Augustus and the *Pax Romana*

The assassination of Julius Caesar, the Roman dictator, in 44 BC led to two decades of civil war as rival leaders tried to take control of Rome. Eventually, Caesar's great nephew Augustus defeated his rivals and united Roman-controlled lands as the Roman Empire. He expanded Rome's borders to cover most of Europe and the areas of Asia and North Africa surrounding the Mediterranean Sea.

Augustus' rule (27 BCE-14 CE) started a two-hundred year long Golden Age known as *Pax Romana*. *Pax Romana* means "Roman Peace" in Latin and is used to identify the years 27 BCE-180 CE during which there were fewer wars than in any other period in Rome's history.

The empire strengthened its central government, consolidated its power, and created a stable condition in which trade and communication flourished. The empire protected and governed individual provinces, permitting each to make and administer its own laws while accepting Roman taxation and military control. Through state sponsorship, Romans made great achievements in architecture, engineering, and the arts.

1. What continents were included in the Roman Empire under Augustus?

2. Why is Rome's Golden Age known as the *Pax Romana* or Roman Peace?

3. How did the *Pax Romana* and Augustus's rule bring stability to each of the following?

   a. Government:

   b. Economy:

   c. Loyalty of Citizens: