



Ancient Rome Scavenger Hunt

Learn about the ancient past of Rome – the creator of an empire that was one of the greatest in history.

1. Where was Rome founded and what natural defences aided its position?
2. What other features made the location for Rome ideal?
3. What advantage did Rome's location beside the Tiber River provide?
4. What tribe were the Romans from on the Italian Peninsula?
5. What are the three groups that made up the social structure of ancient Rome?
6. Who were allowed to become citizens?
7. Who were the slaves and what types of tasks did they complete?
8. When was the Roman Republic established?
9. Which body was the most powerful governing body in Rome?
10. What was the role of the Senate?
11. What stages did a Roman have to go through to become a Senator?
12. What was the highest position in the Senate?
13. How long did magistrates or senators hold office?
14. Who were the patricians?
15. Who were the patricians in a power struggle with during the 400's and 300's B.C. and what was the conflict called?
16. What was the conflict over?
17. When was the Roman Empire established and who held supreme authority?
18. What duties did the Emperor fulfil?
19. Outline the types of people who composed the three different groups that made up the Roman army and what duties each fulfilled.
20. What features did Roman cities include?
21. Where did most people in Roman cities live?
22. Who was the head of the Roman family?
23. At what age were girls and boys legally permitted to marry?
24. What happened to a woman's property when she married during the republic?
25. What rights did women have over ownership during the empire?
26. What types of food did Romans eat?
27. What was the main clothing garment worn by Romans?
28. Describe one activity that Romans enjoyed for leisure.
29. Where did Romans adopt most of their gods from?
30. What was the relationship between religion and the Roman state?
31. Who were the most important priests and who was the Pontifex Maximus?
32. What was divination?
33. Who taught wealthy children?
34. What subjects did those children who attended school learn?
35. What skill did higher education focus on and why?
36. What two achievements of Roman engineering made larger buildings possible?
37. What helped fund Roman building projects?
38. What were Rome's two important industries?
39. What types of goods did Rome import?
40. What were Rome's leading exports?
41. What feature made trade throughout the empire easier?
42. How did the Romans transport and communicate across the empire?

To learn more about ancient Rome see the **Related Information** tab located at the top of your screen.

ANSWERS - Ancient Rome Scavenger Hunt

1. The city of Rome was founded on seven wooded hills next to the Tiber River in central Italy. The hills were steep and easily defended against enemy attackers.
2. The valleys between the hills had fertile soil and good irrigation, as well as materials necessary for building.
3. The Tiber provided a convenient route to the sea and allowed for extensive trade with other communities.
4. The Romans were from the Latin tribe.
5. Citizens, noncitizens, and slaves.
6. Initially, only those born in Rome could become citizens, as Rome expanded, it granted citizenship to more people in the empire.
7. Most slaves were captured in war, they performed tasks ranging from heavy labour to teaching the young nobles of Rome.
8. 509 B.C.
9. The Senate.
10. The Senate decided foreign and financial policy and passed decrees (official orders).
11. A Senator would have to serve as a military officer, then be elected as quaestor (financial official), then as an aedile (public works official), then as a praetor (judicial official). After serving as praetor, magistrates automatically entered the Senate.
12. The highest position was consul. There were two consuls, elected annually, who headed the government and took command of the army in times of war.
13. All magistrates held office for one year, then returning to private life for a year before holding another office.
14. The patricians were the landowning upper classes.
15. The patricians struggled for power with the plebeians (the other classes). The dispute was known as the Conflict of Orders.
16. Patricians were originally the only group eligible to hold public office, become priests, or interpret the law.
17. 27 B.C, after the republican government collapsed the emperor held supreme authority.
18. The Emperor nominated the consuls and appointed new senators, headed the army and directed the making of laws.
19. i) The legions: only Roman citizens could join the legions. Their chief purpose was the military but they also built roads, aqueducts, walls and tunnels.
ii) The Auxiliaries: were noncitizens who fought alongside the legions. They were specialised troops such as archers or cavalry.
iii) The Praetorian Guard: an elite group of soldiers who served as the emperor's personal bodyguard.
20. Public buildings in central locations, efficient sewerage and water supply-systems, baths, arenas, and theatres. The forum included markets, government buildings, and temples.
21. Most people in Roman cities lived in cramped apartment building that were three to five storeys high. Wealthy Romans lived in houses built around two courtyards.
22. The head of the Roman family was the paterfamilias (father of the family). He had legal power over his entire household.
23. Girls could legally marry when they were 12 years old, and boys when they were 14.
24. During the republic, marriage made a woman and everything she owned her husband's property.
25. During the empire, the woman kept her legal rights and her own property.
26. Most Romans ate simple meals such as bread, cheese, porridge, olives, fruit, and garum (a sauce made of fish parts and olive oil). The wealthy ate eggs, vegetables, and shellfish, meat, fish or chicken and honey sweetened cakes and fruit.
27. The main garment was the tunic, a gown that hung to the knees or below. On formal occasions, citizens wore a toga. Women wore a stola, a long dress with many folds. Wealthy women wore a palla, which was similar to a toga.
28. i) Bathhouses served as centres for daily exercise and bathing, as well as socialising.
ii) Gladiator games held in amphitheatres where trained fighters fought each other to the death.

- iii) Chariot racing was a spectator sport held in oval arenas known as the Circus Maximus.
 - iv) Theatre performances of comedies and tragedies by Greek and Roman authors, mimes and pantomimes
29. Romans adopted most of their gods from the Greeks, giving them Roman names.
 30. The Roman state controlled religion. Priests were government officials, elected or appointed to office. They performed sacrifices and other ceremonies to win the favour of the gods for the state.
 31. The most important priests were the pontiffs. The Pontifex Maximus was the chief priest. This position was always held by the emperor during the empire.
 32. Divination was telling the future and examining the will of the gods to ward off their anger.
 33. Slaves taught the children from wealthy homes. These slaves were often well-educated men from Greece.
 34. Children learned reading, writing, and mathematics. Older children studied Latin and Greek grammar and literature, as well as mathematics, music, and astronomy.
 35. Higher education focused on the study of rhetoric – the art of public speaking. Upper-class Romans prized the ability to argue persuasively before the law courts or to debate effectively in the Senate.
 36. The arch and concrete. Arches supported such structures as bridges and the aqueducts that carried water to Roman cities and eliminated the need for columns thus creating more floor space. Concrete served as a strong building material for walls, vaults, and domed buildings.
 37. Rome profited from the economic resources of the regions and nations it conquered.
 38. Agriculture and mining.
 39. Rome imported foods, raw materials, and manufactured goods from within the empire. Rome also imported silk from China, spices and precious gems from India, and ivory and wild animals from Africa.
 40. Wine and olive oil.
 41. The central regulation of weights and measurements for coinage made trade throughout the empire easier.
 42. The Roman Empire's road system covered 80,000 kilometres. Romans had a highly developed postal system that carried letters across the empire. The Romans had a huge fleet of cargo ships, which travelled to ports on the Mediterranean Sea and carried goods up and down the Rhine, Danube, and Nile rivers. A government newsletter in Rome recorded important social and political news.