

Contents:

Islamic art and culture

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Pre-reading class discussion about Islamic culture and Islamic art	1
Reading Islamic art in English, Arabic calligraphy	2
Arabic uses, Geometrical designs	3

VISIT ACTIVITIES

Activity	4
Activity Object	5
Activity Object	6
Activity Object	7

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Activity	8
Activity Object	10
Language or Passage	11



Pre-visit activities

Islamic art and culture

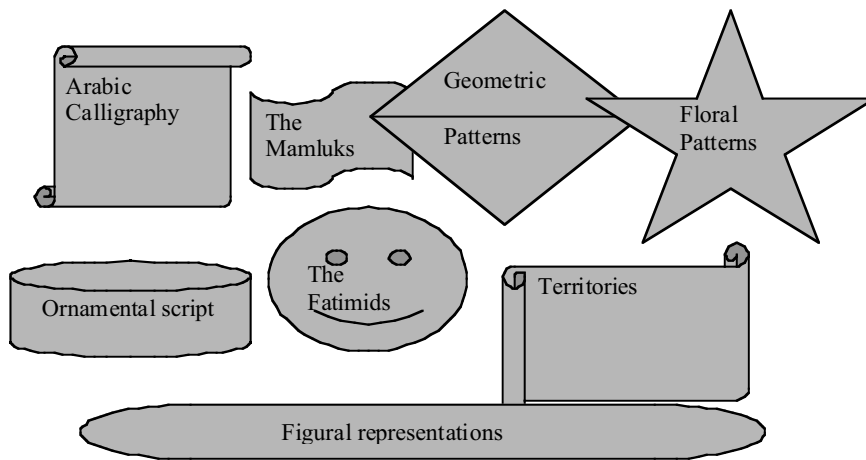
d

a Pre-reading class discussion about Islamic Culture and Islamic Art

In groups talk about the following

- 1 What do you know about Islamic art?
- 2 Have you ever been to an Islamic art gallery, museum and where?
- 3 Look at the pictures our teacher will give you about Islamic art. How do you feel about them and how do you describe any of them?
- 4 You are going to read an article about Islamic art in English. What do you expect to find out?

b Look at the following words and put them in the correct column.



Words I / we know	Words I / we are not sure of	Words I / we would like to know



Pre-visit activities

Islamic art and culture

c Reading 'Islamic Art in Egypt'

As the Greeks and Romans introduced Islam to the world, their ideas about art were very different from those in Christian art. They were more concerned with the traditions of ancient Greek and Roman art. These ideas were used in Islamic art, as influenced by many ideas and styles from other civilizations. The main influences were from Mesopotamia, modern Iraq, which contained the main Islamic centres.

During the reign of the Fatimids in the 10th century, the Umayyids in the 7th century and the Ottomans in the 15th century, new ideas and techniques were introduced. It ought to be noted that there were a lot of political problems during these periods, it was possible to travel freely in the Muslim territories, which encouraged the wide scale of interchange in ideas.

Islamic Art and Decoration consist of three main forms:

A Arabic Calligraphy



Arabic is written from right to left, like other Semitic scripts or Mandarin. Arabic calligraphy is the art of beautiful or elegant handwriting.

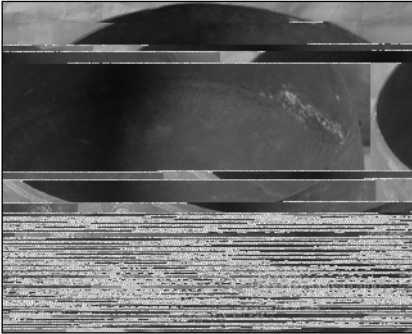
In the Islamic world, calligraphy has traditionally been highly respected because it was used in the copying of the Quran, the holy book of Muslims, and that raised Arabic calligraphy to the status of art. Arabic calligraphy was used on all kinds of objects - objects of everyday use as well as entire walls, surfaces, mosques, furniture, the interiors and exteriors of mosques, tombs and al-Abba, the most famous sanctuary of Islam.

Visit Activities

Islamic Art and Culture

Visit Activity A

Look at the six pictures above and choose six objects. Write descriptions below. Match and describe the six pictures with the descriptions to the pictures.



Object 1

Write description letter _____



Object 2

Write description letter _____



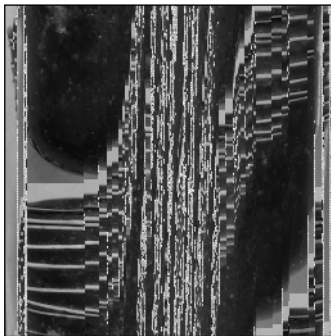
Object 3

Write description letter _____



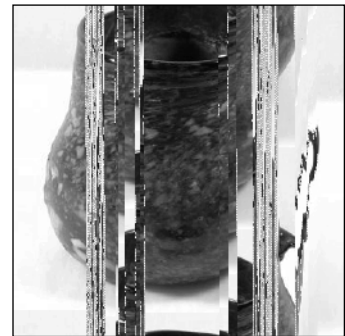
Object 4

Write description letter _____



Object 5

Write description letter _____



Object 6

Write description letter _____

Descriptions

- a clear blue glass cup with thin lines around the top
- b carved animal bone chess piece in the form of a kneeling archer
- c reddish brown slip pottery bowl
- d complete glass mug with a single handle made from an opaque dark blue glass with white and yellow glass mosaic fragments in the glaze
- e bone gaming piece that looks like a double-headed horse
- f clear green glass cup in perfect condition
- g burnished basin inscribed in Arabic from the Amluk period
- h large glass fragment with a single handle above, damaged, clear dark blue green



Visit activities

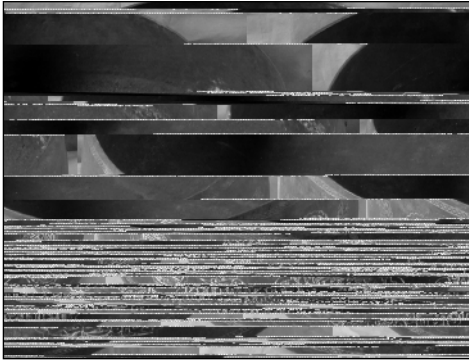
Islamic art and culture

Visit Activity B: Find Me and Label Me!

The Talking Objects (1)

Object A

The number in the Petrie Museum is _____ and this is my picture. Can you find me?



Can you find me? Please write the number in the Petrie Museum and this is my picture. Can you find me?

Can you find me? Please write the number in the Petrie Museum and this is my picture. Can you find me?

Complete these sentences about me:

1. I am made of _____
2. I was written in Arabic, or _____
3. I was found in _____ place
4. I was found at _____
5. It is used for _____

Now select an object you like / dislike.

Write it below, then describe it and say if you like or dislike it.



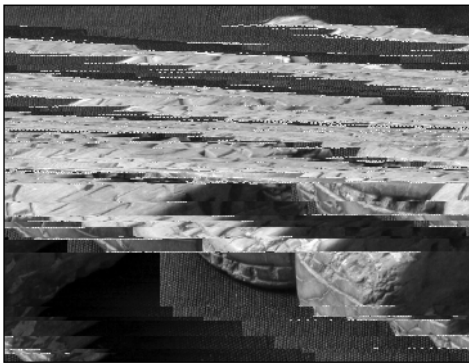
Visit activities

Islamic art and culture

Visit Activity B: Find Me and Label Me!

Object B

The number in the Petrie Museum is _____ and this is its main picture. Can you find me?



_____ are you found me. _____ es _____ o
 _____ of lease as _____ or _____ el

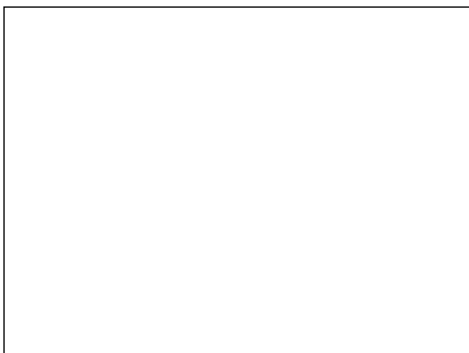
_____ es _____ ere are you found me
 _____ aller _____ or _____ aller

Complete these sentences about me:

- 1 _____ you are made of _____
- 2 _____ you are made in the form of _____
- 3 _____ you are carried on _____
- 4 _____ you were made in _____ period
- 5 _____ you were found at _____

Now select an object you like / dislike.

Draw it below, then describe it and say whether you like / dislike it





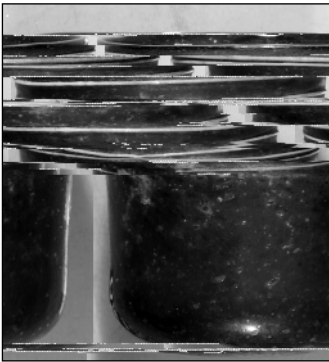
Visit Activities

Islamic art and culture

Visit Activity B: Find Me and Label Me!

Object C

number in the Petrie Museum is
and this is my picture. Can you find me?



Can you find me? I am a jar of
pottery from the
Petrie Museum.

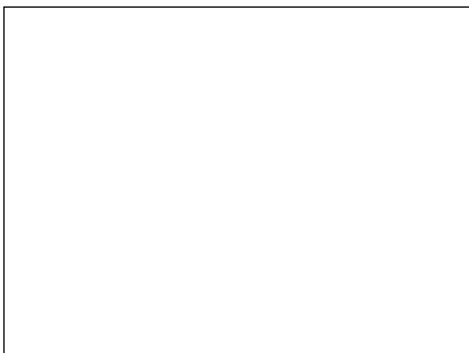
Can you find me? I am a jar of
pottery from the
Petrie Museum.

Complete these sentences about me:

- 1 I am made of _____
- 2 I was found in _____ condition
- 3 I was found at _____
- 4 I was made in _____ period
- 5 I was used for _____

Now select an object you like / dislike.

Draw it below, then describe it and say whether you like / dislike it.



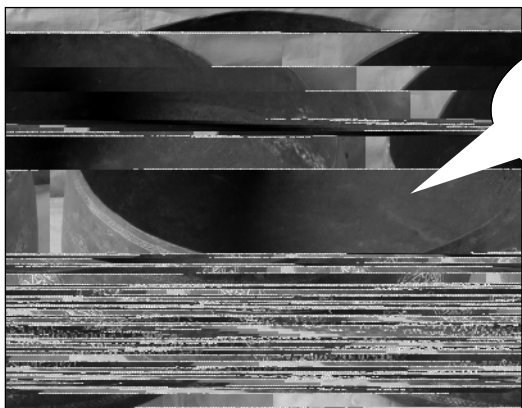


Post-visit activities

Islamic art and culture

The Talking Objects (2)

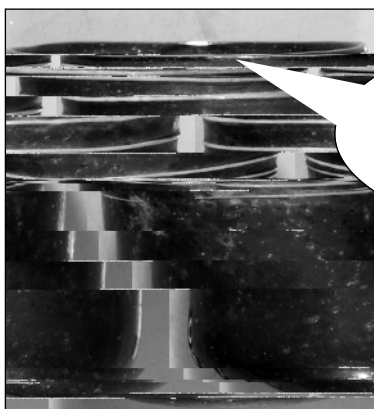
Activity 1



1

hello
do you remember us
I believe we met at the Petrie
Museum last time did you
enjoy the visit

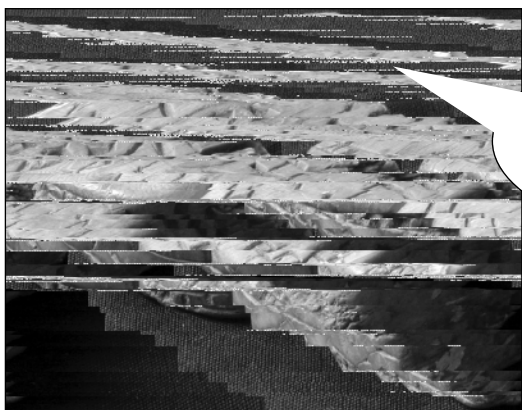
Write letter _____



2

Today we are going to tell
you more about

Write letter _____



3

But first things first you
need to read the text on the
next page and match them to
our pictures

Write letter _____

Post-visit activities

Islamic art and culture

Text A

I was found in gold. I am made of copper so I belong to the metal. Our Muslim artisans created beautiful bowls, basins, boxes and vases and decorated them with arabesques and Islamic calligraphy and other intricate designs. Lamps, especially in brass and bronze, luxuriously inlaid with gold, silver and copper, the beautiful silver metal, were used at meals and banquets. They were regarded as a sign of Muslim prosperity. Some of the oldest goods were prized for their durability and natural beauty. Art from a variety of different bronze alloys based on copper were particularly ideal found.

Text B

I was found in gold but I do not know in which art I am made of bone. I belong to the Attimid Period. This means that I am about 1000 years old. In the museum I am classified as a gaming piece. In the museum I am described as a bone gaming piece in the form of a double-headed horse. I am carved on both sides. It reads in Arabic: 'It is thought that I am a chess piece'. Researchers say that this is a non-accidental chess piece introduced to Europe via Muslim trade routes from Baghdad to Cordoba, modern Spain in the early 10th century.

Text C

I am made of glass and I belong to the modern period. I was described as a classical, used a base of clear cobalt blue. It has many lines around the top. I was found in a perfect condition. This is what historians wrote about me during the time of the Arab conquest in the 7th century. Glass making advanced in the East, especially in the East, or more than two millennia and glass makers in those regions went about their business despite the political, social and religious changes. This is the place around them.

Post-visit activities

Islamic art and culture

Language work: Passive 3 (was offered... / were given... etc)

We use the passive when:

- we do not know who or what caused the action, or
- when we do not think that it is important, or
- when we do not want to mention it

Look at the examples:

Example 1

A Somebody found these objects in ... (active)

B The objects were found in ... (passive)

Example 2

A Somebody cleans the museum every day (active)

B The museum is cleaned every day (passive)

How do we form the passive? Look at the table below.

The active form	What happens?
1 Somebody built the house in ...	<p>1 First, we start with the object, the house</p> <p>2 Then, we look at the verb. It is in the past. We use verb to be. It is 'is' as in this case, because the house is single</p> <p>3 Then, we use the past participle from the verb built. It is built because it is an irregular verb</p> <p>4 Finally, we continue the rest of the sentence as it is</p> <p>Let us apply the rule now.</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>The house was built in ...</p>



Post-visit activities

Islamic art and culture

Work in pairs.

Try to find more examples from the texts on page 10 and add them to the table below. The first one has been done for you.

Text A	Text B	Text C
1. As found in the text		

