

Ancient Rome

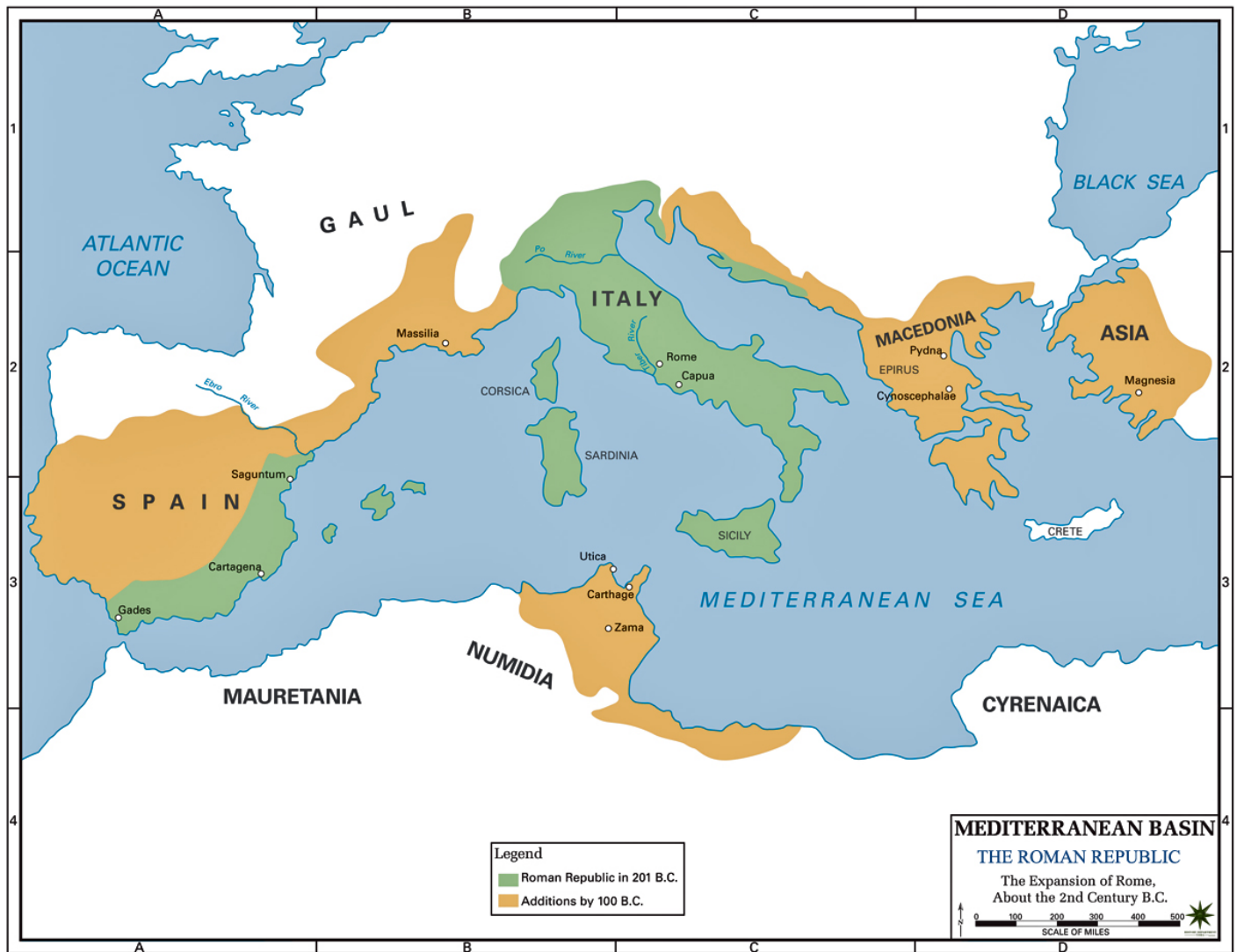
The Roman Republic

Rome

The story of the founding of Rome is told through the myth of Romulus and Remus. Romulus and Remus were the sons of the god Mars and an Italian princess Rhea Silvia. Silvia's husband Amulius was king and feared that the two boys would grow up and remove him from power. He ordered the boys thrown into the Tiber River. The boys were found by a she-wolf who nursed and raised them until a local farmer found them and raised them as his son. When the boys reached adulthood they attacked Amulius and removed him from power placing their grandfather on the throne. Romulus and Remus then returned to the place where the she-wolf had found them and established their own city. They fought, however, after starting construction on the new city and Romulus killed Remus. Romulus completed the new city by himself and named it Roma or Rome after himself. Romulus ruled this new city until he was lost in a storm and disappeared. He returned years later as a god and proclaimed that it was heaven's will that Rome would be capital of the world.

The story is a myth and there is no evidence that any part of it is true. It was probably drawn from Greek myths. The story is important, however, for what it offers regarding how Romans viewed themselves and their world. By 27 B.C., Rome had become capital of the world - at least, of the world known to the people of Italy. Rome's navy controlled the entire Mediterranean Sea and its armies exacted taxes and tributes from Africa, Asia, and Europe. This presentation will trace Rome's development from its origin as a small village to the development of a rich republic with an effective government and outstanding system of laws. The end of this period saw civil war and the transition to rule by a single man.

Please watch this video to learn more about the importance of Rome. Please use this video to answer the questions in the activity sheet. The video runs about 2 minutes.



Map of the Roman Republic by 200 B.C.

Geography and the Roman Republic

The map above shows the Roman Republic around 200 B.C. The Roman Republic at that time covered all of the Italian Peninsula, the islands of Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, and the coast of Spain and the Balkans. Geography was important to Rome's success. The city of Rome and its environs is located in the center of the Italian Peninsula between the Alps to the North and Sicily to the South. The Italian Peninsula is situated in the center of the Mediterranean Sea. This location allowed Rome to reach all parts of the Mediterranean Sea sending armies and its navy in all directions. It also developed as a central point through which all trade north, south, east and west flowed through the city to other locations.

Italy's land is mountainous but not as rugged and limiting as that of Greece. The Alps to the north provided some security but also had passes through which invaders, traders, and migrating groups could reach the peninsula. A lower mountain range, the Apennines [AP-uh-nynz], runs down the center of the Italian peninsula. The western side of the Apennines was rolling, wooded, and fertile.

Three groups influence the Italian Peninsula

Three groups lived on the Italian Peninsula after the year 1000 B.C. These groups were the Latins, Greeks, and Etruscans. The Latins were the first Romans who settled on either side of the Tiber River around 1000 B.C. They built the original settlement of Rome on the Palatine Hill, which consisted of a cluster of wooden huts. They called the region Latium and were farmers and shepherds. These early Romans dressed in simple homespun clothing and made or grew most of what they needed. They traded only a few items outside of their region and maintained little contact with the outside world.

The Greeks arrived on the Italian Peninsula between 750 and 600 B.C. and established about 50 colonies on the southern coast and the island of Sicily. This region became known as Greater Greece and greatly influenced the culture of the Roman or Latin people. The Greeks taught the Romans to grow olives and grapes.

The Etruscans arrived in northern Italy between 1200 and 800 B.C. and were skilled metal workers and engineers. It is believed that they migrated from Asia Minor. The Etruscans were more advanced than their Latin neighbors and had developed an alphabet and system of writing that was largely based on the Greek system. The Etruscans also developed several key architectural advancements. The most important of which was the arch. The Latins adopted both the Etruscan alphabet and the arch as Etruscans migrated to Rome.

This short video presents a brief overview of the founding of Rome. Please use this 2 minute clip to answer the appropriate question in the activity document.

Roman Religion

In addition to writing and architectural influences, the Romans' religion was also influenced by the Etruscans and Greeks. Like the Greeks, the Romans were polytheistic. Unlike the Greeks, however, the early Romans did not name their gods or provide them with human characteristics. Instead, they were spirits linked with daily cares such as guarding children's food, protecting homes, and keeping grain supplies safe. From the Etruscans, the Romans learned the practice of interpreting natural signs to determine the will of their gods. They believed in good omens like seeing an eagle soar overhead before a battle or slaughtering animals and reading their internal organs.

Eventually Romans gave their own names to Greek gods that were introduced slowly to their culture through trade. They kept the legends and personalities of the Greek divinities. The almighty Greek god Zeus became Jupiter and Hera became Juno. The major Roman gods are listed below:

Jupiter	King of the Gods. His Greek name was Zeus. The eagle was his messenger and his weapon was the Thunderbolt (thunder and lightning).	
Juno	Wife of Jupiter and queen of the gods. Her Greek name was Hera. She was the goddess of women and marriage. She was also seen as the protector of the Roman state. Her bird was the peacock.	
Apollo	Apollo was the god of the sun and music. His name was the same in Greece. Each day he drove his chariot of fiery horses across the sky to give light to the world.	

		
Diana	Diana was the goddess of the moon, hunting and childbirth. Her twin brother Apollo was the god of the sun. Diana carried a bow and arrows. Her Greek name was Artemis	
Minerva	Minerva was the goddess of wisdom, learning, the arts, sciences, medicine, dyeing, trade, and of war. Her symbol was the owl. Her Greek name was Athena.	
Venus	Originally a Goddess of Gardens and Vinyards, Venus became the major deity of love and beauty after the influx of Greek deities. Her Greek name was Aphrodite	

Images taken from Wikimedia Commons

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Early Roman Society

The character of Roman citizens was influenced by a group of values known as "the way of the fathers." These values stressed discipline, loyalty, and strength. A person was considered to possess "gravitas" if they possessed these qualities. One could find examples of these principles or values represented throughout Roman society from its government to its art.

By custom and law, power to rule the early Roman household belonged exclusively to one person - the eldest man, who was known as the pater familias [PAY-tur fuh-MIHL-yuhs] or the father of the family. The eldest male had complete power over his family. He controlled all property, could sell a family member in slavery or kill any member without penalty. The chief responsibility was to protect the family and speak on their behalf at public and religious ceremonies.

Roman women were in charge of running the daily household. They possessed greater freedom than women in Athens. Women in Rome were citizens, could own property, testify in court and advise their husband on politics and business. The expectation for women, however, was that they remain in the background and assume to no major public role.

Roman Social Classes

Roman society was divided into two classes: patricians [puh-TRIH-shuhns] and plebeians [plih-BEE-uhnz]. Patricians dominated Roman politics and claimed that their ancestors had been the fathers of Rome. They believed that this heritage gave them the authority to make laws for Rome. Plebeians were the common farmers, artisans, and merchants of Rome. They were free citizens with a number of rights, including the right to vote. They possessed far less power than the patricians. Birth determined your social class and there was a very rigid line between these classes. Marriage, friendships and generally social relationships were often restricted.



Ancient Roman art depicting the Patrician class taken from Wikimedia Commons

Early Roman Government

Between 600 and 509 B.C. Rome was ruled by Etruscan kings. During this period, Rome changed from a collection of hilltop villages into a city. These early kings built Rome's first temples and public roads. They drained the swampy valley known as the Forum [FAWR-uhm] making a public meeting place, which became the heart of Roman public life like the agora in Greek city-states. In 509 B.C. the last Roman king, Tarquin the Proud, was driven from power. He had ruled as a harsh tyrant and the wealthy aristocratic landowners resented his policies and had overthrown him. The aristocracy declared that there would never be another Roman king and that they would kill anyone who attempted to make himself king.

After the overthrow of the monarchy, Rome set up a republic. The word republic comes from a Latin phrase, *res publica*, which simply means "public affairs." For the Romans, a republic was not a democracy, because the right to vote and other political rights were not shared by all citizens. Power in the Roman Republic was contested by various social groups who often resorted to violence to control the state. (More on social groups below.) In Rome, citizenship with voting rights was granted only to free-born male citizens. Roman citizens had two key responsibilities: paying taxes and serving in the military.



The Roman Forum today taken from Wikimedia Commons

The Roman Republic

For 500 years, the Romans governed their city and surrounding farmland as a republic. The Republic can be divided into two distinct periods. The first focused on the conquest of the Italian Peninsula and a battle between Patricians and Plebeians, and the second was marked by civil war that eventually led to a new type of leader, Julius Caesar.

The history of the Roman Republic was that of bitter struggle between the patrician senate and the plebeians who made up a majority of the population. After the Romans drove out their kings in 509 B.C., patricians controlled Rome's government. Plebeians were barred by law from holding most important positions in government. Only patricians could command the armies, serve as high priests, or hold the highest political offices. As the years passed, however, plebeians won a greater share of political power. When the plebeians wanted greater power they would simply walk out of the city and sit on an adjacent hill refusing to serve in the army or assist the government in any way. The patricians were forced to grant their demands time and time again. The plebeians gained more rights and equality and eventually access to government offices.

The Twelve Tables

Among the first victories of the plebeians was the creation of a legal code called the Twelve Tables. Roman law had traditionally been communicated orally and interpreted by the patricians. The patricians often interpreted the laws to suit themselves. Plebeians demanded that the laws be written down on 12 stone tablets and displayed in the forum. These tablets became the foundation for Roman law and provided the plebeians with the protection of Roman law, which helped settle the debate between the patricians and plebeians.



Romans review the Twelve Tables on display in the Forum, taken from <http://www.sbceo.k12.ca.us/~vms/carlton/Rome/12tables.jpg>

Political Structure of the Roman Republic

The Consul

The Twelve Tables helped establish an environment where Romans could develop what they called a balanced government. By 275 B.C. Rome had developed a government that was in part ruled by a king, nobility, and the people generally or a democracy. The king or executive branch was called the consul. The consuls commanded the army and directed the government. They had the power of life and death over citizens in times of peace and war. The consul's power was not unlimited. They served only for one year and could only serve once every ten years. Further, one consul could veto the actions of the other.

The Senate

The senate was the noble or aristocratic branch of government. Membership was for life and originally limited to just the aristocracy. The number of senators increased over time and eventually some plebeians were allowed to become members. They debated and passed laws concerning both foreign and domestic policy.

The Assembly

The democratic side of Roman government was the assembly. All citizen soldiers were members of this branch of government. When created the assembly had very little power. Its authority increased over time and its decisions eventually had the force of law.

The Office of Dictator

In times of crisis, the republic could turn to another type of political leadership, the dictator. A man who was named dictator had absolute power to make laws and command the army, but his power lasted for only six months. Dictators were chosen by the consuls and then elected by the senate. The Roman ideal of a dictator is shown by the story of Cincinnatus [sin-sih-NAY-tus]. In 458 B.C., when Rome's armies were in peril, the senate named Cincinnatus dictator. Cincinnatus was plowing his four-acre farm when messengers brought him the news. He left his plow, defeated Rome's enemies, and stepped down as dictator within 15 days. Then he returned to his farm to finish his plowing.



An image of Cincinnatus taken from Wikimedia Commons

The Roman Military

The constant threat of war forced both patrician and plebeian men in Rome to lead double lives as farmers and soldiers. All male citizens were required to serve in the army, and no one could hold public office until he had first served ten years as a soldier. Learning to fight Roman-style meant being part of a massive military unit called a legion. The Roman legion was made up of 4,000 to 6,000 heavily armed foot soldiers (infantry). A group of soldiers on horseback (cavalry) cooperated with each legion. Every legion was divided into 60 smaller groups, each of which was known as a century.

In battle, the Roman legion proved superior to the Greek phalanx because the legion was more flexible. The wall-like phalanx could move more effectively in only two directions - forward and backward. But each century in a legion could move independently. Under a skillful general, a Roman legion could surround and outflank its foes. The legions were the fighting force that spread Rome's power around the Mediterranean.



Image of a Roman Legion in combat taken from http://www.science.mod.uk/Engagement/Grand_Challenge/images/mindsheet_01.jpg

The Roman Conquest of Italy

City by city, the Romans defeated other Latin groups and the Etruscans. Roman power grew slowly but steadily until it met another power that dealt Rome its first defeat. In 390 B.C., Rome's walls were successfully stormed by marauding Gauls (gawlz), a people from the Po River valley, north of the Apennines. The Gauls sacked Rome, leaving it in ruins. Then, the Romans were forced to pay a humiliating bribe to persuade the Gauls to leave.

The Romans recovered rapidly and built a stronger, larger wall around their city. The reconstructed Rome spanned 1,000 acres, making it the largest city in Italy. Foreign troops would not sack the city again for 800 years. Eventually Rome controlled the entire boot of the Italian Peninsula, which had been traditionally colonized by the Greeks.

War with Greece

The Greeks watched the rise of Roman power with great alarm. In 282 B.C., Greek colonists were directly threatened by the Romans and sought the assistance of the Greek King Pyrrhus [PIHR-uhs] who controlled a portion of western Greece. A brilliant general, Pyrrhus brought 20,000 soldiers to fight the Romans. He defeated the Roman forces twice and drove them from the field. These victories cost him greatly and his forces were weakened. The Romans quickly regrouped and attacked Pyrrhus a final time and were victorious. Since Pyrrhus's defeat, a victory gained at too high a price is called a "Pyrrhic victory."

This victory over the Greeks made the Romans the masters of all of Italy except for the Po Valley in the North. This region remained under the control of the Gauls. The Romans quickly developed a three-tiered system to administer their growing empire. First, their Latin neighbors along the Tiber were treated as full and equal citizens of Rome. They could marry other Romans, vote in assemblies, and appeal for justice in a Roman court. Second, territories immediately adjacent to Roman territory were given half citizenship, which meant that they could not vote and participate in Roman government but were considered a part of Roman society. Finally, conquered people distant from Rome were required to provide troops for the Roman army, forbidden from making treaties with any other power, but allowed to govern themselves without any Roman interference.

Unlike the Athenians, the Romans were willing to extend their citizenship to people outside of Rome. This made these newly acquired territories allies and partners in the growth of Rome's empire. This allowed the Romans to build a long-lasting empire. With most of Italy under their control, Rome was ready to extend its influence far beyond Italy and its immediate neighbors.



Image of Pyrrhus taken from Wikimedia Commons

Rome and Carthage: The First Punic War

After the decline of the Greeks, Rome had two competing city-states to contend with in the Mediterranean region. One was Alexandria in Egypt, still ruled by the Ptolemies. The other city was Carthage, the former Phoenician colony. Like Rome, Carthage had the geographic advantage of being located in the center of the Mediterranean region.

In 264 B.C., Rome and Carthage went to war for control of the island of Sicily and the western Mediterranean. Thus began the first of three periods of war known as the Punic [Pyoo-nik] Wars. Punic comes from the Latin word for Phoenicia. To better understand the conflict between these powers, we need a better understanding of their ability to fight these wars.

With a population of 250,000, Carthage was about three times the size of Rome. The city had a huge navy of 500 ships. Overseas trade had made Carthage an immensely wealthy city. Each year, it collected the equivalent of almost 1 million pounds of gold in tariffs and tribute. With this great wealth, Carthage employed the people of neighboring Numidia as mercenaries.

Rome's resources in ships and wealth seemed meager when compared to Carthage. At the beginning of the Punic Wars, Rome had no navy whatsoever. It had always relied on its armies. Despite these disadvantages, Rome did possess some important strengths. Rome had an army, including reserves, of about 500,000. All of these troops were loyal to Rome unlike Carthage's mercenaries who were there only for the money. Rome's army was also better trained for combat. Rome had spent a century conquering territory where Carthage had limited its military operations to protecting its trade routes.

The first Punic War lasted about 23 years and was primarily a naval war. The Romans copied the Carthaginian naval vessels and quickly developed a powerful fleet that proved very effective. Rome defeated Carthage's last ships in 241 B.C. and conquered Sicily, which brought an end to the first Punic Wars.

Please watch this short video clip on the First Punic War and use it to answer the questions in the presentation activity. This clip runs about 3 minutes.

Hannibal's Revenge: The Second Punic War

In 218 B.C., the peace between Rome and Carthage ended when the Carthaginian leader Hannibal assembled an army of 50,000 infantry, 9,000 cavalry, and 60 elephants to capture the city of Rome. He led his army on a long trek from Spain across France and up into the dizzying heights of the Alps. Desertions, battles with Gallic tribes, and blizzards in the mountains killed more than half his army and most of his elephants. Rome sent three armies against Hannibal but all were defeated.

For the next 13 years, Hannibal marched his armies at will up and down the Italian peninsula. The Romans did not dare to challenge Hannibal in open battle. Hannibal's soldiers lived off of the land, seizing crops and cattle, pillaging farmhouses. They were never able to capture Rome itself. Its walls were too high and their own forces too small even to make an attempt. For years, Hannibal waited for Carthage to send him reinforcements. He also waited for Rome's allies to turn against them and join his forces. Neither occurred and Hannibal would be forced to return home when the Roman general launched an invasion of Carthage.

The two armies met again at the Battle of Zama. The great general Hannibal was soundly defeated in this contest. Hannibal survived and retreated to Carthage where he ruled for 7 years. Rome would eventually capture Carthage and Hannibal killed himself to avoid capture by the Romans. The capture of Carthage ended the Second Punic War. Rome became the greatest empire in the world. Roman law, government, and culture became the foundation for western civilization. Carthage was allowed to keep its territory in North Africa but was brought under Roman control.

After Carthage's defeat, Rome turned to the east and captured Greece and the territories controlled by the descendants of Alexander the Great. The Greeks resisted but were crushed. The city of Corinth was made an example. Its people were massacred and enslaved and the city burned to the ground.

Please watch this short video clip on the Hannibal's Revenge and use it to answer the questions in the presentation activity. This clip runs about 3 minutes.

Please watch this short video clip on the Battle of Zama and use it to answer the questions in the presentation activity. This clip runs about 3 minutes.

Carthage Destroyed: The Third Punic War

Many in Rome continued to resent the economic power and trade of Carthage. The great Roman senator Cato demanded that Carthage be destroyed and Roman armies invaded and laid siege to Carthage in 146 B.C. The Carthaginians barricaded themselves in their city and held out for three years. The Romans eventually broke into the city and set it a blaze.

The Roman general wept as the great city burned. He believed that the campaign was pointless as Carthage was not a threat. He reflected on the future when he said "I am seized with foreboding that someday the same fate will befall my own country." He was right, but Rome's downfall did not come for another 566 years. With Carthage's defeat, the Romans controlled all of the western Mediterranean and Europe into Asia Minor. Rome would pay a very high price for this conquest. It would lose its Republican government.

Please watch this short video clip on the Final Punic War and use it to answer the questions in the presentation activity. This clip runs about 3 minute.

Rome after the Punic Wars

Carthage was not the only loser of the Punic Wars. Rome was also hurt in many ways. Thousands of men and boys who left their farms to fight in a Roman legion never came back. Those who did return found an Italy very different from the one they left. Hannibal's army had destroyed much of the Italian Peninsula and the small farmers could not afford to rebuild and return to farming. They sold their farms to wealthy businessmen who turned away from growing grain to raising cattle. These wealthy farmers had plenty of slave captives taken during the wars to work their farms and did not need the small farmers as labor.

The small farmers having no opportunities in the countryside moved to Rome and looked for work. Some found work but many did not and these workers became a permanent underclass. As the soldiers returned from the wars the numbers of poor grew rapidly as many of these men could find no work. This new class of urban, landless poor was called the proletariat [PROH-leh-TAIR-ee-uh]. The proletariat became a dangerous and discontented mob within the city and riots became commonplace.

The patricians were also impacted by the Punic Wars. The wars had brought much treasure to Rome. Generals and politicians became enormously wealthy and the gap between rich and poor grew. The wealth allowed the patricians to live lavish lifestyles but also brought much corruption to Roman politics. The ambition of many politicians was not to protect the citizens but instead to enrich themselves.

The luxury of the rich depended on the labor of slaves. The Punic Wars had brought hundreds of thousands of slaves to Rome. By the year 100 B.C., slaves formed perhaps one third of Rome's total population. Romans lived with the ever-present danger of a massive slave uprising. A Roman slogan went, " Every slave we own is an enemy we harbor." Slaves rebelled three times between 138 and 70 B.C. The most famous uprising was led by a slave named Spartacus. Spartacus raised an army of 70,000 slaves, defeating the Roman army nine times. After 2 years of revolt, Spartacus' forces were defeated and about 6,000 were crucified.

In the last years of the Republic, the requirement that soldiers own property (such as a farm) had to be dropped. Thus, landless Romans and alien citizens made up a larger percentage of the soldiers. The Roman legions became permanent institutions of professional soldiers with intense loyalty to each other rather than the republic. They became intensely loyal to their military leader who offered them land and gold with each conquest. They fought for themselves and their leader and not the Republic.



A Statue of Spartacus the Roman Slave taken from www.s9.com/Biography/Spartacus

Julius Caesar

In the mid-100s B.C., two reformers, the Gracchi (GRAK-uhs) brothers, attempted to solve the problem of the farmers losing their land. Both Gracchi, Tiberius and Gaius, had some limited success but each was killed by opposing patricians, and the wealthy Senate defeated their efforts. Wealthy land owners did not want to give up their large estates. The Senate had been corrupted by the wealth and power of the patricians.

The death of the Gracchi left a power vacuum and two army leaders would assume control of the Republic. The first was Marius, who used the loyalty and power of his legions to seize control of the Roman government. He abolished the property qualifications for the army and gained the loyalty of the poor with promises of money and land. After Marius, it became possible for politicians to seize power in Rome using their soldiers and advance their own interests. While in power Marius was repeatedly removed by another general Sulla. These two men used their armies to seize and maintain power. Each was removed at different times through chaos and civil war.



A bust of Tiberius taken from Wikimedia Commons

This period of civil war was ended with the rise of a new politician Gaius Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar had worked for years to win the political favor of the Roman Senate and was eventually appointed governor of the Roman province of Spain. He used this position to enrich himself, his supporters, and build the loyalty of the legions that served under him. In 60 B.C., Julius Caesar, with the help of a wealthy businessman named Crassus and a popular general named Pompey, was elected consul and ruled for 10 years. He and his followers bribed and bullied the Senate to follow his decisions. These three men were known as the First Triumvirate (try-UHM-vuhr-ihnt).

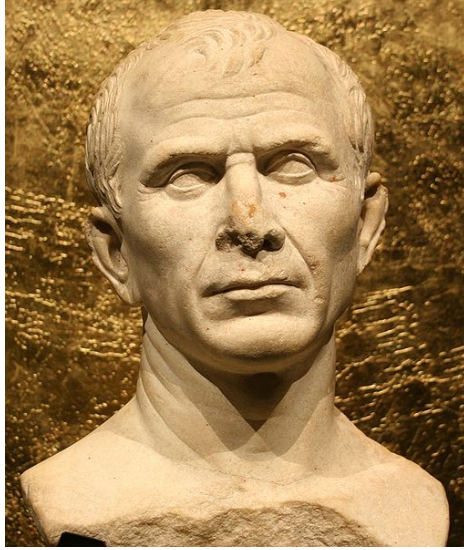
Use the following video clip answer question in the activity document about how Caesar rose to power. The video clip runs about 2 minutes.

After ten years, Caesar stepped down from power and became governor of Gaul. He would not violate the rule of a consul serving more than once during a ten year period. During his tenure of governor of Gaul, he expanded the borders of Rome farther into Gaul (northern France) and into Britain and into what is today Germany. His troops were intensely loyal to Caesar and his reputation for power was great. The Roman senate under the influence of Pompey feared Caesar and ordered him to disband his army and return to Rome. Pompey had turned against Caesar and was working to have him removed. Caesar refused and marched his army into Rome across the Rubicon. Pompey and Caesar fought an intense civil war. Caesar would defeat Pompey with the help of the Roman Pharaoh of Egypt who murdered Pompey.

Caesar returned to Rome and was named dictator for ten years. Caesar ruled with the support of the army and the poor citizens of Rome. He implemented many popular reforms during his tenure:

- Expanded citizenship to more citizens outside of Rome.
- Expanded the Senate to 900 allowing more to serve and rewarding his followers. (This action angered many Patricians because it weakened their power.)
- He ordered landowners to use free labor for a third of their workforce instead of slaves.
- Established colonies in Spain, France, Switzerland, and Africa to provide land for the poor.
- Established the Julian Calendar as the official calendar. (It was a solar calendar of 365 days with one day added every four year for accuracy. Europe relied on this calendar until 1582)

On March 15, 44 B.C., a group of senators lead by two friends of Caesar, Brutus and Cassius, murdered Caesar. They feared he would become a king and Roman law allowed them to assassinate him without fear of trial. It is said that Caesar's last words were Et tu, Brute (You too Brutus). Caesar had pardoned Brutus and they had become close friends.



Julius Caesar Brutus

The Second Triumvirate and the Rise of Octavian

The assassination of Caesar led to civil war. Octavian, Caesar's heir and grandnephew, joined with Marc Antony, an influential general, and Lepidus, a powerful senator created the Second Triumvirate and used their armies to seize control of Rome and rule together for ten years. The Second Triumvirate hunted down all of Caesar's murderers and killed them. The most famous of which was Cicero, who was Rome's greatest speaker, and was only found guilty of opposing Caesar's dictatorial rule. The three rulers divided Rome's empire. Octavian took Italy, Gaul, Spain, and Britain. Lepidus took Africa. Marc Antony took Egypt and what is today the Middle East.

This Triumvirate quickly ended in jealousy and violence. Octavian quickly removed Lepidus but remained on good terms with Antony. Antony married Octavian's sister but fell in love with Cleopatra of Egypt. This behavior cost him much prestige in Rome and the support of his troops. Octavian took this opportunity to challenge Antony. Octavian's navy defeated Antony's at the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C.

Octavian remembered what had happened to his uncle and decided not to seek to become a dictator. The Roman Senate insisted and proclaimed Octavian, Augustus, which meant "exalted one." From this point, Octavian went by Augustus and ruled Rome as an empire. The Republic died. Octavian continued to allow the Senate and assembly to meet even though they had no power. He wished to keep the senators happy. The patricians played his game in an effort to avoid more civil war and perhaps their own deaths. Octavian ruled as emperor for 41 years and this became the longest period of peace and prosperity that Rome had ever experienced.

Use this video to complete the questions within the activity document concerning Octavian. The clip runs about 2 minutes.

Roman Republic Newspaper Activity



Task:

Since you have already been introduced to GlogsterEDU, Smore, and Padlet, please select the tool of your choice and create a newspaper from the Ancient Roman Republic.

- If you choose to use GlogsterEDU, visit <http://edu.glogster.com> and use your own login credentials (if you created an account previously) or create your own account.
- If you choose to use Padlet, visit <https://padlet.com/> and use your login credentials (if you created an account previously) or create your own account.
- If you choose to use Smore, visit www.smore.com and use the account you created previously for the Athens/Sparta Newspaper assignment, or create your own account if you have not yet used this program

Submit your form using the link at the bottom of the instructions where it says "Submit your newspaper"

Setting the Stage:

Pretend you are a writer for the local newspaper in the Roman Republic. The year is 49 B.C. - shortly after Julius Caesar crossed the Rubicon. In this commemorative issue ordered by the Roman Senate, you have been asked to produce a paper that celebrates the successes of the Republic.

Content Requirements:

You will need to include the following in your broadcast or newspaper.

- One feature story on a major issue of the day
- One human interest story
- One opinion/editorial
- Two of the following:
 - obituaries
 - want ads
 - theater reviews
 - restaurant reviews
 - religion/mythology
 - women's stories
 - sports

Technical / Other Requirements:

- Each article should be about three (3) paragraphs in length and well supported with factual information (names, dates, events, etc.).
- Four images.
- Proper newspaper format (headings, dates, etc.)
- Creative.

Please use the following Internet sites to conduct your research:

- Ancient Rome
- Rome: Republic to Empire
- Roman Tutorial
- BBC Romans
- Roman Empire in the First Century
- KIDPEDE: Ancient Rome
- Daily Life in Ancient Rome

Submit your newspaper here.

- Click here to view the grading rubric for this assignment.