

FACTUAL ERRORS TASK

Topic: Leisure and Entertainment in Ancient Rome

The account below contains five factual errors. Carefully read the account and use a highlighter to show the errors.

A popular pastime for Romans was to visit the local baths. They moved between a caldarium (hot room), a tepidarium (warm room) and a frigidarium (cold room). They covered their bodies with oil. The oil was scrapped off their bodies using a dagger, also removing dirt. Baths could also contain an exercise yard for basketball and a library for reading books.

Public entertainment included gladiator fights in the amphitheatres. The Colosseum in Rome could hold 500,000 spectators. Gladiators were slaves or criminals. They fought other gladiators, and sometimes fought animals such as bears and lions. Weapons used by gladiators included swords, daggers, tridents and nets.

Chariot-racing was the most popular sport. The Circus Maximus could hold 250,000 people. Several teams raced against each other around a square shaped track. Each chariot was drawn by two, four or six horses. Charioteers who crashed could be fatally injured.

Plays were held in indoor theatres. The audience sat on a semi-circular set of stone rows facing the stage area. The actors wore masks. The audience got involved by clapping, booing or hissing.

Use your knowledge of leisure and entertainment in Ancient Rome to give the correct facts using the space below.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Extension: Draw and label a figure of a Roman gladiator. Include weapons used for attack and defence.