

## The Roman Empire and Christianity

### Section 1



#### MAIN IDEAS

1. Disorder in the Roman Republic created an opportunity for Julius Caesar to gain power.
2. The Republic ended when Augustus became Rome's first emperor.
3. The Roman Empire grew to control the entire Mediterranean world.
4. The Romans accomplished great things in science, engineering, architecture, art, literature, and law.

### Key Terms and People

**Cicero** famous Roman orator

**orator** a public speaker

**Julius Caesar** Roman general who became dictator for life

**Augustus** the first emperor of Rome

**provinces** the areas outside of Italy that the Romans controlled

**Pax Romana** the Roman Peace, a peaceful period in Rome's history

**aqueduct** a raised channel used to carry water from mountains into cities

**Ovid** a poet who wrote about Roman mythology

**Romance languages** the languages that developed from Latin

**civil law** a legal system based on a written code of laws

### Academic Vocabulary

**agreement** a decision reached by two or more people or groups

### Section Summary

#### DISORDER AND THE END OF THE REPUBLIC

**Cicero**, a famous **orator**, asked Romans to return power to the Senate and bring order back to Rome. But Rome's government stayed the same.

After conquering Gaul and defeating Pompey, **Julius Caesar** named himself Roman dictator. But on March 15 in 44 BC, a group of Senators stabbed him to death. **Marc Antony** and Octavian, later renamed **Augustus**, took charge of Roman politics. They defeated Caesar's killers, who then killed

What actions did Cicero ask Romans to take?

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Section 1, *continued*

themselves. Octavian returned to Italy while Antony headed east to fight Rome's enemies.

Octavian and Antony soon became enemies. In 31 BC Octavian defeated Antony's fleet. Antony escaped and returned to Cleopatra. They killed themselves to avoid capture.

Octavian ruled Rome. He claimed that he was giving his power to the Senate. But he took the name Augustus and became the Roman emperor.

**Why did Antony and Cleopatra kill themselves?**

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### ROME'S GROWING EMPIRE

By the 100s, the Romans ruled Gaul and much of central Europe. Their empire stretched from Asia Minor to Britain. Traders traveled the **provinces** to trade artisans' goods for metals, cloth, and food. Roman coins were used all over as currency. The **Pax Romana** was a time of peace and prosperity.

### ROME'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Romans took a practical approach to engineering and science. They improved on Greek medicine. They made lasting structures with cement and arches. Roman **aqueducts** still stand today. Romans used vaults to create open spaces in buildings.

The Romans prized beauty. Greek designs influenced their art and architecture. Romans decorated walls with frescoes and floors with mosaics. Many sculptors copied Greek sculptures.

**Ovid** wrote lovely poems, and Virgil wrote a great epic, the *Aeneid*, about the founding of Rome. Roman poets wrote in Latin. Latin later led to the development of the **Romance languages**.

**Civil law** was inspired by Roman law, which was enforced throughout the Roman Empire. Most European nations today are ruled by civil law.

**Why do some Roman structures still stand?**

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**How were Roman artists influenced by the Greeks?**

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### CHALLENGE ACTIVITY

**Critical Thinking: Summarizing** Summarize the events leading from Caesar's conquest of Gaul to Octavian's becoming Roman emperor.



**(Second Page)** Students should underline the phrase *to forbid*; Law of the Twelve Tables; meetings, speeches, shopping, entertainment

### Challenge Activity

Answers will vary. Student responses should be reasonable and supported.

### Fill in the Blank

1. forum
2. veto
3. magistrates
4. checks and balances
5. consuls
6. Latin
7. Senate

## SECTION 3

### Summary

**(First Page)** flexibility to fight a variety of opponents under different circumstances; need for food

**(Second Page)** Punic Wars; he allowed them to serve in the army; leading a revolt against Rome

### Challenge Activity

Answers will vary. Student essays should thoughtfully address the idea that one person can change history.

### Fill in the Blank

1. Spartacus
2. Gaius Marius
3. legions
4. Hannibal
5. Lucius Cornelius Sulla
6. Punic Wars

### Vocabulary Terms

7. c
8. b

## Rome and Christianity

### SECTION 1

#### Summary

**(First Page)** return power to the Senate and bring order back to Rome

**(Second Page)** to avoid being captured; the Romans used cement and arches to make structures last a long time; the Romans copied Greek designs in art and architecture

### Challenge Activity

Answers will vary. Student summaries should include all key events in the rise of Augustus, including: Caesar's return to Rome; Caesar's becoming dictator; Caesar's assassination; the war between Octavian, Brutus, and Cassius; the war between Octavian and Antony; and Augustus's coronation.

### Letter

Answers will vary. Sample answer: Dear Julia. I have arrived in Rome, and the city is amazing! So far, I have visited the spot in the forum where Cicero liked to make his speeches and the place where Julius Caesar was assassinated. I hear that Emperor Augustus will be dedicating a new temple tomorrow before sending several legions out to keep order in the provinces. I hope to be able to see that!

## SECTION 2

### Summary

**(First Page)** Possible answer—to prevent groups from becoming unhappy and rebelling  
**(Second Page)** the foretold savior of the Jews; persecution and martyrdom

### Challenge Activity

Answers will vary. Student responses should be reasonable and supported.

### Fill in the Blank

1. Apostles
2. Bible
3. Jesus of Nazareth
4. martyrs
5. Paul of Tarsus
6. Resurrection
7. Messiah
8. Persecution
9. Constantine