

TEACHER NOTES

English: Reading

Understanding Texts: The Romans at Robin Hill



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Contextual Summary

This pre- or post-visit activity enables students to engage with a venue-relevant text, encouraging them to practise their reading and comprehension skills. The main focus of the task is reading for information, and being able to synthesise and summarise their understanding. The task links to specific information about the features of the Roman villa found at Combley (now the site of the park). Students read a fact sheet on the history of the villa including its excavations and discoveries, and they answer questions on the content. The resources available are relevant to students in both

SUBJECT

English / History Crossover

UNIT

Reading: Comprehension

OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✓ Pre-Visit
- ✗ On-Site Activity
- ✓ Post-Visit

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This is a peripheral pre-visit resource, which visit if required. Ideally, students complete the activity before they visit. This enables students to not only practise their English skills in reading, but to also gain an enriched view of the subject and venue context as relating to local history, both at the Robin Hill Country Park and on the Isle of Wight. Students will hopefully explore the venue with a view to understanding the impact the Romans had on the local and surrounding areas.

Ability Levels

There are 4 variants of this resource: 2 for lower key stage 2 (differentiated for low and high ability), and 2 for upper key stage 2 (also differentiated for low and high ability).

Teachers can adapt the resources they feel best benefit their own students' learning, and teachers could adapt further by using the variants from the key stage above or below.

Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Reading for meaning and information
- ▶ Interpretation skills
- ▶ Summarising skills

Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills are required to be taught and practised as per the National Curriculum (and Curriculum for Excellence) for key stage 2, English: *Reading: Comprehension*.

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Curriculum for Excellence

Applies to Resources numbered:

1	0	5	0	3	1
1	0	5	0	3	2
1	0	5	0	3	3
1	0	5	0	3	4

Learning Opportunities

Pre-Visit

Completion of the English: Reading - Comprehension resource/s linked to this document:

Understanding Texts: The Romans at Robin Hill

Resource ID:

105031 (KS2U high ability)

105032 (KS2U low ability)

105033 (KS2L high ability)

105034 (KS2U low ability)

During the Visit

Activities could be completed on-site if a suitable space could be found, however this resource is designed as a pre-visit classroom or homework activity.

Post Visit

This task could be completed post-visit if required.

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- ▶ Whole class discussion about the responses to the questions
- ▶ Project work about the Roman history of the Isle of Wight, and in Great Britain generally.

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Enrichment Opportunities

- ✓ This resource enables students to gain an understanding of the Romans and their way of life at Combley Villa on the Isle of Wight during the occupation; they are also practising their English reading skills in a real context as relating to local history, both at the Robin Hill Country Park and on the Isle of Wight.
- ✓ Essentially, this task links with the school visit in a supporting way, allowing for the key skills of English to be practised (as well as the crossover History aspects enabled by the text's topic) whilst engaging with all contextual aspects of the Robin Hill Country Park.

Learning Outcomes

- ✓ The task will prepare students for visiting the park and gardens as they will have gained an insight into the historical learning they could undertake there, enriching their entire experience.
- ✓ Students will have practised their reading and interpretation skills.
- ✓ Students will have gained additional knowledge about Roman life and history within the park's vicinity (depending on the resource chosen); this will consequently support their learning in History (there are clear crossovers with suggested key stage 2 units such as 'The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain').

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