

## REVISION NOTES ON ROME - CHAPTER 4

**USE YOUR TEXT, RETROACTIVE 1, TO HELP YOU ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

### Roman Origins

- ◆ Rome began in ancient times as one of the small villages by a tribe called the Latins. By the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD the Romans ruled over an empire that stretched from England to Palestine and also countries in the Mediterranean Sea such as Egypt and Greece.
- ◆ There are 2 legends of how Rome came to exist. According to one legend, refugees from the Trojan War against the Greeks were led away from Troy by the Trojan hero, Aeneas. They found their way to Italy and settled there. It was one of Aeneas' descendants, Romulus who founded the city of Rome.

1. In your own words, explain the second legend of how Rome was founded.

### The Etruscans

- ◆ By the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC, there were 2 civilisations in Italy: (i) the Greeks (who lived in colonies spread around southern Italy and Sicily); (ii) the Etruscans in the north of Italy.
- ◆ The Etruscans have come to Italy by sea and settled north of the Tiber River. They invaded the village of Rome and turned it into a large city and important trading centre. By 550 BC, the Etruscans were the most powerful people in Rome.
- ◆ The people of Rome and the Latin tribes around Rome joined forces to fight against the Etruscans. The Romans gained their freedom in 509 BC.

### Roman Expansion and The Punic Wars

- ◆ After 509 BC, the monarchy was brought to an end and the Roman Republic began. The Romans began to move north and came into contact with rivals such as the Gauls in 390 BC (the Romans were able to defeat them). Over the next 200 years, various tribes were forced to accept Roman control. By 338 BC, the Romans had taken control of central Italy and began to take over southern Italy. By 272 BC, Italy was unified under Roman control.

2. Describe 2 methods of how the Romans were able to gain control of Italy.

- ◆ Between 264 BC and 146 BC there were 3 periods of warfare between the Romans and the Carthaginians. These became known as the Punic Wars. The Romans came into contact with the powerful state of Carthage in northern Africa. Carthage controlled the island of Sicily and therefore, controlled most of the Mediterranean Sea.

3. Describe what happened in each Punic War.

First Punic War

Second Punic War

Third Punic War

## Government during the Roman Republic

### 4. Outline the 3 forms of government.

- ◆ During the Republic, a person could not be a Roman citizen unless both parents were freeborn Romans. Slaves were not citizens. People who were loyal to Rome could be granted a form of citizenship. Women could have citizenship but it was never thought they could vote as they were under the control of their father or husband.
- ◆ The people were divided into 2 social groups:
  - The patricians - upper class, rich landowners and nobles.
  - The plebians - lower class, poorer farmers and workers, the majority.
  - The equestrians - were involved in business or tax collecting.
- ◆ The Roman Republic were governed by 2 leaders - consuls. They were elected to rule Rome for 1 year. They were in charge of the army and maintained law and order.

### 5. Outline the 5 positions in the *cursus honorum*.

- ◆ During the Republic the Roman Senate ran the city of Rome and the provinces. The Senate was made up of 300 wealthy men, consisting of magistrates (citizens elected to govern and make decisions) and men who had been previously elected to at least one of the positions on the *cursus honorum*.

## The Roman Army

- ◆ The army consisted of a number of legions. A legion was a group of soldiers which numbered from 5000-6000 men. Each legion was made up of 2 types of soldiers: the legionaries and the auxiliaries. Legionaries were Roman citizens and auxiliaries were non-citizens who came from different parts of the Roman Empire.
- ◆ Most Roman soldiers were also farmers. Rich soldiers provided horses, armour, shield, spears and swords. Poor soldiers provided farm tools, stones and anything else that might be useful.
- ◆ Farmers could not afford to be away from their farms for long periods, so the Romans decided to introduce pay for soldiers. Most hope to make their distribution from enemy booty - whenever an enemy was defeated, valuables (gold and silver) were captured, the general kept some for the government, some for himself and his officers and the rest was divided amongst his troops.
- ◆ Organisation and discipline were essential for the army's success. Roman soldiers were treated harshly and could be flogged or killed for disobedience.

## The Daily Life of the Romans

### 6. Briefly outline 2 important features in the daily life of the Romans.

Roman Family

Roman Houses

Schooling

Food and Eating

Roman Fashion

Daily Bath

## Roman Religion

- ◆ The word "religion" comes from the Latin word *religio* which means "the thing that binds". Romans believed that if people followed their religion correctly, this would help the state and the family to stay together.

- ◆ Examples of Roman Gods:  
Jupiter - King of Gods  
Juno - Queen  
Neptune - King of the Sea  
Venus - Goddess of Love.

7. What can you notice about Greek and Roman gods?

### Pompey and Caesar

8. Who was Pompey? When was he in power?
9. What made him such a dynamic leader?
10. Who was Caesar? When was he in power?
11. Why was Caesar such a popular leader? Why was he assassinated?

### Ruling the Empire

12. Choose 1 personality from pages 96-97 and summarise their life.

### Spartacus and Roman Slaves

- ◆ Rome was wealthy and successful due to its slaves. Most slaves were prisoners of war; some were bought and sold like property.
  - ◆ There were 2 types of slaves:
    - (i) Slaves who worked in the households and towns - they were mainly from Greece, well educated, part of the owner's family, sometimes paid, well treated.
    - (ii) Slaves who worked in the fields and country - they were mainly from barbaric countries, poorly educated, hardly ever paid, and poorly treated.
  - ◆ Slaves had few rights. Slaves owners could treat their slaves badly without penalty. Rules were introduced to give slaves protection but if a slave broke the law, they would be severely punished.
  - ◆ Slaves sometimes revolted because of their bad treatment and their wish to be free. In 73 BC, a group of gladiators escaped and started a revolt that was not easily crushed. The leader of the group was called Spartacus. He freed other slaves and taught them how to fight. He eventually led 100 000 slaves in a revolt that lasted from 73 BC to 71 BC.
13. What was the consequence of the revolt? What happened to the slaves?
- ◆ Some slaves had many important jobs in the home such as helping to educate children and taking care of their owners businesses. Many slaves were able to save up and buy their own freedom. Some were set free by their owners.

### Festivals and Games

- ◆ Entertainment played an important role in the stability of Rome. Entertainment could take many forms such as the theatre, chariot races and fights between gladiators.
- ◆ People went to the theatre to be amused, although tragedies were still performed.
- ◆ The Circus Maximus was a huge oval arena that held 180 000 spectators. It was the venue for chariot races. These races were very exciting for the crowds.
- ◆ People were also entertained by fights between gladiators, armed men who fought in amphitheatres such as the Colosseum.

14. Describe what happened in a gladiator fight.

### Heritage of the Romans

- ◆ Roman society changed the way we lived today. Because the Roman Empire has spread over Europe, we have inherited many aspects of Roman life.
- ◆ Engineering and Architecture:  
Romans were very good builders. They invented concrete, mixing gravel, sand and cement as building materials. They also used the skills of surveyors, engineers and architects. They constructed many monuments, buildings and bridges. They also constructed roads, plumbing and sewerage systems.

15. Describe 2 examples of Roman architecture or engineering.

- ◆ Government and Administration:  
Many of the principles and practices used in Roman times form the basis of our government today. For example, we have inherited the Roman system of currency, taxation and standards measures and weights.
- ◆ Laws:  
Many of our laws are based on Roman law. All laws were written down in the *Roman Law Code*. They wrote 2 types of laws - civil (dealt with argument between citizens over land) and criminal (dealt with crimes against another person or the state) laws.
- ◆ Religion:  
In 394 BC, Christianity became the official religion of Rome. The head of the Church was the Pope and the language of the Church was Latin. Today, Christianity is one of the world's most practised religions.

NOTE: MAKE SURE YOU ARE ABLE TO COMPARE GREEK CIVILISATION TO ROME CIVILISATION AND VICA VERSA.