

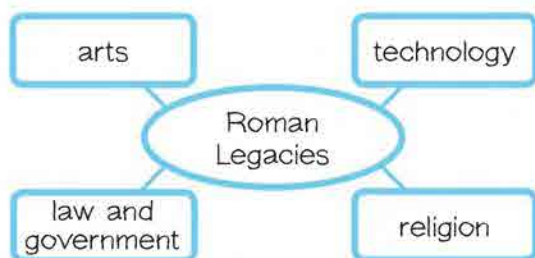
## MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Culture** Roman culture was a unique blend of Roman and Greek ideas.
- 2 **Science and Technology** Roman advances in architecture and engineering have influenced builders throughout history.
- 3 **Culture** The spread of Christianity and the Roman system of law left a lasting legacy for the world today.

## TAKING NOTES

## Reading Skill: Finding Main Ideas

Identifying the main ideas and finding details about those ideas will help you understand the material in Lesson 4. Look for details about Roman legacies, and record the information on a web diagram like the one below.



 Skillbuilder Handbook, page R2



▲ **Bas-Relief** The Roman soldiers seen here are examples of bas-relief sculpture, in which the figures stand out from the background.

## Words to Know

Understanding the following words will help you read this lesson:

**tradition** a belief or practice that is passed from one generation to the next (page 516)

*One culture will often adopt a tradition from another.*

**model** to create based on an example (page 516)

*The scholar could tell that the poem was modeled on the work of another poet.*

**dome** a rounded top or roof (page 517)

*The architect designed several enormous domes for the top of the building.*

**rubble** rough broken pieces of stone (page 518)

*The lowest layer of a Roman road is rubble.*

# The Legacy of Rome

## TERMS & NAMES

mosaic  
bas-relief  
epic  
oratory  
vault  
aqueduct

**Build on What You Know** You have already read that Greek and Hellenistic culture came before the Romans. Early in its history, Rome conquered Greece. Some of the Greek culture influenced Roman culture.

## Roman Culture

- 1 ESSENTIAL QUESTION** How did Roman culture differ from Greek culture?

Roman culture was based on values of strength, loyalty, and practicality. The Romans picked up Greek ideas about the artistic ideal and Greek styles of writing. The result was a culture that blended Roman practicality with elements of Greek idealism and style.

**Art** Roman artists were especially skillful at creating **mosaics**. A mosaic is a picture made from tiny pieces of colored stone or other material. One famous example shows Alexander the Great in battle (see page 405). This mosaic was found at Pompeii and measures 10 by 19 feet. Many mosaics show scenes of daily life.



◀ **Mosaic** This Roman mosaic was discovered in 2000 by archaeologists working in southeastern Turkey.



**Sculpture** Romans learned about sculpture from the Greeks but did not follow the Greek tradition of showing the ideal. Instead, the Romans created sculptures that were realistic portraits of **bas-relief**. In a bas-relief, slightly raised figures stand out against a flat background. See an example of this style on page 514.

**Literature** The Greeks also influenced Roman literature. Roman writers adopted the form of the **epic**, a long poem about a hero's adventures. The *Aeneid* by Virgil is a well-known Roman epic. Virgil modeled his poem on two Greek epics, the *Odyssey* and the *Iliad*. The *Aeneid* tells the adventures of the hero Aeneas, who survived the Trojan War, sailed to Italy, and founded Rome.

The works of the statesman Cicero provide a picture of Roman life and add to our knowledge of Roman history. Cicero's written works include his speeches. Cicero was a master of **oratory**, the art of public speaking. Oratory was an important means of persuasion for Roman politicians.

Romans also wrote about philosophy. For example, Emperor Marcus Aurelius wrote the *Meditations*, a work expressing the ideas of Stoicism. Stoicism teaches that the world was created by a divine plan. Duty and virtue help people to live by that plan.

**Language** Latin, the language of Rome, was spoken across the Western Empire. Over time, Latin evolved into a group of languages called the Romance languages. (The word *romance* comes from the word *Roman*.) Today, Romance languages are spoken in countries whose lands were once ruled by Rome. The chart below shows similarities among Romance languages.

**REVIEW** How did Roman culture influence the languages of Europe?

Latin Origins of Romance Words					
Language	Word				
Latin	pater ("father")	nox ("night")	bonus ("good")	vita ("life")	mater ("mother")
Spanish	padre	noche	bueno	vida	madre
French	père	nuit	bon	vie	mere
Portuguese	pai	noite	bom	vida	mãe
Italian	padre	notte	buono	vita	madre
Romanian	tată	noapte	bun	viață	mamă

## Technology, Engineering, and Architecture

**2 ESSENTIAL QUESTION** How did Roman ideas about architecture and engineering influence builders throughout history?

Greek architecture influenced Roman builders. You've already learned about the Greek building style, with its use of columns, pediments, and graceful proportions. The Romans used these elements but added their own ideas too.

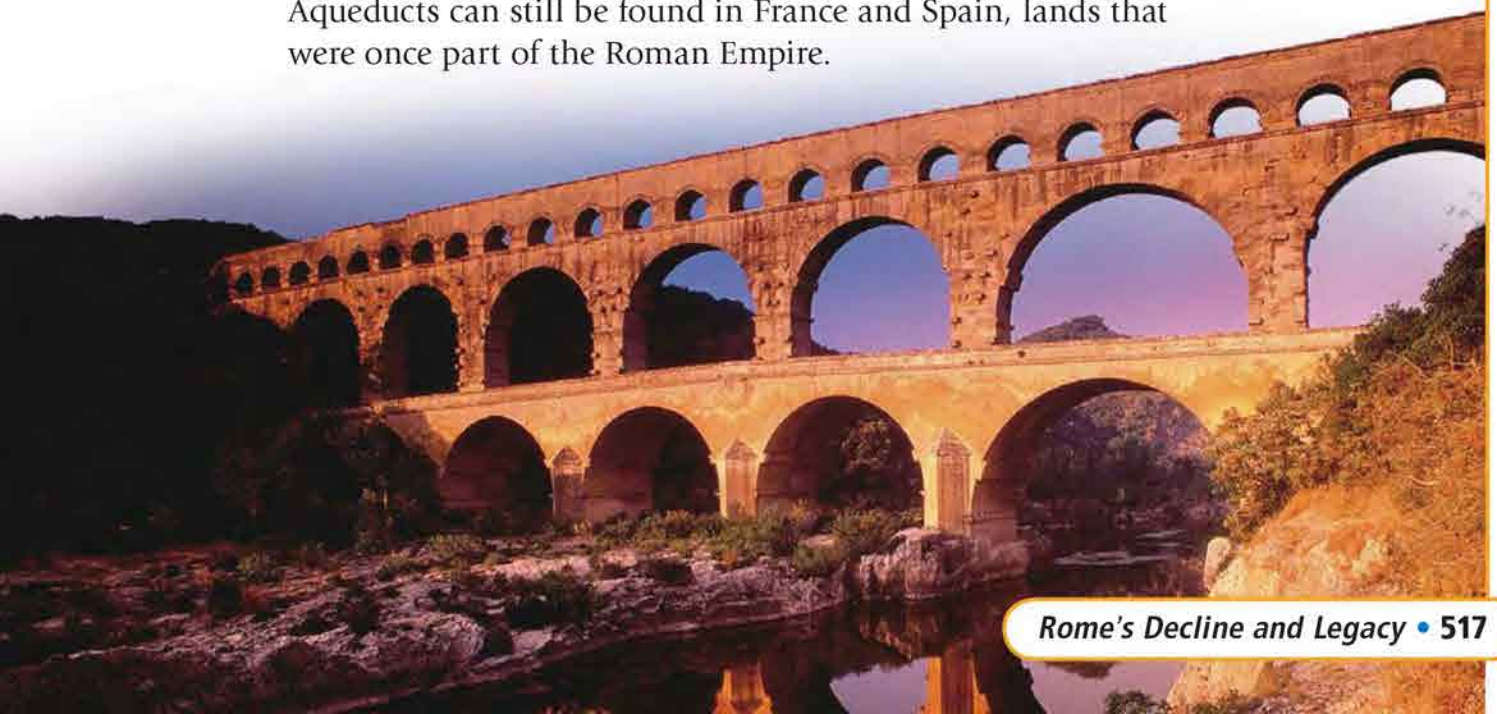
**New Styles of Architecture** Roman builders were excellent engineers. They found new ways to improve the structure of buildings. These ideas included the use of arches, **vaults**, and domes. A vault is an arch that forms a ceiling or a roof.

Roman developments in building construction made it possible to build larger, taller buildings. Many modern buildings borrow Roman elements of design and structure. The dome of the U.S. Capitol building is a well-known example.

**New Building Materials** The Romans developed a form of concrete that was both light and strong. They poured the mixture into hollow walls or over curved forms to create strong vaults. Concrete is a common building material today.

**Aqueducts** The Romans built **aqueducts** to bring water to cities. An aqueduct is a waterway made by people. Aqueducts brought water to public fountains, where people collected water for their homes. Aqueducts also supplied water to public toilets and bathhouses. Eleven major aqueducts brought water to the city of Rome. The longest stretched for 57 miles. Aqueducts can still be found in France and Spain, lands that were once part of the Roman Empire.

Remains of a Roman Aqueduct **This aqueduct is near Nîmes, France. It was constructed more than 2,000 years ago. ▼**

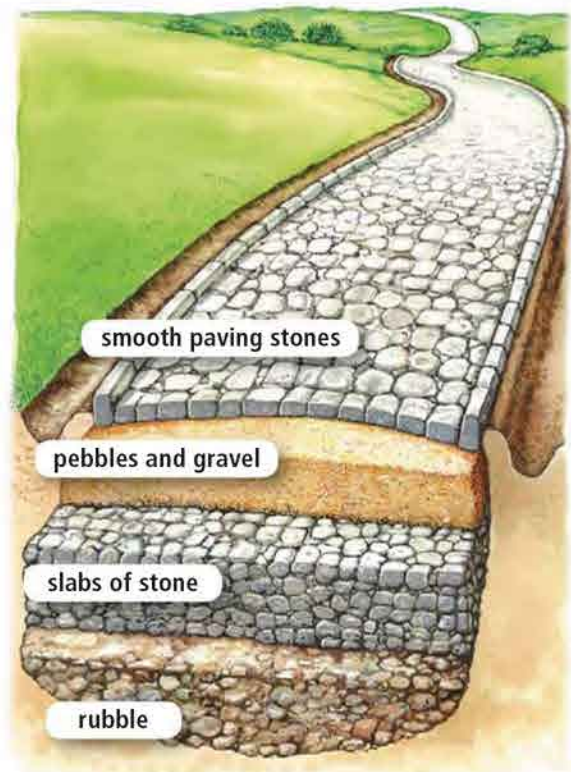




**Roads** The Romans are especially famous for the quality of their roads. In 312 B.C., Romans built the first of many roads. It was called the Appian Way, and it ran southeast from Rome. In time, a system of roads extended across much of the empire. Rome was the center of this network.

Many Roman roads were built so that soldiers could move quickly to places in the empire where they were needed. The road system also increased trade because merchants and traders could move their goods more easily. Although the road system helped hold the Roman Empire together, it also made it easier for its enemies to invade.

**REVIEW** What elements of Roman construction are still in use?



▲ **Roman Road Construction**  
Roman roads were constructed in layers. The average width of a road was 15 to 18 feet.

## Religion and Law

**3 ESSENTIAL QUESTION** What religious and legal legacies did Rome leave?

Past civilizations leave their mark through ideas as well as through objects. The western and eastern parts of the Roman Empire had great influence in the areas of religion and law.

**Spreading Christianity** The Roman Empire played a major role in the spread of Christianity. Christian missionaries converted many within the empire. The Roman Catholic Church became the powerful organization in Western Europe.

The Eastern Orthodox Church, which was the official religion of the Byzantine Empire, also spread Christianity. Many Russians and members of societies on the border of the Byzantine Empire became Eastern Orthodox Christians.

With both the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches spreading Christianity, most of Europe and some parts of western Asia became Christian.

**Roman Government and Law** The structure of the Roman Republic influenced the writers of the U.S. Constitution. Roman senators made up the main political body of the republic. Early

U.S. citizens followed this example by providing for their own Senate in Article I of the Constitution.

Laws in today's democracies evolved from those of ancient Rome and Byzantine. These laws include the right to own property and to make contracts and write wills.

In the Roman Republic citizens had the right to equal treatment under the law. This principle of equality inspired the creators of democracies in the United States and France.

**REVIEW** Which elements of Roman law are found in U.S. law?

### Lesson Summary

- Roman writers and artists were inspired by Greek culture, which they combined with their own ideas.
- Roman builders and engineers developed styles and construction methods that continue to be used.
- Roman laws and government continue to serve as models for modern countries.

### Why It Matters Now . . .

Many areas of modern life—from government to architecture to language—still carry the mark of the Roman Empire.

## 4 Lesson Review

### Terms & Names

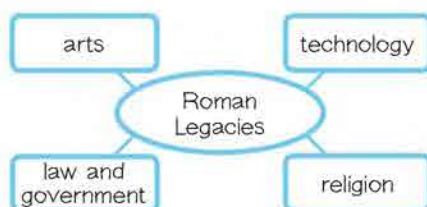
1. Explain the importance of

mosaic	epic	vault
bas-relief	oratory	aqueduct

### Using Your Notes

**Finding Main Ideas** Use your completed web diagram to answer the following question:

2. What are some examples of Roman technology?



### Main Ideas

3. How did Roman writers blend Greek literary styles with their own ideas?
4. How did the Romans influence language in modern-day Europe?
5. What role did the Byzantine Empire play in the spread of Christianity?

### Critical Thinking

6. **Framing Historical Questions** Create a set of three questions about the Roman Empire that could be answered by historical study and research.
7. **Forming and Supporting Opinions** Which of Rome's legacies has had the greatest influence on life in the United States? Explain.

### Activity

**Designing a Bas-Relief** Research examples of Roman bas-reliefs in books or on the Internet. Then create a sketch of your own bas-relief showing an aspect of life in ancient Rome.



## Roman Influences Today

**Purpose:** To study the legacies of the Roman Empire that are present in today's life

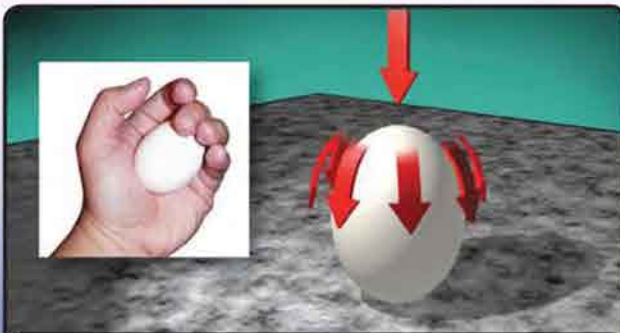
The United States borrowed some Roman ideas about the structure of government. But the Romans also influenced culture in the United States in other ways. Their ideas about architecture and road-building can be seen in our buildings and our highway systems. The Christian church grew during Roman times. Today, millions of people practice the Christian faith that began in Roman times.



### Domes

► **Past** Roman architects experimented with using a series of arches in a circle to create a dome. The dome of the Pantheon (*right*) is 142 feet high. The Pantheon was constructed to honor the gods. Later it became a Christian church and, finally, a national shrine in Italy.

▼ **Present** Architects for the U.S. Capitol building (*below right*) used the idea of the Roman dome. The dome of the Capitol is 287 feet high. It is topped by an almost 20-foot-tall statue called the Statue of Freedom.



**Dome Strength** A dome is strong because pressure at the top of the structure is distributed evenly and travels down the curved sides. This gives the structure strength. A dome and an egg are similar. Although we often think of an egg as fragile, an egg can be very strong because it is shaped like a dome. If you try to crush an egg by pressing down on the top, it will not break.





## Roads

▼ **Past** The Roman roads were constructed so that military forces could easily move throughout the empire. Under Diocletian, the Roman Empire had 372 main roads covering about 53,000 miles.



► **Present** The United States is a nation on the move. There are almost 4 million miles of roads. The interstate system covers 46,467 miles.



## Religious Practice

► **Past** St. Peter (*right*) was one of Jesus' leading disciples. He became the first bishop of Rome. According to Roman Catholic tradition, the bishop of Rome became the head of the Christian church. Today the bishop of Rome is called the pope and heads the Roman Catholic Church. Rome is the spiritual center of the Church.



▼ **Present** Today the pope lives in a city-state called Vatican City. It is located within Rome. One of the largest Christian churches, St. Peter's Basilica, is located there. Tradition says St. Peter was buried beneath the basilica. In the photograph here the pope greets thousands of believers in St. Peter's Square.



## Activities

1. **TALK ABOUT IT** Are there any domed buildings where you live? If so, what activities take place there?
2. **WRITE ABOUT IT** Research information about Roman roads, including how the roads were built and their location in the empire. Write a research report on your findings.



# Chapter 15 Review

## VISUAL SUMMARY

### Roman Empire



#### Government

- Absolute ruler, law codes

#### Science & Technology

- Roads, aqueducts, concrete, arches, domes

#### Belief Systems

- Spread Christianity

#### Culture

- Realism, bas-reliefs, mosaics, epics, oratory

### Empire Splits



#### Western Roman Empire

- Roman Catholic
- Germanic migrations/invasions
- Ended A.D. 476



#### Eastern Roman Empire

- Eastern Orthodox
- Germanic/Muslim invasions
- Ended A.D. 1453

## TERMS & NAMES

Explain why the words in each set below are linked with each other.

1. **Diocletian** and **absolute ruler**
2. **barbarian** and **nomad**
3. **Eastern Orthodox Church** and **Roman Catholic Church**
4. **vault** and **aqueduct**

## MAIN IDEAS

### An Empire in Decline (pages 494–499)

5. What economic and political problems weakened the Roman Empire?
6. Why did Diocletian believe reorganizing the empire would strengthen Rome?

### The Fall of the Roman Empire (pages 500–507)

7. Why was the Western Roman Empire more likely to fall than the Eastern Roman Empire?
8. How did the Huns hasten the fall of the empire?

### The Byzantine Empire (pages 508–513)

9. In what ways did the Byzantine Empire preserve the Roman culture?
10. What caused the Christian church to split in A.D. 1054?

### The Legacy of Rome (pages 514–521)

11. What artistic styles did the Romans borrow from Greek culture?
12. How has Roman law shaped modern law?

**CRITICAL THINKING** Big Ideas: Economics**13. UNDERSTANDING CAUSES AND EFFECTS**

How was economics a cause of Rome's downfall?

**14. ANALYZING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES**

How are the nomadic attacks on Rome related to Rome's economic problems?

**15. MAKING INFERENCES**

How did economics play a part in the survival of the Byzantine Empire?

**ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT**

**1. WRITING ACTIVITY** Imagine you lived in the city of Rome when the Goths attacked the city in A.D. 410. Write a description of the attack.

**2. INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY—**

**LANGUAGE ARTS** Use books and the Internet to research Latin-based words in the English language. Make a list of five to ten terms used in everyday life. Create an illustrated chart listing the Latin word and an image of the concept the word represents.

**3. STARTING WITH A STORY**

Review your speech explaining why the Goths should either seek peace or stand up to the Romans. Now outline a speech that takes the opposite view.

**Technology Activity**

**4. MAKING AN ILLUSTRATED MAP** Use the Internet to research the locations of Roman aqueducts. Make an illustrated map of the Roman Empire that shows their locations.

- Display an image of the aqueduct located at each location.
- Identify the location by city and modern-day country.
- Document your sources.



**Research Links**  
ClassZone.com

**Reading a Map** Use the map below to answer the questions.

**1. The Romance languages are concentrated in which part of Europe?**

- A. north
- B. east
- C. southwest
- D. southeast

**2. Which statement best describes the pattern of Romance languages?**

- A. The pattern of languages is random.
- B. The Romance languages are found in the former Roman Empire.
- C. The Romance languages are dying out.
- D. The Romance languages spread throughout Europe.



**Test Practice**  
ClassZone.com

Additional Test Practice, pp. 51–533



## Expository Writing: Problem and Solution

### The Interaction of Cultures

**Purpose:** To analyze the impact of cultural borrowing

**Audience:** Other students in your class and school

Throughout this book, you have read about times when cultures borrowed things from other cultures. How can you measure the impacts of these cultural influences? One way is to analyze whether an influence created a problem or solved one. Writing that explores problems and solutions is a type of expository writing called **problem-and-solution** writing.

Alphabet on Greek ostrakon (see page 376) ►



Culture	Characters from Alphabet					
Phoenician	𐤀	𐤁	𐤂	𐤃	𐤄	𐤅
Greek	A	B	Γ	Δ	E	
Modern	A	B	C	D	E	F G

### Organization & Focus

Your assignment is to (1) identify a time when one culture borrowed something important from another and (2) decide whether that borrowing solved a problem or created one. Then you will write a two- to three-page composition for a magazine that your class will publish.

**Choosing a Topic** Review the visual summaries in all the chapters. Take notes about cultural interactions—what caused them and how they affected the cultures that did the borrowing. If you need to, review the chapters for more information. When you have finished, choose one cultural interaction as the topic of your composition.

**Identifying Purpose and Audience** Your purpose is to analyze the problem or solution represented by an instance of cultural borrowing. Your readers are other students in your school. Keep their interests in mind as you write.

**Analyzing** Review your notes about the effects of cultural borrowing. Decide whether the borrowing you chose solved a problem or created a problem. For example, the Greeks' borrowing of the Phoenician alphabet solved their problem of not having a writing system.



## Research & Technology

To decide whether the cultural borrowing was a problem or a solution, consider both short-term and long-term effects. Consider whether what was borrowed changed society or influenced even later cultures. Use a library and the Internet to research long-term effects.

**Outlining and Drafting** Consider how to organize your composition. Your outline might be in this form:

- I. Introduction
- II. Reasons for cultural borrowing
- III. Effects of cultural borrowing
  - A. On the receiver
  - B. On the giver
- IV. Identification as problem or solution
  - A. Immediate outcomes
  - B. Long-term outcomes
- V. Conclusion

Use your completed outline as you draft your composition.



**Technology Tip** Many word-processing programs offer help with making outlines. Check the instruction manual or the help menu to see if your program will format an outline with the proper indents.



## Evaluation & Revision

Many writers read their work several times, each time looking at a different aspect of their writing. The list below shows some aspects to review.

- **Ideas** In good compositions, the ideas are interesting, clearly presented, supported with details, and organized logically.
- **Sentence Variety** Using a variety of sentences makes a composition interesting to read. Good writers vary both the structure and the length of their sentences.
- **Word Choice** Precise words give the reader clear visuals. For example, instead of the word *trouble*, a writer might use the more specific word *riot*.



### Self-Check

Does my composition have

- ☐ an introduction that grabs attention and states a thesis?
- ☐ an explanation of the effects of an instance of cultural borrowing?
- ☐ a thorough analysis of how the borrowing solved or created a problem?
- ☐ evidence to support that analysis?
- ☐ a strong conclusion?



## Publish & Present

Make a neat final copy of your composition. With your classmates, discuss how to arrange the compositions, create a table of contents, and design a magazine cover. Share your magazine with other classes.