

Buildings That Speak

Find old building ideas in places we use today.

3.4.e "identifying and explaining the architecture and its influence in the world today."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each mention of an arch or column. Write J beside a use, or job, of the feature and M beside a message or feeling the feature gives a building.

Old Ideas, New Buildings

- ① Architecture is the art and science of designing buildings. Long ago, Roman builders used rounded arches to spread the weight of heavy stone. Arches helped them build bridges, aqueducts, and large entrances. Many Roman buildings also used columns, tall supports that held up roofs. These features were useful, but they also made public places look strong and important.
- ② Today, architects still use arches and columns, although they may build with steel, concrete, or wood instead of stone. A modern bridge may use arches because the shape can carry weight. Banks, museums, and government buildings sometimes have rows of columns at their entrances. The columns can support a roof, and they can also give a building a formal, important appearance.
- ③ Other builders have also shaped today's architecture. In ancient Greece, temples often had columns with carved tops. Modern designers may choose similar columns for libraries or memorials to connect a new place with ideas about learning, memory, or democracy. When you identify an arch or a column, look at its job and its message. Architecture can solve building problems while showing what a community values.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two architectural features did Roman builders use?

2 How can an arch help a modern bridge?

3 What are two effects columns can have on a building today?

4 How can Greek-style columns influence a modern library or memorial?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Draw the entrance to a new community library. Include an arch or columns, then write two sentences that name the feature and explain one job and one message it gives visitors.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each mention of an arch or column. Write J beside a use, or job, of the feature and M beside a message or feeling the feature gives a building. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two architectural features did Roman builders use?	Rounded arches and columns.
2	How can an arch help a modern bridge?	Its shape can carry weight.
3	What are two effects columns can have on a building today?	Columns can support a roof and make a building look formal and important.
4	How can Greek-style columns influence a modern library or memorial?	They can connect the new building with ideas about learning, memory, or democracy.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Sketch: A library entrance with three columns holding up a roof. I used columns at the entrance. They hold up the roof and show that the library is a place for learning.

Accept an arch or columns if the student correctly explains a building job, such as carrying weight or supporting a roof, and a message, such as importance, learning, memory, or democracy. The drawing may be simple as long as the named feature is clear.