

# Chapter

# 9

# The Rise of Rome

258-259 Roy Rainford/Robert Harding/Getty Images

◀ Ruins of the Forum in Rome, Italy



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

## Where & When?



500 B.C.

451 B.C.  
Romans adopt the Twelve Tables

300 B.C.

267 B.C.  
Rome controls most of Italy

100 B.C.

27 B.C.  
Octavian becomes Rome's first emperor

A.D. 100

A.D. 96  
Rule of the Good Emperors begins

CONTENTS

# The Big Ideas

## Section 1

### Rome's Beginnings

**Physical geography plays a role in how civilizations develop and decline.**

The civilization of Rome began on a river in Italy. Surrounded by hills, its location in central Italy helped it become an economic and military power.

## Section 2

### The Roman Republic

**Systems of order, such as law and government, contribute to stable societies.**

Rome was a republic that developed written laws and a strong government. This helped Rome survive wars and expand into the Mediterranean.

## Section 3

### The Fall of the Republic

**All civilizations depend upon leadership for survival.**

As Rome's territory grew, generals in the army gained political power. Eventually, they seized power and turned the republic into the Roman Empire.

## Section 4

### The Early Empire

**Civilizations with strong economies prosper and grow.**

Augustus and many of his successors helped improve Rome's economy. As Rome prospered, its empire grew larger and wealthier.

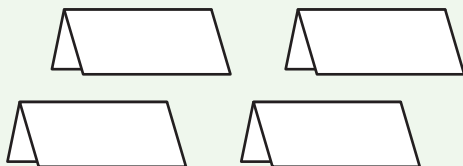


View the Chapter 9 video in the Glencoe Video Program.

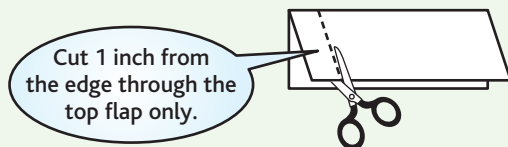
## FOLDABLES™ Study Organizer

**Know-Want-Learn** Make this foldable to help you organize what you know, what you want to know, and what you learn about the rise of Rome.

**Step 1** Fold four sheets of paper in half from top to bottom.



**Step 2** On each folded paper, make a cut 1 inch from the side on the top flap.



**Step 3** Place the folded papers one on top of the other. Staple the four sections together and label the top four tabs: Rome's Beginnings, The Roman Republic, The Fall of the Republic, and The Early Empire.



- **Reading and Writing**
- Before reading the chapter, write under the tabs of your foldable what you already know about the beginning of Rome, the rise and fall of its republic, and the early Roman Empire.
- Also write one question you have on each tab. As you read, summarize what you learn under each tab.

# Get Ready to Read

## Making Inferences



Reading Skill

### 1 Learn It!

When you make inferences, you draw conclusions that are not directly stated in the text. This means you “read between the lines.” You interpret clues and details in the text and draw upon your prior knowledge and experience. Authors rely on a reader’s ability to infer because all the details are not always given. Read this paragraph about Roman law from Section 2.

In many lands, **people at the top of society** often had **special privileges** and did not have to obey the same laws or use the same courts as people lower down. In some places, **people at the bottom of society** did not have any legal rights at all.

— from page 431

Use this Think-Through chart to help you make inferences.

Text	Question	Inferences
people at the top of society	Who were they?	Rich landowners, nobility, aristocracy?
special privileges	What kind of privileges?	Right to own land? Right to vote?
people at the bottom of society	Who were they?	Poor farmers, artisans, enslaved peoples, non-military people, women?

### Reading Tip

Sometimes you make inferences by using other reading skills, such as questioning and predicting.

## 2 Practice It!

Read the excerpt below about the five “good emperors” and pay attention to highlighted words as you make inferences.

They presided over nearly **a century of prosperity**, from A.D. 96 to A.D. 180. **Agriculture flourished, trade increased, and the standard of living rose.**

During this time, the **emperor came to overshadow the Senate** more than ever before. The **five “good emperors” did not abuse their power**, however. They were among the most devoted and capable rulers in Rome’s history.

—from page  
448

### Read to Write

Read the first paragraph of Section 4 under the label **The Emperor Augustus**. Write down inferences about what kind of person you think Augustus was. Then read the biography of Augustus on page 447 to see if your inferences were correct.



▲ Roman coins

Create your own Think-Through chart to help you make further inferences about the “good emperors.” You might want to use a chart similar to the one on the previous page, with the same labels: *Text*, *Questions*, and *Inferences*. Read the rest of page 448 to see if your inferences were correct.

## 3 Apply It!

Inferring can help you understand an author’s point of view. With a partner, read the excerpt from Cicero’s speech on page 440. Discuss what inferences you both made.

# Section

# 1

# Rome's Beginnings

## Guide to Reading



### History Social Science Standards

**WH.6.7** Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures during the development of Rome.

### Looking Back, Looking Ahead

In previous chapters, you learned about the civilization of ancient Greece. Greek ways did not die with the end of Greece's freedom. They were adopted and spread widely by another civilization, Rome.

### Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- Geography played an important role in the rise of Roman civilization. (page 421)
- The Romans created a republic and conquered Italy. By treating people fairly, they built Rome from a small city into a great power. (page 423)

### Locating Places

- Sicily (SIH•suh•lee)
- Apennines (A•puh•NYNZ)
- Latium (LAY•shee•uhm)
- Tiber River (TY•buhr)
- Etruria (ih•TRUR•ee•uh)

### Meeting People

- Romulus (RAHM•yuh•luhs)
- Remus (REE•muhs)
- Aeneas (ih•NEE•uhs)
- Latins (LA•tuhnz)
- Etruscans (ih•TRUHS•kuhnz)
- Tarquins (TAHR•kwihnz)

### Content Vocabulary

- republic (rih•PUH•blik)
- legion (LEE•juhn)

### Academic Vocabulary

- isolate (EYE•suh•LAYT)
- capacity (kuh•PA•suh•tee)
- chapter (CHAP•tuhr)
- status (STA•tuhs)

### Reading Strategy

**Summarizing Information** Use a diagram to show how the Etruscans affected the development of Rome.

Etruscans




## Where & When?



650 B.C.

- c. 650 B.C. Etruscans rule Rome

450 B.C.

- 509 B.C. Rome becomes a republic

250 B.C.

- 267 B.C. Rome controls most of Italy



**WH6.7.1** Identify the location and describe the rise of the Roman Republic, including the importance of such mythical and historical figures as Aeneas, Romulus and Remus, Cincinnatus, Julius Caesar, and Cicero.

## The Origins of Rome

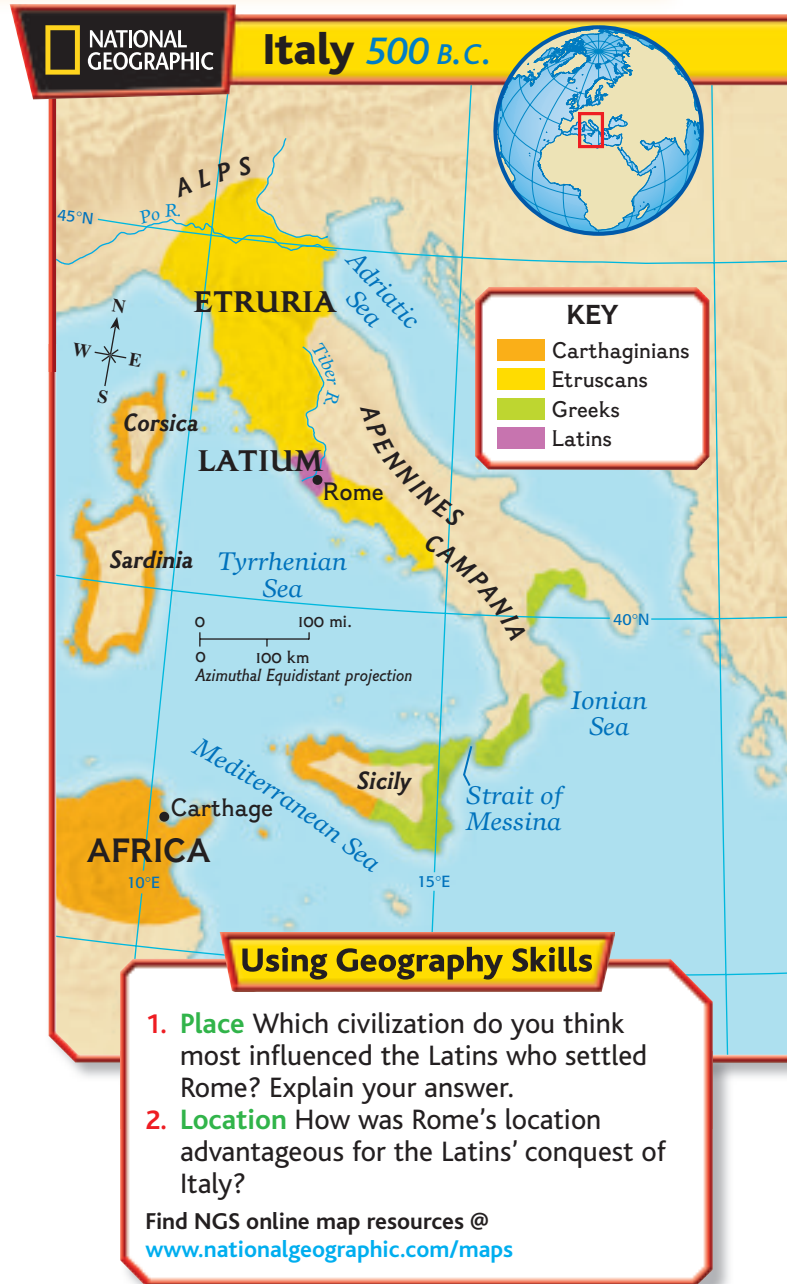
**Main Idea** Geography played an important role in the rise of Roman civilization.

**Reading Connection** If you were founding a new city, what natural features would influence your choice of a building site? As you read this section, think about the choices that the early Romans made.

Italy is in an important location in the middle of the Mediterranean region. It is a long, narrow peninsula with a distinctive shape: it looks like a high-heeled boot extending into the sea. The heel points toward Greece and the toe toward the island of **Sicily** (SIH•suh•lee). Across the top of the boot are the Alps, high mountains that separate Italy from European lands to the north. Another mountain range, the **Apennines** (A•puh•NYNZ), runs all the way down the boot from north to south.

The landscape of Italy is similar to that of Greece, but the Apennines are not as rugged as Greece's mountains. They can be crossed much more easily. As a result, the people who settled in Italy were not split up into small, **isolated** communities as the Greeks were. In addition, Italy had better farmland than Greece. Its mountain slopes level off to large flat plains that are ideal for growing crops. With more **capacity** to produce food, Italy could support more people than Greece could.

Historians know little about the first people to live in Italy. There is evidence, however, that groups from the north slipped through Italy's mountain passes between about 1500 B.C. and 1000 B.C. Attracted by the mild climate and rich soil, a small but steady stream of newcomers settled in the hills and on the plains. One group of Latin-speaking people built the city of Rome on the plain of **Latium** (LAY•shee•uhm) in central Italy. They became known as Romans.



**Where Was Rome Located?** Geography played a major part in the location of Rome. The site chosen for Rome was about 15 miles (24 km) up the **Tiber River** (TY•buhr) from the Mediterranean Sea. The Tiber River gave the Romans a source of water and a way to get to the rest of the Mediterranean world. At the same time, Rome was far enough from the sea to escape raids by pirates.



## Primary Source

### The Aeneid

Two legends describe the beginning of Rome. One says that after Troy was destroyed, Aeneas and the other Trojans went in search of another place to live.



▲ Virgil

"Weeping, I drew away from our old country. . . . I took to the open sea, borne outward into exile with my people, my son, my hearth gods, and the greater gods. . . . Now making landfall under the southwind there, I plotted out on that curved shore the walls of a colony—though fate opposed it—and I devised the name Aeneadae for the people, from my own."

—adapted from Virgil, *Aeneid*

### DBQ Document-Based Question

What type of person do you think Aeneas was to build a new city after having the first one destroyed?

In addition, Rome was built on a series of seven hills. The Romans did this on purpose. The hills were very steep, making it easy to defend the city against enemy attack. Rome was also located at a place where people could easily cross the Tiber River. As a result, Rome became a stopping place for people traveling north and south in western Italy and for merchant ships sailing in the Mediterranean.

**How Did Rome Begin?** Two different legends describe how Rome began. The traditional story is that twin brothers named **Romulus** (RAHM•yuh•luhs) and **Remus** (REE•muhs) founded the city. As babies, the

boys were abandoned near the Tiber River. Rescued by a wolf and raised by a shepherd, they decided to build a city in 753 B.C. The twins quarreled, however, and Remus made fun of the wall his brother was building. In a fury, Romulus attacked Remus and killed him. Romulus went on to become the first king of Rome, the new city he named after himself.

The seeds of Rome are traced even farther back in the *Aeneid*, a famous epic by the Roman poet Virgil. The *Aeneid* is the story of the Trojan hero **Aeneas** (ih•NEE•uhs). He and a band of followers are said to have sailed the Mediterranean Sea after the Greeks captured Troy. After many adventures, the Trojans landed at the mouth of the Tiber. Through warfare and then marriage to the local king's daughter, Aeneas united the Trojans and some of the **Latins** (LA•tuhnz), the local people. He thus became the "father" of the Romans.

Historians are not sure how Rome began. They think that Latins lived in the area of Rome as early as 1000 B.C. They built huts on Rome's hills, tended herds, and grew crops. Sometime between 800 B.C. and 700 B.C., they decided to band together for protection. It was this community that became known as Rome.

**Early Influences** After about 800 B.C., other groups came to Italy. Two of these groups, the Greeks and the **Etruscans** (ih•TRUHS•kuhnz), played a major role in shaping the framework of the Roman civilization.

Many Greeks came to southern Italy and Sicily between 750 B.C. and 550 B.C., when Greece was busily building overseas colonies. From the Greeks, Romans learned to grow olives and grapes. They also adopted the Greek alphabet, and they would eventually model their architecture, sculpture, and literature after the Greeks.



**WH6.7.1** Identify the location and describe the rise of the Roman Republic, including the importance of such mythical and historical figures as Aeneas, Romulus and Remus, Cincinnatus, Julius Caesar, and Cicero.



▲ The Etruscans used a variety of metals, including copper, lead, iron, and tin to make beautiful jewelry like the piece shown above.

Rome's early growth was influenced most, however, by the Etruscans. The Etruscans lived north of Rome in **Etruria** (ih•TRUR•ee•uh). After 650 B.C., they moved south and took control of Rome and most of Latium.

The Etruscans were skilled metalworkers who became rich from mining and trade. They forced enslaved people to do the heaviest work and made their own lives comfortable. Their tomb paintings show men and women feasting, dancing, and playing music and sports. Some murals also show bloody battle scenes, revealing the Etruscans' military achievements.

The Etruscans changed Rome from a village of straw-roofed huts into a city of wood and brick buildings. They laid out streets, temples, and public buildings around a central square. Etruscans also exposed the Romans to a new style of dress, featuring short cloaks and togas—loose garments draped over one shoulder. More importantly, the Etruscan army would serve as a model for the mighty army the Romans eventually assembled.

📖 **Reading Check Explain** How did geography help the Romans prosper?

## The Birth of a Republic

**Main Idea** The Romans created a republic and conquered Italy. By treating people fairly, they built Rome from a small city into a great power.

**Reading Connection** Have you heard the phrase “winning hearts and minds”? It means convincing people to support you rather than just forcing them to obey. Read on to learn how the Romans not only conquered other people in Italy but also won their hearts and minds.

The Etruscans ruled Rome for more than 100 years. Under the Etruscans, Rome became wealthy and powerful. However, the ruling family, called the **Tarquins** (TAHR•kwihnz), grew more and more cruel.

Finally, in 509 B.C., the Romans rebelled. They overthrew the Tarquins and set up a **republic** (rih•PUH•blikk). A republic is a form of government in which the leader is not a king or queen but someone put in office by citizens with the right to vote. In a republic, the citizens have the power. The rise of the Roman Republic marked the beginning of a new **chapter** in Rome's history.



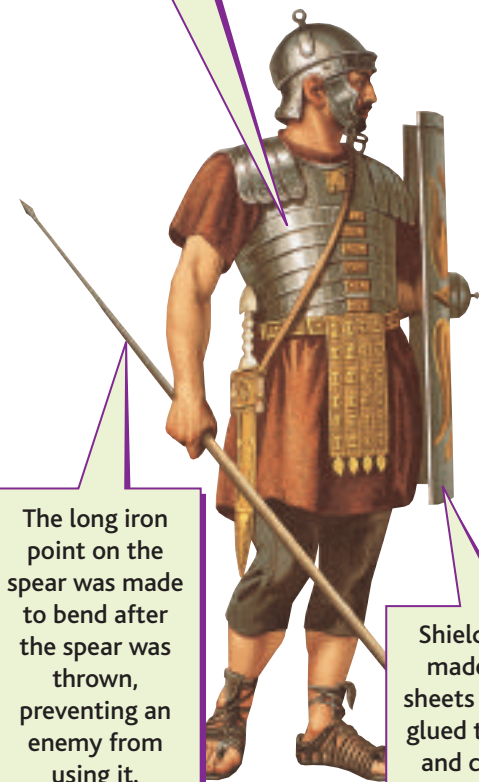
▲ Etruscan murals often showed lively scenes of daily life, such as religious ceremonies or people enjoying music and feasts. **How did the Etruscans become wealthy?**



At the time Rome became a republic, it was still a small city, surrounded by enemies. Over the next 200 years, the Romans fought war after war against their neighbors. In 338 B.C. they finally defeated the other Latins living nearby. Next they attacked the Etruscans and defeated them in 284 B.C. By 267 B.C., the Romans had also conquered the Greeks in southern Italy. With this victory, the Romans became the masters of almost all of Italy.

## Roman Legionary

A soldier's armor was made of iron strips joined by leather ties.



The long iron point on the spear was made to bend after the spear was thrown, preventing an enemy from using it.

Shields were made from sheets of wood glued together and covered with leather or cloth.

At first, the Roman army was made up of ordinary citizens. Later the army contained well-trained professional soldiers and was one of the best fighting forces in the world. **What was a standard, and why did the army carry them?**

**Why Was Rome So Strong?** Rome was able to conquer Italy because the Romans were excellent soldiers. In the republic's early days, every male citizen who owned land had to serve in the army. Discipline was harsh, and deserters were punished by death. The tough discipline helped mold Roman soldiers into fighters who did not give up easily. In addition, they were practical problem solvers.

For example, Roman armies at first fought like Greek armies. Row upon row of soldiers marched shoulder to shoulder, keeping their shields together and holding long spears. Roman generals accurately assessed that this way of fighting was slow and hard to control. They reorganized their soldiers into smaller groups called **legions** (LEE • juhnhz). Each legion had about 6,000 men and was further divided into groups of 60 to 120 soldiers. These small groups could quickly cut through enemy lines.

Roman soldiers, or legionaries, were armed with a short sword called a *gladius* and a spear called a *pilum*. Each unit also carried its own standard—a tall pole topped with a symbol. In battle, standards helped keep units together because the soldiers could see them above the conflict.

**Shrewd Rulers** The Romans were not only good fighters but also smart planners. As they expanded throughout Italy, they built permanent military settlements in the areas they conquered. Then they built roads between these towns. These roads allowed troops to travel swiftly to any place in their growing territory.

To rule their new conquests, the Romans created the Roman Confederation. Under this system, Romans granted full citizenship to some peoples, especially other Latins. They could vote and participate in the government, and they were

treated the same as other citizens under the law. The Romans granted other peoples the **status** of allies.

Allies were free to run their own local affairs, but they had to pay taxes to the republic and provide soldiers for the army. The Romans made it clear that loyal allies could improve their position and even become Roman citizens.

With these policies, the Romans proved themselves clever rulers. They were aware that conquered peoples were more loyal to the government if they were well treated. Rome's generosity paid off. As a result, the republic grew stronger and more unified.

All the same, Rome was not afraid to use force if necessary. If conquered peoples revolted against Roman rule, their resistance was swiftly put down.

**Reading Check** **Describe** How did Rome rule its new conquests?



▲ This mosaic, or picture made from bits of stone, shows a group of Roman legionaries. **How many soldiers made up a legion?**

## Section 1 Review

### History online

**Study Central** Need help understanding Rome's beginnings? Visit [ca.hss.glencoe.com](http://ca.hss.glencoe.com) and click on Study Central.

### Reading Summary

#### Review the **Main Ideas**

- The Romans, a Latin-speaking people, settled the region of Rome on the west side of Italy. The region's geography, as well as Etruscan and Greek ideas, helped Rome grow.
- In 509 B.C. the Romans overthrew Etruscan rule and established a republic. By about 275 B.C., Roman legions had conquered most of Italy.

### What Did You Learn?

1. Where did the Greeks live in Italy, and how did they influence Roman civilization?
2. Describe the two legends that tell of the founding of Rome. Then describe how and when Rome was actually founded.
4. **The Big Ideas** How did geography affect the development of civilization in Greece and Italy? **CA CS3.**
5. **Expository Writing** Write a short essay discussing the reasons Rome was so successful in its conquest of Italy. **CA 6WA2.2**

#### Critical Thinking

3. **Geography Skills** Draw a diagram like the one below. List examples of how geography determined Rome's location. **CA 6RC2.4 CA CS3.**



6. **Reading Making Inferences** After reading this section, what can you infer about the reasons for Rome's success? **CA 6RC2.0**