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|  | MAIN Ideas 1. From a small town on the banks of an Italian river, Rome grew to control the entire Mediterranean region. 2. Governmental and social problems led to the end of the Roman Republic and the creation of a new form of government. 3. The Romans developed a complex society and pioneered cultural advances that, even today, affect life all over the world. 4. A new religion called Christianity developed within the Roman Empire and gradually spread throughout the Roman world. 5. Events and conditions inside as well as outside the Roman Empire weakened it and led to its collapse in the west in the 400s. |

Reviewing Vocabulary, terms, and people

Read each of the following descriptions. In the space provided, write the name from the word bank of who or what is speaking.

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| Attila | Constantine | Augustus  |
| Paul | Cincinnatus |  |

 1. “In the early Republic, I was made dictator to save my people from an invasion. I was happy to leave public office, though, and return to farming.”

 2. “I defeated Antony and Cleopatra and eventually became the sole ruler of Rome.”

 3. “I opposed those teaching that Jesus was the Messiah before my life was changed on a trip to Damascus.”

 4. “I was the emperor whose support of Christianity helped it to spread through the Roman Empire.”

 5. “I was the leader of the Huns, a nomadic Central Asian people. At the urging of Pope Leo I, I left Italy before reaching Rome.”

Comprehension and Critical Thinking

Read each of the following pairs of sentences, and choose the sentence that is **TRUE**.

 6. a. In 494 BC Roman patricians brought about social reform by leaving the city and refusing to fight invaders until changes were made.

 b. In 494 BC Roman plebeians brought about social reform by leaving the city and refusing to fight invaders until changes were made.

 7. a. Eventually, the Roman republican government consisted of assemblies, magistrates, and a Senate.

 b. Eventually, the Roman republican government consisted of a House of Representatives, a President, and a Senate.

 8. a. The Pax Romana was a period of time characterized by war, civil unrest, a lack of law and order, and reduced transportation.

 b. The Pax Romana was a period of time characterized by peace, a stable government, a strong legal system, and widespread trade.

 9. a. In the Roman family structure, the mother was the head of the family and the virtues of curiosity and self-determination were emphasized.

 b. In the Roman family structure, the father was the head of the family and the virtues of simplicity and obedience were emphasized.

 10. a. Jesus of Nazareth preached a message of redemption and warning.

 b. Jesus of Nazareth preached a message of armed revolt and resistance.

Reviewing Themes

Read each statement. Fill in the black with the **theme** that best fits each statement.

Themes

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| belief systems | arts and ideas | government and citizenship | science and technology |

 11. The ancient Roman civilization was a republic with a system of checks and balances.

 12. Roman engineering including such advances as aqueducts, which transported water into the city.

 13. Jesus of Nazareth preached Christianity, which spread to Rome.

 14. Latin was the language of Rome and many literary works of the time were written in Latin.