

Name:

Date:

Class:

Block:

Fall of Rome DBQ Graphic Organizer

How could the fall of Rome be a warning for modern civilizations?

| Document/Sourcing | Questions | Reasons for Decline |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Doc A:</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Type of Source:</p> <p>Date:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How many emperors ruled during this time?2. How many died of natural death? (not being killed through violence)3. What was the most frequent cause of death of these men?4. What does this document say about Rome? | <p>How does this explain the decline of Rome?</p> |
| <p>Doc B:</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Type of Source:</p> <p>Date:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How did Rome growing help the economy of the Roman Empire?2. What did slaves help grow/crate and how did that hurt famers?3. How did slaves make life in cities worse? (There are two reasons)4. What does this document say about Rome? | <p>How does this explain the decline of Rome?</p> |
| <p>Doc C:</p> <p>Title:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. According to the author, what led to the changes in Roman military armor and training techniques?2. What happened to the soldiers when they tried to fight the Goths? | <p>How does this explain the decline of Rome?</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Type of Source:</p> <p>Date:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. What did the soldiers do when they got wounded? 4. What does this document say about Rome? | |
| <p>Doc D:</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Type of Source:</p> <p>Date:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many different groups of people are represented on the map? 2. How many different groups invaded Rome during this time? 3. What does this document say about Rome? 4. What do you think happened to Rome after each time it was invaded? | <p>How does this explain the decline of Rome?</p> |
| <p>Doc E:</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Type of Source:</p> <p>Date:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why were some Romans happy about being conquered by the Huns? 2. What does the person talking to Priscus mean when he says, “The climax of misery is to have to pay...for justice”? 3. Do you think the author’s description is reliable? Why or Why not? 4. What does this document say about Rome? | <p>How does this explain the decline of Rome?</p> |

Document A

Roman Emperors, 235-285 CE

| Emperor | Reign | Cause of Death |
|----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| Maximus | 235-238 | Assassination |
| Gordian I & II(col-rulers) | 238 | Suicide, Killed in Battle |
| Gordian III | 238-244 | Possible assassination |
| Philip the Arab | 244-249 | Killed in Battle |
| Decius | 249-251 | Killed in Battle |
| Hostilian | 251 | Possible Plague |
| Gallus | 251-253 | Assassination |
| Aemilianus | 253 | Assassination |
| Valerian and Gallienus | 253-260 | Died as a slave, Assassination |
| Quintillus | 268-270 | Assassination or Suicide |
| Aurelian | 270-275 | Assassination |
| Tacitus | 275-276 | Possible Assassination |
| Florianus | 276 | Assassination |
| Probus | 276-282 | Assassination |
| Carus | 282-283 | Assassination |
| Numerian | 283-284 | Possible Assassination |
| Carinus | 283-285 | Killed in Battle |

Document B

*Herbert J. Muller was an American historian, academic, government official, and author. His book, *Uses of the Past*, focused on Rome, Greece, the spread of Christianity, and the Byzantine empire on the lessons these empires can teach us.*

First the economic factor... While the empire was expanding, its prosperity was fed by plundered wealth (stealing from those defeated) and by new markets in the semi-barbaric provinces (areas). When the empire ceased to expand, however, economic progress soon ceased (slowed)....

The abundance of slaves led to the growth of the latifundia, a large farm or plantation, 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 likewise kept wages low.

Source: Herbert J. Muller, *Uses of the Past*, 1967

Document C

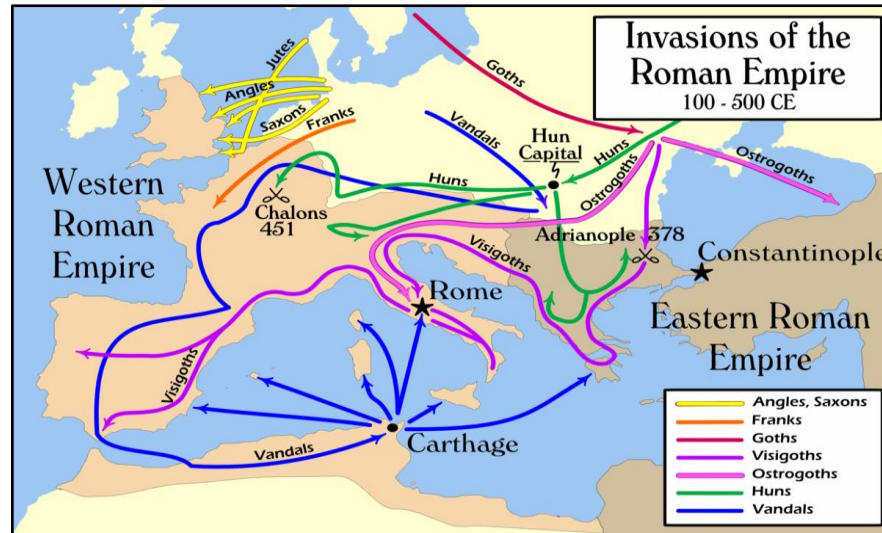
Roman military expert who wrote what was perhaps the single most influential military treatise in the Western world. His work exercised great influence on European tactics after the Middle Ages.

[Before the year 400 CE] foot soldiers wore breastplates and helmets. But when, because of negligence and laziness, parade ground drills were abandoned, the customary armor began to seem heavy since the soldiers rarely ever wore it. Therefore, they first asked the emperor to set aside the breastplates . . . and then the helmets. So our soldiers fought the Goths without any protection for chest and head and were often beaten by archers. Although there were many disasters, which led to the loss of great cities, no one tried to restore breastplates and helmets to the infantry. Thus it happens that troops in battle, exposed to wounds because they have no armor, think about running and not fighting.”

Source: *Concerning Military Matters* by Vegetius (c. 450 CE)

Document D

Between the 2nd and 6th centuries, the Roman empire was under constant attack from other civilizations. Many of these civilizations, after the collapse of Rome, took control of parts of Europe, Africa, and Asia.



Document E

Priscus is reporting a conversation he had with a former Roman citizen whose land had been conquered by the Huns.

[He] ... Considered his new life ... better than his old life among the Romans, and the reasons he gave were as follows: ... The condition of [Roman] subjects in time of peace [is worse than war] ... taxes are very severe, and unprincipled men inflict injuries on other... A [wealthy lawbreaker]... is not punished for his injustice, while a poor man ... undergoes the legal penalty ... The climax of misery is to have to pay in order to obtain justice... [He said] that the laws and constitution of the Romans were fair, but deplored that the governors, not possessing the spirit of former generations, were ruining the state.

Source: An excerpt of a historical text written by Priscus, Roman ambassador to the Huns, 449 CE