The Structure of Roman Society

Patricians
Wealthy landowners
Men were the leading political class

Plebeians
Lower class Roman citizens
Majority of the citizens
Originally not allowed to run for office, but they gained this right

Freedmen
Former slaves, not considered citizens
Their children were given full citizenship
Most worked as farmers or tradesmen, but many were highly educated and worked in the Roman government

Slaves
Most acquired from areas conquered by Rome
Considered property, no legal rights
Performed many jobs from hard labor to skilled jobs including as teachers, accountants and physicians; Greek slaves were especially known for being educated.
Could pay to get out of slavery but the price was very high

Women in Rome
- Considered citizens, but not allowed to vote
- Took the social status of their father or husband
- Upper class women given more rights than lower class women
The Roman Republic's Government

Directions: Examine the chart below then answer the questions on the next page

**Magistrates**

- **Consuls (2)**
  - Two men who shared power in the republic and managed the army and passed laws. They served one year terms and could veto each other. Elected from the patrician class.

- **Praetors (8)**
  - Judges who administered laws; elected from the patrician class.

- **Aediles (16)**
  - Managed public buildings, food supply and games; elected from the patrician class.

- **Quaestors (20)**
  - Managed financial matters; elected from the patrician class.

**Senate (300)**

- Made up of landowning men from the patrician class (plebeians were allowed later) who gave "advice" in the form of suggested laws and politics to the Consuls and other members of the government. They had a lot of power and most of their "advice" was put into practice. One could become a senator if they we appointed after serving as a magistrate.

**Tribunes (10)**

- Representatives of the plebeians who were elected to office by other plebeians. At first had little power, but became more powerful with ability to veto laws that were unfavorable for Plebeians. Tribunes were a check on the power of the Senate and Consuls.

*Though magistrates were originally only for men from the patrician class, in the later republic plebeians were allowed to be elected to these positions, even the position of Consul.*
The Structure of Roman Society

1. Give two advantages that Patricians had over Plebeians?

2. How do we know that Rome’s military strength was responsible for bringing in slaves to perform a wide variety of important jobs in the Empire?

3. Consider the following facts:
   
   a. Educated Freedmen, even though they weren’t citizens, often worked in the Roman government.
   b. Educated and skilled slaves worked at jobs such as teachers, accountants, and physicians.

Based on these facts, what can you infer about the Roman Empire and its leaders?

The Roman Republic’s Government

1. Explain, with evidence, why the “Magistrates” would be a good example of separation of powers in the Roman Republic.

2. Explain, with evidence, why the “Tribunes” would be a good example of checks and balances in the Roman Republic.

3. What do you think the reason was for having two Consuls and only allowing them to serve one year terms?
# Enduring Issues

Conflict - Desire for Power - Inequality - Need for and Impact of Innovation  
Impact of Interconnectedness - Impact of Ideas and Beliefs - Environmental Impact  
Scarcity - Population Growth

Directions: Select ONE of the enduring issues above that you believe can be seen in both documents and complete the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enduring Issue Selection</th>
<th>Selection:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Definition for that Enduring Issue</td>
<td>Definition:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Evidence from Document #1:  
*The Structure of Roman Society*

Evidence from Document #2:  
*The Roman Republic’s Government*

Evidence: