



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

## Center for Middle Eastern Studies

**Moorish Architecture and Linguistic Influence of Arabic in Spanish**  
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### Summary

Objectives: The student will identify the Moorish characteristics of a monument in Spain.

National Standards for Learning Languages:

- Interpretive Communication (Standard 1.2): Demonstrate comprehension of content from authentic audio and visual sources.
- Cultures: Practices and Products (Standard 2.1 and 2.2): Examine, compare and reflect on products, practices, and/or perspectives of the target culture(s).
- Connections: Acquiring new Information (Standard 3.2): Acquire information from other content areas using authentic sources (DVUSD, 3).
- Presentational Communication (Standard 1.3): Present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics (DVUSD, 8).

Key Vocabulary:

árabe	patrón geométricos	léxico	espacio abierto
ícono	préstamo	características	fuelle
moro(s)	jardín	ladrillo	ventana
arco	baño romano	muqarna	mezquita
palacio			

## **Lesson 1: Arabic in Spanish**

Students will review Arabic's influence on Spanish by participating in a class dialogue and by viewing a powerpoint.

Steps:

1. Students will view the following video that demonstrates the similarities between Arabic and Spanish.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOe4mkzBdCs>

2. Students will view a powerpoint designed by the professor that covers the cultural and linguistic influence of Arabic in Spanish. (See the Powerpoint "Review of Arabic's Influence on Spanish")

3. Students will view segments of a video and will answer comprehension questions that introduce them to various Moorish features of architecture in Spain. (See the Document "Comprehension Questions for Cities of Light")

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4dGg\\_Hs0c4Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4dGg_Hs0c4Q)

## **Lesson 2: Moorish characteristics of architecture in Spain**

Students will identify Moorish characteristics of various monuments in Spain.

Steps:

1. The student will choose a building from a list, and will prepare a powerpoint including characteristics that come from Moorish culture and will describe the architecture of the building. (See the Document, "Lista de edificios" and the Powerpoint, "Architecture template")

2. The student will present said presentation. (See the document "Rubric for Presentation")

3. Students will discuss in a group the patterns that they saw on the slides (for example, vocabulary that has to do with culture, construction, etc; prefixes al-, a-; suffixes -acho, -í). Class will form a list of Moorish characteristics in architecture (alternating red and yellow bricks, geometric patterns, lack of icons, open spaces, lack of partition between indoor and outdoor spaces, large gardens with strong presence of water, arches, Roman baths, etc). (See the Document "List of buildings for teachers" for resources and terms specific to each monument)

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