

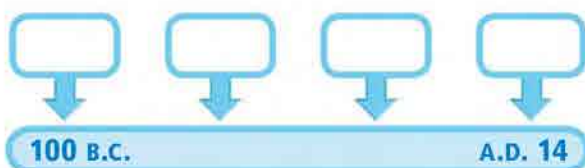
MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Government** Angry poor people, power-hungry generals, and ambitious politicians threatened the Roman Republic.
- 2 **Government** Julius Caesar gained absolute control of the republic but did not rule long.
- 3 **Government** After Caesar was assassinated, Augustus founded an empire that enjoyed peace and prosperity for about 200 years.

TAKING NOTES

Reading Skill: Constructing Time Lines

When you place events in order on a time line, you get a sense of the relationships among events. Create a time line like the one shown below to keep track of the dates and events in Lesson 3.



 Skillbuilder Handbook, page R14



▲ **Imperial Eagle** A Roman soldier carried a bronze or silver image of an eagle raised on a pole, like the one shown in this small figurine, into battle. The eagle represented the strength of the Roman Empire.

Words to Know

Understanding the following words will help you read this lesson:

civic relating to citizenship and its rights and duties (page 443)

They believed it was their civic duty to help solve their society's problems.

campaign a series of military operations that form a part of a war (page 444)

Julius Caesar's campaign against the Gauls lasted from 58 to 50 B.C.

great-nephew the grandson of one's sister or brother (page 446)

Augustus was related to Caesar as a great-nephew.

marble a type of stone that can be highly polished (page 447)

Roman artists and architects used marble to create beautiful sculptures.

Rome Becomes an Empire

TERMS & NAMES

civil war
Julius Caesar
Cicero
Augustus
Pax Romana

Build on What You Know In Lesson 2, you learned about the changes expansion brought to Roman society. Expansion would also change the balance of power in Rome's republican government. These changes would lead to the overthrow of the republic.

Conflicts at Home

1 ESSENTIAL QUESTION What led to conflict in Rome?

As Rome expanded, many wealthy Romans neglected their civic duties. They thought only about gaining even more power and wealth. This increased the differences between rich and poor. As a result, the threat of uprisings grew.

Reform Fails Reformers tried to relieve these problems. They wanted to break up the huge estates and give land to the poor. But the wealthy landowners in the Senate felt threatened. They opposed the reforms and had the reformers killed.

Connect to Today

Colosseum The Colosseum is a lasting symbol of the power of the Roman Empire. Many stadiums built since have been modeled on the Colosseum. ▼



Civil War At the same time, generals who had conquered other lands became ambitious for power at home. They hired poor farmers to serve under them as soldiers. Increasingly, these soldiers shifted their loyalty from the republic to their general. The generals' desire for power led to conflict.

Eventually, civil war broke out. A **civil war** is an armed conflict between groups within the same country. On one side were the generals who supported the cause of the plebeians. On the other were generals who were backed by patricians and senators.

A general named Marius fought for the plebeians, while a general named Sulla fought for the patricians. The struggle went on for years. Finally, in 82 B.C., the patricians won. Sulla took power and became a dictator.

Vocabulary Strategy

The word *civil* is part of a **word family** that includes the words *civic*, *civilian*, and *civilization*. They all come from the Latin root *civis*, meaning "citizen."

REVIEW Who fought in the civil war?

Julius Caesar

2 ESSENTIAL QUESTION Who was Julius Caesar?

After Sulla died, other generals rose to power. One of them was **Julius Caesar**. Caesar was born around 100 B.C. into an old noble family. He was a man of many talents and great ambition. But to achieve real power, he knew he had to win on the battlefield.

Military Leader Caesar first saw military action in Asia Minor—part of present-day Turkey—and Spain. But he proved himself to be a great general in Gaul, the area now known as France.

The Gauls were fierce fighters. But in a brilliant military campaign, Caesar defeated the Gauls and captured the entire region. His conquests won new lands and great wealth for Rome. The victories also won fame and fortune for Caesar.



▲ Caesar In this 19th-century wood engraving, soldiers bow down to Caesar after he won an important battle in 47 B.C. After the battle, Caesar had the following message sent back to Rome: "I came, I saw, I conquered."

Dictator for Life In addition to his military skills, Caesar was also a good politician. He gained a reputation as a reformer who supported the common people. This, plus his military fame, made him popular with the plebeians.

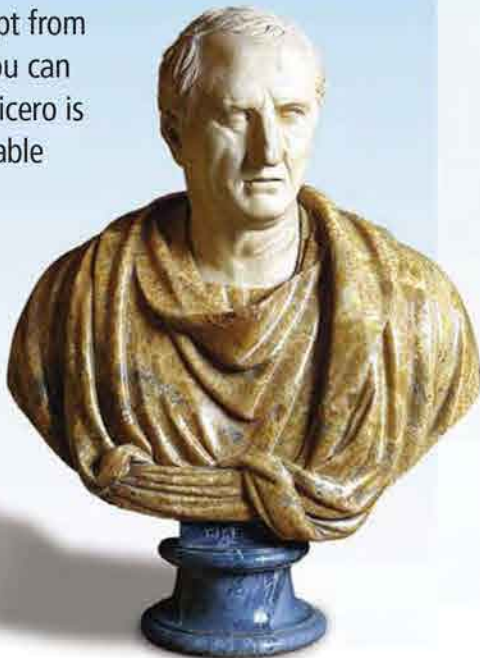
P Primary Source Handbook
See the excerpt from *The Life of Caesar*, page R57.

But Caesar also had enemies. Many powerful Romans, including patrician senators, opposed Caesar. One of his opponents was **Cicero** (SIHS•uh•ROH), a key Roman consul and perhaps the greatest speaker in Roman history. Cicero was a strong supporter of the republic. He distrusted Caesar and the ruler's great desire for power. (You can learn more about the relationship between Cicero and Caesar by reading Cicero's letter in the Primary Source feature below.)

When Caesar returned from Gaul, the Senate ordered him to break up his army. Instead, he led his soldiers into Italy and began fighting for control of Rome. After several years, Caesar emerged victorious. In 46 B.C., he returned to Rome, where he had the support of the people and the army. That same year, the Senate appointed him the sole Roman ruler. In 44 B.C., Caesar was named dictator for life as opposed to the usual six months.

Primary Source

Background: Although Cicero opposed Caesar, he could still be polite to Rome's sole ruler. In 45 B.C., Cicero invited Caesar to be a guest in his home. The ruler arrived with 2,000 men. Cicero described the visit in a letter to a friend. In this excerpt from the letter, you can sense that Cicero is not comfortable with Caesar.



from *Cicero's Selected Works*

A Letter by Cicero

Translated by Michael Grant

In other words, we were human beings together. Still, he was not the sort of guest to whom you would say "do please come again on your way back." Once is enough! We talked no serious politics, but a good deal about literary matters. In short, he liked it and enjoyed himself. . . . There you have the story of how I entertained him—or had him billeted [camped] on me; I found it a bother, as I have said, but not disagreeable.

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

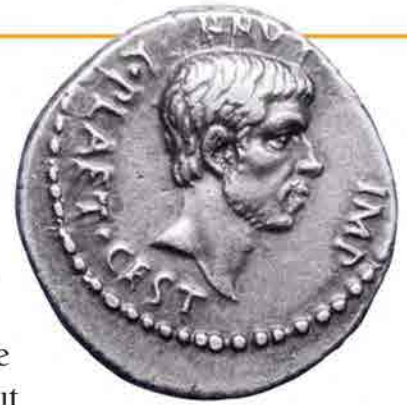
Why do you think Cicero and Caesar avoided talking about politics?

Caesar's Reforms Caesar governed as an absolute ruler, but he started a number of reforms. He expanded the Senate by including supporters from Italy and other regions. He also enforced laws against crime and created jobs for the poor. Despite these reforms, some Romans feared that Caesar would make himself king. Not only would he rule for a lifetime, but his family members would also rule after him. Roman hatred of kings went back to the days of Etruscan rule.

Assassination and Legacy Concern over Caesar's growing power led to his downfall. As you read in *Starting with a Story*, Caesar was assassinated in 44 B.C. by a group of senators. The leaders of the conspiracy were eventually killed or committed suicide.

Historians still disagree about Caesar's rule, just as Romans did at the time. Some say he was a reformer who worked to help the people. Others say he was a power-hungry tyrant. In either case, Caesar's rule and his death would bring an end to the republic.

REVIEW Why was Caesar killed?



▲ **Silver Coin** This coin was issued after Caesar's assassination. One side of the coin (top) shows a profile of one of the assassins. The other side shows a cap of liberty between two daggers. ▼



Emperors Rule Rome

3 ESSENTIAL QUESTION What happened to Rome after Caesar's death?

After Caesar's death, several Roman leaders struggled to gain power. One of these men was Caesar's great-nephew and adopted son, Octavian (ahk•TAY•vee•uhn).

This struggle led to civil war, which lasted for years. The war destroyed what was left of the Roman Republic. Eventually, Octavian defeated his enemies. In 27 B.C., he became the unchallenged ruler of Rome. In time, he took the name **Augustus** (aw•GUHS•tuhs), which means "exalted one," or person of great rank and authority.

Augustus Rebuilds Rome Augustus was the first emperor of Rome, but he didn't use that title. He preferred to be called "first citizen." He restored some aspects of the republican government. Senators, consuls, and tribunes once again held office. But Augustus had power over all of them.

Augustus (63 B.C.–A.D. 14)

As a child, Augustus was weak and sickly. He continued to suffer from illnesses throughout his life. Yet he lived a long life and became the powerful ruler of a great empire.

Despite his enormous power, Augustus liked to present himself as an average citizen with simple tastes. He lived in a small house and slept in a bedroom no larger than a cell. He wore plain robes woven by his wife. His favorite foods were those of the common people—bread, cheese, and olives. Augustus also believed in a strict moral code. He sent his own daughter into exile for not living up to this code.

Augustus once said that his highest honor was to be called the father of his country by the Roman people. But after his death, the Romans worshiped Augustus as a god.



Augustus governed well. He brought the provinces under control and strengthened the empire's defenses. He also began a civil service. A civil service is a group of officials employed by the government. The Roman civil service collected taxes, oversaw the postal system, and managed the grain supply.

Augustus also rebuilt and beautified Rome. He built grand temples, theaters, and monuments. He replaced many old brick buildings with structures in marble. Under Augustus, Rome became a magnificent imperial capital.

The Roman Peace The reign of Augustus began a long period of peace and stability in the Roman Empire. This period is called the **Pax Romana**, or "Roman Peace." The Pax Romana lasted for about 200 years. During this time, the empire grew to its greatest size, about 2 million square miles.

Under Augustus, the Roman army became the greatest fighting force in the world. Around 300,000 men served in the army. They guarded the empire's frontiers. They also built roads, bridges, and tunnels that helped tie the empire together. In addition, Augustus created a strong Roman navy that patrolled the Mediterranean Sea.



Trade in the Roman Empire, A.D. 200



A Strong Economy The Pax Romana continued long after Augustus died in A.D. 14. Many other emperors ruled after Augustus. Some were good rulers, while others were not. But the government begun under Augustus was so effective that the empire continued to do well.

Agriculture and Trade Agriculture and trade helped the empire prosper. Farming remained the basis of the Roman economy, but industry also grew. The manufacture of pottery, metal goods, and glass increased. So did the production of wine, olive oil, and other food products.

The empire fostered economic growth through the use of trade routes. Traders sailed across the Mediterranean Sea to Spain, Africa, and western Asia. They also traveled by land to Gaul and other parts of Europe. Through trade, Rome acquired valuable goods not available at home. Traders brought back grain, ivory, silk, spices, gold and silver, and even wild animals. Much of this trade relied on the quality of Roman roads. It also relied on the security provided by the Roman military.

Currency The Roman economy was also united by a common currency, or money. In Augustus' time, a silver coin called a denarius (dih•NAHR•ee•uhs) was used throughout the empire. A common form of money made trade between different parts of the empire much easier. Traders could buy and sell without having to change their money into another currency.

Rome's expanding economy largely benefited those who were already wealthy. As a result, the division between rich and poor became deeper. You will learn about this division in Lesson 4.

REVIEW What were the contributions of the first Roman emperor?

Lesson Summary

- The results of Roman expansion produced social conflict and civil war.
- Julius Caesar gained power and became a dictator but was then assassinated.
- The reign of Augustus began a long period of imperial rule and peace in the Roman Empire.



▲ Motto SPQR stands for "the Senate and the people of Rome." This was the motto of the Roman Empire.

Why It Matters Now . . .

Rome faced the problems of how to maintain peace, law, and order. Modern governments face similar problems.

3 Lesson Review

Terms & Names

1. Explain the importance of

civil war	Cicero	Pax Romana
Julius Caesar	Augustus	

Using Your Notes

Constructing Time Lines Use your completed time line to answer the following question:

2. How long did Julius Caesar serve as dictator for life?



Main Ideas

3. How did expansion threaten the Roman Republic?
4. How did Caesar gain power?
5. How did Roman government change under Augustus?

Critical Thinking

6. **Summarizing** What events and circumstances brought the Roman Republic to an end?
7. **Understanding Cause and Effect** What factors encouraged economic growth during the Pax Romana?



Homework Helper
ClassZone.com

Activity

Making a Map Add Rome to the world map that you have been working on throughout this book. Outline and label the Roman Empire at its height in A.D. 117.



Life in a Roman Fort

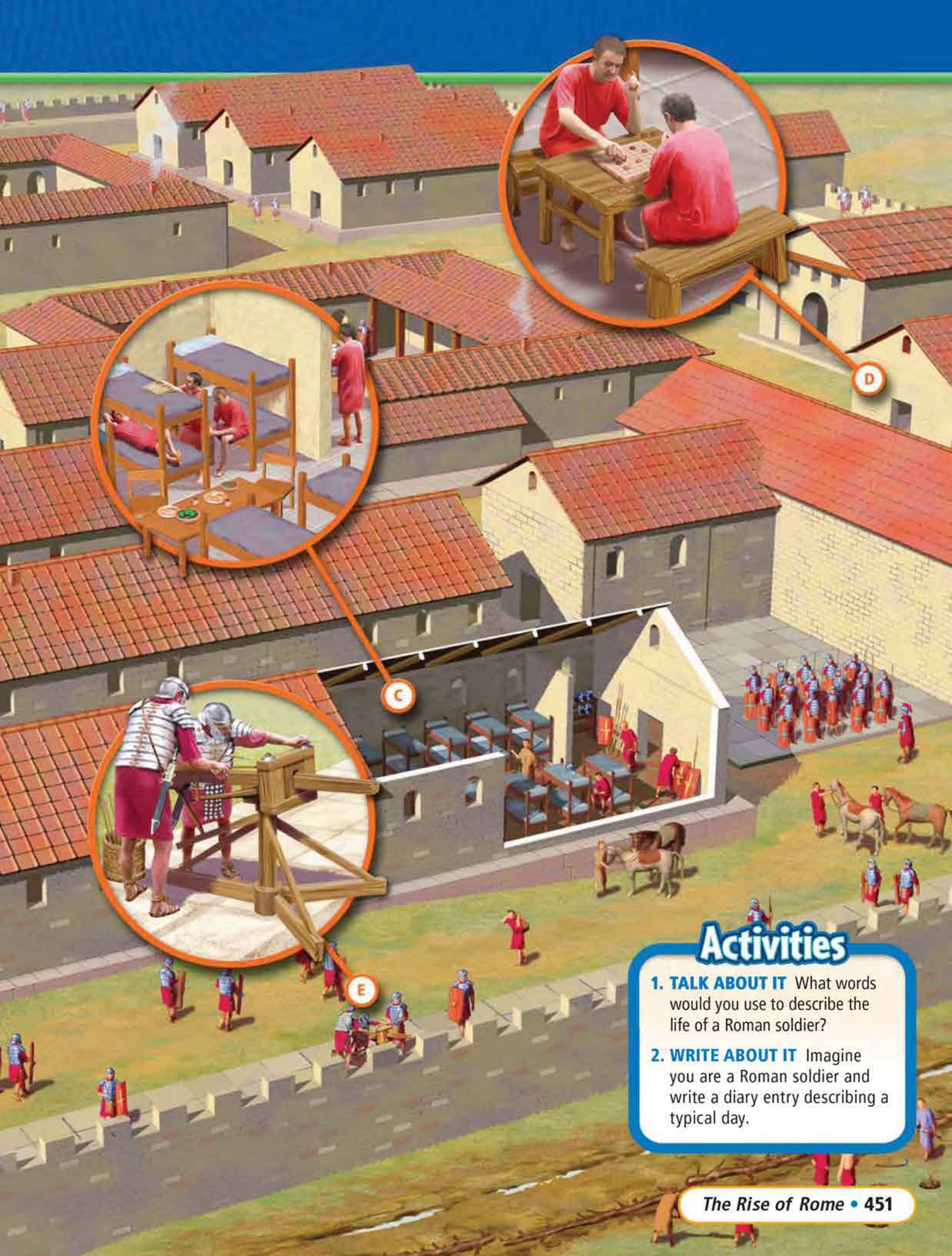
Purpose: To learn about the daily life of a soldier in a Roman fort

The Romans built permanent forts on the frontiers of the empire. These forts helped Rome both defend and expand its empire. Some of the forts, like the one shown here, were located in Britain. Officers called centurions commanded the forts and the ordinary soldiers. Many Roman citizens joined the army but had to sign on for 25 years of service. Conquered peoples were also invited to join. They became Roman citizens when their service ended.

Each fort housed officers and about 500 soldiers. When they weren't on patrol, the soldiers spent much of their time in and around their barracks. Eighty men and one centurion lived in each barracks.

- A Uniform and Equipment** A soldier guarding the fort wore a wool tunic, protective chain mail, an iron helmet, and leather sandals. He carried a spear, a sword, and a shield with his unit's emblem.
- B Centurion's Rooms** A commander had several rooms to himself. Like all centurions, he wore a helmet with a crest that helped his soldiers identify him during a battle.
- C Mess Rooms** Eight men shared a pair of mess rooms. This is where they slept, cooked, and ate.
- D Free Time** The soldiers didn't have much free time, but when they did, they sometimes played games. Board games were popular pastimes.
- E Weapons** Soldiers defended the fort by throwing spears or shooting arrows at the enemy. Sometimes they also used this machine, called a ballista. It could throw steel-tipped arrows about 300 to 400 yards.





Activities

- 1. TALK ABOUT IT** What words would you use to describe the life of a Roman soldier?
- 2. WRITE ABOUT IT** Imagine you are a Roman soldier and write a diary entry describing a typical day.