**Chapter 7 Ancient Rome**

**Section 1: The Roman Republic**

*Directions: After you have read Chapter 7 Section 1 on pages 210-215, answer the following questions from the reading.*

1. Why did Rome’s geography make it a good place for a city?

***Rome is located on seven hills, which made it easy to defend. It had fertile soil to raise crops to feed the population and access to fresh water. It was also located at the center of the known Western World.***

1. Who were the Etruscans?

***The people who founded Rome. Also, the Romans adopted nearly all of their ideals, arts and ways of life.***

1. Why did the Romans decide to form a republic?

***They wanted a government that did not rely on the will of only one ruler. They were scared of the power of kings.***

1. How was the Roman Republic organized?

***The Roman Republic was led by two chief officials called consuls. The most powerful part of the government was the senate. The senate advised the consuls on foreign affairs, laws and finances. The consuls were both patricians and plebeians.***

1. How was the Roman government similar to the American government today?

***The US has adopted a republic and uses the veto concept to allow the President to reject a bill. The US has representation of the people in the House and the Senate.***

1. What complaints did the plebeians have against the patricians?

***The patricians and the plebeians were in conflict with each other over power, position, and wealth. The plebeians found themselves unemployed because patricians had slaves working on their farms. When plebeians refused to fight in the army, patricians gave in to the main plebeian demand and allowed the creation of the Twelve Tables – laws that applied to all citizens of Rome.***

1. What was imperialism?

***The practice of gaining control over foreign lands and people***

1. What areas did Rome conquer?

***Carthage (present day Tunisia), Spain, Greece, Gaul (present day France)***

1. What led to the decline of the Roman Republic?

*Consuls stopped respecting each other’s authority and generals led armies to try to take power. All of this weakened the empire leaving it open to takeover by Julius Caesar.*

1. Why were many Romans against the rule of Julius Caesar?

*They felt he had too much power. They didn’t want to go back to being ruled by a king.*

1. What events followed the death of Julius Caesar?

***Civil war followed Julius Caesar’s death. Octavian, Caesar’s adopted son, triumphed and became the first emperor of Rome.***