



VISITOR GUIDE

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WELCOME TO THE EXHIBITION "PLAYMOBIL: A HISTORY OF EMPIRES!"

Ready to discover our exhibition "Playmobil: A History of Empires?"

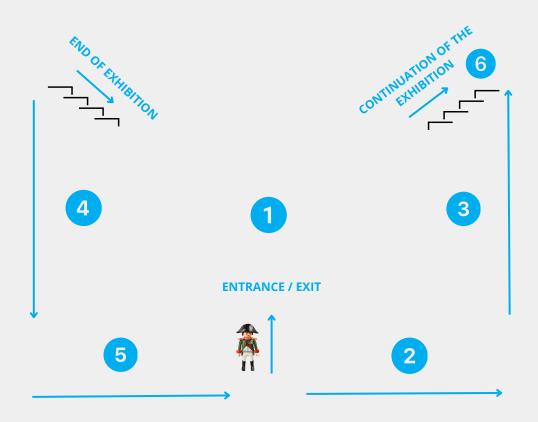
In this little booklet, you'll find explanations of the models on display, fun questions to try out with your family and friends, and a glossary at the end of the booklet for words you don't understand.

The quiz features letters at the end of each question. Put them back together to form words and find the secret password!

We'll be in touch if you have any questions, so have fun!



THE VISIT DIRECTION

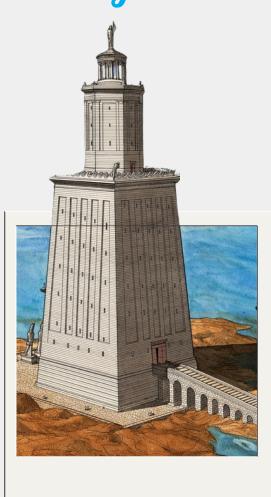


The Alexandria lighthouse

The Alexandria lighthouse was built between 299 and 289 BC on the small island of Pharos in Egypt by Ptolemy I, successor to Alexander the Great.

This lighthouse was extremely important, helping sailors to find their way to Alexandria and demonstrating the power of Egypt. It was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world!

Les Ptolémées, une famille puissante d'Égypte, ont fait d'Alexandrie une ville célèbre. En accédant à souveraineté, ils amènent la culture grecque l'Égypte. Ils ont construit de nombreux monuments, dont bibliothèque la grande d'Alexandrie, pour rassembler tout le savoir du monde. Cléopâtre VII, la dernière souveraine de cette famille. est très célèbre.



When they became rulers, they brought Greek culture to Egypt. They built many monuments, including the great library of Alexandria, to bring together all the knowledge of the world.

Cleopatra VII, the last sovereign of this family, is very famous for having been Julius Caesar's companion. Cleopatra wanted to restore her country to greatness before her tragic end.

The lighthouse was made of white stone and measured 135 metres.

high, almost as high as the Statue of Liberty. It had a very wide light to help sailors see far away. It is said to have been decorated with a statue, perhaps of Zeus or Poseidon.

The lighthouse was destroyed by earthquakes in the Middle Ages and its remains are now underwater.

The Alexandria lighthouse, like the one in the 'Playmobil, a history of Empires!' story, guides us today, just as it guided sailors 2,000 years ago.

Who made Alexandria famous?

- a) Julius Caesar (M)
- b) The Ptolemies (L)
- c) Alexander the Great (T)

The Pharaohs

he pyramids are the the most famous monuments of ancient Egypt. The largest and best known is that of Pharaoh Cheops, built around 2560 BC.

During the period of the Old Kingdom (which took place between 2700 BC and 2200 BC), the Pharaohs were very powerful and ruled Egypt with the help of people such as scribes, priests and members of the royal family.

The first pharaoh to have a pyramid built was Djoser. He commissioned the construction of the first pyramid at Saqqara around 2680 BC, with the help of the architect Imhotep.

Shortly afterwards, wealthy Egyptians began to build tombs called 'mastabas' near the pyramids.

The Egyptians believed that true life began after death, at the side of the gods.

They prepared for this eternal life by being buried in mastabas and having their names inscribed.

They also mummified their bodies so that they would not decompose. Later, objects such as statuettes (called 'ouchebtis') and the 'Book of the Dead' helped people to continue their lives in the afterlife.

They also had murals, rituals and offerings to ensure they were well prepared for their new life.



When was the first pyramid built and what was its name?

- a) In 2859 BC and was called Saqqara(0)
- b) In 2560 BC and called Khufu (I)
- c) In 2680 BC and called Djeser (E)

Battle of Thermopylae

The battle of Thermopylae, in 480 BC, is very famous. It pitted the Greek Empire against the Persian Empire, led by King Xerxes I. 300 Spartan soldiers, led by their king Leonidas, fought with allies from the city of Thespia against the huge Persian army.

The Greeks and Persians had long been enemies and had fought several times. These wars began because the Greek cities of Asia rebelled against the Persians.

After crushing the rebellion, the Persians sought revenge and launched two great invasions, first under King Darius I and then under Xerxes I. But the Greeks, led by Athens and Sparta, won these battles.

At the Battle of Thermopylae, the Spartans managed to hold off the Persians in a narrow pass for three days, killing around 20,000 Persian soldiers. But at the end of the battle, all the Spartans died. Their courage and sacrifice became a symbol of heroism and the fight for freedom.

This battle enabled the Greeks to prepare for other battles. Even though Athens was taken by the Persians, the Greeks managed to win the battle of Salamis in 480BC, followed by the battle of Plataea in 479BC. In the end, it was Alexander the Great, King of Macedonia, who conquered the Persian Empire between 334 and 331 BC, after having conquered Greece.



Why did the wars between the Greeks and Persians begin?

- a) The Greek cities of Asia rebelled against the Persians (0)
- b) The Persians no longer wanted the Greeks (L)
- c) They were bored (I)

Democracy

he Greek civilisation left the idea of democracy, which originated in Athens in the 7th century BC. The word 'democracy' comes from the Greek words 'dêmos' meaning 'the people' and 'krátos' meaning 'power'.

In this system, it is the citizens who take the decisions and run their country. But in Greece, democracy only concerned free men, not women, slaves or foreigners. Citizens gathered in a place called the 'assembly (ecclesia)' to vote on laws.

Athens became one of the largest cities in Greece and united other cities in a group called the League of Delos. This group was created to defend itself against the Persian Empire. It was also during this period, known as the Classical Age (between 483 BC and 338 BC), that the ruler Pericles organised major works. such the as reconstruction ٥f the Acropolis, which had been destroyed by the Persians.

During this period, artists began to sign their works and were highly respected.



There are two main styles of painted vase: the 'black figure' style and the 'red figure' style.

In 447 BC, work began on the construction of the Parthenon, a large temple containing the treasures of the League of Delos.

More than 1,000 workers were employed on the project, using 22,000 tonnes of marble. Another important temple, the Erechtheion, is famous for its sculpted statues of women called 'caryatids' and for its scenes depicting the birth of Athena.

What is the ecclesia?

- a) A temple (A)
- b) An assembly (N)
- c) A palace (V)



The battle of Actium

he battle of Actium, which took place on 2 September 31 BC, is one of the most important battles of Antiquity, rather like the Battle of Waterloo for Napoleon. It was a naval battle, i.e. between ships, in Greece.

The war began after the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44 BC. Two strong men vied for power: Mark Antony, a general close to Caesar, and Octavian, Caesar's nephew and adopted son. Mark Antony ruled the east of the Roman Empire and was supported by Cleopatra VII, Queen of Egypt, while Octavian ruled the west.

Cleopatra wanted her son, Caesarion, to become Caesar's successor one day, but Octavian didn't want that.

So he launched a campaign to discredit Mark Antony and Cleopatra. Octavian finally declared war on Egypt.

Mark Antony and Cleopatra had around 230 ships, while Octavian had 400, with 40,000 well-trained Roman soldiers.





Mark Antony initially hoped to avoid a battle, but he was forced to fight. The battle began at midday and, despite Mark Antony's efforts, Octavian's forces managed to surround his ships.

Towards the end of the battle, Cleopatra fled with her ship, taking all the treasure with her, followed by Mark Antony. Seeing their leaders flee, Mark Antony's troops surrendered. After the defeat, Mark Antony and Cleopatra fled to Egypt, but a year later Octavian arrived and invaded the country.

With no army, Mark Antony and Cleopatra decided to commit suicide to avoid capture.

Who had the most ships?

- a) Mark Antony (C)
- b) Octavian (I)
- c) Julius Caesar (N)

The coliseum

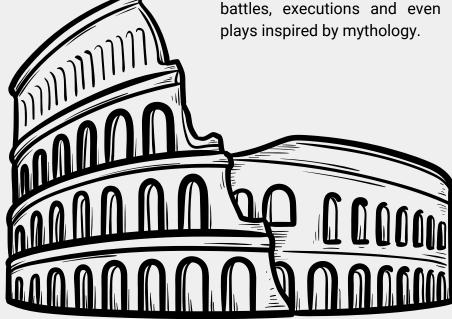
he Colosseum, also known as the Flavian amphitheatre is right in the heart of Rome. It is famous the world over and shows the wealth of the Roman Empire and the importance of entertainment at the time.

Construction of the Colosseum began between 70 and 72 AD under the emperor Vespasian and was completed in 80 by his son Titus.

His other son, Domitian, made improvements between 81 and 96.

The name 'Flavian amphitheatre' comes from the name of the family of the emperors Vespasian, Titus and Domitian.

The Colosseum was huge and could hold around 50,000 spectators. People came here to watch animal fights, gladiatorial combat, naval battles, executions and even plays inspired by mythology.



For almost 500 years, the Colosseum was used for these events, before ceasing its activity in the early Middle Ages.

Napoleon had the Colosseum restored by sending 1,800 men to work on the monument. His nephew, Napoleon III, continued the work in the 1850s to help protect Rome. Later, in the 1930s, Italian dictator Mussolini had the site cleared. In 1995, major work was carried out to restore and stabilise the Colosseum.

Every year, over 7.6 million tourists visit this impressive monument.



What were the names of the three people who played a key role in building and improving the Colosseum?

- a) Titus, Mark Antony and Domitian (C)
- b) Domitian, Julius Caesar and Vespasian (H)
- c) Vespasian, Titus and Domitian (D)

Horse racing

he horse races are a very old sport. The Greek writer Homer wrote about chariot racing in his book The Iliad, which recounts the Trojan War. In Rome, the first permanent racecourse was built by King Tarquin the Elder in 599 BC. It hosted horse and chariot races, athletics, wrestling and shows.

Racing soon became a real passion for the Romans. The teams had colours such as white, green, red and blue, and were supported by fans, much like football teams today.

It was Julius Caesar and the emperor Augustus (whose real name was Octavian) who gave this place its definitive shape, known as the circus. The circus had cages for the horses, twelve starting stalls and large stands for the spectators.

In the middle, there was a line called the spina, dividing the arena in two, with statues, including one of the goddess Pollentia, goddess of power.

There was also a triumphal arch, called a fornix, and a temple dedicated to the goddess of youth, Luventa.

Two special boxes were reserved: one for the emperor and the other for the person organising the games. The Circus was very large, measuring 600 metres long and 150 metres wide, and could accommodate around 100,000 spectators.

The emperor Augustus had an obelisk, a large decorated block of stone, placed in the Circus. This obelisk came from Egypt and was dedicated to the sun god, Sol. Today, this obelisk can be seen in the Piazza del Popolo in Rome.



- a) The gods and the Emperor (E)
- b) The Emperor and the organiser of the games (A)
- c) Gladiators and politicians (V)

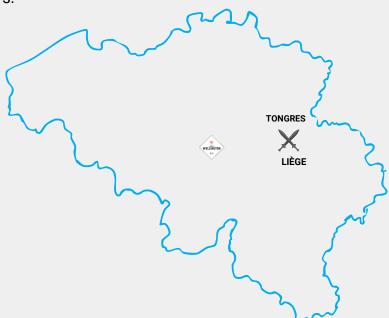
The Battle of Aduatuca

he battle of Aduatuca was took place in autumn 54 BC, probably between Tongeren and Liège. This battle was part of the Gallic War, a war waged by Julius Caesar to conquer the territories of the Gauls.

To win over a large territory with few soldiers, Caesar attacked the Gallic peoples one by one. He was afraid of the Belgians, as they had already succeeded in repelling invaders.

This battle was one of the few Gallic victories against the Romans. Ambiorix, king of the Eburons, laid a trap for 7,000 Roman soldiers, who were attacked by surprise and killed.

The Belgians won thanks to the element of surprise, as the Romans were in the process of leaving their camp and were not expecting an attack.



After this victory, other peoples rebelled, such as the Nervians. Caesar arrived in time to save his soldiers. then severely punished the Eburons. According to Caesar, the Eburon population entire destroyed, but was Ambiorix managed to escape into the forests of the Ardennes.

Ambiorix became a hero of Belgian history. Statues have been erected in his honour, and a park in Brussels bears his name. He has become as important to Belgium as Vercingetorix was to France.



What is the name of the Belgian hero mentioned in this text?

- a) Julius Caesar (J)
- b) Obelix (O)
- c) Ambiorix (S)

Gallo-Roman villas

he Emperor Augustus encouraged Romans to settle in Gallic territories to bring Roman culture and develop infrastructure, such as roads. This led to the creation of large farms called 'Gallo-Roman villas', which traded goods with the rest of the Roman Empire.

These villas belonged either to Romans or to wealthy Gauls who wanted to live the Roman way.

At Basse-Wavre, between 1904 and 1914, excavations uncovered a large villa, the largest found in Belgium. It was around 150 metres long and had 52 rooms. Some were heated by an underfloor system known as a hypocaust.

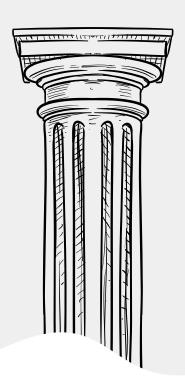
The villa was decorated with magnificent mosaics and marble walls.

It was a 'villa rustica', where the owner, called Dominus, lived in the luxurious part, while the management of the farm was entrusted to a steward called vilicus.



The 'villae rusticae' were farms that used many workers, including slaves, to produce agricultural goods in large quantities. As well as slaves, these farms employed temporary workers.

Roman farmers also used Gallic inventions, such as the harvester. According to the writer Pliny the Elder, this machine was pulled by an ox and helped to harvest cereals more easily.



What does hypocaust mean?

- a) Weapons storage system (X)
- b) Emperors' bathroom (Q)
- c) Underfloor system for heating rooms in a house (E)

Napoleon & Egypt

n 1 July 1798, General Bonaparte, who was not yet Emperor, arrived in Egypt with 50,000 soldiers and sailors. He was accompanied by 167 scientists specialising in fields such as physics, mathematics and architecture.

Among them was Henri-Joseph Rédouté, a Belgian who was an expert on plants and animals. Belgium had been part of France since 1794.

The mission of the scholars was to make an inventory of Egypt in order to make use of its resources.

Like Bonaparte, these scholars were very interested in the ancient culture of Egypt.



It was not until 1824 that Jean-François Champollion succeeded in deciphering the hieroglyphs, thanks to the discovery of the Rosetta Stone.

Scientists played a very important role in understanding ancient The book Egypt. de l'Égypte, Description published after Bonaparte's return, is still very useful for studying Egypt's lost monuments.

In the end, even if the military expedition to Egypt was not a success, it was a great scientific success!



Why was a Belgian scientist part of the French expedition?

- a) Belgium belonged to France at the time (T)
- b) He received special authorisation from his country (B)
- c) He joined the expedition without anyone's agreement (A)

The battle of the pyramids

The battle of the pyramids did not actually take place near pyramids, the but 20 kilometres away, on a plateau called Embabeh. But calling it the 'Battle of the Pyramids' was a tribute to the glory of Bonaparte, General wanted to be seen as a great conqueror like the ancient Greeks and Romans.

This battle took place on 21 July. It pitted the Mamluks, who controlled Egypt, against the French army. The Mamelukes were led by the Beys Murad and Ibrahim, and had 30,000 soldiers. Bonaparte had 20,000 French soldiers.

Bonaparte noticed that the Mamelukes' cannons could not move and that the infantry (foot soldiers) did not really fight.



The Mamelukes lost many soldiers, but around 3,000 managed to flee and return to their camp. Mourad Bey, seeing that the French were advancing, decided to charge with his cavalry. But the French formed squares to protect themselves, and the cavalry charges broke against these solid formations.

The squares consisted of six rows of soldiers with artillery at the corners. This enabled formation the soldiers defend to against themselves the horsemen, and to move to attack or retreat if necessary.

This technique was later used by Wellington at the Battle of Waterloo.

Using these squares, Generals Bon Menou and succeeded in taking the Mameluke and camp fortifications with their bayonets, eliminating many Mamelukes.

At the end of the battle, the Mameluke cavalry was almost destroyed and the Beys had to flee. Bonaparte was then able to head for Cairo and take control of Egypt. The French lost only 30 men, while the Mamelukes lost around 10,000 soldiers.

What were the names of the Beys who led the Mamelukes?

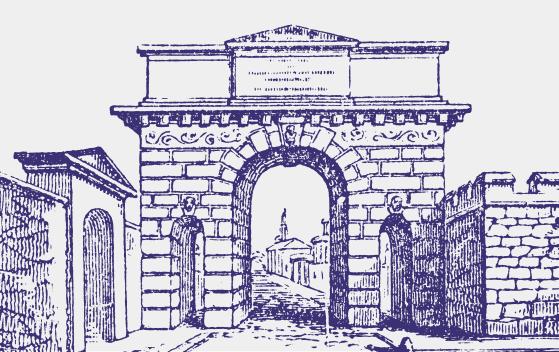
- a) Beys Rachid et Mohammed (L)
- b) Beys Mourad et Ibrahim (X)
- c) Beys Ibrahim et Menou (M)

Pompeii

he town of Pompeii was completely destroyed in 79 AD when the volcano Vesuvius erupted. At the same time. other towns such as Herculaneum, Oplontis and Stabies were also engulfed. Pompeii was covered several metres of volcanic ash, protected which it centuries. Thanks to this, the city has been preserved and today we can see what a Roman city looked like.

The work to find the town was very difficult, because the hardened ash made it difficult to search, which allowed the town to escape the thieves. It took a lot of time and resources to dig it out.

Karl Weber and Francesco La Vega worked hard to protect the site from unauthorised excavation, while at the same time reconstructing the upper parts of the buildings.



to preserve the decorations and mosaics. Pompeii's wall paintings show four different styles, known as the 'Pompeian styles'.

In 1799, French troops took Naples and the Neapolitans proclaimed the Republic. General Championnet supported the excavations and entrusted them to Abbé Zarilli. In 1803, Josephine, Napoleon's wife, received objects from Pompeii as a gift from the King of Naples, Ferdinand IV.

ln 1808. Marshal Murat. Napoleon's brother-in-law, became King of Naples. He gave a great deal of support the excavations bought new land for them. During this period, two men, Michele Arditi and Pietro La Vega, directed the excavations with great skill and dedication.



Who was Napoleon's brother-in-law?

- a) Charles III, King of the United Kingdom (C)
- b) Nicholas II, King of Russia (N)
- c) Marshal Murat, King of Naples (E)

The naval battle of Aboukir

he Egyptian campaign of Bonaparte's campaign got off to a good start, but it became more complicated a month later. On 1 and 2 August 1798, the French fleet was defeated in the naval battle of Aboukir.

Great Britain, which had been at war with France since 1793, controlled the seas and wanted to prevent the French from settling in Egypt. This could threaten the British colonies in India.

British Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson was sent to stop the French before they reached Egypt. He found their fleet close to the coast, at Aboukir.

The French fleet was led by Vice-Admiral François Paul de Brueys d'Aigalliers.

He lined up his ships to form a long line of cannons, but this position prevented him from manoeuvring. Some of his ships, such as the Conqueror, were also old and less powerful.

On 1 August, at around 6.20pm, the British attacked. As luck would have it, one of their ships, HMS (His Majesty's Ship) Goliath, managed to slip past a French ship and bypass the entire line of the French fleet. Other British ships followed and attacked the French from both sides.

One by one, the French ships were destroyed or forced to surrender.

The battle reached its climax when the great French ship 'l'Orient' exploded. French Rear Admiral Denis Decrès, who could have helped, remained motionless and fled, contributing to the defeat.

In a few hours, thanks to his luck and strategy, Nelson changed the outcome of the campaign. Bonaparte no longer received supplies in Egypt and found himself trapped. He had to leave his army in August 1799, and the French army finally surrendered in Alexandria in

B01

Who lost the Battle of Aboukir?

- a) The English army (I)
- b) The Egyptian army (O)
- c) The French army (R)

Napoleon Emperor and King

In 1801, Napoleon Bonaparte, who was First Consul of France, chose the port of Boulogne-sur-Mer to prepare a large army. He wanted to invade Great Britain, and decided to place his army there, just as Julius Caesar had done with his army in 54BC.

Napoleon entrusted Admiral Latouche-Tréville, then Bruix in 1803, with the command of the fleet that was to cross the sea. These admirals succeeded in repelling the attacks of the English fleet, including that of Admiral Nelson.

Napoleon also carried out major works in Boulogne, such as building a large basin to accommodate 1,000 boats and digging a lock. In 1804, he organised a ceremony to award the Légion d'honneur, a great distinction.

The town was decorated with antique motifs, and the ceremony took place in a large natural circus, transformed into a Roman amphitheatre.

Napoleon sat on an antique throne to show that he wanted to link his family to that of the ancient kings of France, the Merovingians.

Napoleon was surrounded by his brother Joseph, ministers and numerous soldiers. During the ceremony, he read an oath to 120,000 men who swore to defend the Empire, freedom and equality.

Afterwards, Napoleon awarded the Legion of Honour to around 2,000 people, mainly soldiers. The troops then marched, with the sailors leading the way with their axes.



What does the Grande Armée column in Boulogne symbolise?

- a) The fall of Napoleon (J)
- b) The creation of the Roman army (R)
- c) The Legion of Honour ceremony (X)

The coronation of Napoleon

apoleon returned from Egypt in 1799 and took power in a coup d'état on 9 November 1799 (18 Brumaire an VIII, according to the calendar of the time). He became First Consul, meaning that he shared power with two other men: Cambacérès, a jurist, and Lebrun, an economist. Together, they formed a triumvirate, a group of three people in charge.

The word 'triumvirate' comes from the ancient Romans. There were two great triumvirates in Rome, one with Caesar, Pompey and Crassus, the other with Octavian, Mark Antony and Lepidus.

Under Napoleon, several major reforms began, including the creation of the Civil Code (which is still used today), peace in France, an agreement with the Church (the Concordat), the creation of the Banque de France and the stabilisation of the currency.

Napoleon also won important military victories, such as the Battle of Marengo against the Austrians in 1800, and made peace with England for a brief year.



In 1804, Napoleon became Emperor of the French after a vote in the Senate. The people also voted, and almost everyone agreed. But as the vote was not secret, some voters may have been influenced. Napoleon wanted to organise a grand ceremony to be crowned Emperor.

He chose Paris instead of Reims, as it was reminiscent of the ancient kings of France. His coronation took place on 2 December 1804 at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, in the presence of Pope Pius VII. Part of the inspiration for this coronation came from Charlemagne, who was crowned Emperor by the Pope on 25 December 800.

The interior of the cathedral is decorated to resemble a Roman style, rather than the usual medieval style.



When was Napoleon crowned?

- a) 2 December 1804 (E)
- b) 25 December 1800 (U)
- c) 9 November 1799 (V)

After Waterloo

The Battle of Waterloo, on 18

June 1815 marked the end of
Napoleon I's Empire.

Following this defeat,
Napoleon abdicated
(renounced his title of
Emperor) for the second time
on 22 June in Paris.

Napoleon tried to flee and headed for the port of Rochefort to find a ship that could take him to the United States. But the British blocked the port to prevent him from leaving.

There were several plans to help him escape, such as sending French frigates or hiding in an American ship, but nothing worked. Finally, Napoleon surrendered to the Royal Navy on 15 July 1815.

The British decided to send him to a very remote island: St Helena. The island was protected like a fortress with 1,500 soldiers, ships and 500 cannons.



It's an isolated island, 1900 km off the coast of Africa, in the South Atlantic Ocean.

Napoleon lives in Longwood House, a damp house full of rats. There, he spent his time gardening and recounting his memories to the Comte de Las Cases, who wrote them down in a book called the 'Mémorial de Sainte-Hélène'.

On 5 May 1821, Napoleon died of a stomach ulcer that had developed into cancer. He suffered greatly, and some people saw him as a martyr, someone who suffered for a great cause. Romantic writers compared him to Prometheus, a mythological character who was chained to a rock. Napoleon remains an important figure in history, even after his death.

When did the Battle of Waterloo take place?

- a) 25 December 1813 (R)
- b) 5 May 1821 (K)
- c) 18 June 1815 (S)

Pop culture

Since the end of Antiquity, which we can date from the fall of Rome in 476, Greco-Roman culture has been the stuff of dreams for many people.

In the Middle Ages, sovereigns such as the Emperor Charlemagne and the French King Philippe Auguste drew inspiration from the Romans.

The Renaissance saw the full cultural rediscovery of Antiquity through painting, architecture and sculpture. This fashion for antiquity continued through the eras, with varying degrees of intensity, culminating in the Napoleonic era.

Antiquity continues to live on today through a multitude of channels that feed the ancient dream.

The films of Julius Caesar (1953), Ben Hur (1959) and Cleopatra (1963) give a spectacular image of Antiquity,

he Fall of the Roman Empire (1964) and, more recently, Gladiator (2000), Troy (2004) and 300 (2007).

The humorous Asterix adventures have been brought to the screen since 1999 with Asterix and Obelix vs Caesar, and have become part of our contemporary culture, with Asterix & Obelix - Mission Cleopatra (2002) remaining the most popular.

The Adventures of Asterix the Gaul, created in 1959 by Goscinny and Uderzo, are part of the dissemination of a certain vision of Antiquity through the tribulations of a village of diehard Gauls who resist the Roman invaders.

The 40-volume series has been translated into 117 languages and has sold almost 400 million copies.

LEXICON

Ptolemy I: Born in -367 and died in -283, he was a general under Alexander the Great. He was the founder of the dynasty that reigned in Egypt for several centuries. He was proclaimed king in 305 BC.

Alexander the Great: Born in 356 BC and died in 323 BC, he was one of the most famous figures of Antiquity. He became one of the greatest conquerors in history by taking possession of the Persian Empire and advancing as far as India.

Alexandria: Egyptian city founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BC. It was the country's capital during the Ptolemaic period. Today it has a population of over 5 million.

Seven wonders of the ancient world: A group of seven architectural and artistic works considered to be the most extraordinary in the ancient world. The seven include: the Pyramids of Giza, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Statue of Zeus, the Temple of Artemis, the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, the Colossus of Rhodes and the Lighthouse of Alexandria. Today, only the pyramids of Giza remain.

Sovereignty: The right of a country to make its own decisions and manage its affairs alone, without the advice of other countries.

Cleopatra VII: Born in 69 BC and died in 30 BC, she was the last Queen of Egypt. Famous for having been the companion of Julius Caesar and Marc Antony, she was defeated at the battle of Actium in 31 BC.

Julius Caesar: Born 100 BC, died 44 BC, Roman conqueror and statesman. Statue of Liberty: Large statue in New York, USA.

Zeus: King of the gods in Greek mythology. He is the god of heaven, lightning and thunder.

Poseidon: Zeus' brother and god of the oceans.

Middle Ages: Period of history between 476 and 1492.

Pharaoh Khufu: Second pharaoh of the 4th dynasty of the Old Egyptian Empire. He reigned around 2600 BC and commissioned the construction of the Great Pyramid at Giza.

Scribe: A person who wrote down laws, religious texts and other important documents at a time when writing was not common.

Pharaoh Djeser: Considered the first king of the 3rd Egyptian dynasty. He reigned around 2680 BC. He commissioned the construction of the first pyramid, the Saqqara Step Pyramid.

Momifier: Act of preparing and wrapping the body of the dead in linen strips to keep it intact and allow the soul to live on in the afterlife.

Spartans: Elite soldiers of the Greek city of Sparta. They were known for their discipline, military skills and courage.

Acropolis: A religious building in ancient times, it is now one of the most visited places in the world.

Athena: Greek goddess of military strategy and wisdom. In Greek mythology, Athens got its name from her after she won a contest against Poseidon.

Mark Antony: born 83 BC, died 30 BC, was a Roman politician and military leader. He is famous for having been Julius Caesar's general and Cleopatra's lover.

Octavian: Born in 63 BC and died in 14 AD, Octavian was a statesman and the first Roman emperor. The adopted son of Julius Caesar, he took the name Augustus when he became emperor.

Napoleon I: Born in 1769 and died in 1821, he was the first French emperor.

Napoleon III: Born in 1808, died in 1873, was President of the French and the last French emperor. He was also Napoleon I's nephew.

Mussolini: Born in 1883 and died in 1945, he was an Italian dictator. He was the founder of Fascism, a far-right political doctrine.

Homer: Greek poet, creator of the Illiad and the Odyssey, accounts of the Trojan War and the voyage of Ulysses.

Hippodrome: Racetrack for horses.

Stall: Compartment reserved for an animal (in our case, a horse).

Gauls: People living in part of western Europe in the last centuries BC.

Hieroglyphics: Sacred writing of the ancient Egyptian civilization.

Rosetta Stone: Piece of stone bearing text written in 3 different languages (Greek, Egyptian and Demotic (Egyptian script)).

Mamelukes: Military slaves who took power in Egypt.

Bey: Turkish clan chief (Ottoman Empire).

Bayonet: Pointed weapon added to a rifle.

Republic: Political system in which the people are involved in decision-making.

Colony: Place in the world where a population comes to set up a camp, village or town in order to settle.

Vice-Admiral: Chief in the navy (army on the water).

Lock: Space protected by gates that holds back or releases water into a watercourse.

Code civil: A set of laws governing the status of citizens, established by Napoleon.

Senate: Council of people who vote on decisions.

Frégate: Former warship.

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