

Australian History Series
Workbook 7: Ages 11-13 years

The Ancient World



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Activity

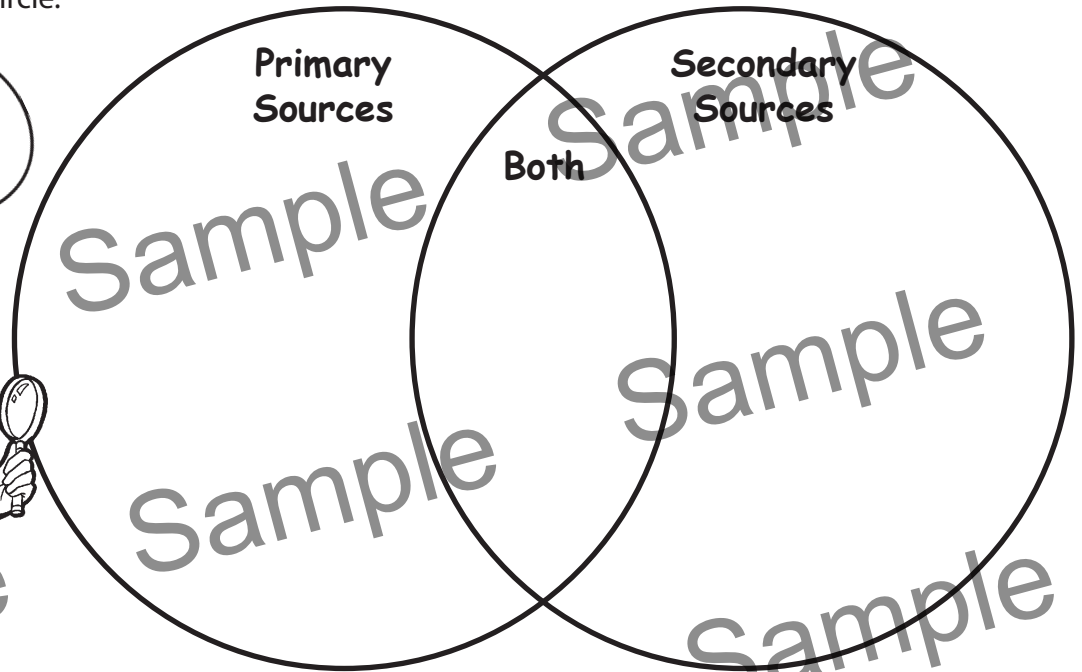
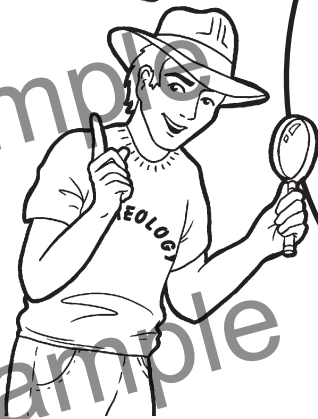
Primary and Secondary Sources



It is important to be able to distinguish between primary and secondary sources.

- After reading the information on page 6 complete the Venn diagram by listing historical sources in the correct circle.

Complete the Venn diagram.



- Think of three events in your life that make up your personal history. Draw and label one primary source and one secondary source from each event. (E.g. Event = your birth. Primary source = birth certificate. Secondary source = oral recount of event some time after.)

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Event 1 _____ | | |
| Event 2 _____ | | |
| Event 3 _____ | | |

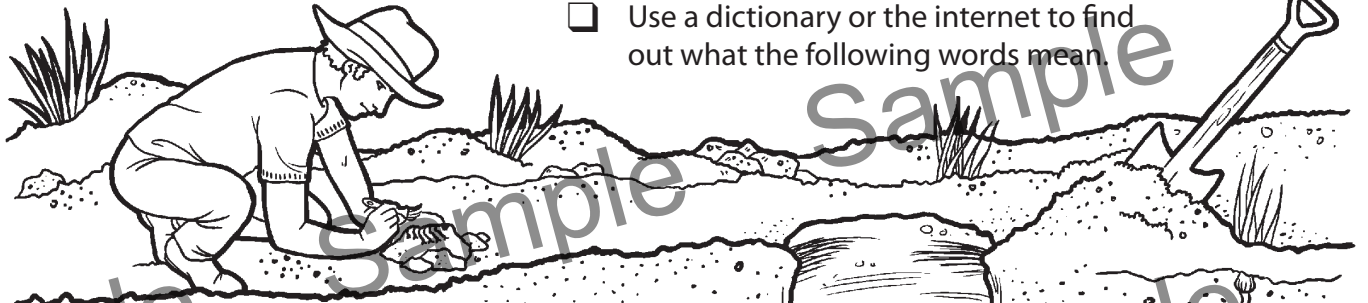
Activity

Historical Methods



There are several ways that a historian can research the past. Often, scientific and technological methods are used by historians to explore sources. Historians are classified according to the methods that they use.

- Use a dictionary or the internet to find out what the following words mean.



Archaeologist:

Anthropologist:

Palaeontologist:

Cryptographer:

Stratigraphy:

Excavation:

DNA testing:

Radio-carbon dating:

Impact and Legacy of Ancient Roman

The ancient Romans have affected our lives today.

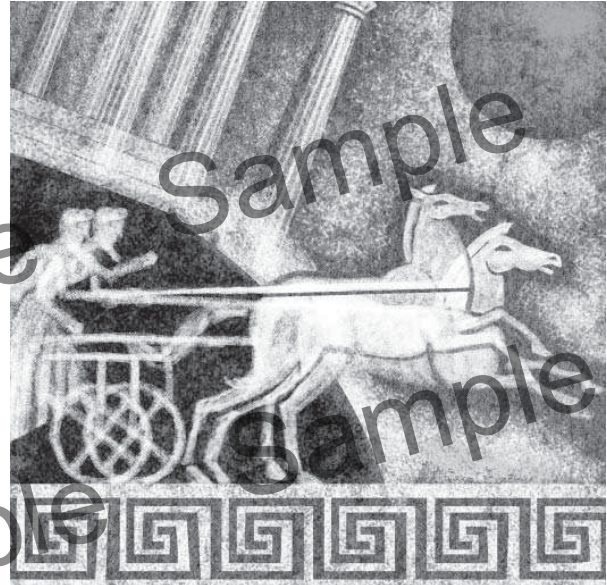
Each civilization that has lived on Earth has had an impact on the rest of the world's development. The Romans have impacted on today's western civilizations in many ways. To start with, without the Romans we would not have had an example of a working legal system in society. The Romans also developed democratic government practices and created many laws which are the foundation of our laws today. The idea of "innocent until proven guilty", which underlies the Australian criminal justice system, came from the ancient Romans.



Another way in which the Romans have influenced today's society is through their language. Many words in the English language are based on ancient Roman Latin.

The Romans were also excellent builders, engineers and town planners. The Romans invented concrete as a building material and developed

the arch to bare enormous loads. This enabled them to make further architectural developments. For example, the Romans created the dome roof first seen in the famous Roman Pantheon. This design has been copied many times since. The famous White House in Washington DC and the Taj Mahal in India are both examples of the Roman dome. The Romans also invented



aqueducts which are piping systems for transporting water. Modern day plumbing is based on these systems.

In sport, the Circus Maximus, a race track that chariots raced on, and the Colosseum, are still copied for just about every stadium design in the world.



Roman roads also changed how the world travels as their basic design is still copied today. Roman roads were the forerunners of the modern highway.

Figures in Roman history such as Julius Caesar and warrior gladiators, have become legendary figures known throughout the modern world. For example, the movie *Gladiator* starring Russell Crowe made millions of dollars at the box office. Millions of people also visit Rome each year to see the Colosseum, the Roman Forum and many other Roman artefacts.



Activity

Impact and Legacy of Ancient Rome

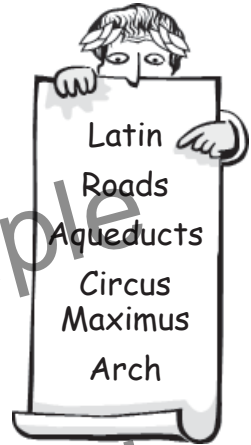


The ancient Romans have affected our lives today.

- After reading page 24 write a newspaper report on another sheet of paper about how ancient Roman life has influenced Australian society today. Make sure you include the words in the scroll in your article.

Article starters:

- Archaeologists' have recently discovered that ...
- Plans for a new city based on ancient Rome have been ...
- Old inventions help build modern cities!

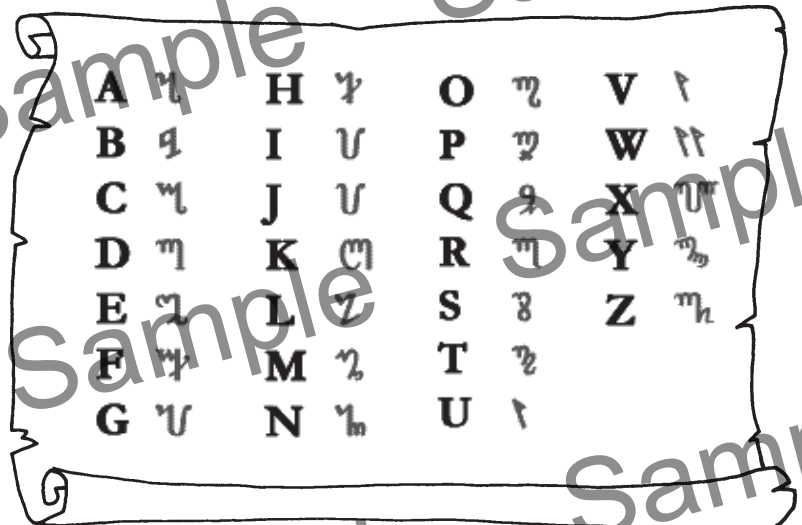


| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

The Latin alphabet, also called the Roman alphabet, is the most widely used alphabetic writing system in the world today. Fill in the chart above using the Roman alphabet which is shown in the scroll below.

- Write down five things Roman, using the Roman alphabet for your friend to decipher.

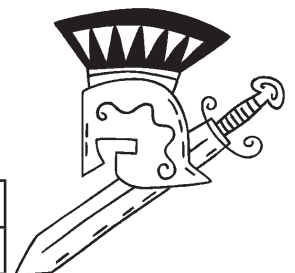
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



Research Task - The Life of a Gladiator

- Use your research skills to find out exactly what a gladiator did. Was he a free man? Did he get the glory? What was his life expectancy? Use a KWL chart like the one below to identify what research you will need to do. Think of at least three questions of your own to research.

| What I Know | What I Want to Know | What I Learned |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | | |



- Record your research in your own words. Write your notes in point form then write a report in your exercise book summarizing the life of a gladiator.



The Greeks believed in many myths which were passed on through plays and by the written word.

Below is the myth of King Midas. Read the myth and answer the questions.

King Midas was known throughout the land as a generous man who ruled his Kingdom in a fair way, but he was often quick to speak before he thought about his words. One day, while walking in his castle grounds, he saw a mythical creature, half man, half beast sleeping without permission in the garden beds. Feeling sorry for the creature, the King decided to let him go without punishment. Later, King Midas was granted one wish by the god Dionysus for his kind actions. The King did not think for long before saying, "I wish for everything that I touch to turn to gold".



Wikimedia Commons

Soon everything that King Midas touched did indeed turn to gold. The problem was that every time he tried to eat, his food turned to gold. He grew thin and hungry, his water also turned to gold and he grew thirsty. To make matters worse he longed to hold his beautiful daughter in his arms, one day he accidentally touched her and she too turned to hard, cold gold.

King Midas realised that his whole kingdom would turn to gold if he could not stop his wish.

He asked Dionysus to take back his wish. Dionysus took pity on him as he knew the King had a good heart. Instantly, everything that King Midas had touched turned back to normal. King Midas was much poorer than he had been, but richer in the things that mattered to him.

Questions

1. Why did Dionysus reward King Midas?

2. Highlight the correct answer, King Midas was:

- a.) grumpy and sad
- b.) kind and caring
- c.) mean and cruel

3. Highlight the correct answer, which of the following did not turn to gold?

- a.) his daughter
- b.) himself
- c.) the flowers in the garden
- d.) Midas's food

4. What did King Midas wish for when Dionysus granted him one wish?

5. In the end what did King Midas ask Dionysus to do? _____

6. If someone is said to have 'the Midas touch' what does that mean?

7. When everything went back to the way it was before the Midas touch, why did King Midas feel that, though he had lost wealth, he had gained what really counted?

Activity

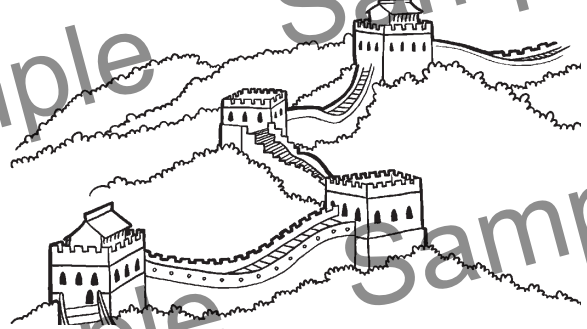
Imperial China

Ancient China became Imperial China under the rule of Qin Shi Huang.

- After reading page 47 complete the timeline by listing the dynasties which ruled ancient China.



- Below are two images from Imperial China. After reading page 47 explain what each picture represents.



Challenge

- Use your research skills to further explore the life of Qin Shi Huang or choose another significant individual from ancient China to examine. Record the information that you have gathered in your exercise book and present a one minute speech to the class.
- Investigate the rise of Imperial China in more detail looking at the use of chariot warfare and the adoption of mass infantry armies.
- Write a journal entry from the point of view of a slave helping to build the Great Wall of China.