

### L-3 The Early Roman Empire (pages 163-167)

#### Emperors of the Early Empire page 163

The early emperors took more and more power during their reigns. Many became corrupt as well. Example: Nero had many people killed, including his own mother.

PAX ROMANA (Roman peace and prosperity during the 2nd - 3rd centuries AD)

During this time there were several good emperors who:

- 1 maintained peace
- 2 were known for tolerance
- 3 increased public works: bridges, roads, aqueducts
- 4 expanded into new lands
- 5 large scale building programs - aided by the use of concrete which added stability
- 6 created unity by respecting local customs in the provinces
- 7 trade increased - even to China for luxury items like silk.

However, while many things were good, there was still a large gap between the wealthy/poor. The latifundia were large commercial farms that used slave labor. These farms made it difficult for small farmers to make a living. Many had to move to the cities but they had no training for any type of jobs.

#### Roman Arts and Science

New features of Roman Architecture: aided by: concrete

- |                    |                           |                |                         |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 <u>arches</u>    | 2 <u>vaulted ceilings</u> | 3 <u>domes</u> | 4 <u>huge buildings</u> |
| 5 <u>Aqueducts</u> | 6 <u>public baths</u>     |                |                         |

Statues: Greek style: ideal Roman style: realistic

Mathematics: Roman Numerals: I, V, X, L, C, D, M (borrowed from the Etruscans)

Science:

Pliny the Elder: compiled works of Greeks into an Encyclopedia

Galen of Pergamum: greatest physician and medical writer. Dissected animals

Literature:

Virgil: great poet, who wrote a poem in honor of Rome called the Aeneid. It portrayed the ideal Roman values of duty, piety, and faithfulness

Livy: wrote "The Early History of Rome"

#### Life in the Roman World page 169

*The family was the most important part of the social structure. The family was headed by the paterfamilias, or dominant male in the household. The household included the husband, wife, children, unmarried daughters and slaves.*



## Children:

- 1 raised at home
- 2 both upper class boys and girls learned to read (often taught by Greek slaves)
- 3 age 16 for boys>>>>man purple trimmed toga >>>> white
- 4 minimum age to marry: 12 for girls / 14 for boys most did marry later

## Women:

- 1 could own property
- 2 segregated from men: not at home, but they were in public
- 3 could not participate in politics

## Slavery / Slave Revolts

- 1 Romans depended more on slavery than did any other ancient society
- 2 they won many wars and took many slaves
- 3 used Greek slaves as tutors in academics and music, doctors and artists
- 4 others: household workers, cooks, cleaners, workers in shops
- 5 built roads, public buildings
- 6 most were treated horribly and many revolted  
Ex: Spartacus: 73 BC gladiator led a revolt that involved 70,000 slaves  
after capture, he and 6,000 slaves were crucified

## Living Conditions in Rome page 170

- 1 population close to 1,000,000 by Augustus' reign
- 2 many great buildings
- 3 over-crowded and noisy
- 4 dangerous at night
- 5 had a police force but it couldn't prevent much of the crime
- 6 huge gap between wealthy and poor
- 7 Bread and Circuses: entertainment at the Colosseum and at the Circus Maximus  
free food for the poor and unemployed

## Roman Religion

- 1 Believed that success in the empire meant creating favor with gods and goddesses
- 2 tolerant of other religions
- 3 Augustus brought back festivals and ceremonies to revive the Roman state religion, which had declined during the Republic
- 4 Roman gods/goddesses: Juno, Jupiter, Mars
- 5 Emperors were often officially made to be gods as well

