

HISTORY, GOVERNMENT, AND ROMAN SOCIETYPERIODS IN ROMAN HISTORY

Monarchy (from the founding of Rome, 753 B.C., to 509 B.C.). There were seven kings, the first being Romulus, and the last Tarquinius Superbus (Tarquin the Proud), a member of the Etruscan family. Supreme authority of the king was symbolized by a bundle of rods with an ax, called fasces, which is the origin of the term fascism. The cruel despotism of Tarquin drove the Romans to rebel, to overthrow the rule of kings, and to establish a republic.

Republic (from 509 B.C. to 27 B.C.). This was the period of struggle and growth. At first it was marked by civil wars and wars against Rome's immediate neighbors, such as the Etruscans, the Volscians, and the Aequians. Later came wars of conquest in Italy itself: against the Samnites, the most warlike people of central Italy, and against the Greek cities of southern Italy defended by Pyrrhus, the famous Greek general. The conquered territories embracing the entire Italian peninsula became incorporated into the Roman state as colonies or as allies, both having limited self-government.

Rome then engaged in wars of conquest outside Italy. In the Punic Wars of the third century B.C., the Romans under Scipio defeated the brilliant Carthaginian general, Hannibal, establishing Rome as the only power in the western Mediterranean. Rome annexed the islands of Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica, and instituted the system of provinces whereby conquered lands were controlled by Roman governors. In the Macedonian Wars, which ended in 168 B.C., Macedonia was subjugated and reduced to a province. Rome acquired in quick succession the provinces of Greece, Africa, and Spain. Even the little kingdom of Pergamum in Asia Minor became a province, bequeathed to Rome in 133 B.C. by its last king, Attalus III.

Finally, Rome's victories were climaxed in the first century B.C. by Julius Caesar's conquest of Gaul and his invasion of Germany and Britain. Despite the civil wars that shook the Roman state during this period (the conflicts between Marius and Sulla, and between Caesar and Pompey), Rome nevertheless became the dominant world power, and the Mediterranean Sea was aptly called by the Romans Mare Nostrum (Our Sea).

Empire (from 27 B.C. to 476 A.D.). Gaius Octavius, Caesar's grandnephew and adopted son, defeated his rival Antony and became Rome's first emperor with the title Augustus. He reigned from 27 B.C. until 14 A.D., a period marked by the flowering of Roman genius in art and literature. It has truly been said that Augustus "found Rome a city of brick and left it a city of marble."

Rome had over twenty-five emperors before its fall in 476 A.D., some famous, others infamous. Tiberius, Augustus' immediate successor, was able though cruel and tyrannical. Nero not only "fiddled while Rome burned," but was notorious for persecuting the Christians. The fame of Titus rests on his destruction of the sacred city of Jerusalem. Under Trajan, in the second century A.D., Rome reached its greatest territorial extent, spreading from the Atlantic on the west to the Caspian Sea on the east, from Africa on the south to Britain and the borders of Germany on the north.

Marcus Aurelius was known as the philosopher emperor, and Constantine the Great was the first Christian emperor. The last of the emperors was Romulus Augustulus.

Many reasons have been given for the fall of Rome and, with it, the collapse of civilization and social order. Among them are: (1) the system of slavery and serfdom that demoralized a large segment of the population, (2) the decay and corruption of the ruling class and the imperial court, (3) heavy taxation, and (4) the inroads made by the enemies of Rome, such as the Visigoths and the Vandals. An eminent historian has said that "the history of Rome is in truth the same as the history of the world."

GOVERNMENT

Senātus, ūs (the Senate). The most powerful body in ancient Rome was the Senate. It consisted of about 600 members, mostly former officials, who held office for life. It managed foreign affairs, declared war, and controlled taxation. The power of the Senate was symbolized by the abbreviation **S.P.Q.R. (senātus populusque Rōmānus)**, found on buildings, coins, and standards.

Comitia Centūriāta and- Comitia Tribūta (Popular Assemblies).

Two assemblies administered the elective and legislative business of the Roman state.

Comitia Centūriāta - elected the higher magistrates—consuls, praetors, and censors.

Comitia Tribūta - elected the tribunes, quaestors, aediles, and minor officials.

Cursus Honōrum. This was the order in which the various important offices might be held according to law. The highest official was the consul. Before one could become consul, he had to serve as praetor. Before being praetor, he had to serve as quaestor.

3rd: Consul. Two consuls, elected annually, held office for one year only. They were the chief executives, and each served as a check upon the other.

2nd: Praetor. Eight praetors were elected annually for one year. Their chief duty was to serve as judges in court.

1st: Quaestor. Twenty quaestors were elected annually for one year. They served as public treasurers.

Aedīlis (Aedile). Although *not* in the *cursus honorum*, the aedile used his position to gain popularity for election to higher office. He was in charge of public games and amusements, public works, markets, streets, etc. There were four aediles in Rome elected annually for one year.

Tribūnus (Tribune of the People). Ten tribunes were elected annually for one year. They had the extraordinary right to veto any decree or law passed by the Senate or the assemblies.

Censor. There were two censors elected every five years for a term of eighteen months. Their duties were to assess property, determine the order of society to which each citizen belonged, fix the eligibility of senators, raise revenue for public works, and maintain high standards of morality.

Dictātor. In times of extreme public danger, a dictator was appointed with supreme power for a period of six months.

CLASSES OF SOCIETY

Ōrdō Senātōrius (Senatorial Order), aka the **Patriciī** (Patricians) or **Optimatī** (Optimates-sometimes means political affiliation) consisted of **Magistrātūs** (magistrates/officeholders) and their descendants.

Ōrdō Equester (Equestrian Order), aka **Equitēs**, was the wealthy class.

Ōrdō Plēbēius (Plebeian Order), the working class embracing the vast majority of the population, consisted of those free-born citizens.

Servi. Below these three orders of society were the slaves, who had no rights whatsoever; and the

Libertī (freedmen/former slaves), who had the right to vote and own property, but not to hold office.

EXERCISES for pages 1 and 2

- A. In the following statements, if the underlined term is incorrect, **write the correct term.**
 B. If the underlined term is correct, write true.

1. Another name for the Optimates was Equites. _____
2. The Republic lasted from 509 b.c. to 27 b.c. _____
3. The first Roman emperor was Romulus Augustulus. _____
4. The freedmen had the right to vote and own property. _____
5. There were two censors elected every five years. _____
6. The consul, praetor, quaestor, and aedile were all in the cursus honorum. _____
7. To be in the Equestrian Order, one had to be wealthy. _____
8. Two consuls were elected annually for a period of only one year. _____
9. The Senate had the power to declare war and control taxation. _____
10. The quaestors served as public treasurers. _____

- C. In the following passage, ten words or expressions are *italicized* and repeated in the questions below.

Underline the alternative that best explains/defines each of these ten words or expressions as it is used in the passage.

1-3. Historically, Rome *began* as a monarchy and ended as an *empire*. There were seven kings whose symbol of authority was a *bundle of rods* with an ax. This symbol still appears on the American dime.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. <i>began</i> | 1. 509 B.C. | 2. 27 B.C. | 3. 753 B.C. | 4. 1000 B.C. |
| 2. <i>empire</i> | 1. 27 B.C.-476 A.D. | 2. 509 B.C.-500 A.D. | 3. 100 A.D.-1000 A.D. | 4. 1 B.C.-500 A.D. |
| 3. <i>bundle of rods</i> | 1. vigils | 2. rationes | 3. ordines | 4. fasces |

4-5. Civil wars and wars of conquest kept Rome in a state of turmoil during the Republic. Rome's greatest threat was removed when Scipio defeated the brilliant *general* sent by Carthage. Because of Rome's vast conquests by Scipio, Pompey, Caesar, and other outstanding generals, the Mediterranean became practically a *Roman lake*.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 4. <i>general</i> | 1. Pyrrhus | 2. Hannibal | 3. Attalus | 4. Philip |
| 5. <i>Roman lake:</i> | 1. Mare Notum | 2. Mare Romanus | 3. Mare Nostrum | 4. Mare Vestrum |

6-8. Caesar's heir became the first Roman emperor with the title Augustus. His reign was marked by a period of peace and the development of the arts. Not all of Augustus' successors, however, were famous. One emperor was notorious for persecuting the Christians. The Emperor Titus destroyed a famous city.

6. <i>heir</i>	1. Octavius	2. Antonius	3. Tiberius	4. Pompeius
7. <i>emperor</i>	1. Aurelius	2. Constantine	3. Nero	4. Augustulus
8. <i>famous city</i>	1. Carthage	2. Alexandria	3. Athens	4. Jerusalem

9-10. Rome reached its greatest extent under Trajan in the second century A.D. Many emperors followed, and finally, because of internal slavery and corruption, Rome became an easy target when her enemies invaded her territory in the fifth century A.D.

9. <i>greatest extent</i>	1. from the Atlantic to the Pacific	2. from Spain to Greece		
	3. from the Atlantic to the Caspian Sea	4. from Britain to Gaul		
10. <i>enemies</i>	1. Goths	2. Britons	3. Greeks	4. Egyptians

C. Matching: In the space before each item in column A, write the letter of the matching item in column B.

Column A

Column B

_____ 1. Rome founded	a. Patricians
_____ 2. wealthy class	b. quaestor
_____ 3. right to veto decrees	c. 509 B.C.
_____ 4. elected the higher magistrates	d. Romulus
_____ 5. beginning of the Republic	e. Comitia Tributa
_____ 6. magistrates	f. 753 B.C.
_____ 7. public treasurer	g. Comitia Centuriata
_____ 8. elected minor officials	h. Equites
_____ 9. first Roman king	i. Tarquinius Superbus
_____ 10. last of the kings	j. tribune of the people

D. Complete the following statements with a word or phrase:

The chief duty of a praetor was to serve as a _____

The abbreviation S.P.Q.R. stood for _____

Under the emperor _____, the Roman Empire reached its greatest extent.

A dictator was appointed for a period of _____

Before running for the praetorship, one had to serve as _____

The man in charge of public games and amusements was called _____

_____ was the name given to the Mediterranean by the Romans.

The bundle of rods with an ax, symbolizing supreme power, was called _____

The highest Roman official was called a _____

The _____ Order was the wealthy class of Rome.

E. Matching: In the space before each name in column A, write the letter of the matching item in column B.

Column A

Column B

_____ 1. Marcus Aurelius

a. succeeded Augustus

_____ 2. Trajan

b. conquered Carthage

_____ 3. Nero

c. first Christian emperor

_____ 4. Scipio

d. bequeathed land to Rome

_____ 5. Constantine the Great .

e. philosopher emperor

_____ 6. Hannibal

f. last Roman king

_____ 7. Tiberius

g. Rome's first emperor

_____ 8. Attalus

h. greatest expansion of Rome

_____ 9. Tarquinius Superbus

i. Carthaginian general

_____ 10. Octavius

j. persecuted the Christians

ROME, ITS ROADS AND HOUSES THE CITY OF ROME

Founding. Legend has it that Rome was founded in 753 B.C. by Romulus, after whom the city was named. Romulus and his twin brother, Remus, who were reared by a she-wolf, were the sons of Rhea Silvia and Mars, the god of war.

Location. Situated on the Tiber River near the west central coast of Italy, Rome encompassed seven hills. The most famous were the:

Mons Capitolinus (Capitoline hill), on which were located the Temple of Jupiter and the citadel; and the **Mons Palatinus (Palatine hill)**, which contained the homes of prominent, wealthy Romans.

The area in which Rome was situated was called **Latium**, which is the origin of the word Latin. Rome's outlet to the sea was at **Ostia**, a seaport about sixteen miles away. Because of its strategic location—on a group of hills, on an important river, and almost in the center of Italy—Rome obtained military and commercial advantages that contributed greatly to her rapid growth in wealth and power.

The Forum. The Forum was the marketplace of Rome and the center of civic life. Besides shops, it contained: **templa** (temples), **basilicae** (law courts), the **Curia** (senate house), the **Rostra** (speaker's platform), and other public buildings. The Forum, where so much argumentation and wrangling in the courts took place, has given us the word "forensic."

STREETS AND ROADS

Streets were narrow and crooked, often unpaved. At corners, stepping stones were placed at intervals to assist in crossing to the other side. Streets were unlighted, and **vigilēs** (police-firemen) carrying small lanterns walked the dark alleys to afford protection.

The Romans constructed **an extensive system of highways** connecting the principal cities of Italy with Rome. Hence the expression, "All roads lead to Rome."

The **Via Appia** (Appian Way), was the most famous road (aka **Rēgīna Viārum -Queen of Roads**, connecting Rome with Brundisium on the southeastern coast of Italy. Other roads were the:

Via Flaminia, leading northeast toward Umbria; and the **Via Aurelia**, a military road running along the west coast toward Gaul.

THE HOUSE

atrium—the spacious front hall beyond the entrance used as a reception room.

compluvium—the opening in the ceiling of the atrium to admit light and air, since the Roman house usually had no windows.

impluvium—the marble basin built directly beneath the **compluvium**, to catch the rainwater that came through the opening.

tablinum—the study or office of the master of the house, located opposite the entrance in full view of the atrium.

peristylum—the open courtyard, usually with garden and columns, entered by a passageway from the atrium. The peristylum was the center of family living.

triclinium—the dining room adjoining the peristylum, containing a dining table flanked by three **lectī** (couches). **Cubicula** (Bedrooms), **culina** (kitchen), and **latrīna** (bath) were built around the peristylum.

The above is a description of a city house belonging to a wealthy Roman, many of whom also had elaborate country homes called **villae**.

Most Romans, however, lived in tenement or apartment houses called **īnsulae** (islands), a name originally applied to city blocks, detached from one another. Tenements were usually five or six stories high and were unsafe, especially in the event of fire.

Fires were frequent, and, before the system of **vigilēs** was established, private fire companies were organized. When a fire broke out, these companies would buy up burning buildings at prices far below their value and then extinguish the fire before much damage was done.

EXERCISES

A. Circle the word or expression that correctly completes the sentence.

1. The road connecting Rome with Brundisium was called the Via: **a. Aurelia, b. Appia, c. Flaminia.**
2. The study or office in a Roman house was called the: **a. tablinum, b. triclinium, c. peristylum.**
3. Insulae was the name given to: **a. country homes, b. apartment houses, c. reception rooms.**
4. The traditional date for the founding of Rome is: **a. 753 B.C. b. 509 B.C., c. 476 B.C.**
5. The curia was the: **a. speaker's platform, b. law court, c. senate house.**
6. Men performing the services of modern policemen were known as: **a. vigintī, b. vigilēs, c. virī.**
7. The compluvium was the: **a. opening in the ceiling, b. basin to catch rainwater, c. spacious front hall.**
8. The dining room was called the: **a. impluvium, b. atrium, c. triclinium.**
9. The citadel was located on which hill: **a. Palatine, b. Capitoline, c. Aventine**
10. A law court was called: **a. rostra, b. basilica, c. villa.**

B. In the space before each item in column A, write the letter of the matching item in column B.

Column A

Column B

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ 1. rostra | a. road leading south |
| _____ 2. Via Flaminia | b. country home |
| _____ 3. atrium | c. open courtyard |
| _____ 4. basilica | d. marble basin |
| _____ 5. Forum | e. road leading northeast |
| _____ 6. Via Appia | f. front hall |
| _____ 7. villa | g. speaker's platform |
| _____ 8. impluvium | h. famous hill |
| _____ 9. Palatine | i. marketplace |
| _____ 10. peristylum | j. law court |

C. In the following statements, if the underlined term is *incorrect*, **write the correct term or answer**. If the underlined term is *correct*, write true.

1. The most famous Roman road was the Via Appia. _____
2. Most Romans lived in villae. _____
3. Roman insulae were often firetraps. _____
4. The Temple of Jupiter was located on the Palatine Hill. _____
5. Streets in Roman times were well lighted. _____
6. Rome was built on seven hills. _____
7. The atrium was used as a reception room. _____
8. The Roman house generally had many windows. _____
9. The peristylum was the center of family living. _____
10. The Forum contained shops, temples, and law courts. _____
11. Villae are city houses. _____
12. Romans typically slept in the culina. _____
13. The location of Rome is the west central coast of Italy. _____
14. Rome was founded in 753 A.D. _____
15. One could enter the culina from the peristylum. _____

FAMILY LIFE

THE FAMILY

The Latin word **familia**, although generally translated "family," more accurately meant "household." In addition to the **pater** (father), **mater** (mother), and **liberī** (children), the familia often included the wives of sons, relatives, slaves, and clients. The father (**pater familias**) was supreme in his own home. He had absolute power over his children and commanded complete obedience.

The mother (**mater familias**) held a position of honor and influence in the home. She managed the usual household affairs, supervised the **servī** (slaves), conducted the early training of her liberī, and was a helpmate to her husband in matters of business and politics.

Families who were descended from a common ancestor often formed a clan, called **gens**. Like the family, the gens was united by common religious rites and was governed by a common ruler.

NAMES

A Roman citizen generally had three names: a **praenōmen**, a **nōmen**, and a **cognōmen**.

praenomen—corresponded to our given name. The Romans had very few given names and often abbreviated them in writing. Some common ones were:

A. Aulus	P. Pūblius	Cn. Gnaeus	S. Spurius
C. Gāius	Q. Quīntus	K. Kaesō	Mam Māmercus
D. Decimus	S. Sextus	M' Manius	App Appius
L. Lucius	T. Titus	Ser Servius	
M. Marcus	Ti. Tiberius	Sex Sextus	

nomen—the family name, indicated the clan (**gens**). This name was inherited, not given.

cognomen—indicated the particular branch of the **gens**.

Thus, in the name Gaius Iulius Caesar, Gaius is the praenomen, Iulius is the nomen, and Caesar is the cognomen. An honorary cognomen was sometimes given a person for some noteworthy accomplishment. Thus, Pompey received the title *Magnus* for his military exploits. Scipio, after destroying Carthage, was surnamed *Africanus*, and the cognomen *Augustus* was bestowed upon Octavian by the Roman senate.

EDUCATION

Up to the age of seven, children received their training in the home. They were taught obedience, reverence, patriotism, and respect for the law.

There was no compulsory public education. At the age of seven, the **Puer Rōmānus** (Roman boy) was sent to a private **ludus**, (elementary school) where the **litterātor** (teacher) taught him reading, writing, and simple arithmetic.

He often had a **paedagogus** (educated slave), who served as tutor and accompanied him to school.

Upon completing elementary school, the Roman boy went to a grammar school, where the **grammaticus** (teacher) taught him Latin and Greek literature. After school hours, the father taught his son the manly sports of horseback riding, swimming, boxing and wrestling, and the use of arms.

Next came the school of rhetoric, or college, where the boy received training in oratory and politics.

Finally, as a youth, he could complete his education by traveling abroad to Greece, Rhodes, or Asia Minor to study philosophy, law, and oratory under famous teachers.

Puellae Romanae (Roman girls) rarely attended school. As a rule, she received all her training at home. From her mother she learned to sew, spin, and weave, and the details of housekeeping.

Librī (books), as we know them today, did not exist in Roman times. Instead, writing of permanent value was done with pen and ink on parchment; which was rolled up for convenience in handling. Letters were written on **papyrus**, a kind of paper made from a reed which grew on the banks of the Nile River. The Romans also wrote on **tabellae** or **tabulae** (wax tablets), made with wooden boards covered with a thin layer of wax. Writing was done by scratching the wax with a pointed instrument called a **stylus** (stilus).

DRESS

For Virī (men)

tunica (tunic)—a short-sleeved, woolen shirt reaching to the knees. It was the usual garment for indoor wear.

toga—a large, white, woolen cloth draped gracefully around the body and extending to the feet. It was worn over the tunic. The toga was the formal garment of Roman citizens.

toga candida—a pure white toga worn by a man seeking public office (hence our word "candidate").

Other articles of clothing worn by the Romans were **soleae** (sandals) and **calceī** (shoes).

Stockings were unknown. Hats (**Petanus** or **Causia**) were rarely used.

toga pulla – dark toga worn at funerals

Subligāculum (underwear like a loin cloth) was worn.

For Fēminae (women)

Over a **tunica**, women wore the

stola—a long, full garment extending to the feet and fastened by a girdle at the waist. It was worn indoors.

palla—a woolen, shawl-like wrap for use outdoors.

mamillāre – under the tunica; a strip of soft leather used for a brassiere-type garment.

For Liberī (children)

subligāculum and tunica –worn by boys of poorer classes

toga praetexta—a toga with a purple border, worn by a boy of aristocratic family until about the age of 16.

The adolescent then assumed the: **toga virilis/toga pura/toga libera**, or adult male toga.

Priests and magistrates also wore the **toga praetexta**.

Servī (slaves) wore a simple **tunica**;

Liberī (freedmen) also wore a **pilleus** (a special hat) designating that status.

Roman women were very fond of jewelry. Necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and rings, all made of expensive materials, were some of the ornaments worn by wealthy **matrōnae** (matrons). Styles in hairdressing were varied and often elaborate. Some women even dyed their hair and wore wigs.

MEALS

ientaculum—a light breakfast consisting chiefly of bread and wine. Cheese and olives were sometimes added.

prandium—lunch eaten around noon. Among the foods served were bread, wine, cheese, olives, fruit, cold cuts, vegetables, and nuts.

cena—the dinner or principal meal eaten in the evening. It was usually a hot meal consisting of soup, fish, fowl or meat, vegetables, and fruit.

Cibī (foods) eaten by the Romans were similar to those eaten today. However, there were some exceptions.

Instead of sugar the Romans used **mel** (honey) for sweetening purposes.

Oleum olivum (Olive oil) was used instead of butter. In fact, olive oil had a variety of uses besides being a food. It was used as an ointment after bathing, as fuel for lamps, and as an ingredient in the making of perfume.

The following foods, which are very common today, were unknown to the Romans: oranges, potatoes, tomatoes, tea, and coffee.

Vinum (wine), usually mixed with water, was the favorite drink of the Romans.

Instead of sitting on chairs while eating, guests at banquets reclined on **lectī** (couches). Food was generally picked up with the fingers, since table knives and forks were unknown. Slaves would provide **aqua** (water) and towels for the diners to wash their hands.

EXERCISES

A. In the following passage, ten words or expressions are italicized and repeated in the questions below. Circle the alternative that best explains each of these ten words or expressions as it is used in the passage.

(1) *L.* (2) *Appuleius* (3) *Saturninus*, son of a prominent Roman family, started his education at a private (4) *elementary school* with an excellent (5) *teacher*. He was fortunate also in having a (6) *Greek slave* who accompanied him to school and helped him in his studies. He went on to grammar school and then to college, where he excelled in the (7) *subjects* usually taught there. Having (8) *relinquished his toga praetexta*, he now assumed the (9) *adult male toga*. He completed his education by (10) *studying abroad* under famous teachers.

1. <i>L.</i>	Lepidus	Lucius	Livius	.Laelius
2. <i>Appuleius</i>	nomen	praenomen	cognomen	gens
3. <i>Saturninus</i>	familia	cognomen	praenomen	nomen
4. <i>elementary school</i>	schola	tabula	ludus	prandium
5. <i>teacher</i>	grammaticus	magister	pontifex	litterator
6. <i>Greek slave</i>	plebs	servus	paedagogus	stilus
7. <i>subjects</i>	oratory and politics	history and drama	music and psychology	economics and sociology
8. <i>relinquished his toga praetexta</i>		at age 12	at age 16	at age 21 at age 40
9. <i>adult male toga</i>	toga praetexta	toga Candida	toga virilis	toga antīqua
10. <i>studying abroad</i>	Britain	Gaul	Germany	Greece

B. Matching: In the space before each item in column A, write the letter of the matching item in column B.

Column A

Column B

_____ 1. palla	a. lunch
_____ 2. T.	b. a pointed instrument
_____ 3. prandium	c. worn by a magistrate
_____ 4. stilus	d. stands for Titus
_____ 5. stola	e. stands for Tiberius
_____ 6. ientaculum	f. a woolen wrap for outdoors
_____ 7. toga Candida	g. a writing board
_____ 8. toga praetexta	h. worn by an office seeker
_____ 9. Ti.	i. a garment for indoors
_____ 10. tabella	j. breakfast

C. Complete the following statements:

1. Letters were written on _____, a kind of paper made from reeds.
2. The abbreviation P. stood for _____.
3. The Latin word “familia” is most accurately translated _____.
4. A man’s short-sleeved, knee-length shirt was called _____.
5. The principal meal eaten in the evening was called in Latin _____.
6. A Roman citizen usually had a nōmen, a praenōmen, and a _____.
7. Roman tabellae were covered with a thin layer of _____.
8. Instead of sugar, the Romans used _____.
9. As far as education was concerned, the Roman girl received most of her training _____.
10. In the name Mārcus Tullius Cicerō, Tullius was called the _____.

D. In the following statements, if the underlined term is incorrect, **write the correct term**. If it is correct, write true.

1. Instead of butter, the Romans used margarine. _____
2. The abbreviation L. stood for Lucullus. _____
3. Hats were rarely worn by the ancient Romans. _____
4. The pater familiās had absolute power over his children. _____
5. The toga was the formal garment of Roman citizens. _____
6. The cognōmen corresponded to our given name. _____
7. The māter familiās held a very inferior position in the home. _____
8. Wine mixed with water was the favorite drink of the Romans. _____
9. Public education in ancient Rome was compulsory. _____
10. The cēna was usually a light meal consisting of bread, wine, and cheese. _____

AMUSEMENTS, RELIGION, ROMAN CONTRIBUTIONS

AMUSEMENTS

The Romans were very fond of games of excitement. Their chief public amusements took place in the circus, the theater, and the amphitheater. To pacify the mob, the government provided free amusements and bread lines, exemplified by the expression "**panem et circenses**" (bread and circus games). The most popular amusements were gladiatorial combats, chariot races, and theatrical performances. A visit to the baths was also a favorite pastime of the Romans.

The **Colosseum**, completed in 80 A.D., was the greatest amphitheater in Rome and the scene of combats between gladiators, or between gladiators and wild beasts. These contests were often spectacles of human suffering and served to brutalize the populace. Schools for training gladiators were established in various parts of Italy, and slaves were selected for their skill as fighters. Perhaps the most famous gladiator in Roman history was a Thracian slave named **Spartacus**, who led a formidable uprising of slaves against the Roman state.

In imperial times, the amphitheater was also the scene of religious and political persecutions. Sometimes the Colosseum was flooded with water, and sensational naval battles were fought to amuse the crowd.

The **Circus Maximus**, the most famous arena in Rome, was used chiefly for chariot races. It was about two thousand feet long and six hundred feet wide. In the center, for about two-thirds of its length, was a dividing wall called the **spina** around which the chariots raced. The number of horses harnessed to a chariot varied, but the four-horse team was the most popular. There were usually seven laps to a race, with sharp turns at each end of the arena. The reckless driving of the charioteers and the frequent accidents that occurred provided the thrills and excitement that the Romans were so fond of.

The **Campus Martius** was a large area set aside for athletic exercises and military training. Here the young men of Rome were participants rather than spectators, as at the Colosseum and the Circus. They engaged in track and field athletics, such as running, jumping, discus throwing, archery, wrestling, and boxing.

Theatrical performances, mainly pantomimes, comedies, and dances, were held in open-air theaters in the daytime, since there were no lighting facilities. The actors were all slaves, and men played the roles of women.

In 55 B.C. Pompey the Great erected the first permanent theater at Rome. It was built of stone and was supposed to accommodate about twenty thousand people. The seats in front were assigned to the senators. The first fourteen rows behind them were reserved for the knights (*equitēs*). The common people occupied the rest of the seats.

Thermae or balneae were elaborate baths corresponding to our country clubs. In addition to all sorts of bathing facilities, the buildings contained gymnasiums, libraries, lounging rooms, and gardens. Among the most famous were the Baths of Caracalla, after which the Pennsylvania Railroad Terminal in New York City is modeled.

RECREATION

Children's games, similar to those of today, were played with dolls, marbles, jacks, tops, kites, hoops, and various other toys. Hide-and-seek, blind man's bluff, and leapfrog were also played by Roman children.

Older children and adults played board games, not much different from our chess and checkers. Among the outdoor sports were handball, fishing, hunting, running, jumping, swimming, discus throwing, boxing, wrestling, and fencing.

RELIGION

The Romans lived constantly in the presence of the gods, and their numerous festivals, offerings, and prayers testified to their eagerness to please their deities and obtain favors. From earliest times, the imagination of the Romans saw gods everywhere in nature, and **polytheism**, or the belief in many gods, was universally practiced. There were gods who protected the crops and herds, gods of the weather and seasons, gods of the earth and sky. Gods had to be appeased, and when a disaster struck it proved that some god was offended.

Festivals were held all the year round, the most famous being the **Saturnalia**, dedicated to the god Saturn. This holiday took place at about the time we celebrate Christmas. It was a period of riotous merrymaking when even slaves were allowed their freedom.

Since religion was the function of the state, all temples, statues, and altars to the gods were built by the government. A very important temple was the temple of **Vesta**, where six Vestal Virgins kept the sacred fire forever burning. The priests, including the **pontifex maximus** (chief priest), were government officials, not necessarily trained for the priesthood.

After the conquest of Greece, the Romans identified their own gods with those of Greece. Below is a list of Roman deities with their Greek equivalents.

<i>ROMAN</i>	<i>DOMAIN</i>	<i>GREEK</i>
<i>Jupiter</i>	<i>king of the gods</i>	<i>Zeus</i>
<i>Juno</i>	<i>queen of the gods</i>	<i>Hera</i>
<i>Mercury</i>	<i>messenger of the gods</i>	<i>Hermes</i>
<i>Mars</i>	<i>god of war</i>	<i>Ares</i>
<i>Neptune</i>	<i>god of the sea</i>	<i>Poseidon</i>
<i>Saturn</i>	<i>god of the harvest</i>	<i>Cronus</i>
<i>Apollo</i>	<i>god of the sun, song, and prophecy</i>	<i>Apollo</i>
<i>Vulcan</i>	<i>god of fire</i>	<i>Hephaestus</i>
<i>Bacchus</i>	<i>god of wine</i>	<i>Dionysus</i>
<i>Cupid</i>	<i>god of love</i>	<i>Eros</i>
<i>Venus</i>	<i>goddess of love and beauty</i>	<i>Aphrodite</i>
<i>Minerva</i>	<i>goddess of wisdom</i>	<i>Athena</i>
<i>Diana</i>	<i>goddess of the chase and moon</i>	<i>Artemis</i>
<i>Ceres</i>	<i>goddess of agriculture</i>	<i>Demeter</i>
<i>Vesta</i>	<i>goddess of the hearth</i>	<i>Hestia</i>
<i>Janus</i>	<i>Strictly a Roman god; the god of beginnings and doorways. He is always represented with two faces.</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Lares and Penates</i>	<i>gods of the household</i>	<i>none</i>

ROMAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CIVILIZATION

1. **Language.** The Roman alphabet, derived originally from the Phoenicians, is in use today throughout most of the world. Latin is the basis of the Romance languages, the chief ones being Italian, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Romanian. English, though not a Romance language, has been profoundly influenced by Latin. Roman numerals are still in limited use as chapter headings in books, as hours on the face of a clock, and as dates on the cornerstones of buildings.

2. **Law.** Considered by many to be Rome's most valuable gift to the modern world, Roman law forms the basis of many legal systems today. **The Laws of the Twelve Tables**, engraved on bronze tablets and displayed in the Forum, were the foundation of Roman law.

Rome's greatest jurists recognized the equality of man before the law and the need for equal protection of the rights of person and property. Our own Declaration of Independence has embodied these ideas of justice. The Emperor Justinian codified the great mass of laws and thus facilitated the transmission of Roman law to the modern world.

3. **Literature.** In prose and poetry, Roman writers have left us a rich legacy, outstanding in the field of world literature. We need but mention Caesar and Livy in the field of history; Cicero in the field of oratory, philosophy, and letters; and Vergil and Horace in the field of poetry. These authors are still read and enjoyed today in schools throughout the world and have exercised a profound influence upon modern writers.

4. **Government.** In the organization and administration of the republic, the Romans have left their imprint on modern political systems. With the expansion of her territory and the formation and administration of her provinces, Rome showed a genius for organization that became a model for many modern governments.

5. **Engineering and Architecture.** The Romans were famous for their construction of roads, aqueducts, and bridges. They also perfected the rounded arch and the dome.

In imperial times Rome became an imposing city of magnificent public buildings, temples, aqueducts, basilicas, theaters, columns, triumphal arches, and tombs. Today's tourist can still see the ancient Roman Forum with its ruins, the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the mausoleum of Hadrian, the arches of Titus, Severus, and Constantine, and other monuments of a bygone day.

6. The **Calendar.** The calendar in use today is based essentially on the calendar revised by Julius Caesar. It was thus known as the Julian calendar. In the sixteenth century, Pope Gregory XIII made some further minor corrections, whence the term Gregorian calendar.

EXERCISES

A. In the following passage, ten words or expressions are italicized and repeated in the questions below. Underline the alternative that best explains each of these ten words or expressions as it is used in the passage.

It was the time of the *Saturnalia*. Lucius and I decided to go to the *arena* to watch the chariot races. We would have preferred to see a gladiatorial contest in Rome's greatest *amphitheater*, but none was scheduled for that day. On the way, we passed the *Thermae Caracallae* and the *Campus Martius*, which was named after the *god of war*. In the arena itself, the charioteers were getting ready for their seven-lap race. Enthusiasm ran high, and the joys of *Bacchus* and *Venus* were in evidence everywhere. One charioteer, making a sharp turn around the *dividing wall*, suffered a spill and had to be carried off the track. This accident, plus the fact that the arena was so *long*, delayed the close of the contest until after sundown.

Continued from previous page. Use page 15, Exercise A to answer questions.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Saturnalia | 1. February | 3. July | 6. god of war | 1. Vulcan | 3. Mars |
| | 2. May | 4. December | | 2. Janus | 4. Saturn |
| 2. arena | 1. Colosseum | | 7. Bacchus | 1. god of fire | |
| | 2. Circus Maximus | | | 2. god of the household | |
| | 3. Campus Martius | | | 3. god of love | |
| | 4. Comitium | | | 4. god of wine | |
| 3. amphitheater | 1. Curia | 3. Campus Martius | 8. Venus | 1. Aphrodite | 3. Athena |
| | 2. Thermae | 4. Colosseum | | 2. Eros | 4. Hera |
| 4. Thermae | 1. amphitheater | 3. arena | 9. dividing wall | 1. murus | 3. vallum |
| | 2. baths | 4. Temple | | 2. spina | 4. circenses |
| 5. Campus Martius | 1. athletic exercises | | 10. long | 1. 200 feet | |
| | 2. gladiatorial combats | | | 2. 500 feet | |
| | 3. chariot races | | | 3. 2000 feet | |
| | 4. theatrical performances | | | 4. 5000 feet | |

B. Complete the following statements:

1. Latin is the basis of the _____ languages.
2. The chief priest was called by the Romans _____
3. The translation of panem et circenses is _____
4. The Lares and Penates were _____
5. The calendar in use today is essentially the one revised by the Roman _____
6. Vulcan was the god of _____
7. The Roman goddess of wisdom was called _____
8. The Greek god Hermes was called _____ by the Romans.
9. The god with two faces was called _____
10. Roman baths corresponded to our _____

C. In the following statements, if the italicized term is incorrect, write the correct term. If the italicized term is correct, write *true*.

1. The Laws of the Twelve Tables formed the foundation of *Roman* Law. _____
2. Penn Station in New York City is modeled after the *Colosseum*. _____
3. The Romans practiced polytheism, the belief in *gladiatorial combats*. _____
4. Saturn was the god of the *harvest*. _____
5. Poseidon was the Greek counterpart of *Apollo*. _____
6. Children's games in ancient Rome were *similar* to those of today. _____
7. The Romans perfected the dome and the *pointed* arch. _____
8. *Diana* was the goddess of the chase and of the moon. _____
9. Theatrical performances in Rome were held in open-air theaters in the *daytime*. _____
10. Eros among the Greeks corresponded to *Cupid* among the Romans. _____

FAMOUS PEOPLE AND MYTHS IN ROMAN HISTORY

FAMOUS PEOPLE

Aeneas- Trojan leader and reputed ancestor of the Romans. He displayed exemplary devotion to father, country, and the gods.

Brutus-Rome's first consul. He was known for his heroic devotion to duty by putting to death his own sons for plotting treason.

Cato the Elder- Roman censor famed for his frugality, self-sacrifice, and devotion to duty.

Cincinnatus-Roman farmer-patriot who was called from his plow to lead the Roman army. After defeating the enemy, he modestly returned to his farm, rather than continue in high position.

Cornelia- devoted mother of the Gracchi brothers, who, pointing to her sons, exclaimed, "These are my jewels."

Decius Mus- Roman consul and general. He rushed into the midst of the enemy and sacrificed his life, thereby bringing victory to the Romans.

Fabricius-displayed integrity of character by refusing to be bribed by Pyrrhus, the famous Greek general.

Gracchi brothers (Gaius and Tiberius)-sons of Cornelia. As tribunes of the people, both showed sympathy for the underprivileged and tried to enact laws in their favor. In the course of duty, they were slain by their opponents.

Horatius-courageous Roman who defended a bridge over the Tiber to delay the Etruscans who were advancing on Rome.

Mucius Scaevola-Roman patriot. Ordered to be burnt alive by King Porsena, Mucius showed extreme physical endurance and open defiance of the Etruscans by thrusting his right hand into the fire prepared for his execution. Subsequently, he was nicknamed "Scaevola" (left-handed), since he lost the use of his right hand.

Regulus- Roman general captured in the First Punic War. He kept his word of honor to return to his Carthaginian captors, even though he knew that it meant death.

Remus-twin brother of Romulus.

Romulus- legendary founder of Rome.

FAMOUS MYTHS

Baucis and Philemon- an aged couple who, having hospitably entertained Jupiter and Mercury in disguise, were later rewarded by the gods.

Ceres and Proserpina- Ceres was the goddess of agriculture whose daughter, Proserpina, was carried off by Pluto to the Underworld. Through the intervention of Jupiter, it was arranged that Proserpina spend one-third of the year with Pluto and the remaining part on earth with her mother.

Daedalus and Icarus- Daedalus, a craftsman, made the first successful flight by using wings fastened with wax. His son Icarus, despite his father's warning, flew so near the sun that the wax melted. Icarus fell into the sea and drowned.

Hercules- Greek hero noted for his strength. He performed the "Twelve Labors."

Medusa- one of three Gorgons, pictured with wings and claws and a head covered with serpents.

Until finally beheaded by Perseus, the famous Greek hero, she could turn to stone anyone who looked at her.

Midas- King of Phrygia, renowned for his wealth. Whatever he touched turned to gold.

Orpheus and Eurydice- Orpheus, a celebrated Greek poet, enchanted with his lyre wild beasts, trees, and even rocks. When his wife Eurydice died, he was able, with the charm of his music, to enter Hades and bring her back, only to lose her again for gazing back.

Perseus and Andromeda- Perseus, a Greek hero, slew a sea monster which threatened the life of Andromeda, chained to a rock as a sacrifice. Perseus later married the girl he had saved. He also cut off the head of Medusa.

Pyramus and Thisbe- famous lovers whose parents refused to give consent to their marriage. Their young lives ended in tragic death.

Theseus and the Minotaur- Theseus, a Greek hero, slew the Minotaur, a monster half-man and half-bull. Theseus was aided by Ariadne, daughter of King Minos.

EXERCISES

A. Name the person referred to in each of the following statements:

1. He was called from his farm to lead the Roman army. _____
2. He kept his word of honor after being released by his Carthaginian captors. _____
3. He performed the famous "Twelve Labors." _____
4. He was the legendary founder of Rome. _____
5. He defended a bridge against the enemy. _____
6. By thrusting his right hand into a fire, he showed his defiance of King Porsena. _____
7. He was a king famous for his golden touch. _____
8. She was the devoted mother of the Gracchi brothers. _____
9. His own sons were put to death by this consul. _____
10. He was a Trojan leader and reputed ancestor of the Romans. _____

B. Each incomplete statement below is followed by four words or expressions in parentheses. Circle the one that will complete the statement correctly.

1. Perseus slew a sea monster, thereby saving the life of (Eurydice, Andromeda, Helen, Proserpina).
2. Daedalus is famous in mythology for having fashioned (wings, sandals, precious stones, wax tablets).
3. Medusa is always pictured with a head full of (serpents, jewels, curls, thorns).
4. Pyramus and Thisbe were famous (consuls, lovers, craftsmen, heroes).
5. Theseus slew the Minotaur with the aid of (Minos, Andromeda, Proserpina, Ariadne).
6. Baucis and Philemon were (an aged couple, young lovers, a god and goddess, a craftsman and his son).
7. The girl carried off by Pluto to the Underworld was (Medusa, Cornelia, Proserpina, Ceres).
8. Eurydice was almost rescued from Hades by (Orpheus, Perseus, Theseus, Hercules).
9. Decius Mus is famous in Roman history for having (enacted good laws, sacrificed his life, defended a bridge).
10. The Roman who showed integrity of character by refusing to be bribed by Pyrrhus was (Cato, Brutus, Fabricius, Regulus).

C. In the following statements, if the italicized term is incorrect, write the correct term. If the italicized term is correct, write true.

1. Scaevola was so called because he lost the use of his **right hand**. _____
2. Whatever King **Midas** touched turned to gold. _____
3. Daedalus' son, **Baucis**, fell into the sea and drowned. _____
4. The Minotaur was a monster, half-man and **half-goat**. _____
5. Medusa was beheaded by **Perseus**. _____
6. **Julia** was the mother of the Gracchi brothers. _____
7. Pyramus and Thisbe were a pair of famous **lovers**. _____
8. Orpheus was almost successful in bringing **Eurydice** out of Hades. _____
9. Cato the Elder was known for his **lavish spending**. _____
10. Brutus **refused** to put to death his own sous accused of treason. _____