

FAMOUS PEOPLE FROM ANCIENT ROMAN ERA

Julius Caesar - Caesar was a ruler, politician, conqueror, and orator. He considered himself the king and “dictator for life” over the Romans. Many Romans adored and respected him, especially the poor because he had given them land. He introduced the modern-day calendar and named the month of July after himself. He was also very powerful and influential in reforming Ancient Roman laws. Ultimately, he was betrayed and killed by those closest to him.

Mark Antony - Mark Antony was a great supporter of Julius Caesar and wished to rule as a dictator also. He broke Roman law to marry Cleopatra, the Queen of Egypt. He struggled for power against Octavian (Caesar’s adopted son) after the death of Caesar. Octavian won.



Cleopatra - Cleopatra was the Queen of Egypt. She was Greek. She was a very beautiful and intelligent woman. Julius Caesar and her were deeply in love before his death. After his death, Cleopatra married Mark Antony. They committed suicide together after Octavian’s victory.

Cicero - Marcus Tullius Cicero was a lawyer and a writer, and was considered the best public speaker of Ancient Rome. He was not afraid to stand up for what he believed in, even when he opposed Caesar. He was in favour of a republic form of government, instead of a dictatorship. His beliefs cost him his life. He was executed for his criticism of the government.

Hannibal - Hannibal was the Commander-in-Chief of the Carthaginian Armies. He called himself the eternal enemy of Rome and fought against Rome for 50 years. Although he won many battles, he lost the war against Rome. He is best remembered for his march into battle using elephants. Ultimately, he committed suicide to avoid being captured by the Romans.



Spartacus - Spartacus was a Greek gladiator who entertained the Romans with his fighting ability. He led an army of 90,000 slaves in a revolt throughout the Roman Empire. Although they defeated at least five Roman armies, eventually they were captured. Spartacus died in battle.

Nero - Nero was a strict emperor. He opposed Christianity and had all Christians executed. He often performed recitals in the theater himself. During his recitals, no one was allowed to leave the theater for any reason. He had a large statue of himself placed outside the Colosseum. The statue was destroyed after his murder because of the Romans' dislike for him.

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WORKSHEET

NAME: _____

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct famous person. Refer to your handout for help. Some names are used more than once.

Example: The month of August is named after this person. _____

1. Who led 90,000 slaves in a revolt throughout the Empire? _____
2. Who had a large statue built of himself (that was later destroyed)? _____
3. Who broke the law to marry his wife? _____
4. Who was the first emperor? _____
5. Who named the capital city after himself? _____
6. Who was the Greek ruler over Egypt? _____
7. Who opened the Colosseum? _____
8. Who thought of himself as king and "dictator for life"? _____
9. Who fought Octavian for power after Caesar's death? _____
10. Who was executed for criticizing the government? _____
11. Whose army rode elephants into battle? _____
12. Who liked to perform recitals in the theater? _____
13. Who changed his name to Caesar Augustus? _____
14. Who had Christians executed during his reign? _____
15. Who made Christianity the official religion during his reign? _____
16. Who was a popular Greek gladiator? _____
17. Who was the best Public Speaker in Ancient Rome? _____
18. Who called himself the eternal enemy of Rome? _____
19. Who gave land to the poor during his rule? _____
20. Who was the month of July named after? _____