

THE ROMAN EMPIRE - VOCABULARY

- **A.D. = Anno Domini** = after the birth of Jesus Christ
- **abandon** = dump, leave
- **ability** = skill, talent
- **according to** = as shown or said by ...
- **admiration** = feeling of respect and liking for
- **admire** = to show your love for something
- **adopt** = to take someone else's child into your home and become its parent
- **advise** = give an opinion, inform
- **afford** = to have enough money to buy something you want
- **agreement** = arrangement, deal
- **ancient** = old
- **appoint** = to choose someone for an official position
- **arena** = stadium, showground
- **argue** = have a quarrel, fight
- **army** = the soldiers that fight for a country in a war
- **arrange** = plan, organize
- **assassinate** = to murder an important person
- **assembly** = meeting
- **astrology** = the study of how the positions of the stars may affect the lives of people and how they behave
- **astronomy** = the study of the stars and the planets
- **attend** = to go to and watch an event
- **audience** = the people who watch a game or a performance
- **B.C.** = before the birth of Jesus Christ
- **ban** = here: not allowed to be in
- **based on** = to use something as a starting point
- **basics** = the most important things
- **basket** = container made of thin pieces of wood that are woven together; used to carry things
- **battle** = one single fight in a longer war
- **blame** = to say it is someone else's fault
- **blessing** = when god protects or helps you
- **boundary** = line that separates two countries
- **business** = organization that allows you to buy and sell goods
- **capital** = largest and most important city in an area
- **care for** = take care of, look after
- **celebrate** = to have a good time; drink and eat with others
- **century** = a hundred years
- **chariot** = a wagon pulled by horses
- **choose** = elect
- **Christianity** = a religion based on the life and beliefs of Jesus Christ
- **citizen** = a person who lives in a city or country and has rights there
- **civil war** = when two groups of people who live in the same area or country fight against each other
- **claim** = to say that something is true
- **cleanliness** = being clean
- **cloth** = material used for making clothes
- **collapse** = break apart, fall down
- **combat** = fight
- **commit suicide** = to kill yourself
- **complete** = finish
- **concrete** = material that consists of sand, cement stones and water
- **conquer** = to get control of a country by fighting
- **consider** = think
- **construction** = building
- **consul** = person who held a high office in ancient Rome
- **convert** = change to another religion
- **cotton** = cloth made from a plant that grows in hot regions and has white hairs on it
- **cropland** = a plant, like rice or wheat, that farmers grow and use as food
- **crucify** = kill someone by nailing them to a cross

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- **date** = sweet brown sticky fruit with a long hard seed inside
- **decline** = downfall
- **defeat** = win against
- **defend** = guard, protect
- **descend** = go down
- **dessert** = sweet food served after a meal
- **destroy** = damage completely
- **downfall** = decline , collapse
- **dye** = color
- **eastward** = to the east
- **economically** = in a way that is related to business and trading
- **educate** = teach
- **efficient** = here: well-organized
- **elect** = to vote for someone to hold an official position in a state
- **elegant** = stylish
- **emperor** = a person who rules over many countries and lands
- **empire** = group of countries that are controlled by a single ruler or king
- **entertainment** = things that you do to make people happy and give them pleasure
- **epic** = very long
- **escape** = get away from
- **especially** = above all
- **ever-growing** = to constantly become bigger
- **expand** = grow, become bigger
- **extend** = reach as far as
- **faraway** = distant, very far from the center of something
- **favorable** = good
- **fertile** = rich
- **few** = not very many
- **focus on** = concentrate on
- **force** = to make someone do something
- **foresee** = to see what will happen
- **fortification** = towers and walls built around the border of a palace in order to protect and defend it
- **found - founded** = start something new
- **freedom** = liberty; being free
- **gain** = get
- **Gaul** = today's France
- **Germanic tribes** = people who lived to the north of the Roman Empire
- **goddess** = female god
- **gossip** = when you talk or chat about people and their private life, without knowing if it is true or not
- **govern** = rule
- **government** = the people who rule a country
- **governor** = a person who rules a territory for the king or emperor
- **gradually** = slowly
- **grant** = give
- **greatness** = how great and successful something is
- **harvest** = when crops are brought in from the fields
- **height** = highest point
- **heir** = a person who will take over something after you die or who will get everything that belongs to you
- **household** = all the people who live in a house
- **hut** = small house
- **in honor** = to show how much you admire and like someone
- **inhabitant** = person who lives in a city or country
- **invade** = to enter a country with an army
- **jewelry** = rings, bracelets and necklaces; things that you wear to make you look more attractive
- **Judea** = old name of the region around Jerusalem
- **judge** = person who decides in court if a person has committed a crime
- **landowner** = a person who was allowed to have land
- **law** = the rules of a country
- **lay** = situated
- **legal** = about the law

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- **leisure life** = free time
- **life expectancy** = the number of years an average person is expected to live
- **linen** = cloth made from the flax plant
- **local** = here: the gods of a certain area
- **located** = found, situated
- **loose** = not tight, free
- **loyal** = faithful, trustworthy
- **luxurious** = expensive, very comfortable
- **main** = most important
- **male** = man
- **Mediterranean** = area between Europe and Africa
- **necessary** = important
- **obtain** = get
- **occupation** = control by a large group of soldiers from a foreign country
- **occupy** = to take control of a place with an army
- **offer** = provide, give
- **official** = person in a high position
- **opposing** = completely different from each other
- **outdoor** = in the open, not in the house
- **outskirts** = outer areas; places that are far away from the centre
- **overcrowded** = too many people live in a small area
- **oversee** = control
- **own** = have, possess
- **pancake** = flat, round cake made out of flour, milk and eggs
- **peaceful** = quiet; not violent
- **peasant** = poor farmer who owns very little or no land at all
- **peninsula** = land with water on three sides
- **permanently** = if something lasts for a longer time
- **persecute** = to treat someone cruelly and badly over a certain time because of their religion or what they think
- **place** = put
- **plains** = large area of flat, mostly dry, land
- **playwright** = dramatist; person who writes a play
- **please** = make someone happy
- **plunder** = to steal things after you have attacked a place
- **poem** = piece of writing in rhymes that shows a person's ideas or how they feel
- **poet** = someone who writes poems
- **popular** = liked by many
- **profit** = money
- **prosperity** = wealth, richness, high living standard
- **proud** = pleased; to be happy about something
- **public** = for everyone to go to
- **put in charge** = control, govern
- **raise animals** = to feed and look after animals so that you can use them as food
- **reach** = stretch down to
- **recruit** = sign up for the army
- **refer to** = to speak about someone
- **regard** = think of someone as
- **reign** = time in power
- **relationship** = here: a love affair
- **relax** = rest
- **reorganize** = reorder, change the structure
- **repair** = fix
- **responsible** = the reason for
- **restore** = save, rebuild, repair
- **right** = something that the law allows you to do
- **rival** = enemy
- **rule** = govern
- **rumor** = information that is passed on from person to person and does not always have to be true
- **rural** = countryside
- **ruthless** = cruel, violent, cold-blooded
- **sacrifice** = to offer an animal or a person to a god
- **sandal** = light shoe that you wear when it is hot; your toes are free

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- **sensible** = reasonable; to make good decisions
- **separate** = divided
- **servant** = someone who you pay to clean your house or prepare meals
- **sewage system** = human waste and used water that is carried away in underground pipes and canals
- **shepherd** = someone whose job it is to take care of sheep
- **silk** = thin, smooth cloth made by material from a silkworm
- **single** = only one
- **slave** = a person who is owned by someone else and who gets little or no money for their work
- **slice** = thin piece
- **sole** = single, only
- **solve** = find an answer for something
- **spectator** = a person who watches an event
- **spin- spun** = to make into thread by turning and twisting material
- **spirit** = soul
- **stab** = to push a knife into someone
- **statesman** = a politician or leader who is respected by many
- **struggle** = fight
- **successor** = person who became emperor after him
- **supplies** = here: necessary things, like food and weapons; you need them to carry out a war
- **support** = approval, help
- **supposedly** = so they say
- **surrounded** = with something on every side
- **survive** = last
- **task** = duty, job
- **territory** = land
- **threat** = danger
- **thunder** = the noise that you hear during a storm; it occurs together with lightning
- **toe** = one of the five moveable parts at the end of your foot
- **trade** = buy and sell things
- **translate** = to change written or spoken words into another language
- **treason** = to betray your country or government
- **tribe** = group of people of the same race, who have the same language and traditions
- **tribune** = an official in ancient Rome , elected by ordinary people to defend their rights
- **triumvirate** = a group of three powerful people who ruled Rome
- **Trojan** = person who lived in Troy, a powerful old city in today's Turkey
- **troops** = soldiers
- **trust** = to believe someone
- **twin** = one of two children born at the same time to the same mother
- **ultimate power** = here: the person who makes the final decisions
- **uncompleted** = not finished
- **under attack** = attacked by
- **unpredictable** = a person who changes his ideas a lot, so that you never know what they really do or think
- **upper class** = richer people who have a higher standard of living and live in better areas
- **variety** = many different kinds of
- **waste** = here: something that is used
- **wealthy** = rich
- **weave** = to make cloth
- **wisdom** = being very wise and intelligent because you have had more experience in life
- **wool** = soft , thick hair of sheep and goats
- **work** = piece of writing
- **worship** = pray to; say words to
- **wrap** = cover