

S 5.3 FROM CAVES TO SKYSCRAPERS



S5.3.3

Comparing the methods in which Maltese houses used to be built in the past with the methods used nowadays.

A. Read and then answer the questions.

The first picture is of big round rocks which were found in various megalithic temples. We found such large round rocks both in Ħal Tarxien as well as in Ħaġar Qim. As we know, the megalithic temples were built from very large rocks. In fact, the word 'megalithic' means 'built from large rocks.'



The second picture is in fact a painting. This painting is found in the Archaeological Museum in Valletta. The artist is trying to portray how we think they used to carry these large rocks.

1. Look at the drawing and describe how they used to carry the megalithic rocks.
 - a) They used to carry them on their shoulders.
 - b) They used to roll them on round big rocks.
 - c) They used to use cranes.
2. Nowadays rocks are cut and brought from the
 - a) stone quarries
 - b) village square
 - c) seabed



3. One rock cut in the form of a smooth block as shown in the picture on the right is known as a

- a) brick b) balustrade c) balcony

4. Nowadays the rocks are

- a) cut smaller than before so they can be carried on the shoulder
b) cut into big chunks like those of the megalithic temples
c) cut into small pieces so they can be carried by 6 year old children.

5. The house on the right is built from

- a) žonqor.
b) wood.
c) limestone.



6. The house shown in the picture

- a) is made up of one story
b) is made up of two stories
c) is made up of more than two stories

7. To build really tall buildings, today we use

- a) children
b) cranes
c) wood



8. In tall buildings such as the one in the picture, we use a lot of

- a) clay b) rocks c) concrete