

Worksheet C6.1.2

To discuss the symbols that represent the Maltese Identity.

A: Read, and then answer.

When looking at the church in the picture, surely many children are able to notice that this is the parish church of Birżebbuġa. This means that the church of Birżebbuġa is a symbol which, when seen, reminds us of the village of Birżebbuġa. When a symbol is related to one locality, this symbol is called a **LOCAL SYMBOL**. Some more commonly known local symbols are:

- The Hompesch Gate in Żabbar
- The Cathedral in Mdina
- The Xarolla Windmill in Żurrieq
- The ‘Dar tal-Providenza’ in Siggiewi
- St. Anthony’s Gardens in Attard
- The Blue Lagoon in Comino
- The Buskett Gardens in Rabat
- Ġgantija Temples in Xagħra Gozo.

**Answer by filling the blanks or underlying the correct answer.**

1. Write the name of the city or village you live in: _____
2. Which do you think is the most important local symbol of your city or village?

3. When you see Hompesch Gate, you are in (Paola, Luqa, Żabbar).
4. Comino is mostly known for (Ġgantija, Blue Lagoon, Buskett Gardens).
5. You cannot go to Xagħra without visiting the temples of (Mnajdra, ta’ Haġrat, Ġgantija).
6. The Xarolla Windmill reminds us of (Gudja, Xagħra, Żurrieq).
7. When mentioning the ‘Dar tal-Providenza’, we are automatically referring to (Siggiewi, Qrendi, Mqabba).

B: For our interest – Read and discuss.

1. The symbols of the locality where we live have great importance for the residents of our locality. These symbols bring us a sense of identity.
2. When people start to appreciate the locality where they live, most likely they will start to feel proud of their locality and so they will take better care of the environment. For instance, by starting to work to keep the locality cleaner. Without a doubt, they will try to learn more about the history of their locality and their behaviour will seek to improve the good name of the locality.

C: Read, and then answer.

The photo shows the famous painting of the Beheading of St. John, known as the Caravaggio. This painting is known all over the world. If you see a brochure of a travel agent who is selling trips to Malta, probably you will see a photo of this painting on the brochure. This painting is found in the Oratory near the Co-Cathedral of St. John. If you pass from there, you will surely see a long queue of tourists waiting to enter and see the painting.



Hence, we can call the Caravaggio a **NATIONAL SYMBOL**. You will surely remember Malta when you see it.

When we talk about national symbols we should not forget to mention the three Maltese sites that have been declared as World Heritage Sites. These are the Megalithic Temples, the Hypogeum in Hal Saflieni, and Valletta. For this reason, these three sites are becoming better known throughout the whole world.

It is important to differentiate between national symbols and **OFFICIAL SYMBOLS**. The Maltese Flag, the National Anthem of Malta and the Coat of Arms of Malta are **official symbols**. The Co-Cathedral of St. John, the Hypogeum, the Megalithic Temples and Mdina are **national symbols**.

Every country has its own national symbols. The photo on the left shows the Coliseum found in Rome, Italy. When you see the Coliseum you are sure to think of the city of Rome.



In Egypt, we can find the Pyramids built by the Pharaohs. Millions of tourists go to Egypt to visit these Pyramids. The Pyramids are a national symbol of Egypt.



Underline the correct answer or fill-in the blanks.

1. The Pyramids are a national symbol of (Greece, Italy, Egypt).
2. The Coliseum reminds us of (Rome, Paris, Athens).
3. The Statue of Liberty reminds us of (Canada, the United States of America, Russia).
4. The Eiffel Tower is found in (Italy, the United States, France).
5. The Caravaggio painting is a (local, national, official) symbol.
6. The national symbols provide a sense of (identity, prestige, bravery).
7. Which three Maltese national symbols are considered to be World Heritage Sites?

D: Underline those that are considered as Maltese NATIONAL SYMBOLS.

Mdina	The Megalithic Temples	The Computer
Ta' Garnaw Valley	The Cittadella	San Niklaw's Chapel
The Rotunda of Mosta	Valletta	The Hypogeum of Hal Saflieni
The Bastions of Valletta	The Mobile	The Bicycle
The Centipede	Coffee	The Maltese Flag
The National Anthem of Malta	The Coat of Arms of Malta	The Co-Cathedral