Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**World History—Ancient Rome DBQ**

**Guiding Question**

To what extent was Roman culture like our own today in the United States?

**Document 1**

**An Outline of Roman Government during the Republic:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Executive Branch** | **Legislative Branch** | **Judicial Branch** |
| The two leaders of the executive branch, the *consuls*, were elected for just one year by the upper class. They supervised the Senate and ordered the Roman army during wars. Other members of the executive branch were the tax collectors, mayors, city police, and other people in positions of power in cities. | The most powerful part of the legislative branch was the Senate. The Senate was a group of about 300 male citizens who owned land. They could tell the consuls how much money they could spend and on what. These men were appointed by the consuls. | The judicial branch had six judges who were elected every two years. They were in charge of deciding punishments that criminals would receive. Their job was similar to the job that judges have today in the United States. |

A. According to **Document 1**, what form of government did early Rome have? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_B. How was the Roman system of government organized? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Document 2**

*Roman Law - The Twelve Tables*

The following document dates from the early Roman Republic (c. 449 BCE). Covering both civil and criminal matters, it was inscribed on large bronze plaques for all to see.

***TABLE IV: PATRIA PROTESTAS: RIGHTS OF HEAD OF FAMILY***

Ø      Quickly kill ... a dreadfully deformed child.

Ø      If a father thrice surrender a son for sale, the son shall be free from the father.

***TABLE XI: SUPPLEMENTARY LAWS***

Ø      Intermarriage shall not take place between plebeians and patricians

C.     What do the laws above reveal about Roman society? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Document 3**

The coliseum was a stadium-like structure, which held deadly gladiatorial combats and wild animal fights free of charge. the emperor and wealthy citizens often used this free entertainment as a way to subdue the angry lower class of ancient Rome.



D. For what types of activities did the Romans use the Coliseum? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Document 4**

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| **At Right: Funerary inscription which reads (in Latin):**  "*To the gods of the [afterworld] ,To Julia Chrestes Junius Phoebion for his wife well deserving it he made it*."  D. This inscription is typical of a grave marker found in a columbarium. What does this grave marker reveal about Roman society?  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Roman%207 |

**Document 5**

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| **At Right: Romans Playing Ball - This fresco shows several young men playing at ball. It is from an underground tomb in Rome, 1st century CE**  E. What does the fresco to the right reveal about Roman society?  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |

**Document 2**

Excerpt from *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* by Edward

Gibbon.

The decline of Rome was the natural and inevitable effect of immoderate

greatness (large size)…The introduction … of Christianity, had some

influence on the decline and fall of the Roman Empire. The clergy

successfully preached the doctrine of patience; the active virtues of society

were discouraged; and the last remains of military spirit were buried in the

cloister; a large portion of public & private wealth was consecrated to the

…demands of charity and devotion …

**2. According to the excerpt from Gibbon, what were two causes for the**

**fall of Rome? Explain both.**

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**Document 3**

This excerpt is from *Uses of the Past* by Herbert J. Muller.

First the economic factor …While the empire was expanding, its prosperity

was fed by plundered wealth and by new markets in the semibarbaric

provinces. When the empire ceased to expand, however, economic progress

soon ceased…. The abundance of slaves led to growth of the *latifundia,* the

great estates that … came to dominate agriculture and ruin the free *coloni*

(farmers) who drifted to the cities, to add to the unemployment there. The

abundance of slaves kept wages low.

**3a. What economic issues does Muller identify as causes for decline?**

**Explain.**

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**3b. How was slavery a cause for the decline of the Roman Empire?**

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