The World Of Ancient Rome

753 B.C. - 476 A.D.

Teacher's Guide
The World of Ancient Rome
753 B.C. - 476 A.D.

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Ancient Rome
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THE WORLD OF ANCIENT ROME
753 B.C. - 476 A.D.
Time: 20:00

Program Summary

Perhaps no city in the world has influenced the course of civilization as much as Rome, the capital of an enormous empire for nearly 900 years.

Live-action footage from the city of Rome and from Roman provincial towns in Britain, is combined with photographs of archival material to provide 7th through 10th grade students with a glimpse of life during ancient Roman times.

This program is set against a historical backdrop that begins with the birth of Rome in 753 B.C. and ends with the collapse of the Western Roman Empire in 476 A.D.

Topics are presented in this sequence:
• Roman Conquests
• The Roman Republic
• Imperial Rome
• The Pax Romana
• The Division of the Empire

In addition to the above, students will learn about the Roman religion, Hadrian's Wall, Roman engineering methods, the forums and monuments of Rome, Roman amusements, slavery, and the relationship between Christianity and Rome.

Student Objectives

After viewing this program and participating in the lesson activities, students should be able to...
• Identify on a map the boundaries of the Roman Empire at the peak of its influence.
• List and describe the contributions that Rome made to civilization.
• Contrast the forms of government under the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire.
• Describe the religion of Romans up to the first Christian emperor.
• Describe some factors that contributed to the collapse of the Roman Empire.
• Discuss slavery as it existed in Rome and compare it to slavery in early American history.
• List some of the ways that ancient Roman culture still affects life in the 20th century.
• Discuss some of the ways in which Roman civilization was superior to the way of life followed by the barbaric tribes.

Teacher Preparation

Before presenting the video to your students, we suggest you view the video and review this guide and the accompanying blackline masters in order to become knowledgeable about their content. You may decide to duplicate and distribute some of the blackline masters so that the students can reference them during the video presentation. In particular, Blackline Masters 2, 4, 5, and 6 could be very useful to the students as they view the video. (See pages 4 through 8 for a description of the blackline masters supplied with this program and the answer key for the quiz.)

As you review the instructional program outlined in this guide and the blackline masters that accompany it, you may find it necessary to make some changes, deletions, or additions to fit the specific needs of your class. We encourage you to do so, for only by tailoring this program to your students will they obtain the maximum instructional benefits afforded by the materials.

Introducing the Video

Introduce this program by using a map to show the areas controlled by the Etruscans, Carthaginians, Greeks and Assyrians at the time of the mythical birth of Rome in 753 B.C. Then, outline the boundaries of the Roman Empire at the peak of its power, around 180 A.D. Discuss the positive aspects of Roman culture and the factors leading to the fall of the Western Roman Empire. Ask the students to try to imagine what daily life must have been like in ancient Roman times.
Distribute to the students the blackline masters you’ve chosen to use (if any) and present the video. Viewing time: 20 minutes.

Follow-Up Activities

Discussion: • Students could be asked to discuss the effects that watching violent spectator sports in the Colosseum might have had on the Romans: would watching these sports make them more likely to be indifferent to the sufferings of others, such as the slaves they came in contact with each day? How might the Colosseum experience be compared with violence on T.V., especially in regard to numbing a person to the experience of violence? How do the popular team sports today compare to the violent sports of the Colosseum?
  • Discuss slavery and the creation of Roman wealth. Compare Roman slavery to slavery as practiced in the United States before 1865.
  • Discuss the organization of Roman government during the Republic. Why was this more democratic form of government replaced by the imperial form of government?
  • Rome was at its peak during the first two hundred years of the Empire. What did the emperors contribute that the old Republic government lacked?
  • Discuss factors that led to the adoption of Christianity as the official religion of Rome.
  • Discuss the Roman contribution to contemporary life in our country today.

Projects

1. Assign students short paragraphs from any English novel for the purpose of determining which English words have Latin origins. (Words will have to be looked up in dictionaries that list word origins.) Once each student has completed the analysis of their assigned paragraph, individuals should be asked to name the word derivations that were most interesting to them.

   Learning the origins of words and how their meanings change over time is always a very interesting activity because it opens the student’s eyes to the dynamic quality of language and can show how ideas move from one culture to another.

2. Groups of six students could look up common words in Latin,
Spanish, French, English, Italian, and German. Then, a large chart could be constructed showing the results of their research.

For Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Latin</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>Italian</th>
<th>German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>time</td>
<td>tempus</td>
<td>tiempo</td>
<td>temps</td>
<td>tempo</td>
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<tr>
<td>man</td>
<td>homo</td>
<td>hombre</td>
<td>homme</td>
<td>uomo</td>
<td>man</td>
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<td>one</td>
<td>unus</td>
<td>uno</td>
<td>une</td>
<td>uno</td>
<td>ein</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Many extra credit, library-research projects are possible. For example: two to five-page papers or oral reports on the following subjects could be very interesting.

a. The practices of religion in ancient Rome. How were the gods and goddesses worshiped? What is a curse?

b. Compare the organization of government under the Republic to rule by emperors. How were the emperors chosen?

c. Describe the Roman army. How was it organized? Who were the common soldiers and who were the officers? What became of soldiers after they retired?

d. Describe some of the typical and some of the most unique Colosseum spectacles. (The emperor Claudius actually filled the bottom of the Colosseum with water and staged a real naval battle.)

e. Compare the emperor Augustus to the emperor Nero.

4. A really fun, but difficult, project would be to build a model of a Roman town or a typical Roman house.

Blackline Masters/Answer Key

Blackline Master 1 is an information sheet showing Significant Dates of events in Rome and those happening elsewhere in Europe and in the Near East.

Blackline Master 2, Vocabulary, will help students become familiar with some of the terms referred to in the video presentation.
Blackline Master 3, *Gods and Goddesses of Rome*, lists some of the more commonly known gods and goddesses worshiped by the ancient Romans.

Blackline Master 4, *A Typical Roman Town, 350 A.D.*, will give students an idea of how a Roman town was designed. It can be used as a reference sheet.

Blackline Master 5, *The Center of Ancient Rome*, can be used by the students as a reference sheet.

Blackline Master 6, *Map of the Mediterranean Region*, shows the Roman Empire in 180 A.D.

Blackline Master 7, *Crossword Puzzle*, can be used as a class activity or as a take-home assignment.

Blackline Master 8, *Roman Numerals*, shows the system of symbols the ancient Romans used as numbers. There are also a few exercises on this sheet.

Answers: 1994 - MDLCCCCIV or MCMXCIV  
1448 - MCDXLVIII or MCCCCXLVIII  
CXLV or CXXXXV - 145  
MCD or MCCCC - 1400
Blackline Master 9, is the Quiz for this video presentation. It is repeated here, along with the answers, for your convenience.

1. According to legend, Rome was founded in the year:
   A. 987 B.C.   B. 767 B.C.   C. 753 B.C.   D. 187 B.C.
   Answer: C - 753 B.C.

2. The first emperor of Rome was named:
   A. Trajan   B. Nero   C. Augustus   D. Claudius
   Answer: C - Augustus

3. In 122 A.D., the emperor Hadrian built a wall around the Roman province of __________ to prevent attacks from the hostile __________ tribes who lived in the north.
   Answer: Britain; Scottish

4. During the period of the Roman Republic, a group of about 300 men formed the __________ , that played an important role in ruling Rome and her provinces.
   Answer: senate

5. Rome fought the Punic Wars with:
   A. The Etruscans  B. The Greeks  C. The Carthaginians  D. The Assyrians
   Answer: C - The Carthaginians

6. The emperors of Rome built huge arches to__________________________.
   Answer: commemorate their victories.

7. Because the Romans worshiped many gods and goddesses, theirs was a(n):
   A. atheistic religion  B. polytheistic religion  C. monotheistic religion  D. agnostic religion
   Answer: B - polytheistic religion

8. Many of the __________ that battled in the Colosseum of Rome were slaves or prisoners of war.
   Answer: gladiators

9. The first Christian emperor of Rome was:

   6
A. Septimus Severus  B. Caligula  C. Augustus  D. Constantine
Answer: D - Constantine

10. The sacred fire, in the temple dedicated to Vesta, was tended to by the _________________.
Answer: Vestal Virgins

11. After Rome was divided into two parts, the west was ruled from Rome and the east was ruled from Constantinople (Byzantium). Today, Constantinople is called: ____________.  
A. Athens  B. Jerusalem  C. Carthage  D. Istanbul
Answer: D - Istanbul

12. The fall of Rome was brought about by both her own internal corruption and by attacks from tribes, such as the Vandals, the Ostrogoths, and the Visigoths. The Romans called these hostile tribes ____________, a word they applied to all people from outside the Roman Empire.  
Answer: barbarians

13. Romans enjoyed visiting the circuses to watch____________
Answer: chariot racing and horse racing.

14. Besides wearing costumes, Roman actors also wore _________________.
Answer: masks

15. Lower class, non-Roman political criminals were often put to death by _________________.
Answer: crucifixion

16. In Rome, many prisoners of war were forced into lives of _________________.
Answer: slavery

17. ________________ that were supplied with both cold and hot water were a typical feature of Roman forts and even the most humble Roman towns.  
Answer: Bathhouses

18. The Roman king of the gods was:
A. Mars  B. Jupiter  C. Neptune  D. Cupid
Answer: B - Jupiter

19. At its peak, around the year 180 A.D., the Roman Empire united between _____ to _____ million people through an excellent system of paved roads and the Roman system of laws and government.
Answer: 50 and 70

20. The time when Rome and her provinces were ruled by emperors is called the _______ ________, to distinguish it from the historical period of the Roman Republic, which preceded it.
Answer: Roman Empire

EXTRA CREDIT:
Name as many modern-day countries that you can think of that were once under the control of the Roman government.

The World Of Ancient Rome
Script of Video Presentation

Perhaps no city in the world has influenced the course of civilization as much as Rome.

For nearly 900 years, Rome was the capital of an enormous empire that, at its peak, extended from Egypt in the south, to the Scottish border in the north, to the tip of Spain in the west, and to Persia in the east.

Wherever the legions of Roman soldiers marched, they left their imprint on those they conquered. Some of what they did was cruel, but most of their legacy was good. The Romans brought “civilization” to a world which knew little more than the most primitive village life.

They gave their language, Latin, to those they conquered so that French, Spanish, Italian, Romanian and Portuguese are all Latin-based languages, and even English contains a huge number of words of Latin origin.

Roman law provided the foundation of the legal system for most
of the countries of western Europe and Latin America.

Ideas of Roman justice and politics were embodied in the creation of governments in the United States and in several other modern democracies.

And Roman contributions to architecture and engineering still remain among the finest and most innovative in the world.

The Birth Of Rome

The story of Rome begins almost 3000 years ago, in what is today central Italy.

Legend states that the boundaries of Rome were first defined in the year 753 B.C. by Romulus, one of the twin brothers of divine descent who had been left abandoned to be nursed and raised by a wolf.

A fig tree sprouted up on the spot where the twins were said to have been found. This humble tree eventually was transplanted to a site among the great temples and buildings of government. Here it became a sacred object of religious veneration and over the centuries it flourished, along with the power of the Roman state.

But Roman power was slow to develop at first, for in 600 B.C., Rome was conquered by the Etruscans, a powerful and highly civilized people who dwelt mainly in the rolling hill country to the north of Rome.

At that time, the Italian peninsula was dominated by the city-states of the Etruscans to the north and the city-states of the Greeks to the south, and the Romans had little power.

However, in slightly more than 100 years, the Romans grew powerful enough to drive the Etruscans out of Rome, and she became an independent city-state once again.

From the year 509 B.C. up until about 27 B.C., Rome evolved a sophisticated republican form of government ruled by a senate,
selected from wealthy “patrician” families and tribunes, who were representatives of the common people or “plebians.” Under the direction of the senate, Roman territory was expanded and distant provinces were added to her domain.

The Roman Conquests

First, the Etruscans were defeated; then the Greeks and Carthaginians, whose capital was in Carthage, North Africa, fell; until, by 218 B.C., Rome controlled all of the Italian peninsula and the islands of Sicily, Corsica, and Sardinia.

By the year 149 B.C., following three major wars called the Punic Wars, Rome had totally overwhelmed the government of Carthage and had become the supreme power in the western Mediterranean. And at her peak, around the year 180 A.D., the Roman empire had engulfed most of the Near East, Persia, Egypt, North Africa and western Europe.

At that time, between 50 and 70 million people were united, not only by an excellent system of paved roads, but also by the Roman system of laws and government, and almost one million of these people lived in the city of Rome itself, the largest city in the world for many centuries to come.

The Imperial Government

In the midst of Rome’s expansion across Europe, conflicts among leaders and a widening gap between rich and poor during the first century B.C., had led to a series of revolts that brought about the collapse of the republican form of government.

During the second decade before the birth of Christ, a new "imperial" government was formed that was headed by a single supreme leader, the “imperator” or emperor, and rule by emperors continued for the next 500 years of the Roman state.

Under this new system of government, the senate, consuls, and tribunes, who had ruled in the past, were still allowed to function, but the emperor always made the final decisions.

The emperor controlled all the Roman provinces, headed the
army, and saw that their own supporters filled the senate, and these senators saw to it that emperors were selected from among the ranks of the most powerful patrician families.

The time when Rome and her provinces were ruled by emperors is called the Roman Empire to distinguish it from the historical period of the Roman Republic, which preceded it.

The first emperor was a man named Octavian, who took the name Augustus, a word meaning “exalted one.” The reign of the emperor Augustus began in the year 27 B.C. and marked the start of 200 years of stability, peace and prosperity that has come to be called the Pax Romana, the Roman Peace.

Let us discover a little of what life was like during this golden age of the Roman Empire.

**The Roman Religion**

Wherever the Romans expanded their empire, they built temples, sanctuaries, and shrines to their many gods and goddesses, and at the same time, they absorbed many local gods into their religion.

The Romans worshiped all of the major Greek gods, thus Athena, the Greek god of wisdom and crafts, became the Roman goddess Minerva we see here. The Greek god Hermes, the messenger of the gods and protector of trade, became the Roman god Mercury. The Greek god of the sea, Poseidon, became the Roman god Neptune.

The Romans believed that the gods exercised complete control over the growth of crops, the churning of the seas, victory in battle, the happiness of families, and every other aspect of life on earth.

This great Roman temple, called the Pantheon, was being built during the first few years of the reign of the emperor Augustus and is dedicated to the gods of the planets, such as Jupiter, Venus and Mars.

The Romans even worshiped river gods. This temple of Portunus honors the god of the mouth of the Tiber River. The Romans
believed that the blessings of the god Portunus were needed to ensure the safe arrival of ships that poured in from Rome’s provinces, and even for the safe passage of barges carrying the huge blocks of marble used in Roman building that entered the harbor of Ostia every day at the mouth of the Tiber, about 25 miles west of Rome.

And this statue is of the much loved god of the Nile, upon whose good will the wealth of Roman Egypt was believed to depend.

This temple, dedicated to Vesta, the virgin goddess of the hearth and home, was very important to Romans. Inside the temple’s circular walls, the ancient fire of Rome was always kept burning. The sacred fire was tended to by six priestesses, called the Vestal Virgins.

In the Roman religion, offerings were made by priests and priestesses, the only persons allowed inside the temples, to gain the favor of a god, or even to get the god to curse an enemy.

Perhaps one of the strangest Roman religious traditions was that certain emperors were deified after their deaths, that is, they were declared to be gods themselves. The list of deified Roman rulers is long. It includes Augustus and Claudius, the emperor who conquered Britain. Temples were built in their honor alongside the great forums, or open squares, of Rome.

**The Forums Of Rome**

The Roman Forum, the ancient center of Rome, was the point at which all of the great Roman roads finally converged. The Roman Forum and the nearby Imperial Forum were the locations of many of the greatest temples and were the site of the most important buildings of government.

Here in these squares, speakers once addressed crowds of Roman citizens as they sought to influence the course of government. The decisions made in the buildings surrounding the forums and in the nearby palaces profoundly affected the lives of people in Rome’s far distant provinces.

Let us look at one example that gives us a glimpse of Roman
military life and engineering methods.

**Hadrian's Wall**

Around the year 122 A.D., the emperor Hadrian decided that in order to maintain peace, a wall should be constructed entirely across Britain, thereby protecting the Roman province in the south from the attacks of the hostile Scottish tribes to the north.

Once word arrived from Rome of this decision, thousands of soldiers were immediately put to work on this massive construction project that took six years to complete.

Within their ranks, the Roman legions possessed architects, engineers, surveyors, carpenters and masons. They quarried and laid the stones of this fort the British named Chesters, built where Hadrian’s wall crossed the River Tyne. And over the River Tyne, they constructed a bridge leading to the fort. That bridge is long gone, but it probably looked a lot like this ancient structure that spans the Tiber River and is still in use in Rome today.

This model shows us that Chesters fort on Hadrian’s wall was a typical Roman garrison used for housing troops. It was protected by a surrounding “curtain” wall and could only be entered by passing through well fortified gates.

This stone plaque commemorates bringing running water into the fort. The soldiers who built the water system did a very good job, for plenty of clean, fresh water was always available, just as it was in Roman towns.

Also, as was typical of Roman towns, excellent drainage systems were built for large public latrines, through which the water freely flowed to wash away the waste.

Both this bathhouse and the commandant’s house were provided not only with running water, but with a heating system which allowed warm air to flow under the stone floors that were raised up on bricks, keeping them warm throughout the long, cold British winters.

Bathhouses were a typical feature, not only of Roman forts, but
could be found in even the most humble Roman towns as well.

Here, at a Roman town in southern England, we see the hot pool of a Roman bath.

Although the water here is heated by hot springs, every Roman bathhouse had just such a hot pool room called the cauldarium, and a warm pool room called a tepidarium. Hot water for these pools was provided by a wood burning furnace.

Besides these pools, a cold pool room, called a frigidarium, was always constructed along with rooms provided with steam of various temperatures.

In Rome itself, certain emperors constructed magnificent bathhouses so large that a few covered several acres, for as Rome’s wealth and power increased, so did the splendor of her monuments and buildings.

**Roman Splendor**

Overlooking and adjacent to the great Roman and Imperial Forums, is the Palatine Hill. Here, emperors, starting with Augustus, built magnificent residences for themselves and continued to do so, until by the end of the first century A.D., the entire hill was covered with glorious marble palaces.

From the steps of their palaces, the emperors could take in the vastness and splendor of the greatest city in the world.

The triumphal arches they saw served as reminders of the military victories of their predecessors. This arch, built by the emperor Septimus Severus, commemorates Rome’s victories in the region of the Caspian Sea.

This arch, built by the emperor Titus, commemorates Rome’s victory over Judea; and this arch, built by Constantine, the first Christian emperor, commemorates his victory in 312 A.D. over his rival for the throne, Maxentius.

Further in the distance, the emperors on Palatine Hill could see the great column built by the emperor Trajan to commemorate his
victory over the Romanians; and next to this great monument, Trajan constructed a large public marketplace, which, at one time, bustled with the common citizens of Rome, who dwelt in the thousands of multi-storied apartment buildings, called insulae, that were the most common buildings in Rome.

Roman Amusements:

Gladiator Contests

As the empire got richer, the Romans sought out more and more extreme forms of amusement, and inside of this huge building, called the Colosseum, as well as in other, smaller amphitheaters across the empire, some truly gruesome events occurred.

Here, up to 70,000 spectators cheered as armed gladiators fought one another to the death with swords, spears, nets, and pitchforks; and in the pens beneath the floor of the Colosseum, animals, such as rhinoceros, giraffes, ostriches, bulls and lions awaited their turn at combat.

Today, nearly 20 centuries after these Roman "blood sports" attained the peak of their popularity, their modern counterparts can still be witnessed in the bullfights of Spain and Latin America. In these colosseums, the matadors, just like the gladiators of ancient Rome, fight bulls to the death for the pleasure of the crowds.

Circuses

Another favorite, less bloody, Roman pastime was attending chariot races, and elaborate racetracks, called circuses, were built all across the empire.

This model shows Rome’s Circus Maximus, where charioteers competed by racing splendid teams of horses around its great oval track.

Roman Theaters

Besides the gladiator contests and chariot races, Roman citizens of every province enjoyed attending the theater. In Rome, plays were performed here in the great Theater of Marcellus as early as
13 B.C. Just as in classical Greek theater, actors wore elaborate masks and costumes and their performances were accompanied by dancing and music.

But even plays could turn bloody when, if the play called for an actor to die, the actor’s place was taken at the last moment by a condemned man who was actually killed onstage for the pleasure of the audience.

**Slavery**

The cruel side of the Roman world extended beyond the bloody spectacles witnessed in the theater or Colosseum, for much of the great wealth of Rome depended upon slave labor.

Slaves were found throughout the empire, where they performed all sorts of tasks—from being gladiators, to servants, to galley slaves who rowed huge ships across the Mediterranean Sea, to farm slaves who harvested grapes and olives in the vineyards and orchards of the free Roman citizens.

People became slaves in many ways: some were captured during wars, others were criminals, but once it became a Roman institution, thousands of newborn children faced grim lifetimes of hard labor at the hands of their Roman masters.

**Christianity**

In the first centuries after the death of Christ, many early Christians were forced into slavery, or else suffered severe persecution at the hands of the Roman authorities, for many Roman leaders believed that great problems would follow if the ancient gods of Rome were offended.

The history of Rome and Christianity have been intertwined from the very beginning of that religion, for Christ was born in the Roman province of Judea, and it was the Romans who sentenced him to death by crucifixion, a form of death that the Romans reserved only for political agitators and lower-class, non-Roman criminals.

However, eventually, in the fourth century, the first Christian
emperor, Constantine decreed that Christianity was to be the official religion of the Roman Empire, and as a result, Rome became the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church.

**Division and Collapse of the Roman Empire**

By the fourth century, the fabric of the Roman Empire had begun to unravel. Its enormous size, attacks from barbarian tribes and its own internal decay all contributed to its decline.

It was decided that if the empire was to survive, it should be divided into smaller, easier-to-rule units, and in the year 395, the mighty Roman Empire was split in half and separate emperors were designated to rule the East and the West.

Rome remained the capital of the Western Empire and the Greek city of Byzantium, today’s Istanbul, became the capital of the East and was renamed Constantinople by the Romans. This eastern Byzantine Empire was to flourish for the next ten centuries as its ties to Rome gradually disappeared.

But little could be done to stop the fall of the Western Roman Empire, which collapsed in the year 476 A.D. after repeated attacks by the barbaric tribes—the Ostrogoths, the Visigoths and the Vandals.

**Conclusion**

The collapse of the Western Roman Empire was the end of almost one thousand years of uninterrupted Roman rule. Rome had brought civilization to a large part of the world and left behind a rich legacy of literature, law, architecture and engineering.

But Rome, the victim of its own decadence and vast ungovernable size, now lay in ruins, and for the next six centuries, the learning, art, and science that had once embodied the best of Rome were almost lost forever as western Europe entered the Dark Ages.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rome and Italy</th>
<th>Elsewhere in Europe</th>
<th>The Near East</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>753 B.C.</strong> Founding of the city of Rome according to the legend of Romulus and Remus.</td>
<td><strong>776 B.C.</strong> First Olympic games in Greece; Apollo is worshiped at Delphi.</td>
<td><strong>750-682 B.C.</strong> Sennacherib becomes king of Assyria (an empire composed of the modern countries of Iraq, Jordan, Israel, Syria, and parts of Turkey and Saudi Arabia and Armenia) and establishes his capital at Nineveh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>510 B.C.</strong> Founding of the Roman Republic as Roman nobles drive out the Etruscans.</td>
<td><strong>508 B.C.</strong> Democracy begins in Athens.</td>
<td><strong>670 B.C.</strong> Assyrans capture Egypt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>396-290 B.C.</strong> Rome becomes master of the Italian peninsula as it conquers other Latin tribes.</td>
<td><strong>490 B.C.</strong> Greeks defeat the Persians at Marathon.</td>
<td><strong>612 B.C.</strong> Medes and allies overthrow the empire of Assyria.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>264-241 B.C.</strong> 1st Punic War: Rome conquers the Carthaginian province of Sicily.</td>
<td><strong>460-429 B.C.</strong> The golden age of Athens</td>
<td><strong>605-582 B.C.</strong> Nebuchadnessar II rules as the King of Babylon in southern Iraq.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>218-202 B.C.</strong> 2nd Punic War: Carthaginian general Hannibal invades Italy by crossing the Alps. Although he wins several battles, he fails to capture Rome and returns to Carthage in 203 B.C.</td>
<td><strong>450 B.C.</strong> Celtic culture develops in central and northern Europe.</td>
<td><strong>539 B.C.</strong> Cyrus of Persia captures Babylon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>149-146 B.C.</strong> 3rd Punic War: Carthage is destroyed in 146 B.C.</td>
<td><strong>336 B.C.</strong> Alexander of Macedon becomes king of Greece.</td>
<td><strong>525 B.C.</strong> Persians invade Egypt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>82-78 B.C.</strong> The Roman Republic begins to fail as Sulla becomes dictator.</td>
<td><strong>215-168 B.C.</strong> Romans involved in wars in Greece.</td>
<td><strong>486-465 B.C.</strong> King Xerxes rules the Persian Empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>73-71 B.C.</strong> Slaves rebellion led by Spartacus.</td>
<td><strong>146 B.C.</strong> Romans destroy Corinth and make Greece and Macedonia into a single province.</td>
<td><strong>334-330 B.C.</strong> Alexander the Macedon destroys the Persian Empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>44 B.C.</strong> Julius Caesar is murdered.</td>
<td><strong>58-49 B.C.</strong> Julius Caesar battles in Gaul (France).</td>
<td><strong>37 B.C.</strong> Mark Antony, a powerful Roman, marries Cleopatra, the queen of Egypt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>30 B.C.</strong> Julius Caesar's adopted son, Octavian, defeats Mark Antony at the battle of Actium, making Egypt a Roman province.</td>
<td><strong>43 A.D.</strong> Romans invade Britain, which becomes the northernmost province of Rome.</td>
<td><strong>4 A.D.</strong> Probable date of the birth of Jesus Christ. *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 B.C.</strong> Octavian assumes the title Augustus and becomes the first Roman emperor bringing peace and good government to the empire. The historical period called the Roman Empire begins.</td>
<td><strong>101-107 A.D.</strong> Trajan conquers Dacia (Romania).</td>
<td><strong>30 A.D.</strong> Christ is crucified in Roman Judea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>98-117 A.D.</strong> The emperor Trajan expands the empire to its greatest extent.</td>
<td><strong>122 A.D.</strong> Hadrian builds a wall across Britain.</td>
<td><strong>45 A.D.</strong> St. Paul begins his missionary journeys.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>117-138 A.D.</strong> The emperor Hadrian improves the defenses of the frontiers and works to bring stable government to Rome's provinces.</td>
<td><strong>222 A.D.</strong> Goths, Vandals, and other barbaric tribes attack the Roman Empire.</td>
<td><strong>66-70 A.D.</strong> The Jews revolt against the Romans. The emperor Titus destroys Jerusalem and orders the dispersal of the Jews.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>306-337 A.D.</strong> Reign of the emperor Constantine. In 313 A.D., he makes Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.</td>
<td><strong>277-275 A.D.</strong> Goths capture Romania from the Romans.</td>
<td><strong>116 A.D.</strong> The emperor Trajan extends the Roman Empire to the Euphrates River in Persia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>364 A.D.</strong> The Empire is divided into an Eastern Empire with a capital at Byzantium (Istanbul) and a Western Empire with Rome as its capital.</td>
<td><strong>267 A.D.</strong> The Germanic Franks invade Gaul (France).</td>
<td><strong>330 A.D.</strong> The founding of Constantinople on the site of the Greek city of Byzantium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>410 A.D.</strong> Visigoths sack Rome.</td>
<td><strong>370 A.D.</strong> The Huns from Asia invade Europe.</td>
<td><strong>447 A.D.</strong> Attila and the Huns invade the Eastern Roman Empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>455 A.D.</strong> Vandals ravage Italy.</td>
<td><strong>410 A.D.</strong> The last Roman troops pull out of Britain.</td>
<td><em>In the 500s A.D., the monk Dionysius Exiguus introduced the present custom of reckoning time by counting the years from the birth of Christ, which he miscalculated four to six years later than the actual date.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>476 A.D.</strong> German chief Odoacer overthrows the last Roman emperor and becomes king of Italy.</td>
<td><strong>432 A.D.</strong> St. Patrick brings Christianity to Ireland.</td>
<td>Source: The World Book Encyclopedia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>747 A.D.</strong> Attila and the Huns invade France and Italy.</td>
<td><strong>449 A.D.</strong> The Jutes invade Britain.</td>
<td><strong>470 A.D.</strong> The Huns are driven out of Europe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>750 A.D.</strong> Attila and the Huns invade the Eastern Roman Empire.</td>
<td><strong>452 A.D.</strong> Attila and the Huns invade France and Italy.</td>
<td><strong>750-682 B.C.</strong> Sennacherib becomes king of Assyria (an empire composed of the modern countries of Iraq, Jordan, Israel, Syria, and parts of Turkey and Saudi Arabia and Armenia) and establishes his capital at Nineveh.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vocabulary

aqueduct: a channel for carrying the main water supply to a Roman town, usually built above ground and supported by stone arches.

auditorium: a Latin word meaning "a place for listening."

barbarian: the word used by Romans when referring to all foreigners not part of the empire. Later, this came to refer to uncivilized, violent, mostly Germanic and Asian tribes that attacked the empire.

Britannia: the Roman province of Britain, today's England; first conquered by the emperor Claudius in 43 A.D. and abandoned in 410 A.D.

Caesar: a Latin word meaning "hairy one" that was the family name of Julius Caesar. The title Caesar was adopted by emperors from Augustus in 27 B.C., up until Hadrian in 117 A.D. The word Caesar was modified by the Russians to "czar," a title for their king, and by the Germans and Austrians to "kaiser" for some of their rulers.

caudarium: the hot room of Roman baths with the hottest bathing pools.

circus: a racetrack or a circle.

civilized: a word taken from the Roman word "civitas" meaning the citizens of Rome.

centurion: an army officer in charge of a century.

century: a unit of the Roman army made up of 60-80 men.

cloaca: a large underground drain. Rome's Cloaca Maxima is still in use today.

cohort: an army unit of 600-800 men.

consul: one or two supreme heads of state during the Roman Republic that were elected each year.

colosseum: a large amphitheater where gladiator contests were held.

emperor: a supreme ruler of the Roman Empire.

forum: a large, open square. The Roman Forum and the Imperial Forum were the locations of ancient Rome's main buildings of government, greatest monuments and most important temples.

frigidarium: the cold room of Roman baths that contained the cold pools.

gladiator: an armed man who fought to the death with other gladiators and with animals. Most gladiators were slaves or criminals.

hypocaust: an underfloor heating chamber through which hot air from the furnace passed to warm a Roman building.
Vocabulary

**insula:** a block in a Roman town or a block of apartments for the common citizens of Roman towns.

**Imperator:** the Latin word for emperor.

**Latin:** the language of the ancient Romans that gave rise to the French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian languages and contributed many words to the English language.

**legion:** the largest division of the Roman army consisting of 4000-6000 men.

**magistrate:** certain elected officials who governed Rome during the Republic.

**monotheism:** a religion, such as Christianity, that recognizes only a single, all-powerful god.

**orchestra:** the semi-circular area in front of the stage of a Roman theater.

**Patricians:** wealthy and powerful Roman noblemen.

**Pax Romana:** The "Roman Peace." The term of peace imposed by Rome on any of its dominions; a general term referring to roughly 200 years of Roman peace and prosperity from about 27 B.C. to 180 A.D.

**Plebians:** the common people of Rome.

**province:** a conquered territory of Rome; from the Latin word "provincia" meaning area of command.

**polytheism:** a religion based on many gods and goddesses, such as the ancient Roman religion.

**senate:** a council of 300 important citizens whose task was to advise the consuls during the Roman Republic, but who, in fact, practically ruled Rome during most of this period.

**stadium:** another Latin word for racecourse.

**tepidarium:** the warm room of the Roman baths containing the warm pools.

**thermae:** Latin word for baths.

**toga:** the flowing garment worn by Roman men.

**tribunes:** government representatives of the common Roman people.
Listed below are some of the gods and goddesses of Ancient Rome.

**Lares and Penates**: Household gods to whom daily offerings were made. Lares guarded the house and Penates guarded the food cupboard.

**Janus**: God of the doorway to the house.

**Vesta**: Goddess of the hearth or fireplace.

**Jupiter**: King of the gods; equivalent to the Greek god Zeus.

**Juno**: Wife of Jupiter, same as the Greek goddess Hera; the goddess of the sky.

**Bacchus**: The god of wine and parties; same as the Greek god Dionysus.

**Ceres**: Earth mother and goddess of the harvest; same as the Greek goddess Demeter.

**Diana**: Moon goddess and goddess of hunting; same as the Greek goddess Artemis.

**Fortuna**: Roman goddess of luck.

**Mars**: The god of war; same as the Greek god Ares.

**Mercury**: Messenger of the gods and protector of trade; same as the Greek god Hermes.

**Minerva**: The goddess of wisdom and crafts; same as the Greek god Athena.

**Neptune**: Brother of Jupiter and god of the sea; same as the Greek god Poseidon.

**Saturn**: God of farming; same as the Greek god Cronus.

**Venus**: Goddess of love and beauty, mother of Cupid; same as the Greek goddess Aphrodite

**Vulcan**: God of fire and blacksmithing; same as the Greek god Hephaestos.
**Down**

1. Roman moon goddess
2. messenger of the Roman gods
3. son of Venus
4. the wife of Jupiter
5. the Roman god of the sea
6. Roman goddess of wisdom and crafts
7. the Roman god of the hearth (fireplace)
8. Roman goddess of the harvest
9. the Roman god of the doorway
10. the god of fire and blacksmithing
11. the Greek god of war

**Across**

2. the Roman god of war
3. Roman goddess of the harvest
4. Roman god of farming
5. king of the Roman gods
6. capital of the Roman Empire in 180 A.D.
7. the Greek god of farming
8. the Greek goddess of wisdom and crafts
9. the Roman god of the sea
10. the Greek goddess of love and beauty
11. Roman household god
12. the Greek goddess of the hearth (fireplace)
13. the Greek god of war
14. the Roman goddess of love and beauty
15. the Greek god of the sea
16. the Roman goddess of the harvest
17. the Greek goddess of wisdom and crafts
18. the Greek king of the gods
Roman numerals are symbols that stand for numbers. All Roman numerals are written using seven basic symbols, either alone or in combination. Today, we use Arabic numbers which have different columns for units: tens, hundreds, etc., and we use a zero to indicate an empty column. For this reason, making even the simplest calculations using Roman numerals was extremely difficult.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roman Numeral</th>
<th>Arabic Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I=1</td>
<td>XXX=30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II=2</td>
<td>XXXX or XL=40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III=3</td>
<td>L=50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV=4</td>
<td>LX=60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V=5</td>
<td>LXX=70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI=6</td>
<td>LXXX=80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII=7</td>
<td>LXXXX or XC=90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII= 8</td>
<td>C=100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX=9</td>
<td>D=500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X=10</td>
<td>M=1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX=20</td>
<td>the Romans had no zero</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Try to write the following Arabic numbers in Roman numerals:
1994
1448

Try to write the following Roman numerals in Arabic numbers:
CXLV or CXXXXV
MCD or MCCCC
Directions: Circle the correct answer or fill in the blanks.

1. According to legend, Rome was founded in the year:
   A. 987 B.C.     B. 767 B.C.     C. 753 B.C.     D. 187 B.C.

2. The first emperor of Rome was named:
   A. Trajan     B. Nero     C. Augustus     D. Claudius

3. In 122 A.D., the emperor Hadrian built a wall around the Roman province of __________ to prevent attacks from the hostile ________________ tribes who lived in the north.

4. During the period of the Roman Republic, a group of about 300 men formed the __________ that played an important role in ruling Rome and her provinces.

5. Rome fought the Punic Wars with:
   A. The Etruscans     B. The Greeks     C. The Carthaginians     D. The Assyrians

6. The emperors of Rome built huge marble arches to ____________________________________________.

7. Because the Romans worshiped many gods and goddesses, theirs was an:
   A. atheistic religion     B. polytheistic religion     C. monotheistic religion     D. agnostic religion

8. Many of the _____________ that battled in the Colosseum of Rome were slaves or prisoners of war.

9. The first Christian emperor of Rome was:
   A. Septimus Severus     B. Caligula     C. Augustus     D. Constantine

10. The sacred fire, in the temple dedicated to Vesta, was tended to by the ________________.
11. After Rome was divided into two parts, the west was ruled from Rome and the east was ruled from Constantinople (Byzantium). Today, Constantinople is called:
A. Athens  B. Jerusalem  C. Carthage  D. Istanbul

12. The fall of Rome was brought about both by her own internal corruption and by attacks from tribes, such as the Vandals, the Ostrogoths, and the Visigoths. The Romans called these hostile tribes __________, a word they applied to all people from outside the Roman Empire.

13. Romans enjoyed visiting the circuses to watch ____________________.

14. Besides wearing costumes, Roman actors also wore ________________.

15. Lower-class, non-Roman political criminals were often put to death by ____________.

16. In Rome, many prisoners of war were forced into lives of ________________.

17____________ that were supplied with both cold and hot water were a typical feature of Roman forts and even the most humble Roman towns.

18. The Roman king of the gods was:
A. Mars  B. Jupiter  C. Neptune  D. Cupid

19. At its peak, around the year 180 A.D., the Roman Empire united between ____ to ____ million people through an excellent system of paved roads and the Roman system of laws and government.

20. The time when Rome and her provinces were ruled by emperors is called the ___________________ to distinguish it from the historical period of the Roman Republic which preceded it.

EXTRA CREDIT:
Name as many modern day countries as you can that were once under the control of the government of Rome.