

1. What aspects of Pompeian life were centered in the forum?

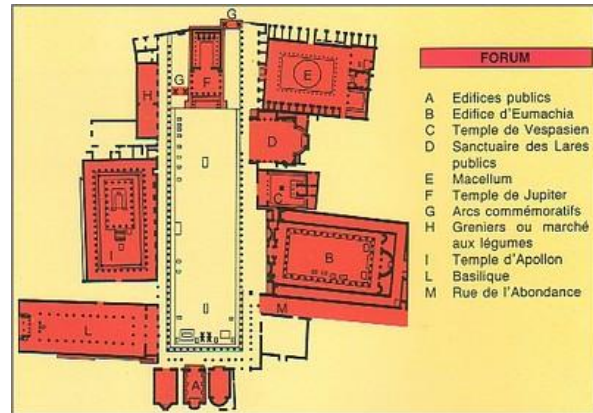
commercial

administrative

religious

2. Describe the forum at Pompeii.

It was a large open space 156 yards long by 42 yards wide paved with stones, surrounded by a colonnade and various important buildings and had statues of the emperors and important Pompeian citizens.



3. What type of commercial activity occurred in the forum?

In addition to the open food market (macellum) the forum was daily filled with merchant stalls of many types where merchants sold their goods and practiced their trades.

4. Was wagon traffic allowed in the forum?

No. The forum was only open to pedestrian traffic. Large stones at the entrances prevented any wagons from entering the forum.

5. How was the forum utilized to disseminate important public information?

Since Pompeii had no newspapers, bulletin boards were set up in the forum on which Pompeian citizens could read daily reports of important information such as election results, planned religious processions, festivals and other current news.

6. What other means did Pompeians use in the forum to communicate with each other?

The walls of many of the buildings in the forum were covered with "graffiti" by which ordinary citizens could publicize rooms for rent, lost property, love messages, etc.

7. What was the most prominent building in the forum and what were its steps used for?

The Temple of Jupiter. Its steps were used for making speeches during elections.



Temple of Jupiter

8. What was situated to the west of the Temple of Jupiter?

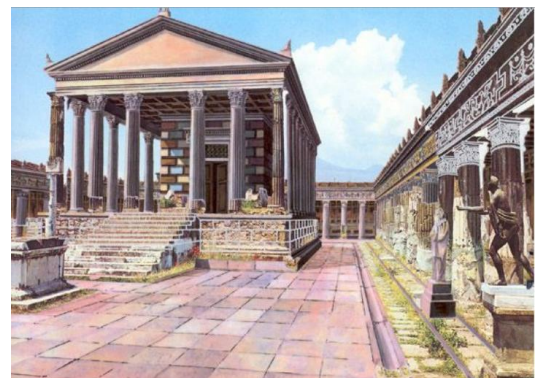
The prison and the public latrines.

9. What was on the other side of the Temple of Jupiter?

The "**marcellum**", a large open market with permanent stalls used mainly to sell meat, fish and vegetables.

10. What were the religious buildings situated in the forum?

1. Temple of Jupiter
2. Temple of the Lares (guardian spirits of Pompeii)
3. Temple of Apollo
4. Temple of Venus
5. Temple of the Roman emperors



Temple of Apollo

11. What was the largest building in the forum?

The " **Clothworkers' Meeting Hall**" which was built with money donated by the wealthy businesswoman, Eumachia.

12. What was right across the "Street of Shops" from the "Clothworkers' Meeting Hall"?

A polling station used during elections and along side of it was the municipal building used for a treasury, record office and meeting room for the town council.

13. What impressive building stood at the southwest corner of the forum?

The "basilica" were the "duoviri" (the chief officials of the town) sat to hear lawsuits and where businessmen could have meetings.



Remains of the basilica at Pompeii