

The City of Rome

1. Was Rome a planned city laid out in a neat grid system like other Roman cities?

No. Rome grew unsystematically with areas of poor and rich housing weaved together with temples and other public buildings..

2. What was the population density of Rome?

Rome with 1,000,000 inhabitants in 8 square miles (128,000 people per square mile) was more densely populated than the modern cities of Los Angeles, Toronto, New York or Calcutta.

3. What was the importance of the city of Ostia?

Ostia was the port city of Rome through which the food and goods needed to service a great city like Rome embarked up the Tiber River. It had a manmade harbor begun by the Emperor Claudius and completed by the Emperor Nero. The goods brought in from all over the Mediterranean were stored in huge warehouses before they journeyed up the Tiber for Rome .

4. Define the following terms?

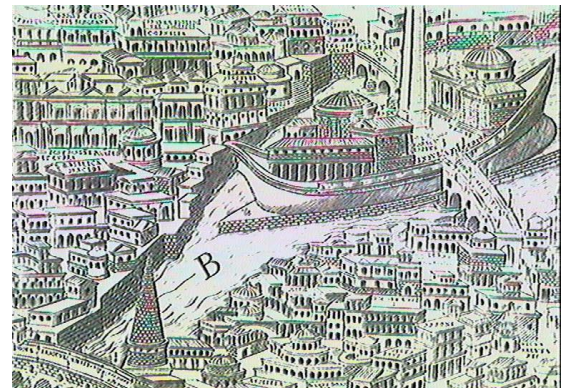
emporiae - riverside markets from where the goods brought up the Tiber from Ostia were sold

horrea - warehouses where the goods were stored

insula Tiberins - an island in the middle of the Tiber below the Capitoline Hill which was made out to look like a ship sailing up the Tiber River and which housed the Temple of Aesculapius and dedicated to healing the sick

rostrum - the ornamental prow of a ship

insulae - block tenement houses



5. Who lived in the "insulae"?

The poor and very poor, such as barbers, shoemakers, butchers, weavers, blacksmiths, vegetable sellers, prostitutes and thieves

6. What was the "Subura"?

A densely populated district north of the Forum, full of stores and "insulae"

7. Who lived on the Esquiline Hill and where was it?

Rich and aristocratic Romans. It was east of the Subura.

8. How was water brought into the city?

By many aqueducts which crossed the city and brought in 200 million gallons of water a day and was supplied to the wealthy through pipes right into their storage tanks and to the poor at public water fountains.



9. How was waste water and sewage dealt with?

Waste water and sewage were drained into the "Cloaca Mazima", an underground sewer and them emptied into the Tiber.

10. What were some of the inconveniences and discomforts of Rome?

Cheap housing for the poor which was liable to collapse, overcrowding, congestion, disease, crime and violence.

Roman Patronage

11. What was Roman Patronage?

A Roman social custom in which wealthy Romans would give help and protection to others who were less rich and powerful than themselves. The arrangement might be between a well off Roman and the poor, a rich Roman with middle class Romans or a very rich Roman with other less rich Romans.

12. What was a "salutatio"?

An early morning meeting between a patron and his clients.

13. What was the "sportula"?

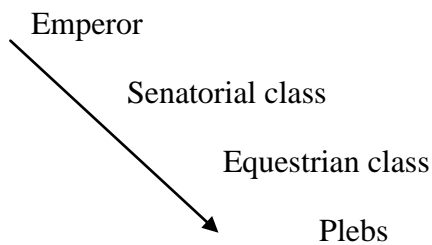
The handout given to clients who came begging at the morning "salutatio". It often consisted of a meager amount of money not even enough to buy a decent dinner.



14. What does the phrase "Caesarem iam salutari" mean?

"The emperor is receiving". During the empire the emperor was the head of all patrons and was called upon by the wealthy who needed his help and protection.

15. What was the social order of Roman citizens during the empire.



*****This is not all you need to know. Re-read the reading.*****