

Byzantium Carries On

Trace Roman traditions, Mediterranean power, and Orthodox Christianity.

6.6b "The Byzantine Empire preserved elements of the Roman Empire, controlled lands within the Mediterranean basin, and began to develop Orthodox Christianity."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show Roman traditions or Greek culture. Circle details about Mediterranean lands or trade, then number three details about Orthodox Christianity and the emperor's church role.

Rome's Eastern Heir

- ① When the western Roman Empire fell in 476, the eastern empire continued from its capital, Constantinople. Its people called themselves Romans, and emperors kept Roman laws, taxes, and government offices. Emperor Justinian ordered scholars to collect and organize Roman laws in a code. Yet the empire was also shaped by Greek culture. Greek became its main language, and many people studied Greek ideas. These traditions continued Roman culture.
- ② Constantinople stood on a water route between Europe and Asia, making it a busy center of trade. At different times, Byzantine rulers controlled territories around the Mediterranean basin, including Greece, parts of Italy, Anatolia, the Balkans, and areas along the eastern Mediterranean coast. Control of these lands gave the empire ports, farms, and trade routes. Wars and invasions later reduced its territory, but the empire remained an important Mediterranean power for centuries.
- ③ Christianity was central to Byzantine life. The Byzantine Church developed traditions that differed from those of the Church in western Europe, and this faith became known as Orthodox Christianity. The emperor had major authority in both government and church affairs. He appointed the patriarch of Constantinople, an important church leader, while bishops guided religious communities. This close relationship between church and state helped unite the empire. In 1054, disagreements helped cause a split between the Orthodox Church in the east and the Roman Catholic Church in the west.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What are two Roman elements that Byzantine emperors kept after the western Roman Empire fell?

2 How did Greek culture shape the Byzantine Empire?

3 Name two areas around the Mediterranean basin that Byzantine rulers controlled. Then name one benefit of controlling these lands.

4 How were church and state connected in the Byzantine Empire?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label about the Byzantine Empire. Include one Roman element it kept, one Greek influence, one benefit of its Mediterranean lands, and one fact about Orthodox Christianity and the emperor.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that show Roman traditions or Greek culture. Circle details about Mediterranean lands or trade, then number three details about Orthodox Christianity and the emperor's church role. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two Roman elements that Byzantine emperors kept after the western Roman Empire fell?	They kept Roman laws, taxes, and government offices. Accept any two.
2	How did Greek culture shape the Byzantine Empire?	Greek became the empire's main language, and many people studied Greek ideas.
3	Name two areas around the Mediterranean basin that Byzantine rulers controlled. Then name one benefit of controlling these lands.	Areas include Greece, parts of Italy, Anatolia, the Balkans, or the eastern Mediterranean coast. Benefits included ports, farms, and trade routes.
4	How were church and state connected in the Byzantine Empire?	The emperor had authority in government and church affairs and appointed the patriarch of Constantinople. This relationship helped unite the empire.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Byzantine Empire kept Roman laws and government offices. It also used Greek language and ideas. Its control of Mediterranean lands brought ports, farms, and trade routes. Orthodox Christianity tied church and state together because the emperor led government and appointed the patriarch.

Accept equivalent details from the passage and clear statements that connect each detail to the Byzantine Empire. For the museum label, require all four requested topics and historically accurate connections.