

# Social Studies - Grade 7 - Ms. Dickerson

## Work from Home Packet #4

Hello everyone. Can you believe we actually made it to the end of the year? We should be proud of ourselves for surviving in this crazy, weird, uncertain time!

This is officially the last work from home packet you will get from me this year!

Finish this and you will officially be an eighth grader! It's hard to say what next year will be like, but I am sure we will figure it out together! For now, enjoy your summer!!

- In the LAST packet, I gave you a test "Caesar and The First Triumvirate" and a study guide called "The Roman Empire: The Second Triumvirate." This week, I have decided to keep this packet simple and **THERE IS NO TEST IN THIS PACKET!**
- Please complete the Roman Empire: From Beginning to End study guide. It is reallllly long (eight pages) because it covers a huge time span, the ENTIRE history of the Roman Empire. But, as I said, there is no TEST over it, and it is the ONLY thing you have to do this time, so, please don't stress. Just try to do a good job with it.
- Catch up on anything you need to do from earlier packets. Turn it in however works best for you (the homework drop-off during the food distribution OR through some digital means (create a doc, take a picture and email it to me, whatever you can do.)
- If you have any textbooks or other materials that you borrowed earlier in the year, please return those to the school as well.
- Please contact me if you need ANYTHING: [Nicole.dickerson@crooksville.k12.oh.us](mailto:Nicole.dickerson@crooksville.k12.oh.us)

Stay safe & keep in touch!

♥ Ms. Dickerson

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read this information sheet	<u>Roman Empire: From Beginning to End</u> Study Guide	Return any school materials and turn in your work.	Have a great summer!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SS1 SS2 SS3

World Studies from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D.

## The Roman Empire

# THE ROMAN EMPIRE: FROM BEGINNING TO END

murdered	stable	emperor	Guard	execution
lunatic	Peace	unpopular	Augustus	strength
marble	nose	bodyguards	physical	voices

### BEGINNING

As we know, Julius Caesar's grandnephew Octavius, later called \_\_\_\_\_, took over control of Rome after Caesar's assassination. Augustus ruled the empire from 31 BCE until 14 CE when he died. In that time, as he said himself, he "found Rome a city of clay but left it a city of \_\_\_\_\_." His rule marked the beginning of a period referred to as Pax Romana, or "The Roman \_\_\_\_\_."

### THE FIRST EMPEROR DIES, WHAT COMES NEXT?

Following Augustus' death, power passed to his heir, Tiberius, who continued many of the emperor's policies but lacked the \_\_\_\_\_ of character and vision which so defined Augustus. Tiberius was stubborn & \_\_\_\_\_. He is known primarily for bizarre behaviors and eventually shirking his responsibility by going into seclusion. He would eventually order the \_\_\_\_\_ of the man whom he had left in charge during his exile. Today, most historians label him as... well, crazy. He was finally \_\_\_\_\_ by a member of the Praetorian \_\_\_\_\_. The Praetorian Guard was an elite unit of the Imperial Roman army whose members served as personal \_\_\_\_\_ and intelligence for the Roman emperors. Ironically though, one or more members of this guard were responsible for the death of Tiberius and both the emperors who followed him, Caligula and Claudius. Oh yes, about those two: let's take a minute to consider them.

Everyone loved Caligula when he became \_\_\_\_\_, seeing him as the youthful, fresh face to follow weird, old Tiberius. But it became quickly apparent that Caligula was (oops!) also a delusional power-hungry \_\_\_\_\_. He wandered the palace at night arguing with imaginary \_\_\_\_\_ instead of sleeping. He flew into public rages, and spoke to the moon and to Jupiter as if they were his secret friends. In the best-known story, he appointed his horse to be a senator, building it a \_\_\_\_\_ of marble and inviting people to have dinner with the horse.

The next emperor, Claudius, was not exactly crazy (like his predecessors) but he was definitely not quite "right." He struggled with various \_\_\_\_\_ ailments including tremors of the head and hands, a limp, a constant runny \_\_\_\_\_, and foaming at the mouth. Historians have

fire	five	Rome	head	stable
suicide	weakness	leader	population	finished
empire	civil	burned	northern	pregnant

since speculated that he may have suffered from Cerebral Palsy or Tourette's Syndrome, but his family considered his condition a sign of \_\_\_\_\_ and a source of great public embarrassment. His own mother supposedly called him "a monstrosity of a human being, one that nature began and never \_\_\_\_\_."

After this string of assassinated emperors came Nero, who was crazy and violent. He divorced his first wife, then had her beheaded and brought her \_\_\_\_\_ to Rome so his second wife could gloat over it. He kicked his second wife, Poppaea, to death when she was \_\_\_\_\_ with their second child. Allegedly, he also killed his own mother. Probably the most famous story about him is only partially true. In July of 64 CE, a great \_\_\_\_\_ ravaged Rome for six days, destroying 70 percent of the city and leaving half its \_\_\_\_\_ homeless. The legend of Nero is that he stood on a stage and played a fiddle while his city \_\_\_\_\_. In truth, the fiddle wasn't even invented yet. Some sources claim that he did, in fact, climb a stage and sing (without a fiddle). Others say he wasn't even there at the time. Regardless, the people believed that he didn't care about them, and that he was not an effective \_\_\_\_\_. When the cost of rebuilding the city led Nero to extreme methods, like having rich men name him as their heir and then forcing them to commit suicide, the people had had it. Nero, himself, was forced to commit \_\_\_\_\_ in 68 CE.

With this series of terrible leaders, it is a wonder that \_\_\_\_\_ ever survived. Somehow though, starting in the middle of the final century BCE, Rome became the center of a multi-continent empire stretching from Spain to Iraq, to Northern Africa, and into \_\_\_\_\_ parts of Europe. Finally, in 96 CE the period known as "The Five GOOD Emperors of Rome" begins. Between 96 and 180 CE, \_\_\_\_\_ exceptional men ruled in sequence and brought the Roman Empire to its height. Under their leadership, the Roman Empire grew stronger, more \_\_\_\_\_, more prosperous, and expanded in size and scope.

### TOO BIG FOR ITS OWN GOOD

Beginning in 235 CE came a period known as "The Imperial Crisis." This period was characterized by constant \_\_\_\_\_ war, as various military leaders fought for control of the empire. This era was also known for its widespread social unrest and economic instability. The empire had grown too large to be ruled effectively. This crisis period ends with the \_\_\_\_\_ being split in two. In 285 CE the Emperor Diocletian divided the realm into the Western Roman Empire and the Eastern Roman Empire (also known as the Byzantine Empire). Over the next hundred years or so, Rome would be reunited,

two	allowed	cruelty	Empire	powerful
inside	collapsed	Rome	language	outsiders
Huns	slavery	attacks	uncivilized	enemy

split into three parts, and split in two again. Finally, in 395 CE, the empire was split in \_\_\_\_\_ for good. The Western Empire was ruled by Rome, the Eastern \_\_\_\_\_ was ruled by Constantinople. Since the Western portion was ruled by the city of \_\_\_\_\_, when people speak of the "fall" of Rome, they are typically referring to the fall of the WESTERN Roman Empire. The Eastern Roman Empire (the Byzantium Empire) remained in power for another 1000 years.

### THE FALL OF THE WESTERN EMPIRE

There are literally hundreds of theories about WHY Rome, possibly the most \_\_\_\_\_ nation in history, eventually \_\_\_\_\_. Historians love to debate them all, but here are seven factors that undeniably contributed to the collapse:

#### 1. INVASIONS BY BARBARIAN TRIBES

Much of the credit for Western Rome's collapse has to be given to attacks by \_\_\_\_\_. Rome had tangled with Germanic tribes for centuries, but by the 300s "barbarian" groups like the Goths had crept \_\_\_\_\_ the Empire's borders. *\*A little word origin trivia: The term "barbarian" is used to mean "crude, \_\_\_\_\_ foreigners." It comes from an ancient word (even older than Greek) that meant "stammering" or "talking nonsense" because, if they encountered a foreigner speaking a different \_\_\_\_\_, the ancient people believed they were just babbling and speaking nonsense.*

These barbarian \_\_\_\_\_ on Rome weren't completely the fault of the barbarians. Barbarian migrations were a sort of domino effect that partially stemmed from a European invasion by Eurasian warriors called the Huns. When the \_\_\_\_\_ rampaged through northern Europe, they drove these "barbarian" Germanic tribes (such as the Goths) to the borders of the Roman Empire. The Romans grudgingly \_\_\_\_\_ these Goths to cross south of the Danube River and into the safety of Roman territory, but they treated them with extreme \_\_\_\_\_. According to historians, Roman officials forced the starving Goths to trade their own children into \_\_\_\_\_ in exchange for dog meat. In brutalizing the Goths, the Romans created a dangerous \_\_\_\_\_ within their own borders.

conquered	destruction	taxes	craftsmen	agriculture
buildings	rich	second	tribe	searched
rule	depended	unconquerable	treasures	financial

The city of Rome was thought by many to be \_\_\_\_\_. However, in 410 CE, when the Goths had had enough abuse, they invaded the city. They looted the treasures, killed and enslaved many Romans, and destroyed many \_\_\_\_\_. This was the first time in 800 years that the city of Rome had been sacked. *\*A little more word origin trivia: The term "sacked" is a shortening of a Scandinavian word ransack that comes from the roots rann (which means "house") + saka ("to search"). When we say something is "ransacked," technically we mean that it was raided, \_\_\_\_\_, and pillaged for anything of value.*

Rome was sacked once again in 455 CE by an Eastern Germanic \_\_\_\_\_ known as the Vandals. *\*Even more word origin trivia: They wrecked the city so badly that term "vandalism" was created (and, of course, is still used today) to mean violent, intentional \_\_\_\_\_ of property.*

Finally, in 476 CE, the leader of another Germanic tribe staged a revolt and deposed the Emperor Romulus Augustulus. From then on, no Roman emperor would ever again \_\_\_\_\_ from Italy, leading many to cite 476 as the year the Western Empire suffered its final deathblow.

## 2. ECONOMIC TROUBLES AND OVERRELIANCE ON SLAVE LABOR

Even as Rome was under attack from outside forces, it was also crumbling from within, thanks to a severe \_\_\_\_\_ crisis. Constant wars and overspending had drained the empire of money. To make up for that, leaders imposed oppressive \_\_\_\_\_ on the citizens. This had widened the gap between \_\_\_\_\_ and poor. In the hope of avoiding the taxman, many members of the wealthy classes had even fled to the countryside and set up independent fiefdoms (like little, rebel kingdoms). At the same time, the empire was suffering from a shortage of workers. Rome's economy had always \_\_\_\_\_ on slaves to till its fields and work as \_\_\_\_\_. Its military strength had traditionally provided a fresh supply of workers as the \_\_\_\_\_ peoples were taken as slaves. But when expansion came to a halt in the \_\_\_\_\_ century, Rome's supply of slaves began to dry up. Additionally, the land, property and other \_\_\_\_\_ they seized from the conquered people also ran dry. With its economy struggling and not enough workers to keep the industry or \_\_\_\_\_ going, the Empire began to lose its grip on Europe.

Ocean	gap	Wall	vulnerable	attacks
attack	between	drifted	communicate	resources
weakness	structure	planes	territory	thousand

### 3. THE RISE OF THE EASTERN EMPIRE

The fate of Western Rome was partially sealed in the late third century, when the Emperor Diocletian divided the Empire into two halves. The division made the empire more easily governable in the short term, but over time the two halves \_\_\_\_\_ apart. East and West struggled to work together to combat outside threats, and the two often squabbled over \_\_\_\_\_ and military aid. As the \_\_\_\_\_ between the two widened, the Eastern Empire grew richer while the West descended into economic crisis.

This imbalance of power \_\_\_\_\_ the two halves contributed to the downfall of the Western Empire, not because the East became stronger and personally destroyed its other half. But the strength of one part made the \_\_\_\_\_ of the other much more dangerous. The Western Empire became "the weakest link:" when the Barbarian tribes decided to invade, they did not mess with Constantinople and the more powerful Eastern Empire, they wisely chose to \_\_\_\_\_ the weaker Western Empire. Emperors like Constantine ensured that the city of Constantinople was fortified and well-guarded, but in the West, Italy and the city of Rome were left \_\_\_\_\_. The Western political \_\_\_\_\_ would finally disintegrate in the fifth century, but, as we mentioned, the Eastern Empire endured in some form for another \_\_\_\_\_ years before being overwhelmed by the Ottoman Empire in the 1400s.

### 4. OVEREXPANSION AND MILITARY OVERSPENDING

At its height, the Roman Empire stretched from the Atlantic \_\_\_\_\_ all the way to the Euphrates River in the Middle East, but its size may have also been its downfall. With such a vast \_\_\_\_\_ to govern, the empire faced an administrative and logistical nightmare. The internet did not exist, cars and \_\_\_\_\_ and trains did not exist. There was no way to quickly get messages or soldiers or goods from one end of the Empire to the other. Even with their excellent road systems, the Romans were unable to \_\_\_\_\_ quickly or effectively enough to manage this huge beast. Rome struggled to find enough troops and resources to defend its frontiers from local rebellions and outside \_\_\_\_\_. By the second century the Emperor Hadrian was forced to build his famous wall in Britain just to keep the enemy at bay. (The Roman Wall, aka Hadrian's \_\_\_\_\_ was the north-west frontier of the Roman empire for nearly 300 years. Built by

church	polytheism	decided	corruption	contribute
new	energy	sentence	murder	dangerous
leadership	legions	god	bodyguards	trust

a force of 15,000 men in under six years, it stretched nearly 80 miles across Britain.) As more and more money and \_\_\_\_\_ were funneled into the military and maintaining the borders of the Empire, development inside Rome slowed.

## 5. GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION AND POLITICAL INSTABILITY

If Rome's size made it difficult to manage, bad \_\_\_\_\_ made the problem much worse. Being the Roman emperor had always been a particularly \_\_\_\_\_ job, but as the Empire grew and struggled, it nearly became a death \_\_\_\_\_. Civil wars sprang up repeatedly; more than 20 men took the throne in the span of only 75 years, usually after the \_\_\_\_\_ of their predecessor. Remember the Praetorian Guard—the emperor's personal \_\_\_\_\_? They basically assassinated and installed \_\_\_\_\_ rulers whenever they \_\_\_\_\_ to (or when they were paid to). Once they even auctioned the position off to the highest bidder! Just as in the days of the Republic, the political \_\_\_\_\_ also extended to the Roman Senate. The Senate failed to keep the emperors in check because THEY were so riddled with corruption and incompetence. As the situation worsened, Romans lost pride in their nation and many lost all \_\_\_\_\_ in their leadership.

## 6. CHRISTIANITY AND THE LOSS OF TRADITIONAL VALUES

The decline of Rome coincided with the spread of Christianity, and some have argued that the rise of this new faith helped \_\_\_\_\_ to the empire's fall. Christianity displaced the polytheistic Roman religion. **(Remember the root poly means "many" and the root theo means "god." So \_\_\_\_\_, means a religion that believes in many gods.)** The ancient Roman religion had viewed the emperor as divine, the emperor was considered to be a type of \_\_\_\_\_ on earth. With that belief gone, the emperor lost some of his power. Meanwhile, Christian popes and other \_\_\_\_\_ leaders took an increased role in political affairs, further complicating things.

## 7. WEAKENING OF THE ROMAN LEGIONS

For most of its history, Rome's military was the envy of the ancient world. But during the decline, the makeup of the once mighty \_\_\_\_\_ began to change. Unable to recruit enough soldiers

generations	balance	depended	income	Ages
starving	loyalty	quarter	soldiers	sacked
priestesses	survival	aristocratic	reasons	richer

from the Roman citizenry, emperors began hiring foreign mercenaries (hired \_\_\_\_\_) to prop up their armies. While these "soldiers of fortune" were fierce warriors, they also had little or no \_\_\_\_\_ to the empire, and their power-hungry officers often turned against their Roman employers. In fact, many of those barbarians who \_\_\_\_\_ the city of Rome and brought down the Western Empire had earned their military stripes WHILE serving in the Roman legions

Whatever the reason (or combination of \_\_\_\_\_), the Western Roman Empire collapsed. At its end, it almost seems that the empire NEEDED to end. Things had gotten so distorted. A \_\_\_\_\_ of the population lived on the public welfare system, and at least another quarter of the population were slaves. That means that HALF the population was dependent on the wealthy \_\_\_\_\_ class and/or the government (which was also dependent upon the wealthy). Also, consider the fact that women did not earn any \_\_\_\_\_; they were either daughters or wives of men or they were slaves. Priests and \_\_\_\_\_ also depended on the government for their income. Finally, the thousands of Roman soldiers depended on the government or the patricians who employed them for \_\_\_\_\_. This means that little more than fifteen or twenty percent of the entire population were economically productive. The rest of the people \_\_\_\_\_ on that small group of wealthy and powerful men for survival. Therefore, the majority of people could be completely controlled by that small group of wealthy men. The rich got \_\_\_\_\_ and more corrupt. As we have said before, no society can last long when the wealth and power are so far out of \_\_\_\_\_. Many poor people were glad to see Rome fall. They were \_\_\_\_\_ to death while being taxed heavily by Rome. Something had to give.

### THE LEGACY THEY LEFT BEHIND

The end of empire was a major event in human history. Many changes occurred throughout Europe, and effects would continue to ripple for \_\_\_\_\_. Rome had provided a strong government, education, and culture. Commerce, industry, and agriculture of entire nations had depended upon Rome. With its collapse, much of Europe fell into barbarianism.

Remember the term dark age? (A period in the history of a society characterized by a lack of knowledge and progress; a time of social, political, academic, and economic stagnation or regression.) The next 500 years would be known as the Dark \_\_\_\_\_ of Europe. Certain types of progress would grind to a halt.

Caesar	control	Constantinople	Holy	Byzantine
innovations	territories	week	roads	keys
victim	medicine	independent	eastern	present

But all was not lost; the inventions and \_\_\_\_\_ that were generated by the Roman Empire profoundly altered the lives of the ancient people and continue to be used in cultures around the world today. Advancements in the construction of \_\_\_\_\_ and buildings, indoor plumbing, aqueducts, and even fast-drying cement were either invented or improved upon by the Romans. The calendar used in the West derives from the one created by Julius \_\_\_\_\_, and the names of the days of the \_\_\_\_\_ and months of the year also come from Rome. Roman laws even made bringing back defective or unwanted merchandise to the seller (merchandise returns) legal.

Apartment complexes, public toilets, locks and \_\_\_\_\_, newspapers, even socks all were developed by the Romans as were shoes, a postal system (modeled after the Persians), cosmetics, the magnifying glass, and many aspects of literature and drama. During the time of the empire, significant developments were also advanced in the fields of \_\_\_\_\_, law, religion, government, astronomy, and warfare. The Roman Empire left an enduring legacy which continues to affect the way in which people live in the \_\_\_\_\_ day.

#### THE FALL OF THE EASTERN EMPIRE

Meanwhile, the Eastern Roman Empire (the \_\_\_\_\_ Empire or Byzantium) existed until 1453 CE. With its capital founded at Constantinople, the Empire varied in size over the centuries, at one time or another, possessing \_\_\_\_\_ located in Italy, Greece, the Balkans, Asia Minor, and North Africa. A Christian state with Greek as the official language, the Byzantines developed their own political systems, religious practices, art and architecture. The Byzantine Empire was the longest-lasting medieval power, but finally fell as a \_\_\_\_\_ in the crossfire of the Crusades.

The Crusades were a series of religious wars between Christians and Muslims from 1096 and 1291 CE. They were started primarily to secure \_\_\_\_\_ of Middle Eastern holy sites considered sacred by both groups. At the time of the Crusades, many European crusaders passed through Constantinople on their way to battle Muslims in the \_\_\_\_\_ Land. Tensions grew between \_\_\_\_\_ and western Christians. Crusaders sacked Constantinople in 1204. After that, a number of Byzantine territories fell under Crusader control or became \_\_\_\_\_ states. The weakened Byzantine Empire finally fell to Ottoman rule in 1453 CE, but, like the Western Roman Empire, its influence continues today, especially in religion, art, architecture, and law. The city of \_\_\_\_\_ is now Istanbul, the largest city in the country of Turkey.