The Roman World, AMSCO Chapter 4

1. Rome as a Monarchy (753-509 BC)
2. Italy is a peninsula like Greece, but unlike Greece mountains in Italy did not prohibit centralization.
3. Etruscans and Latins
4. Etruscans of northern Italy and Latins of central Italy mingled and took alphabet from Greeks.
5. Etruscans mined iron, copper, tin; made metal weapons and tools; built roads and temples; used military tactics
6. Political Traditions – village of seven hills becomes Rome; rotating kingship beginning with Romulus, who killed his twin Remus and named Rome after himself
7. Early Romans drained swamps, established Rome near the Tiber River for trading, yet far from ocean.
8. From Monarchy to Republic
9. Early Rome’s final monarch was the tyrant Tarquinius Superbus
10. Patricians (wealthy landowners) overthrew him and established a govt of elected officials (republic)
11. Senators were wealthy and held office for life.
12. Plebeians (small farmers, tradesmen, craftsmen and soldiers) eventually received citizenship and their own Assembly of Tribes and Assembly of Centuries. They could select magistrates (officials) to operate govt
13. Tribunes – elected to represent plebeians in the Senate, they were often co-opted by the Senators
14. Consuls – two most important magistrates, commanders of the armies. Each could veto the other, early checks and balances
15. Rule of Law – Laws of Twelve Tables, written system of laws publicly displayed; lawyers developed, such as Cicero
16. Roman Expansion
17. Rome overthrew Etruscan king, encourage neighboring city states to do likewise, then took them over, giving them control of all of Italian peninsula; strong military where conquered peoples could provide soldiers and become citizens of Rome
18. Greece and Gaul – conflicts w Greece over colonies; Romans eventually conquer Greece, Macedonia and Gaul (France)
19. Carthage (controlled north Africa and Spain) and beyond – Rome and Carthage fought for control of Mediterranean trade routes in Punic Wars. Rome wins, enslaves Carthage pop, “salted the land”
20. Rome controlled parts of Syria, Egypt, Britain and Germany by 50 C.E., but it did not last
21. Soldiers – all citizens 17-46 w/ land had to fight in legions. Mostly poor farmers who had to sell farms to serve. Large landowners accumulated huge estates (latifundia)
22. Roman Society
23. Patricians – wealthy, plebeians - small farmers, tradesmen, craftsmen and soldiers
24. Slaves – foreigners captured (often Greek); work in homes and on farms; raising and educating children
25. Romans crushed Spartacus’s slave rebellion, killing thousands and making slavery harsher
26. Slave so numerous and cheap that new technologies to do work did not develop
27. Decline of Small Landholders – most small farmers sold land to large estates
28. Women – not citizens, no vote, no property ownership (unless inherited from father), only wealthy women were education
29. Civil Wars
30. Need for large military resulted in generals having large armies loyal to them not Rome. Generals began to fight amongst themselves for power
31. Julius Caesar wins over all and becomes dictator for life in 46 BC. Revises calendar, increases Senate size, grants land to war veterans.
32. Assassinated on March 15 (Ides of March)
33. March Anthony and Octavian, two generals, fight for power. Octavian beats March Anthony at battle of Actium.
34. Roman Empire 27 BC to 476 AD
35. Octavian strengthens family values, keeps peace and promotes prosperity successfully. Proclaimed Augustus Caesar, 200 years of peace (Pax Romana) follow
36. Roads and defenses – network of roads for trade and solders, fortresses and walls for protection
37. Social classes – Mostly same as before, but new equestrian class evolved just below senators
38. Lower classes stagnant but happy; slavery increasing
39. Women – much better, could divorce, own property, take over on death of father or husband
40. Law – continued to expand
41. Lit and Phil – Augustus supported arts: Virgil, Ovid, Seneca, Nero; all influenced by Greek traditions
42. Epicuriansim – simple living, pleasures of life
43. Stoicism – accept will of Gods, no pleasure or pain
44. Roman Religion
45. Syncretism – fusion of cultures
46. All Romans required to practice state religion, but allowed other religions as well, both mono and poly theistic
47. State religion – polytheistic, tolerant, Roman gods
48. Personal religion – for household rituals
49. Jews Under Roman Rule – developed in Jerusalem in 530-79 BC, Hebrew scriptures under Abraham (one of first monotheistic)
50. Romans not wiling to give up their gods, three Jewish rebellions crushed; Jews fled from Jerusalem; Romans did regard Jews as better than other groups
51. Christianity – Jesus viewed as troublemaker by Romans, he was Jewish. Christianity and Judaism split, with poor, slaves and women converting
52. Peter and Paul – Peter knew Jesus, spread the word in Rome and becomes the first Pope. Paul spread word in Mediterranean
53. Features of Christianity – simple living isolated from society; led to monasteries. Matyrdom – die rather than give up beliefs; Christians refused to worship Roman gods and were imprisoned, tortured and killed. 313 CE Roman Emperor Constantine declares Christianity legal and converts. Established Constantinople as govt center
54. Written accounts of Jesus’ life – Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, plus Johns Letters to Corinthians make New Testament
55. St. Augustine – writes *City of God* book about Rome’s decline.
56. Transregional Trade Networks
57. Romans spread Christianity to North Africa, Mesopotamia, Persia, India and Asia via trade routes like Silk Road, usually centering in Constantinople
58. Sea Routes – Red Sea, Africa, Britain
59. Tech and Goods – stirrup for mounted warriors, silk, spices, gold, rice, citrus
60. Decline of Empire
61. After third century AD
62. Population decline – epidemics from the Silk Road like smallpox and measles
63. Decline in trade w pop decline led to slower ec trade, lower taxes. Fewer taxes so roads not maintained, soldiers not paid, roads unsafe, etc.
64. Environmental problems – deforestation of region, overfarming, soil erosion
65. Non-Roman Challenges – Atila the Hun, Franks, Vandals, Visigoths eventually attacked Rome 410 AD
66. Legacies of Romans
67. Division under Diocletian (West centered in Rome, East in Constantinople
68. Law and Govt – representative government, House and Senate; judiciary
69. Architecture – dome, paved roads, aqueducts sewers, underfloor heating
70. Military – efficient, organized, infantry, catapults, siege devices
71. Literature – Virgil, Plautus, Seneca
72. Language – all Romance languages, Italian, Romanian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, (1/2 of English)
73. a ?
74. a
75. b
76. c ?
77. c
78. d
79. b
80. d ?
81. d
82. d