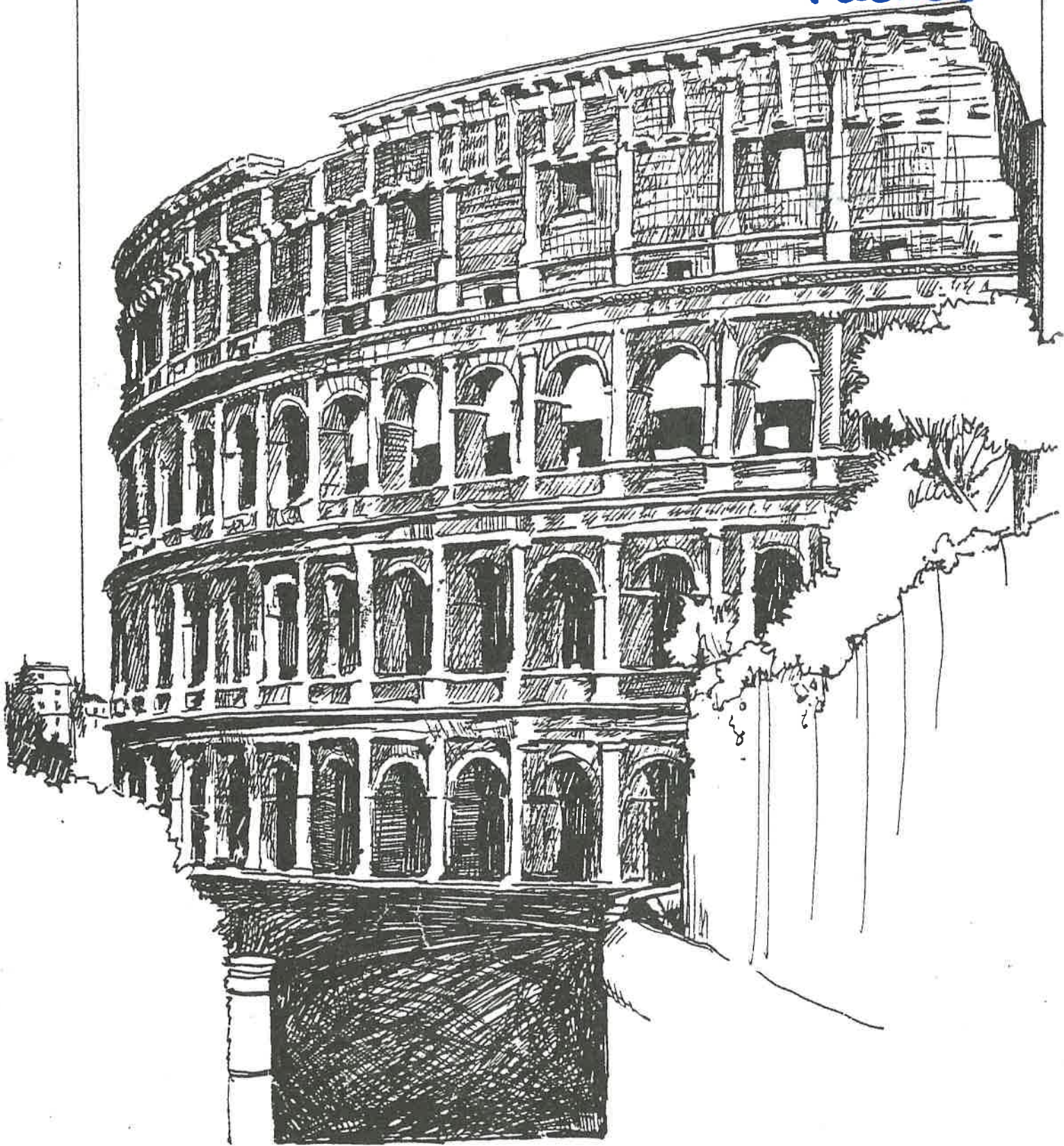


Name: _____

Rome
Packet



The Circus Maximus

Race courses were popular with the Romans from very early times. A broad stretch of level ground was all that was required. The word *circus*, which means "ring," eventually came to mean "race courses." Although other shows were sometimes presented in a circus, unless otherwise stated, a circus was the place a Roman went to see chariot races.

The most famous circus of all was the Circus Maximus. In the time of Augustus it could seat 60,000 people. In the time of Constantius, it was enlarged to seat almost 200,000.

The Circus Maximus had the same arrangement as all Roman circuses. A large long piece of ground was surrounded on three sides by rows of seats. At one end were places for chariots. A gate was at each end of the circus and there were four towers, two at each end.

In the middle of the arena was a long concrete row called the *spina* (backbone). This ran for about two thirds of the length of the arena. This spina (see Figure A in the drawing on page 46) was beautifully decorated with works of art. At the ends of the spina were *metae* (Figure B), goalposts which marked the end of the course. One try around the spina comprised a lap. The race, or *missus*, was composed of seven laps.

On the ends of the spina stood two pedestals (Figure C). One had seven dolphins on top of it; the other had seven marble eggs. Each time a lap was finished, one dolphin and one egg were taken down so the viewers would know how many laps were still to be run.

A large gate was at the end of each circus. The gate at the right end of the drawing on page 46 was the triumphal gate by which the winner went out of the circus. At the left end was a gate used for processions to enter. On each side of this gate were *carceres* (barriers) which were stalls (Figure D). Each stall was square and large enough to contain the chariot and the team of horses. Sometimes there were as many as ten horses per team. In the early days there were four chariots. As time went on, this number increased to eight.

In the early days of the Roman circus, anyone who wished to race could do so, but at the Circus Maximus racing companies drove the chariots. In the beginning there were only two companies, the red and the white. (Racing companies took their names from the colors their drivers wore.) In the time of Augustus a third team, the blue, was begun. Later there was the green. Still later two more teams, the purple and the gold, were organized.

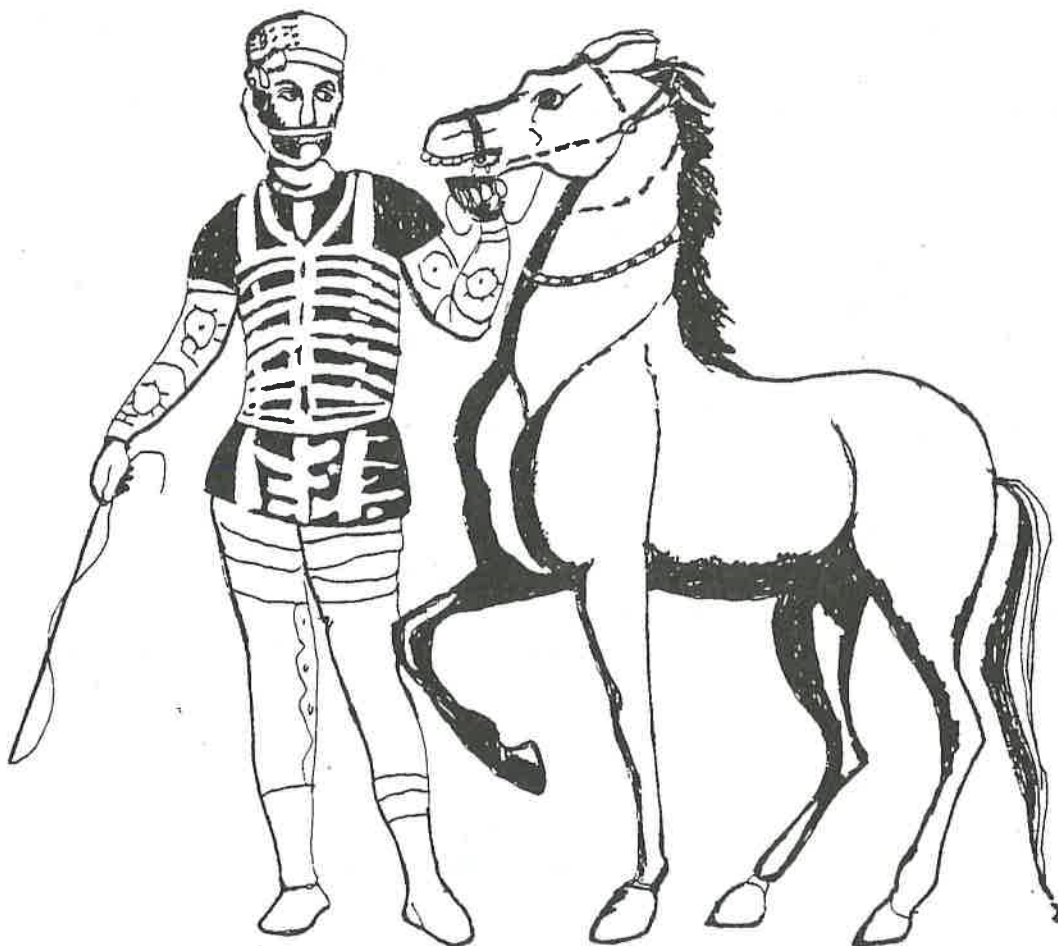


There was great rivalry between the various teams. Each team spent huge sums of money importing the best horses from all over the Roman world. Each had elaborate and expensive training facilities. Each attempted to be the best, even if they had to drug their opponents' horses, bribe other drivers or even poison or kill rival drivers. Every company had loyal fans who bet great sums of money at each circus race.

Racing was dangerous. A driver would attempt to upset another driver or do anything else he could to win. The chariot was protected in front but was open behind. To protect themselves, drivers wore shoulder pads, leather straps around their thighs and heavy protectors on the legs.

A great driver could become very wealthy. He would receive large wages and rich gifts from people who bet on him. Other racing companies would offer him huge sums of money to race for them. A hero to all who attended the circus, he was invited to fabulous parties and was lionized by the Romans.

The circus usually presented only chariot racing. However, at times there were shows that consisted of cavalry or of men riding two horses at once. There were also games where wild animals attacked and killed each other or where animals were killed by men.

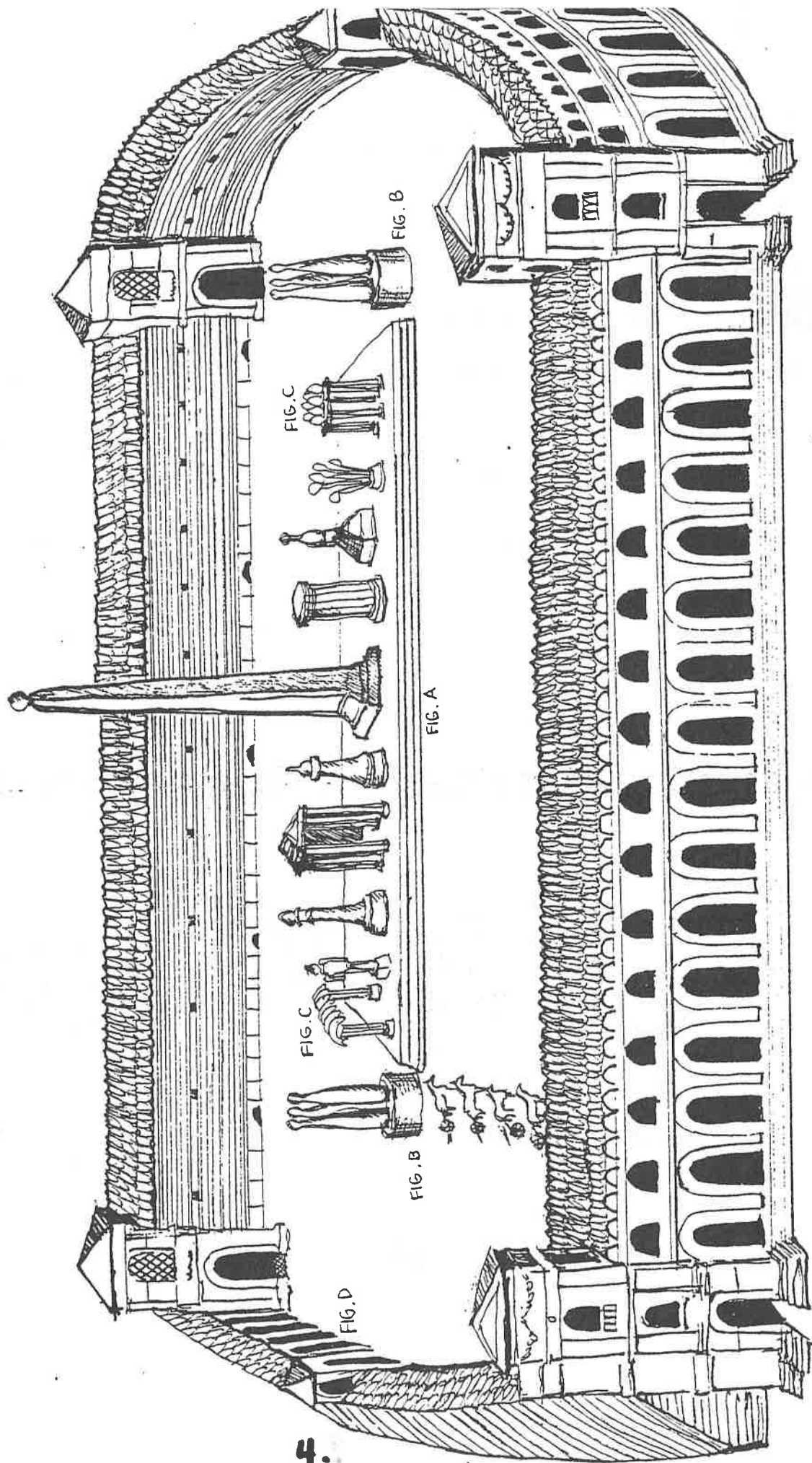


Questions

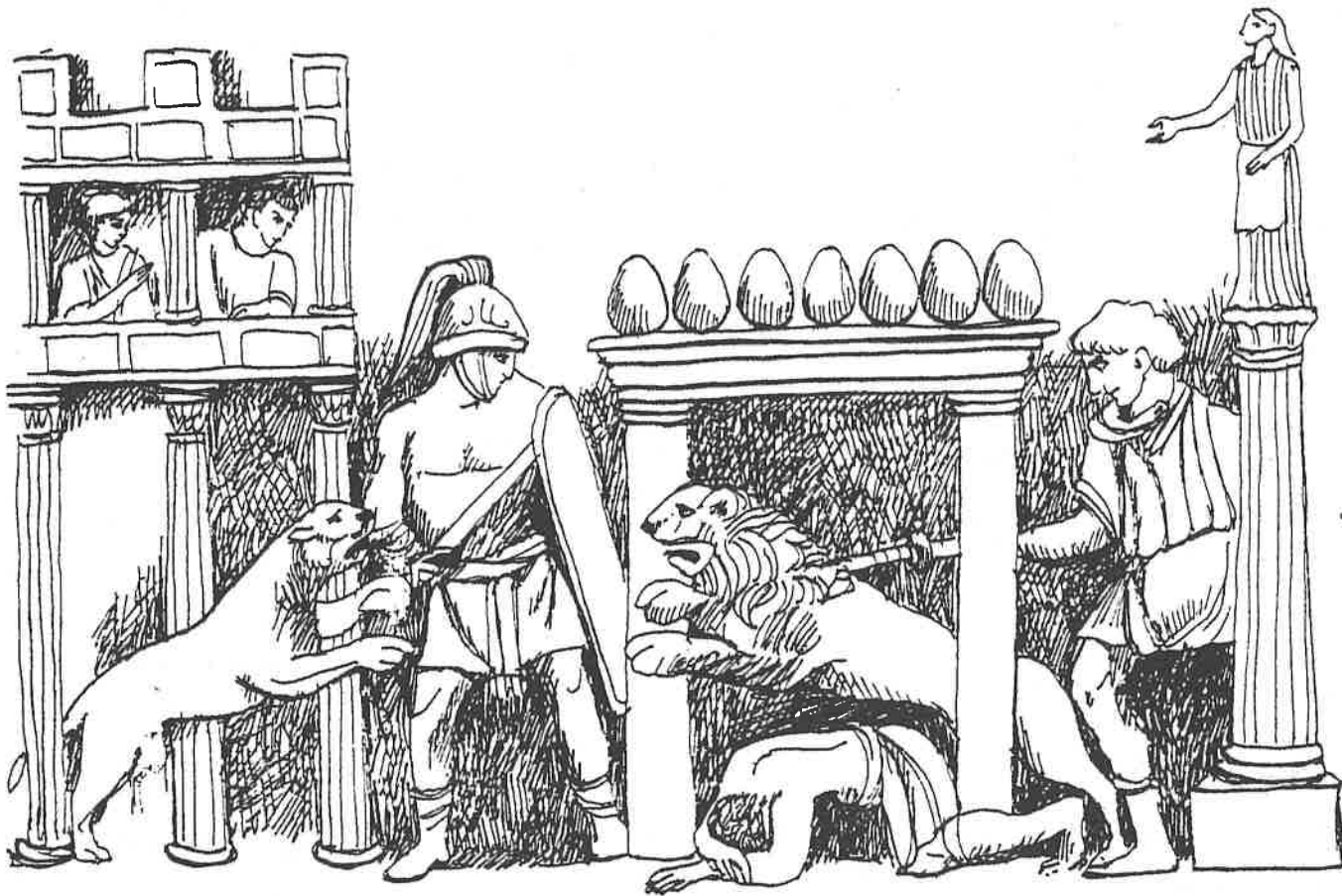
1. In the time of Augustus, the Circus Maximus could seat _____ people.
2. How many laps made a missus? _____
3. Stalls were _____ in shape.
4. What was on top of each pedestal? _____
5. How were racing companies named? _____
6. The word *circus* means _____
7. The spina ran about _____ of the length of the arena.
8. How were chariot drivers protected? _____



Circus Maximus



Gladiators and the Colosseum



Gladiators were very popular with the Roman people. They liked excitement, and men fighting to the death provided such excitement. Most of the gladiators were captives taken in war.

Many politicians put on shows with gladiators to gain favor with the common people. Many of these same politicians had gladiators trained so they could have their own private armies. They used their armies to break up public meetings and to influence elections.

In the early days sometimes three pairs of gladiators fought. As time went on, there were more and more pairs—twenty-two, twenty-five, six y—even ten thousand men on one occasion fought during an exhibition that Augustus put on.

Since they were so popular, the gladiators were trained in schools. They were well fed, put under tremendous discipline, and given expert lessons in the use of various weapons.

They usually fought in pairs—one man against another. There were two types of gladiators. The Thracian was lightly armed and the Samnite was heavily armed. Usually a lightly armed man fought a heavily armed man. But as time went on, the Roman spectators wanted more variety and more violence. Men fought while blindfolded, dwarfs battled, and even women fought to the death.

When soldiers were captured, sometimes entire armies fought each other, using their own weapons. After Rome conquered Britain, soldiers in chariots fought in the arena so the audience could see the way the Britons waged war.

The most famous building for such fights was the Colosseum. This huge amphitheater was used for gladiatorial and aquatic shows. The building was begun by the emperor Vespasian and completed by his son Titus. Titus dedicated the building with endless displays of fighting between gladiators and with wild beast shows in which thousands of elephants, tigers and lions were killed.

The Colosseum took more than ten years to build and covered nearly six acres (2.4 ha) of ground. It was an ellipse that was over six hundred feet (182 m) long and five hundred feet (152 m) wide. There were chambers under the whole structure and arena. Elevators brought up the beasts and the gladiators. There were also water pipes that could quickly fill the arena and drainage pipes to quickly empty it.

Four levels of seats were provided for the spectators. The Colosseum could seat between forty-five and fifty thousand people. The wall that went around the arena was fifteen feet (4.56 m) high. Rollers were hung on the wall to keep the beasts from climbing out of the arena.

Spectators with tickets entered the Colosseum from one of eight entrances and took stairs to the various levels. Awnings went across the top of the amphitheater to provide protection from the sun.

The gladiators fought in the afternoon. Before the fights, they had a large feast and visited with admirers and friends. As they marched around the arena, they halted before the main official of the games and made the famous statement, "Those about to die salute you."

During combat, if a man was wounded, he might appeal for mercy. If the people signaled thumbs down, he was killed and his body dragged from the arena.

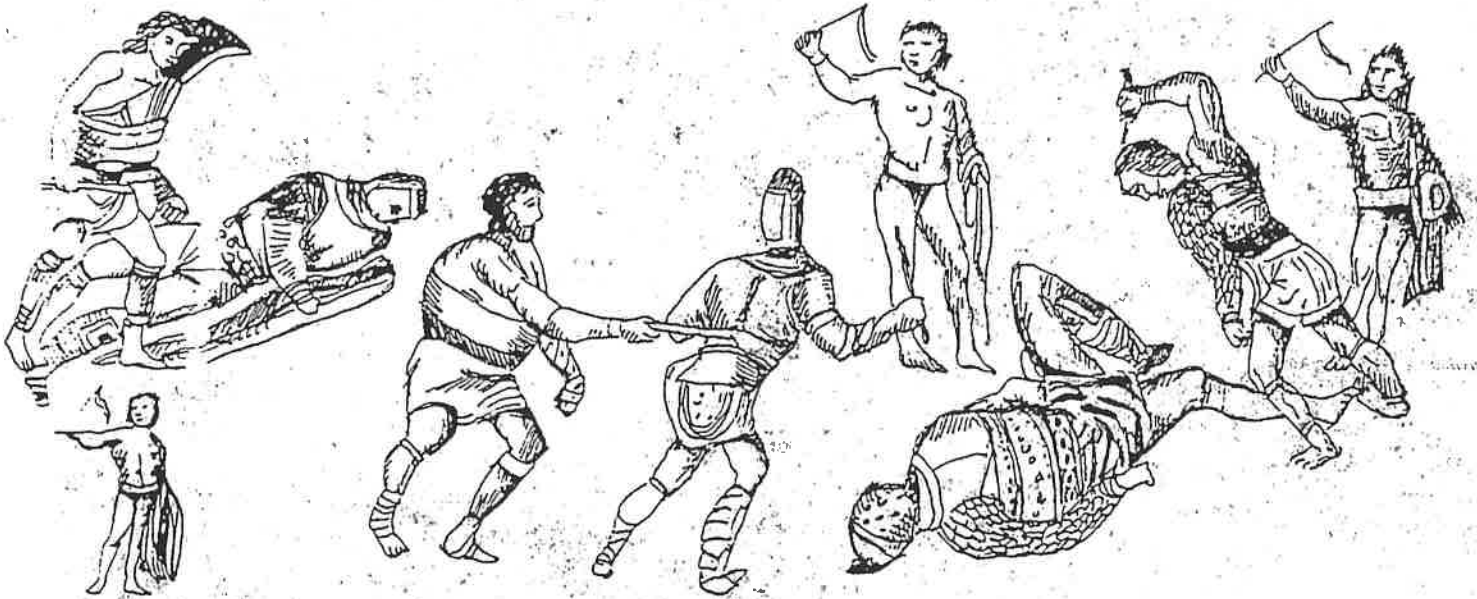
The beast shows started out with men killing animals as if in a hunt. Then for more "thrills" animals fought animals to the death. Still later, condemned criminals or even innocent men had to fight the beasts. Eventually, even women and children were "thrown to the lions" for their religious or political beliefs.

There were also terrible naval battles made possible by flooding the arena of the Colosseum with water. Many of these battles were bloody affairs where almost all the participants were killed.

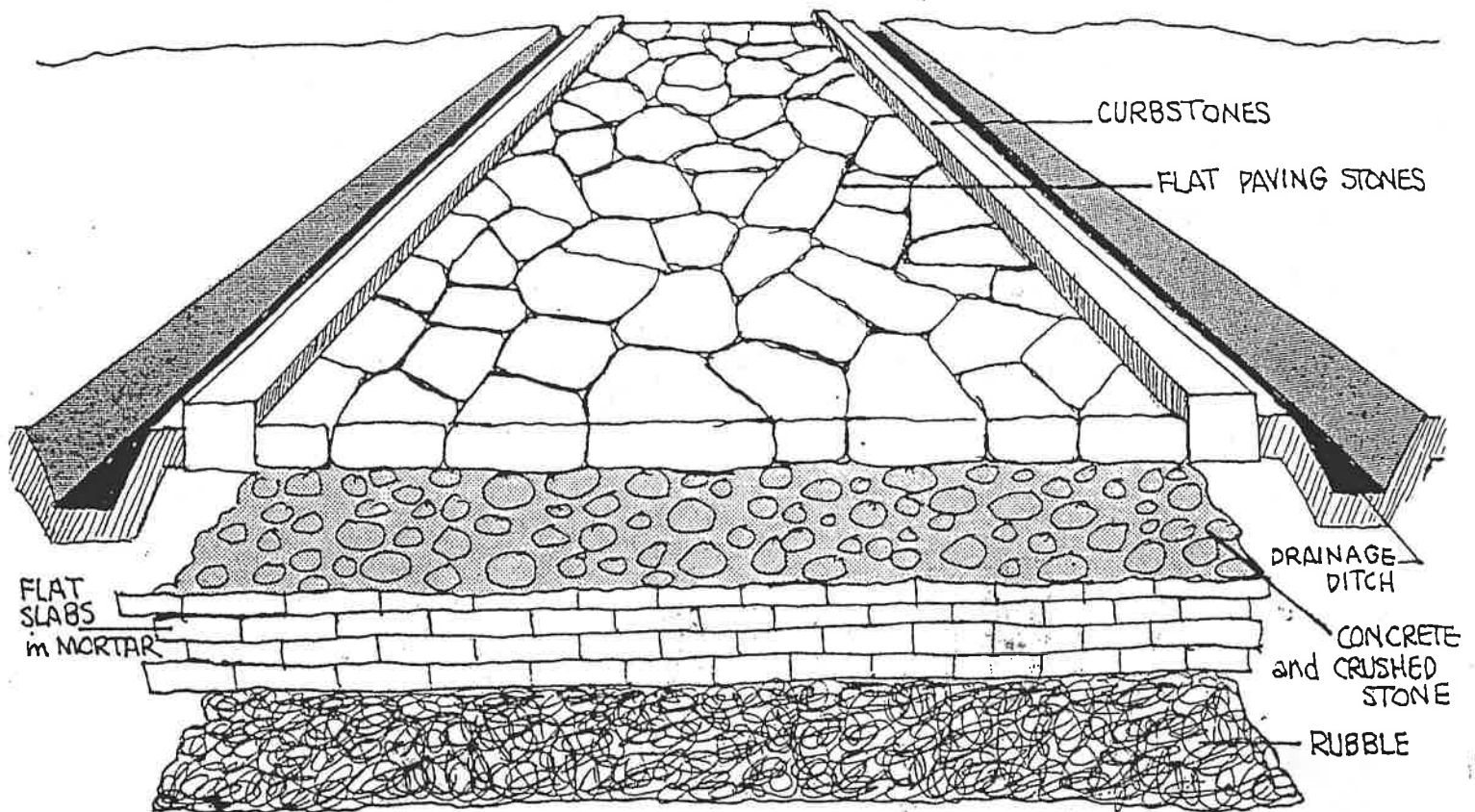
After Rome fell, the great Colosseum began to decay. Earthquakes brought down part of it and people began using the stones to build other buildings. Today, this magnificent ruin stands near the center of Rome.

Questio

1. How ~~were~~ most gladiators obtained? _____
2. The Colosseum was begun by _____
3. How many acres did it cover? _____
4. How **many** levels of seats did it have? _____
5. The Colosseum had _____ entrances.
6. When ~~the~~ gladiator stood before the main official, what was the famous statement he made? _____
7. _____ brought down part of the Colosseum.



Roman Engineers



Roman Road

The Greeks were great scientists. The Romans were great engineers. All over Italy and the Empire they built roads, aqueducts, walls of fortification and large buildings like the Colosseum, the Circus Maximus and the Theater of Marcellus.

In many parts of the world, Roman roads are still used today. In ancient times Roman roads ran for almost fifty thousand miles (80,500 km). Nineteen great roads ran into Rome itself.

The Romans built their roads like walls. They were about fifteen feet (4.5 m) wide and three feet (.9 m) high. The first step in building a road was to dig out the width and depth of the road. The first layer was rubble. Next, a layer of slabs set in mortar or a layer of concrete was put in. Then a layer of concrete and stones was laid in. The top layer was of hard stones or blocks of lava. These were fitted so closely that there were no cracks or seams. There were gutters at the sides so rain would run off. The entire road had curbstones on each side. Also on each side were footpaths. Sometimes there were blocks of stones set along the road at various spots for riders to mount or dismount.

These excellently constructed roads were usually built under the supervision of Roman engineers. The actual work was done by Roman soldiers. In Italy the state paid for their construction, but in the conquered provinces the people of the province paid.

Equally as well built as the Roman road was the Roman aqueduct. (An aqueduct is a conduit for carrying a large quantity of flowing water.) The Romans believed in having large supplies of fresh water, and they worked hard to provide it. The first great aqueduct was the Aqua Appia, which covered eleven miles (17.7 km). It ran for three hundred feet (90 m) above ground and eight hundred feet (240 m) underground.

In 140 B.C., the first high-level aqueduct was built to bring water to the top of the Capitoline Hill. Eventually, eleven great aqueducts served Rome.

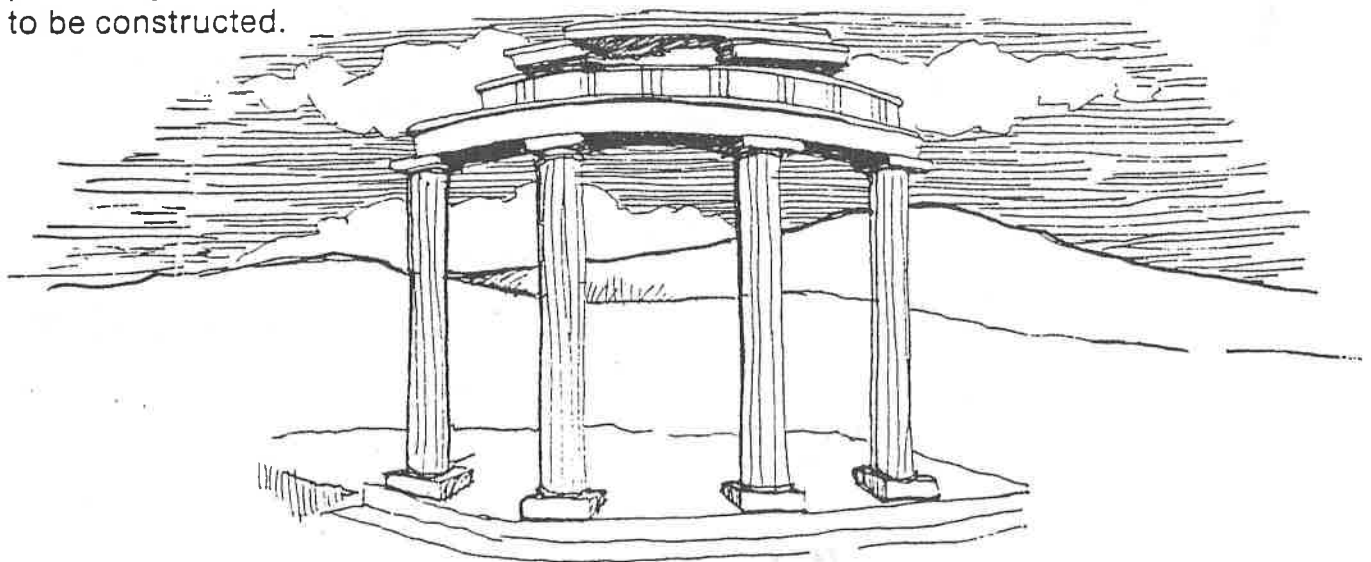
The great channels of the aqueducts were constructed of masonry and were built at a slanting position so the water ran right into Rome into great reservoirs. Street mains ran from the reservoir. Water was carried into the houses by pipes.

Anything Roman engineers constructed was built to last a long time. Like their roads and aqueducts, Roman walls were also well constructed. These great fortifications were built to keep barbaric tribes out of the Roman Empire. These walls were built in Germany and Romania and Britain. The most famous one was Hadrian's Wall, built in the northern part of England from A.D. 122-128. It ran from the mouth of the Tyne River to Solway Firth, a distance of about seventy-seven miles (123.9 km). There are different opinions concerning its width and height. It was either twenty feet (6 m) thick at the base and twelve feet (3.6 m) high or ten feet (3 m) at the base and twenty feet (6 m) high.

It was constructed of stone for half of its length. The remainder was built of turf and stone. Towered forts were constructed at one-mile (1.61 km) intervals along the wall. There were also smaller towers set every one-third of a mile (.5 km). A great ditch was dug in front of and behind the wall.

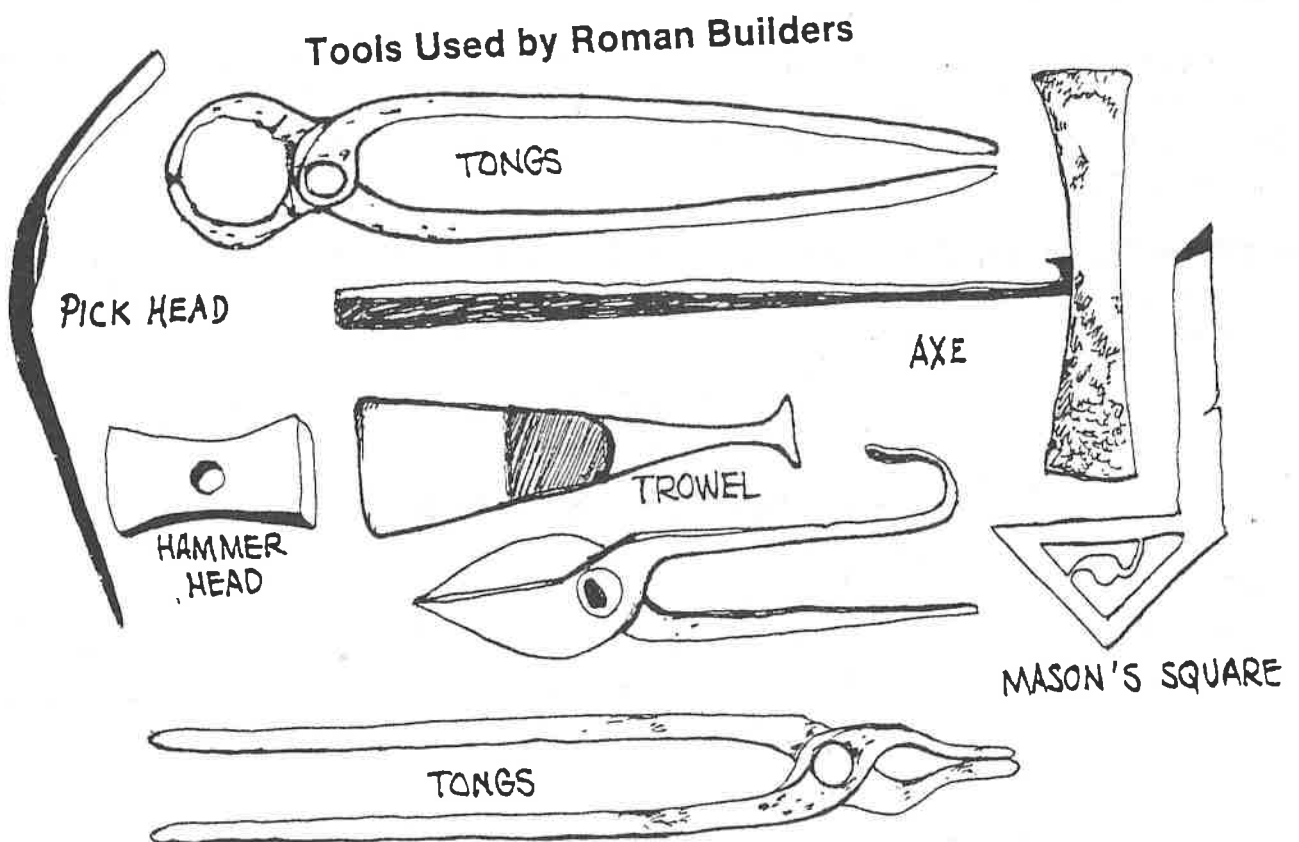
Roman architects and engineers not only constructed roads, aqueducts and great walls, but they also built massive buildings. They were the first people to use concrete for building material. They also developed the Roman arch with its keystone, an expansion of the Etruscan arch.

Roman engineers and architects were able to provide massive public buildings for the emperors of Rome. Trajan ordered a forum and a great column built. Augustus practically restored Rome. Other emperors ordered other massive buildings, towers, etc., to be constructed.

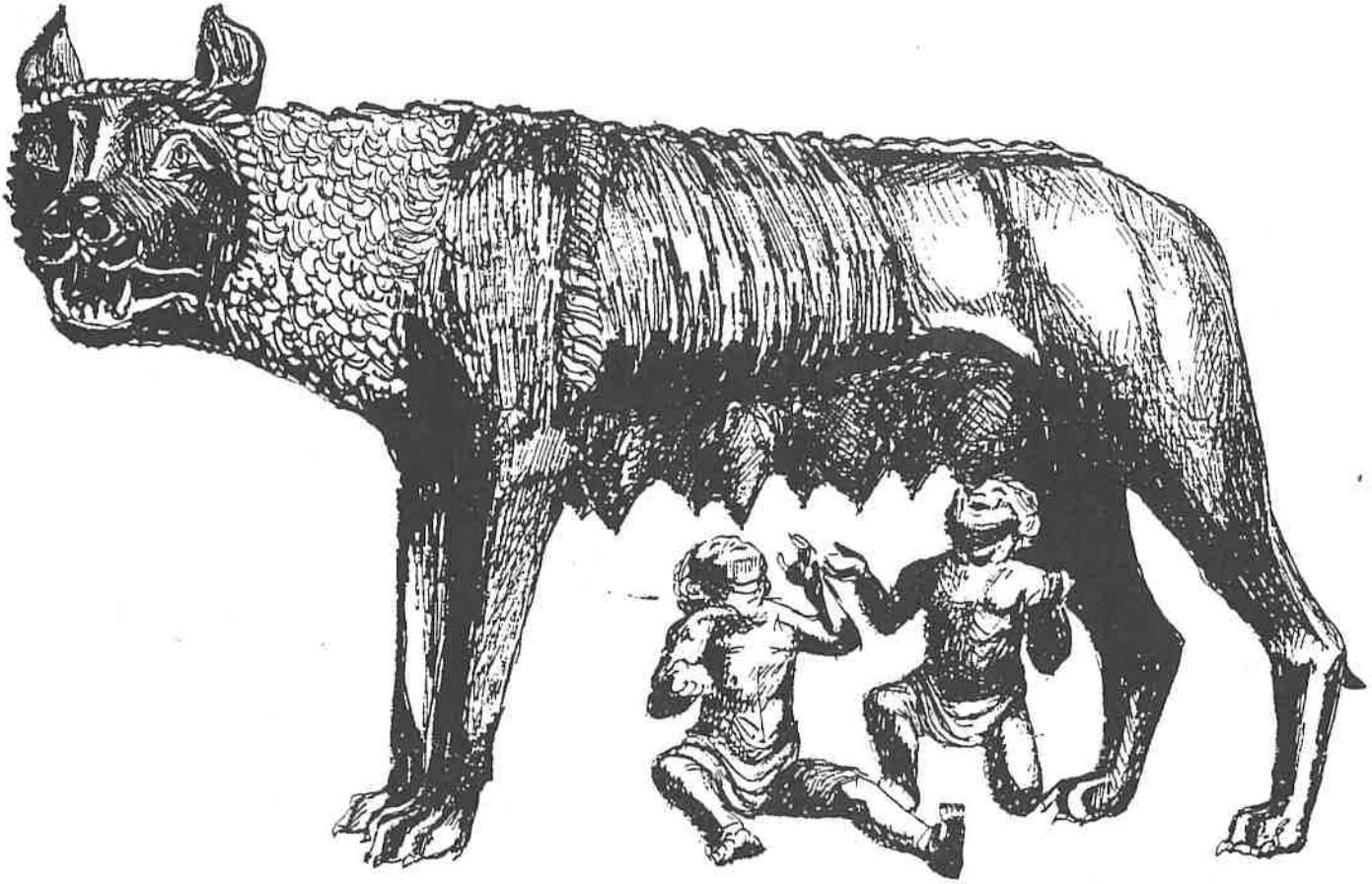


Questions

1. The Romans were great _____
2. The top layer of a Roman road was made of _____ or _____
3. An aqueduct is _____
4. The first high-level aqueduct was built in _____
5. _____ was built in the northern part of England.
6. The Romans were the first people to use _____ to build huge buildings.



Romulus and Remus



According to a Roman legend, the gods ordered Prince Aeneas, a survivor of the destruction of Troy, to find a beautiful land in the West. Eventually, he arrived in Italy where he married a Latin princess and became the king of the Latins. He founded the city of Lavinium. Later, his son Ascanius built a new city called Alba Longa.

In the eighth century, still according to the legend, a beautiful Latin princess named Rhea Silvia had two sons by the god Mars. Since she was a vestal virgin, she was manacled and thrown into prison. Her twin sons, Romulus and Remus, were put into a basket and cast in the Tiber River to die. The basket floated ashore and a she-wolf found the twins, fed them and protected them. When they were grown, the twins decided they would build a new city on the Tiber River. They made a bet that whoever saw the most vultures at one time would plow a furrow that traced the area of the city. Romulus won the bet and outlined the future boundaries of Rome.

Rome was founded on April 21, 753 B.C. On that day Romulus, a young chieftain of the Latins, his twin Remus, and their clansmen came to a hill above the Tiber. Romulus, wearing a priest's robe, had a pure white bull and cow hitched to a bronze plow. With this he dug the furrow. This same ritual was to be repeated for the endless new cities Rome would build.

Romulus led his clan well, and they conquered the villages and lands surrounding them. This Rome grew by adding new lands and new people.

Name _____

The legend states that after ruling for thirty-seven years, Romulus was murdered by senators. The news of his death spread throughout Rome and the surrounding area. A huge crowd gathered in the Forum. Frightened by the mob, the senators told the crowd that Romulus had been taken into heaven by the gods and that he had yelled out of the sky, "Go, proclaim to the Romans it is heaven's will that my Rome shall be the capital of the world."

Questions

1. Prince _____ was the Trojan ordered by the gods to find a beautiful land in the West.
2. He became king of the _____
3. The mother of Romulus and Remus was Princess _____
4. A _____ found them and protected them.
5. The date of the founding of Rome was _____
6. What were the last words of Romulus? _____

Julius Caesar



Julius Caesar, the most famous Roman of all, was the greatest general of ancient times, perhaps of all time. Born Gaius Julius Caesar in Rome, he was of an elite patrician class. His aunt Julia had been married to Marius, a military hero. It was she who planned his future and helped make him a priest of Jupiter.

When he was around seventeen, he married a patrician woman named Cornelia. Sulla, the dictator of Rome, ordered Caesar to divorce his wife and marry someone politically acceptable to Sulla. Caesar refused to do so and hid out in the Sabine hills.

After Sulla died in 78 B.C., Caesar became a lawyer. In order to improve his eloquence in speaking, he sailed for Rhodes to study rhetoric. On the way there, he was captured by pirates and held for the ransom of twelve thousand gold pieces. He told them to demand more because he was worth it. He also told the pirates he would return and hang them all. After he was released, he raised a fleet, captured the pirates and crucified them.

Caesar started borrowing money heavily and plunged into cultivating a public life-style. In 68 B.C. his Aunt Julia died. At the funeral the flamboyant Caesar announced that he had traced his family line back to Romulus, the founder of Rome. The Roman crowds loved it.

In 65 B.C., he was elected to direct public works and games. In 62 B.C., he became a *praetor*, or judicial magistrate. When his term as praetor was over, he was given command of a province in Spain. A natural for the life of a soldier, Caesar led his troops brilliantly and extended the boundaries of Spain. He returned to Rome, rich with booty and planning to become consul.

By that year (60 B.C.), Caesar had become a powerful man. At that time he joined two other powerful men to form the First Triumvirate, an alliance that was to rule Rome. The other two men were Gnaeus Pompey and Marcus Licinius Crassus. Pompey was an important general and Crassus was the richest man in Rome.

At forty-one years of age, in 59 B.C., Caesar began his consulship. Cornelia had died in about 68 B.C., so Caesar married Calpurnia, daughter of Lucius Piso, and Pompey married Caesar's daughter Julia.

Caesar knew that to become even more powerful, he needed to control an important province. With the help of Pompey and Crassus, he was given three provinces—Cisalpine Gaul, Transalpine Gaul and Illyricum (Yugoslavia).

Not satisfied with limited power, in 58 B.C. Caesar began a campaign to conquer all of Gaul. It was then that his military genius emerged. His brilliant military strategies, combined with the discipline and lightning speed of his troops, enabled him to win battle after battle. The Helvetians, the Gauls and the Germans all fell to Caesar, and before long he had conquered territories all the way east of the Rhine River and had invaded Britain twice.

Caesar wrote down all his exploits in Gaul in a book called *Commentaries on the Gallic War*. As reports of his victories reached Rome, all of Rome sang praises to Caesar.

Despite his public adulation, Caesar was not the favorite of all of the rich and powerful, who were either jealous or afraid of him. While in Gaul, Caesar had heard that Crassus had been killed in battle in Parthia and that his daughter Julia had died. With no remaining bond between Caesar and Pompey, Pompey, jealous of Caesar, joined other men determined to destroy him.

In 49 B.C., the Senate ordered Caesar to disband his army and enter Rome as a private citizen or they would declare him an enemy of the state. Knowing that doing so would lead to his death, Caesar led five thousand of his troops across the Rubicon, starting a civil war. Within sixty days he had conquered all of Italy. In 49 B.C., he had himself appointed dictator for life.

At Pharsalus in 48 B.C. Caesar met the army of Pompey and destroyed it. It was the most terrible battle ever fought between Romans.

Pompey fled to Egypt, and Caesar followed him there. On his arrival the Egyptians presented him with the embalmed head of Pompey. During his stay in Egypt, Caesar fell in love with Cleopatra, the beautiful co-ruler of the country. Caesar defeated her brother Ptolemy in battle and proclaimed Cleopatra the queen of Egypt.

Caesar brought Cleopatra and their son back to Rome. There he lived and ruled like a god. He even had a gold statue made of Cleopatra and put it next to the statue of Venus. Many Romans thought it was a terrible thing to do.

Many of the senators thought Caesar was a dangerous man who wished to be king. The Romans didn't believe in kings. And even though Caesar refused the crown, a plot developed against him and on March 15, 44 B.C., a band of aristocrats led by Brutus and Cassius stabbed Caesar to death during a senate meeting. He fell at the base of Pompey's statue.



Questions

1. What was Caesar's full name? _____
2. When was he elected *praetor*? _____
3. **3 points** Name the members of the First Triumvirate. _____
4. His campaign in Gaul began in _____
5. What was the name of Caesar's book on Gaul? _____
6. _____ of Egypt fell in love with Caesar.
7. Caesar was murdered on _____

Augustus Caesar



In his will, Julius Caesar adopted his great-nephew Octavian and gave him the name Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus. He also left most of his fortune to the eighteen-year-old youth.

Mark Antony, Caesar's top aide and an able general, so incensed the mob of Rome against the murderers of Caesar that the conspirators had to flee Rome. Antony thought that he would simply take control of all of Rome. He knew of Caesar's will but didn't think an eighteen-year-old boy could challenge him.

At the time of Caesar's murder, Octavian was serving in the army in Albania. When he learned of Caesar's will, Octavian hurried back to Rome. There the veterans of Caesar's army flocked around him. Octavian also made contact with important and powerful Romans. In addition, he gave sums of money to the veterans and to the common people of Rome. He became so powerful that he demanded to be made consul, and a frightened Senate approved.

Antony realized that Octavian presented a real challenge and created a Second Triumvirate that consisted of himself, Octavian and Lepidus, a Roman general and politician. Antony's plan was to use the other two men until he could eventually rule all of Rome himself.

In 42 B.C., the Senate voted to make Julius Caesar a god. Octavian ordered a large temple built in honor of Caesar and began calling himself "son of the divine Caesar."

At Philippi in northeastern Greece in 42 B.C., the army of Octavian and Antony defeated the army of Brutus and Cassius, the men who had murdered Caesar. Octavian and Antony divided the Roman world between themselves. Octavian got the western half of the empire and Antony got the rich eastern provinces. As a consolation, Lepidus received Africa, but Octavian soon forced him out of public life.

On his way back to Rome, Octavian became very ill. When he got there, he found Italy and Rome in terrible condition. The veterans were demanding money. Small armies were living off the land in northern Italy and paying no allegiance to Rome. Worst of all, Sicily was controlled by Pompey's son. Pompey had been Julius Caesar's old rival and his son had no love for Octavian. Since Sicily supplied Rome with grain, this second generation rivalry presented serious problems.

But people didn't know how iron-willed Octavian was. He promised the veterans their pay. His boyhood friend Marcus Agrippa, an excellent general, defeated the roving armies in northern Italy and then defeated Pompey in 36 B.C., gaining control of Sicily. Then Octavian married an older woman named Scribonia, who had important relatives. Thus, Octavian gained complete control of the western provinces.

Meanwhile, Antony had done very little to make himself famous, and all of Octavian's success made him very angry. He hurried back to Rome and almost generated a battle between his forces and those of Octavian, but Octavian smoothed things over. Antony agreed to a truce and even married Octavian's sister Octavia to seal the peace.

But once he was back in the East, Antony tired of Octavia and sent her home. He became Cleopatra's lover and even awarded her children with Roman provinces. Octavian and the people of Rome were furious. They hated Cleopatra. Octavian declared war against her, and in 31 B.C., Agrippa, who was an admiral as well as a general, defeated the fleets of Antony and Cleopatra at Actium. Supposedly, sixty of Cleopatra's ships left the battle, taking her and Antony to Egypt. There, while awaiting Octavian's army, Antony committed suicide and died in Cleopatra's arms. Later, after Octavian had captured her and planned to take her back to Rome, Cleopatra requested a snake be brought to her. She died from its bite.

Octavian was now master of the entire Roman world. He stayed in Egypt for awhile and decided he would make that province his own since it was the richest of all Roman provinces. Then he sailed for home.

In Rome, Octavian was honored with many celebrations and was ready to lead the empire into a period of great peace. In order to do this, he knew the Roman people had to give him total control. So in January, 27 B.C., he told the Senate that he was giving up all his titles and that the Senate could govern Rome. The Senate was shocked. This was the last thing they wanted. The Senate immediately gave him back all of his titles and named him Augustus, "the majestic one, the sacred one, the blessed one."

Augustus was now ready to forge the empire into an efficient and peaceful unit. With his friend Agrippa handling military matters and the brilliant Maecenas as his prime minister, Augustus, over the years, built an efficient system of civil servants throughout the empire.

One of the persons who was the greatest help was his wife Livia, whom he had married after divorcing Scribonia. Very much in love, the two lived simple and modest lives. Before he died at the age of seventy-six, he said to her "Remember our days together; farewell."

Questions

1. How old was Octavian when Caesar adopted him? _____
2. Name the men in the Second Triumvirate. _____
3. What woman did Antony fall in love with? _____
4. What happened to her? _____
5. Cleopatra and Antony were defeated at _____
6. What name did the Senate honor Octavian with? _____
7. What does the name mean? _____
8. The prime minister of Augustus was _____
9. What great general served Octavian? _____
10. _____ was the great love of Augustus.