, also known as an art gallery, is a space for the exhibition of art objects from the visual arts, such as paintings, illustrations, photos, and sculptures. They may also house collections of drawings and old prints or of applied art, including ceramics, metalwork, furniture, ancient books, and other types of object. Probably the most famous art gallery in the world is The Louvre in Paris. The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and the National Gallery in London are other two world famous art museums.

Museums of natural history and natural science typically exhibit work of the natural world. Exhibitions may vary from environmental issues to biodiversity. Notable museums of this type include the Natural History Museum in London and the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle in Paris.



ACTIVITIES

1 Match each of the terms below with its definition.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Gallery | A Something made or given shape by man, such as a tool or a work of art |
| 2 Display case | B A surface decoration made by inlaying in patterns small pieces of variously coloured glass, stone, or other material |
| 3 Exhibit | C A room for the exhibition of works of art |
| 4 Mosaic | D A glass container used to store and display items |
| 5 Artefact | E A sculptural relief in which forms extend only slightly from the background |
| 6 Bas-relief | F A large-scale public showing |

2 Provide the Italian equivalent for each of the following terms.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| A Metals | ..... | C Stone | ..... | E Other Materials | ..... |
| 1 Bronze | ..... | 1 Alabaster | ..... | 1 Crystal | ..... |
| 2 Brass | ..... | 2 Gemstone | ..... | 2 Fur | ..... |
| 3 Copper | ..... | 3 Basalt | ..... | 3 Ivory | ..... |
| 4 Gold | ..... | 4 Granite | ..... | 4 Leather | ..... |
| 5 Iron | ..... | 5 Limestone | ..... | 5 Jade | ..... |
| 6 Silver | ..... | 6 Marble | ..... | F Processes | ..... |
| B Ceramics | ..... | 7 Sandstone | ..... | 1 Carved | ..... |
| 1 China | ..... | D Fabrics | ..... | 2 Embroidered | ..... |
| 2 Earthenware | ..... | 1 Brocade | ..... | 3 Enamelled | ..... |
| 3 Clay | ..... | 2 Cotton | ..... | 4 Lacquered | ..... |
| 4 Fritware | ..... | 3 Linen | ..... | 5 Woven | ..... |
| 5 Porcelain | ..... | 4 Muslin | ..... | 6 Glazed | ..... |
| 6 Stoneware | ..... | 5 Silk | ..... | 7 Decorated | ..... |
| 7 Terracotta | ..... | 6 Velvet | ..... | 8 Inlaid | ..... |
| 8 Glazed | ..... |  |  | 9 Painted | ..... |

