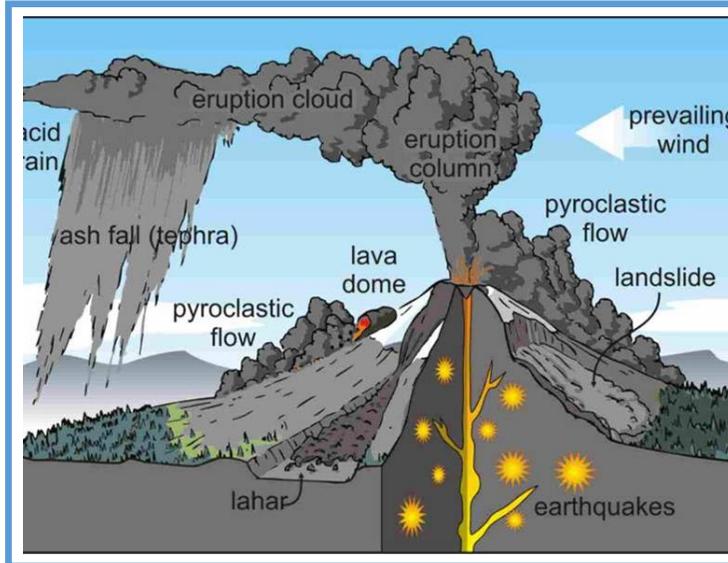


Key Dates:

- 264 BC:** First war with Carthage begins (There were three that lasted for 118 years; they become known as the Punic Wars).
- 254 - 191 BC:** Life of Hannibal Barker.
- 218—201 BC:** Second Punic War.
- AD 79:** Mount Vesuvius erupts and covers Pompeii.
- AD 79:** A great fire wipes out huge parts of Rome.
- AD 80:** The colosseum in Rome is completed and the inaugural games are held for 100 days.
- AD 312:** Emperor Constantine converts to Christianity.
- AD 410:** The fall of Rome (Goths sack the city of Rome).
- AD 476:** Roman empire ends.

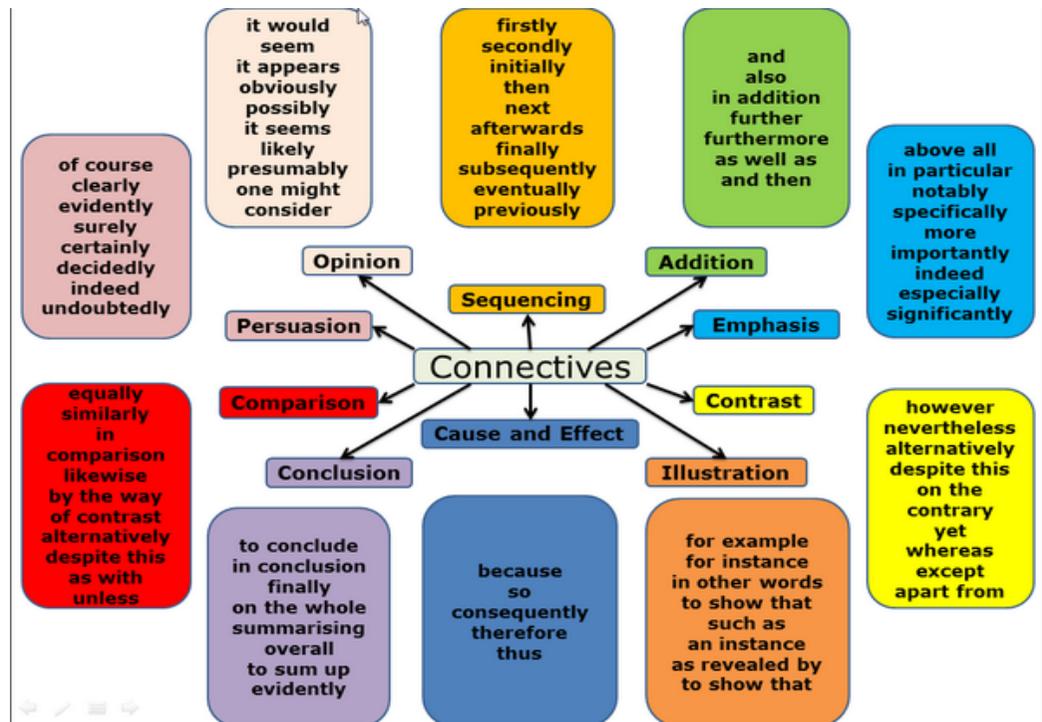


By the end of this Half Term I should know:

- Why Hannibal was so successful against much larger and superior Roman armies.
- How the town of Pompeii disappeared under volcanic ash and was lost for 1500 years.
- What life was like for a gladiator (e.g. celebrities who did not always fight to the death).
- How advanced Roman society was compared with our own and the technologies that they used.
- Why Romans had so many gods. And why they were important.
- What Roman diets were like and foods that they ate.

Key Terms

- Pliny the Younger:** a Roman statesman who was nearby when the eruption took place and witnessed the event. Only eye witness account ever written.
- Pyroclastic flow:** after some time the eruption column loses power and part of the column collapses to form a flow down the side of the mountain.
- Lanista:** Trainer of Gladiators at Gladiatorial school.
- Aqueduct:** A bridge designed to carry water long distances.
- Hypocaust:** A Roman under - floor central heating system.
- Garum:** A fermented fish source (like ketchup) for covering rotten meat.
- Jentaculum:** Breakfast.
- Wasprandium:** Lunch.
- Cena:** Dinner or main evening meal (the most important meal to Romans).





KHS—History Knowledge Organiser—Half Term 2 - Roman Empire



The Second Punic War: From around 264 BC the Romans were at war with the Carthaginians. Carthage was a city in the North Africa. The Carthaginians were advanced and had trade links throughout the world. This Romans being very jealous, tried to take control of Carthage. However, this developed in to a series of wars between the two. These became known as the ***Punic Wars***, and lasted for about 118 years. The most famous is the Second Punic War involving a great Carthaginian general called Hannibal. He hated the Romans so much that he decided to attack them in Italy, through the dangerous Alps mountain range. He is remembered for his tactics and for the fact that he successfully took elephants through the Alps .

Pompeii: A volcano called Mount Vesuvius erupted and buried the city under volcanic ash, cinders and blasts of hot air with temperatures of up to 250 degrees C. One of the victims was Pliny the Elder who tried to rescue people on boats. His nephew Pliny the Younger witnessed this and wrote about the events. The eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD was quite sudden. Most of the,5000 victims lost their lives while going about their daily work. For over 1500 years people had forgotten that Pompeii even existed. In 1748, the excavation of Pompeii begun and archaeologists are still working on the site to this day, nearly 300 years later.

Entertainment: Roman gladiators were trained in mortal combat, a form of public entertainment in ancient Rome. The word gladiator comes from the Latin word gladius (sword). The popularity of the games grew and spread throughout the Roman empire. The Colosseum in Rome opened in AD 80 (C.E.) and though many gladiators were slaves and prisoners of war some were Roman citizens that wanted fame and fortune. Many gladiators came from the lands Rome had conquered (like Verus). Gladiators were supposed to fight to the death, but in reality, if they fought extremely well but lost they had a 90% chance of surviving. Also, gladiators were well paid. For one fight a gladiator could earn a Roman soldiers annual wage.

Roman Technology: The Romans were great builders, engineers, architects and inventors. They invented many things that we still use in our every day lives, 2000 years later. When the Romans came up against problems that needed technological solutions they usually found a way of solving them. The Romans lived in blocks of flats while the Britain's lived in little huts, invented **aqueducts** (bridges that carried water) to bring water to their cities, invented the **Hypocaust** (under floor central heating system), proper **roads** (to move troops quickly), **amphitheatres** (like the Colosseum, a 50,000 all seater stadium with a retractable roof) and **pumps** to allow them to get precious water from the ground.

Roman Religion: The Romans had gods for every thing. For example they had **Mars**, the god of war, **Neptune**, the god of the sea, **Bacchus**, the god of wine, **Apollo**, the god of sun, music, and prophecy, and many more. Like all cultures, they also had a mythological background (a mix of truth and fiction). While some of their gods are adaptations of the Greek gods, some are original too such as the two-faced god of doorways and gates, **Janus**. These gods gave the Romans a sense of pride along with teaching them about bravery and honour. Like all cultures Roman gods (deities) play an important role in how people live their lives, see right and wrong or treat other people and Roman culture revolved around the worship of these gods.

Roman Food: All Romans loved food. However, the foods eaten by rich (patricians) and the poor (plebeians) were quite different. Ordinary Romans didn't eat much meat (hot temperatures meant it went off quickly). When they ate meat they often covered it in garum (a disgusting sauce made of fermented fish). Porridge and bread were the staple food of most Romans, especially those who lived in the city. The richer Romans had three meals a day: **jentaculum** (breakfast), followed by **wasprandium** (lunch) and **cena** (dinner); cena would last for hours. Dinner guests would lay on their left elbow on couches and ate with their fingers. They would indulge in foods such as porpoise, crane, flamingo, ostrich, thrush, turtle-dove, dormice and Sow's udder in fish brine.