

UNDERSTANDING THE LESSON**3****Recalling Facts****LESSON 1 CONTENT MASTER**

* Read each statement. Fill in the blanks with the word or words that best complete the sentence.

1. The *Aeneid* was written by the Roman poet _____.
2. The *Aeneid* recounts the adventures of Aeneas, a prince of _____.
3. The goddess _____ tormented Aeneas and the other Trojans as they sought a new home in Italy.
4. Aeneas and his followers eventually settled among the _____.
5. Rome began as a city-state on the _____ River.
6. According to an old story, _____ was the first king of Rome.
7. The second king, Numa, made people obey his rules by claiming that a _____ spoke to him.
8. In the Roman republic, each _____ had equal power.
9. The north African city of _____ controlled the western Mediterranean lands.
10. In the first _____ War, the Romans forced the Carthaginians out of Sicily.
11. _____, a Carthaginian general, later invaded Rome by marching his troops over the Pyrenees and the _____.
12. Hannibal's army frightened enemy troops with the huge _____ used in attacks.
13. Hannibal defeated the Roman army in the _____ War.
14. The Third Punic War ended with the complete destruction of _____.
15. After this war, Rome controlled both _____ and the _____.

Think and Write: How does the government of the United States compare to that of ancient Rome? Write a paragraph listing similarities and differences. You may use the back of the sheet.

COMPARING GOVERNMENTS

3

* The United States is a republic. In a republic citizens choose representatives to run the country. The government of the United States resembles and differs from that of the ancient Roman Republic. In the chart below, basic information about the two governments is listed in categories. Fill in the missing information.

	Roman Republic	United States Today
Equality of citizens	Citizens were divided into two unequal groups, patricians and plebeians.	With few exceptions, such as some convicted criminals, all citizens are equal.
Voting rights		With few exceptions, all citizens 18 years old and older can vote.
Qualifications for senator	Only patricians could become senators.	
Title of chief executive and length of term		
Number of chief executives at one time		
Government during major emergency		The President continues to lead during emergencies, no matter how serious.

Thinking Further: Did average citizens play a larger role in the government of the ancient Roman Republic, compared to citizens in the United States today? Support your answer with specific reasons.

ROMULUS AND REMUS

3

* Historians know little about the founding of the city of Rome. According to myth, the city was founded by twin brothers, Romulus and Remus. The passage below tells one version of their story. (A myth explains something about the world, usually by referring to gods or other supernatural beings.)

According to myth, twin boys were born to a priestess named Rhea Silvia. The father of the babies was Mars, the Roman god of war. When the king of the region heard of the babies' birth, he ordered them thrown into the Tiber River because he feared the god Mars. The babies were put into a basket and thrown into the river. However, the basket was washed ashore and became tangled in the roots of a large tree on a riverbank. Mars sent a wolf to care for the twins. A poor herdsman found the babies in the wolf's den and took them home to raise. He named them Romulus and Remus.

Many years later, the twins, now grown, were reunited with their grandfather, a king named Numitor. After living with Numitor for several years, Romulus and Remus yearned for power. They set out to establish a new settlement on the banks of the Tiber River where they had been found by the wolf. After working together to start the new city, the twins began to fight about which of them should rule. The strife ended when Romulus flew into a rage and killed his brother. The people of the new city accepted Romulus as their king. The city came to be called Rome after its ruler.

* Rank the following events according to the order in which they take place in the myth. (Use the numbers 1 to 8.)

- _____ Twin sons are born to Rhea Silvia.
- _____ Romulus and Remus are reunited with their grandfather.
- _____ A city is named Rome after its leader.
- _____ Mars sends a wolf to care for the babies.
- _____ Romulus and Remus set off to start a new city.
- _____ A herdsman finds the babies in a wolf's den.
- _____ Remus is killed by his brother.
- _____ The babies are thrown into the Tiber River.

Thinking Further: You have just read a myth about the founding of Rome. Describe a more realistic way in which Rome might have been founded.
