



THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Chapter 7 Section 2
218-223

CHAPTER 7 SECTION 2

- Rule of Augustus

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- Pax Romana

- Period of stability and prosperity that started under Augustus and would last for 200 years.
- People and goods traveled easily within the empire, with trade from Asia and Africa thriving.
- When Augustus was fighting for power he ignored the senate and its laws.
- Once he won control of Rome he then showed great respect for the senate and was careful to avoid acting like a king.

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- Governing Conquered Peoples

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- Roman took some slaves after a conquest, but most of the conquered people remained free.
- Romans divided their empire into provinces.
 - Area of the empire, which had a Roman governor supported by an army.
- Roman did not force their way of life on Conquered peoples.
 - They allowed them to run their daily affairs as long as there was peace.
- Romans were happy as long as the provinces supplied the empire with 3 things:
 - Raw Materials, Buy Roman goods, and pay Roman taxes.
- Most conquered people adopted Roman ways: Learned to speak Latin and worship Roman gods.

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- 3 Bad Emperors

- Caligula
 - Was cruel, and unfair
- Nero
 - Murdered his half-brother, his mother, and his wife, among others.
- Commodus
 - Ruled with great brutality and his reign ended the age of peace and prosperity known as the Pax Romana.

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- Good Emperors

- **Hadrian**
 - Issued a code of laws, making laws uniform throughout the empire
 - He reorganized the army so that soldiers were allowed to defend their home provinces
 - He encouraged learning
- **Marcus Aurelius**
 - Last of the good emperors.

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- Greek Influence on Rome

Romans visited Greece to study Greek art, architecture, and ideas about government.

- Religion

- Both Greeks and Romans practiced polytheism.
- Offered prayers and sacrifices to their gods.
- Roman god of the sky was Jupiter, which shared characteristics with the Greek god Zeus.

- Hero's

- Romans adopted heroes from Greek mythology, such as Heracles or Hercules to the Romans.

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- Greek Influence on Rome

- Learning
 - Both the Greeks and Romans valued learning.
 - The Greeks were interested in ideas, where the Romans were interested in using the ideas of the Greeks to build things.

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- Things that helped Rome build things big and stronger.
- 3 Major things Romans built.

- **Arches**
 - Using arches allowed for the Romans to build larger structures.
- **Concrete**
 - Helped the Romans construct buildings that were far taller than any built before.
- **The Colosseum**
 - Site of contests and combats between people and animals.
 - Held 50,000 spectators
 - Could be flooded for mock navel battles
 - Had elevators

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- 3 Major things Romans built.

- Roman Roads
 - Covered a distance equal to twice the distance around Earth at the Equator.
- Aqueducts
 - Structures that carried water over long distances.
 - Aqueducts tunneled through mountains and spanned valleys.

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- Roman laws that compare to ours.
- No one suffers a penalty for what he thinks.
- No one may be forcibly removed from his own house.
- Burden of proof is upon the person who accuses.
- Inflicting penalties, the age and inexperience of the guilty party must be taken into account.
- Right to face their accusers
- Doubt about a person's guilt, he or she would be judged innocent.