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civilization
civilization—a group of people living together, often in cities, with the same laws, leaders and form of government, language and writing system (civilizations)
Etruscan
Etruscan—a person who was part of a civilization to the north of Rome who the Romans defeated (Etruscans)
conquer
conquer—to take control of something by force (conquered)
Mediterranean
Mediterranean—the sea around which the Romans created their empire; an important body of water for trade, war, and transportation
Jesus
Jesus—a religious teacher born in the Palestine region of the Roman Empire, also called Jesus Christ; Christianity is based on his teachings.
BC/BCE—Before Christ (Jesus); Before the Christian Era or Before the Common Era
empire
empire—a group of nations or territories ruled by the same leader, an emperor or empress; like a kingdom
historian
historian—a person who writes about history (historians)
Romulus
Romulus—one of the brothers who started Rome according to legend; He killed his brother Remus in a fight over where to build the city and then built Rome and named it after himself.
Remus
Remus—one of the brothers who started Rome according to legend; He was killed by his brother Romulus in a fight over where to build the city.
threat
threat—someone or something that is or may be dangerous
she-wolf
she-wolf—a female wolf
taunt
taunt—to tease or make someone upset by making fun of or being mean to the person
legendary
legendary—well-known or stemming from an old story passed down from long ago that is usually not true
immortal
immortal—able to live forever
Mount Olympus
Mount Olympus—the home of the Roman gods and goddesses
marriage
marriage—the committed partnership between two people to make a home and raise a family
trident
trident—Neptune’s magical, three-pronged spear that was shaped like a fork
rough
rough—not calm
messenger
messenger—someone who delivers messages back and forth
beautiful
beautiful—very pretty, lovely
mission
mission—a very important job
blacksmith
blacksmith—a person who molds hot iron into metal objects
shrine
shrine—a place where people pray to or worship gods and goddesses
priestess
priestess—a woman who performs special duties to honor and communicate with the gods
wisdom
wisdom—knowledge and good judgment gained over time
satyr
satyr—a creature who was half man, half goat and was often found with Bacchus (satyrs)
jealousy
jealousy—wanting what someone else has, wanting complete attention (jealous)
do his mother’s bidding
do his mother’s bidding—follow orders from his mother
prick
prick—to make a small hole with something sharp (pricked)
curious
curious—wanting to know more
depart
depart—to leave
eager
eager—showing great interest in something
confident
confident—sure, certain
laugh
laugh—to giggle or chuckle at something that is funny
aid
aid—to offer help
underworld
underworld—underground place where dead people’s spirits go
beauty
beauty—being pretty
pity
pity—to feel sorry or unhappy for someone
ambrosia
ambrosia—the drink of the gods; Those who drank it became immortal.
Damocles
Damocles—a friend of Dionysius who wanted to be king and have Dionysius’s life
Dionysius
Dionysius—the king of Syracuse, a part of the Roman Empire, and friend of Damocles
envy
envy—to want what someone else has (envied)
banquet
banquet—a large feast to celebrate something
dangle
dangle—to hang loosely (dangling)
conduct
conduct—to carry out, such as an activity
advisor
advisor—a person who offers advice and help
downfall
downfall—a sudden fall from power
republic
republic—a kind of government in which people are elected as representatives to rule
govern
govern—to rule or control (governed, government)
tyrant
tyrant—a ruler who is mean, harsh, and acts without regard for laws or rules
cruel
cruel—mean, causing pain on purpose
monarchy
**monarchy**—a kind of government in which a king or queen rules and selects who will rule after his/her death, usually the oldest son
elect
elect—to choose through votes
(elected)
official
official—a person who holds an office and has authority (officials)
Senate
Senate—a group of men (senators) who were elected to represent the people who voted for them and met to make decisions and pass laws for the Roman republic; American government today also has a Senate (and senators). (senators)
consul
consul—one of two top officials elected to govern the Roman republic (consuls)
honor
honor—a privilege or special opportunity to do something
democracy
democracy—a kind of government in which people are elected as representatives freely and equally by all people of voting age
patrician
patrician—a person from an old, wealthy, powerful family in the Roman republic who held government positions (patricians)
plebeian
plebeian—an ordinary person who was poor and had little education or power in the Roman republic (plebeians)
Founding Fathers of the United States
Hannibal—general from Carthage who led the fight against Rome during the Second Punic War; He won many battles but lost the war.
Carthage
Carthage—city on the coast of Africa that Romans saw as a rival city (Carthaginians, Carthaginian)
rival
rival—an enemy
Punic War
Punic War—one of the three wars fought between the Romans and the Carthaginians over control of the Mediterranean (Punic Wars)
invade
invade—to attack or enter a place in order to take control of it
avalanche
avalanche—snow, ice, and rocks that suddenly fall down the side of a mountain (avalanches)
counter-attack
counter-attack—a military response to an attack
confront
confront—to meet face-to-face (confronted)
victorious
victorious—having won a battle, war, or contest
Julius Caesar
Julius Caesar—a Roman general who conquered many lands and expanded the Roman republic; After serving as a consul, he decided he did not like the way the republic was run. He became a dictator, was then seen as a threat, and was killed.
ransom
ransom—money paid to free someone who has been captured or kidnapped
talent
talent—a unit of measurement in ancient Rome, equal to about 71 pounds, used to measure gold and silver (talents)
barbarian
barbarian—a person who is wild, sometimes violent, and does not behave the right way (barbarians)
establish
establish—to gain recognition for doing something well (established)
revolt
revolt—riot or revolution against a ruler or government
Veni, vidi, vici
[waе-NEE, wee-DEE, wee-KEE]
Veni, vidi, vici [wae-NEE, wee-DEE, wee-KEE]—I came, I saw, I conquered, Julius Caesar’s report about his efforts in Asia
Latin
Latin—the language of ancient Rome
Rubicon
Rubicon—the river Julius Caesar crossed even though the Roman senators warned him not to, leading to a civil war.
traitor
traitor—someone who is not loyal
civil war
civil war—a war between groups within the same country
defeat
defeat—to win a victory over (defeated)
Cleopatra
Cleopatra—the Queen of Egypt; She became queen with help from Julius Caesar.
dictator
**dictator**—a person who rules a country with total control, often in a cruel way; A dictator is not elected. (dictators)
unusual
unusual — rare
conspirator
conspirator—a person who has secretly planned to do something harmful (conspirators)
Augustus
Augustus—Julius Caesar’s adopted son who changed ancient Rome from a republic to an empire by becoming the emperor
tradition
tradition—custom (traditions)
reform
reform—to change the way things are done to make them better (reformed)
magnificent
magnificent—impressive and beautiful
reign
reign—period of time during which a ruler is in charge
Pantheon
Pantheon—a temple built to honor all of the Roman gods
architecture
architecture—design or style of buildings
Colosseum
Colosseum—a huge arena in Rome where people would go to watch events, mainly gladiator fights, that is one of the most recognizable buildings from the Roman Empire.
ruins
ruins—the remains of something that has fallen or been destroyed
chariot
chariot—a cart with two wheels and no seats that is pulled by horses; The driver stands up in the cart to hold the horses’ reins.
Circus Maximus
Circus Maximus—a large stadium where chariot races were held
aqueduct
aqueduct—a stone structure built to carry water from the country into the city (aqueducts)
gladiator
gladiator—a man trained to fight people and animals for entertainment, often resulting in death (gladiators)
crouch
crouch—to stoop or squat (crouched)
vicious
vicious—dangerous, violent, mean
arena
arena—the area of a stadium where the events actually take place
befriend
befriend—to become friends with (befriended)
emperor
emperor—the male ruler/head of an empire
Christianity
Christianity—a religion based on the teachings of Jesus (Christian)
miracle
miracle—an amazing event with no explanation, believed to be an act of God (miracles)
subjects
subjects—people who are ruled by a king or emperor
trial
trial—a meeting in court to determine if someone has broken the law
divine
divine—relating to God
religion
religion—the belief in a god or many gods
faith
faith—strong religious beliefs
Constantine
Constantine—the Emperor who ended the war between the Romans and Christianity; the first Roman Emperor to convert to Christianity
Justinian
Justinian—great emperor of the Eastern Empire who built the Hagia Sophia and organized laws into Justinian’s Code
illegal
illegal — against the law
Byzantium
Byzantium—ancient city in the eastern part of the Roman Empire, later called Constantinople
Constantinople—new name for the city of Byzantium and Constantine’s favorite city, which he wanted to turn into a “new Rome”
pillar
pillar—a column that supports a building or a supporting part of something (pillars)
collapse
collapse—to suddenly fail (collapsed)
Western Empire
Western Empire—the western half of the Roman Empire
Eastern Empire
Eastern Empire—the eastern half of the Roman Empire
Hagia Sophia
Hagia Sophia—a large Christian church with a magnificent dome built by Justinian in Constantinople
scholar
scholar—a person with a lot of knowledge about a certain subject (scholars)
Justinian’s Code
Justinian’s Code—the laws organized and published by Justinian
mosaic
mosaic—art made by putting small pieces of glass or tile together to form a picture (mosaics)
Pompeii
Pompeii—a city in the Roman Empire that was wiped out when Mount Vesuvius erupted
Mount Vesuvius
Mount Vesuvius—a volcano that erupted in AD 79 and wiped out the city of Pompeii
volcano
volcano—a mountain with openings through which melted rock, ash, and hot gases explode
plume
plume—a cloud of smoke that rises into the air in a tall, thin shape
pumice—gray volcanic rock
preserve
preserve—to save in its original form so that it remains the same (preserved)
Horatius
Horatius—a Roman soldier who became a hero by fighting the Etruscan army with two other men so that the other Romans could escape; He jumped in the river during the fight and drifted downstream to Rome.
hew
hew—to cut something with a sharp tool
ye
ye—old fashioned way of saying “you”
foe
foe—an enemy
yon
yon—distant
thou
thou—old fashioned way of saying “you”
armor
armor—a protective covering, usually made of metal, worn by soldiers in battle
valiantly
valiantly—in a brave and courageous manner