# **Ancient Rome Unit Notes** (WHI.6)

### **Geography of Ancient Rome** (.6a)

#### Influence of geography on Roman economic, social, and political development

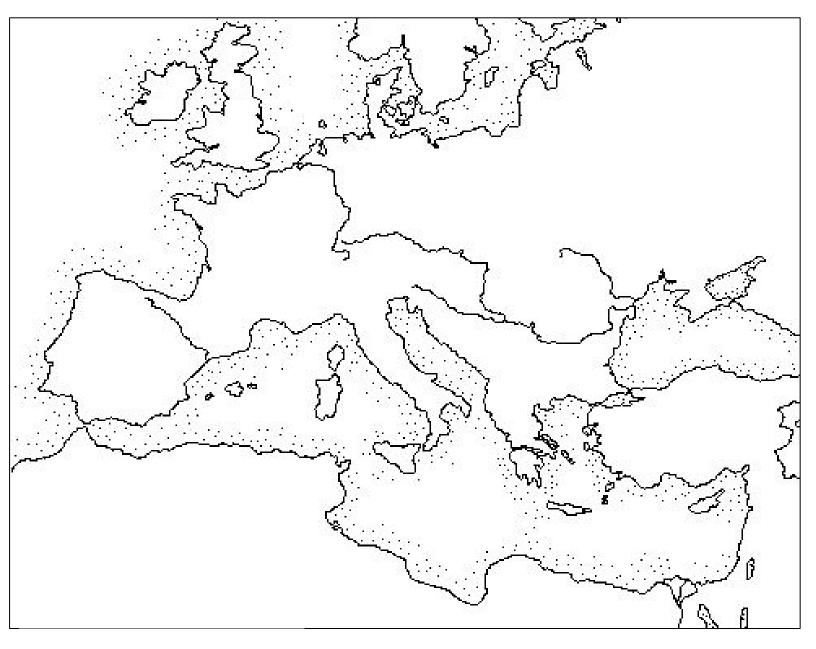
- The city of Rome, with its central location on the Italian peninsula, was able to extend its influence over the entire Mediterranean Basin.
- The Italian peninsula was protected by the sea and the arc of the Alps Mountains.

### **Locations and places**

- Rome: Centrally located in the Mediterranean Basin and distant from eastern Mediterranean powers
- Italian Peninsula
- Alps: Protection
- Mediterranean Sea: Protection, sea-borne commerce



## THE ROMAN WORLD



**Directions:** Locate and label the following geographic features on the map above.

- Italian Peninsula
- Alps Mountains
- Asia Minor
- Mediterranean Sea
- Black Sea
- Rome

- Carthage Gaul
- Britain
- Greece
- Egypt

### Roman Mythology and Religion - .6b

- Roman mythology, like Greek mythology, was based upon a polytheistic religion that was integral to culture, politics, and art.
- Many of Western civilization's symbols, metaphors, words, and idealized images come from ancient Roman mythology.

#### Roman mythology

- Based on the Greek polytheistic religion
- Explanations of natural phenomena, human qualities, and life events
- Symbols and images in literature, art, and architecture

#### Minerva Myths (Athena in Greek mythology)

As you read the myths, look for evidence of:

- natural phenomena:
- human qualities:
- life events:

Roman name	Powers, symbols	Greek name
Jupiter		
Juno		
Apollo		
Diana		
Minerva		
Venus		
Venus		

#### **Create a Product Advertisement:**

- Brainstorm a product named after a Roman god or goddess, like Ajax Cleanser or Venus razors...
- Draw an advertisement for the product that includes symbols and words that support why it is a good product based on the god or goddess' powers.

### Roman Republic - .6c

Although women, most aliens (non-Romans living in the Republic), and slaves were excluded from the governing process, the Roman Republic made major strides in the development of representative democracy, which became a foundation of modern democracy.

Social structure in the Roman Republic	DRAW
Patricians:	
<ul> <li>Powerful nobility, owned large estates</li> </ul>	
Few in number	
Plebeians:	
• Commoners, peasants, farmers,	
soldiers, merchants, craftsmen, etc.	
Majority of population	
Slaves: Not citizens	
<ul> <li>prisoners of war &amp; the indebted</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Not based on race</li> </ul>	

#### Citizenship

- Patrician and plebeian men
- Selected foreigners
- Rights and responsibilities of citizenship
  - o Taxes
  - Military service
  - o Government service
  - Jury duty

#### **Features of democracy**

- Representative democracy republic
- **Assemblies** all citizens meet, elect officials, make laws
- The Senate:
  - Other lawmaking body of Rome made up of officials who had served as judges, financial officers or in other gov't jobs
  - o Gave advice to the Consuls
  - Set foreign policy
- Consuls:
  - Two men who governed the city & had to agree on decisions.
  - o Elected or one year and then not allowed to serve again for 10 years
- Laws of Rome codified as Twelve Tables

#### The Twelve Tables

The Twelve Tables represent an early attempt by the Romans to form a system of civil law for their simple farming society. Historians have only found fragments of the tables, but these fragments provide much information about early Roman life and values. Many of the principles covered in the Twelve Tables remain important today. Others would be rejected in a democratic society. In this activity you will read and interpret the laws.

In writing the Twelve Tables, the early Romans were developing legal principles that would endure for centuries. Work with your partners to answer the questions below about your assigned section of the document. Be prepared to share with the whole class the main ideas or most important facts about your section.

main ideas or most important facts about your section.
1. How did Roman law safeguard the rights of individuals?
2. Which laws restricted the freedoms of individuals?
3. How did Roman law maintain order and provide security for the entire society?
4. How does this list of laws compare to those of our society today?
5. Which laws seem unfair or tyrannical? Explain why.
6. Why do you think many praised the Twelve Tables and preferred to live under this Roman legal code instead of under the laws of their native governments?

# Punic Wars (WHI.6d)

Roman military domination of the Mediterranean basin and Western Europe and the spread of Roman culture

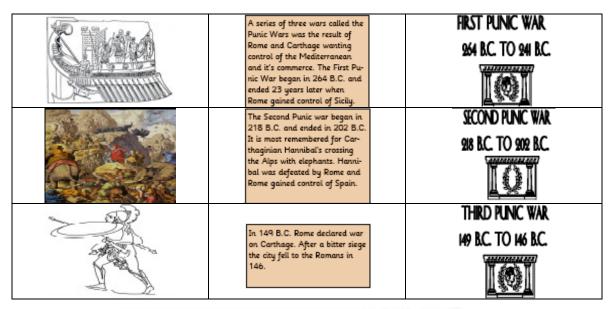
After the victory over Carthage in the Punic Wars, Rome was able, over the next 100 years, to dominate the Mediterranean basin, leading to the diffusion of Roman culture.

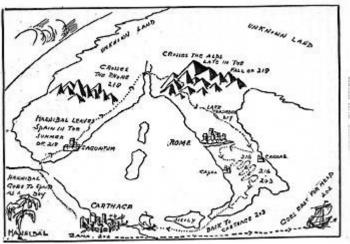
#### Punic Wars: Rome vs. Carthage - 264-146 b.c.e.

- Rome and Carthage (formerly known as Phoenicia) were in competition for trade.
- Hannibal invaded the Italian Peninsula he crossed the Alps in a surprise attack
- Three wars resulted in Roman victory, the destruction of Carthage, and expanded trade and wealth for Rome.

#### **Evolution of the Roman Empire and spread of Roman culture**

- Mediterranean basin (Africa, Asia, Europe, including the Hellenistic world of the Eastern Mediterranean)
- Western Europe (Gaul, British Isles)





# **Punic Wars News Story**

# Create the front page of a newspaper (10 point assignment). It must have the following components:

#### **Newspaper Title (1 point)**

Give your newspaper a title. It can be Roman-themed or Carthage-themes (depending on the perspective you will take). Place at the top of your newspaper page.

#### **Lead Story Headline (2 points)**

Create a headline for your ;ead story. Make sure it meets these guidelines:

- Tells the reader what the lead story is about (Summarizes)
- Creates interest in the lead story

#### **Lead Story Picture (3 points)**

Create a picture to go with your lead story. Make sure it meets these guidelines:

- Depicts a place or action scene related to your main story
- Historically Accurate! (Detailed if possible)
- · Creates interest in the lead story

### **Lead Story (4 points)**

Write a 2-3 paragraph news story (Journalistic style) that tells about the end of the

Punic Wars and the destruction of Carthage. Your story MUST meet these guidelines:

- Give background information explaining the Punic Wars
- Describe the event that brought about the end of the Punic Wars (can be from either Roman or Carthaginian perspective)
- Explain the effects/consequences of the Punic Wars
- Historically Accurate and Detailed!

#### Extra Credit: Short Biography of Hannibal (up to 2 points)

- at least 3-4 sentence summary of Hannibal and his importance to the Punic Wars
- Historically Accurate!

Name of Newspaper:

Headline:	
Picture:	Write Story Here:
Profiles of History: Hannibal	

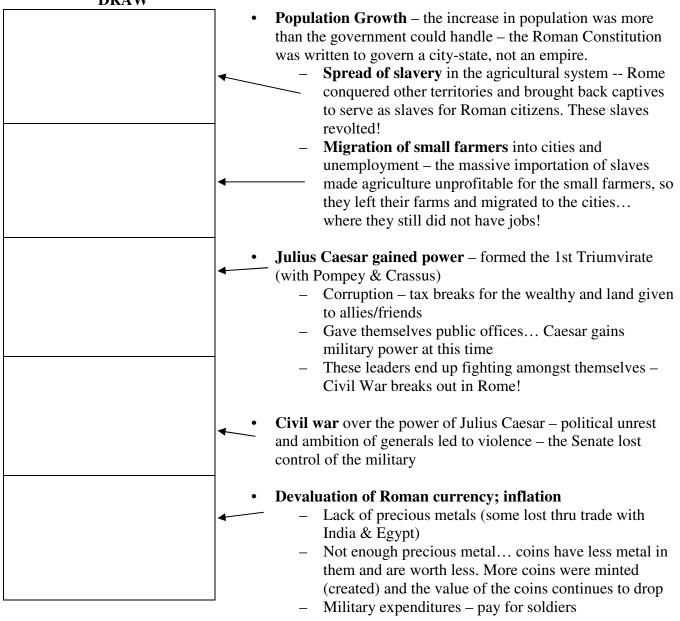
# Decline of the Republic (WHI.6e & f)

Impact of military conquests on the army, economy & social structure of Rome

# Roles of Julius and Augustus Caesar in the collapse of the Republic and rise of imperial monarchs

The Roman Republic, in the face of changing social and economic conditions, succumbed to civil war and was replaced by an imperial regime, the Roman Empire.

# Causes for the decline of the Roman Republic DRAW



#### **Problem Solving - Decline of the Roman Republic** (WHI,6e)

The Roman Republic faced changing social, political and economic conditions as they expanded. Rome suffered governmental problems that ultimately led to the end of the Republic. The Romans did attempt reforms but these were not successful. Your job today is to try to brainstorm reforms that might have saved the republic where the Romans failed.

### Causes for the decline of the Roman Republic

- Population Growth the increase in population was more than the government could handle the Roman Constitution was written to govern a city-state, not an empire
  - Spread of slavery in the agricultural system
  - o Migration of small farmers into cities and unemployment
- Civil war over the power of Julius Caesar political unrest and ambition of generals led to violence
- Devaluation of Roman currency; inflation

**Directions:** Imagine that you serve in the Senate. You and your colleagues see the problems facing the Republic. Before debate in the Senate, you must consider each problem and brainstorm solutions so that you are prepared to take part in discussions about how to prevent the Republic from crumbling.

#### Create a plan to save the Republic!

- 1. On your own paper, make a list of the problems
- 2. Discuss each problem with a partner. Each partner must write their own list and solutions.
- 3. Explain the problem (what it is, how it arose, why it arose).
- 4. After discussing the issue with your partner, write the solution you believe would be most effective for solving the problem.
- 5. Lastly, add a quick draw or sketch to illustrate the solution.



# Rise of the Empire (WHL6f)

#### The origin and evolution of Imperial Rome

The Roman Republic failed to survive challenges by Julius Caesar, so an imperial monarchy came to rule Rome.

- First triumvirate (60 B.C.E.) Caesar, Pompey & Crassus to rule jointly... but they don't cooperate well and...
- Julius Caesar: Seized power (48 B.C.E)... but
- Caesar was assassinated (44 B.C.E.)

#### Augustus Caesar Comes to Power

- Augustus Caesar: Civil war, defeat of Marc Anthony, Rome's first emperor
- Empire: Unified and enlarged, using imperial authority and the military
- Failure to provide for peaceful succession of Emperors

#### **Questions to Answer for this Lesson:**

- 1. Identify the members of the First Triumvirate.
- 2. How did Julius Caesar take power in Rome?
- 3. What were some of Caesar's reforms?
- 4. Why did Caesar's rivals feel they had to kill him?
- 5. Why was Augustus Caesar able to come to power?
- 6. Why was Augustus Caesar a successful leader/ruler?
- 7. How does Augustus' rise to power compare with that of Julius Caesar? What are the similarities?
- 8. Why were the Romans willing to sacrifice their Republican form of government and grant absolute power to one leader?

Julius Caesar and the End of the Roman Republic	of the Roman Republic	Name	
Story Board		Date	
Event:	Event:	Event:	
Notes:	Notes:	Notes:	
Event:	Event:	Event:	
Date:	Date:	Date:	
Notes:	Notes:	Notes:	

### Pax Romana (WHI.6f)

**Economic, social, and political impacts of the Pax Romana** (27 BCE to 180 CE)

- Augustus Caesar established the Roman Empire by instituting civil service, rule by law, a common coinage, and secure travel and trade throughout the Empire.
- Following Augustus Caesar, the Roman Empire enjoyed 200 years of peace and prosperity known as the Pax Romana.

#### The Pax Romana

- Two centuries of peace and prosperity under imperial rule
- Expansion and solidification of the Roman Empire, particularly in the Near East

#### **Economic impact of the Pax Romana**

- Established uniform system of money, which helped to expand trade
- Guaranteed safe travel and trade on Roman roads
- Promoted prosperity and stability

#### Social impact of the Pax Romana

- Returned stability to social classes
- Increased emphasis on the family

#### Political impact of the Pax Romana

- Created a civil service
- Developed a uniform rule of law

#### **Visit Rome! – Poster Project**

The *Pax Romana* was two centuries of peace and prosperity under imperial rule. Much economic, political and social progress was made.

#### **Directions:**

- Create a poster encouraging people to travel to Rome. Include images and persuasive language as to why Rome would be a great place to visit or live.
- Focus on the reasons why people should come to Rome based on the economic, political and social progress made during the *Pax Romana*.
- Include 3 economic impacts, 2 political impacts and 2 social impacts of the era to convince visitors to come to Rome.

## Roman Contributions (WHI.6j)

Roman contributions in art and architecture, technology and science, medicine, literature and history, language, religious institutions, and law

Conquests and trade spread Roman cultural and technological achievements throughout the Empire.

Western civilization was influenced by the cultural achievements of Rome.

#### **Contributions of ancient Rome**

**Art and architecture:** Pantheon, Coliseum, Forum **Technology**: Roads, aqueducts, Roman arches

**Science**: Achievements of Ptolemy

Medicine: Emphasis on public health (public baths, public water systems, medical

schools)

Language: Latin, Romance languages

Literature: Virgil's Aeneid

**Religion**: Roman mythology; adoption of Christianity as the imperial religion **Law**: The principle of "innocent until proven guilty" (from the Twelve Tables)

#### **Tour Guide Script for Rome**

- You will create the script for a walking tour of Rome. This would be used by tour guides in the city to share its history with visitors.
- Your tour guide script must include important Roman achievements that have influenced Western civilization such as art & architecture, technology, science, medicine, the Latin language, literature, religion and law.

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Research each Roman contribution by viewing the video and taking notes in the chart. As you take notes, consider what a visitor to Rome would want to know about each location toured.
  - a. Name of Location (for example, Roman Road or the Colloseum) you will also find these on the Tour map.
  - b. Achievement (for example, technology such as roads or architecture such as a building)
  - c. What it was used for or why it was created (for example, Roman roads were used to help the military and government keep the huge empire together since they enabled speedier travel and communication)
  - d. How this achievement impacted later Western civilization and the modern world.

### There's No Place Like Rome – Tour Guide's Script -- Roman Achievements that Influenced Western Civilization

Take notes from the video clips... remember you will be using these notes to write the script for the tour of Rome.

Contribution	Location	Achievement	Used for?	Impact?
Pantheon				
Colosseum				
Forum				
Torum				
Roads				
Roaus				
Aqueducts				

Contribution	Location	Achievement	Used for?	Impact?
Arches				
Ptolemy				
Public Baths				
T done Datiis				
Public Water Systems				
Medicine/Medical				
Schools				
Latin (Romance				
Languages)				

Contribution	Location	Achievement	Used for?	Impact?
Virgil's Aeneid				
Mythology				
Christianity				
·				
Law (12 Tables)				
1				

# Fall of Rome (WHI.6k)

### Reasons for the decline and fall of the Western Roman Empire

Over a 300 year period, the western part of the Roman Empire steadily declined because of internal and external problems.

### Causes for the decline of the Western Roman Empire

Directions: Based on the slides and videos, create a symbol for each cause of the fall of Rome

Cause	Draw
Geographic size:	
Difficulty of defense and administration	
-	
Economy:	
The cost of defense, and devaluation of	
Roman currency	
Military:	
Army membership started to include non-	
Romans, resulting in decline of discipline	
Moral decay:	
People's loss of faith in Rome and the	
family	
Political problems:	
Civil conflict and weak administration	
Invasion:	
Attacks on borders by barbarians	

### **Division of the Roman Empire**

- Move of the capital by Constantine from Rome to Byzantium, renaming it Constantinople
- Survival of the Western Roman Empire until 476 C.E., when it ceased to have a Roman Emperor
- Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine Empire)



Ancient Rome Timeline (WHI.6)
700 BCE
509 BCE
450 BCE
264 – 146 BCE
60 BCE
48 BCE
44BCE
31 BCE
27 BCE
23 BCE
0

476 CE