After the Temple

Trace Jewish dispersion and Rome's later name change

AWH.C.5.5 "Explain the expulsion/dispersion of the Jews to other lands (Diaspora) after the destruction of the second temple in Jerusalem in AD 70, and the renaming of the region by the Romans."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle AD 70 and AD 135, underline two causes of Jewish movement, and box a detail showing that Jews lived outside Judea before AD 70. Use your marks to trace how the Diaspora grew before Rome renamed the province.

Two Wars, Many Journeys

1. In AD 70, Roman soldiers captured Jerusalem after a long siege during a Jewish revolt. Fire destroyed the Second Temple, the center of Jewish worship and sacrifice in the city. Many people had died in the fighting or faced hunger during the siege. Roman forces killed or enslaved many survivors, and other Jews left the devastated area to seek safety and a living elsewhere. The loss of the Temple changed religious life as well as daily life. Yet the city's fall did not send every Jew away: some stayed in the region and rebuilt their lives.

2. The word Diaspora means the scattering of a people beyond a homeland. Jewish communities already lived outside Judea before AD 70, including in Egypt, Mesopotamia, and cities around the Mediterranean Sea. Trade, earlier wars, and earlier migrations had helped create those communities. After the Roman war, captives were carried away, while other people fled or moved to existing communities where relatives or shared traditions could help them begin again. Jewish life continued both inside and outside Judea. For this reason, the destruction of the Temple intensified a long-running dispersion rather than starting Jewish life abroad from nothing.

3. The Roman name change came later, not at the moment the Temple fell. After another Jewish revolt, known as the Bar Kokhba revolt, ended in AD 135, Roman authorities renamed the province of Judea *Syria Palaestina*. The new name used a term associated with the wider area rather than the name Judea. Historians debate Rome's exact reasons, but the change placed the region under a new official label after a costly rebellion. Together, the wars, movement of people, and Roman naming policy reshaped the relationship between Jewish communities and their homeland. The renamed province was not proof that all Jews had left it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Roman war that ended in AD 70 increase the number of Jews living outside Judea?

2. Why would it be inaccurate to say that the Jewish Diaspora began in AD 70?

3. How does the timing of the name *Syria Palaestina* differ from the timing of the Temple's destruction?

4. Why does Rome's new name for the province not show that all Jews had left the region?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A museum label claims, "The Diaspora began in AD 70, when Rome renamed Judea *Syria Palaestina* and every Jew left." Write a corrected label of 65 to 85 words that explains how events actually unfolded. Include earlier Jewish communities, what changed after AD 70, and when the province was renamed.

ANSWER KEY

After the Temple

HIGH SCHOOL · AWH.C.5.5

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle AD 70 and AD 135, underline two causes of Jewish movement, and box a detail showing that Jews lived outside Judea before AD 70. Use your marks to trace how the Diaspora grew before Rome renamed the province. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Roman war that ended in AD 70 increase the number of Jews living outside Judea?	**Roman forces enslaved and carried away captives. Other Jews fled or moved after the fighting and destruction.**
2	Why would it be inaccurate to say that the Jewish Diaspora began in AD 70?	**Jewish communities already lived outside Judea because of earlier trade, wars, and migrations.**
3	How does the timing of the name *Syria Palaestina* differ from the timing of the Temple's destruction?	**The Temple was destroyed in AD 70. Rome renamed the province after the later Bar Kokhba revolt ended in AD 135.**
4	Why does Rome's new name for the province not show that all Jews had left the region?	**The name was an official Roman label, while some Jews remained in the region.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Jewish communities lived beyond Judea long before the Romans destroyed Jerusalem's Second Temple in AD 70. During and after that war, Roman troops enslaved many people, and others fled or moved, increasing the number of Jews living elsewhere. Many Jews still lived in the region. Only after a later revolt ended in AD 135 did Rome rename the province *Syria Palaestina*. The new official name followed a second conflict, not the destruction of the Temple.

Accept answers that distinguish the preexisting Diaspora from the increased displacement after AD 70 and place the Roman renaming after the later revolt. Do not require students to claim that Rome's exact reason for the name change is known.