The Earth's atmosphere plays a crucial role in regulating temperature, as greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide trap heat from the sun, creating the conditions necessary for life as we know it. However, increasing levels of these gases due to human activities are causing the planet to warm at an alarming rate, leading to climate change with significant impacts on weather patterns, sea levels, and ecosystems.

The ancient Roman Empire, renowned for its engineering prowess, constructed a vast network of roads that connected major cities across Europe, facilitating trade and communication. These roads, often paved with stone, were critical to the empire's military campaigns and played a significant role in the spread of Roman culture.