

# Roman Life

## Study Guide

## I. Household terms

- atrium: main room of the house; reception hall
- tablinum: master's study
- triclinium: dining room
- cubiculum: bedroom
- culina: kitchen
- peristylum: courtyard with columns
- alae: rooms off the atriums used to hold the imagines
- arca: strongbox kept in the tablinum
- lararium: shrine to the household gods
- mensa: table
- cathedra: armless chair with curved back
- sella: stool or chair
- domus: house
- villa: country house
- casa: cottage
- insulae: apartment house

## II. The Baths

- balneae: term for the baths
- thermae: term for the baths
- caldarium: hot bath
- frigidarium: cold bath
- tepidarium: warm bath
- apodyterium: changing room
- palaestra: exercise area
- unctorium: massage room
- laconicum: sweat room
- sudatorium: sauna
- natatio: swimming pool
- hypocaust: furnace underneath the baths used for heating
- strigiles: body scrapers
- ostiarium: doorman to whom you paid the entrance fee

### III. Gladiators

- retiarius: fought with a net and trident
- samnite: heavily armed gladiator who carried a long shield
- andabata: blindfolded gladiator
- murmillo: had a helmet adorned with a fish crest
- essedarius: fought in a war chariot

### IV. Names

- nomen: family name or name of gens; Gaius Iulius Caesar
- praenomen: first name, often abbreviated; Gaius Iulius Caesar
- cognomen: last name; Gaius Iulius Caesar.
- agnomen: nickname

### V. Praenomen abbreviations

- App.: Appius
- A.: Aulus
- D.: Decimus
- C: Gaius
- Cn: Gnaeus
- K.: Kaeso
- L.: Lucius
- M: Marcus
- P.: Publius
- Q: Quintus
- S.: Sextus
- T.: Titus
- Ti: Tiberius

### VI. Togas

- toga praetexta: purple bordered toga worn by boys and high ranking officials
- toga virilis: plain white toga worn by men

- toga candida: bright white toga worn by candidates for office
- toga pulla: toga worn at funerals for mourning
- toga picta: toga worn by triumphant generals

### VII. Women's clothing

- stola: ankle length dress
- palla: shawl
- fibula: brooch, pin
- zona: girdle

### VIII. Shoes

- calceus: outdoor ankle high shoe with laces
- soleae: sandal worn indoors
- caliga: soldiers boot
- mulleus: red shoe worn by patricians

### IX. Roman occupations

- vigiles: firemen
- pistor: baker
- pictor: painter
- tonsor: barber or dentist
- pastor: Shepard
- piscator: fisherman
- caupo: innkeeper
- ornatrix: hair dresser
- fullo: laundry man
- carnifex: butcher
- nutrix: nurse
- litterator: elementary teacher
- grammaticus: intermediate teacher
- rhetor: advanced level teacher

## X. Slaves

- paedagogus: led young boy to school.
- nomenclator: prompted his master with names
- ianitor: doorman
- vicarius: slave of a slave
- verna: slave born in a household
- fugitivus: runaway slave

## XI. Marriage ceremonies

- usus: plebeian form of marriage; common-law marriage
- confarreatio: patrician marriage where bride and groom shared cake
- coemptio: marriage where bride pretended to be sold
- contubernium: slave marriage

## XII. Circus Maximus Terms

- metae: turning posts
- spina: dividing wall
- carceres: starting gates
- aurigae: charioteers
- mappa: handkerchief dropped to start a race
- calx: finishline
- quadriga: four-horse chariot
- biga: two-horse chariot
- delphini et ova: dolphins and eggs, used as lap markers

## XIII. Seven Hills of Rome

- Capitoline
- Palatine
- Aventine
- Caelian
- Quirinal
- Esquiline
- Viminal

#### XIV. Food

- puls: porridge
- panis: bread
- mel: honey
- ova: eggs
- malum: apple
- perna: ham
- fabae: beans
- uvae: grapes
- malum Persicum: peach
- malum Punicum: pomegranate
- caseus: cheese
- garum: fish sauce

#### XV. Drinks

- lac: milk
- vinum: wine
- aqua: water
- mulsum: wine with honey
- mulsa: water with honey
- mustum: grape juice

#### XVI. Meals

- ientaculum: breakfast
- prandium: lunch
- cena: dinner
- secunda mensa: dessert
- gustatio: appetizer
- ante cena: appetizer
- convivium: banquet

## **XVII. More Household terms**

- vestibulum: space between door and sidewalk; entry way
- solarium: sun deck
- latrina: bathroom
- bibliotheca: library
- hortus: garden
- lares and penates: household gods
- impluvium: basin in the floor of the atrium
- compluvium: opening in roof of the atrium
- imagines: wax busts of ancestors
- posticum: back door
- fores: double doors
- lectus: couch or bed
- clepsydra: water clock
- horologium: clock

## **XVIII. Public Officials**

- Consul: highest ranking office in the Republic
- Praetor: judge
- Quaestor: treasurer
- Censor: in charge of public morals, counting citizens, and admitting senators to the senate
- Tribune: representative of the common people(plebs); had power of veto
- Aedile: in charge of public games and buildings
- Pontifex Maximus: chief priest
- Dictator: appointed in times of emergency

## **XIX. Miscellaneous**

- Saturnalia: festival in December when slaves were temporarily free
- basilica: courthouse
- curia: senate house

- regia: home of chief priest
- tabulae: wax tablets
- juno: guardian spirit of a girl
- genius: guardian spirit of a boy
- pork: favorite meat of Romans
- salutatio: morning greeting between patron and clients
- venatio: beast hunt
- naumachia: mock naval battle
- cerasus: cherry
- pirum: pear
- bulla: charm worn by boys to ward off the evil eye
- 7 laps in a chariot race
- designator: undertaker
- Liberalia: festival where boys put on toga virilis
- sponsalia: engagement party
- ubi tu gaius, ego gaia: what a Roman woman said at her wedding, 'when you are gaius, I am gaia'
- scaena: stage in a roman theater
- personae: masks worn by actors
- trigon: a ball game
- solium: straight high backed chair with arms
- nundinae: market days, held every ninth day
- talassio: a wedding cheer
- kalendae: 1<sup>st</sup> day of month
- nonas: 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month in most months; 7<sup>th</sup> day of the month in March, May, July, and October
- ides: 13<sup>th</sup> day of the month in most month; 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month in March, May, July, and October

## Latin I

## Roman Life Notes

### I. Food

1. Romans had no corn, potatoes, tomatoes, chocolate, oranges, bananas, liquor, sugar
2. Used not sugar, but honey; olive oil for butter
3. Grapes (uvae) and olives (olivae) were the most important crops.
4. Breakfast = jentaculum  
Lunch = prandium  
Dinner = cena
  1. Gustus = appetizer
  2. Secunda Mensa = dessert

### II. Clothes

1. Toga Virilis - (also toga pura or toga liber) - white wool - sign of Roman citizenship
2. Toga Candida - especially white - worn by a candidate for office
3. Toga Praetexta - (crimson stripe) - worn by boys and public officials
4. Toga Picta - crimson - worn by victorious generals
5. Toga Pulla - dark - worn by people in mourning or during a crisis
6. Tunica - worn by all Romans (long undershirt)
7. Stola - woman's dress
8. Palla - woman's shawl
9. Calcei - outdoor shoes
10. Soleae - sandals (indoor shoes)
11. Caligae - boots

### III. Government

- A. SPQR = Senatus Populusque Romanus  
(The Senate and the Roman people)
- B. cursus honorum
  1. quaestor - (treasurer) - 20 elected each year
  - optional 2. aedile (public games) 4 each year
  3. praetor - (judge) 8 each year
  4. consul - (head of government) - 2 each year
  5. censor - (public morals + leasing of buildings) elected every 5 years
  6. tribune - (veto) - protected plebeians

### VI. Buildings, Roads, etc.

- A. Forum Romanum - (marketplace) - between Capitaline and Palatine
  1. Curia - senate house
  2. Rostra - speaker's platform
  3. Basilica - law court (has Gaius architect, plan for church)
  4. Lapis Niger - (black rock, oldest thing, may have marked Romulus' tomb)
  5. Via Sacra - street in the forum
  6. Via Appia - 1<sup>st</sup> major road - 312 B.C. by Appius Claudius - went south to Capua then southeast to Brundisium - known as "regina viarum"
  7. *M. Agrippa* Appius Built the Pantheon - (dome by Hadrian)
  8. Via Salaria - to Ostia - "road of salt"
  9. Via Flaminia - north
  10. Via Aurelia - military road - north east
  11. Regia - official residence of the Pontifex Maximus (chief priest)
  12. Temple of Vesta - round

### V. Names

- praenomen, nomen, cognomen  
(given name) clan branch of clan  
e.g. Gaius Julius Caesar  
Abbreviations - praenomina

M = Marcus,	M' = Manius,	P = Publius,
Q = Quintus,	T = Titus,	Ti = Tiberius,
L = Lucius,	Sex. = Sextus,	<u>C</u> = Gaius,
Cn = Gnaeus,	App. = Appius	

#### VI. Rooms of a house (domus)

1. kitchen - culina
2. formal reception room - atrium
  1. hole in roof - compluvium
  2. rain-water basin - impluvium
3. master's study - tablinum
  1. strongbox - arca
4. small rooms off atrium - alae (contained imagines [wax masks of important ancestors])
5. hortus - garden
6. peristylum - colonnaded court yard
7. triclinium - dining room

Apartment buildings - insulae

couch - bed - lectus (main piece of furniture)

#### VII. Miscellaneous

1. Ostia - Rome's port city on the Tiber
2. Apennines - mountains running north - south in Italy
3. Cloaca Maxima - "big sewer"
4. Pontifex Maximus - "chief priest"
5. Mare Nostrum - "our sea" = Mediterranean
6. Latium - geographic district around Rome
7. Pons Sublicius - original wooden bridge across the Tiber
8. Pons Aemilius - first stone bridge across the Tiber
9. Campus Martius - large exercise area in Rome - originally for soldiers

#### VIII. Entertainment

1. Circus Maximus - chariot races - between Palatine and Aventine
  - a. 4 racing colors (factiones)- green, red, white, blue; purple and gold added by Domitian
  - b. spina - chariots raced around
  - c. metae - turning posts (3) at each end
  - d. carceres - starting gates for chariots
  - e. marble eggs and dolphins (symbols of Neptune, Castor + Pollux) - lap markers
  - f. charioteer - auriga or agitator
  - g. normal race - 7 laps
2. Colosseum (Flavian Amphitheater) for gladiatorial games
  - a. retiarius - (net and trident) vs. Samnites - (heavily armed)
  - b. murmillo - had a fish emblem on his head
  - c. thracian - light armor
  - d. "Nos morituri te salutamus." - "We who are about to die salute you."

#### IX. 7 hills of Rome: Palatine, Capitaline, Aventine, Esquiline, Quirinal, Viminal, Caelian

#### X. Slaves and/or Occupations

1. Nutrix - nurse
2. Nomenclator - helped master remember names
3. Ostiarius or Janitor - doorkeeper
4. Pistor - baker
5. Fullones - cleaners (clothes)
6. Piscator - Fisherman
7. Tonsor - barber
8. Sutor - shoemaker
9. Insularius - manager of apartment buildings
10. Vilicus - manager of a villa, country estate

11. Paedagogus - (slave) - accompanied child to school

XI. Wedding (Nuptiae)

1. Bride had hair parted in 6 strand; orange veil (flammeum); tunica recta; brides - maid = pronuba.

2. Confarreatio - formal ceremony

3. Usus - common law

4. bulla - protective charm given to all infants - women gave it up on the eve of their wedding

XII. Baths

1. thermae - large public baths

2. balnae - privat baths

3. calidarium - hot pool

4. frigidarium - cold pool

5. tepidarium - warm pool

6. hypocausta - furnace

7. apodyterium - dressing room

8. laconicum - sweat baths

9. strigil - instrument for scraping off dirt and oil

10. destrictarium - room where strigil was used

11. palaestra - outside exercise area

12. pescina - outdoor pool

XIII. Schools

1. tabellae - wax tablets

2. stylus - writing instruments

3. ludus - elementary school

4. abacus - counting board