After the Victories

How conquest changed the Roman Republic

SS24.7.15 "Outline the key geographic, political, economic, and cultural elements of the Roman Republic. 15a Trace the growth of the Roman Republic, using a variety of thematic and political maps..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline places Rome gained, circle effects of conquest on people's lives, and number three linked steps that led from conquest toward the Republic's end.

The Costs of Winning

1. Imagine a ship crossing the narrow water between Sicily and North Africa. In the third century BCE, the Roman Republic controlled most of the Italian Peninsula, while Carthage, a trading power on the North African coast, held lands across the western Mediterranean. Sicily stood between Italy and North Africa, near important sea routes. Rome and Carthage both wanted influence there. Their struggle began the Punic Wars, three wars fought from 264 to 146 BCE. After the first war, Rome took Sicily, its first province outside Italy.

2. During the second war, the Carthaginian general Hannibal led an army from Spain across the Alps into Italy. Rome survived his attacks and later defeated Carthage. After the third war, Rome destroyed Carthage and controlled its North African lands. Victory gave Rome more territory, taxes, and access to trade routes. Conquests also brought many enslaved people to Italy. Wealthy landowners used their labor on large farms. Small farmers, some of whom had spent years serving in the army, struggled to compete and moved to cities.

3. As Rome expanded, merchants, soldiers, and enslaved people carried languages, goods, and beliefs across the Mediterranean. Roman colonies, settlements of Roman citizens in conquered areas, spread Roman customs, while residents also shared local practices with newcomers. At home, arguments over land and citizenship sharpened tensions. Generals gained loyal armies by promising soldiers rewards, and rival leaders fought civil wars. The Republic's elected offices and Senate could not settle these conflicts. In 27 BCE, Augustus became Rome's first emperor, ending the Republic, though later societies drew on Roman ideas about written law and representative government.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Sicily's location help cause a war between Rome and Carthage, and what did Rome gain after that war?

2. How did conquest change life for both wealthy landowners and small farmers in Italy?

3. Why did Roman colonies lead to cultural exchange, not just the spread of Roman customs?

4. Trace a path from Rome's expansion to the end of the Republic. Include one conflict at home.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you advise the Senate just after the third Punic War. Write a short proposal for one new policy to reduce a problem caused by conquest. Explain how it might affect two groups and help protect the Republic.

ANSWER KEY

After the Victories

GRADE 7 · SS24.7.15

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline places Rome gained, circle effects of conquest on people's lives, and number three linked steps that led from conquest toward the Republic's end. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Sicily's location help cause a war between Rome and Carthage, and what did Rome gain after that war?	**Sicily lay between Italy and North Africa near important sea routes, so both powers wanted influence there. After the first war, Rome took Sicily as its first province outside Italy.**
2	How did conquest change life for both wealthy landowners and small farmers in Italy?	**Wealthy landowners used enslaved workers brought through conquest on large farms. Small farmers struggled to compete and some moved to cities.**
3	Why did Roman colonies lead to cultural exchange, not just the spread of Roman customs?	**Roman settlers brought their customs to conquered areas, while local residents shared their own practices with the newcomers.**
4	Trace a path from Rome's expansion to the end of the Republic. Include one conflict at home.	**Expansion contributed to disputes over land and citizenship. Generals gained loyal armies, rival leaders fought civil wars, and the Republic ended when Augustus became emperor.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would ask the Senate to give returning soldiers small plots of land controlled by the state. The soldiers could grow food and earn a living instead of moving to cities. Wealthy landowners would have less land available for their large farms, so some might oppose the plan. The Senate should make the rules for giving out land clear to everyone. If soldiers could get land without depending on a general's promises, they might be less willing to join a general in a civil war.

Accept different chains of causes and effects if each link is supported by the passage. For the proposal, look for a specific policy, plausible effects on two groups, and an explanation of how it could reduce political conflict.