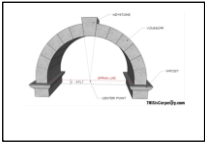


Aim #18: How did the Roman Republic develop?

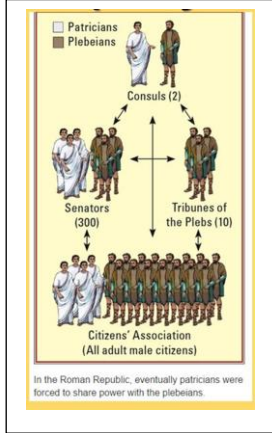
The Roman World Takes Shape

NYS SS Framework: 9.3a. 3b

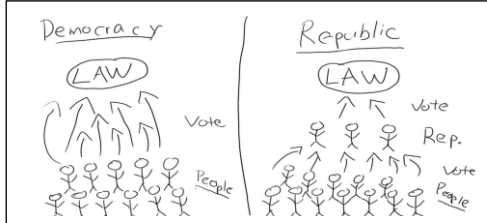
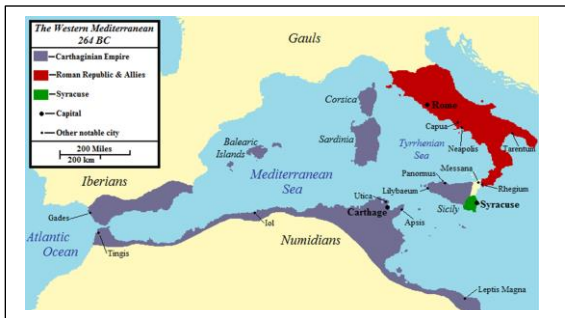


Mini Lecture

- Rome's location on the Italian peninsula, centrally located in the Mediterranean Sea, benefitted the Roman as they expanded. In addition, Italy had wide, fertile plains which supported a growing population. Rome began on seven hills along the **Tiber River**. The **Alps** Mountains kept invaders out from the North.
- The Romans shared the Italian peninsula with Greek colonists. (adapted Greek alphabet & gods) & with the **Etruscans**. The Etruscans ruled most of central Italy for a time. The Romans admired them. They adapted the Etruscan alphabet. They also studied Etruscan engineering (arch) & gladiators.
- In 509 B.C., the Romans drove out their Etruscan ruler. This marks the founding of Rome. The Romans then set up a new form of government called a **republic**.
- In a republic, officials are chosen to represent the people. The most powerful governing body in the republic was the **senate**. Its 300 members were **patricians**, or upper-class landowners.
- Each year, the senate nominated two patrician **consuls** to manage the government. In the event of war or other emergency, the senate might choose a temporary **dictator**. During the crisis, he had complete control over the government.
- In the early republic, all government officials were patricians. The **plebeians**, or common people, had very little power. Eventually, however, they acquired the right to elect their own officials, called **tribunes**. The tribunes could **veto**, or block, certain laws they felt would not benefit the plebeians.
- In 450 BCE, **The Laws of the Twelve Tables** were written; 1st written Roman laws for all to see & created order
- Although the senate still dominated the government, the common people had gained access to power & their rights were protected.
- The family was the basic unit of Roman society. Although women were subject to male authority, they did have certain rights.
- Romans also believed in education for all children, regardless of gender or class.
- Religion was also a major feature of Roman society during this time.
- By 270 B.C., Rome's strong army controlled most of the Italian peninsula. The basic military unit was the **legion**. Each legion included about 5,000 citizen-soldiers.
- As the Romans took over new territories, they treated their defeated enemies reasonably. Conquered peoples only needed to accept Roman leadership & follow certain laws. Then they were allowed to keep their own customs & local rulers.



Modern Roman	A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q R S T
Early Latin	A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q R S T
Greek	Α Β Γ Δ Ε Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο Π Ρ Σ Τ
Phoenician	𐤀 𐤁 𐤂 𐤃 𐤄 𐤅 𐤆 𐤇 𐤈 𐤉 𐤊 𐤋 𐤌 𐤍 𐤎 𐤏 𐤐 𐤑 𐤒 𐤓 𐤔 𐤕 𐤖 𐤗 𐤘 𐤙 𐤚 𐤛 𐤜 𐤝 𐤞 𐤟 𐤠 𐤡 𐤢 𐤣 𐤤 𐤥 𐤦 𐤧 𐤨 𐤩 𐤪 𐤫 𐤬 𐤭 𐤮 𐤯 𐤰 𐤱 𐤲 𐤳 𐤴 𐤵 𐤶 𐤷 𐤸 𐤹 𐤺 𐤻 𐤼 𐤽 𐤾 𐤿



summary: The Early Republic

- Romans want to prevent one person from gaining too much power.
- Romans set up republic in 509 B.C.
- All government officials are patricians. Plebeians have little power.
- Plebeians demanded written laws. Plebeians win right to choose their own officials. Plebeian officials have right to veto laws that harm them. Plebeians can hold any office in the government.
- More than 2,000 years later, writers of the U.S. Constitution use Roman ideas about government.

Romans created a republican form of government between 509 B.C. and 133 B.C.



Review Questions:

- How did geography impact the development & expansion of Rome?
- What was the most powerful governing body of the republic?
- Who were the consuls?

Resources/Documents:

- Topographic map of Rome
- Graphic organizers of Rome's social & political characteristics
- Videos on life in Ancient Rome
- Twelve Tables of Rome

Further Reading: Chapter 5, Section 1

What was the geographic and historical context for the rise of classical civilizations in Rome?

How did different geographic features impact Rome?

Directions: Examine the map below and read the accompanying text and then answer the questions that follow.










Topographic map of the Italian peninsula.

Unlike in Greece, the Italian peninsula, where Rome originated, did not have any mountains to prevent the area from **uniting**. The Greek city states were isolated, but in Rome, three geographic features promoted unity. First, Rome was located on a broad **plain**, a flat area of land. This broad plain supported a growing **population** because it was easy to farm. Second, Ancient Rome was located on the Italian Peninsula which juts into the Mediterranean Sea. A **peninsula** is a piece of land surrounded on three sides by water. Rome's location in the Mediterranean Sea made it easier to travel to foreign lands around the sea like North Africa, to conquer new territories, and to develop trade routes. Through these trade routes, Romans came in contact with lots of different people with whom they traded goods, ideas, and technology. Thirdly, two mountain ranges, **the Alps** and **Apennines** protected Ancient Rome from invasions to the north.

1. Identify one way the geography of Rome was different than Greece.
2. What geographic factors made it possible for the Romans to unite the Italian peninsula?

What led to the rise of the Roman Republic?

Directions: Read the chart and excerpt below, then respond to the questions.

ROMAN MONARCHY		THE ROMAN REPUBLIC: CONQUEST OF MEDITERRANEAN AND ITALY			THE END OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC		
1200 BCE	800 BCE	509 BCE	450 BCE	264-146 BCE	135-58 BCE	58-51 BCE	45 BCE
Etruscan civilization settled north of Rome and later became part of the Republic	Early people settle along the Tiber River and near hills in Italy	The Roman Republic is founded and people select leaders	The Twelve Tables law code is published publicly, standardizing the laws and punishments everywhere in the Republic	Rome fights the Punic Wars against Carthage , conquering land in Northern Africa	Civil War and reforms in Rome due to unemployment and poverty	Julius Caesar emerges as absolute ruler of Rome and conquers lots of land	Julius Caesar is assassinated (stabbed to death) on orders from the Senate
							

Rome was originally a small town on the banks of the Tiber River and grew in size and strength early on, through trade. The location of the city near the Mediterranean Sea provided merchants with an easily navigable waterway on which to traffic their goods. Greek culture and civilization, which came to Rome via Greek colonies to the south, provided the early Romans with a model on which to build their own culture. From the Greeks they borrowed literacy and religion, as well as their architecture. The Etruscans, to the north, provided a model for trade and urban luxury. Early on, the Romans showed a talent for borrowing and improving upon the skills and concepts of other cultures. The Kingdom of Rome grew rapidly from a trading town to a prosperous city between the 8th and 6th centuries BCE.

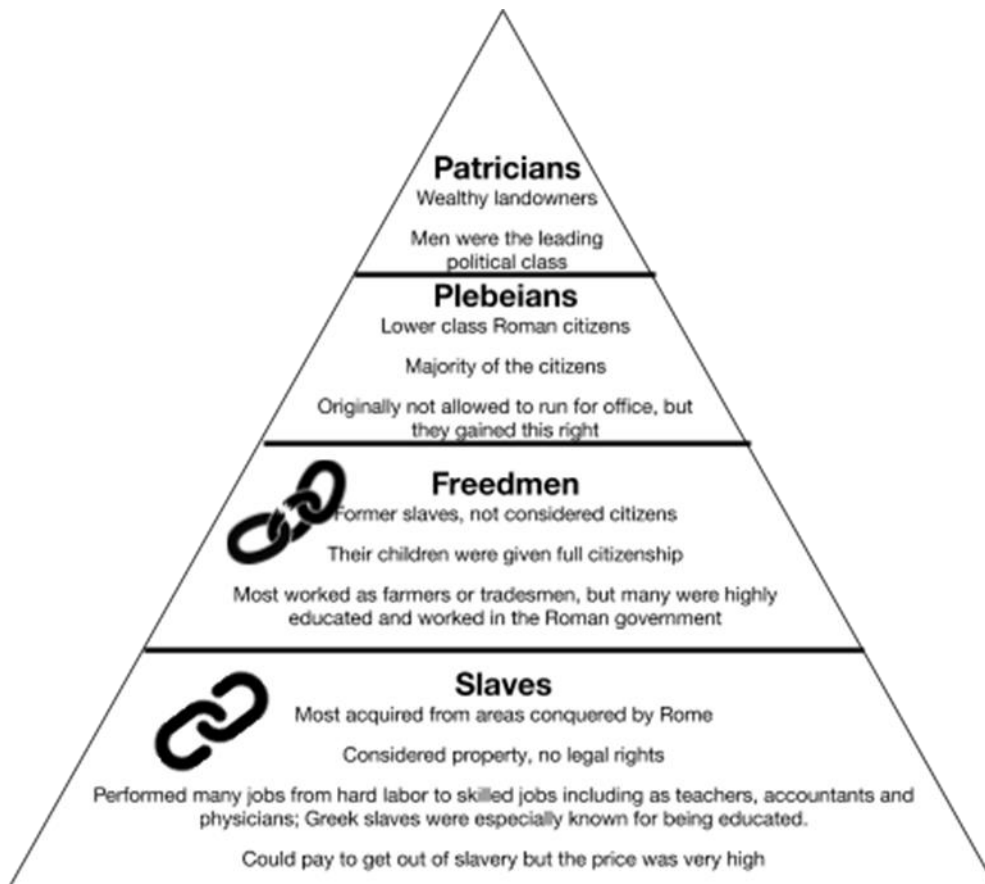
Though Rome owed its prosperity to trade in the early years, it was war which would make the city a powerful force in the ancient world. The wars with the North African city of Carthage (known as the Punic Wars, 264-146 BCE) consolidated Rome's power and helped the city grow in wealth and prestige. Rome and Carthage were rivals in trade in the Western Mediterranean and, with Carthage defeated, Rome held almost absolute dominance over the region. As the Republic of Rome grew in power and prestige, the city of Rome began to suffer from the effects of corruption, greed and the over-reliance on foreign slave labor. Gangs of unemployed Romans, put out of work by the influx of slaves brought in through territorial conquests, hired themselves out as thugs to do the bidding of whatever wealthy Senator would pay them. The wealthy elite of the city, the Patricians, became ever richer at the expense of the working lower class, the Plebeians. In the 2nd century BCE, the Gracchi brothers, Tiberius and Gaius, two Roman tribunes, lead a movement for land reform and political reform in general. Though the brothers were both killed in this cause, their efforts did spur reforms.

1. Where was Rome located?
2. How did Rome grow in size?
3. Which body of water helped merchants trade their goods?
4. From whom did the Romans borrow many of their ideas about literacy, religion, and architecture?
5. What allowed Rome to be a powerful force in the ancient world?
6. What effect did the Punic Wars have on Rome's dominance over other regions?
7. How did the Punic Wars impact the plebeians?
8. How did the Punic Wars impact the patricians?

What were the social and political characteristics of Rome?

Who had power in Rome?

Directions: Examine the image below and answer the questions that follow.



Women in Rome

- considered citizens, but not allowed to vote
- took the social statuses of their father or husband
- more rights for women of higher classes than lower classes

1. What distinguished patricians from plebeians in Roman society?
2. Where did most of the slaves in Rome come from?
3. Could Roman slaves get out of slavery? If so, how?
4. Explain the status of women in Roman society.

What was life like for Roman teenagers?

Directions: Watch each of the short videos below, describe what life was like for teenage Romans, and compare your life to theirs.



A Glimpse of Teenage Life in Rome

Based on the video, describe what life was like for teenage Roman boys.

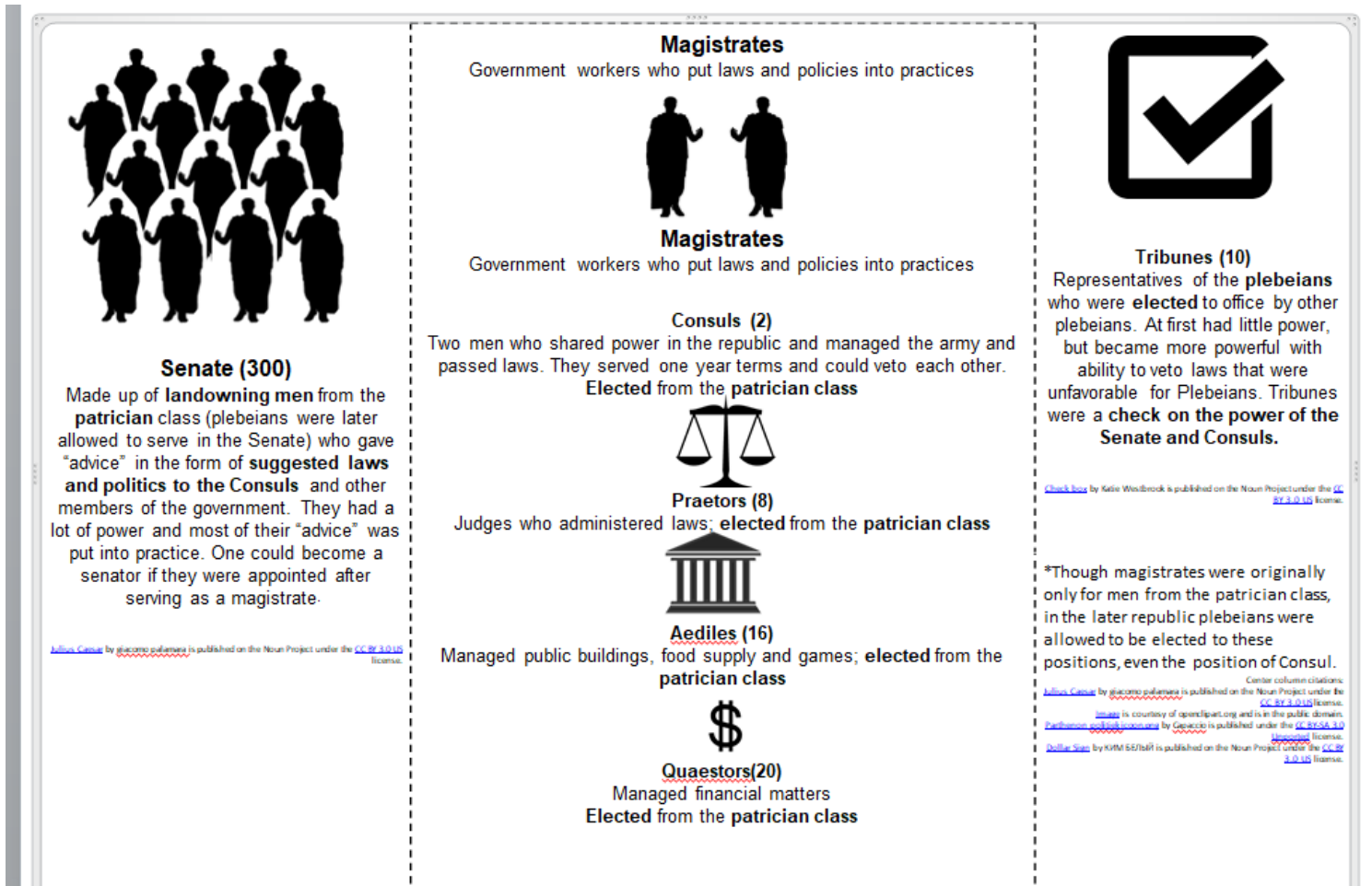


Four Sisters in Ancient Rome

Based on the video, describe what life was like for teenage Roman girls.

What was the Roman Republic's government like?

Directions: Examine the chart below then answer the questions on the next page.

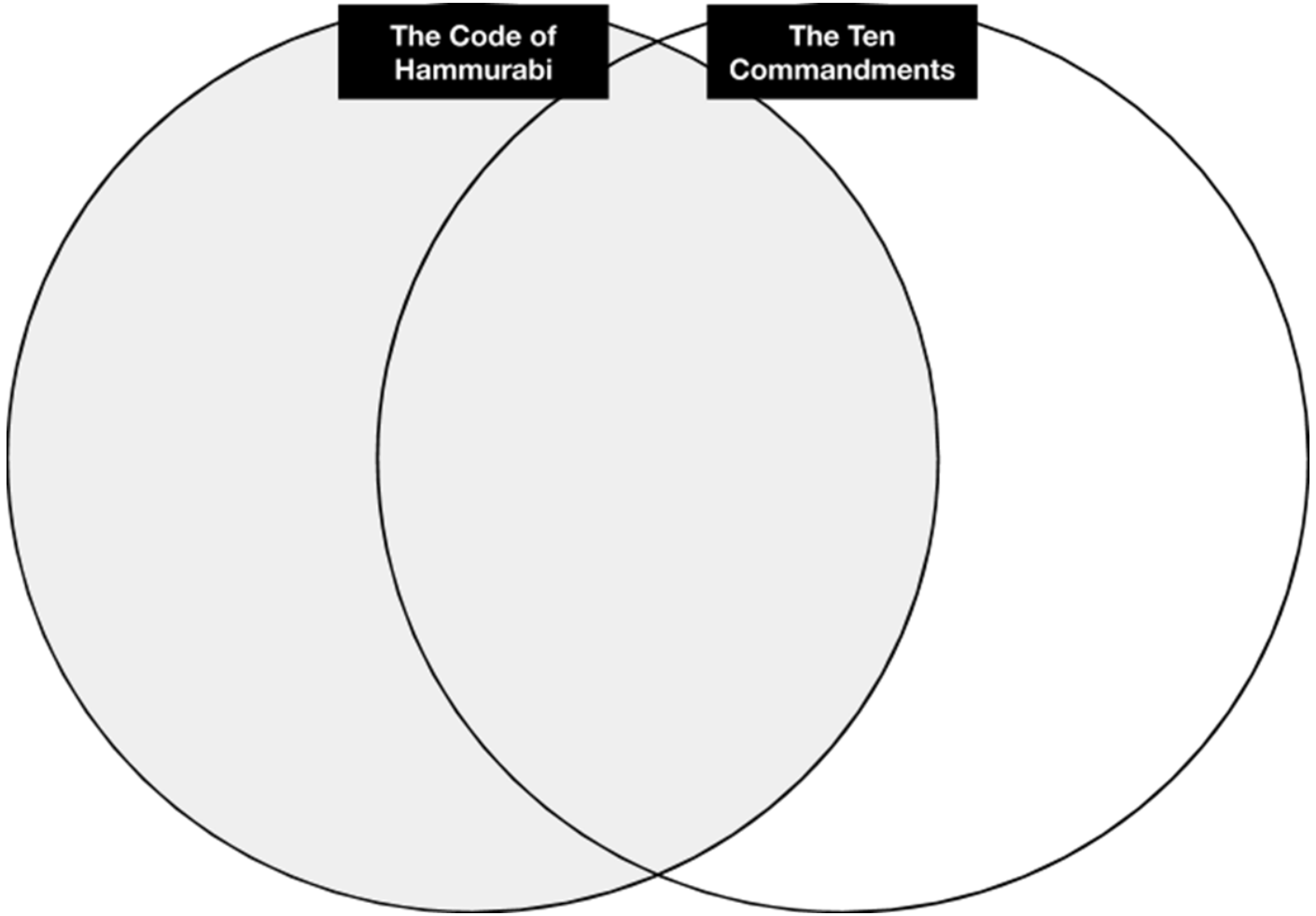


1. Based on the chart, what was the purpose of having magistrates? Who could become a magistrate?
2. What powers did the Consuls have?
3. What role did the Senate play in the Roman Republic? Who could be a Senator?
4. What role did the Tribunes have in the Roman Republic? Who could be a Tribune?
5. Identify two checks on power in the Roman Republic.

Twelve Tables of Rome Close Read

What do law codes have in common?

Directions: After brainstorming as a class or in a small group about The Code of Hammurabi and The Ten Commandments, categorize the information you recalled in the Venn Diagram below.



An Introduction to *The Twelve Tables of Rome*



The Roman Empire at its greatest extent.

In 509 BCE, the Roman Republic was established in Italy. At first, the government was only made up of **patricians**, members of the landholding upper class of Rome. Later, the farmers, merchants, artisans, and traders known as **plebeians** won the right to be elected to the government too. The plebeians demanded that all of the Roman laws be written down and displayed in public so all Romans would know the rules and the punishments for breaking them. As a result, around 450 BCE the government had the laws inscribed on twelve stone tablets and placed in the Roman marketplace, called the Forum. The following are excerpts from the Twelve Tables of Rome.

Pre-Reading Questions: Contextualization

- **Who** wrote The Twelve Tables?
- **When** were The Twelve Tables written?
- **Where** were The Twelve Tables written?
- **Where** were The Twelve Tables located? Why were they located there?
- **Who** was the audience for The Twelve Tables?
- What was the perspective of the author? (Hint: What is the main interest or goal of the author?)
- **Why** were *The Twelve Tables* written?

What can we as historians learn about Roman society from The Twelve Tables of Rome?

The Twelve Tables of Rome

Table VIII: Laws of Injury

2. If one has maimed a limb and does not compromise with the injured person, let there be **retaliation** [revenge]. If one has broken a bone of a freeman with his hand or with a **cudgel**, let him pay a penalty of three hundred coins. If he has broken the bone of a slave, let him have one hundred and fifty coins. If one is guilty of insult, the penalty shall be twenty-five coins.
10. Any person who destroys by burning any building or heap of corn deposited alongside a house shall be bound, **scourged**, and put to death by burning at the stake provided that he has committed the said **misdeed** with **malice** [intention to do harm] aforethought; but if he shall have committed it by accident, that is, by negligence, it is ordained that he repair the damage or, if he be too poor to be competent for such punishment, he shall receive a lighter punishment.
12. If the theft has been done by night, if the owner kills the thief, the thief shall be held to be lawfully killed.
13. It is unlawful for a thief to be killed by day....unless he defends himself with a weapon; even though he has come with a weapon, unless he shall use the weapon and fight back, you shall not kill him. And even if he resists, first call out so that someone may hear and come up.
23. A person who had been found guilty of giving false witness [lying] shall be hurled down from the Tarpeian Rock.

Table IX: Public Law

5. **Treason**: he who shall have **roused** up a public enemy or handed over a citizen to a public enemy must suffer capital punishment.
6. Putting to death of any man, whosoever he might be unconvicted is forbidden.

Table XI: Supplement I

1. Marriages should not take place between **plebeians** and **patricians**.

Table XII: Supplement II

2. If a slave shall have committed theft or done damage with his master's knowledge, the action for damages is in the slave's name.

1. What does this section of the Twelve Tables suggest about Roman society?

"If one has broken a bone of a freeman with his hand or with a cudgel, let him pay a penalty of three hundred coins. If he has broken the bone of a slave, let him have one hundred and fifty coins."

2. **Treason** is addressed. What is **treason**?

3. According to the Twelve Tables, what was the punishment for treason in Rome? Why would a government establish that punishment for treason?

4. What does the law "Putting to death of any man, whosoever he might be unconvicted is forbidden" from Table IX mean?

5. Who are "plebeians" and "patricians?"

6. What can you infer about Roman society based on the first law from Table XI, "Marriages should not take place between plebeians and patricians?"

The Twelve Tables of Rome as a Historical Source

7. If you were a historian researching what life was like for people living in the Roman Republic, would you consider *The Twelve Tables* a reliable source? Why or why not?

8. What other sources might help you better understand what life was like for people living in the Roman Republic?

