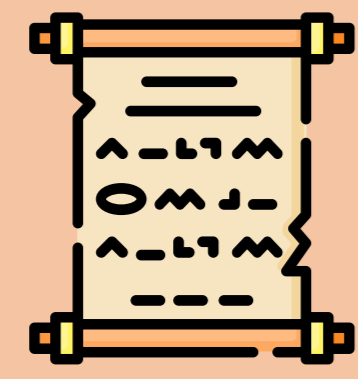


founding of Rome by Romulus

753 BCE



beginning of the Roman Republic

509 BCE



Julius Caesar attempts to invade Britain

55 BCE



death of Julius Caesar and end of Roman Republic

44 BCE



Augustus becomes emperor

27 CE



Nero becomes emperor

54 CE



much of Rome destroyed in fire

64 CE



Mount Vesuvius erupts and destroys Pompeii

79 CE



KEY VOCABULARY

Roman Empire

a huge empire controlled by Rome, lasting between 509 BCE and 476 CE

republic

a government where the people are in charge, rather than a king

Mediterranean

the countries that surround the Mediterranean Sea: these were once dominated by Rome

Latin

the language of Rome, spoken across the Roman Empire

Pompeii

a small town in Southern Italy that was totally destroyed by a volcano in 79 CE

aqueduct

a stone trough to carry water across the country into Roman towns

gladiator

a person, usually a slave, who was forced to fight while other people watched as a form of entertainment

forum

the centre of Roman public life, with market stalls set up, merchants and traders doing business and politicians speaking to large crowds of listeners

the Roman Empire 117 CE



patricians

the wealthy ruling class who held all of the power

plebeians

all the other citizens of Rome were plebeians: plebeians were the farmers, craftsmen, laborers and soldiers of Rome

slaves

enslaved people were not considered citizens: they often did manual or domestic work