

Ancient Rome Tossups

1. Most of these structures were actually buried underground, thereby preserving them. One of the best preserved examples of this type of structure is found in Segovia, Spain. By the third century AD, Rome had eleven of these structures, which had purposes in farming, industry, and public benefit. For the point, name this kind of structure commonly used by the ancient Romans to transport water.

ANSWER: Aqueducts

2. This region underwent a series of Roman conquests, the last of which ended in 51 BC. Roman control of at least part of this territory lasted for five centuries, until the fall of Rome itself. For the point, name this region that was taken over by the Franks during the decline of Rome, and encompasses present day France.

ANSWER: Gaul

3. This Roman emperor once had two floating palaces constructed for himself, and was described as being self-absorbed for initiating such boastful projects. He succeeded Tiberius, his great-uncle, and preceded Claudius, his uncle, to the throne. For the point, name this Roman emperor who once planned to make his horse a consul, and received his name from the Latin *caliga*, meaning "little soldier's boot".

ANSWER: Caligula

4. This ancient Roman structure is approximately 125 feet tall, including its large pedestal. It is famous for its spiral bas relief, which artistically describes the wars between the Romans and Dacians. Although it is neither Doric, Ionic, nor Corinthian in design, it commemorates the victory of a namesake Roman emperor in the Dacian Wars. For the point, name this Roman column which stands to this day.

ANSWER: Trajan's Column

5. This man's military success enabled him to become a consul without meeting the standard requirements for office. He joined the political alliance known as the First Triumvirate, which his marriage to Caesar's daughter helped secure. For the point, name this man whose career was significant in Rome's transition from a Republic to an Empire, and whose name is often pronounced like that of an ancient Roman city buried in ash.

ANSWER: Pompey

6. These structures were often built to commemorate significant public events in ancient Rome. Many were named for Roman emperors after their reign. Examples of these structures include one named after Titus, and another after Constantine. For the point, name this supportive structure which consists of two piers connected by a namesake span.

ANSWER: Arches or Triumphal Arches

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7. This man replaced Diocletian's tetrarchy with the principle of dynastic succession. He called the First Council of Nicaea in 325, at which the Nicene Creed was professed. He also issued the Edict of Milan, which decreed religious tolerance. For the point, name this Roman emperor who was the first to convert to Christianity.

ANSWER: Constantine the Great or Constantine I

8. The Roman name of this people is the origin of the term Tuscany, the region from which they hailed. They contributed such inventions as hydraulics and arches to Roman civilization, and they continued to influence the Romans even after they were assimilated into the Roman Republic. For the point, name this people who preceded the Romans in populating central Italy.

ANSWER: Etruscans

9. This period of time began after the defeat of Mark Antony in the Battle of Actium. The man who initiated it lacked a precedent of successful one-man rule, since the man who preceded him in his position was Julius Caesar. For the point, name this generally peaceful period of time in Roman history which is Latin for "Roman peace".

ANSWER: Pax Romana

10. Three examples of these Roman complexes are ones named after Trajan, Caracalla, and Diocletian. Most Roman cities had at least one, if not many of them. Their name draws from the Greek *thermos*, or "hot". For the point, name these facilities often used by Romans to socialize and maintain good hygiene.

ANSWER: Roman Baths or Thermae

11. This building was commissioned by Marcus Agrippa during the reign of Augustus, and was completed over 100 years later during the reign of Hadrian. It served as a temple to all the gods of ancient Rome. For the point, name this ancient Roman structure known for its large concrete dome with a central opening, or oculus, to the sky.

ANSWER: Pantheon

12. The Antonine Wall, a stone and turf fortification built by the Romans, still exists on this former Roman province. This region was annexed by Claudius in 43 AD. The ruins of the Antonine Wall are less evident, however, than those of Hadrian's Wall to the south. For the point, name this island, now a part of the UK.

ANSWER: Britain or Great Britain or Britannia

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13. This man's renown first came from his military success, a renown that aided him in taking power after the Year of the Four Emperors. He founded the Flavian Dynasty, and was succeeded by his son, Titus. For the point, name this Roman emperor who began the construction of the Flavian Amphitheatre, or the Colosseum.

ANSWER: Vespasian

14. This phrase implies the ignorance of civic duty amongst commoners. Juvenal decried it as a simplistic motivation of Romans. It draws from the usage of the Colosseum, where cheap food and entertainment were given out during Roman times. For the point, recite this phrase which refers to politicians' or emperors' attempts at winning basic public appeal.

ANSWER: "Bread and Circuses"

15. Although this art form was not created by Romans, it was widely used by them. An impressive Roman use of this type of art is found in the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia in Ravenna. It may be added to walls, floors, and ceilings. For the point, name this art form which consists of an assemblage of small pieces of colored glass, stone, or other materials.

ANSWER: Mosaics

16. Petrarch's rediscovery of this man's letters is often credited for initiating the 14th-century Renaissance in public affairs, humanism, and classical Roman culture. This man was a philosopher, politician, orator, and poet, among other occupations. For the point, name this Roman figure, an enemy of Mark Antony and the Second Triumvirate, who was killed in 43 BC.

ANSWER: Cicero

17. It is said that their mother was Rhea Silvia, daughter of Numitor, the king of Alba Longa. When their uncle, Amulius, seized power, he had them abandoned to die in the river Tiber. Luckily, they were found by a she-wolf that suckled them. For the point, name these two brothers, the mythical founders of Rome.

ANSWER: Romulus and Remus

18. The name of this location is the etymological origin of the word "palace" and its cognates in other languages. It stands 40 meters above the Roman Forum, looking down upon it on one side, and upon the Circus Maximus on the other. It is the centermost of a group of seven. For the point, name this most prominent hill of Rome.

ANSWER: Palatine Hill

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19. In the early days of Rome, people of this distinction were of any tribe without advisors to the king. From the 4th century BC, some of the most prominent and wealthy Roman families, though not noble, fell under this status. Shopkeepers, craftsmen, and skilled or unskilled workers belonged to this class. For the point, name this body of free Roman citizens whose name came to mean the common people.

ANSWER: Plebeians

20. The first one of these began when the city of Messana asked for help in dealing with Hiero II of Syracuse. The second one was to a considerable extent initiated by Rome. The third saw the siege and destruction of a certain city after fifty years of relative peace. For the point, name these wars fought between Rome and Carthage.

ANSWER: Punic Wars

21. This man reformed the Roman system of taxation, created official police and fire-fighting services for Rome, and established the Praetorian Guard. He also diminished the political influence of the Senatorial class, favoring the equestrian class. This man's reign initiated the Pax Romana. For the point, name this first Emperor of the Roman Empire.

ANSWER: Augustus or Octavian

22. Because of the change in topography over 2000 years, it is uncertain where exactly this action occurred. This action created an idiom meaning to pass a point of no return. It was considered to be an act of insurrection, and was part of Caesar's Civil War. For the point, name this action involving Julius Caesar, his army, and a namesake river.

ANSWER: Crossing the Rubicon River

23. Before taking the position for which he was most known for, this man was a general from non-patrician family in Hispania. As emperor, he followed up on Domitian's advances on Dacia, for which he was commemorated with a namesake column. For the point, name the second of the Five Good Emperors, whose leadership saw the greatest territorial extent of the Roman empire.

ANSWER: Trajan

24. This time period began with the assassination of Alexander Severus at the hands of his own troops. It saw the Plague of Cyprian break out, and the formation of the Gallic and Palmyrene Empires. Emperors rose to prominence through military ranks, not by linkage to nobility. For the point, name this fifty-year period in which 20–25 claimants to the title of Emperor assumed power over the Roman Empire.

ANSWER: Crisis of the Third Century or Military Anarchy

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25. During much of the span of the Roman Empire, the fate of this people belonged to local communities rather than imperial authority. Most found the practices of this people highly suspect. Some were even brought to the Colosseum to unwillingly fight exotic creatures such as lions. For the point, name this group of people whose persecution by the Romans ended with the Edict of Milan set forth by Constantine.

ANSWER: Christians

26. The origin of this people traces back to a semi-legendary kingdom north of the Black Sea in the 3rd and 4th centuries. After participating in the invasion of Rome, this people established a kingdom in Italy under Theoderic the Great. For the point, name this group of Germanic people, a branch of the Goths, and a relative of the Visigoths, who played an role in the emergence of Medieval Europe.

ANSWER: Ostrogoths

27. It came about from a long social struggle between patricians and plebeians. As a result of its institution, anybody found guilty of cutting down trees belonging to another must have paid 25 donkeys for each tree cut down. It established basic procedural rights for all Roman citizens. For the point, name this ancient legislation that stood at the foundation of Roman law.

ANSWER: The Twelve Tables

28. Although the layout of these organizations varied greatly over time, they were typically divided into 3 groups of 10 maniples, or cohorts. For the most part, they recruited exclusively from Roman citizens. For the point, name these army units typically composed of up to 5,400 soldiers, regarded as the prime ancient model for military efficiency and ability.

ANSWER: Legions

29. Tinia is usually regarded as his Etruscan counterpart. The Romans believed that he granted them supremacy, and consuls swore their oath of office in his name. Atop Capitoline Hill stood a prominent temple built in his name. For the point, name this king of the Roman gods, the god of sky and thunder.

ANSWER: Jupiter

30. It is debated whether he actually compiled the Appendix Vergiliana, but it is known that he wrote the Eclogues and the Georgics. In Dante's *Inferno*, this man is said to forever exist in Limbo, as he lived before the time of Christ. For the point, name this man, traditionally ranked as one of Rome's greatest poets, and the author of the epic *Aeneid*.

ANSWER: Virgil

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31. This type of structure was most commonly found in Roman bath facilities, though it also existed in temples and basilicas. It permitted construction of vaulted ceilings without crossbeams and provided large covered public spaces. The world's largest unreinforced concrete one of these supports the Pantheon. For the point, name this architectural element that resembles the hollow upper half of a sphere.

ANSWER: Dome

32. There is evidence of these men performing in funeral rites during the Punic Wars, and they later became an essential feature of politics and social life in the Roman world. The use of these men reached its peak between the 1st century BC and the 2nd century AD, when they made public appearances in amphitheatres. For the point, name these fighters who fought in such venues as the Colosseum, and whose name comes from the Latin *gladius*, meaning "sword".

ANSWER: Gladiators

33. According to legend, the first 100 men of this distinction were appointed by Romulus, and were referred to as *patres*, or fathers. At least during the times of the Roman Republic, they had wide political influence as they included administrative officials among their ranks. For the point, name this group of ruling class families in ancient Rome.

ANSWER: Patricians

34. This Latin word may refer to a person of eminence, nobility, high status, or simply the first in an order. It is usually translated as "First Citizen", an official title of a Roman Emperor. For the point, name this Latin word and title that specifically refers to the principate Roman imperial system.

ANSWER: Princeps

35. It was during this time that the Battles of Lake Regillus, Cremera, Mons Algidus, and Corbione occurred. At the same time, Rome expanded from the city of Rome itself to throughout the Mediterranean world. Caesar's crossing of the Rubicon River, his appointment as dictator for life, or the Battle of Actium, may be interpreted as the end of it. For the point, name this period in Roman history succeeding the Roman Kingdom, and preceding the Roman Empire.

ANSWER: Roman Republic

36. It is here where one may find ancient graffiti, frescoes, artifacts, and other objects of interest in surprisingly good condition for their age. This site includes temples, theatres, and other buildings that haven't been occupied in over 2000 years. The last year of occupancy was 79 AD. For the point, name this ancient Roman city that was mostly destroyed and buried under ash by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

ANSWER: Pompeii

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37. It was originally used to provide easy access to Roman military bases. It is found in the Roman Forum, as well as in the cities of Brundisium and Apulia. Since its creation, it has been extended, renovated, and rebuilt. For the point, name this strategically important Roman road that draws its name from Appius Claudius Caecus, the man who commissioned it.

ANSWER: Appian Way or Via Appia

38. Its name is believed to be derived from a large statue of Nero nearby. Although a great deal of time and people were lost in its conception, it was associated with greater struggle afterwards. After two emperors had presided over its construction, it was modified by the third emperor of the Flavian dynasty, the dynasty from which this landmark draws its alternate name. For the point, name this largest amphitheatre of the Roman Empire, and the world.

ANSWER: Colosseum or Flavian Amphitheatre

39. Roman influence in this area began with the 246 BC creation of a major military base at Brundisium, which was established to bar Carthaginian ships from this area during the Punic Wars. The Appian Way began in Rome, and ended at the edge of this body of water. For the point, name this sea situated to the north of central Italy.

ANSWER: Adriatic Sea

40. This place is regarded as the birthplace of Republican government, or at least that of Rome. Citizens of ancient Rome originally referred to this place as a marketplace, but over the years it evolved into a multipurpose venue. Eventually, much economic and judicial business transferred away to similar, but more extravagant structures, such as one named after Trajan. For the point, name this Roman landmark, considered the most celebrated meeting place in the world.

ANSWER: Roman Forum or Forum Romanum

41. Initially, these individuals were given vast executive and judicial power, but their roles were later transferred to other offices. Men in this position, though, could summon any three of the Roman assemblies, and presided over them. For the point, name this governmental position of the Roman Republic that Caligula could have appointed two horses to, but only thought of one.

ANSWER: Consul

42. In 443 BC, the responsibility to oversee this was taken from the consuls and given to the censors, an occupation from which the name of this procedure originated. The censor was also tasked with overseeing the government's finances, something made easier by conducting this process. For the point, name this procedure of Roman origin, by which information about members of a given population is systematically acquired and recorded.

ANSWER: Census

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43. A man given this job had to be literate, above 30 years of age, and needed references as well as prior military experience. Contrary to the Latin root of this title, most men in this position commanded 80 men, not 100. For the point, name this high-ranking officer of the Roman army, some of which oversaw cohorts of soldiers forming legions.

ANSWER: Centurion

44. This man became Emperor at the age of sixty-five, after a lifetime of imperial service under Nero and the rulers of the Flavian dynasty. Unfortunately, he died a little over a year later. His greatest accomplishment, successfully transferring power to Trajan, occurred after his death. To be a man as unlucky in life as he was, one may say you need to have some nerve.

ANSWER: Nerva

45. Although a great deal of Roman emperors were assassinated, this group was the culprit of at least eight such assassinations. A reason for this may be the close proximity of this force to the Emperor, as was established by Augustus. For the point, name this elite force that did not always guard the Emperor as its name leads one to believe.

ANSWER: Praetorian Guard