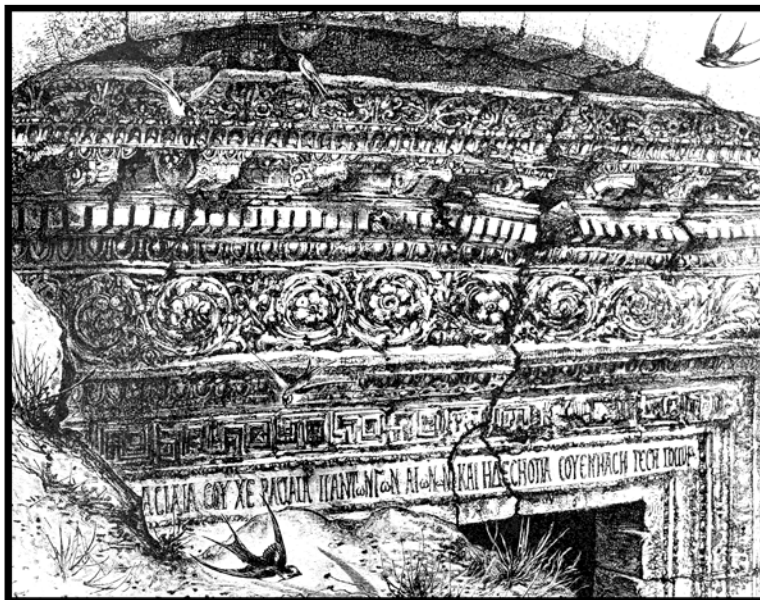
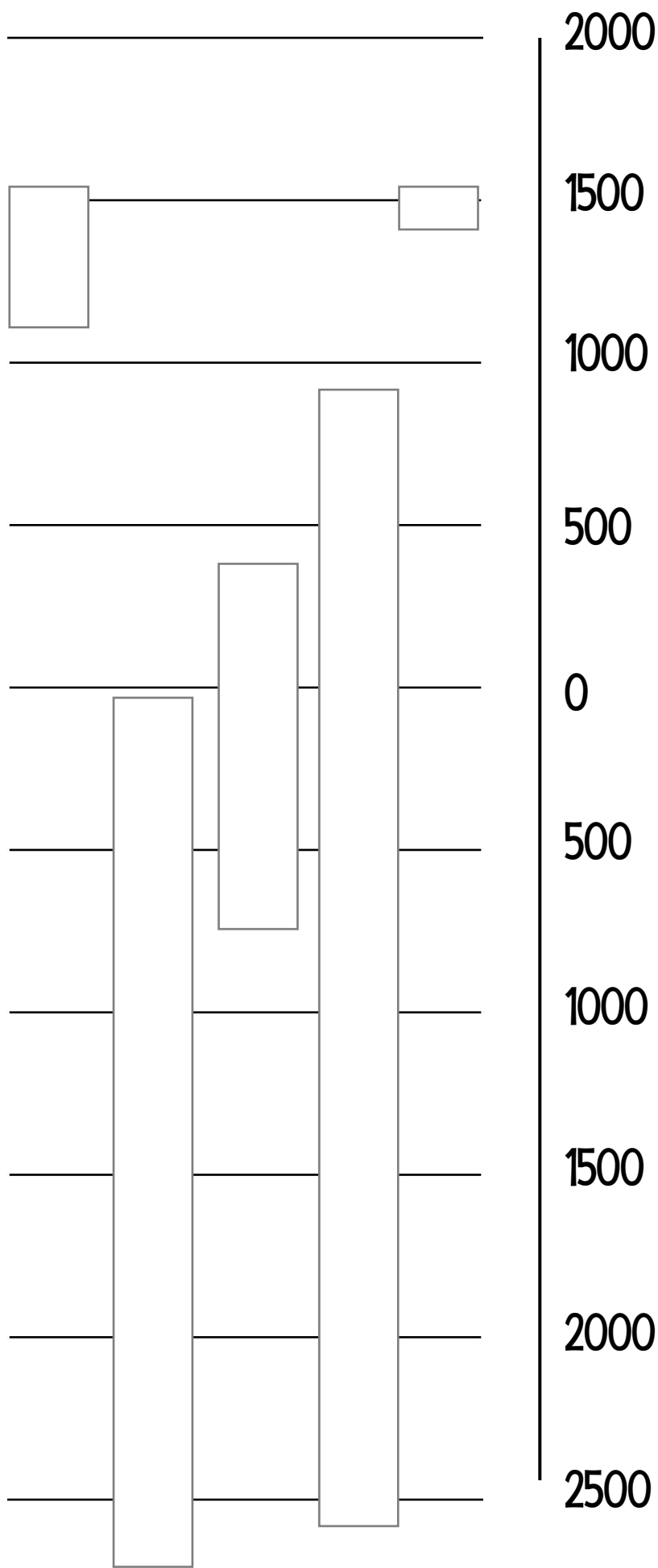




ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS



NAME _____



Color each civilization on the timeline.
Where would you put our current time? Mark it with TODAY on the timeline.

- yellow ☐ Ancient Greek Civilization: 2700 BCE - 30 BCE
- red ☐ Ancient Roman Civilization: 753 BCE - 476 CE
- blue ☐ Ancient Mayan Civilization: 2600 BCE - 900 CE
- green ☐ Ancient Aztec Civilization: 1100 CE - 1521 CE
- orange ☐ Ancient Incan Civilization: 1438 CE - 1532 CE

Explain what BCE means.

Ancient Civilizations

What do you know and what do you wonder?

Ancient Greece

Color to show the Greek Empire



The Greek Civilization

Ancient Greece was made of hundreds of city-states. They were located on a large peninsula in the Mediterranean Sea. This area was not an empire for most of its history. There were over 1500 independent city-states with a common culture. Each of these city-states had its own form of government. They each had their own laws and armies.

Often the city-states didn't get along. They were known to fight against each other. When they did join together, it was to fight against a larger enemy such as the Persian Empire. The one ruler who was able to unite all of Greece was Alexander the Great. The empire he formed stretched into Europe, Egypt, and South-West Asia.

The people of Ancient Greece believed in numerous gods, goddesses, and magical creatures. Temples were built in honor of their gods and people prayed at home. This was a part of their daily lives - they believed that the gods and goddesses controlled the heavens and earth. They wanted to keep them happy so they would not cause trouble.

They believed that the gods lived on a huge mountain range in the middle of the Greek peninsula. Mount Olympus was where a group of 12 powerful gods lived.

You might have heard stories about their gods - some of the most common are Poseidon, Zeus, and Artemis.

Interesting Facts - Greece

Pompeii

Pompeii was an ancient city in the Greek Empire. It was a wealthy town with nice buildings and luxurious private houses located on the coastline. The town was built 130 feet above sea level on a plateau that had been created by previous eruptions of Mount Vesuvius.

Located below a volcano, those who lived in Pompeii were used to small earthquakes. On February 5, 62 CE, a strong earthquake damaged Pompeii. This resulted in needed repairs to buildings. Other buildings were improved. Central Baths were built showing that the city was flourishing instead of struggling to recover after the earthquake. By the year 79 CE, Pompei had grown to a population of 20,000 citizens.

IN 79 CE, Mount Vesuvius began to erupt. It began with pumice rain falling for 18 hours. During this time, most citizens were able to escape, many taking valuables such as jewelry and coins with them. During the night or early the next day, the volcano continued erupting, knocking down and burning structures. This part of the eruption emitted a pyroclastic flow which instantly killed those it came near. The remaining 1,500 people in the town died from the extreme heat and were then buried in ash. By the end of the day, the eruption was over.

pyroclastic

Can you identify the parts of the word and use these to help you understand the meaning?





TOPIC:

NAME

The Roman Empire

Color to show the Roman Empire about 117 BCE



The Roman Empire

The massive Roman Empire started as a tiny village in Italy over 2,500 years ago. This spot was perfect to create a thriving community. The soil was good which meant that crops could easily grow. The area was surrounded by seven hills which provided protection from those who wanted to attack the village. The village was on the Tiber River which offered fresh water for drinking and bathing. Also, this made trading with others easier.

As Rome grew, the Forum became an important part of everyday life. The Forum was the central marketplace at the middle of town. You could find shops with jewelry, shoes, clothes, swords, and much more. Orators gave speeches here so that all knew what was currently happening with the government. Women would wash their laundry along the banks of the Tiber. You would find public baths, apartments, homes, and religious temples.

Romans were social people who spent time visiting friends and relatives. They would meet in the public baths or host a party in their home for friends and others. Often, families lived together in one house. The household might include parents, kids, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. The oldest male was the head of the household. He was responsible for caring for and protecting his family. If you disobeyed his rules, he could throw you out of the house.

As Rome grew, it moved from being a tiny village, to a kingdom, then a republic and finally an empire. The goal of Rome was to conquer the entire ancient world in the area of the Mediterranean. They wanted Rome to be the only important city in the area.

Interesting Facts - Rome

Patricians

These men held all of the _____.
They enjoyed wealth.

Plebeians

These people could become political elite and move up
to the _____ class -
Augustus was born a _____.
These people were considered the _____ class.

Freedmen

Their children were considered _____ citizens of Rome.
They were slaves who had managed to buy their
_____.
Some had owners who had set them _____.
Could not hold _____ office.

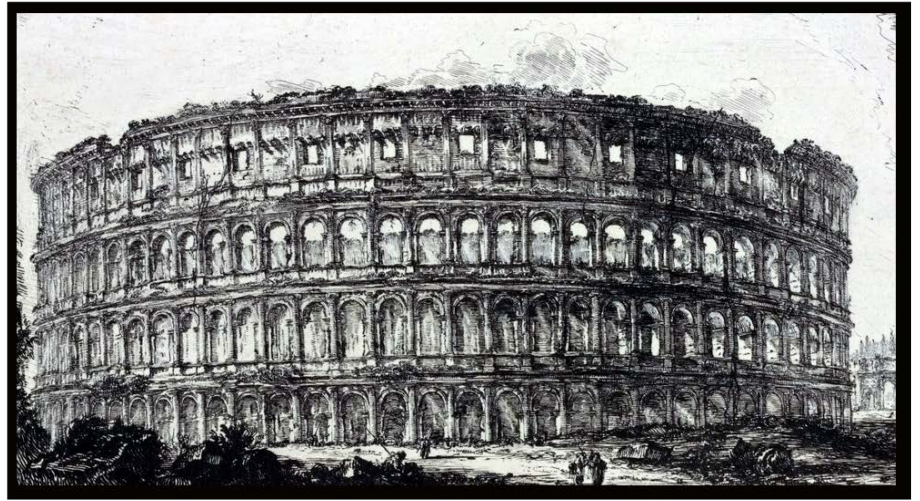
Slaves

They had no rights, they were considered
_____.
They could be beaten or killed for no reason.
These people completed all jobs other Romans
_____ want to do.
They were mostly foreigners captured in _____ or taken
by slavers.
Some romans sold themselves or their children into slavery
to pay off _____.
Some patrician families owned up to 1,000 slaves!

Roman Classes

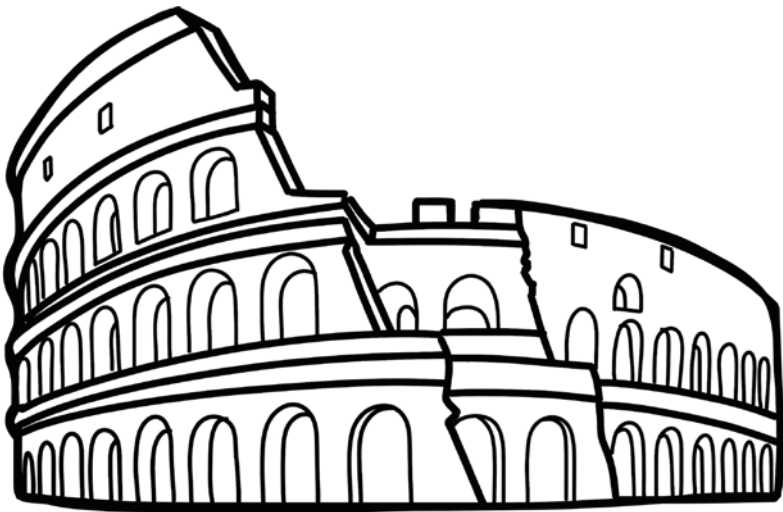
Gladidators

Where is the Colosseum?



The Colosseum - What happened here?

What else
have you
learned?





TOPIC:

NAME

The Incan Empire



Color to show the Incan Empire

The Incan Empire

The Incan Empire was the largest in pre-Columbian American. The center of the empire was Cusco. From 1438 and 1532 the civilization blossomed.

The most unique aspect of the Incan Empire is that it flourished without many of the tools used in other ancient civilizations. They did not use the wheel, draft animals, iron or steel, or a set system of writing. Despite the lack of these advancements, the citizens developed architecture and road networks that spread throughout the empire. They were also able to weave textiles and used a series of knotted strings, known as quipu, for record keeping and communication.

Some cities in the empire, such as Machu Picchu, had even more advanced features. Hydraulics were used to bring fresh water from springs to stone fountains.

For the most part, the empire did not have money or markets. People would exchange good and services. Instead of paying traditional taxes, individuals would complete tasks for the emperor in exchange for access to land and food and drinks at feasts. The people developed a system of redistribution.

The center of the Incan religion was the worship of the sun along with gods and goddesses. The Incas worshipped three main gods - Viraocha, Vinti, and Apu Illapu.

The Incan Empire collapsed when Spanish conquistadors searching for gold arrived on South American land. As they invaded the land, they brought with them smallpox and influenza. It quickly spread among the empire and killed many. It was then easy for the Spanish to conquer the remaining Incans.

Interesting Facts - Incan



TOPIC:

NAME

The Aztec Empire

Color to show the Aztec Empire



The Aztec Empire

The Aztec Empire was an alliance of three city-states that existed from 1325 until the Spanish conquered the people in 1521. They are believed to have come from a northern tribe of hunter-gatherers. At the height of the empire, there were over 140,000 inhabitants.

The Aztecs developed a complex agriculture system. They cultivated the land and used irrigation methods. Their crops included maize, squashes, tomatoes, and avocados. They fished and hunted.

At the height of the empire, most of central Mexico was controlled by the alliance. The rule is known as indirect – the alliance allowed the rulers of the conquered cities to stay in power as long as they paid a semi-annual tribute and supplied military forces when needed. The alliance would then provide protection.

The empire had thriving markets. Every Aztec city and village had its own market at the center of the city. The largest market was in Tlatelolco where 60,000 people visited daily. Visitors could purchase all the items they needed such as tools, medicines, food, pottery, and furs. These were also a place for citizens to socialize.

The Aztecs worshipped many gods. Temples were built in honor of the most important gods. Human sacrifices were made to the gods throughout the empire.

On November 8, 1519 the Spanish landed and changed the future for the Aztec empire. The great emperor Montezuma had been responsible for the expansion and success of the empire. The meeting with the Spanish changed the future for the Aztec people. It was once rumored that the Aztecs were easily overtaken and then quickly died due to the spread of smallpox. Today we know this story is not factual. Read about Montezuma to learn more!

Interesting Facts - Aztec

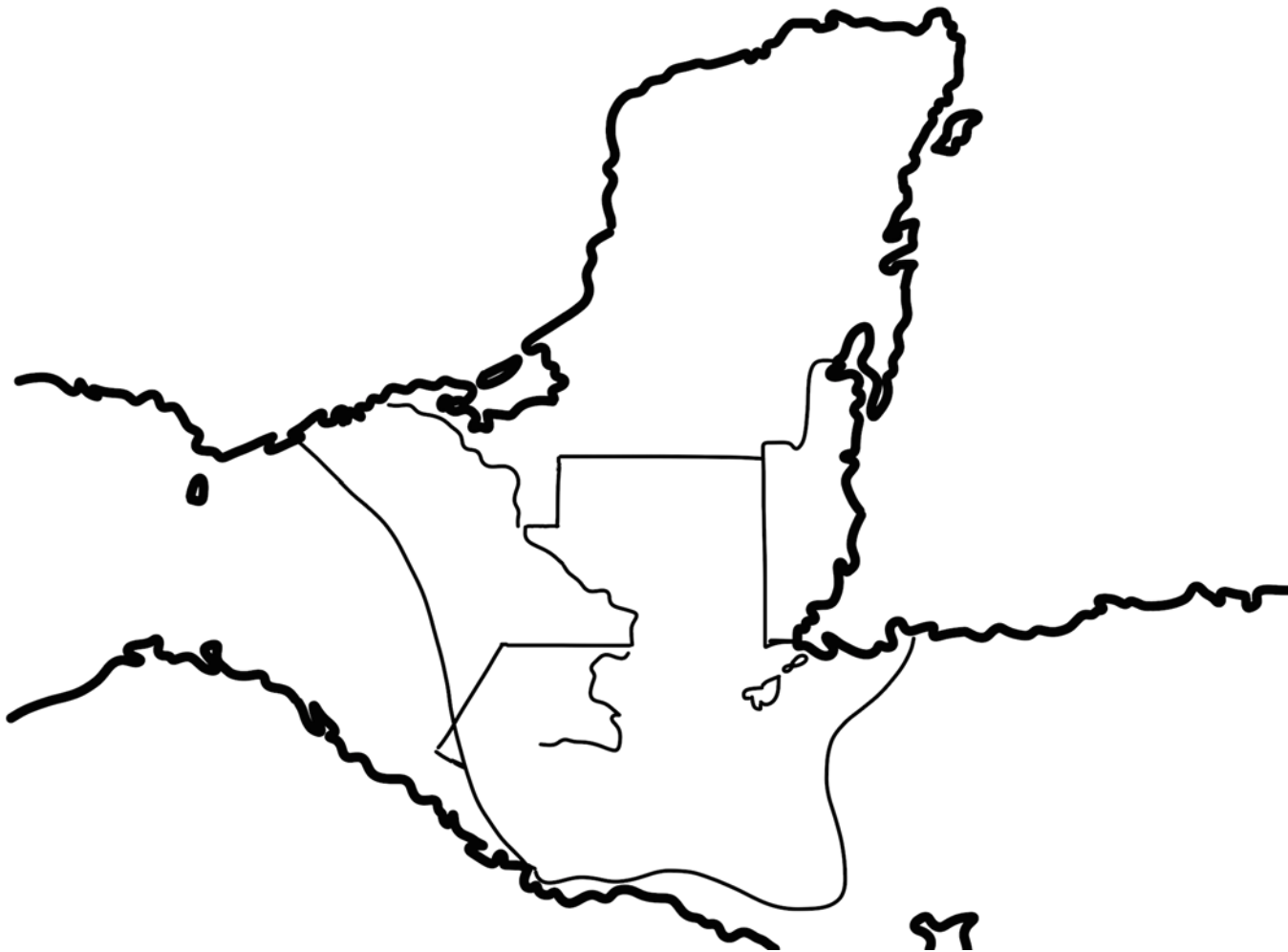


TOPIC:

NAME

The Mayan Empire

Color to show the Mayan Empire



The Mayan Empire

The Mayan Empire was an early Mesoamerican civilization in an area that is now Guatemala, Belize, parts of Mexico, and other places in the region. At first, the early Mayans used just one language. Later, diversity in their language developed and today around 70 Mayan languages have been found.

Throughout different time periods, the Mayans built amazing cities in the jungles of Central America. They are known for the writing system they developed, art, architecture, and the calendar they created. Like other ancient civilizations, they also worshipped gods who they believed could help or hurt them.

The Mayans before 900 CE created many impressive structures - from pyramids to palaces to observatories. They are well known for their architecture. The building material used most often was limestone because it was readily available. Their creations included elaborate royal palaces with many chambers and burial sites. Their observatories were created to help them observe and collect data about celestial objects. The Mayan also built ball courts where they played the Mayan ballgame, the most important sport in their culture.

The Mayan agriculture developments allowed them to form villages where its people could thrive. One of the most important crops was Maize which was used to create a gruel for breakfast, tortillas, or tamales. Another source of food were animals such as deer, turkeys, monkeys, and dogs.

The Mayan civilization collapsed around 800 and 1000 CE. For many year, researchers debated over the reasons. Today, archaeologists have a better understanding. We will learn about this later!

Interesting Facts - Mayan

Mayan Ball Game

What can you learn about the Mayan ball game?

Were all versions of the Mayan ball game the same throughout the empire? Explain your answer.

What were the hazards while playing?

What sometimes happened to the losers?

What do you think?

Why did the Mayan society decline?

What evidence have researchers found?

Why do you think this means?

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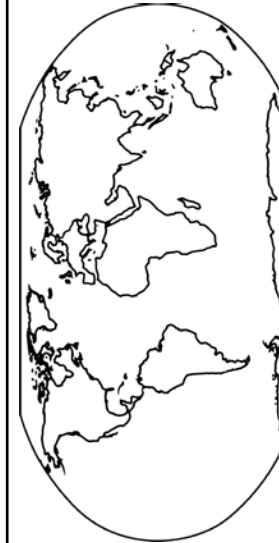


TOPIC:

NAME

Focus on: Geography

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Civilization	Major Cities / Settlements	Major Landforms & Bodies of Water	Location
Ancient Greece			
Ancient Roman			
Ancient Mayan			
Ancient Aztec			
Ancient Incan			

Focus on: The Rise & Fall

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Civilization	What events led to the strength of this civilization?	What events led to the fall of this civilization?
Ancient Greece		
Ancient Roman		
Ancient Mayan		
Ancient Aztec		
Ancient Incan		

Focus on: People

Civilization	Leaders	Other Important People
Ancient Greece Dates:		
Ancient Roman Dates:		
Ancient Mayan Dates:		
Ancient Aztec Dates:		
Ancient Incan Dates:		

Focus on: Government

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Civilization	Type of Government	Important Notes
<p>Ancient Greece</p> <p>Dates:</p>		
<p>Ancient Roman</p> <p>Dates:</p>		
<p>Ancient Mayan</p> <p>Dates:</p>		
<p>Ancient Aztec</p> <p>Dates:</p>		
<p>Ancient Incan</p> <p>Dates:</p>		



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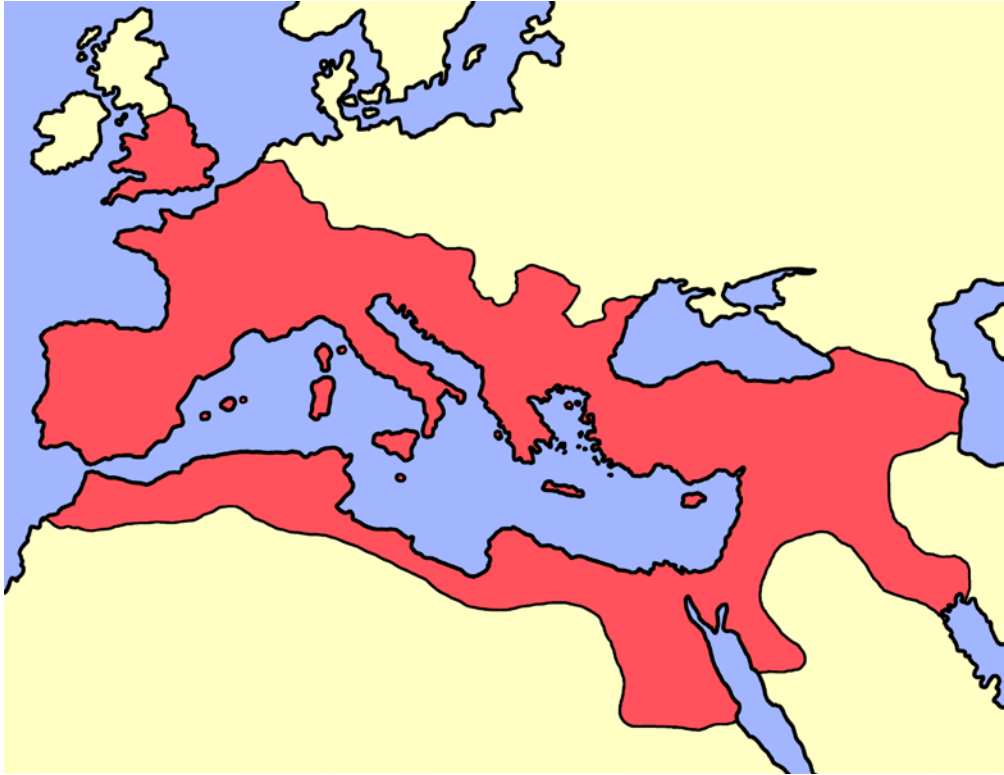
NAME



TOPIC:

NAME

Ancient Rome 117 BCE



Ancient Greece



Ancient Incan Empire



Ancient Aztec Empire



Ancient Mayan Empire

