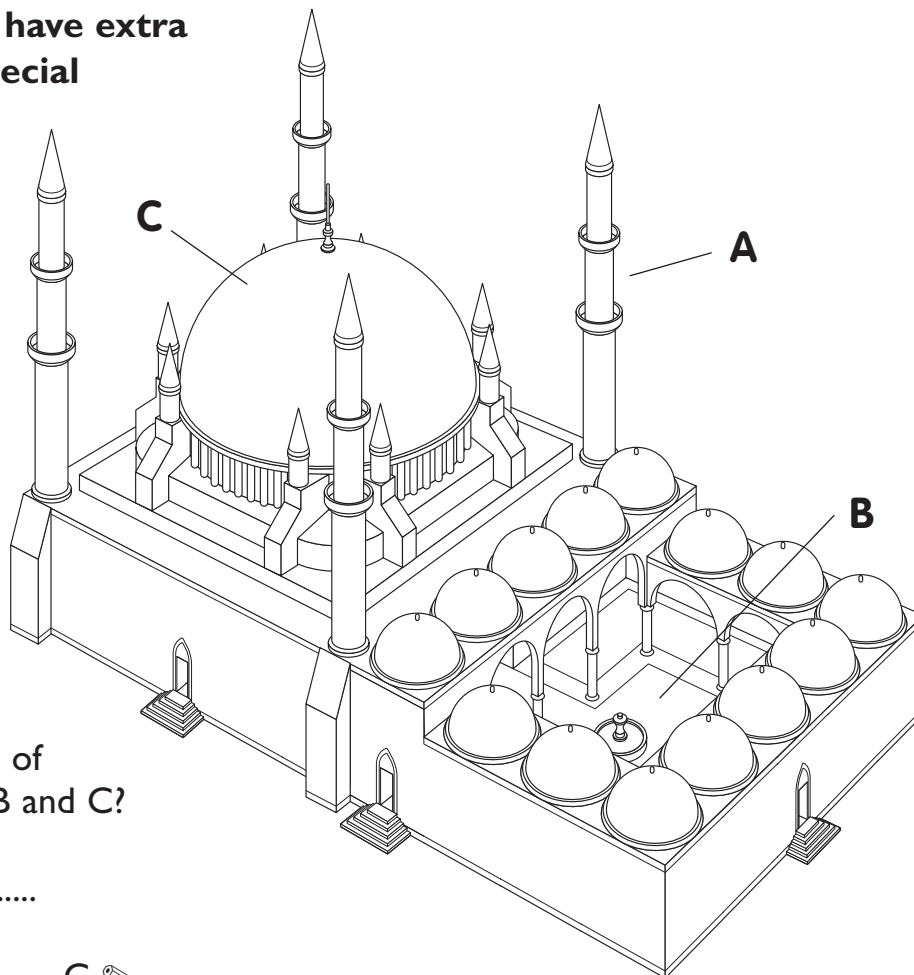


## A traditional mosque

Many large mosques have extra features that have special meanings in Islam.



**Q1.** What are the parts of the mosque labelled A, B and C?

A .....

B ..... C .....

**Q2.** What are many mosques designed to look like?

.....

**Q3.** When was the first mosque built? .....

**Q4.** Where were the first mosques built? .....

**Q5.** Where does a person stand to call people to prayer?

.....

**Q6.** How is C in the picture useful?

.....

.....

## Answers

1. **A = minaret, B = courtyard, C = dome.**
2. **The mosques built in the early days of Islam.**
3. **619 AD.**
4. **In hot dry places.**
5. **On the minaret.**
6. **It gives a feeling of space. It helps to cool the mosque and helps sound to travel so that everyone can hear the imam.**

## Lesson objectives

- To explore the structure of a large mosque.
- To understand the function of the minaret, courtyard and dome.

## Teaching notes

*The word “mosque” originally comes from the Arabic word “masjid”. This word means a place where people prostrate themselves and refers to the way in prayer that Muslims submit to Allah. The word mosque evolved through the Egyptian and French languages.*

*The first mosque to be built is called the Mosque of Quba. It is also known as the Masjid at-Taqla which means mosque of reverence. When Mohammed came to Medina, many people wanted him to stay with them so he decided to let his camel go and to build his home and first mosque near where the camel stopped to rest.*

*The call to prayer, made by the muezzin, is called the adhan. It is made about a quarter of an hour before prayer begins. When the people have gathered in the prayer hall a call is made inside the mosque for them to stand up and form rows just before the prayers begin. When prayers are being said, a white flag may be displayed outside the mosque, or if prayers are*

*said at night a lamp on top of a minaret may be lit.*

## Lesson outcomes

- The children can identify the different structures in a large traditional mosque.
- The children can explain the function of the minaret, courtyard and dome.

## Complementary work

The children use secondary sources to find out about the different shapes of domes and minarets that exist in mosque architecture.

## Resources

Secondary sources about mosques from different parts of the world.