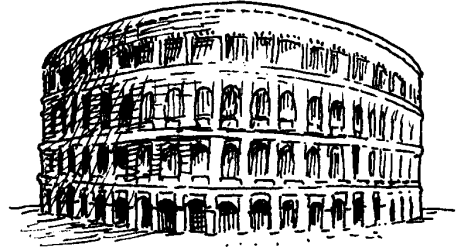


**GLOBAL HISTORY I
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS
DUE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2008**

I. Life in Rome

Life changed as Rome grew into an empire. The introduction of many slaves from conquered territories resulted in mass unemployment, even in rural areas. Many farmers sold their land and moved to the cities, where they lived by means of support from government doles, which was money given out to provide for the poor and unemployed.



To keep so many idle and dissatisfied people occupied, the Roman government staged free games and other forms of entertainment. Huge amphitheaters, like the Colosseum in Rome, offered, among other things, gladiator fights and contests between men and ferocious animals. Usually, the gladiators were criminals, prisoners of war, or slaves who were required to fight one another to the death. Sometimes the floor of the Colosseum was flooded with water, and savage mock naval battles were fought.

Rome's masses could also go to the Circus Maximus. This huge building housed a large oval racetrack where chariot races were held. Many Romans bet money on their favorite charioteers, and skilled charioteers were viewed as heroes.

Another popular form of recreation for the Romans was visiting the public baths. The baths were fed constantly with water that flowed from the mountains through large aqueducts. For a small fee, citizens could spend a day at one of the baths. There they could bathe, work out in a gymnasium, or simply sit and visit with friends.

Roman industriousness, which had led to remarkable achievements in such areas as law, language, and architecture, had greatly declined. This and many other problems contributed to the eventual fall of the Roman Empire.

1. The Romans started the first dole, or welfare, system in history. At regular intervals, government officials gave small sums of money and food to the unemployed masses in the cities. What brought about the need for this system?

2. How were the pastimes in ancient Rome similar to those people enjoy today? How were they different?

II. Roman Contributions

The Romans were more imitators than originators of new ideas. They admired and adapted much of Greek culture. They even worshiped the Greek gods, but changed their names. For example, Zeus became Jupiter, and Athena became Minerva. Wherever the Romans went, they transmitted Greek civilization to other peoples.

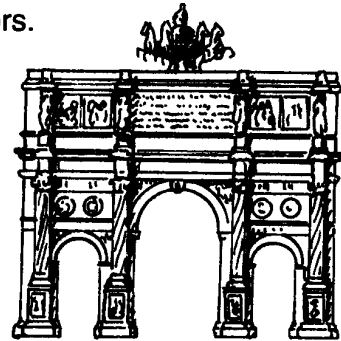
The Romans themselves built imposing buildings, aqueducts, and roads. Several outstanding Roman writers such as Cicero, Horace, Virgil, Livy, and Plutarch wrote great works. However, the Romans' greatest contributions were in law and language.

In the field of law, the Romans gave the world the Justinian Code, which later became the model for the legal systems of Europe. The Code even influenced the laws of England and America. The Justinian Code emphasized several important points. One was that all persons are equal under the law. Another was that a person is innocent until proven guilty.

Latin, the language of Rome, became the basis for what are called the Romance (after *Roman*) languages. The Romance languages are Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian. Many of the words in the English language are also derived from Latin.

Read each sentence and identify the word that would fill each blank. Write the words, one letter per space, to complete the puzzle below about the Romans.

1. The Romans' name for the Greek god Zeus was _____.
2. The Justinian _____ influenced the legal systems of modern Europe.
3. The _____ languages are derived from Latin.
4. The Romans were more _____ than originators.
5. "_____ until proven guilty."
6. _____ is one of the Romance languages.



1. _____ R
2. _____ O _____
3. _____ M _____
4. _____ A _____
5. _____ N _____
6. S _____

7. In what ways were the legal systems of England and America influenced by Roman law?

III. The Fall of the Roman Empire

The Roman Empire's period of greatness lasted about two hundred years. It began with the reign of Caesar Augustus in 27 B.C. and ended with the death of Marcus Aurelius in A.D. 180. After the year 180, the empire began to decline.

Many factors led to the fall of Rome. As the empire expanded and acquired more territory, taxes were increased to administer the government and to support the army. In time, higher taxes wiped out the middle class, and trade and business suffered. At the same time, an influx of slaves into the empire caused widespread unemployment. This in turn helped lead to a number of social problems, such as crime, moral decay, and a lack of interest in government. While the poor grew poorer, the rich indulged themselves in idleness and pleasure. Few people in Rome seemed to realize, or care, that the empire was crumbling around them.

Beginning about the year 200, the orderly succession to the throne that had characterized the empire throughout its history ended. Rival factions of the army fought civil wars and installed their own candidates as emperor. During one fifty-year period, twenty-six different emperors ruled from Rome. Of this number, twenty-five were murdered. Such instability in government weakened Rome and made it vulnerable to attacks from Germanic tribes to the north.

As Rome grew weaker, its army also declined. Citizens ignored their duties and refused to enlist in the army, forcing officials to recruit barbarians who had settled within the empire. The overall effect was that the army became undisciplined and ineffective.

All of these factors contributed to the takeover of the Roman Empire in the west by the Germanic Visigoth tribe in the year 476.

1. There were many economic, political, social, and military reasons for the fall of Rome. List these reasons on the lines below.

economic: _____

political: _____

social: _____

military: _____

2. What lessons might nations today learn from the fall of Rome?

IV. Classical Greece and Rome – Review

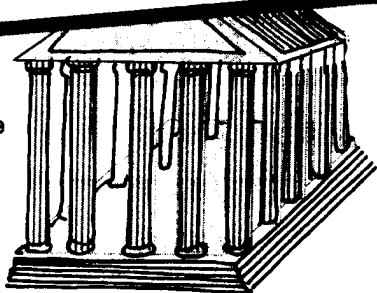
Classical Greece

During the period of 500 to 330 B.C., Greece was divided into great *city-states*. Each city was like a separate nation. This is known as the *Classical Period* in Greek history. Developments in politics, art, science, and philosophy that originated from Greece during this period left a lasting influence on future civilizations in Europe and the rest of the world. Athens and Sparta were two particularly prosperous and influential city-states. Sparta was a military city-state that conquered many people and made slaves. The Spartans became rich from the trade and the work of the slaves. In Athens, great learning, writing, and art flourished. Thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates discussed ideas that became the basis for modern philosophy. The Athenian system of government was the beginning of *democracy*, a form of government in which citizens rule. The Greeks are also credited with great advances in medicine, drama, architecture, literature, and poetry. Eventually, rivalries between the city-states ended the classical period in Greece.

Alexander the Great

Alexander the Great was a brilliant military leader who ruled in northern Greece. His father, King Philip II of Macedonia, defeated the Greek city-states that had been weakened by fighting among themselves. Alexander became king at age 20 when his father was murdered. He built a great empire—the largest one in the ancient world. His empire stretched from Greece to India, establishing cities and spreading Greek ideas and language throughout a wide area.

Greek temple



The Roman World - A.D. 138-235



Rome

The city of Rome began as a group of small villages in Italy built along the edge of the Tiber River. By about 750 B.C. the villages had grown into one great city, Rome. This city became the center of one of the greatest ancient civilizations and the largest empires in the ancient world. Kings ruled Rome until 510 B.C. when the people set up a republic. A *republic* is a form of government where citizens choose representatives to run the government. Under a series of generals and emperors, the Roman Empire conquered all the lands around the Mediterranean Sea and spread from North Africa and the Middle East to England. The achievements of the Romans include a system of representative law that is a foundation of many democratic societies today, great roads and aqueducts, spectacular architecture and sculpture, and advances in literature and poetry. The Roman Empire lasted until around A.D. 476, when Germanic tribes and Mongol people (*Huns*) invaded and conquered parts of the empire.

The Development of Christianity

During the era of the Roman Empire, a Jewish boy named Jesus was born in the Roman province of Judea. He grew up to become a religious teacher who claimed to be the Son of God. His followers called him *Christ*, which means *the anointed one*. His teachings became very popular in the later years of the Roman Empire, and spread throughout the empire, even though the Romans tried to stop it. Christians, including Jesus, were persecuted and even killed, but the religion continued to spread. In A.D. 337, the Roman emperor Constantine became a Christian and made the religion legal. After that, Christianity became a prominent religion in the empire.