

Roman Engineering

1. Was Haterius a real person?

Yes, but we do not know his personal names.

2. What depictions decorated the Arch of Titus?

The carved panels of the arch show the triumphal procession with prisoners and treasure captured at the sack of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.

3. What were the materials used to construct the Arch of Titus?

Stone and cement. Wood was used to form frames to aid in the construction.



4. How was the cement made?

Limestone was heated to high temperatures and then crushed, mixed with fine sand and clay and then mixed with water.

5. What was "opus caementīcium"?

"opus caementīcium" was cement mixed with stone, brick and tile rubble to form a substance that we call concrete.

6. Did the Romans invent concrete?

No, but they improved it and used it for revolutionary purposes.



7. What was the advantage of concrete?

Concrete was capable of spanning long distances without further support and could carry the weight of a heavy superstructure.

8. What type of building employed the use of concrete?

Aqueducts, the Coliseum, and the building of walls which could then be faced with brick or marble.

9. Were all buildings made with concrete?

No. Most buildings were constructed more cheaply from wood which gave rise to frequent fires.

10. What was an "insulae" and who set a limit to their height?

An "insulae" was an apartment building and the first emperor Augustus set a limitation of 70 feet in height to make fire fighting less difficult.



11. When was the "Great Fire of Rome"?

In 64 A.D. during the reign of the emperor Nero.

12. Who was responsible for the rebuilding of Rome after the fire?

The rebuilding of the city occurred mostly under the Flavian Emperors, Domitian and Titus.

13. What is the meaning of the quote "urben latericium accepi, marmoream reliqui" and who said it?

It means "I found Rome built of brick and left it made of marble." This was a largely exaggerated boast of Augustus.



*****This is not all you need to know. Re-read the reading.*****