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Ancient Rome: Home and Culture

You are about to go back in time to a place called ancient Rome! As you move back in time, you'll get a taste of the daily life of a typical Roman citizen. Stick around – you may even run into a gladiator!

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Find it!

Use the "Search" Tool to find the answers below. Since this activity is about Ancient Rome, it is recommended you start by searching the key words "Ancient Rome." Write the answers below the question.

The Land

1. What geographical benefits did the original city of Rome have that allowed the people to prosper? Name at least three.

Geographical Feature:	How the land benefited the Romans:

The People

2. Describe the features of the tribal culture at the time ancient Rome was first founded.

3. What countries did the Roman Empire control at the peak of its empire? Name at least 5.



4. What were the official languages spoken in Rome?

5. Name the three main social groups of people who lived in Rome.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

6. Of the three groups of Roman people, which were not allowed to become a senator or government official?

7. Each of the three social classes held very different positions in Roman society. Fill in their roles below.

Social Class:	What position did they hold?
Senate	
Equites	
Lower Classes	

8. What benefits did ancient Rome experience by granting citizenship to people who were not born in Rome?

9. What types of tasks were slaves expected to perform?

10. Where did Roman's slaves generally come from?

Way of Life

11. Name at least four attributes of a typical ancient Roman city that engineers carefully planned.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
12. In what type of building did the majority of ancient city-dwelling Romans live?
13. How did war contribute to the creation of latifundia in Rome (large estates)?
14. Describe the power granted to fathers through the cultural practice of paterfamilias?
15. When considering family life, how did Roman women during the republic live differently than a Roman woman during the empire?
16. Describe the difference in occasions that a Roman citizen might wear a tunic and when they might chose to wear a toga.
17. How could you tell if a Roman woman was wealthy, based solely on her attire?
18. What activities did the Romans participate in for recreation?
19. In what way did the Greeks influence Roman religion?
20. Explain the relationship between Roman religion and politics.





21. Describe the Roman practice of divination.

22. Why was rhetoric the main focus of study in higher education for men?

Arts and Sciences

23. What two achievements in Roman engineering allowed them to create larger buildings?

24. Describe how the wealthy citizens of Rome displayed art in their homes.

25. In literature, what were the annals and what purpose did they serve?

26. If the Romans did not contribute much to science, whose contribution flourished at that time?

See it!

In the article “Ancient Rome,” there are several paintings provided in the “Images, Videos, and Audio” tab. Find the painting titled “Crowded shops in ancient Rome” in order to answer the questions below.

27. What types of goods do the merchants appear to be selling?

28. Name at least 3 activities that you see the people doing in this painting.

1.

2.

3.

29. Describe the different types of clothing you see the Romans wearing in this painting and how their clothing conveys their social status.

30. What values about ancient Roman culture are depicted in this painting? Explain your answer.

What's the Word?

Use the clues below to fill in the vocabulary words associated with Ancient Roman culture. All of these words are located within the World Book article "Ancient Rome."

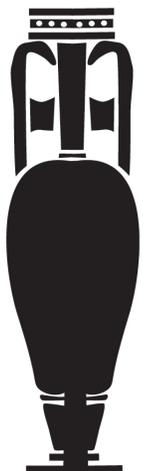
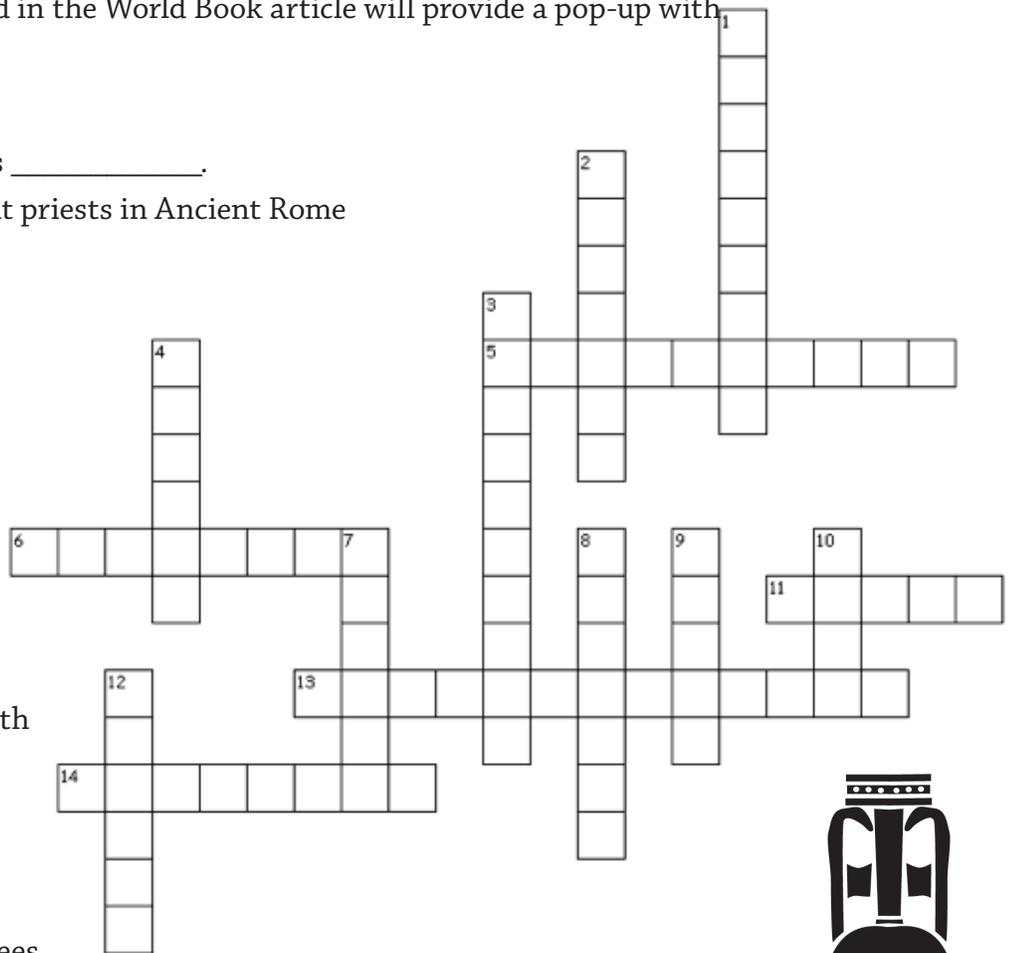
Hint: Double-clicking on any word in the World Book article will provide a pop-up with that word's definition.

Across

- 5. Large estates were known as _____.
- 6. Consider the most important priests in Ancient Rome
- 11. A large open space
- 13. Father of the family
- 14. Freed slaves

Down

- 1. It is still the most famous amphitheater in Rome
- 2. Prosperous businessmen and merchants
- 3. Trained fighters who fought each other to the death
- 4. Arched roofs
- 7. Wealthy landowners
- 8. Pictures or designs created with small colored tiles
- 9. A gown that hung to the knees or below
- 10. Resembles a white sheet draped around the body
- 12. The name of one courtyard found in the home of a wealthy Roman citizen



Extension Activity: Vacation Brochure

Imagine that you are a travel agent who wants to promote your new vacation spot – ancient Rome! No need to explain how to get there, just assume your travelers will arrive safely in the past.

Check out the map called “Ancient Rome” located in the “Images, Videos, and Audio” tab within the “Ancient Rome” article. Choose three points of interest in ancient Rome to advertise to your clientele. Create a travel brochure for prospective travellers that include pictures and descriptions of each site.

Consider the following details: What was the site used for during the time of ancient Rome? Who went there and why? What types of sights and sounds would a tourist expect to see at this site at the time of ancient Rome? What kind of engineering tools would the Romans need to use to create this site? What roads should your travellers take to get there?

Use your imagination, but make sure that the information is accurate for the time!

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