Jonathan Quang 12/8/2014

Global - Mr.Badgley

#31b How did Rome gain control over the Mediterranean and form a republic?

1.  
A republic is a form of government where citizens have the power to vote for their leaders to represent them in governmental affairs.

Patricians are wealthy landowners who held the most power, particularly in Rome.

Plebeians are the common people of a society. In the case of Rome, farmers, artisans, and merchants make up most of the population

The Twelve Tables were the laws written down by a group of ten officials in 451 B.C carved on twelve tablets. This was an important victory in protecting the plebeians because patrician officials would often interpret the law to suit themselves. By writing the laws, common people would understand if what the patrician said was law was actually the law.

2.Cincinattus was a man who had come across hard times, but still managed to be a great person. He was a farmer who lived on a little farm not far from the city of Rome. He had once been rich, and had held a high position in the government, but he had lost all his wealth. Cincinattus was wise and reliable despite his fall from his patrician position. People would often come to him for his advice. When tribe of halfwild men and their allies threatened the city of Rome, so many Roman soldiers set out to kill them. The army was trapped in the mountains by the tribe of halfwild men, but five people had escaped. They told the officials of the trap, and because there was very little in terms of a reserve army, the officials asked Cincinattus for help. They gave him power, knowing that Cincinattus may abuse it. However, he armed several people and set out to rescue the army successfully. When Cincinattus came back, he had the opportunity to make himself king, but gave power back to the original officials, and went back to farming. This story contributed to Roman politics and virtues. The success of Cincinattus as a temporary dictator may have led to the Roman system of government where the republic could appoint a dictator for six months in times of crisis. The story may also show that the Romans valued character and simplicity. Even though Cincinattus may be just a farmer, he was shown to be quite wise and reliable, and led Rome to success. The officials did not pick a patrician, they picked someone they knew was simple and could be trusted.

3.Check attached paper.