

Objective

- * I will be able to present information on one of the lasting legacies of Ancient Rome by analyzing text and searching for images that relate to Roman Art, Architecture, Engineering, Language, and Law and Justice.

Directions

- * You will be creating a PowerPoint presentation explaining your achievement of Rome.
- * The presentation must include these things:
 - * What is your Achievement? – 2 Points
 - * Three Examples of the Achievement – 3 Points
 - * Two Examples of how your Achievement has influenced the World or you – 2 Points
 - * Needs to include pictures that relate to your Achievement (Minimum 3) – 3 Points
 - * You will be using the information from the text for everything except the photos
 - * One person in the group will be creating the presentation
 - * Send to Showbie once you are done

Roman Art

- * The Romans adopted aspects of other cultures. They modified and blended them into their own culture. This was true of Roman art. The Romans were especially influenced by the art of the Greeks. In fact, historians often speak of “Greco-Roman” art.
- * The Romans were skilled in creating realistic statues. They imitated Greek sculpture, but they were particularly good at making their sculptures true to life.
- * The homes of wealthy Romans were decorated with colorful murals and mosaics. Again, the Romans took existing art forms and made them their own. They painted beautiful frescoes, a type of mural. Frescoes are painted on moist plaster with water-based paints.
- * Roman frescoes often showed three-dimensional landscapes and other scenes. Looking at one of these frescoes was almost like looking through the wall at a scene outside. You have probably seen similar murals in modern restaurants, banks, on the sides of buildings, and in other public places.
- * Romans were also great **patrons**, or sponsors, of art. They paid thousands of painters, sculptors, and craftspeople to create their works. As a result, the Romans left behind many examples to inspire future **generations**.
- * Roman art has continued to influence painters and sculptors. Roman styles were especially popular during the early days of the United States. Americans imitated these styles to give their art dignity and nobility. For example, many statues in the capital, Washington, D.C., reflect a strong Roman influence.
- * The Romans also brought a sense of style and luxury to everyday objects. They made highly decorative bottles of blown glass. For example, a bottle might be shaped like a cluster of grapes. Romans also developed the arts of gem cutting and metalworking. One popular art form was the cameo. A cameo is a raised, carved portrait of a person’s head or a carved scene. The Romans wore cameos as jewelry and used them to decorate vases and other objects. You can find examples of all these art forms today.

Roman Architecture

- * The Romans' greatest contributions to science and technology came in the fields of architecture and engineering. Roman builders learned from the Greeks, Etruscans, and others. Then they added their own genius to take construction in new directions.
- * The Romans learned how to use the arch, the vault, and the dome. A vault is an arch used to support a roof. A dome is a series of vaults that form a high, rounded roof.
- * The Romans were the first to make widespread use of concrete. They made it by mixing broken stone with sand, cement, and water and then allowing the mixture to harden. With the use of concrete, they were able to build much bigger arches than anyone had attempted before. Roman baths and other public buildings often had great arched vaults. The Pantheon, a magnificent temple, now a church that still stands in Rome, is famous for its huge dome.
- * The Romans also invented a new kind of building, a stadium. This was a large, open-air structure. The Romans used concrete to build tunnels into the famous Coliseum in Rome. The tunnels made it easy for spectators to reach their seats. Modern football stadiums still use this feature.
- * The grand style of Roman buildings has inspired many architects throughout the centuries. One Roman innovation that was widely copied is the **triumphal arch**. This is a huge monument built to celebrate great victories or achievements. One modern example is the Arc de Triomphe (Arch of Triumph) in Paris, France. This monument celebrates the victories of the French emperor Napoleon in the early 1800s. Today, it is the national war memorial of France.
- * You can see a Roman influence in the design of many modern churches, banks, and government buildings. A fine example is the Capitol building, the home of the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C. It includes arches, columns, and a dome

Roman Engineering

- * The Romans changed engineering as well as architecture. They were the greatest builders of roads, bridges, and **aqueducts** in the ancient world.
- * About fifty thousand miles of road connected Rome with the frontiers of the empire. The Romans built their roads with layers of stone, sand, and gravel. Their techniques set the standard of road building for 2,000 years. In some parts of Europe, vehicles still drive on freeways built over old Roman roads.
- * The Romans also set a new standard for building aqueducts. They did not invent the aqueduct, but once again, the Romans learned the technique and improved it. They created a system of aqueducts for Rome. The aqueducts brought water from about sixty miles away to the homes of the wealthiest citizens, as well as to the city's public baths and fountains. The Romans built aqueducts in other parts of the empire, as well. The water system in Segovia, Spain, still uses part of an ancient Roman aqueduct. Remains of Roman aqueducts can also be seen in Europe, North Africa, and Asia Minor.

Roman Language

- * One legacy of Rome that affects us every day is the Roman language, **Latin**. We use the Latin alphabet, although Roman Latin used 23 letters, and English uses 26. Many of our words come from Latin. Latin proverbs are still in use. For example, look at the reverse side of a U.S. dime. You will see the words *E pluribus unum*. It is Latin for “out of many, one.” This is the official motto of the United States. The motto reminds Americans of how the colonies joined together to form the United States.
- * Several modern European languages developed from Latin, including Italian, Spanish, and French. English is a Germanic language, but it was strongly influenced by the French-speaking Normans, who conquered England in 1066 C.E. English has borrowed heavily from Latin, both directly and by way of French.
- * You can see the influence of Latin in many words we use today. For example, our calendar comes from the one adopted by Julius Caesar. The names of several months come from Latin. *August* honors Caesar Augustus. *September* comes from Latin words meaning “the seventh month.” (The Roman year started in March.) *October* means “the eighth month” in Latin.
- * Many English words start with Latin prefixes. A *prefix* is a set of letters at the beginning of a word that carries its own meaning. Attaching a prefix to a root word creates a new word with a new meaning. In fact, the word *prefix* is formed this way. It comes from *pre-* (“in front of”) and *-fix* (“to fasten” or “to attach”). The table on the next slide shows other examples.
- * As you can see from the table, other English words come from Latin root words. For instance, *manual* developed from *manus*, the Latin word for “hand.”
- * Finally, we still often use Roman numerals. The Romans used a system of letters to write numbers. Look at the bottom section of the table on the next slide. You may see Roman numerals, such as these, on clocks, sundials, and the first pages of books, like this one. You might also find Roman numerals on buildings and in some movie credits to show the year in which they were made.
- * The Romans combined the seven letters shown in the next slide to express larger numbers. Putting letters *after* another adds the value of the additional letters. For example, VIII means $5 + 3 = 8$ and XX means $10 + 10 = 20$. Putting a letter *before* a letter with a greater value subtracts its value. For example, IV means $5 - 1 = 4$ and IX means $10 - 1 = 9$.

The Roman Legacy in Modern Words and Numerals

Latin Prefixes

Latin	Meaning	English Words
in, im, il	not	inactive, impossible, illogical
inter	among, between	international, Internet
com, co	together, with	communicate, cooperate
pre	before	precede, prepare
post	after, behind	postpone, post-graduate
re	back, again	remember, retreat
semi	half	semicircle
sub	under, less than	submarine
trans	across, through	transportation, transnational

Latin Roots

Latin	Meaning	English Words
anima	life, breath, soul	animal, animated
civis	citizen, community	civic
lex, legalis	law, legal	legislature
manus	hand	manual
militare	to serve as a soldier	military
portare	to carry	portable
unus	one	united
urbs	city	urban
verbum	word	verb, verbal

Roman Numerals

Basic Numerals	Meaning	Other Numerals	Meaning
I	1	II	2
V	5	III	3
X	10	IV	4
L	50	VI	6
C	100	VII	7
D	500	VIII	8
M	1,000	IX	9

Roman Law and Justice

- * Roman law covered marriages, inheritances, contracts, and countless other aspects of daily life. Modern law codes in European countries, such as France and Italy, are partly based on Roman laws.
- * Another legacy of the Romans was their concept of justice. The Romans believed that nature provides a universal law of justice. Under this **natural law**, they believed, every person has natural rights. Romans spread this idea by applying it to all citizens of the empire. Judges in Roman courts tried to make just, or fair, decisions that respected individual rights.
- * Like most people, the Romans did not always live up to their ideals. Their courts did not treat the poor or slaves equally with the rich. Emperors often made bad laws. But the Roman ideals of justice and natural law live on. The U.S. Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution were influenced by Roman ideas about law and government. Like judges in Roman courts, modern-day judges make decisions based on these ideals, as well as on written law. Similarly, many people today believe that all humans have basic rights that no written law can take away.