**ANSWERS Social War Reading Questions**

Read the web page below and answer the following questions:

[The Social War: When Rome almost imploded - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/ancient-history/anc-social-war-reading/)

1. When did Marius go into self-imposed exile?

Marius went into self-imposed exile around 99 BC after he was ousted from power.

1. What political role did Drusus play?

Marcus Livius Drusus was a tribune of the people in the Roman Republic.

1. What did Drusus want for the Italian allies of Rome?

Drusus sought to grant Roman citizenship to all Italians.

1. What did Drusus hope this would achieve?

This reform was aimed at bringing social and political equality between Rome and its Italian allies.

1. How many equites did Drusus want to add to the Senate?

Drusus proposed to add 300 of the top equites into the Senate.

1. Why was Drusus killed?

Drusus was assassinated because his proposals were violently opposed by the optimates in the Senate.

1. What two tribes led the armed revolt against Rome?

The two tribes that led the armed revolt against Rome were the Marsi and Samnites.

1. What was the name of the city which was chosen as the capital for the rebels?

The city chosen as the capital for the rebels was Corfinium.

1. When did the Social War begin?

The Social War began at the end of 91 BC.

1. Why did Marius return to Italy?

Marius returned to Italy because Rome asked him to lead their soldiers again due to the outbreak of the Social War.

1. What happened when Marius took command?

When Marius took command, the northern Italians were put on the defensive and the main conflict's attention moved to the south.

1. What was the name of the Roman general who took control in the south of Italy?

Lucius Cornelius Sulla was the Roman general who took control in the south of Italy.

1. What did the Lex Julia offer and who did it offer it to?

The Lex Julia offered full Roman citizenship to any Italian ally who had not rebelled and to any Italians who were in revolt at the time but would surrender their weapons immediately.

1. Who returned to the south of Italy and also took up command?

Lucius Cornelius Sulla returned to the south of Italy and took up command.

1. Who was Gnaeus Pompeius and what did he achieve?

Gnaeus Pompeius (also known as Pompey Strabo, and the father of Pompey the Great) commanded the northern armies of Rome and achieved a significant victory by laying a harsh siege on the Italians at the town of Asculum, leading to its eventual capture.

1. What did Sulla achieve in 88 BC?

In 88 BC, Sulla won the office of consul as a result of his efforts in the Social War.

1. Why did the Social War end?

The Social War ended because most Italian towns, recognizing their military revolt was failing, accepted the offer of citizenship from Rome.

1. What happened in the east of the Mediterranean as a result of the Social War?

As a result of the Social War, Mithridates VI, ruler of the eastern kingdom of Pontus, invaded Roman territory in Asia Minor and Greece. This took advantage of Rome's distraction with the Social War, prompting a series of conflicts known as the Mithridatic Wars.

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you learnt in your reading, answer the following question in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*What caused the Social War and how was it resolved?*

The Social War was mainly caused by the discontent of Rome's Italian allies over the lack of political rights, especially their lack of Roman citizenship. These allies had long contributed men and resources to Rome's wars, but were not given the rights and privileges of full Roman citizens. The assassination of the tribune Marcus Livius Drusus, who had proposed reforms to address these issues, sparked the armed revolt. The war was resolved through a combination of military campaigns and political concessions. The Lex Julia, passed in 90 BC, offered Roman citizenship to those who had not rebelled and those who would lay down their arms. Gradually, with the combination of Roman military victories and these political concessions, the revolt was quelled and the Italians integrated into the Roman political system.