**Tiber River –**

Tiber River, center of Italy. The river has achieved lasting fame as the main watercourse of the city of Rome, founded on its eastern banks.

**Peninsula –**

Body of land surrounded by water on 3 sides. The Italian Peninsula helped the development of Rome. Roman ships could sail to other lands surrounding Mediterranean - helped in conquering new territories, developing trade routes.

**Republic –** a government in which supreme power is held by the people and their elected representatives

**Senate –** the law making body of Ancient Rome; it was not an elected body, but one whose members (only patricians) were appointed by the consuls

**Consuls -** Elected official, thehighest civil and military leaders of Rome; there were 2 to balance power

**Tribunes -** Elected representatives of the **Plebeians**, they had the right to veto laws of the Senate and other assemblies, chief representative of the Roman plebeians.

**Dictator -** a person appointed during a crisis (natural disaster or war) to exercise supreme authority who Held full power for only 6 months. After that time he relinquished power back to the consuls and Senate.

**Patricians –**

Great landowners, they were the ruling class, minority of the Roman Republic.

**Plebeians -** Lower class of the Roman Republic, which was made-up of less wealthy landholders, craftspeople, merchants, and small farmers. They were the working class, and made up the majority of the population.

**Laws of the Twelve Tables –**

First codification of Roman Law, which only applied to citizens.. Once a law was made public (and carving it into stone was about as public as it got), the law was known to everyone.

**Punic Wars -**

Rome vs Carthage. Rome won all three. 1st sea battle, 2nd Carthage into Rome, 3rd Rome to Carthage burning capital and throwing salt on ashes.

**Imperialism –**

a policy of extending a country's power and influence through diplomacy or military force.

**Latifundia -**

large estates worked by slaves; these were the effects of conquests from the Punic Wars and further increased the gap between rich and poor in Rome

**Tiberius & Gaius Gracchus –**

Tribunes who attempted many land reforms, tried to give back lands the poor. Tiberius- killed in riot, Gaius- Killed by servant, Head was used for reward.

**Julius Caesar –**

Roman General, made Dictator for Life

**“Veni, vidi, vici”** –

I came, I saw, I conquered

**Octavian (Augustus) –**

Part of Second Triumvirate, gained control of Western lands of Empire. First Emperor of Rome.

**Marcus Aurelius –**

Last emperor of the Pax Romana, Economic and legal reforms

**Pax Romana –**

The Roman Peace, 200 year period of peace in the Mediterranean region

**Realism –** Roman sculptures represented subject matter truthfully, focusing on specific features and natural appearances instead of perfectionism seen in Greek art.

**Mosaic –** a picture or pattern produced by arranging together small colored pieces of hard material, such as stone, tile, or glass

**The Pantheon –**

Built to celebrate all of the Roman gods

**Aqueduct -** an artificial channel for conveying water, typically in the form of a bridge supported by tall columns across a valley

**Paterfamilias –** the head of a Roman family. The **pater familias** was the oldest living male in a household. He had complete control of all family members. The term is Latin for "father of the family" or the "owner of the family estate".

**Civil law -** core principles are codified into a referable system which serves as the primary source of law.

**The law of nations –**

customary rules that determine the rights that regulate the intercourse of independent countries in peace and war

**Emperor Diocletian-** Split Empire into two parts to slow down decline of Empire.

**Germanic Tribes -**lived generally to the north and east of the Gauls(France). Invaded Rome, Lived as clans, Always fighting.

**Inflation -** sustained increase in the general level of prices for goods and services

**Mercenaries –** Soldiers for hire with no prior loyalty, serve the highest bidder.

**Judaism –** an ancient monotheistic religion, with the Torah as its foundational text (part of the larger text known as the Tanakh or Hebrew Bible)

**Christianity –** an Abrahamic monotheistic religion based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. It is the world's largest religion, with over 2.4 billion followers,

**Constantine –** the first Roman emperor to profess [Christianity](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Christianity). He not only initiated the evolution of the empire into a Christian state but also provided the impulse for a distinctively Christian culture that prepared the way for the growth of Byzantine and Western medieval culture.

**Edict of Milan –** Passed by Constantine in 313 AD a proclamation that permanently established religious toleration for Christianity within the Roman Empire.

**Medieval** - Time period began with the collapse of the Western Roman Empire and merged into the Renaissance and the Age of Discovery

**Monasticism -** or monkhood is a religious way of life in which one renounces worldly pursuits to devote oneself fully to spiritual work. **Monastic** life plays an important role in many Christian churches, especially in the Catholic and Orthodox traditions.

**Benedictine rule –** Benedict, a monk, wrote a set of rules, established the basic form of monastic life in the western Christian church which incorporated physical work, community service, and removing oneself from the temptations of society.

**Charlemagne –** Frankish King who united Germanic Tribes

**Missi Dominici -**  was an official commissioned by the Frankish king or Holy Roman Emperor to supervise the administration, mainly of justice in lands ruled.

**Haggia Sophia** - a domed monument originally built as a cathedral in Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey) in the sixth century A.D.

**Iconclasm** - when the use of religious images or **icons** was opposed by religious and imperial authorities within the Eastern Church and the temporal imperial hierarchy.

**Schism** - a split or division between strongly opposed sections or parties, caused by differences in opinion or belief.