

If you only have 30 minutes ...

Construct a timeline and analyze how each new tilemaking technique changed production methods and cultural expression.

Text Mining (8 minutes)

Task 1: Timeline Reading

Review the reading to complete the timeline of tile making development.

1. Fill in the word from the word bank that identifies the appropriate tilemaking technique for each period.¹

Timeline Word Bank

Miguel Moura's throwback technique

Maiololica technique

Hispano-Moresque arista technique

Alicatado technique

Task 2: Advancement and Significance

2. Identify a phrase that describes the technique used in each historical period and record it in the corresponding box.
3. Identify a phrase that explains how each change in technique impacted tilemaking during its period and record it in the corresponding box.

Timeline of Tilemaking

TILEMAKING THROUGH THE CENTURIES

13TH CENTURY

14TH CENTURY

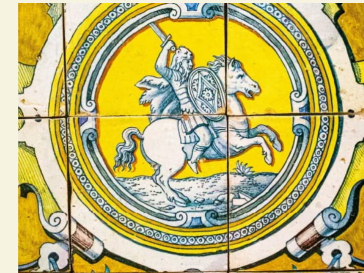
16TH CENTURY

21ST CENTURY

Tilemaking technique

Phrase describing the technique

Phrase describing the impact of the technique.



Text Analysis (18 minutes)

Using your completed timeline and the article, fill in the table below with text-based evidence and thoughtful analysis.

Focus Area	Guiding Questions	Text Evidence (from reading)
Transporting technology to other lands	How did King Manuel I bring tilemaking to Portugal? ²	
Changes in consumers' tastes	How did tile imagery change during the golden age the Renaissance (1490s-1527)? ³	
Impact of new technological development	How did moving from mosaic assembly to painting directly on the tiles expand the tile industry in Europe? ⁴	
Keeping the older traditions alive	What are Miguel Moura's personal reasons for using older tilemaking technique? ⁵	

Synthesis (4 minutes)

Which technological advancement in tilemaking had the greatest impact? Support your answer by comparing the different techniques.⁶

Common Core Standard(s) Met:

CCRA.R.1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

CCRA.R.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

1 Timeline answer key: 1) 13th century: Tilemaking technique—alicatado; phrase describing the technique—clay tiles are painted and baked, then painstakingly cut into pieces and pressed into mortar; phrase describing the impact of the technique—pieces formed shapes such as spindles, petals and leaves; 2) 14th century: Tilemaking technique—Hispano-Moresque arista; phrase describing the technique—soft clay pressed into molds; phrase describing the impact of the technique—more efficient than mosaics; 3) 16th century: Tilemaking technique—Maiolica; phrase describing the technique—images painted directly on clay; phrase describing the impact of the technique—enabled faster, cheaper production; 4) 21st century: Tilemaking technique—Hispano-Moresque arista revival; phrase describing the technique—images painted directly on clay; Modern artisans replicate centuries-old Moorish methods to preserve traditional craftsmanship—keeps centuries-old Moorish traditional methods alive;

2 King Manuel I visited Seville and the Alhambra Palace, then ordered Moorish artisans to ship ceramic tiles from Spain to Portugal.

3 Tile imagery shifted from the abstract art of the Gothic era to more hyper-realistic depictions of flowers, vegetables, animals and people.

4 Tiles could be produced faster and cheaper, enabling mass production and allowing Portuguese tilemakers to collaborate with other manufacturers in Europe.

5 Miguel Moura doesn't want to work in a factory producing identical tiles. He values the connection to his ancestors and takes pride in keeping traditional methods alive.

6 Answers will vary, but students should compare the different techniques—such as alicatado, arista and maiolica—to explain which innovation most influenced the evolution of tilemaking.