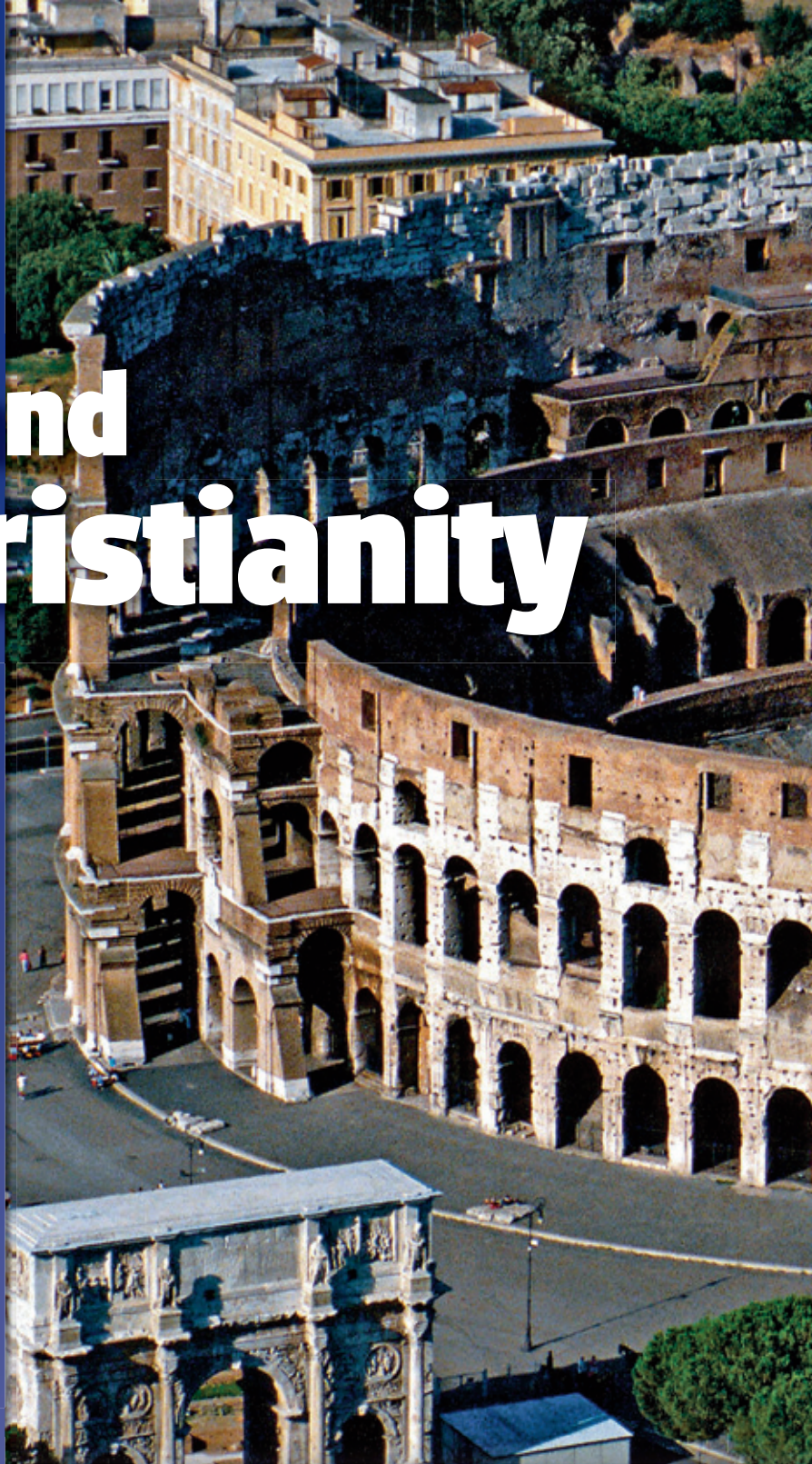


Rome and Early Christianity

THE BIG PICTURE

The city of Rome was the seat of one of the greatest powers of the ancient world. Over its 1,200-year history, Roman society experienced tremendous changes in both its government and its culture. Many of those changes were caused by the beginning and spread of one of the world's largest and most influential religions—Christianity.



North Carolina Standards

Social Studies Objectives

2.03 Describe the developments and achievements of Roman civilization and analyze the significance of the fall of Rome;

Language Arts Objective

2.01.3 Demonstrate the ability to read, listen to and view a variety of increasingly complex print and non-print information texts appropriate to grade level and course by providing textual evidence to support understanding of and reader's response to text.

TIME LINE

CHAPTER EVENTS

800 BC

753 BC Romulus establishes the city of Rome.

509 BC The Roman Republic begins.

Pax Romana
27 BC–AD 180

WORLD EVENTS

c. 700 BC
The Assyrians conquer Israel.

323 BC
Alexander the Great dies.

221 BC
Shi Huangdi becomes emperor of China.



History's Impact video program

Watch the video to understand the impact of ancient Rome on the world today.



Reading like a Historian

The Roman Colosseum shown here was built in the first century AD. One of the largest structures in the Roman world, it was built as a site for public entertainments, especially vicious combats between professional gladiators.

Analyzing Visuals What kind of modern buildings does the Colosseum resemble? Why do you think this resemblance exists?

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H26

AD 313

Constantine ends all persecution of Christians.

AD 476

The last Western Roman Emperor is overthrown.

250

c. AD 250

The Maya Classic Period begins.

AD 320

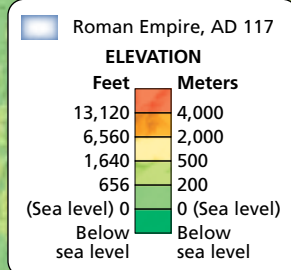
The Gupta dynasty takes over India.

GEOGRAPHY Starting Points



Interactive

ITALY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN



EARLY PEOPLE OF ITALY



Starting Points Built on the banks of the Tiber River in Italy, Rome became one of the greatest powers in the Mediterranean world. It grew from a single city to the heart of a huge empire that, by AD 117, controlled most of Europe as well as parts of Africa and Asia.

- 1. Draw Conclusions** The Roman name for the Mediterranean was *Mare Nostrum*, or "Our Sea." Why do you think they called it that?
- 2. Predict** How do you think Rome's location helped it become a major power in the Mediterranean?



Listen to History

Go online to listen to an explanation of the starting points for this chapter.

go.hrw.com

Keyword: SHL ROM

SECTION

1

The Foundations of Rome

BEFORE YOU READ

MAIN IDEA

From a small town on the banks of an Italian river, Rome grew to control the entire Mediterranean region.

READING FOCUS

1. Where and how did Roman civilization develop?
2. What led to Rome's becoming a republic?
3. What were the major events in Rome's expansion?

KEY TERMS

republic
patricians
plebeians
veto
Forum
constitution
Senate
consuls
dictator

TAKING NOTES

As you read, take notes on Rome's origin, government, and expansion.

Origin

Government

Expansion

THE INSIDE STORY

Could a mighty civilization rise from the humblest of origins?

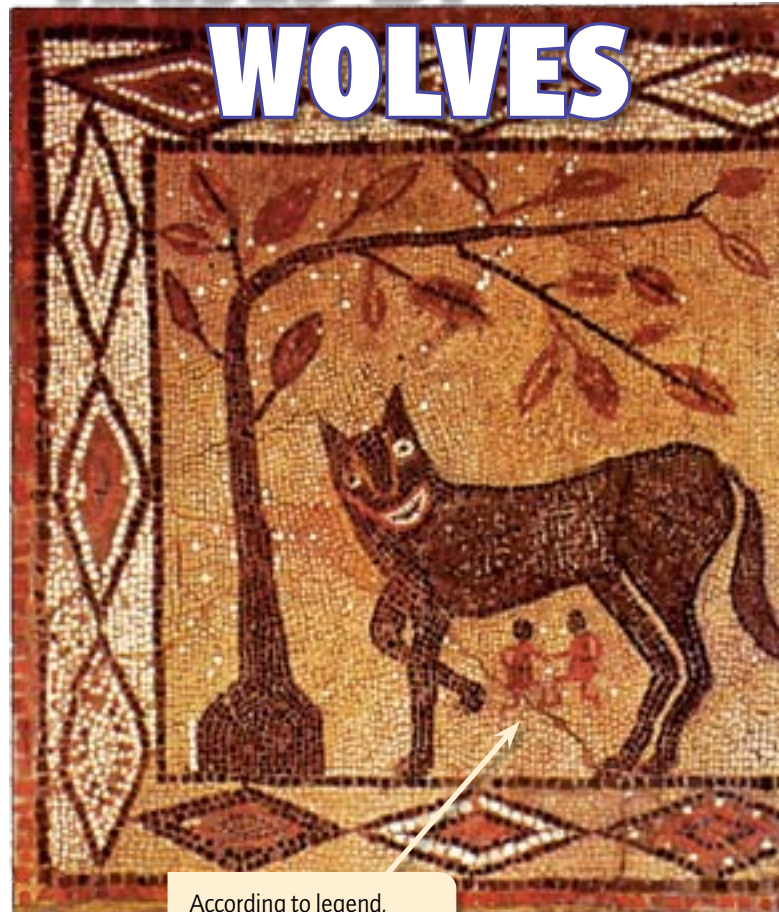
According to legend, Rome did. The city traced its origins to twin brothers named Romulus and Remus, descendants of a Trojan hero named Aeneas who had fled to Italy after the Trojan War. As babies, the boys were placed in a basket and set adrift on the Tiber River at the order of their great-uncle. According to the legend, the basket washed ashore and was found by a wolf who cared for the boys. Eventually, the boys were discovered by a kind shepherd who adopted them as his own sons.

When the boys grew up, they decided to build a city on the Tiber, where they had been saved. The brothers fought about the exact location for the city, however. Eventually, Romulus won the argument and began to sketch out plans for the city's layout. Irritated that he had been overruled, Remus mocked his brother's plans. Enraged, Romulus attacked and killed Remus. He then built the city they had planned, which he named Rome, after himself. He made himself Rome's king and ruled for nearly 40 years. In time, the humble city of Romulus grew into a major power. ■

Roman Civilization Develops

"All roads lead to Rome." "Rome was not built in a day." "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." You have probably heard all of these expressions at some point in your life, but have you ever wondered why Rome features so prominently in popular sayings? How did the tiny city supposedly founded by Romulus grow into a major power and win a place in modern popular culture?

RAISED BY WOLVES



According to legend, Romulus and Remus were raised by a she-wolf.

Mosaic of Romulus and Remus from Aldborough, England, c. AD 100

Italy's Geography If you look at a map, the Italian Peninsula seems a logical place for the emergence of a mighty Mediterranean empire. The boot-shaped peninsula juts south from Europe far into the Mediterranean. It also lies almost halfway between the eastern and western boundaries of the Mediterranean Sea.

Italy's physical features aided the growth of a powerful civilization. To the north, the peninsula was protected, though not isolated, by the high mountains of the Alps. To the south, east, and west, the sea provided both protection and a means of rapid transportation. Much of the peninsula had rich soil and a mild climate, able to support a large population.

The Founding of Rome In the middle of this peninsula, the city of Rome grew up. According to legend, Romulus and Remus, twin brothers who were raised by a she-wolf, founded the city of Rome in 753 BC. Whether or not Romulus and Remus actually existed, the people who built Rome were members of an Indo-European tribe known as the Latins who had reached Italy in the 1000s BC.

Under the Latins, Rome grew into a bustling city. The city prospered at least partly from its location on the Tiber. This location not only lay across valuable trade routes between northern and southern Italy but also had easy access to the sea. Early Romans appreciated the location of the city, as one statesman explained:

HISTORY'S VOICES

“It seems to me that Romulus must at the very beginning have [had] a divine intimation that the city would one day be the site and hearthstone of a mighty empire; for scarcely could a city placed upon any other site in Italy have more easily maintained our present widespread dominion.”

—Cicero, *On the Republic* II.5

The Etruscans At first Rome was ruled by Latin kings. Around 616 BC, however, it came under the rule of the Etruscans of northern Italy. From evidence found at Etruscan cemeteries, scholars believe that they were great metalworkers and jewelers whose culture had been heavily influenced by Greece. The Etruscans had great influence on Roman society, as the chart below shows.

READING CHECK Summarize What advantages did Rome's location give the city?

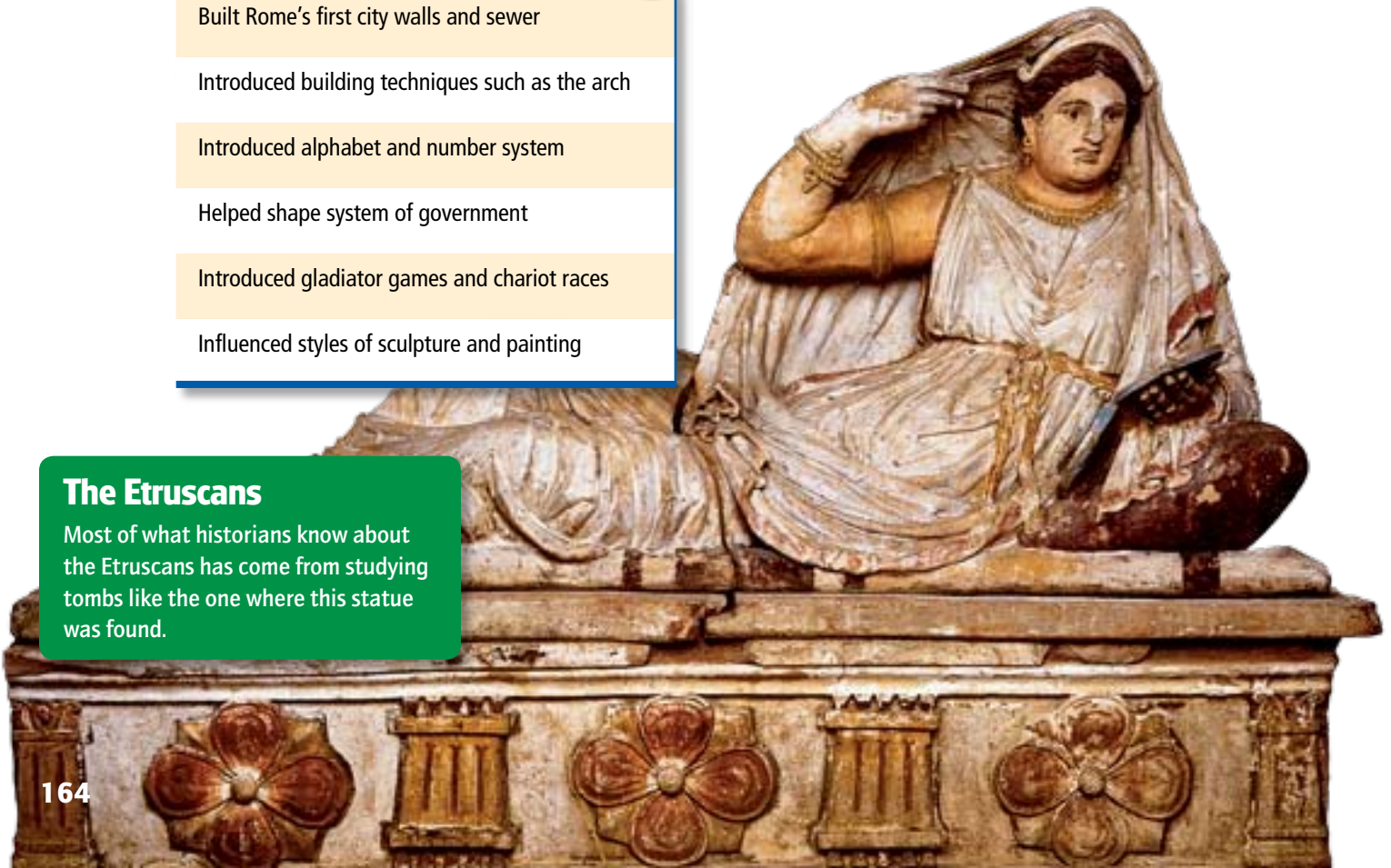
ETRUSCAN INFLUENCES

QUICK FACTS

- Built Rome's first city walls and sewer
- Introduced building techniques such as the arch
- Introduced alphabet and number system
- Helped shape system of government
- Introduced gladiator games and chariot races
- Influenced styles of sculpture and painting

The Etruscans

Most of what historians know about the Etruscans has come from studying tombs like the one where this statue was found.



Rome Becomes a Republic

According to ancient historians, the Etruscans ruled Rome until 509 BC, when the Romans revolted and threw out the last king, a tyrant. In place of the monarchy, the Romans established a new type of government—a **republic**, in which elected officials governed the state.

Patricians and Plebeians In the early days of the Republic, the heads of a few aristocratic families, known as **patricians**, elected officials from among themselves. Organized in clans, patrician families controlled every aspect of society—politics, religion, economics, and the military. Patricians maintained their power through a patronage system in which wealthy Romans provided financial, social, or legal support for lower ranking families in return for political backing and loyalty.

Almost from the beginning of the Republic, however, the common people, or **plebeians** (pl-BEE-uhns), challenged the patricians for power. When invaders threatened Rome in 494 BC, the plebeians seceded, or withdrew. They left Rome and refused to fight until changes were made. Realizing that they would not have an army without the plebeians, the patricians grudgingly expanded plebeian rights. Once they received these new rights, the plebeians returned to defend the city. Back in Rome, they formed their own assembly, the Plebeian Council. That assembly had the responsibility of overseeing and protecting plebeian affairs.

To guarantee their rights, the plebeians also gained the right to elect officials known as tribunes. It was the tribunes' job to protect the plebeians against unjust treatment by patrician officials. Eventually, these tribunes even gained the right to **veto**, or ban, laws that seemed harmful or unjust to the plebeians.

Later, around 450 BC, the plebeians forced the patricians to have all laws written down. The laws were displayed in the Roman **Forum**, or central square, on 12 large bronze tablets. As a result, the code became known as the Law of the Twelve Tables. Because the laws were posted, patrician judges could not make decisions based on their own opinions or on secret laws. However, one of the newly posted laws was a ban on marriage between patricians and plebeians—an attempt by the patricians to preserve their special status.

Reading like a Historian

The Law of the Twelve Tables

Analyzing Primary Sources The Law of the Twelve Tables, compiled sometime around 450 BC, was Rome's first written law code. Organized by patricians at the insistence of the plebeians, the laws included in the code deal largely with trials, a key issue in relations between the two classes in Roman society. As a result, studying the Law of the Twelve Tables can reveal a great deal about how the two classes got along, and thus about early Roman society. Read the sample laws from the tables below. As you read, think about

- who created the laws.
- the possible points of view of patricians and plebeians on each law.
- how the laws would have affected members of each class.

This law protected the rights of both lenders and borrowers.

From Table I: If anyone summons a man before the magistrate, he must go. If the man summoned does not go, let the one summoning him call the bystanders to witness and then take him by force.

Patricians did not want to allow marriages between members of different classes, though this law was later repealed.

From Table III: One who has confessed a debt, or against whom judgment has been pronounced, shall have thirty days to pay it in. After that forcible seizure of his person is allowed. The creditor shall bring him before the magistrate. Unless he pays the amount of the judgment or some one in the presence of the magistrate interferes in his behalf as protector the creditor so shall take him home and fasten him in stocks or fetters. He shall fasten him with not less than fifteen pounds of weight or, if he choose, with more. If the prisoner choose, he may furnish his own food. If he does not, the creditor must give him a pound of meal daily; if he choose he may give him more.

From Table XI: Marriages should not take place between plebeians and patricians.

—From the Law of the Twelve Tables

**Skills
Focus**

READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

- 1. Creator** Who wanted the law from Table XI included in the code? Why do you think this was so?
- 2. Point of View** Who do you think favored the idea that no one, patricians or plebeians, could ignore the law? Why?
- 3. Details** How did the law from Table III protect both the rich and the poor?

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H25

Republican Government Working together, the patricians and plebeians created a practical and flexible unwritten **constitution**, or political structure. They were extremely proud of this system, as a statesman explained:

HISTORY'S VOICES

“The reason for the superiority of the constitution of our city to that of other states is that the latter almost always had their laws and institutions from one legislator. But our republic was not made by the genius of one man, but of many, nor in the life of one, but through many centuries and generations.”

—Cicero, *On the Republic* II.1

As part of their new Republican constitution, the Romans created new offices and institutions of government. Eventually, the government consisted of three parts:

(1) the **Senate**, a body of 300 members who advised elected officials, controlled public finances, and handled all foreign relations;

(2) various popular assemblies, in which all citizens voted on laws and elected officials;

(3) officials called magistrates, who put the laws into practice, governed in the name of the Senate and the people, and acted as priests.

Though initially dominated by patricians, all state offices, including the Senate, were later open to both patricians and plebeians.

When the last king of Rome was thrown out, his place was taken by two magistrates called **consuls**. Elected for one year, the consuls were both chief executives and commanders of the army.

Next to the consuls, the most important magistrates were the censors. Censors recorded the city's population and how much property each person owned. They also appointed new Senators when vacancies appeared. The ability to select new Senators gave the censors great influence in Roman society.

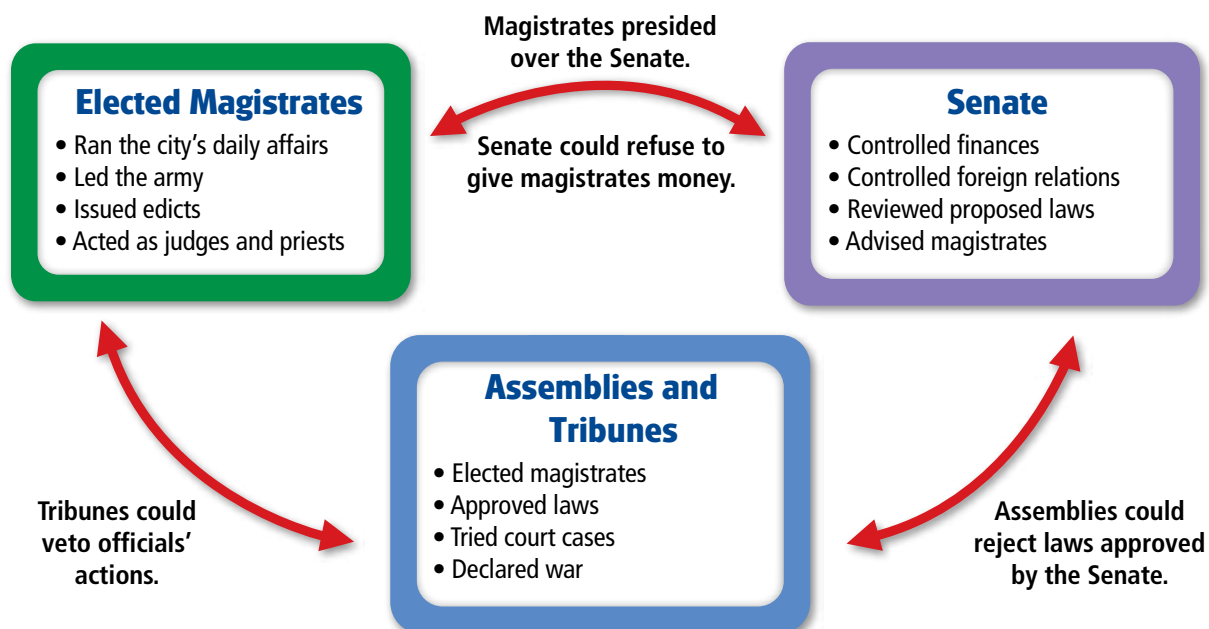
In the 300s BC Romans also began to elect magistrates called praetors. Primarily judges, praetors could also act for the consuls when the consuls were away at war. As Rome expanded, both consuls and praetors were usually given military commands or were appointed as provincial governors after finishing their terms of office. To assist the consuls and praetors, many other officials were also elected to handle various other aspects of the city's administration.

One reason that Rome's government worked well was that it included a system of checks and balances, in which each part of the government could impose certain **constraints** upon the others. For example, the Senate could do little without the consent of the consuls, but at the same time consuls could not enact major changes without funding from the Senate.

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

constraints
limitations

CHECKS AND BALANCES IN THE ROMAN GOVERNMENT



The Forum Then and Now



The Forum was the center of Roman life. At its height, it was a splendid place of marble temples (left). Today, only ruins remain (below). **What evidence of the Forum's glory can you see in its ruins?**



Life in the Republic During the days of the Roman Republic, Rome was a thriving and vibrant city. At the heart of the city was the Forum, the public square and the site of the most important government buildings and temples. The Forum was nestled between two hills—the Palatine, on which many of Rome's wealthiest citizens lived, and the Capitoline, where the city's grandest temples were. Because of this location, city leaders could often be found in the Forum, mingling with the citizens. The Senate met in the Forum, and key public addresses were usually delivered from a speaking platform there.

The Forum was more than just a political center, though. It was also a popular place for shopping and gossip. Busy shops lined either side of the Forum, and public celebrations were commonly held there. Indeed, the Forum was the busiest place in an already busy city.

Despite the bustling nature of their city, the Romans prided themselves on their agrarian roots. Farming and land ownership were considered the noblest ways to make money. In fact, Senators were forbidden to participate in any career that did not involve land. They could not, for example, engage in commerce.

The Roman tie to the land is illustrated in a legend of the early Republic. In the story, the people of Rome turned to their greatest general, Cincinnatus, who was plowing his fields at the time, to save them from an invasion.

They made him **dictator**, an office that gave its holder nearly unlimited power but could only be held for six months. Dictators were chosen to resolve crises that faced Rome. As dictator, Cincinnatus defeated the enemies and returned to his farm. He had no interest in retaining power but simply wanted to get back to his normal life.

READING CHECK **Draw Conclusions** Why do you think the Romans established a republic?

READING SKILLS

Identifying Stated Main Ideas What is the main idea of this paragraph?

The Republic Expands

As Rome's government changed, the Roman population continued to grow, and so too did the need for more land. Soon Rome began to settle its growing population on land it acquired by conquering its neighbors.

Military Might Rome's successful expansion would not have been possible without its powerful army. All Roman men between the ages of 17 and 46 with a minimum amount of property were required to serve in the army during times of war.

The Roman army was organized into units called legions. The backbone of the legions were centurions, commissioned officers who usually each commanded a century of 100 men. Above all, the Roman army was a highly disciplined and well-trained force that was capable of fighting in all types of terrain.

The Conquest of Italy By about 265 BC the Romans had defeated the Etruscans and the Greek cities in southern Italy. As the Romans conquered Italy they generally imposed few conditions on their subject peoples. These subject peoples had to provide troops to the Roman army, but Rome rarely interfered with the domestic affairs of the peoples it conquered.

Once Rome had taken control of Italy, its attention was drawn to Sicily, a large island to the south of the peninsula. Roman allies in Sicily had come into conflict with Carthage—a powerful trading city in North Africa. Rome came to its allies aid, which brought it into direct conflict with Carthage. The conflict between these two cities eventually grew into a series of three wars. Called the Punic Wars, they continued on and off for nearly 80 years.

The Punic Wars Violence broke out between Rome and Carthage in 264 BC, the beginning of the First Punic War. Because the war was fought mostly at sea, Carthage's powerful navy dominated the fighting early on. Soon, however, the Romans built a navy of their own and were able to defeat Carthage.

Relations between Rome and Carthage were strained after the First Punic War, and violence soon broke out again. In 218 BC the Carthaginian general Hannibal led a well-trained army and a force of war elephants across the Pyrenees and the Alps to invade Italy. For many years Hannibal dominated the Italian countryside, defeating one Roman army after another. In a single battle, Hannibal's troops killed or wounded as many as 50,000 Romans, the worst defeat ever suffered by Rome.

FACES OF HISTORY

Two Commanders of the Punic Wars

HANNIBAL

247–183 BC



The commander of the Carthaginian army during the Second Punic War, Hannibal is widely considered one of the greatest military leaders in all of history. He was a master of strategy, managing to defeat the Roman army soundly time and again. In fact, the Romans respected his grasp of strategy so much that they ended up adopting elements of it themselves.

After Carthage lost the Second Punic War, the city's leaders exiled Hannibal. He moved to Syria and served as an advisor to the Hellenistic kings until Rome conquered the region. The Romans took Hannibal prisoner, but rather than live as a captive, he committed suicide.

SCIPIO Africanus

236–183 BC



During Hannibal's march through Italy, many Romans were considering surrendering to the Carthaginians. Thoughts of surrender outraged one noble, Publius Cornelius Scipio. So angry was Scipio that he is said to have stormed into the Senate and forced everyone at sword point to let the war go on.

Early in the Punic Wars, Scipio fought Hannibal's brother in Spain. After defeating him, Scipio raised an army of his own. It was his idea to attack Carthage, and it was his leadership that defeated Hannibal's army at Zama. For this victory, Scipio was given the honorary name Africanus, or conqueror of Africa.



Predict How might the history of the Mediterranean have been different had Scipio not forced the Romans to fight?

With Hannibal ravaging Italy and defeating every army sent to face him, the Romans needed a new strategy to win the war. After a major victory against the Carthaginians in Spain, Romans under Publius Cornelius Scipio (SIP-ee-oh) sailed to Africa and besieged Carthage itself. This siege forced Hannibal to withdraw from Italy and return to Carthage. In 202 BC Scipio routed Hannibal's forces on the plain of Zama outside Carthage and took the city, ending the Second Punic War.

As a result of the Second Punic War, Rome became the leading power of the western Mediterranean. The Romans stripped Carthage of its navy and the lands it had once held in Spain. However, the Romans did not destroy the city, as many citizens had wanted.

The huge losses of the Second Punic War remained in the memories of many Romans. For example, one Senator ended every speech he made with the phrase "Carthage must be destroyed." Finally, in 149 BC Rome decided to destroy its old enemy once and for all and declared war for the third time. After a siege of three years Carthage fell. The Romans enslaved the entire population and completely destroyed the city. They banned any people from living in the area.

The Conquest of Greece While the Punic Wars were raging in the western republic, Rome also became involved in the politics of the eastern Mediterranean. The Hellenistic kingdoms of Macedonia, Persia, and Egypt fought each other almost constantly, and Greek city-states feared that they would soon be conquered by their more powerful neighbors. For protection, the city-states sought an alliance with Rome.

Together with the Greeks, the Romans fought and defeated both Macedonia and Persia. Both kingdoms eventually became Roman provinces, as did many of their allies. After several more years of fighting within Greece itself, the Romans decided to annex Greece as a province as well.

Once Greece became a Roman province, the Romans adopted many elements of that culture. Even before they took over Greece, many Romans had admired Greek culture. After the conquest, Roman art and architecture began to reflect Greek ideals. In fact, many of the most famous works of Roman art are actually copies of earlier Greek pieces.

Another area in which the Romans borrowed ideas from the Greeks was religion. The Romans adopted the stories of the Olympian gods of Greece as their own, though they called the gods by Roman names. The Greek king of the gods Zeus became Jupiter, his wife Hera became Juno, and their brothers Poseidon and Hades became Neptune and Pluto. These gods became the heart of the Roman state religion, and temples were built to them in the city of Rome and in the provinces.

Not all Romans were happy with the growing influence of Greek culture in Rome. They thought that Rome should remain purely Roman and should maintain a simple culture like that of the early Republic. As a result, they fought to keep Greek styles out of Roman buildings. Despite their protests, however, the influence of the Greeks continued to grow in Rome for many years.

READING CHECK Sequence How did Rome come to dominate the Mediterranean world?

SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

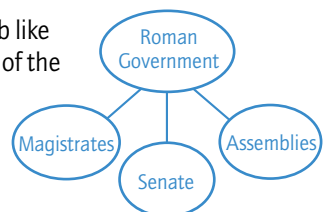
Keyword: SHL ROM HP

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

1. **a. Identify** Who were the Etruscans? What did the Romans learn from them?
b. Infer How did Rome's location encourage both expansion and trade?
c. Elaborate Why might the Romans have wanted to create stories about their city's humble origins?
2. **a. Describe** What were the parts of Rome's republican government?
b. Explain Why did the plebeians want Rome's laws written down?
c. Develop What are some places in our society that serve the same functions that the Forum did in Rome?
3. **a. Recall** How did Rome's army help it expand?
b. Draw Conclusions Why do you think the Romans treated the Carthaginians so harshly at the end of the Punic Wars?
c. Elaborate How did the conquest of Greece by Rome lead to major changes in Roman society?

Critical Thinking

4. **Analyze** Using your notes and a word web like the one shown here, analyze the structure of the Roman government. Make the lower circles large enough to hold details about the parts.



FOCUS ON WRITING

5. **Description** Write a short description of the Forum that might have appeared in a guidebook to ancient Rome. Use vivid details to try to bring the Forum to life for your readers.

Focus on Themes

Government and Citizenship

Citizenship, the right to take part in the government, was one of the most sought after rights in the Roman world. People from outside of Rome were so desperate to become Roman citizens that they even went to war for it—the Social War, for example, was fought by Italians who wanted Roman citizenship. What exactly did it mean to be a Roman citizen? How could one become a citizen if not born in Rome?

CITIZENSHIP THEN To a people for whom participation in the government was both a right and a civic duty, citizenship was essential. Only citizens could take part in the government of the Republic, and therefore only citizens were considered truly Roman. Noncitizens might live in Rome, but they were not Roman.

Roman citizenship carried with it many rights. Citizens could vote and take part in assemblies, they could make contracts, and they could file cases in court. In addition, only citizens could legally get married. Roman citizens could not be tortured or sentenced to death unless they were found guilty of treason.

Citizenship was desirable and eagerly sought after. Early in the Republic, people who performed some special service to the government were rewarded with citizenship. Later, laws passed by the Senate or—even later—the emperor gave citizenship to all residents of certain provinces except slaves, who had no rights.



▲ **NOW** Newly sworn citizens of the United States celebrate by waving flags.

CITIZENSHIP NOW Just as in ancient Rome, citizenship in the United States is a valuable and sought after right. Being an American citizen allows one to vote in elections, run for public office, and serve on juries to hear court cases.

The United States does not make citizenship difficult to obtain. As in Rome, the children of American citizens are automatically citizens, regardless of where in the world they are born. Any child born within the United States, regardless of his or her parents' citizenship, is considered a citizen as well. In addition, legal residents of the United States who are not citizens can apply for citizenship after living here for five years. In order to become a citizen, the resident must pass a test on American history and government, demonstrate basic fluency in English and swear an oath to support the U.S. Constitution.



**Skills
FOCUS**

UNDERSTANDING THEMES

1. **Draw Conclusions** What made citizenship so desirable to people in the Roman world?
2. **Summarize** What are the ways in which one can become an American citizen?
3. **Compare** How was ancient Roman citizenship similar to American citizenship? How did the two differ?

◀ **THEN** Only Roman citizens could wear the garment known as a toga.

From Republic to Empire

BEFORE YOU READ

MAIN IDEA

Governmental and social problems led to the end of the Roman Republic and the creation of a new form of government.

READING FOCUS

1. What problems did leaders face in the late Roman Republic?
2. How did Rome become an empire?
3. What helped tie the Roman empire together during the Pax Romana?

KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

Gracchi
Gaius Marius
Lucius Cornelius Sulla
Julius Caesar
triumvirate
Augustus
Pax Romana

TAKING NOTES

Make a list of major events in Rome's change from a republic to an empire.

↓

↓

THE INSIDE STORY

Why would a successful general break the law? In 50 BC Julius Caesar

was one of the most powerful men in the Roman Republic. He was the governor of the province of Gaul—modern France—the winner of dozens of battles, a charismatic leader, and a powerful public speaker. To all appearances, his star was on the rise.

Caesar, however, had powerful enemies who were afraid of his ambition. Those enemies wanted him to leave Gaul and return to Rome—without his army. Caesar feared that they wanted to arrest him and drive him out of politics.

Torn between his ambition for power and caution, Caesar led his troops to the banks of the Rubicon River, the border between Gaul and Italy. Under Roman law, he could not take his army any farther. At the last minute, however, Caesar decided to take his army anyway, to protect him from his political opponents. As he led his horse into the river, he is said to have uttered, "The die is cast," meaning the game had begun. Caesar had made his first move, and there was no turning back. ■

Problems in the Late Republic

By the mid-100s BC, Rome had no rival anywhere in the Mediterranean world. However, the Romans soon found themselves faced on all sides by problems. The responsibilities of running their vast holdings stretched the Roman political system to its limits.

As the pressures of governing grew, a revolution began in Roman political and social institutions. The primary cause of this revolution was growing tension between the various classes of Roman society.

No Turning Back



▲ In this painting, the spirit of Rome appears to Julius Caesar and his soldiers as they prepare to cross the Rubicon.

The Goddess Roma Appearing to Julius Caesar at the Bank of the Rubicon, by Richard Westall, c. 1793

The Death of Caesar

Julius Caesar was killed in 44 BC by a conspiracy of Senators. This account of the act was written by historian Suetonius in the 100s.

As he took his seat, the conspirators gathered about him as if to pay their respects, and straightway Tilius Cimber, who had assumed the lead, came nearer as though to ask something; and when Caesar with a gesture put him off to another time, Cimber caught his toga by both shoulders; then as Caesar cried, “Why, this is violence!” one of the Cascas stabbed him from one side just below the throat. Caesar caught Casca’s arm and ran it through with his stylus, but as he tried to leap to his feet, he was stopped by another wound. When he saw that he was beset on every side by drawn daggers, he muffled his head in his robe, and at the same time drew down its lap to his feet with his left hand, in order to fall more decently, with the lower part of his body also covered. And in this wise he was stabbed with three and twenty wounds, uttering not a word, but merely a groan at the first stroke, though some have written that when Marcus Brutus rushed at him, he said in Greek, “You too, my child?”

**Skills
FOCUS**

READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

Analyze Primary Sources Do you think Caesar knew the men who killed him? Why or why not?

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H25

Social Unrest Among the first officials to notice the growing tension in Rome and try to resolve it were two brothers, the **Gracchi**. In 133 BC the tribune Tiberius Gracchus noted the treatment of soldier-farmers, who were being reduced to poverty. After long years of service, many legionnaires returned home to find their farms had been sold or were in such bad shape that they had to be abandoned.

Tiberius and his younger brother Gaius tried to help these soldiers by redistributing public land to small farmers. The Gracchi had public support, but the Roman elite reacted violently. Fearing that the Gracchi were trying to reduce its power, the Senate urged mobs to kill first Tiberius and later his brother, along with their supporters. For the first time, the blood of Roman citizens was intentionally shed in the Forum. Violence had become a political tool.

The Military in Politics In 107 BC the social unrest reached a new level when a talented military leader named **Gaius Marius** was elected consul. Anxious to improve recruitment for the army, he eliminated the property restrictions and began to accept anyone into the army who wanted to join. Poor people began to join the army, attaching themselves to a general in hopes of sharing the plunder and land at the end of a war. As a result of Marius’s changes, armies largely became private forces devoted to the general. Ruthless generals soon realized that they could use the loyalty of their troops as a political tool to increase their own power.

The Social War For decades, Rome’s allies in Italy had been trying to obtain Roman citizenship, but the Senate had stubbornly refused. In 91 BC conflict broke out. The conflict was known as the Social War, from *socius*, the Latin word for ally. In the end, the Italian rebels were defeated—but only after the Senate had finally agreed to give them citizenship.

Civil War The Social War revealed the talent of one general in particular, the ambitious **Lucius Cornelius Sulla**, who became consul in 88 BC. During Sulla’s consulship, Marius and his supporters defied Roman custom by trying to prevent Sulla from taking a military command. Sulla responded by marching on Rome with his legions.

In the civil war that followed, Sulla emerged victorious and became dictator. In a bloody purge he executed those who had opposed him or whom he believed to be a danger to the state. He then carried out a program of reforms aimed at protecting the power of the Senate. Eventually, incorrectly believing he had preserved the old republic, Sulla voluntarily retired.

READING CHECK

Summarize What challenges faced Rome in the late republic?

Rome Becomes an Empire

By establishing the example of dictatorship, Sulla had paved the way for major changes in Rome’s government. Within a generation of his death, the old Republic was practically gone. The end of the Republic was the result of the ambitions of just a few influential individuals, the most powerful men in Rome.

The First Triumvirate Among those who helped bring an end to the republic were **Julius Caesar**, Gnaeus Pompey, and Licinius Crassus. Caesar and Pompey were both successful military commanders who had added huge amounts of territory to the republic. In the east, Pompey had conquered Syria and parts of Asia Minor. In the west, Caesar had added all of Gaul—modern France—to the republic. Crassus, not as successful a soldier, was one of the wealthiest people in Rome. In 60 BC the three men took over the Roman Republic as the First **Triumvirate**, or rule of three men.

Eventually Crassus died, and Caesar and Pompey faced off in a civil war. Caesar defeated Pompey and took full control of the Republic. Recognizing Caesar's power, the Senate declared him dictator for life in 44 BC.

As dictator, Caesar brought many changes to Rome. He gave citizenship to people in the provinces and gave public land to veterans. Caesar's reforms made him popular with the public, but many Senators thought he wanted to make himself king and destroy the Roman Republic. In a last desperate attempt to save the Republic, a group of Senators murdered Caesar on the Ides of March—March 15.

The Second Triumvirate Caesar's murder did not, however, save the Republic. In 43 BC the Second Triumvirate, composed of Caesar's adopted son and heir, Octavian; a loyal officer named Marc Antony; and the high priest Lepidus, took power. Soon Lepidus was pushed aside as Antony and Octavian agreed to govern half the empire each—Octavian in the west and Antony in the east.

When civil war between the two eventually broke out, Octavian defeated Antony and his ally, Queen Cleopatra of Egypt, at the naval battle of Actium in 31 BC. With the double suicide of Antony and Cleopatra the following year, Octavian alone controlled Rome. The Republic was effectively dead and a new period in Roman history was beginning.

From Octavian to Augustus As sole ruler, Octavian faced the task of restoring order in the empire. When he took power, Octavian had no intention of establishing a dictatorship, but he had later secretly decided that it would be impossible to return Rome to its old republican system of government.

Achievements of Augustus

Rome's first emperor, Augustus, introduced many changes to society. *What changes can you see illustrated in these photos?*



▲ Originally built under Augustus, the Pantheon, a temple to all the gods, was rebuilt later.

"I found Rome built of bricks; I leave her clothed in marble."

► As a military leader, Augustus added much territory to the empire.

► The peace Augustus brought to Rome allowed trade to grow.



As Rome's ruler, Octavian created a new political order. Today it is known as the empire, but Octavian was careful to avoid the title of king or emperor. Instead, he called himself *princeps*, or "first citizen." The government he established is therefore known as the Principate. Despite this title, Octavian insisted that he had no powers greater than those of other magistrates and that he worked for the good of the people:

HISTORY'S VOICES

“May I be privileged to build firm and lasting foundations for the government of the state. May I also achieve the reward to which I aspire: that of being known as the author of the best possible constitution, and of carrying with me, when I die, the hope that these foundations which I have established for the State will abide secure.”

—Augustus, quoted in Suetonius, *The Twelve Caesars*

In 27 BC the Senate gave Octavian a title of honor—**Augustus**, “the revered one.” This title, a religious honor, is the name by which he is still known today. He was also given the right to wear a crown of laurel and oak leaves.

The Augustan Age For more than 40 years, Augustus remained at the head of the state. This very long reign made possible a smooth transition to the new imperial government. Augustus divided the power to rule Rome and its empire between himself and the Senate. However, most financial and administrative matters came under Augustus's control.

In foreign affairs Augustus started a vast program to bring peace to the west, particularly to Gaul and Spain. He also began a series of conquests that pushed the border of the empire eastward to the Danube River.

In Rome the legacy of the Augustan Age was even more impressive. Augustus took special care of Rome itself, creating a police force and fire brigades and stockpiling food and water supplies. Augustus also began a vast building program, boasting, “I found Rome built of bricks; I leave her clothed in marble.” In addition, he presided over moral and religious reforms, arguing that since the gods had made the empire possible, it was wise to respect them. He restored old temples and built new ones.

Culturally, the Augustan Age was a great period of creativity in Latin literature. This period produced many of the greatest writers

in Roman history. Realizing that literature could enhance his fame, Augustus supported its development. Great writers flourished, including the poets Horace and Ovid, the historian Livy, and above all, the poet Virgil. In his epic poem the *Aeneid*, Virgil tried to imitate Homer by creating a national epic, Rome's answer to the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*.

Julio-Claudians and Flavians Augustus died in AD 14. For the next 54 years, relatives of Julius Caesar, called the Julio-Claudian Emperors, ruled the empire. The abilities of these emperors varied widely. Tiberius, Augustus's adopted son, was a good soldier and a competent administrator. His brutal and mentally unstable successor, Caligula, however, once supposedly demonstrated his power to the Roman Senate by appointing his favorite horse as consul.

Nero, the last of the Julio-Claudians, committed suicide in AD 68. After his death, civil wars raged in Rome, and four military leaders claimed the throne in turn. The last of them, Vespasian, re-established order. During his reign and those of his two sons, stability returned to the empire. Together these three emperors are known as the Flavians.

The Good Emperors In AD 96 a new line of emperors established itself on the Roman throne. Called the Good Emperors, these five rulers governed Rome for almost a century. Almost all of the Good Emperors were from the provinces rather than from Rome. Consequently, they continued opening up Roman imperial society by admitting more members of the provincial elites into the Senate and the imperial administration.

Under the Good Emperors the empire grew tremendously. It reached the limits of its expansion under Trajan, who added present-day Romania, Armenia, Mesopotamia, and the Sinai Peninsula to the empire. Trajan's successor Hadrian, however, thought the empire had grown too large. He withdrew from almost all these eastern additions and built defensive fortifications along the frontiers to guard against invasions. In northern Britain, for example, Hadrian built a wall some 73 miles long.

READING CHECK

Explain How did Rome grow and change after it became an empire?

The Pax Romana

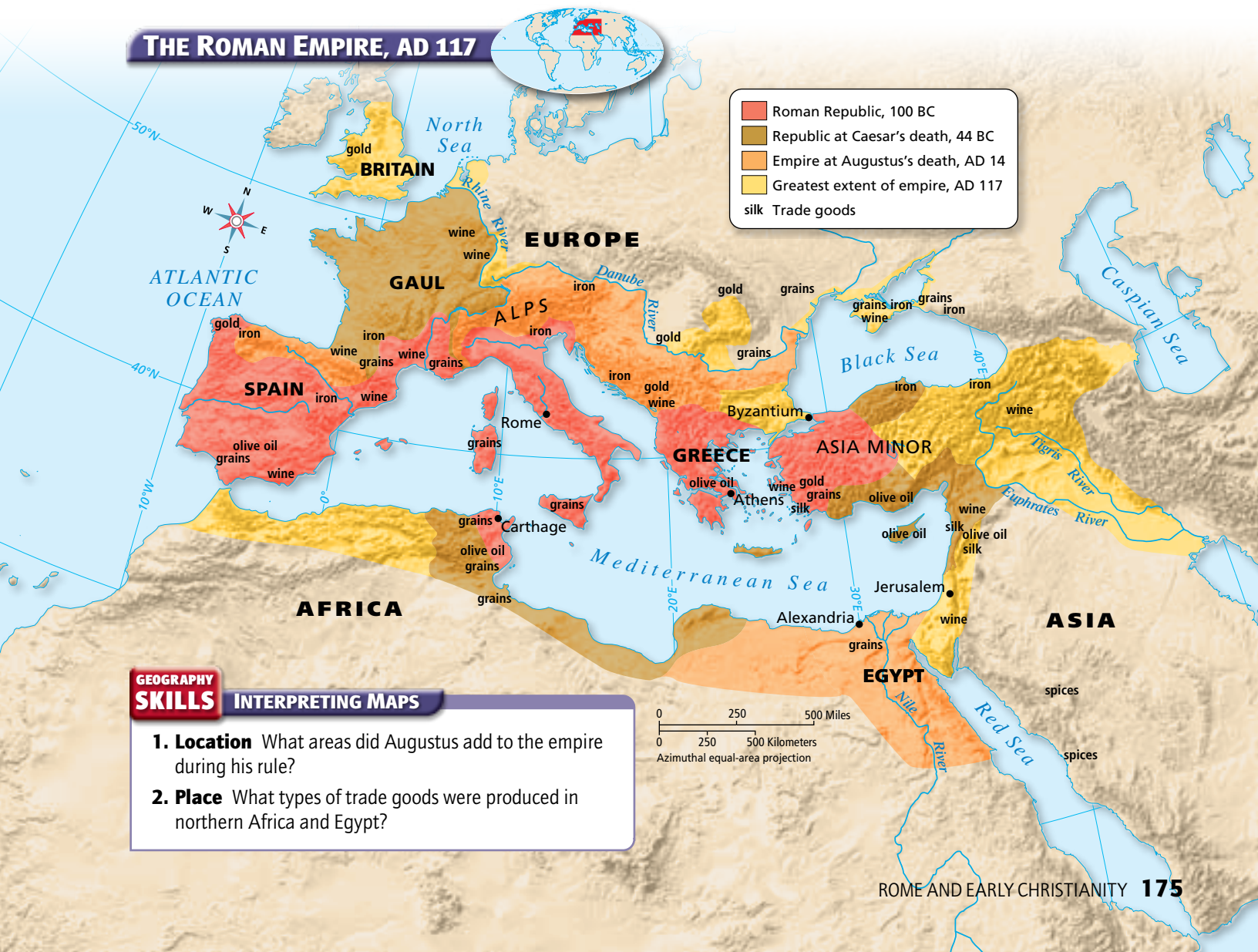
The period from the beginning of Augustus's reign in 27 BC until the death of the last of the Good Emperors in AD 180 is often called the **Pax Romana**—the Roman Peace. Several essential traits, such as stable government, a strong legal system, widespread trade, and, most importantly, peace characterized this long era. During the Pax Romana the smooth working of the imperial government was seldom interrupted by war or invasion.

Government The Roman government was the strongest unifying force in the empire. The government maintained order, enforced the laws, and defended the frontiers. Both in the central administration and in the provinces, members of the aristocracy participated in

government, but emperors made all important decisions. By the AD 100s the supreme position of the emperor had been well established.

The Roman Empire was divided into provinces ruled by governors appointed from Rome. Provincial government was both fairer and more efficient than it had been under the Republic, largely because the government in Rome kept a closer check on the governors than before. Moreover, any citizen could appeal any unfair treatment directly to the emperor.

Through this provincial organization, the empire brought a certain uniformity to the cities of the Mediterranean world. Cities were governed in imitation of Rome, complete with their own local senates and magistrates. Similar theaters, amphitheaters, public baths, and temples, modeled on those in Rome, could be seen from Britain to Asia Minor.



Legal System Roman law also unified the empire. Stability in the Roman legal system was achieved by laws passed by assemblies, the Senate, or the emperor. These laws specified what could or could not be done and what the penalties were for breaking the law. With few exceptions, the same laws applied to all citizens in the empire, wherever they might live.

Trade and Transportation Throughout the Pax Romana, agriculture remained the primary occupation of people in the empire. Most farms were owned by independent farmers who seldom had surplus to sell. On large estates, however, a new type of agricultural worker, the tenant farmer, began to replace slaves. Each tenant farmer received a small plot of land from the estate's owner. In return he had to remain on the land for a set period of time and pay the owner with a certain amount of the harvest.

Meanwhile, manufacturing increased throughout the empire. In Italy, Gaul, and Spain, artisans made cheap pottery and textiles by hand in small shops. The most important manufacturing centers, however, were in the east, where cities such as Alexandria made products like fine glassware.

The Roman Empire also provided many opportunities for trade. From the provinces, Italy imported grain, meat, and raw materials such as wool and hides. From Asia, merchants brought silks, linens, glassware, jewelry, and furniture to satisfy the wealthy. Rome and Alexandria became the empire's greatest commercial centers. Alexandria was particularly important, since Egypt produced grain surpluses with which emperors fed Rome's urban population.

All this commercial activity was possible largely because of two factors: the empire's location around the Mediterranean and its extensive road network. Ultimately there were about 50,000 miles of roads binding the empire together. Most roads, however, were built and maintained for military purposes. Local roads were not paved, and weather conditions often made overland travel impossible. It was actually cheaper to transport grain by ship from one end of the Mediterranean to the other than to send it 100 miles overland. Consequently, most goods went by sea.

READING CHECK Analyze How did government, law, and trade tie the Roman people together?

THE IMPACT TODAY

Many roads built by the Romans are still used today, some 2,000 years later.

SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

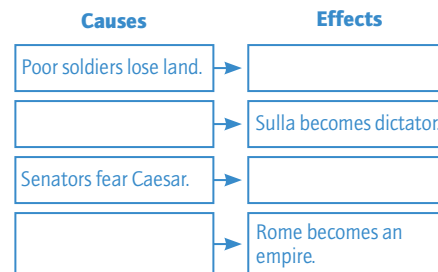
Keyword: SHL ROM HP

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

1. **a. Identify** Who were the Gracchi? What happened to them?
b. Explain How did Lucius Cornelius Sulla pave the way for later changes in Roman government?
c. Elaborate How do you think the military reforms made by Gaius Marius changed politics in Rome?
2. **a. Define** What is a **triumvirate**? What did the First Triumvirate do?
b. Summarize What did Augustus achieve as Rome's first emperor?
c. Evaluate Do you think Octavian earned the new name Augustus? Why or why not?
3. **a. Define** What was the **Pax Romana**? Why was it given that name?
b. Analyze How did the imperial government help tie people throughout the Roman Empire together during the Pax Romana?
c. Develop If it was generally cheaper to ship goods by sea than overland, why were roads still considered vital to the well-being of the Roman Empire?

Critical Thinking

4. **Identify Cause and Effect** Draw a graphic organizer like the one below. Use your notes to identify the causes or effects of the events listed in the boxes.



FOCUS ON WRITING

5. **Narration** Write a diary entry as though you were a trader in Rome during the Pax Romana. In your entry, tell how you spent your day, including where you went, what you saw, and which goods you bought or sold.

Roman Society and Culture

BEFORE YOU READ

MAIN IDEA

The Romans developed a complex society and pioneered cultural advances that, even today, affect life all over the world.

READING FOCUS

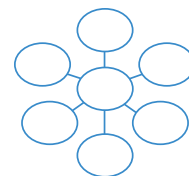
1. What social and cultural factors influenced life in imperial Rome?
2. What achievements shaped Rome's cultural legacy to the modern world?

KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

villa
circuses
paterfamilias
augurs
Galen
Ptolemy
aqueducts
Latin
civil law

TAKING NOTES

Use a word web to take notes on Roman life and culture.



THE INSIDE STORY

Why would people risk their lives for others' enjoyment? Fights

between gladiators, trained fighters who performed in public arenas, were a popular form of entertainment in Rome. The combat between gladiators was fierce, and many of them died in the arena. Why would anyone choose so dangerous a lifestyle?

Most gladiators did not choose the life. They were forced into it, either as slaves or as prisoners. A few individuals, however, did become gladiators voluntarily. Some were desperate for money and saw the arena as their only chance for survival. Others loved the thrill of danger. Still others

became gladiators for the glory. Successful gladiators were among the most popular people in Rome, the equivalents to movie, television, and music stars of today. To some Romans, the potential for fame was worth the risk. ■

Life in Imperial Rome

Gladiators locked in combat. Magnificent temples of marble. Soldiers marching off to war. These are a few of the images of Rome that have been carried down to the present by movies and stories. But what was life really like in the Roman Empire?

MORTAL COMBAT

▼ This Roman mosaic shows gladiators locked in combat.



Life for the Rich The Pax Romana provided prosperity to many people, but citizens did not share equally in this wealth. Rich citizens usually had both a city home and a country home, or **villa**, that included conveniences such as running water and baths.

Wealthy Roman men spent much of their time embroiled in politics. Since public officials were not paid, only the wealthy could afford to hold office. Wealthy Romans could frequently be found meeting with public officials or with political groups with whom they held common interests. However, ties of marriage, friendship, and family alliances were as important as class interests. In addition, Roman politicians worked to perfect their public-speaking skills to better sway the opinions of members of the popular assemblies.

Life for the Poor Unlike the wealthy, most of the nearly 1 million residents of Rome lived in crowded three- and four-story apartment buildings. Fire posed a constant threat because of the torches used for light and the charcoal used for cooking. In part to keep poorer citizens from rebelling against such conditions, free food and public entertainment became a major feature of city life in Rome. A Roman poet once noted that only two things interested the Roman masses—bread and circuses.

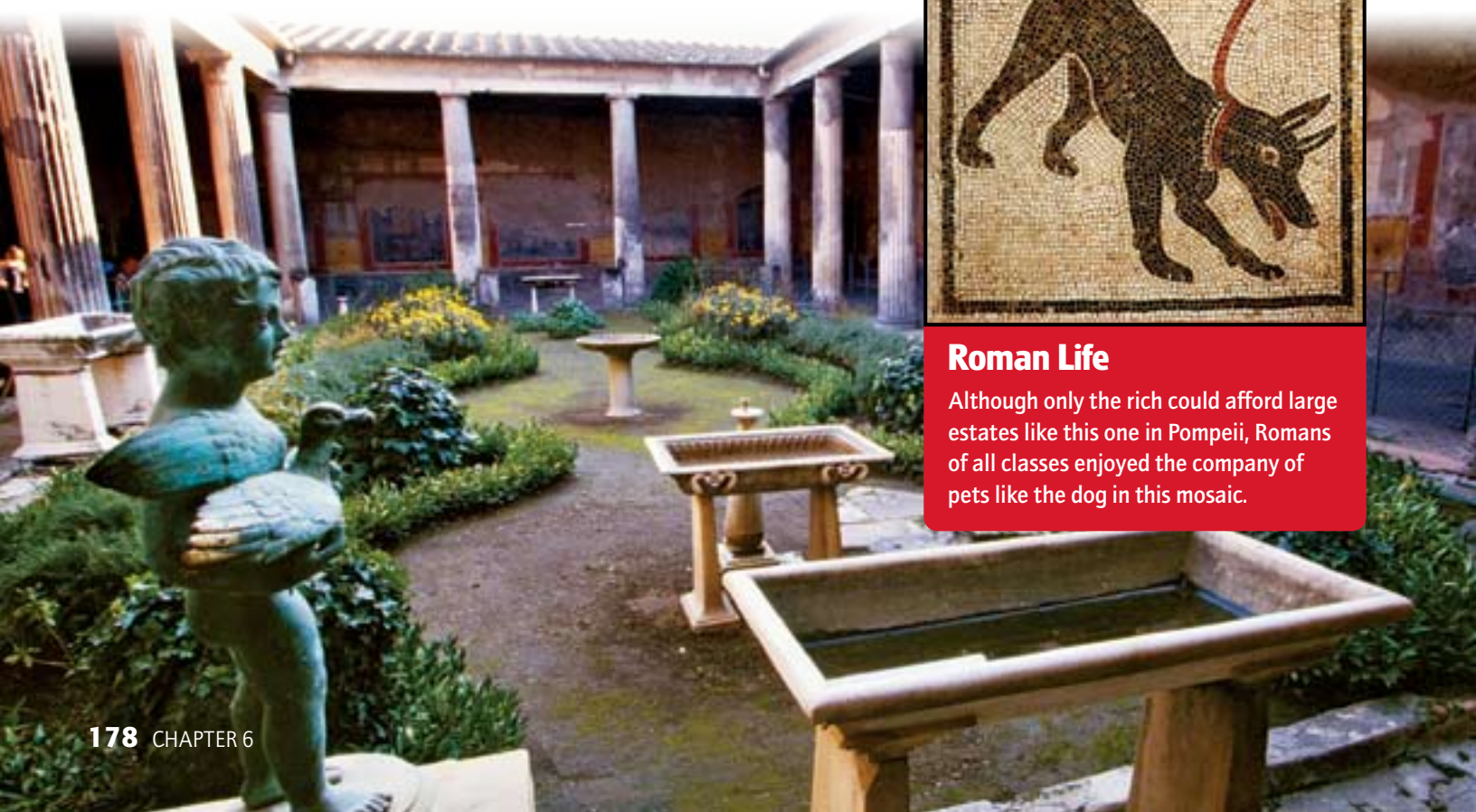
Public Entertainment It was not only poor Romans who enjoyed public entertainments, however. Romans of all classes enjoyed the **circuses**, where chariot races took place. In Rome many such races were held in the Circus Maximus, a racetrack that could accommodate 250,000 spectators. Roman audiences particularly enjoyed the spectacular crashes that frequently occurred. They also liked theater, particularly comedies and satires. Performers such as mimes, jugglers, dancers, acrobats, and clowns also became quite popular.

Romans also enjoyed bloody spectacles in amphitheaters, where wild animals such as lions and bears were brought to battle each other or professional fighters. Often, condemned criminals were thrown into the arena to be torn to pieces by beasts. By far the most popular entertainment offered in the amphitheaters, however, were gladiatorial combats. Such shows often ended with the death of one or both of the fighters, who were usually slaves. In Rome such spectacles were performed in the Colosseum, a huge amphitheater that seated some 50,000 people.



Roman Life

Although only the rich could afford large estates like this one in Pompeii, Romans of all classes enjoyed the company of pets like the dog in this mosaic.



Public baths were also popular places for recreation. The Romans were well aware of the importance of bathing and hygiene for health, but public baths offered far more than just a place to get clean. After bathing in a hot pool, people could retire to a cold pool to relax and socialize. In addition to the pools, many public baths included steam rooms, exercise facilities, and meeting rooms.

Family Like many other ancient peoples, Romans were patriarchal. The head of the family—the **paterfamilias**, or family father—was the oldest living male and had extensive powers over other members of the family. This included his wife, his sons with their wives and children, his unmarried daughters, and his family slaves. Within this family structure, Romans emphasized the virtues of simplicity, religious devotion, and obedience.

Adoption was an important aspect of Roman society. Some families with no sons would adopt a teenage boy or young man to serve as the heir to the paterfamilias. Adoption was one way of ensuring that the family name was carried on.

Roman women could do little without the intervention of a male guardian—her father or her husband—though women could own and inherit property. Among the lower classes, however, women had more freedom. Lower-class women often worked outside of the home as shopkeepers or at similar jobs.

Education The Romans, at least those of the upper classes, placed great value on education and literacy. In general, parents taught their children at home, though wealthy families might hire expensive tutors or send their sons to exclusive schools. In such schools, boys—and a few girls—learned Latin and Greek, law, math, and public speaking.

Religion As you have already learned, the Romans adopted many elements of Greek mythology. However, the Romans did not limit their belief to only a few gods. They made offerings to any gods who might exist to ensure Roman prosperity, including gods borrowed from the Egyptians, Mesopotamians, and Persians. Each Roman family also worshipped local household gods called *penates*. In addition, many Romans throughout the empire worshipped the emperor as a god.

ROMAN SOCIETY

QUICK
FACTS

Roman society was highly stratified. The lives of rich and poor citizens differed greatly. However, there were a few common elements that virtually all members of Roman society shared. A few of them are described below.

Religion

The Romans were accepting of many gods. Among the most popular were the gods of Greece.

Education

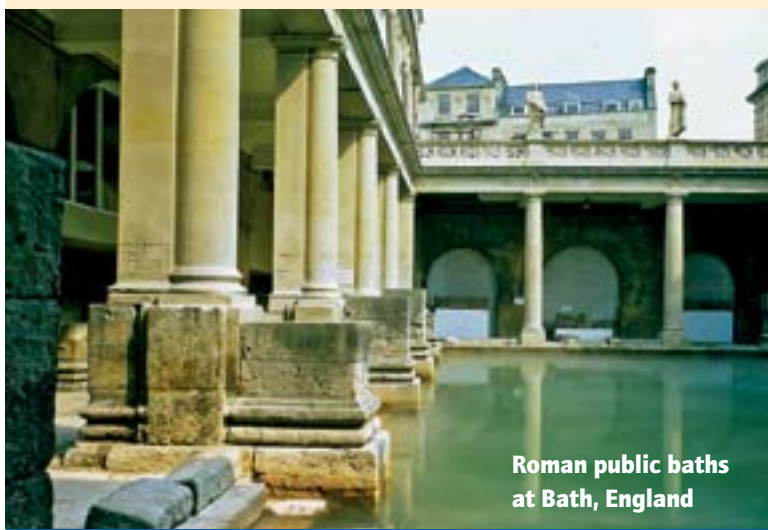
Upper-class Romans placed a great value on education for their sons. Most schooling was conducted at home.

Entertainment

The Romans were great fans of public entertainment. Theater, chariot races, and gladiatorial combat were all popular forms.

Health

Baths were both a hygienic practice and a form of entertainment in Rome. Public baths like the ones below were popular gathering spots.



Roman public baths
at Bath, England

The Romans believed that the gods sent signs and warnings to human beings in the form of natural phenomena, such as the flight of birds, or the color and arrangement of entrails in sacrificial animals. They paid particular respect to the priests known as **augurs**, who specialized in interpreting these signs. Nothing important was undertaken without first consulting the augurs.

READING CHECK Contrast How was life different for rich and poor citizens in Rome?

Rome's Cultural Legacy

Although the Western Roman Empire fell in 476, much of Roman culture continued to influence life for centuries. In fact, we can still see many of the legacies of the great empire today.

Science and Engineering Among the areas in which the Romans influenced later people were science and engineering. On the whole, Romans were less interested in original scientific research to increase knowledge than in collecting and organizing information. **Galen**, a physician who lived in Rome during the AD 100s, wrote several volumes that summarized all the medical knowledge of his day. For centuries people regarded him as the greatest authority in medicine. **Ptolemy** synthesized the knowledge of others in a single theory in astronomy—that the earth was the center of the universe. Pliny the Elder observed and wrote about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

Unlike the Greeks, who were primarily interested in knowledge for its own sake, the Romans were very practical. They tried to apply the knowledge they gained from science to planning their cities, building water and sewage systems, and improving farming methods. Roman engineers constructed amazing roads, bridges, amphitheaters, public buildings, and **aqueducts**—man-made channels used to bring water to the cities. Without these aqueducts and a superior sewer system, Roman cities could not have grown as large as they did. Such advances would not have been possible without the development of concrete, which made such large public structures possible. From concrete, the Romans built amazing structures that still stand today, some 2,000 years later.

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

synthesize to combine several parts into a whole

Interactive

HISTORY CLOSE-UP

Roman Engineering

The Pont du Gard, a huge aqueduct and bridge in southern France, was built more than 2,000 years ago and still stands. More than 140 feet high and 800 feet long, its construction was a marvel of Roman engineering skill.

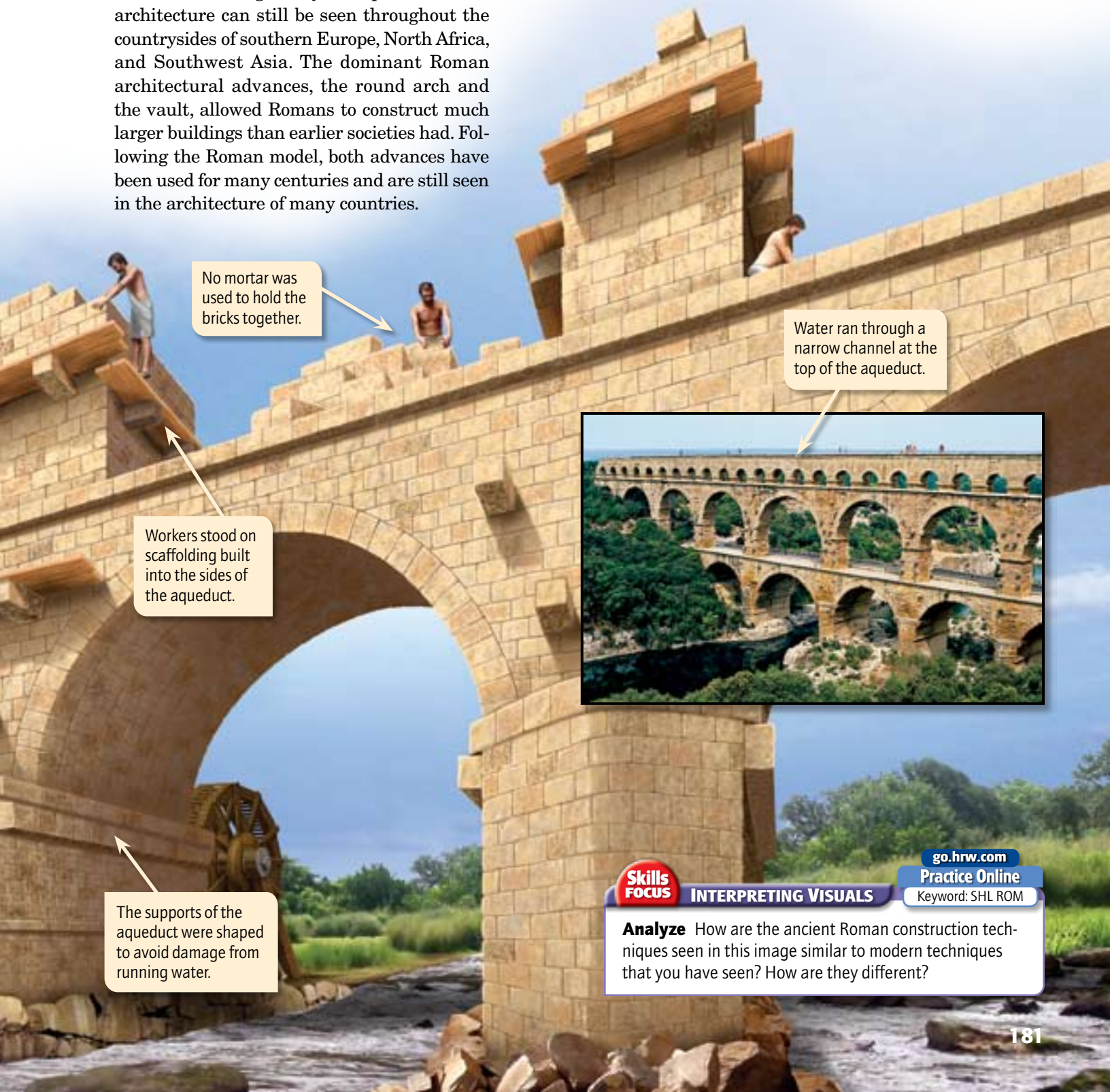
Engineers used human-powered cranes to lift heavy blocks of stone into place.

Arches made the overall structure incredibly strong.

Roman bridges still span French, German, and Spanish rivers, and roads that connected Rome with its provinces still survive today. In many cities they conquered, the Romans added their own urban plan—a grid system of roads, temples, baths, theaters, and a central forum. Many European cities today reflect grid layouts originally planned by Roman engineers.

Architecture The Roman legacy in architecture is also strong. Many examples of Roman architecture can still be seen throughout the countryside of southern Europe, North Africa, and Southwest Asia. The dominant Roman architectural advances, the round arch and the vault, allowed Romans to construct much larger buildings than earlier societies had. Following the Roman model, both advances have been used for many centuries and are still seen in the architecture of many countries.

The ruins of Roman buildings inspired generations of architects. Michelangelo used Roman models to design the dome of Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome in 1547, as did Thomas Jefferson when he built the library of the University of Virginia. Many other examples of Roman architecture abound throughout modern Europe and North America.

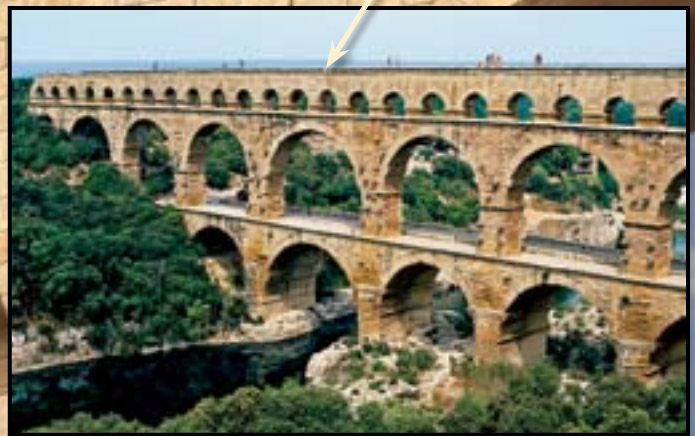


No mortar was used to hold the bricks together.

Water ran through a narrow channel at the top of the aqueduct.

Workers stood on scaffolding built into the sides of the aqueduct.

The supports of the aqueduct were shaped to avoid damage from running water.



Skills Focus

INTERPRETING VISUALS

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Practice Online

Keyword: SHL ROM

Analyze How are the ancient Roman construction techniques seen in this image similar to modern techniques that you have seen? How are they different?

Virgil's *Aeneid*

The *Aeneid*, an epic of the exploits of the Trojan warrior Aeneas whose descendants founded Rome, is one of the best known and most widely-read works from ancient Rome, still read in both English and Latin. In this passage, Aeneas takes his father Anchises and his son Ascanius, or Iulus, away from the destruction of Troy.

“Then come, dear father. Arms around my neck:
I’ll take you on my shoulders, no great weight.
Whatever happens, both will face one danger,
Find one safety. Iulus will come with me,
My wife at a good interval behind.
Servants, give your attention to what I say.
At the gate inland there’s a funeral mound
And an old shrine of Ceres the Bereft;
Near it an ancient cypress, kept alive
For many years by our fathers’ piety.
By various routes we’ll come to that one place.
Father, carry our hearthgods, our Penates.
It would be wrong for me to handle them—
Just come from such hard fighting, bloody work—
Until I wash myself in running water.”



READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

Literature as a Source Which Roman values are stressed in this passage?

See **Skills Handbook**, p. H28

Language and Literature Another part of Rome’s legacy is its language. Several languages, called Romance languages, developed from **Latin**, the language of Rome. Every person speaking French, Italian, Spanish, Romanian, or Portuguese is speaking a language with its roots in the language of Rome. Even English, which developed from other languages, owes much of its vocabulary to Latin. Examples of words of direct Latin origin in English are *et cetera*, *veto*, and *curriculum*.

Modern literature and drama also owe a great debt to Rome. For example, the technique of satire was derived from Roman authors. In addition, writers have for centuries borrowed themes from Roman authors such as Virgil.

Law Roman law also left its imprint on the world. The Romans used a system called **civil law**, a form of law based on a written code of laws. This civil law system was adopted by many countries in Europe after the empire fell. Centuries later, those nations carried their systems of law to colonies in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. As a result, many countries in these regions have civil law systems today. Thus, although it has been modified over time, the Roman influence can be seen in the legal systems of most of the world.

READING CHECK

Summarize What are some areas in which Rome’s influence is still seen?

SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

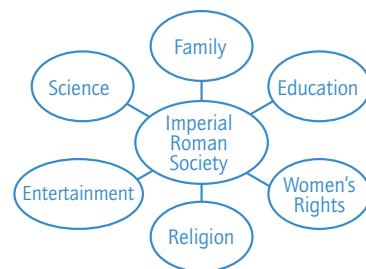
Keyword: SHL ROM HP

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

1. **a. Identify** What types of entertainment were held in the **Circus Maximus** and the **Colosseum**? What other types of entertainment were popular in Rome?
- b. Explain** In what ways was ancient Roman society patriarchal? What rights did Roman women have?
- c. Develop** What did the Roman poet mean when he said that the poor were only interested in bread and circuses? Do you think he approved of the lifestyle he was describing? Why or why not?
2. **a. Describe** How is the influence of Rome still felt in the area of language?
- b. Analyze** What were some of the advances made by the ancient Romans that allowed them to excel in engineering and architecture?
- c. Elaborate** How did the influence of ancient Rome spread through the world’s legal systems?

Critical Thinking

3. **Summarize** Draw a word web like the one at right. Use your notes to write a sentence that summarizes the ancient Romans’ views on the subject in each outer circle.



FOCUS ON WRITING

4. **Exposition** Write two paragraphs comparing and contrasting life for rich and poor Romans. In one paragraph, explain how the two lifestyles were similar. In the other paragraph, explain how they were different.

The Rise of Christianity

BEFORE YOU READ

MAIN IDEA

A new religion called Christianity developed within the Roman Empire and gradually spread throughout the Roman world.

READING FOCUS

1. How was Christianity rooted in the teachings of Judaism?
2. What were the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth?
3. How did Christianity spread throughout the Roman world?
4. What was the early Christian church like?

KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

Christianity
Messiah
Jesus of Nazareth
disciples
Apostles
martyrs
Paul
Eucharist
bishop
popes

TAKING NOTES

Keep a list of key events and ideas in the early history of Christianity.

Events

Ideas

THE INSIDE STORY

Why had so many hungry people gathered in one place? The New

Testament Book of Matthew describes how huge crowds would gather to hear Jesus of Nazareth preach. One day, the book says, a crowd of more than 5,000 people gathered and listened to his words, eating nothing.

The crowds remained all day with Jesus, who grew concerned for their well-being. He did not want to send people away without eating. Calling his closest followers, Jesus asked what food they had. All together, they had only five loaves of bread and two fish. Despite these meager portions, Matthew says that Jesus had his followers distribute food to the crowds and, miraculously, there was plenty of food for everyone. None of the people went hungry. ■

Christianity and Judaism

Over time, the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth developed into a new religion—**Christianity**. Many of those teachings were rooted in the beliefs and customs of Jesus and his earliest followers, the teachings of Judaism.

Judaism in the Roman World In 63 BC, Roman forces under Pompey conquered Judea after months of brutal fighting. As the rulers of Judea, the Romans chose a new ruler for the region and installed him as king. Like other people the Romans conquered, the Jews had to pay tribute to the Romans. Unlike other peoples, however, the Jews were not willing to abandon their religion for the polytheistic religion of the Romans. To avoid trouble, Roman leaders allowed the Jews to practice their religion as long as they paid their tribute and maintained civic order.

Feeding the Masses



▲ According to the Bible, hungry crowds gathered to hear Jesus preach.

The Feeding of the Five Thousand, Hendrik de Clerck, c. 1600

SACRED TEXTS

The New Testament

About the Reading The Christian Bible is made up of two parts—the Old Testament, which includes the Torah and the other books of the Hebrew Bible, and the New Testament. Included in the New Testament are the Gospels—accounts of the life and teachings of Jesus—the letters of Paul, and other writings by early Christians. This passage from the Gospel of Matthew describes a sermon given by Jesus to a gathering of disciples.

AS YOU READ Note who Jesus says is blessed.

Greek Bible from the 300s ▶



Reactions to Roman Rule Judaism, however, had many different branches, with varying ideas of whether they should cooperate with the Romans. For example, a group called the Zealots called on their fellow Jews to rise up, drive the Romans from Judea, and re-establish the Kingdom of Israel.

In time Zealots began to form pockets of armed resistance against the Romans of Judea. In response to a mass uprising in AD 66–70, the Romans sacked Jerusalem and killed thousands of Jews. They also destroyed the Second Temple, leaving part of the western wall intact. After another revolt in the 130s, all Jews were banned from Jerusalem entirely.

The Messianic Prophecies Not all Jews in Judea were willing to take up arms against the Romans. Others preferred to wait for the coming of the **Messiah**, a spiritual leader who, according to prophecy, would restore the ancient kingdom and bring peace to the world. As war and chaos rose up around them, many Jews eagerly awaited the Messiah's arrival.

READING CHECK Make Generalizations
What were two Jewish reactions to Roman rule?

Jesus of Nazareth

Against this turbulent background, a spiritual leader named **Jesus of Nazareth** emerged. The message he taught was not one of armed revolt but of the need for people to seek forgiveness for their sins in preparation for the coming of God's Judgment Day.

Life Nearly all of our knowledge of Jesus comes from the Gospels—the first four books of the New Testament. The New Testament along with the books of the Hebrew Bible today make up the Christian Bible.

The Bible says Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem, near Jerusalem, and grew up in Nazareth. As a boy, he learned carpentry, but also studied the writings of Jewish prophets.

In time, Jesus began to preach a message of redemption and warning. As he traveled through Judea, he gathered a small group of **disciples**, or followers. According to the biblical account, Jesus created a great deal of excitement by performing miracles of healing and by defending the poor and the oppressed.

Above all, Jesus instructed people to repent of their sins and seek God's forgiveness. To obtain this forgiveness, he said that people must love God above all else and love others as they love themselves. In addition, they should practice humility, mercy, and charity.

Jesus's popularity and the crowds he drew alarmed authorities, who feared political uprisings. Before long, Jesus was arrested, tried, and sentenced to death.

Death and Resurrection According to the New Testament, after being crucified, or nailed to a cross, and buried, Jesus rose from the dead, spent another 40 days teaching his disciples on Earth, and then ascended into heaven. His followers believed that the Resurrection and Ascension revealed that Jesus was the Messiah. As a result, they called him Jesus Christ, after *Christos*, the Greek word for Messiah.

READING CHECK Summarize What was the main message of Jesus's teaching?

Then [Jesus] began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in

heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

—Matthew 5:1–16, NRSV

Analyze How does this passage support Jesus’s emphasis on humility, mercy, and charity?



▲ Volunteers assemble Braille Bibles that can be read by Christians who are blind or visually impaired.

The Spread of Christianity

After Jesus’s death, his disciples began teaching that all people could achieve salvation—the forgiveness of sins and the promise of everlasting life. Believing that God’s judgment was close at hand, the disciples urgently set out to spread this message of salvation.

Among those who worked to spread Jesus’s message were 12 disciples whom Jesus had specially chosen. Called the **Apostles**, these 12 men were the earliest Christian missionaries. Later, the term *apostle* was also applied to others who worked to spread Christianity. The first apostles traveled widely, teaching about Jesus’s message. For the most part, they only taught in Jewish communities.

Paul of Tarsus Had it not been for the work of a Jewish apostle named **Paul**, Christianity might have remained a branch of Judaism. Paul, who was originally known as Saul, was

born in the town of Tarsus in Asia Minor. As a young man, he had actively opposed those teaching that Jesus was the Messiah. During a trip to Damascus, however, Paul had a conversion experience and became a Christian.

Unlike many other early Christians, who thought only Jews should hear the teachings of Jesus, Paul believed that God had sent him to convert non-Jews, or Gentiles. With this mission in mind, Paul helped make Christianity a broader religion, attracting many new followers. Paul helped establish Christian churches throughout the eastern Mediterranean. His Epistles, or letters, to these churches later became part of the New Testament.

Finding that some Jewish customs, such as food prohibitions, were hindering missionary work among non-Jews, Paul dispensed with them as requirements for Christians. In place of these regulations, Paul emphasized new doctrines that helped distinguish Christianity from Judaism.

Roman Christianity Through the work of Paul and others, Christianity spread through the Roman world. There were many reasons for this growth. The Christian message of love and eternal life after death, regardless of social position, appealed to many. Roman religious toleration also contributed to its spread. Historians estimate that by about 300, some 10 percent of the Roman people were Christian.

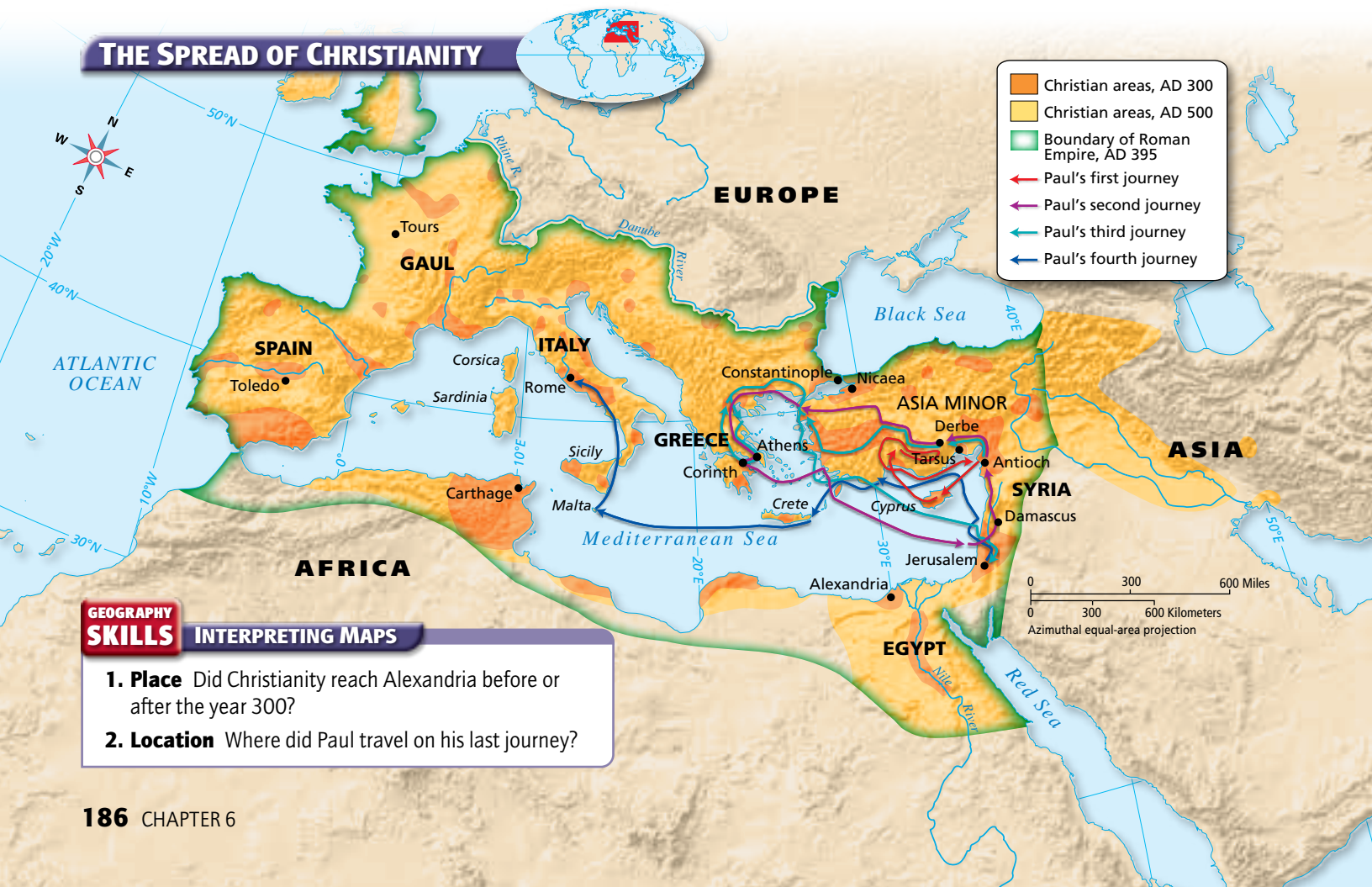
Persecution As Christianity spread through the Roman world, some local officials feared that the Christians were conspiring against them. As a result, they arrested and killed many Christians. However, those killed were seen by the early Christians as **martyrs**, people who die for their faith and thus inspire others to believe. Even many nonbelievers were impressed by the martyrs' faith.

Although Christians often were persecuted at the local level, large-scale persecution by the Romans was rare during the first two centuries after Jesus's life. As it grew, however, some rulers came to see Christianity as a threat and began persecuting those who practiced it.

Imperial Approval The spread of Christianity through Rome was hastened by the conversion of the emperor Constantine to the religion in the early 300s. His conversion was apparently triggered by a vision that he claimed to have experienced just before a battle in 312. Before the battle, tradition says that the emperor saw a cross of light in the sky inscribed with the words "In this sign, conquer." After winning the battle, Constantine became a patron of Christianity. In 313 he issued the Edict of Milan, which made Christianity legal within the empire. Although Constantine did not actually ban the practice of other religions, his support for Christianity helped it to spread more rapidly through the Roman Empire.

Thus, from a tiny religious minority, Christians eventually grew to constitute a majority of the population. In 391 Emperor Theodosius outlawed public non-Christian sacrifices and religious ceremonies. As a result, polytheism gradually disappeared from the empire.

READING CHECK Find the Main Idea What helped spread Christianity through the Roman world?



The Early Christian Church

The earliest Christian churches were not only spiritual organizations but also close-knit communities. These communities provided all kinds of support for their members, from burial services to food and shelter for the sick and poor. As Christianity grew and spread, however, its organization became more complex.

Part of the growing complexity came from the development of ceremonies that inspired people's faith and make them feel closer to Jesus. One such ceremony was the **Eucharist**, held in memory of Jesus's last supper with his disciples. During the Eucharist, Christians eat bread and drank wine in memory of Jesus's death and Resurrection. Another was baptism, by which people were admitted to the faith.

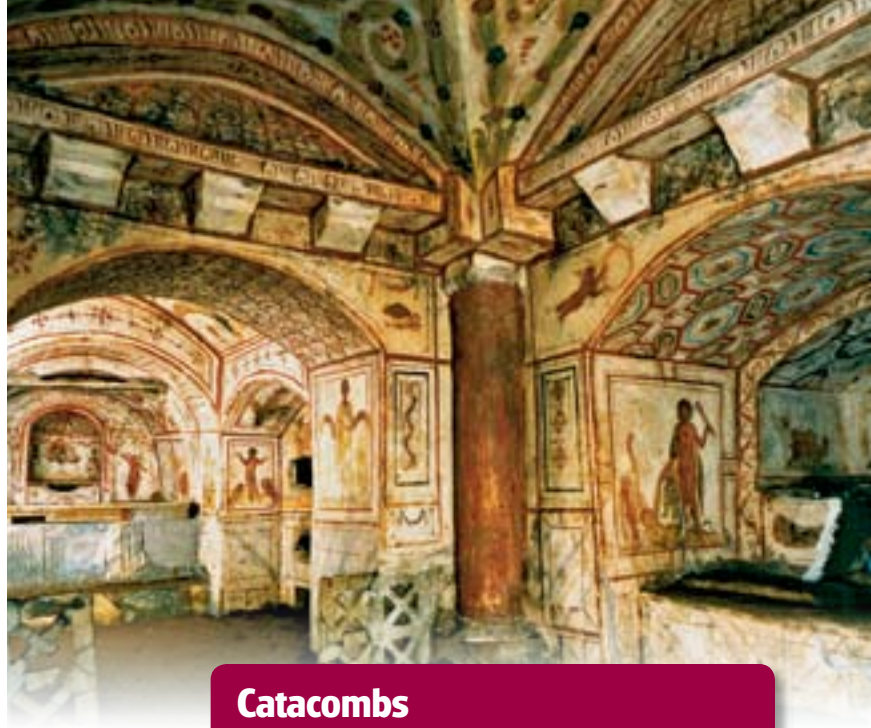
By about 100, priests trained in these ceremonies became prominent within Christianity. The authority of these priests was based on the authority given to the Apostles by Jesus. This spiritual authority distinguished the priests from the laity, or people who belonged to the general congregation of the Church.

As the church expanded, it began to develop an administrative structure. The most important official of the early Christian Church was the **bishop**. Bishops emerged to oversee church affairs in most cities and had authority over all other priests within the city. By the 300s the heads of the oldest and largest Christian congregations in Rome, Jerusalem, Antioch, Alexandria, and Constantinople were called patriarchs, and claimed spiritual authority over other bishops.

Many Christians believed that Peter the Apostle had founded the Roman Church and acted as its first bishop. As a result, later bishops of Rome, or **popes**, were seen as Peter's spiritual heirs. The popes interpreted a verse from the Gospel of Matthew, in which Jesus gives Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven, to mean that all future popes would inherit the keys as well. They argued that all bishops should acknowledge the authority of the pope as the head of the entire church. Though other patriarchs did not at first recognize the pope's claims of supremacy, over time popes gained more influence within the Christian Church.

READING CHECK

Summarize How did the Christian Church change as it grew?



Catacombs

Early Christians built elaborate burial chambers called catacombs under the city of Rome.

SECTION 4 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

Keyword: SHL ROM HP

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

- Define** What was the **Messiah** for whom some Jews were waiting?
 - Sequence** What happened to the Jews of Judea after the destruction of the Second Temple in AD 70?
- Recall** What do Christians believe happened to **Jesus of Nazareth** after he died?
 - Summarize** How did Jesus say people should live?
- Identify** Who were the **martyrs**, and why were they honored?
 - Explain** How did Constantine help **Christianity** gain a firm foothold in the Roman Empire?
 - Elaborate** Why was **Paul** a key figure in the early history and development of Christianity?
- Describe** What types of officials developed in the early Christian church?
 - Explain** Why did the **pope**, as the bishop of Rome, claim to have authority over all other bishops?

Critical Thinking

- Sequence** Draw a time line like the one below. Use your notes to identify the sequence of key events in the spread of Christianity through the Roman Empire.



FOCUS ON WRITING

- Description** Write a short description of the organization of the early Christian church. Be sure to include key officials in the church, their main responsibilities, and a statement about how their roles changed over time.

The Fall of Rome

BEFORE YOU READ

MAIN IDEA

Events and conditions inside as well as outside the Roman Empire weakened it and led to its collapse in the west in the 400s.

READING FOCUS

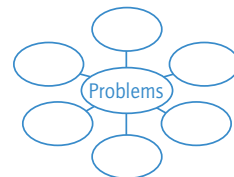
1. What problems weakened the empire in the 200s?
2. How did Diocletian and Constantine attempt to reform the empire?
3. What caused the invasion and ultimate fall of the empire in the 400s?

KEY TERMS AND PEOPLE

inflation
Diocletian
Attila

TAKING NOTES

As you read, keep track of the problems that faced the Roman Empire.



The Meeting of Attila the Hun and Pope Leo I, by Raphael, 1511

LAST CHANCE FOR PEACE

◀ Pope Leo I, called the Great, convinced the Huns not to invade Rome.

THE INSIDE STORY

Could one man stop an invading army? In 452 a fierce army was headed toward Rome. They were the Huns, the most fearsome warriors the Romans had ever encountered. Unfortunately, the Roman army was in no state to stop them, and it seemed the Huns would destroy Rome itself.

In a desperate attempt to stop the Huns, Pope Leo I, the head of the Christian Church, rode out to meet them. Accompanied by only a few men, none of whom were warriors, he asked for a private audience with the leader of the Huns, the frightening Attila. The two men met on the shores of Lake Garda, in northern Italy. No one knows what they said to each other, but Attila and his army did not proceed any farther into Italy. Whatever Leo said, his words had managed to stop the invasion. ■

The Empire Weakens

The inability of the Roman army to stop the Huns was one symptom of the weakness that befell the empire after the end of the Pax Romana. After 180, the empire was confronted not only by challenges from outside but also by growing problems within.

Weak Leaders When the last of the Good Emperors died, Rome was left without a strong leader. The eventual result was a series of civil wars.

Part of the problem was that Rome found itself under increasing threat of invasion by tribal peoples along both the eastern and western frontiers. To meet this growing threat, emperors increased the size of Rome's army. Soon the growing demands on both the empire's

financial resources and its military caused a serious and prolonged economic crisis. This crisis lessened the stability and prosperity Rome had enjoyed during the Pax Romana.

As the crisis continued, the empire became a kind of military dictatorship. The legions had become the center of power, as they deposed emperors and elevated their own leaders to the throne. Twenty emperors ruled between 235 and 284; all but one died violently.

Economic Troubles The insecurity of civil wars and invasions affected many aspects of Roman life. Robbery and piracy increased, and travel became hazardous. Merchants feared to ship goods. Military needs required ever-increasing amounts of revenue, and to collect more money, emperors raised taxes.

As taxes rose, however, the value of money declined. Since Rome was no longer expanding, conquests no longer brought in new sources of wealth. To maintain the money supply, emperors minted new coins with copper and lead as well as silver. When people realized coins contained less silver, they refused to accept the currency at its face value. The result was growing inflation, or a dramatic rise in prices.

READING CHECK **Analyze** What problems faced Rome in the late 200s?

Attempts at Reform

The crises of the 200s shattered the Roman world. Drastic reforms had to be made if the empire were to survive. As luck would have it, two capable emperors rose to power and gave the empire another two centuries of life.

Diocletian The first of these emperors was **Diocletian** (dy-uh-KLEE-shuhn), who took power in 284. To slow the empire's decline, Diocletian changed the empire into an absolute monarchy. He placed himself far above his subjects and ruled with no accountability to anyone.

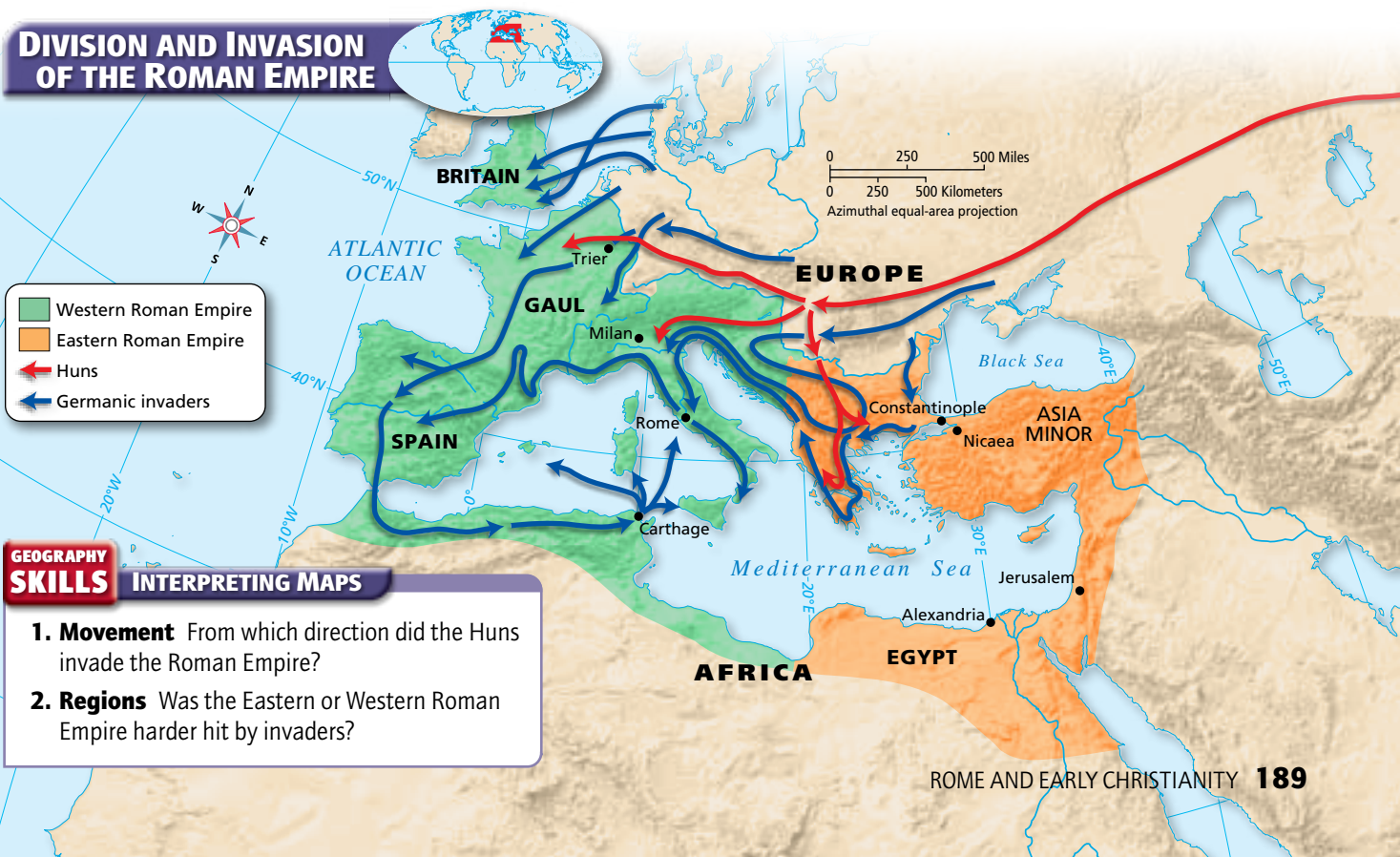
As part of his efforts to improve the efficiency of imperial administration, Diocletian divided the empire in two. Ruling the eastern half himself, he appointed a co-emperor to rule the western provinces. Both emperors named assistants, called Caesars, who were supposed to help run the empire.

Diocletian also forced Roman society into a rigid order. Almost every aspect of life was regulated by the imperial administration. Under Diocletian's decrees, sons were supposed to follow the trades and social positions of their fathers. Peasants were to be permanently tied to the land they farmed. In addition, Diocletian increased the army and gave the defense of the empire the bulk of his attention.

ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

revenue money that a government uses to pay for public programs

DIVISION AND INVASION OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

- 1. Movement** From which direction did the Huns invade the Roman Empire?
- 2. Regions** Was the Eastern or Western Roman Empire harder hit by invaders?



Did Disease Cause Rome's Fall?

Historians do not think disease alone caused the fall of Rome, but some think it may have helped. Some evidence suggests that a malaria epidemic swept through and weakened the Roman Empire in the 400s.

What facts do we have? The first hint that malaria may have struck Rome was found in a graveyard in the town of Lugnano, just outside Rome. Several young children had been buried there inside clay jars. Acting on a hunch, scientists tested the bodies' DNA and found traces of malaria. An outbreak of malaria in Italy could have reduced the population so much that harvesting crops and raising soldiers for the army would have been impossible.

Malaria is a tropical disease. How then did it strike Italy, which lies well north of the tropics? Historians speculate

that traders who traveled to Africa became infected and brought the disease back with them. In addition, the larvae of mosquitoes—the carriers of malaria—could easily have lived in the water supplies of merchant ships.

Summarize How could disease have helped Rome's fall?

► A child's skeleton found at Lugnano



The imperial economy also came under state direction. Everywhere, commercial and manufacturing activities were geared toward the needs of imperial defense. A new tax system raised more money for the government and for the army. Though drastic, these reforms were successful, saving the empire from immediate economic collapse.

Constantine As long as Diocletian remained emperor, these arrangements worked reasonably well. However, in 305 he decided to abdicate. His co-emperor also retired so that the two Caesars could rise to become co-emperors at the same time. It was not long before the new emperors quarreled, and the empire plunged into civil war. Order was not restored until 312 when Constantine, the son of one of the original Caesars, was proclaimed the new emperor by his troops and put an end to the fighting.

Constantine continued Diocletian's policies of state control over society. At the same time, he made two decisions that would profoundly affect the direction of the future empire. First, as you have already learned, he supported Christianity. Second, he built a new capital—Constantinople, or “the city of Constantine”—

on the site of the tiny village of Byzantium. It was located on the shore of the Bosphorus, the strait separating Europe from Asia. Because the eastern half of the empire was richer and better defended than the west, Constantine wanted his capital located there.

READING CHECK Analyze How did Diocletian and Constantine try to save Rome?

Invasion and Fall

Unfortunately, the reforms of Diocletian and Constantine did not solve the overwhelming problems of the empire. During the 300s and 400s, these problems were only worsened by tribal peoples' increasing pressures on the empire's frontier.

The Invaders For centuries Germanic tribes had lived along—and occasionally raided—Rome's frontiers. As new peoples began to move west from Central Asia, however, they pushed these Germanic tribes into the empire. In the face of such challenges, rulers in both Rome and Constantinople tried desperately to hold the crumbling Roman Empire together.

In the late 300s a nomadic Central Asian people, the Huns, stormed out of the east and sent the Germanic tribes fleeing. Imperial defenses in the east managed to hold, but those in the west were soon overwhelmed. The speed and ferocity of the Huns struck terror in the people they attacked.

Under strong leadership, the Huns formed a vast empire among the nomadic steppe peoples of Eurasia. About 370 they attacked the Ostrogoths, a Germanic people living north of the Black Sea. This assault frightened the Visigoths, kinsmen of the Ostrogoths, and sent them fleeing into the Roman Empire and even into Italy. In 410 the Christian Visigothic king Alaric captured and sacked Rome itself.

Pushed by the Huns, other migrating tribes also soon attacked the Roman Empire. One group, the Vandals, crossed into North Africa, attacking Rome in the 450s. The Vandals were so infamous for destroying everything in their path that the term *vandal* came to mean “one who causes senseless destruction.”

In the mid-400s **Attila** (AT-uhl-uh), the leader of the Huns, led an attack on Gaul. The Roman army alone could not repel him, so they allied with the Visigoths and defeated the Huns in a great battle in 451. Withdrawing from Gaul, Attila turned on Rome itself. Before the Huns reached the city, though, Pope Leo I persuaded Attila to leave Italy.

Fall of the West Despite the Huns’ withdrawal, in their wake the Western Empire lay in a shambles. Germanic tribes ruled most of the western provinces, including Italy itself. Finally, in 476 the barbarian commander Odoacer (oh-doh-AY-suhr) overthrew the last emperor in the west. Many historians consider this the end of the Western Roman Empire.

Though the empire in the west collapsed, the Eastern Empire did not. It endured for several centuries. The people of the Eastern Empire always thought of themselves as Romans, but over time other influences, especially Greek, crept into their culture as well. As a result, historians refer to the later period of the Eastern Roman Empire by a new name, the Byzantine Empire. You will learn more about the Byzantines in a later chapter.

READING CHECK Identify Cause and Effect

How did invaders contribute to Rome’s fall?

CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF THE FALL OF ROME

QUICK FACTS

CAUSES

- Weak leadership after AD 200
- Economic crises
- Social unrest and insecurity
- Invasions

EFFECTS

- In the west, the disappearance of central authority and the creation of small kingdoms
- In the east, the continuation of the Roman Empire ruled from Constantinople

SECTION 5 ASSESSMENT

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Online Quiz

Keyword: SHL ROM HP

Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People

- Describe** What problems faced the Roman Empire in the 200s?
 - Explain** What led to the rise of inflation in Rome?
 - Elaborate** Why do you think the growing influence of the military in choosing emperors was bad for Rome?
- Identify** What new capital did Constantine build for the empire? Why did he build it where he did?
 - Draw Conclusions** Why did Diocletian divide the Roman Empire?
 - Evaluate** Do you think Diocletian was justified in limiting people’s freedoms to protect the empire? Defend your answer.
- Identify** Who was Attila, and why was he feared?
 - Sequence** What events made it possible for the Ostrogoths to conquer Rome?
 - Make Judgments** Do you think Rome would have fallen to invaders if it had not been weakened by other factors? Why or why not?

Critical Thinking

- Rate** Draw a chart like the one shown here. Using your notes, list in order of importance (from most important to least) the major problems or factors that contributed to Rome’s fall. Next to each factor, write a sentence explaining the effect of that problem or factor.

Factor	Effect

FOCUS ON WRITING

- Persuasion** Write a letter as though you were an adviser to Constantine. In your letter, you must advise him either to move the empire’s capital or to keep it at Rome. Support your argument with facts and examples.

Rome's Legacy

Historical Context The four documents below explore the enduring influence of Rome and Roman institutions on the world long after the end of the empire.

Task Study the selections and answer the questions that follow. After you have studied all the documents, you will be asked to write an essay explaining Rome's lasting legacy. You will need to use evidence from these selections and from Chapter 6 to support the position you take in your essay.

DOCUMENT 1

A Republican Legacy

The Founding Fathers of the United States were quite familiar with Roman government and used it as a model for the republican government they created. In a letter to John Adams in 1796, Thomas Jefferson expressed a hope that the U.S. government could be like the early Roman one.

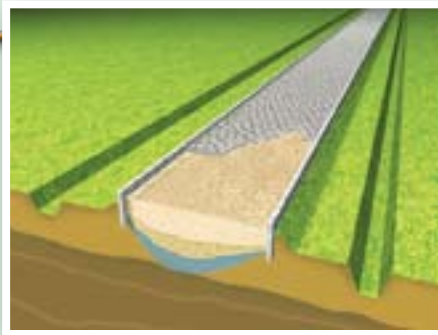
This I hope will be the age of experiments in government, and that their basis will be founded on principles of honesty, not of mere force. We have seen no instance of this

since the days of the Roman republic, nor do we read of any before that. Either force or corruption has been the principle of every modern government, unless the Dutch perhaps be excepted, and I am not well enough informed to except them absolutely. If ever the morals of a people could be made the basis of their own government, it is our case; and he who could propose to govern such a people by the corruption of their legislature, before he could have one night of quiet sleep, must convince himself that the human soul as well as body is mortal. I am glad to see that whatever grounds of apprehension may have appeared of a wish to govern us otherwise than on principles of reason and honesty, we are getting the better of them.

DOCUMENT 2

An Engineering Legacy

The Romans left behind a huge body of engineering knowledge as well as completed engineering projects. Ancient roads like the one shown here run through the former Roman world. Some 2,000 years after they were built, some of these roads still carry travelers. Perhaps more importantly, Roman construction techniques influenced how people built structures for centuries. The small image is a diagram showing the layers in which Roman roads were constructed.



DOCUMENT 3

A Social Legacy

Historians have long noted the social influence of Rome on later European society. Historian, C. Warren Hollister, described this influence in his book *Roots of the Western Tradition* (1966).

Notwithstanding the collapse of imperial government, the decline of cities, and the victory of a great Near Eastern religion, Greco-Roman culture never really died in the West. It exerted a profound influence on the fourth-century Doctors of the Latin Church and, through them, on the thought of medieval and early modern Europe. Even the Roman administration survived, through the Middle Ages and beyond, in the organizational structure of the Church. Just as papal Rome echoed imperial Rome, so too did the ecclesiastical 'dioceses' and 'provinces,' headed by bishops and archbishops, reflect imperial administrative units that had borne identical names . . . The Latin tongue remained the language of educated Europeans for well over a thousand years, while evolving in the lower levels of society into the Romance languages: Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian. And the dream of imperial Rome has obsessed empire builders from Charlemagne to Napoleon.

DOCUMENT 4

A Popular Culture Legacy

The enduring legacy of Rome is not seen only in major areas like government and law. British historians Peter Jones and Keith Sidwell noted that Rome's influence extends into popular culture as well. They noted some of this influence in the 1997 book *The World of Rome*.

Roman subjects have had a continuing appeal for cinema audiences. One thinks of *Ben-Hur* and *Spartacus*, for example, which established our view of galleys and chariot-races indelibly . . . There have been many novels devoted to Roman subjects. The best-known in English, perhaps, are Robert Graves' *I, Claudius* and *Claudius the God* . . . But it is not only the large-scale which shows the deep penetration of our consciousness by Roman images (even if these are merely images of images). All around, we can see trivial examples of this impact. There are Roman-style porticoes on fast-food stores and statue niches on minute houses on large estates. There are togas and gladiators in Bugs Bunny cartoons . . . For all this, the world of Rome is ultimately responsible.

Skills FOCUS

READING LIKE A HISTORIAN

DOCUMENT 1

- a. Describe** How does Jefferson describe the government of the Roman Republic?
- b. Interpret** What evidence in this letter suggests that Jefferson wanted to model the new U.S. government after that of ancient Rome?

DOCUMENT 2

- a. Explain** Based on the diagram shown here, what steps did the Romans take to make their roads long-lasting?
- b. Draw Conclusions** Why do you think Europeans wanted to learn and copy ancient Roman engineering techniques?

DOCUMENT 3

- a. Identify** What are three areas in which Hollister saw Rome's enduring influence in Europe?

- b. Interpret** What does Hollister mean when he says that Greco-Roman culture never disappeared?

DOCUMENT 4

- a. Recall** How do Jones and Sidwell say that Rome has influenced movies and literature?
- b. Elaborate** What do the authors think it means that Roman images are common in modern society?

DOCUMENT-BASED ESSAY QUESTION

What is Rome's cultural legacy? Using the documents above and information from the chapter, form a thesis that summarizes Rome's influence. Then write a short essay to support your position.

See **Skills Handbook**, pp. H25–26, H30



VISUAL STUDY GUIDE

The Roman Republic

- Founded in 509 BC after the last Etruscan king of Rome was overthrown
- Governed by the Senate, elected magistrates, and popular assemblies working together
- During the Republic, the Romans conquered Italy, Greece, north Africa, and much of the eastern Mediterranean.
- Problems within the government led to the Republic's breakdown.
- Julius Caesar, one of the republic's last rulers, gained great power but was assassinated by his enemies.

The Roman Empire

- Founded in 27 BC when Augustus became the first emperor
- The beginning of the empire was marked by peace and prosperity, a period known as the Pax Romana.
- The empire continued to expand in both the east and west, completely surrounding the Mediterranean Sea and becoming the largest empire in the ancient world.
- Emperors gained more power as time passed, making all important government decisions themselves.

Decline and Fall

- Political and economic problems began to threaten the empire's stability in the late 200s and early 300s.
- Emperors became absolute rulers to try to stop the decline.
- Diocletian divided the empire in half in an effort to prevent its immediate collapse.
- Barbarian invasions and other factors led to the collapse of the Western Empire in 476.
- The Eastern Empire remained strong for several centuries, developing into the Byzantine Empire.

Christianity in the Roman World

- Based on the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth and spread by his disciples
- Taught that people should treat others well and seek forgiveness for their sins to achieve salvation
- Spread throughout the Roman world, especially after Constantine became Christian
- The Christian church began as small close-knit groups and became more complex as time passed.

Rome's Legacy

- Engineering and architecture techniques influenced later building practices.
- Art and literature influenced how people thought and wrote for centuries.
- Latin developed into the Romance languages and influenced English.
- Roman civil law is the basis for many of the world's modern law codes

Review Key Terms and People

For each term or name below, write a sentence explaining its significance to Roman history.

1. Augustus
2. Forum
3. Diocletian
4. consuls

5. revenue
6. Constantine
7. Paul
8. republic

9. Gracchi
10. paterfamilias
11. Julius Caesar
12. inflation



Comprehension and Critical Thinking

SECTION 1 (pp. 163–169)

- 13. a. Identify** What were the results of the Punic Wars?
- b. Explain** How did Rome's location help the city grow into a major power in the Mediterranean?
- c. Elaborate** Why do you think the Roman government was made up of three separate parts?

SECTION 2 (pp. 171–176)

- 14. a. Define** What was the Pax Romana?
- b. Sequence** How did Rome change from a republic to an empire?
- c. Evaluate** What do you think was Augustus's greatest achievement as emperor? Why?

SECTION 3 (pp. 177–182)

- 15. a. Identify Main Ideas** What was family life like?
- b. Analyze** What was the Roman view toward science and engineering?

SECTION 4 (pp. 183–187)

- 16. a. Describe** What roles did Jesus and Paul play in the early history of Christianity?
- b. Draw Conclusions** Why did Christianity spread so quickly through the Roman world?

SECTION 5 (pp. 188–191)

- 17. a. Identify** What happened to the city of Rome in the year 476?
- b. Summarize** What problems helped weaken the Roman empire in the 200s and 300s?
- c. Support a Position** "Rome's final fall was caused solely by invasions." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Support your answer.

Reading Skills

Identifying Stated Main Ideas Read the passage below, which comes from Section 5 of this chapter. Then answer the question that follows.

- “The insecurity of civil wars and invasions affected many aspects of Roman life. Robbery and piracy increased, and travel became hazardous. Merchants feared to ship goods. Military needs required ever-increasing amounts of revenue, and to collect more money, emperors raised taxes.”
- 18.** Which statement in this passage expresses the main idea of the passage?

Analyzing Primary Sources

Reading Like a Historian The passage below comes from a letter written by a Roman statesman to his brother, who was a candidate for consul. In this letter, the statesman gives advice on how to win a Roman election.

“In a word, you must secure friends of every class, magistrates, consuls and their tribunes to win you the vote of the centuries [people]: men of wide popular influence . . . The first and obvious thing is that you embrace the Roman senators and *equites* [nobles], and the active and popular men of all the other orders. There are many city men of good business habits, there are many freedmen engaged in the Forum who are popular and energetic: these men try with all your might, both personally and by common friends, to make eager in your behalf.”

- 19. Analyze** According to this letter, who did a candidate have to appeal to in order to win an election?
- 20. Make Generalizations** What does this letter suggest about the nature of Roman politics?

Using the Internet

- 21.** Excavations at the ancient cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum have taught historians a great deal about Roman life. Both cities were buried by ash released by Mount Vesuvius, a volcano that erupted in AD 79. Enter the activity keyword and research the two cities. Then draw an annotated map of one of the cities, noting on the map what historians have learned from it about Roman life.

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WRITING FOR THE SAT

Think about the following issue:

In a poem admiring the ancient world, Edgar Allan Poe wrote about “the glory that was Greece, the grandeur that was Rome.” Poe’s view of the past is similar to that held by many people, the view that the ancient Greco-Roman world was one of the high points of civilization.

- 22. Assignment:** Why do modern people glorify the ancient world? What about Greco-Roman culture stirs up such positive feelings in people. Write a short essay in which you develop your position on this issue. Support your point of view with reasoning and examples from your reading and studies.