

Cittadella – a Journey through a Fortified City

Students: 25

- ✓ **Skills addressed:** English reading, writing and speaking and listening
- ✓ **Public speaking**
- ✓ **Implementation of ICT**
- ✓ **Geographical and cartographic skills**



Objectives

Students will learn the following:

1. General historical details on the Cittadella.
2. Physical layout of the fortress
3. Mapping land use within the Citadel

Resources

Prezi presentation

Printouts of the Citadel site plan

Basic set of colours

Tablets/desktop computers, mobiles,

Prezi <https://prezi.com/view/Ge8J5qmr0WGwwFniZWqo/>

Methodology

Introduction (5 min)

Introduce the activity – students will be made aware that a series of sessions – which will include classroom sessions and outdoor, hands-on sessions, will focus on one of the most well-known landmarks in the Maltese Islands: the citadel in Victoria, Gozo.

Prezi on Cittadella (20 min)

Ideally, before the Prezi, the teacher familiarises oneself with this landmark by reading on the structure. This will help to supplement the presentation, which is designed to provide prompts to the teacher and elaborate on the specific area which the current slide focuses.

The teacher should ensure that s/he reads on the general historical facts, archaeological finds and current uses of the citadel. Links to reading material are found in the appendix.

The Prezi is shown. <https://prezi.com/view/Ge8J5qmr0WGwwFniZWqo/>

Teacher elaborates on the visuals and information showed.

Learners' input

Part A - Group work (80 min)

Students are then divided into groups of three or five, depending on the resources (computers/tablets) available.

Each group is given a theme to conduct research on namely:

1. Early history of the citadel (up to mediaeval period)
2. Later history (post-mediaeval and modern)
3. Archaeological finds
4. Fortifications within the citadel
5. churches/other buildings in the citadel

Each group is asked to devise a multimedia presentation on the theme assigned. The presentation should be around 3-5 minutes.

This research activity *will* spill over another session of 40 minutes. During the second session, students are required to pick up from where they left off and finalise the presentation.

During the collection of information, the teacher ensures that the students are keeping track of the theme assigned to them. The teacher can prompt the students into editing the data found in order to guarantee a relevant presentation.

Students will be advised to use short sentences in the presentation in order to make it easier for the audience to follow the presentation.

Part B - Group presentations (30 min)

Each group presents its research to the classroom. Marks will be awarded for relevance, fluency and coherence, and Grammatical Range and Accuracy (GRA). Each area is awarded a maximum of 5 marks. This could serve as part of the continuous assessment in speaking skills.

Part C – Fieldwork (120 min)

Aim: to enhance the learners' familiarity with the structures within the fortress.

Inter-curricular approach: geography teachers should join this activity as part of the Geographical skills to identify differences in land use within a specific area.

Resources needed: site plan of citadel and a set of pencil colours.

The class is transferred to the citadel and the groups are presented with a high quality copy of the site plan of the citadel (attached).

The students will then be asked to explore the citadel, and try to shade the site plan with colour coded areas. This will be an intense exercise which will help the students to become thoroughly familiar with the land uses in the fortress and thus enhance their spatial awareness of this important landmark.

Ideally each group is accompanied by an adult to provide help if needed.

Students are given around an hour to complete the task.

The colour legend should be as follows:

Green: fields/gardens

Brown: disused residential areas/unidentifiable ruins

Yellow: used residential areas

Purple: Churches/chapels

Orange: museums

Red: commercial activity outlets

Blue: open spaces (squares/bastions)

If the teacher deems fit, especially if time is limited, groups may be assigned specific sectors of the map/site plan to colour

The results are then compared to a colour coded site plan which will be prepared by the teacher.

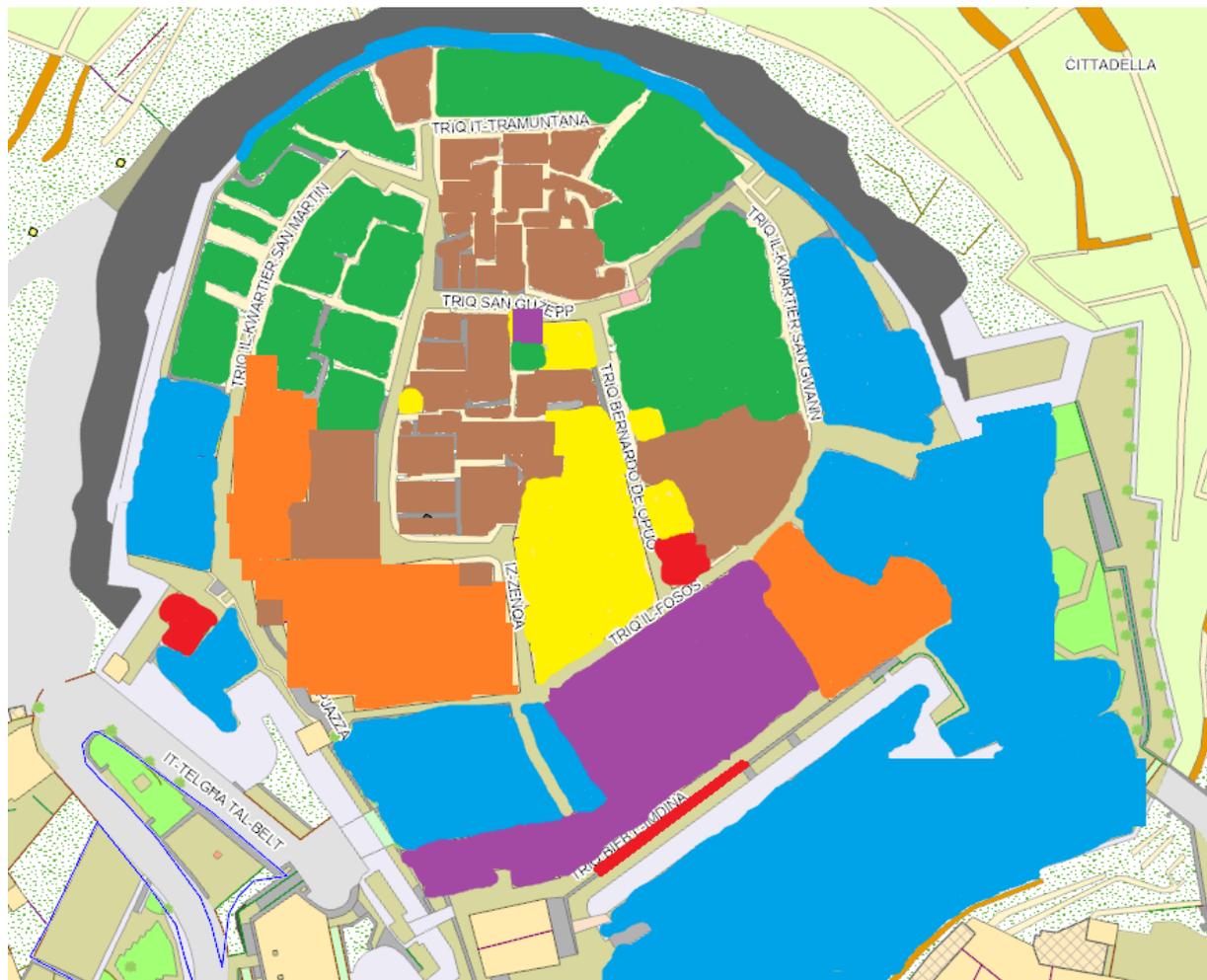
Feedback will be provided to each group and further reinforcement provided if required.

Appendix

Cittadella site plan



Site plan answer



Reading resources

<https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/bitstream/123456789/19677/1/GozoObs%2035%20-%20A6.pdf>

<https://www.sustaineurope.com/spectacular-archaeological-finds-at-cittadella-discovered-during-restoration-project-01062017.html>

<https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/ancient-walls-uncovered-just-outside-cittadella.647604>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cittadella_\(Gozo\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cittadella_(Gozo))