|  |
| --- |
| **ACTIVITIES** |

**5. BYZANTIUM, THE ROMAN EMPIRE IN THE EAST**

1. **Differentiate Byzantium, Constantinople and Istambul.**

* Byzantium: first Greek town. The name of the Byzantine Empire comes from this name.
* Constantinople: In 330, the Roman Emperor Constantine changed the name of the town for Constantinople. From 395 it was chosen the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire.
* Istambul: Name of the city since the Turks conquered it in 1453.

1. **Date the main events of the Byzantine Empire:**
   1. **Beginning:** 395 (division of the Empire) or 476 (fall of Western Roman Empire).
   2. **Reign of Justinian I (1st Golden Age): 527-565 (6th century)**
   3. **Loss of Justinian conquests: 7th and 8th centuries.**
   4. **Hellenization: from the 6th to the 8th century**
   5. **Second Golden Age: 9th and 10th**
   6. **Decline of the Empire:** from the 11th to the 15th century (year 1453)
   7. **End of Byzantium (conquered by the Turks):** 1453
2. **Who was Justinian I? Why is he important? (Explain both reasons.)**

He was the Byzantine/ Eastern Roman Emperor (527-565).

* He tried to conquer the provinces of the former Western Roman Empire (Italy, Balearic Islands, North Africa and South of Hispania).
* He compiled all the traditional Roman laws in the Justinian Code.

1. **What is *“to* *hellenise*”? Why do you think it happened?**

* To adopt cultural and political practices and the language of Greece. They stopped speaking Latin, and Greek became official.
* Because Greek had a big influence in the East of the Mediterranean Sea and it was an important language for culture in the Roman Empire.

1. **What’s a “*basileus*”?**

Emperor in Greek language.

1. **Differences between Orthodox and Catholicism:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Catholicism** | **Orthodox** |
| Christians from the territories of the ancient Western Roman Empire.  Their leader was the Pope (bishop of Rome).  Different ceremonies, rituals and thoughts. | Christians from the East (Byzantine Empire).  Byzantine Emperor (who ruled over many bishops).  Different ceremonies, rituals and thoughts. |

1. **Main characteristics of the Byzantine art.**

****

1. **Which is the most famous building of the Byzantine Empire?**

It is a Christian basilica /a church /a cathedral in Constantinople. It was started in the 4th century and rebuilt in the 6th by Justinian I.

1. **Look for a picture of Hagia Sophia, a Byzantine icon and a mosaic from Ravenna. Print, glue and label them (name, place, date… when possible).**

 **Church of Hagia Sophia, 4th- 6th centuries, Constantinople.**

 **Mosaic of Justinian I in San Vitale in Ravenna, 6th century.**

 **Icon of Archangel Michael, 14th Century, Constantinople (nowadays at Byzantine and Christian Museum in Athens).**