

TEACHERS' ANSWER SHEET

MAP READING

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY

B - Find these three other symbols on the map. What features do they show?

1. Hills
2. Wood or forest (depending on density of trees)
3. Rivers

D - What three features are different in the Isle of Wight today?

1. Museums (tourism)
2. Golf courses (sport and recreation)
3. More housing on the coast i.e. Ryde, Shanklin and Sandown
(the island is no longer at threat from a naval attack and has a higher population)

Some pupils may suggest 'roads' as an answer, as they are not evident in Map 1. However, the map from the 1579 '**Atlas**' was designed to highlight coastal features, an impression of natural topography and settlements. One of the purposes of the map was to highlight vulnerable areas of coastline in the event of a naval attack. Unsurfaced roads and tracks did exist on the Isle of Wight during the Elizabethan era but are not shown on Map 1.

E - What features have stayed the same since 1579?

1. Rivers
2. Carisbrooke Castle
3. Woods/forests

F - There are four other castles along the mainland coastline on Map 1: Hurst, Calshot, Haselworth ('hasellorde') and Southsea ('Sowthsee').

Hurst and Calshot Castles (both English Heritage) can still be identified on Map 2 – the location of Southsea Castle is only shown by a lighthouse, though the castle is a visitor attraction with a museum. Haselworth Castle was abandoned in 1556 and no remains are visible today.

G - The castle is built in the centre of the island, on a hill, to give it the best vantage point possible. It was also an intimidating visible prospect for approaching invaders.

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ACTIVITY 1

ON-SITE ACTIVITY

THE GATEHOUSE

B - How does the gatehouse make a visitor feel?

Castles were an important way to show off the lord's power and status. They needed to be large and intimidating to both frighten off attackers and show the local population that the lord was the controlling authority. The Normans needed to establish their ruling authority following the Conquest of 1066.

D - What do the buildings tell us about how many people lived at the castle?

Castles needed to house not only the lord and his family but a whole community of people who lived and worked there, including a chaplain and a private chapel.

ACTIVITY 2

ON-SITE ACTIVITY

THE KEEP

B - Why was the castle built on a hill?

The castle is built in the centre of the island, on a hill, to give it the best vantage point possible. It was also an intimidating visible prospect for approaching invaders.

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ACTIVITY 3

ON-SITE ACTIVITY

THE WALL WALK

A -

TOWERS – towers within the curtain wall where armed guards had a vantage point to attack from and watchmen could keep lookout.

KEEP – the main tower on top of the motte. Very thick walls and with a well – the last place of refuge in case the castle perimeter is breached.

GATEHOUSE – thick walls, twin cylindrical towers, with a drawbridge, portcullis and strong wooden gates to keep the castle entrance secure.

MOTTE – this raised earthwork mound was invented by the Normans. It was a final obstacle for invaders trying to get into the castle's last refuge during an attack – the keep.

MOAT/DITCH - the first line of defence for a castle. The drawbridge that bridged the moat or ditch to allow entry to the castle could be drawn up to prevent attackers crossing.

WALL WALK - the wall walk is high up on the top of the curtain wall and therefore has good views of the surrounding countryside to help spot attackers approaching the castle. It also provided a fighting platform from which soldiers could launch missiles and shoot arrows.

