

CARDIFF CASTLE

1 The Origins and the Middle Ages

Before watching

1 What do you know about Cardiff? Try to answer these questions with a partner.

1. How many people live in Wales?
2. Do people speak English or Welsh in Wales?
3. Is Cardiff the capital of Wales?
4. What is the population of Cardiff?
5. There is a big castle in Cardiff. Do you know anything about it, for example, how old it is?
6. Have you visited any castles yourself? If so, what did you like about them?



2 Video vocabulary. You'll hear the following words in the video. Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. linguist | <input type="checkbox"/> a) the top part of a room |
| 2. fort | <input type="checkbox"/> b) the remaining damaged parts of a very old building |
| 3. banqueting hall | <input type="checkbox"/> c) a change in look or complete modernization of something |
| 4. themed | <input type="checkbox"/> d) a large building, often in a castle, containing a clock at the top |
| 5. clock tower | <input type="checkbox"/> e) a covered passage for walking from one place to another |
| 6. walkway | <input type="checkbox"/> f) with a specific theme or idea |
| 7. makeover | <input type="checkbox"/> g) the part of a room where you have a fire |
| 8. fireplace | <input type="checkbox"/> h) a large open space for dinners and ceremonies |
| 9. ceiling | <input type="checkbox"/> i) somebody who studies and researches languages |
| 10. ruins/remains | <input type="checkbox"/> j) a place where soldiers meet, sleep and keep ammunition |
| 11. shield | <input type="checkbox"/> k) when two people agree to do something |
| 12. arrangement | <input type="checkbox"/> l) a metal object to protect a soldier during combat |

While watching

3 Watch from 00.00 to 00.55. Put the following people or places in the order they are mentioned in the first part of the video.

- a) The River Taff
- b) William the Conqueror
- c) The Roman fort

4 Now watch the same section again and mark the following statements true or false.

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Castle is not in the city centre. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The castle is a mix of old and new elements. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. The Romans built the first castle. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The word 'Cardiff' means Bridge on the River Taff. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Construction work in the 11th century was commissioned by William the Conqueror. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

5 Now watch from 00.56 to 03.27 and choose the correct alternative to complete the sentences.

1. In the first part of the clip, Wyn Davies describes a *Victorian / Elizabethan* recreation of a medieval walkway.
2. According to Wyn Davies, the castle is special because you have *2 / 3 / 4* different phases on one site.
3. The earliest remains are *Norman / Roman* ones.
4. The house received a makeover in the *15th / 19th* century.
5. The first room described is the *Summer / Winter* Smoking Room.
6. The Smoking Room was for drinking and *socializing / eating*.
7. The ceiling of the Smoking Room shows *zodiac signs / religious scenes*.
8. The second room, the Banqueting Hall, is the *smallest / largest* building in the house.
9. The Banqueting Hall is the recreation of a *medieval / Victorian* hall.
10. The ceiling and walls in the Banqueting Hall show *Welsh history / the Marquis of Bute's family history*.
11. The third Marquis of Bute was a *Welshman / Scotsman*.
12. In the 12th century, the cousins Stephen and Matilda were fighting for the *English / Welsh* throne.
13. Stephen became king after *9 / 19* years of fighting.
14. Matilda's son eventually became *King Henry II / King Richard II*.

6 Now watch from 03.28 to the end and fill in the missing information in the summary.

The Bute family only lived in the castle for (1) weeks in a year. Many of the original books in the library were (2) ones. Bute, the owner of the castle, was a Catholic, theologian and (3): he could speak or understand (4) languages. According to the speaker, the books in the library today are not as (5) as the original ones. The castle is open every day of the year except for the 25th and the 26th December and (6) January.

After watching

7 Go to this site: www.cardiffcastle.com/history and find the answers to the following questions.

1. 'The Romans' section: Under which Roman emperor did the Roman legions arrive in Cardiff?
2. 'The Romans' section: When did the Roman Army finally leave Cardiff and Wales?
3. 'The Normans' section: What did the Normans build at the northern end of the site?
4. 'The Normans' section: What kind of soldier was the Earl of Gloucester?
5. 'The Butes' section: When did the Butes give the castle to the City of Cardiff?
6. 'The Butes' section: How did the Butes transform the castle?
7. 'The Bute and Burgess' section: Who was William Burges?
8. 'The Bute and Burgess' section: When did Burges die?

8 Think of a castle near your home town. Research some details on it and write a paragraph that could be put in an English language publicity leaflet for the castle, briefly describing the castle, its attractions and opening times, visiting costs etc.