

Rome's Lasting Marks

Trace Roman achievements and their effects on later societies.

SS.6.W.3.14 "Describe the key achievements and contributions of Roman civilization."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three Roman achievements or contributions in the passage. Write 1, 2, or 3 beside details that explain how each contribution affected people in Rome or later societies.

Roman Ideas That Endured

- ① Roman engineers changed daily life by building systems that moved people, water, and goods. Many Roman roads used layers of stone and gravel, creating firm routes for soldiers, merchants, and officials. Aqueducts carried water from distant springs into cities. Public fountains, baths, and some homes received this water. Romans also used arches and concrete to build strong bridges, arenas, and other large structures that lasted for centuries. These projects showed careful planning and shared labor.
- ② Roman civilization also contributed ideas about law and government. In the Roman Republic, citizens elected some officials, and the Senate helped govern. Not everyone had equal political power, since women, enslaved people, and many others could not vote. Still, Romans developed written laws, legal procedures, and the idea that laws should be publicly known. Later societies borrowed Roman legal ideas when creating courts and laws. Roman law also shaped ideas about contracts, property, and citizenship.
- ③ Romans spread Latin across much of their empire. As Latin mixed with local languages, it helped lead to languages such as Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian. Roman writers recorded speeches, histories, poems, and plays that later readers studied. In 45 BCE, Julius Caesar introduced the Julian calendar, which organized the year more accurately than Rome's earlier calendar. Its structure influenced the Gregorian calendar used in many places today. This system shaped planning for centuries.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Roman roads and aqueducts improve life for people in the Roman Empire?

2 How did the Roman Republic include some citizen participation but limit political power for others?

3 What Roman contribution to law influenced later societies, and how did it influence them?

4 Name two ways Roman culture continued to affect people after the empire. Use one example about language or writing and one about timekeeping.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label called *Roman Contributions*. Name three Roman contributions from the passage and explain one effect of each contribution.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three Roman achievements or contributions in the passage. Write 1, 2, or 3 beside details that explain how each contribution affected people in Rome or later societies. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Roman roads and aqueducts improve life for people in the Roman Empire?	Roads gave soldiers, merchants, and officials firm travel routes. Aqueducts brought water to cities for fountains, baths, and some homes.
2	How did the Roman Republic include some citizen participation but limit political power for others?	Citizens elected some officials, and the Senate helped govern. Women, enslaved people, and many others could not vote.
3	What Roman contribution to law influenced later societies, and how did it influence them?	Romans developed written laws and legal procedures, including the idea that laws should be publicly known. Later societies borrowed these ideas for courts and laws.
4	Name two ways Roman culture continued to affect people after the empire. Use one example about language or writing and one about timekeeping.	Latin helped lead to Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian. The Julian calendar influenced the Gregorian calendar used in many places today.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Roman roads gave merchants and officials reliable routes for travel. Roman written laws and legal procedures influenced later courts and laws. Latin helped lead to several modern languages, connecting Roman culture to people today.

Accept any three accurate contributions from the passage if each includes a clear effect. Students may use roads, aqueducts, architecture, law, government, Latin, literature, or the calendar.