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Ancient Rome Study Guide

How does Italy's location in the Mediterranean Sea benefit the Romans?

- -The Italian Peninsula is centrally located in the Mediterranean Sea.
- -Excellent position for Administration
- -Difficulty to invade (Surrounded by water West, South and East. Mountains to the North)

What was the 'struggle of the orders'? Identify the two groups involved and describe why each competed with one another.

- -Civil Strife (arguments) between the Plebeians (poor) and Patricians (wealthy, Aristocratic-land owners.)
- -Plebeians wanted more representation in the government.
- -Patricians made laws that benefitted them.

Who benefitted most from the development of the *12 Tables* and what impact did they have on the Roman Civilization?

- -12 Tables=Roman Law Code (i.e.-"Innocent till proven guilty", Evidence required to convict...)
- -Everyone, rich or poor, were made equal under these laws.
- -12 Tables were hung in the Forum so that everyone saw and practiced these laws.
- -Western Civilization adopt the basic concepts of Roman Law which is still practiced today.

Describe the role that citizens have in a Republic.

- -All Citizens are equal
- -Citizens must vote for elected officials in a Republic

Representatives elected by the Public

- For each of the following statements, identify the part of the Roman Republic that is being described.
 - This governing body controlled public funds and decided much of the foreign policy of the Roman Republic. It was the most powerful part of the Roman Republic because its members served life-terms. = Senate
 - These were the two chief executives of the Roman Republic. Their primary job was to control the military of Rome and they had the power to veto the decision of the other executive. They only served one year terms and could not be re-elected to this position for ten years after it ended. = <u>Consuls</u>
 - The main function of these people was to oversee the Roman legal system (act as judges). In times of war they could also aid in leading the Roman military. = **Censors**
 - This part of the Roman Republic was the most 'democratic'. Mainly they consisted of members from the plebeian class. As a group they could elect magistrates of the Roman Republic, including the Consuls. Sometimes they could vote to declare war or make peace. = <u>Assembly</u>

Who fought in the Punic Wars? What impacts did the conflict have on Rome? (describe 2)

Carthage Vs. Rome

Rome wins-Allows Rome to take over the entire Mediterranean Sea.

Rome will now control all the trade and land, power in the area.

Define the term 'western civilization'. What were the major contributions that Rome made to the foundation of Western Civilization?

Western Civilization is Greco-Roman concepts that are practiced by countries;

- -Government/Law
- -Classical Art
- -Education
- -Architecture

Gracchi Brothers: Tiberius and Gaius.

-Two brothers in the Senate that wanted to give public land to the poor. This was an effort to give common Plebeians a voice in government. The two brothers were assassinated which resulted in conflict between the classes. This divide led to the fall of the Republic and beginning of an emperor.

Explain the change that occurred in the Roman military that aided in the downfall of the Republic?

-Julius Caeasar's men becamed paid mercenaries. The Soldiers were awarded goods and land of countries they pillaged. The Roman Army's allegiance was given to the general. This meant that the army was not fighting for the Republic, but for the military leader.

Define the term '*Triumvirate*'. Identify the members of the Second Triumvirate and explain the effect that the breakup of this group had on Rome.

Three rulers

- a. a board of three officials jointly responsible for some task
- b. the political alliance of Caesar, Crassus, and Pompey, formed in 60 bc (First Triumvirate)
- c. the coalition and joint rule of the Roman Empire by Antony, Lepidus, and Octavian, begun in 43 bc (Second Triumvirate)

The 2nd Triumvirate was Octavian Augustus Caesar. He commissioned great works in architecture and engineering during the Pax Romana.

What is the *Pax Romana*? When did it begin? What positive changes occurred during this time period?

Pax Romana means "Roman Peace". There were 200 years of Pax Romana in which great inovations were created such as Aqueducts, the Coliseum, trade....

Describe four engineering achievements that the Romans developed/built. For each explain why it was important and/or the impact that it had on Rome.

Engineering Achievement	Importance/Impact				
	-Allowed large indoor open areas (i.e. Pantheon)				
Arch	-A strong design using a 'keystone' in the top to displace weight.				
Aicii	-Aqueducts, coliseum and other buildings use this method				
	-Western Civilization continues to use this method of building.				
	-Brought water to the cities for millions				
Aqueduct	-Water fountains, public baths, waste removal				
Aqueduct	-Allowed urban areas to thrive with a million people.				
	-"All roads lead to Rome"				
Roads	-Improved trade and military expansion				
Roads	-Construction was well built. They continue to exist today.				
	-Romans perfected Concrete using volcanic ash				
Cananata	-Used for all modern buildings				
Concrete	-could set concrete underwater				

Why were early Christians persecuted against in the Roman Empire?

-They were considered subversive to the polytheistic practice of worship. Christians were considered heretics and outlawed. They were crucified, fed to the lions and burned at stakes for their subservient practices.

Eventually, Christianity grew in popularity ... Explain why this happened.

-People began to see the dedications and willingness of self sacrifice for a religion. Also, Christianity was a Universal Religion; anyone (whether rich or poor, male or female) could practice.

What effect did the following Emperors have on Christianity in the Roman Empire?

■ Emperor Constantine: Had a vision before battle of drawing crosses on shields. He won the battle and attributed this to god's will. He converted to Christianity and made the religion an accepted religion in Rome (Edict of Milan).

Important People/Terms:

■ Edict of Milan-asserts Christianity is the adopted religion of Rome. Constantine is the emperor. Christians are no longer persecuted.

- Hannibal-Carthaginian General. Brought 40 elephants over the Alps and terrorized the Roman landscape for years. Roman leader Scipio sieged Carthage to end his campaign.
- Julius Caesar-Powerful general who gave land and rewards to his soldiers. He came back and elected himself dictator for life. He forgave people's debt which gained him the love of the populous (people). He was assassinated by senators ("Beware of the Ides of March")
- Octavian (Augustus Caesar)-first emperor. Commissioned great buildings to be developed.
- Jesus of Nazareth-Jewish carpenter, labeled himself as a messiah, Christianity begins after his death and resurrection.-Christianity spreads because of the interconnected road systems.
- Gladiators-former slaves, some are paid professionals. Sweat was obtained and sold at a high price (they believed it had powerful properties, trained full time.