

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Section: \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION**

1. Look at and handle the object for a brief time, then write a description. What are its most important features or characteristics?

2. How would you describe this object's state of preservation? Is it intact, or is it missing something?

3a. Measure this object in centimeters.

Total Length with and without base/toe:

Max Width:

Handles width:

Mouth diameter:

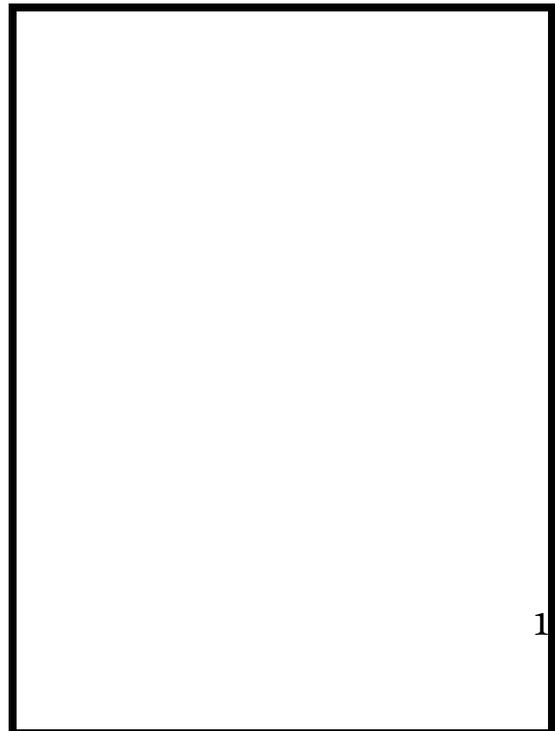
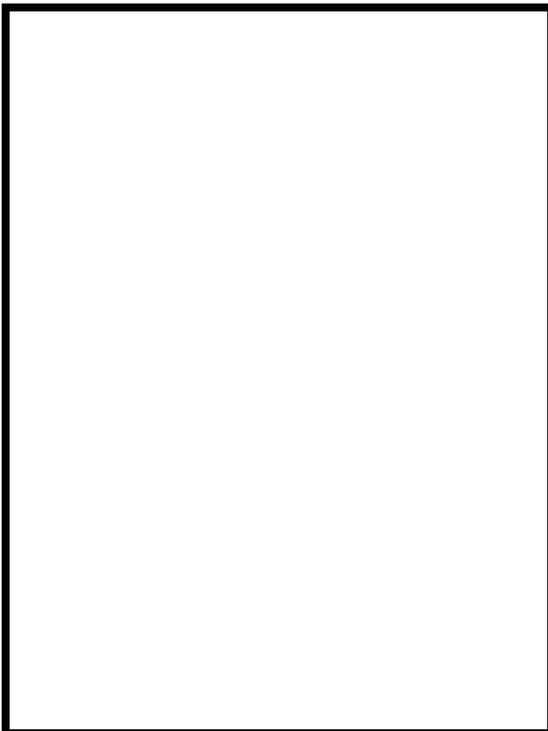
Anything else? :

3b. Can you estimate the volume of this vessel? [Hint, cylinder volume =  $\pi \cdot r^2 \cdot h$ ]

3c. Use your measurements and observations to draw sketches of your object below. Consider both the inside and outside of the vessel.

**Top-Down:**

**Profile:**





**FUNCTION AND CONTEXT**



7. This is a Roman relief or stone carving that represents your object in use. The relief – which dates to the second century CE -- was found in Italy at Ostia, the port-city that supplied food and goods to ancient Rome. Explain what you see: what are the individuals doing? Where is this scene taking place? Which details or objects can you identify?

**SIGNIFICANCE**



8. The first plastic two-liter container for soda was invented by a Dupont Laboratories scientist and introduced by Pepsi in 1970. Billions have been sold, and two liter bottles have been transported to every corner of the planet. The basic blow-mold manufacture process has not changed since 1970, but cost-savings in later versions were achieved with recycled materials, the elimination of a black plastic cap at the base, and subtle changes in profile. A two-liter bottle filled with Coca-Cola costs \$2.00, when the average weekly salary of an American in 2014 was \$893, and the average American consumed 95 liters of soda per year.

Consider by comparison the recorded prices from Pompeii for an amphora of wine which ranged between 3 and 13.5 denarii, when 3 denarii was the weekly pay of a common legionary soldier.

How is your object similar or dissimilar to a Coca-Cola two liter bottle?

9. If you took this object out of the museum and put it back in the ancient world, where and with whom would you put it, and why?

## PRODUCTION METHODS

### CERAMICS

- a. Wheel-made ceramic objects were made on a potter's wheel: this is a flat disk on which clay was placed that was spun at high speed. The potter used their hands or instruments to shape the clay as it turned. Afterwards hundreds to thousands of objects were placed in a kiln and fired until hard. Because these objects are turned on a potter's wheel, they are circular on one axis and symmetrical about a center point (think of a plate or bowl). They usually have ridge lines from the vessel spinning in the potter's hands.
- b. Mould-made ceramics were created by first carving a mould in two pieces of stone (one for the top, one for the bottom). Clay was pressed into each half of the mould, the two halves were pressed together and the whole thing was fired in a kiln until hard. The result was an object of almost any shape (as opposed to the wheel-made ceramics, which must be circular on one axis), often with intricate "carved" designs. You can often see a line where the two mould halves came together.

### METAL

- c.  Casting was a technique similar to mould-made ceramics (above), but whereas clay is pressed into a mould, molten metal or glass is poured into a cast.
- d. Lost-wax (or lost-mould) casting was a technique for casting objects in which the artist created an object's model from hard wax (or another material with a low melting-point temperature). Clay was then shaped around the wax model, forming a soft interior and a hard exterior. A hole was pierced through the hard exterior into the wax and the mould was fired until hard, thereby also melting and draining the wax. Molten metal was poured into the empty exterior mould and allowed to cool, before the mould was broken to reveal the now-hardened metal version of the wax model.

### GLASS

- e. Cast glass: see above under "casting".
- f. Blown glass was created using a technique in which molten glass was placed on the end of a tube that the glassblower would then blow through. The result was any roundish object that was hollow.
- g. Core-formed glass vessels were created by first creating the shape of the intended object out of clay (the core) and then heating it and rolling it in powdered glass, which built up around the core. Bands of colored glass were then applied and pressed into the powdered glass. Designs were then made with tools and handles were attached (if the vessel had handles). The core was then removed, resulting in a glass vessel with geometric designs on the outside.

### LOTS OF MATERIALS

- h. Carving a negative process, whereby different instruments (blades, chisels, etc.) are used to remove material from a larger block in order to create a desired shape.

Ex. #3 - Object 02 Student Worksheet