

Ancient Rome Exam Review Sheet

Please be comfortable in your understanding of the following: (Test Next Week!!!)

Terms to Know:

Apostles	Diaspora	Jesus	<i>Circus Maximus</i>
Republic	First Triumvirate	Caligula and Nero	Julius Caesar
Patrician & Plebian	Cleopatra & Marc Antony	Aqueduct	Augustus
Gladiators	Romulus & Remus	Hannibal & Scipio	Carthage
Consul	Tiberius and Gaius	Theodosius	Attila the Hun
Earth	Twelve Tables	Christianity	Peter
Etruscans	Second Triumvirate	Edict of Milan	Legions
<i>Pax Romana</i>	<i>The Colosseum</i>	Mercenaries	Diocletian
Inflation	Punic Wars	Pontius Pilate	Constantine

Concepts to Know:

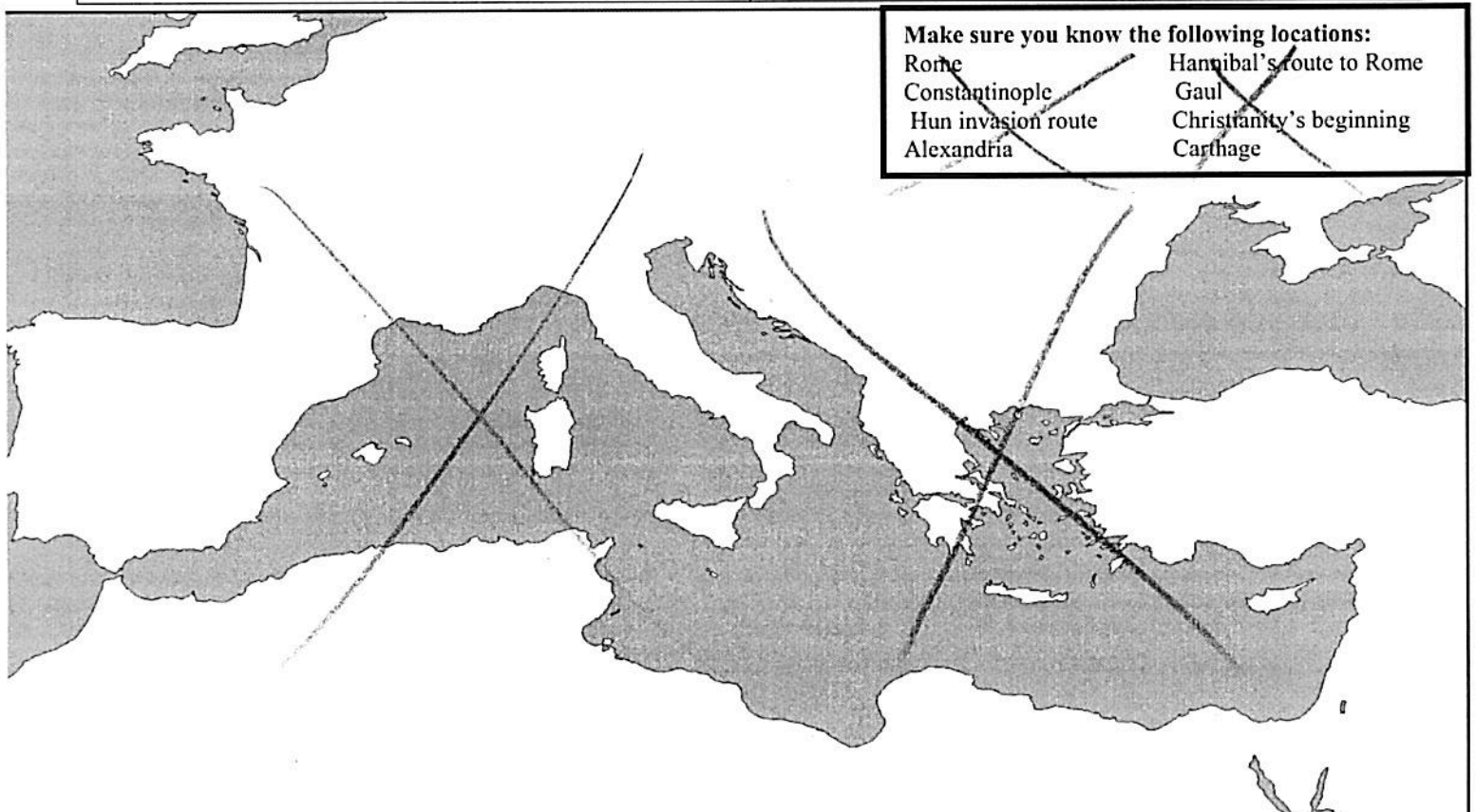
1. Why was the geography important to the formation of Rome?
2. Name the three main parts of government under the Roman Republic. Explain?
3. How did Rome get so big? What was the affect on Rome of conquering foreign lands?
4. Explain the Punic Wars.
1st_
2nd_
3rd_
5. How did Julius Caesar take power in Rome? What were some of Caesar's reforms?
6. Why did Caesar's rivals feel they had to kill him?

7. Explain Augustus' rise to power. Was he a good or bad emperor of Rome? Explain.
8. Why do you think the Roman leaders saw Christianity as a threat to the empire?
9. What factors enabled Christianity to spread so quickly throughout the Roman Empire? What was its "appeal?"
10. What role did Paul & the Apostles play in expanding Christianity?

How did Christianity become the official religion of the Roman Empire?

11. What were some of the causes of the weakening of the Roman economy in the 3rd Century C.E.?
12. Why did the Roman government begin recruiting foreign mercenaries in the 3rd Century?
13. Why was loyalty to Rome and the pride of its citizens in the Empire declining by the 3rd Century?
14. How did the Emperor Diocletian attempt to reform Rome? How successful was he?
15. How did the Germanic Invaders and the Huns impact Rome?

Roman contributions to western Civilization	Description
Sculptures	
Art	
Literature	
Language	
Architecture and Engineering	
Law	



THE ROMAN REPUBLIC

In 600 B.C.E. Rome was just one of many small city-states in Italy under the control of the Etruscan monarchy. But, by 133 B.C.E. the city-state had gained control of all Italy and had conquered foreign lands as well. Roman armies won victories in Spain, Gaul (today's France), Greece, Macedonia, Asia Minor, and North Africa.

There were several reasons for the success of the Romans. First, Rome was located in the center of the Mediterranean world. This made it easy for its army and navy to mobilize quickly in any direction. Secondly, soldiers were courageous and well-trained, and battles were carefully planned ahead of time by able generals. Thirdly, the Romans had strong diplomatic skills that allowed them to make friends of their defeated enemies. Eventually, most conquered people accepted Roman rule and the peace and prosperity that it brought.

After the overthrow of the Etruscans in 509 B.C.E., the Roman aristocrats, called *patricians*, established a *republic* (thing of the people). Most of Rome's citizens, however, were *plebeians*. Both groups had rights and responsibilities such as voting, paying taxes, and serving in the military, but the plebeians were not allowed to hold public office. The government was organized into two branches - an executive branch and a *bicameral* legislature, comprised of the *Assembly of Centuries* and the *Senate*. Members of the Assembly elected the *consuls* of the executive branch, voted on proposed laws, and declared war and approved treaties. The Senators served for life, advised the consuls, debated foreign policies, proposed laws, and approved contracts for constructing roads, temples, and defenses. The consuls served for one-year terms, had the power to *veto* ("I forbid) one another, and oversaw the activities of judges and censors (tax/population records keepers). Only a *dictator*, who was chosen by the legislature, could overrule the consuls.

1. Instead of having a king, the Romans preferred having these at the head of their government.
2. A republic is a *thing of the people*. How do people participate in this type of government? Give two examples of modern-day republics.
3. What does bicameral mean? Is the American legislature bicameral?
4. Aristocrats controlled the government of the early republic. What is an aristocrat? What were they called in Roman times?
5. Who were the majority of Roman citizens?

6. Which government body controlled the spending of money?
7. Which government body decided whether or not Rome should go to war?
8. Which two government bodies had a part in making laws?
9. Which government body do you believe was most powerful and why?
10. Under what circumstances do you think a dictator may have been chosen and why?

The plebeians were eventually resentful of their lack of political power. The plebeians represented all social classes in the republic, including wealthy townspeople, business owners, merchants, shopkeepers, small farmers and laborers, however they were denied access to public office. They clearly represented the majority of the population and believed they should have the power to serve in the government. Finally, in 494 B.C.E. the plebeians refused to fight in the Roman army unless the patricians yielded to their demands for change. The patricians agreed and acknowledged the power of the *tribunes* (the plebeian elected officials) by granting them legal protections and the right to veto government decisions. The Assembly of Tribes became the government body to elect the tribunes and they eventually won the right to make laws. The plebeians also helped bring an end to debt slavery, but their most significant political contribution was the creation of a written code of laws. In 451 B.C.E. the patricians engraved laws on 12 bronze tablets and set them in the forum (city center) for all to see. The Twelve Tables set the precedent that all free citizens had the right to the law's protection. The principles included in these Roman laws greatly influenced the development of modern laws in the western world.

1. If you were a patrician would you have granted the plebeians extended participation in the government? Why or why not?
2. Why are written laws so important?
3. Why were the bronze tablets placed in the forum?