

Ancient Rome



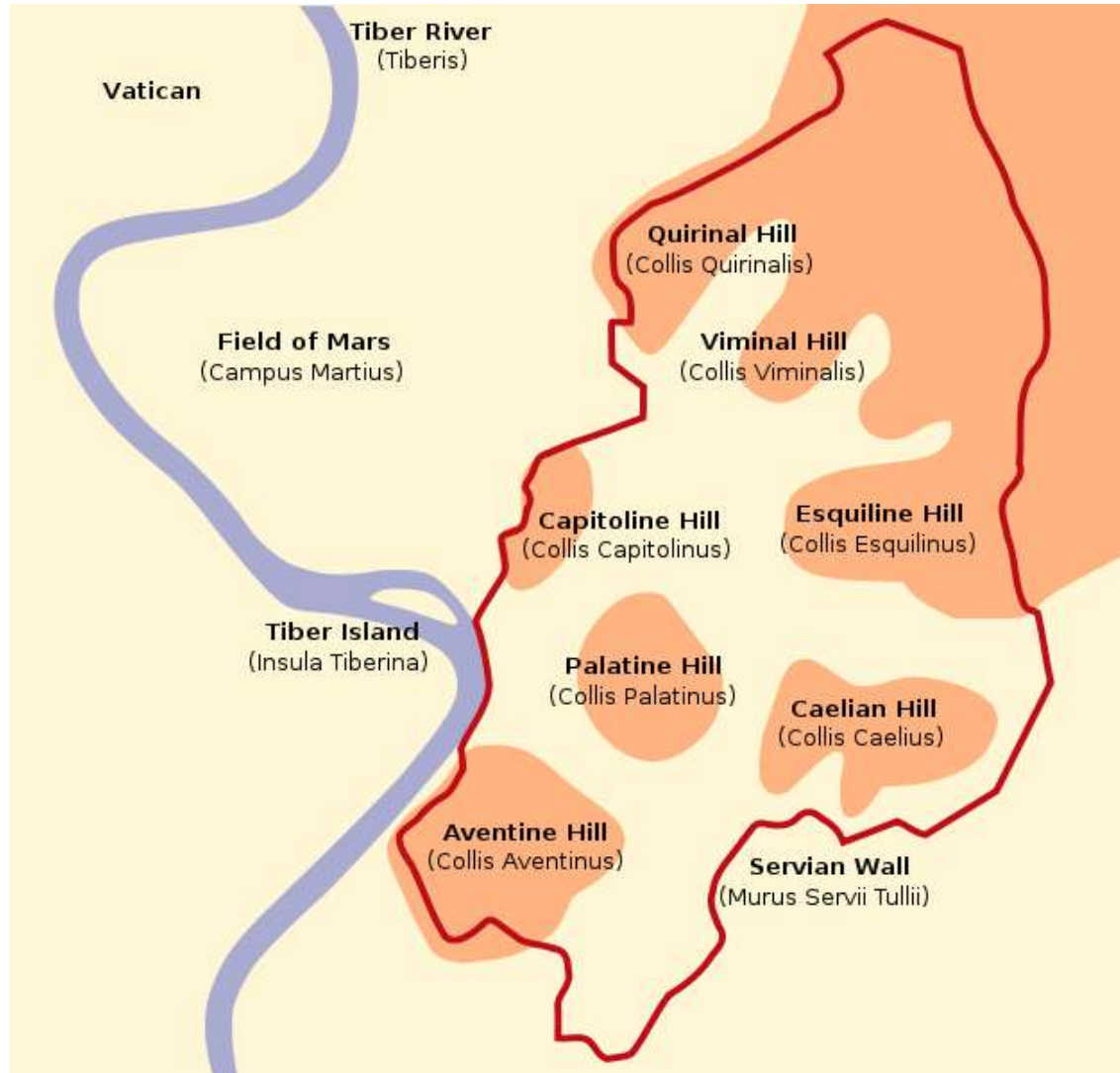
1. I can explain how the myth of Romulus and Remus affected the settlement of early Rome.
2. I can explain how the geography of Rome affected its people
3. I can describe the ancestors of the Romans

Rome's Geographic Setting

I can explain how the geography of Rome affected its people

- Rome was a peninsula
- Unlike Greece, Rome had fertile soil for farming
- The Tiber River provided fresh water and easy travel
- Rome was built around 7 hills, which made them easy to defend

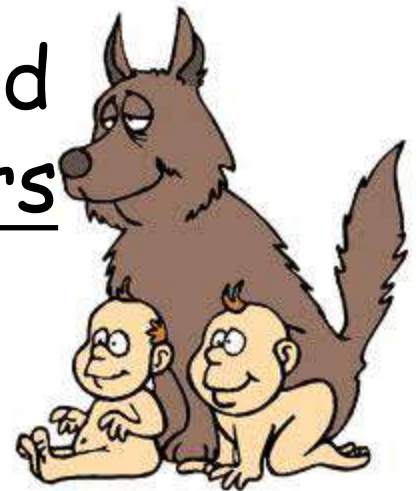




Mythical Origins of Rome

I can explain how the myth of Romulus and Remus affected the settlement of early Rome.

- The ancient Romans loved to hear the story of Romulus and Remus. In their eyes, this story explained why Rome had the right to rule.
- According to legend, Romulus and Remus were the original founders of the city of Rome



Rome's Beginnings

I can describe the ancestors of the Romans



- Little is known about where the Romans actually came from
- About 600 B.C. a group called the Etruscans ruled over Rome. Etruscan king Tarquin the Proud ruled very harshly.
- About 509 B.C. the Romans revolted against the Etruscan kings and drove them out.
- Many Etruscan ideas lived on in Rome (Roman Gods, togas, and Greek Alphabet)

Rome Becomes a Republic



- After driving out the Etruscan kings, Rome vowed to never again put so much trust into kings
- Rome created a republic (representative democracy) where citizens voted on leaders who made the laws

Rome Becomes a Republic Cont'd

- The Republic was made up of 3 parts:
 1. **Consuls**- 2 leaders chosen from the senate, served 1 year terms.
(They were the leaders of the government)
Consuls had the power to veto (which means "I forbid it")
 2. **Senate**- made up of 300 **patricians** (upper class citizens)
 3. **Assembly** - made up of **plebeians** (lower class citizens)
- In an emergency when decisions had to be made quickly, a dictator would appointed, but could only hold power for 6 months



Patricians vs. Plebeians

- Patricians fought to be the leaders of the government and the plebeians thought that the patricians did not respect them
- Many Patricians grew wealthy from Rome's conquests, while many plebeians lost their jobs
- Eventually, Plebeians refused to fight in the army

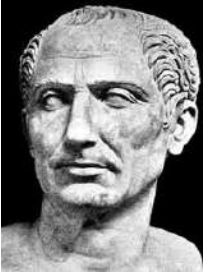
• The Patricians were forced to create the Twelve Tables- a code of laws that applied equally to all citizens



The End of the Republic



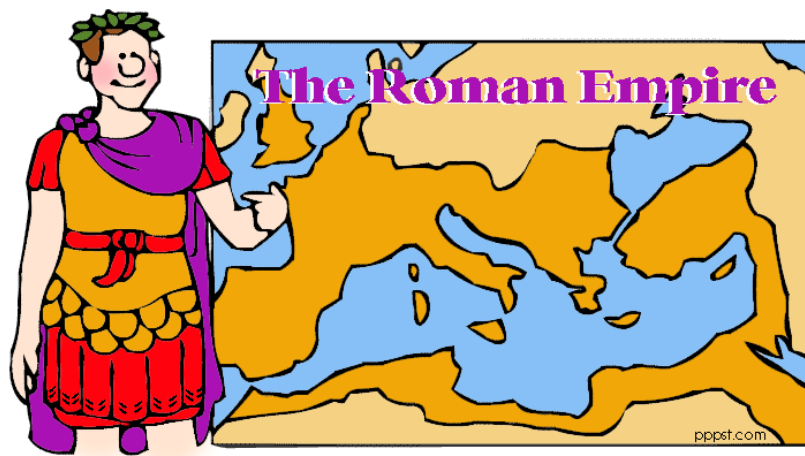
- Even though Rome had conquered a large area by 120 BC, the Plebeians and Patricians continued to fight each other
- Consuls no longer respected each others' veto votes
- Rome dissolved into a civil war with private armies fighting each other
- In 49 B.C the military leader Julius Caesar led his troops into Rome and became the dictator of Rome in 48 B.C



Julius Caesar

- As dictator, Julius Caesar took many useful steps in reorganizing the government
- He kept the senators on as his advisors
- However, many senators felt as though Rome was once again under the rule of a king
- On March 15, 44 B.C. Julius Caesar was assassinated by the senators
- A civil war broke out to determine the next ruler. In 27 B.C. Octavian (Caesar's adopted son) became the first emperor of Rome.
- Octavian took the title of Augustus meaning "highly respected"



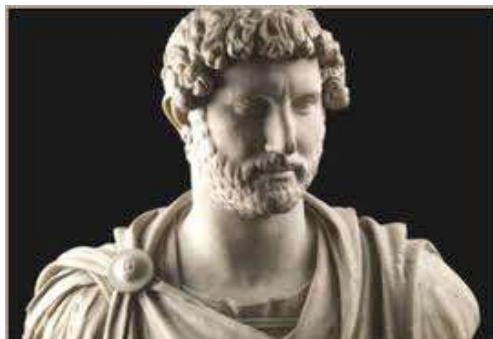


- By the time Augustus took power Rome controlled much of the Mediterranean Sea
- Augustus returned peace and prosperity to Rome, and shared his power with the senate
- Instead of turning conquered peoples into slaves, Augustus allowed them to govern themselves as provinces
- Each province had a Roman governor and was supported by an army



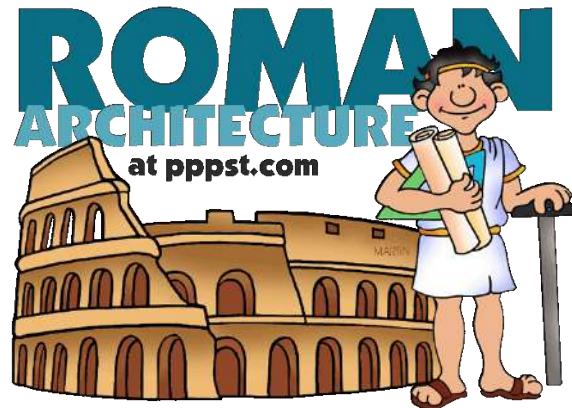
The Good and the Terrible

- After Augustus death in 14 A.D, Rome went through a series of emperors: some good, some bad.
- Caligula and Nero were considered to be two of the worst
- The greatest was the emperor Hadrian, who worked hard to build a good government and to create laws that protected women, children and slaves.



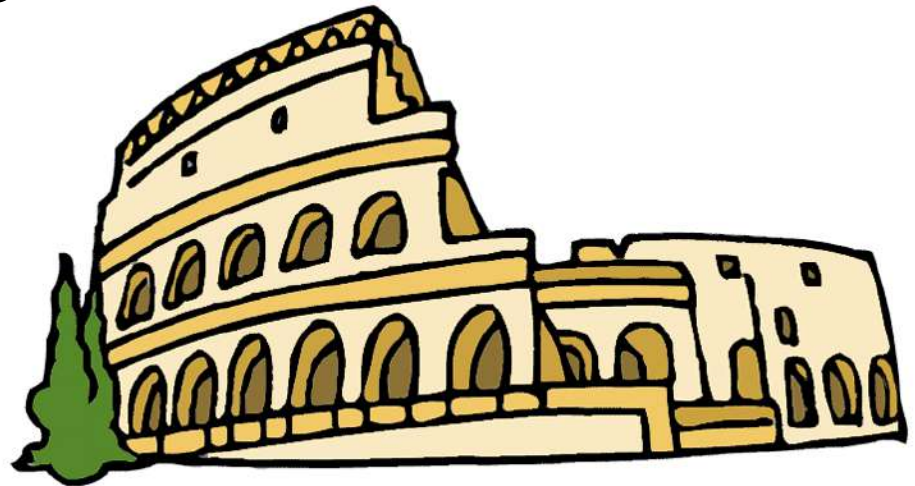
Greek Influence

- The Romans greatly admired Greek achievements in art, architecture and government
- However, while the Greeks were interested in new ideas, the Romans were more interested in building things.
- Under the Romans, architecture and engineering prospered



Architecture and Engineering

- The Romans developed a new building material- concrete
- The greatest Roman building was the coliseum- an arena that held over 50,000 spectators



Architecture and Engineering Cont'd

- Romans created roads from the city of Rome to every part of the empire. The saying "All Roads Lead to Rome" was actually true!



- Romans also created aqueducts- structures that carried water over long distances



Daily Life Among the Romans

Daily Life Amongst the Romans:

The Rich, the Poor, and the Slaves

- Tourists and merchants flocked to the city of Rome.
- Its marketplaces and shops had more goods than any other city.
- Roman society had very few rich people. The majority of the citizens were poor.



A Life of Luxury

- The rich often had homes in the city and country.
- They were known for their feasts.
- Foods: wild boar, flamingo, ostrich, dormouse cooked in honey, bread
- At the feasts there were musicians, performers, poets etc.
- Went to Roman baths for relaxing, talking politics etc. There were as many as 900 baths in Rome.

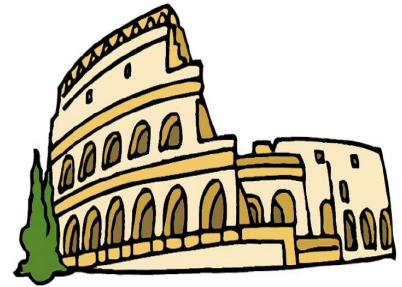


Another Way of Life for the Poor

- Lived in small apartments with no running water, toilets or kitchens
- Garbage and human waste tossed out the window
- Many fires in apartments because the apartments were made of wood
- The poor would receive wheat in order to survive.



The Colosseum



- The Colosseum was designed to provide entertainment for the poor
- This would prevent people from rioting or rebelling against the leaders
- The Colosseum events included: animals fighting animals or humans, humans fighting humans, mock navy battles, public executions
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/romans/launch_an_colosseum.shtml

Family Life

- Roman families were rewarded by the government for having many children
- Husband had absolute power over the family
- The wealthier a woman's husband was, the more freedom she had.





Slavery in Rome

- Almost all wealthy families have several slaves
- Even poor people might have a slave
- Household slaves were often treated better compared to slaves working on roads, mines etc.
- Some slaves were even able to buy their freedom. (saved wages or tips)

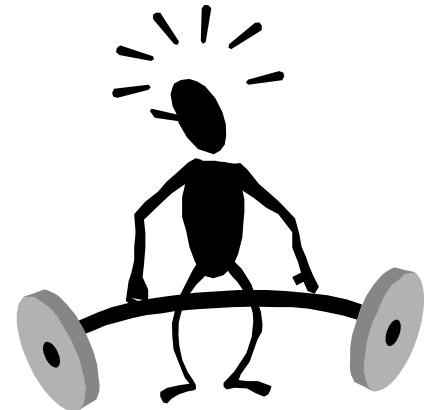
<http://rome.mrdonn.org/spartacus.html>

Christianity in Rome

- A new Religion called Christianity emerged
- Christianity was the religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ
- One of the many religions in the Empire
- Romans were tolerant of other religions, but the people had to show loyalty to the emperor and mythology
- During the beginning of the Roman Empire, the followers of Jesus were persecuted.
- As the religion grew, emperors felt intimidated by Christianity.
- Over time, Christianity continued to spread through the empire.

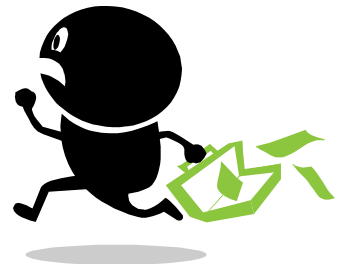
The Decline of the Roman Empire

- Weak Corrupt Rulers-
 - Stole money from the treasury to use for themselves (economy fell apart)
 - Senate lost power
 - Between 180 AD and 284 AD Rome had 29 emperors, most were murdered

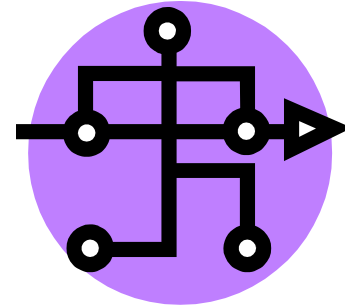


The Decline of the Roman Empire cont'd

- A Mercenary Army
 - Instead of having loyal citizens fight for Rome, the army was made up on mercenaries
 - Mercenaries were foreign soldiers paid to fight
- Economic Problems
 - Rome stopped expanding, so no new land or wealth was collected
 - Most of the money was used to pay the mercenaries
 - More coins were created which caused inflation



The Decline of the Roman Empire cont'd



- Size of the Empire
 - Rome had grown too big to be controlled from one place
 - Enemies of Rome began to attack it from all over

2 Emperors tried to save Rome

- Diocletian
 - Persecuted Christians
 - Tried to strengthen Rome's army
 - Improved system for collecting taxes
 - Divided the empire into 2 parts (Eastern and Western Rome) and appointed a co-emperor to rule over the other part



2 Emperors tried to save Rome

- Constantine
 - Converted to Christianity and allowed Christians to practice freely
 - This strengthened the Christian Church
 - Moved the capital of the Roman Empire from the city of Rome to the city of Byzantium
 - Byzantium was later renamed Constantinople in his honor



The Fall of Rome



- After Constantine's death invaders started to invade Roman territory
- Germanic tribes (who the Romans called barbarians) attacked the Western portion of the Roman Empire
- 476 AD marks the official fall of Rome, because the Germanic tribes officially took control of Rome
- However, the Eastern portion survived and became known as the Byzantine Empire

The Byzantine Empire

- Eastern portion of the former Roman Empire became the **Byzantine Empire**
- Justinian I- powerful Byzantine ruler; reigned from 527 to 565
 - He expanded the empire
 - Created the Justinian Code (a legal system that guided Byzantine Society)
 - Built impressive structures such as the Hagia Sophia Church





Constantinople

- Capital of the Byzantine Empire
- It's location made it the center of trade between Africa, Asia and Europe



Christianity Splits

- Byzantine Emperors and the Popes fought for control over the Christian Church
- Emperor Leo III banned the use of icons by Eastern Christians in 730
- Pope supported icons; so he excommunicated Leo III from the Church
- In 1054 a schism (split in the church) occurred
 - West- Roman Catholic- led by the pope
 - East- Eastern Orthodox Church- led by the patriarch

