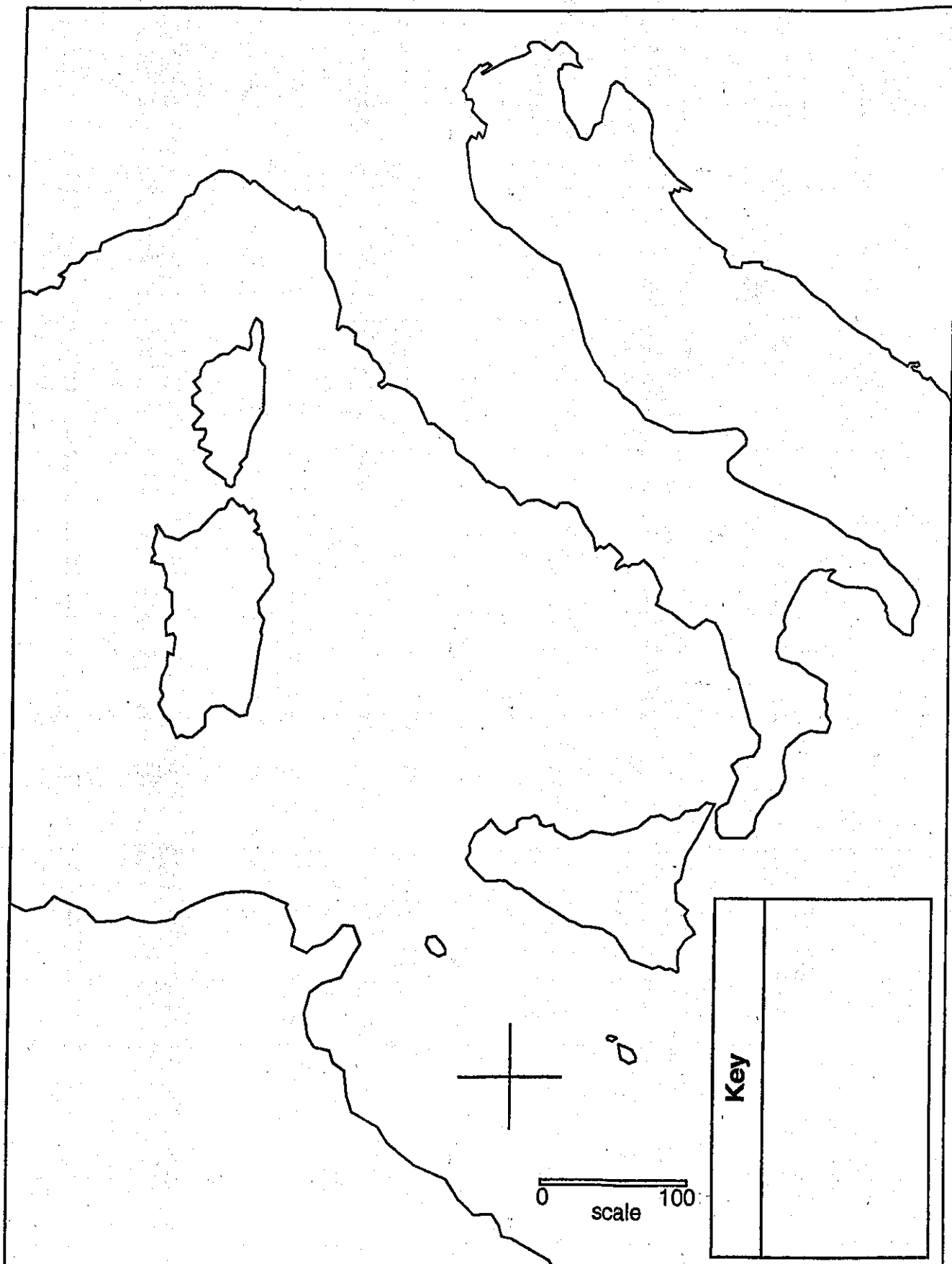


Map of Ancient Rome



Make a Physical Feature Map of Ancient Rome

Use the map on page 21 and the directions below to make a map showing the physical features of Ancient Rome.

1. Locate, draw, and label the Apennine Mountains and the Alps. Color these two mountain ranges brown.
2. Label the Mediterranean Sea, the Adriatic Sea, and the Ionian Sea. Color the seas blue.
3. Locate, draw, and label the Tiber River and the Po River. Color the rivers blue.
4. Locate and label the islands of Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily. Color the islands yellow.
5. Locate, draw, and label the Tuscan Plain, the Latium Plain, and Campanian Plain. Color the plains green.
6. Color the rest of the Italian coastline yellow.
7. Locate and label Northern Africa.
8. Locate, indicate, and label the cities of Rome, Alba Longa, and Naples.
9. Make a compass rose on your map showing north, south, east, and west.
10. Make a map key showing what each symbol and color represents on your map.
11. Make a scale showing that 1 inch equals 100 miles.
12. Cut out your map and glue it onto a sheet of colored construction paper.
13. At the top clearly write The Geography of Ancient Rome and your name.

Enid the Etruscan

Narrators 1–6

Narrator

Harid—Carthaginian

Theopompus, Tyre, and

Hector—Greeks

Pietre—patrician

Enid, Lathe, and Tareme—Etruscans

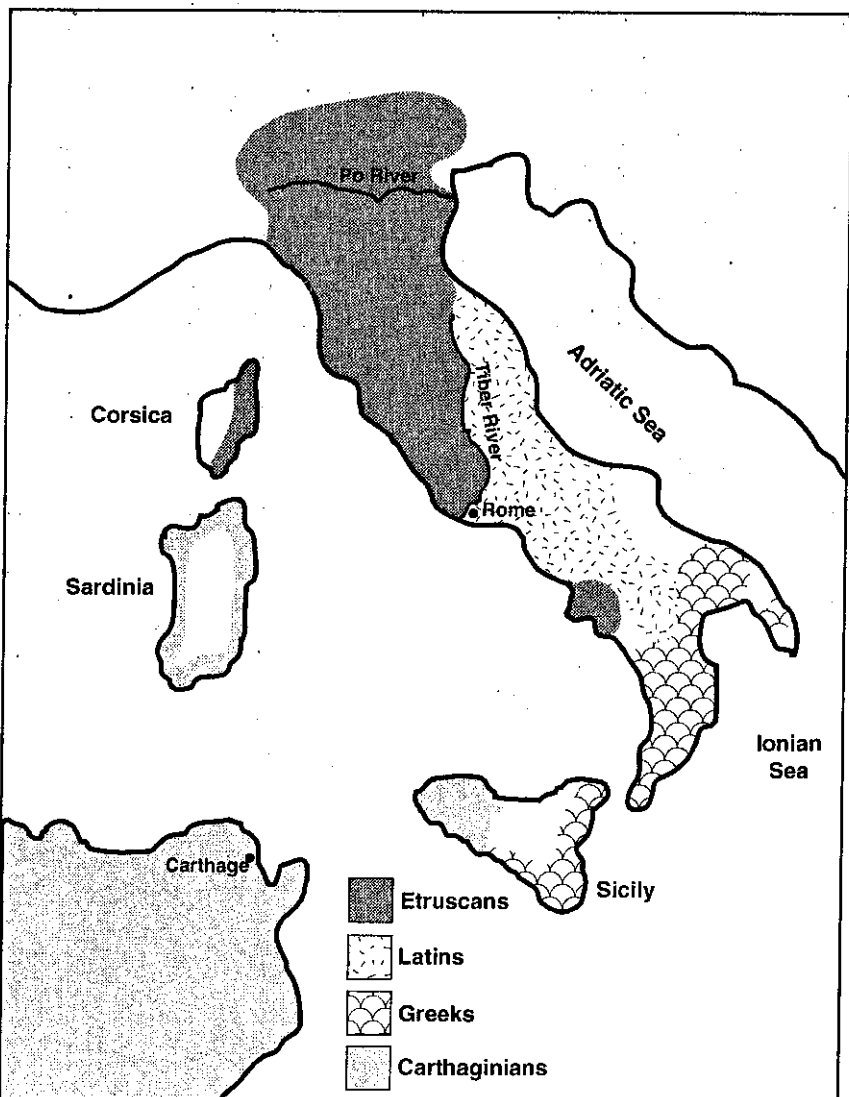
Claudius—Latin/Roman

Narrator: The original ancestors of the Romans were the **Latins**. They were an Indo-European tribe who settled in central Italy south of the Tiber River. The Latins were strongly influenced by the **Greeks** and **Etruscans** who also inhabited the peninsula. The **Carthaginians** from northern Africa helped to shape the culture of the future Romans as well. Travel to a cafe in modern-day Italy. Here, in a bustling place filled with many different types of people, descendants of these early people discuss their ancestors' roles in creating the Roman Empire.

Enid: It's true that Rome profited greatly from all its neighbors. I'm glad that even back then her citizens had the insight to learn from the knowledge, customs, and beliefs of the various cultures they encountered. Of course, it was my ancestors, the Etruscans, who contributed the most.

Tareme: Yes, our ancestors arrived on the Italian coast north of the Tiber River around 800 B.C. Most scholars believe they migrated from Asia Minor. They settled inland in an area known as Etruria, which today is known as the provinces of Tuscany and Umbria. Our people were hard and warlike and became a powerful force. They traded along the western coast and established cities all over northern and central Italy, from the Po River Valley to the Latium Plains. Eventually they developed codes of law, built a profitable trade, and encouraged art. The Etruscans also established colonies on Corsica and Sardinia, where they set up trade with the Carthaginians. They are considered the first real civilized people in Italy.

Lathe: In 575 B.C. the Etruscans expanded into the area of Rome, overpowered the Romans, and ruled for the next 66 years. By this time their navy dominated the seas and their culture was the most brilliant ever seen in Italy.



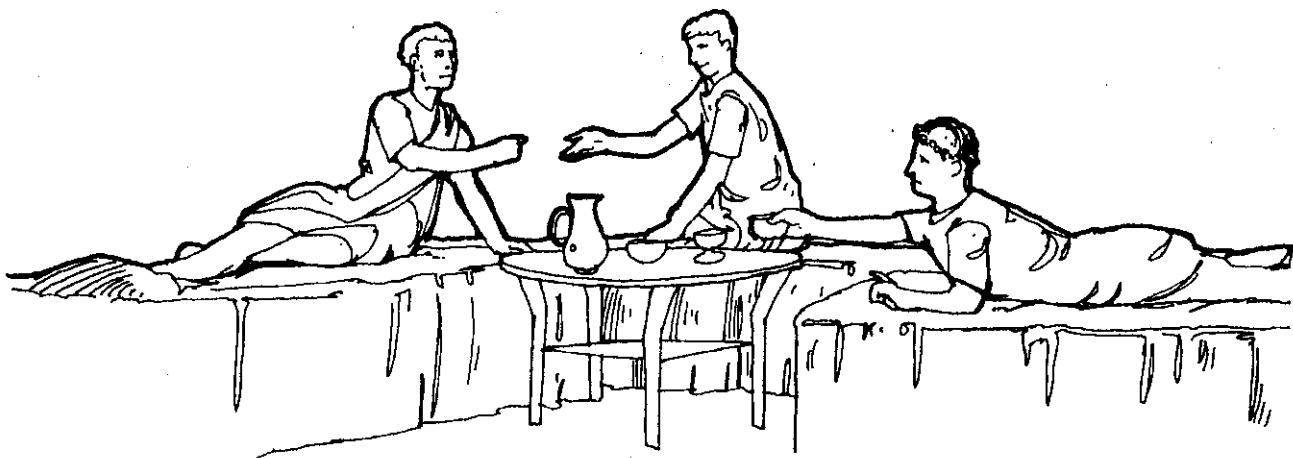
Enid the Etruscan (cont.)

Enid: It was the Etruscans who actually taught the Romans how to build and spread the Empire, through architecture and engineering. They were the first to build the famous arches made of wedge-shaped stones held together only by the pressure of one stone against the other. They then passed this knowledge on to the Romans, who used them in their temples, bridges, and government buildings. The Etruscans also passed along their engineering skills by teaching the Romans how to build roads, bridges, homes, and aqueducts. The Romans took these skills and used them far more extensively than ever before.

Tareme: It was also the Etruscans who helped the Romans develop a strong military. Etruria was rich in iron ore and the people were skilled at working with metals. Their weapons were far superior to those of their opponents. The Etruscans had armies of well-trained and disciplined soldiers. The Romans adopted Etruscan fighting techniques, weapons, and armor, becoming so proficient in their use that they were able to overpower the Etruscans in the 4th century B.C.

Lathe: And don't forget religion. The Etruscans were almost fanatically religious people who spent a great deal of time making offerings to their primitive gods, examining entrails, or studying weather patterns for omens. It was through this influence that the Romans became a highly superstitious people, constantly seeking good or evil signs in everyday happenings. The Etruscans also built elaborate tombs and supplied them with the necessities and luxuries of life, much like the Egyptians did with their dead. They spent much time preparing for death so that their spirits could live on and enjoy their lavish lifestyle. Their sarcophagi were elaborately sculpted, and their funerary art styles continued to be developed by the Romans.

Enid: Yes, their love of life was evident in their pleasure-seeking ways. The Romans adopted the Etruscans' elegant lifestyle. Reclining on couches at banquets to watch dancers and other entertainers as slaves served course after course of fine food and drink at lavish dinner parties became a part of the life of wealthy Romans. Men and women dressed up in fancy clothes, jewelry, and make-up to enjoy these meals with neighbors.



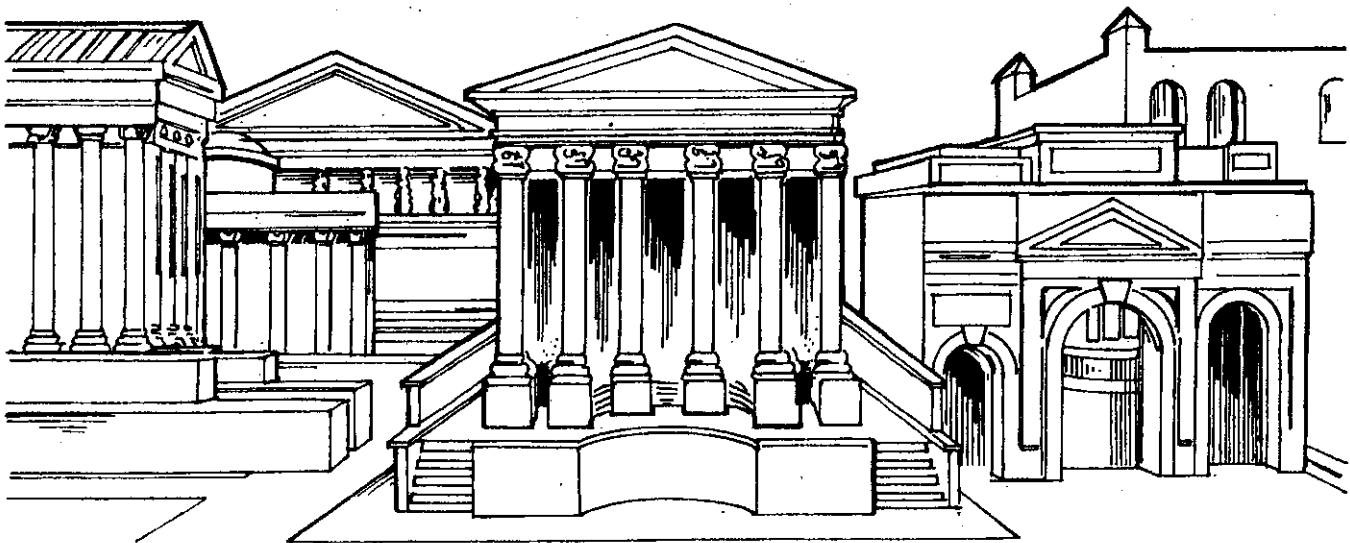
Enid the Etruscan (cont.)

Theopompus: The Etruscans also developed women's rights. They gave women much more freedom than my ancestors, the Greeks, did. Etruscan women were considered equal to their men. They could go out alone. They ate with the men and learned how to read. Sometimes they owned property, and they had great influence over the men and their decision making. Roman women also enjoyed many of the same privileges. Although the Romans did not adopt many of the restrictive social customs of the Greeks, they did base much of their culture on Greek ways.

Hector: As early as 600 B.C. the Greeks had established colonies in southern Italy and on the island of Sicily. Since they were there to civilize the people and not to conquer them, they introduced the Latin tribes to the skills and fine craftsmanship of the East. The Greek influence grew even stronger when Rome conquered Greece.

Tyre: The Greeks were considered outstanding in the arts, literature, and education. Greek statues and paintings were copied. Roman writers often turned to the Greeks for inspiration, admiring the works of their poets, playwrights, and authors of epic tales. Greek scholars were brought to Rome to educate wealthy Roman youths. There has always been a question about the Roman alphabet. Many say it was brought by the Etruscans, but others say the Etruscans adapted it from the Greek alphabet. I guess it could be considered a little of both.

Theopompus: The Romans also borrowed heavily from Greek religion and architecture. They worshipped Greek gods, yet gave them Roman names. They adopted basic Greek forms in architecture, including the use of columns and the triangular pediment.



Harid: Let's not forget that there were others—people from North Africa and the islands of Sicily and Sardinia. They were my ancestors, the Carthaginians. They were commercial rivals of Rome and they exercised control over a number of important city-states from their African capital city of Carthage. It was with them that the Romans fought the Punic Wars to establish control of the western Mediterranean area.

Claudius: And it was the Latins, the Romans' original ancestors, who developed a unified language for the Empire. Latin is still used today in such areas as medicine and law. So although the Latins were influenced by the Etruscans and Greeks in developing Roman culture, they also contributed mightily in making the Roman Empire so powerful a force for so long a time.

Vocabulary and Comprehension

Write the following words on the chalkboard for students to copy into their vocabulary books. Remind students to define and illustrate each word.

Latins

Greeks

Carthaginians

Etruscans

Use all or some of the following questions for whole-class discussion, small-group work, or individual assessment. Allow students to refer back to the story while working.

1. Who were the original ancestors of the Romans?
2. What other people settled in and around Italy?
3. Why do you think a Greek might have been shocked to meet an Etruscan woman?
4. The Romans developed a complex systems of roads. From whom did they learn this skill?
5. Why do you think the Romans adopted Greek religion and architecture rather than creating their own unique gods and style of building?
6. Do you think adopting the Etruscan social customs of lavish living and parties was wise? Or do you think the Romans should have adopted the Greek ways of simple living? Why?
7. How did the Romans benefit from having the Carthaginians as rivals?