

# FOCUS SHEET -

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter VII: The Romans p. 150-171

Think about how new ideas lead to social and political change. Remember how geography caused divisions and problems in Greece. The opposite was true in Italy where Rome began.

### Vocabulary Words, People, Places and Key Points:

#### L1 - The Rise of Rome p. 150-156

##### Geographic Advantages

- 1 location - Italy was a peninsula that was a crossroads between the eastern and the western Mediterranean Sea.
- 2 Apennine Mountains - divided the peninsula, but were not very rugged. There was still easy access to all areas.
- 3 Farmland - much more arable land for growing crops
- 4 ROME - located on the Tiber River, about 18 miles from the coast of the Mediterranean. This offered easy access to the sea, but also gave needed protection to the city, which was located on 7 hills. This was a very central location to the eventual Empire.

##### Influences on Rome

- 1 Greek - many came to Southern Italy during the colonization period (650-550 BC).  
Influences: alphabet, food, gods/goddesses
- 2 Etruscan: from North of Rome - they expanded Rome from a village to a city  
Influences: (most influential) organization of the army,  
style of dress: toga
- 3 Latins: early settlers in Italy. They were Indo-Europeans.  
Influences: language (Latin), farming/herding

##### The Roman Republic

509 BC : Romans overthrew the last Etruscan king and established the Roman Republic. For the next 200 years Rome was:

- 1 Had an excellent military
  - a continued enlarging the infantry and the navy
  - b built fortified towns as they conquered people and added roads as well.
  - c troops could move very quickly

Political Structure Because of the Etruscans, the Romans distrusted kings and those with absolute power

##### Two ORDERS:

- a patricians: wealthy landowners - Rome's ruling class.
- b plebeians lesser landowners, farmers, merchants, craftsmen.

All of the above ^^ were citizens and paid taxes, owed military service, could vote, but only patricians could be elected to government office.



Consuls: two were chosen every year

Praetors: were in charge of civil law (that applied to Roman citizens )

later, another one was added for non-citizens

Senate: this was a select group of 300 Patricians - at first, they were only advisors , but later they expanded to making law . This body was later a great influence on the United States .

Struggle of the ORDERS: For 100's of years, the patricians and the plebeians were at odds with each other, because only the patricians had a say in the government. Resentment grew because:

a intermarriage was forbidden

b plebeians were vital to the army because of Rome's continued conquest , but they had no equality

Some Reforms Came About:

c Law of 12 Tables: ( 450 BC ) Roman law was codified and displayed in public . Why was this important? it protected their rights

d 4th Century BC: Plebeians were allowed to marry patricians and to become Consuls .

e 287 BC : Council of Plebeians got the right to pass laws for all Romans and to become citizens

f Law of Nations: a applied to citizens and to non-citizens  
b applied the principle of " Innocent until proven guilty "  
c people were allowed to defend themselves in court

*Even with these reforms, equality was not available to the plebeians. They were still frustrated with the situation and would eventually rebel. Meanwhile, things were going very well for the Roman Army and Rome's territory was expanding because of their capabilities.*



## Roman Expansion

After their conquest of the Italian peninsula, Rome came into contact with another power in the Mediterranean>>> the state of Carthage which was located in N. Africa .

### Carthage (see map on p. 155)

- a founded by the Phoenicians around 800 BC  
their territory included areas in N. Africa , Spain , Corsica ,  
Sardinia and Sicily.
- b wealthy, enormous empire that was based on trade
- c caused conflict with the Romans when they wanted to expand in the  
Mediterranean area. This was the cause of the Punic Wars .

### Punic Wars (264 Bc-146 BC)

- a Series of three wars that lasted over 100 years
- b Hannibal invades Italy (218BCE-203BCE)
- c Rome built up its navy in order to compete with Carthage.

#### Famous Generals:

Hannibal Barca: (Carthage) swore to always hate the Romans

Cornelius Scipio: When Hannibal was attacking Italy, Scipio went to attack  
Carthage and Hannibal had to return to defend the city .  
Rome won the Battle of Zama in 202 BC.

- d After the final victory in the 3rd Punic War, Rome:  
Destroyed Carthage / sent 50,000 men, women and children into slavery.  
They sprinkled salt on the fields to prevent crop growth. NOT TRUE  
(CONTEMPORARY MYTH)

By 129 BC , Rome was in control of the entire Mediterranean Region.

