

Ancient Rome Study Guide

Directions: Study the below information and concepts in order to be prepared for class and assessments.

Map: be able to label Europe, Africa, Egypt, Rome, Greece, Tiber River, Turkey, Carthage, Gaul, Constantinople



Vocabulary

Civilization: group of people living together in a well-organized way (have language, leaders, laws, religion, jobs, writing systems, education etc.)

AD: Anno Domini which on the bases of religions mean in the year of the Lord and describes timer after Jesus was born

BC/BCE: Before Christ was born or Before Common Era

Artifacts: man-made objects, such as tools or ornamental decorations that show how a group of people lived and developed their way of life (an archeologist is a person who finds and studies these artifacts)

Ruins: remains of a structure or an old civilization; a destroyed town or city

Culture: characteristics that make up a group of people; a way of life

Roman Republic: form of government where citizens of Rome could vote; came after the overthrow of the Etruscan kings

Consuls: two Roman government officials that were elected every year by the Senate to act as leaders of the government, with authority to choose whether new laws should pass, whether Rome should go to war

Patricians: Rome's elite, a small group of wealthy, powerful people who owned large homes and had the right to vote and had special protections and privileges under the law.

Plebeians: second-class citizens who did not have all the rights and privileges as patricians but who made up the largest number of Roman citizens. They could vote, but were subject to a different set of laws. They were farmers, fishermen, shopkeepers and traders.

Slaves: not citizens and cannot vote; belonged to their owners so they did not have freedom unless they were given their freedom from their owner; as Romans fought wars they took the people they conquered as slaves when they won wars or land.

Punic Wars: series of wars that lasted for more than one hundred years between the Romans and the Carthaginians who were from an area of North Africa called Carthage.

Empire: a group of countries or regions ruled by one ruler or one government; a large area controlled by one emperor

Pax Romana: Two-hundred-year period of Roman peace.

Legend: story about a person or an event from the past that is believed by many people to be true in part or in whole, but cannot be proven to be absolutely true (ex. Romulus and Remus)

Architectural: related to the art of designing buildings and other structures: describes the style in which buildings and other structures are designed

- **Arches:** curved structures made of stone, brick, or wooden wedges that are constructed over an opening and act as a support for walls or other weights above the opening
- **Colosseum:** sports stadium for Romans to watch gladiators fight each other and animals to the death
- **Circus Maximus:** where chariot races, acrobatics, jugglers, and other entertainment took place
- **Aqueduct:** a raised canal, pipe, or channel that carries water to different places



People

Romulus: brother to Remus whom he killed and is a part of the legend that tells about the creation of Rome and is why Rome is named Rome

Remus: brother to Romulus who killed him and is part of the legend that tells about the creation of Rome

Julius Caesar: skilled general; earned the Civic Crown for his bravery as a soldier; he became one of the two consuls; proconsul (governor) of many provinces in Northern Italy; Caesar conquered many lands and became dictator of Rome and was later assassinated by Brutus.

Cleopatra: Queen of Egypt that formed an alliance with Julius Caesar and Rome after he killed her brother Ptolemy to help her gain power; she shipped much-needed wheat to Rome; later worked with Marc Antony to control Rome and Egypt until defeated by Augustus

Augustus Caesar: Julius Caesar's adopted son also known as Octavian who worked with Marc Antony (who would later become his enemy) to bring Rome back together; became popular Roman Emperor who expanded Rome

Jesus: known as a teacher in his lifetime; told parables, which are stories with important lessons about life and about God

Constantine the Great: the first Christian Roman emperor who made laws ending the persecution of Christians (Constantinople was named after him)

Justinian: a Byzantine emperor who ruled during a time that the empire of Rome was split. He controlled the eastern half and then marched to reconquer the western half. He wrote the Justinian Code, which is a body of Roman laws

Concepts to Understand:

- Contributions of Ancient Rome (architecture, art, government, aqueducts, religion, roads etc.)
- Describe everyday life in Rome (patricians, plebeians, slaves)
- The causes of the decline of Rome (leaders became greedy, real problems were ignored, Roman army replaced with mercenaries who were not loyal soldiers, children barely knew of the history of Rome and its power, and the rise of Christianity).

Grammar:

Practice ABC order

Verb Tenses:

- **Present tense:** a verb tells what the subject is doing right now (cry, crying)
 - Verb “to be”- am, are, is
 - Verb “to have” – have, has
- **Past tense:** a verb tells what the subject did already (cried)
 - Verb “to be” – was, were
 - Verb “to have”- had
- **Future tense:** a verb tells what the subject will do later (will cry)
- **Irregular Verbs:** say, make, go, take, come

Suffixes: word part added to the end of the root word (already learned: -ed, -ing, -s, -es)

- **-er/-or:** a person who (actor, player)
- **-ist:** a person who plays or makes (pianist, artist)
- **-ian:** a person who is skilled in (comedian, magician)
- **-y:** full of (rusty, full of rust)
- **-al:** related to (musical, related to music)

Quotation Marks: punctuation marks used to show exactly what a person says or has said (Jim said, “My favorite color is blue.”)