

## FAQs

### What is Romantic Neo-classicism?

The Romantic Neo-classicists thought that the main purpose of literature, architecture, painting, etc... is to promote aesthetics. They rejected the tendentiousness, agitation and moralizing of their contemporaries. They visualised their ideas in a contemporary way. Eg.- Royal Saltworks at Arc et Senans by Ledoux.

### Explain the philosophy and building style of Durand and his philosophies.

- Built very little but influenced a whole generation of architects, namely Schinkel, Gartner, Klenze and Sempur.
- He reduced his extravagant ideas to a normative and economic typology.
- Durand established a universal building methodology through modular permutation of fixed plan types and alternative elevations.
- In the early 1800s, French architect Jean-Nicolas-Louis Durand's treatise *Mecanisme de la composition* proposed axonometric drawing for the first time as the ideal perspective projection for designing buildings.
- His ideas that buildings could be planned in repetitive modular units,
- That their basic framework could be clad in different styles of architecture according to function or taste
- Rich decoration was not essential to architectural effect
- These were a perfect formula for developing large urban settlements quickly effectively and cheap.

- Architecture was not about visual gestures.
- Architectural problem resolved well and efficiently would automatically be invested with meaning.
- His treatise included pristine plans, sections and elevations, all drawn with fine lines over a regulating grid.
- Utmost austerity and precision
- Questioning the tradition of the elaborate watercolor renders produced at the schools of fine arts.
- Put forward a rational and specialized theory of architecture, free from any metaphysical speculation.

### **Explain the Newton's cenotaph with fine sketches.**

- Cenotaph for the English scientist Isaac Newton, which would have taken the form of a sphere 150 m high was designed by **Étienne-Louis Boullée**.
- Though the structure was never built, its design was engraved and circulated widely in professional circles.
- The small sarcophagus for Newton is placed at the lower pole of the sphere.
- The memorial creates the effect of day and night.
- To reinvent, the huge movement of time and celestial phenomena
- The viewer is isolated too, on a small viewing platform
- Along the top half of the sphere's edges, apertures in the stone allow light in, in pins, creating starlight when there is daylight.
- During the night a huge and otherworldly light hangs, flooding the sphere, as sunlight.

- During the day, the “night effect.” During the night, day.’