

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

# Cultural Contributions

## STATION 1: The Glory and Guts of the Roman Gladiators

Why do you think the Colosseum is such an iconic monument to Rome?

What conclusions can you draw about Roman society based on what they did for entertainment?

*Answer the following questions about the games:*

**WHAT** were the gladiatorial games?

**WHY** were they fought?

**WHO** became a gladiator?

**HOW** were gladiators treated?

Compare and contrast the gladiatorial games to a modern-day sporting events.

**Fun Fact:** Which two animals are extinct because of the gladiatorial game?

## STATION 2: The Secret Code of Roman Numerals

What seven letters make up Roman Numerals?

\_\_\_\_\_

*How well can you read Roman Numerals?*

See if you can work out these Roman Numerals:

IX =                      LXX = \_

XIV =                    CLIII = \_

CIX =                    XXII = \_

Now, make these numbers into Roman Numerals:

62 =                      140 = \_

81 =                      754 = \_

29 =                      526 = \_

Try writing the year 2016 in Roman Numerals:

What are some strengths and weaknesses of using Roman Numerals?

When do we still use Roman Numerals today? Try to come up with at least three examples:

1)

2)

3)

**Fun Fact:** Which number is not represented in Roman Numerals? (hint: this number had not been discovered yet!)

## STATION 3: The New Generation of Gods and Goddesses

*The following is a list of Greek gods. Your job is to explore the website and try to find the Roman god that is associated with each of the Greek gods.*

Zeus:

Poseidon:

Hades:

Ares:

Kronos:

Hermes:

Aphrodite:

[www.gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/roman](http://www.gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/roman)

Compare and contrast Roman and Greek mythology. What's similar? What's different?

Which God or Goddess do you believe was the most important to the Romans and why? Which one do you find most fascinating and why?

**Fun Fact:** What do all the names of the Romans gods have in common?

## STATION 4: Around the World in Roman Architecture

*Label each of the following buildings or monuments on the map below*

- D Arch of Hadrian
- D The Maison Carrée
- D The Aqueducts
- D The Roman Baths
- D The Pantheon

Which architectural advancement do you think is most important? Explain your answer.

Why do you think the Roman Empire spent so much time, resources, and money building the roads?

What similarities do you notice between the Roman architecture and the architecture of the Ancient Greeks?

### Fun Fact: How many miles of roads did the Roman Empire have?

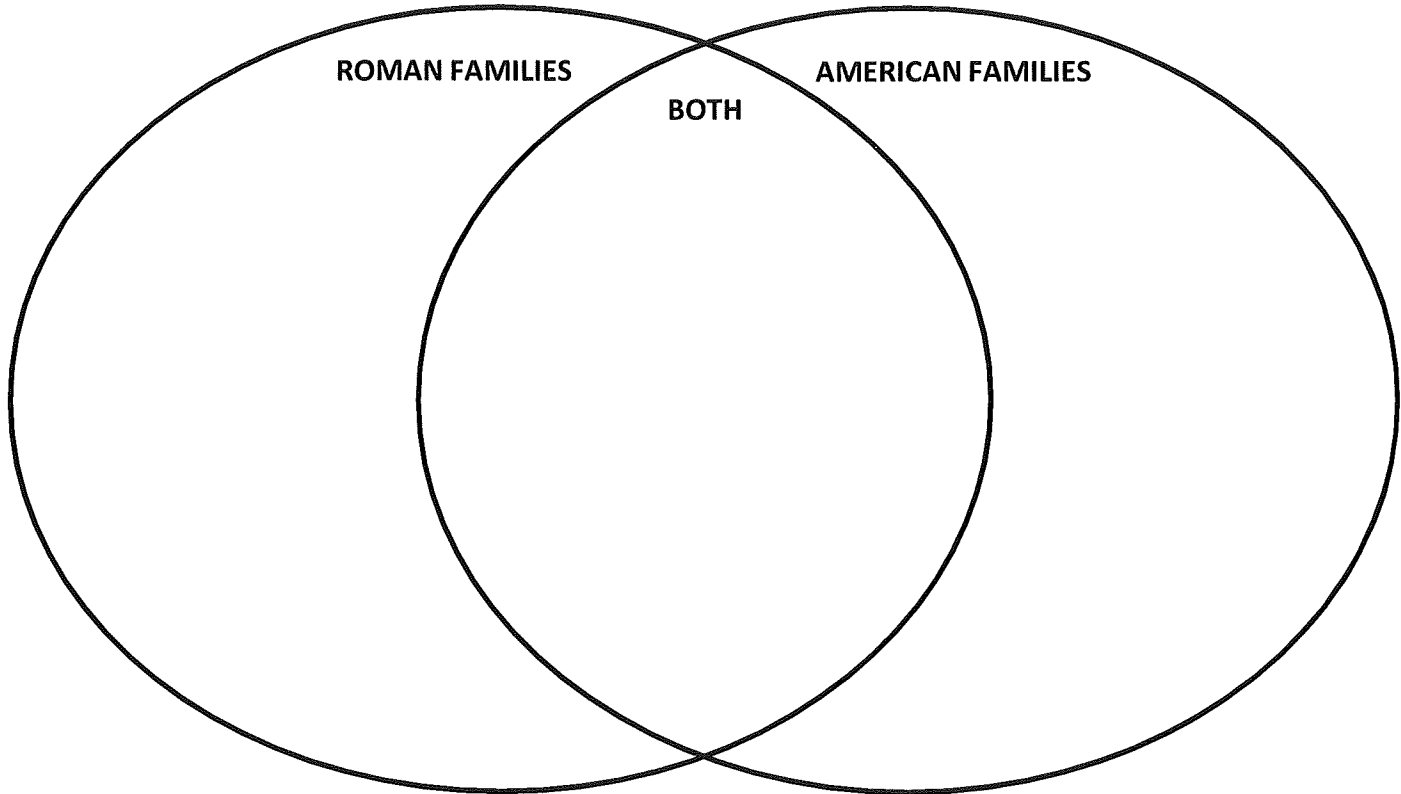


## STATION 5: All Together in a Roman Family

Describe the life of each person in the family:

MEN	WOMEN	SONS	DAUGHTERS

Compare and contrast family life in the United States with family life back in Ancient Rome:

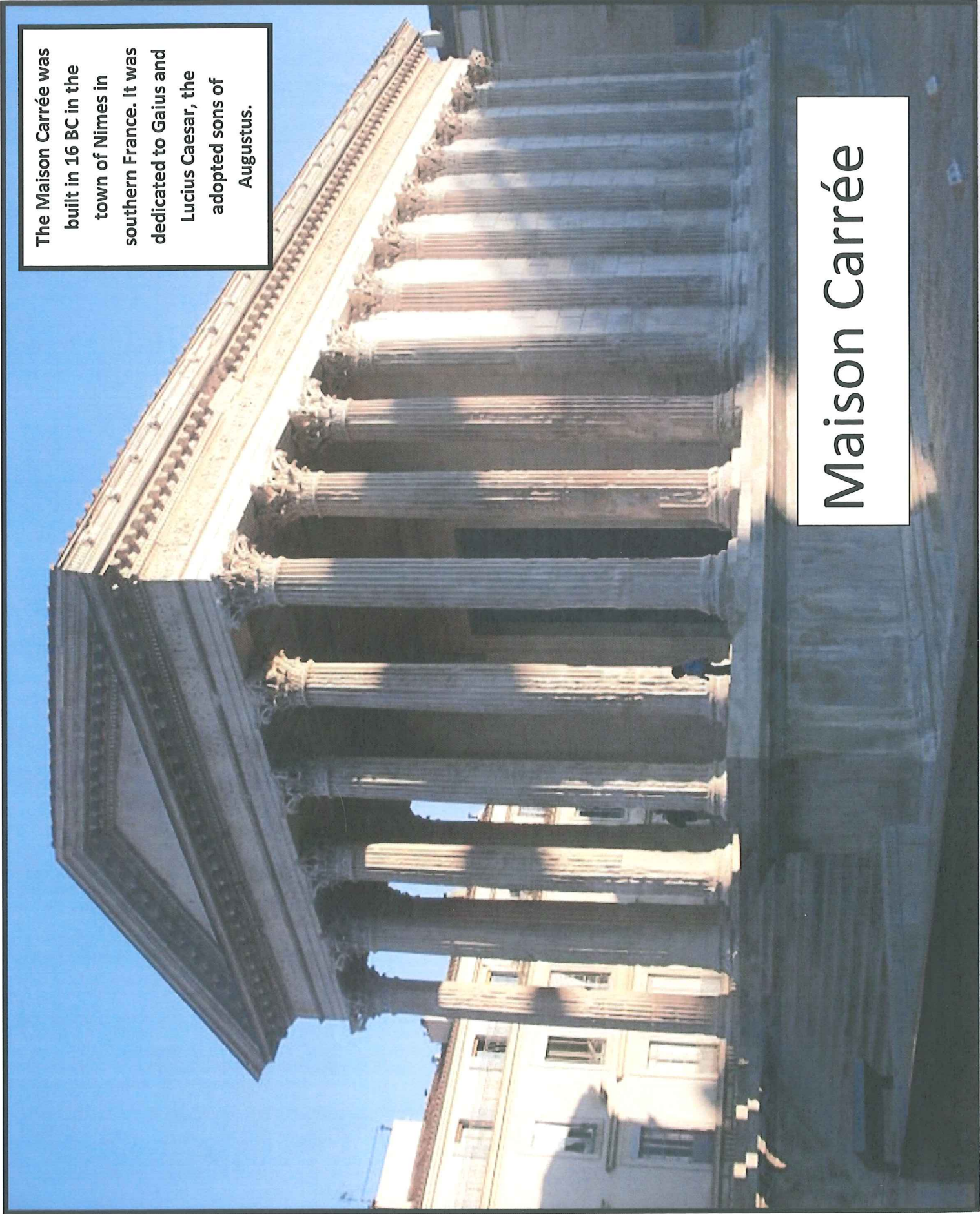


**Time to think!** ☺ If you could go back in time and live during the Ancient Roman Empire and trade your current life for one in Ancient Rome ... Would you go? Why or why not? Explain.

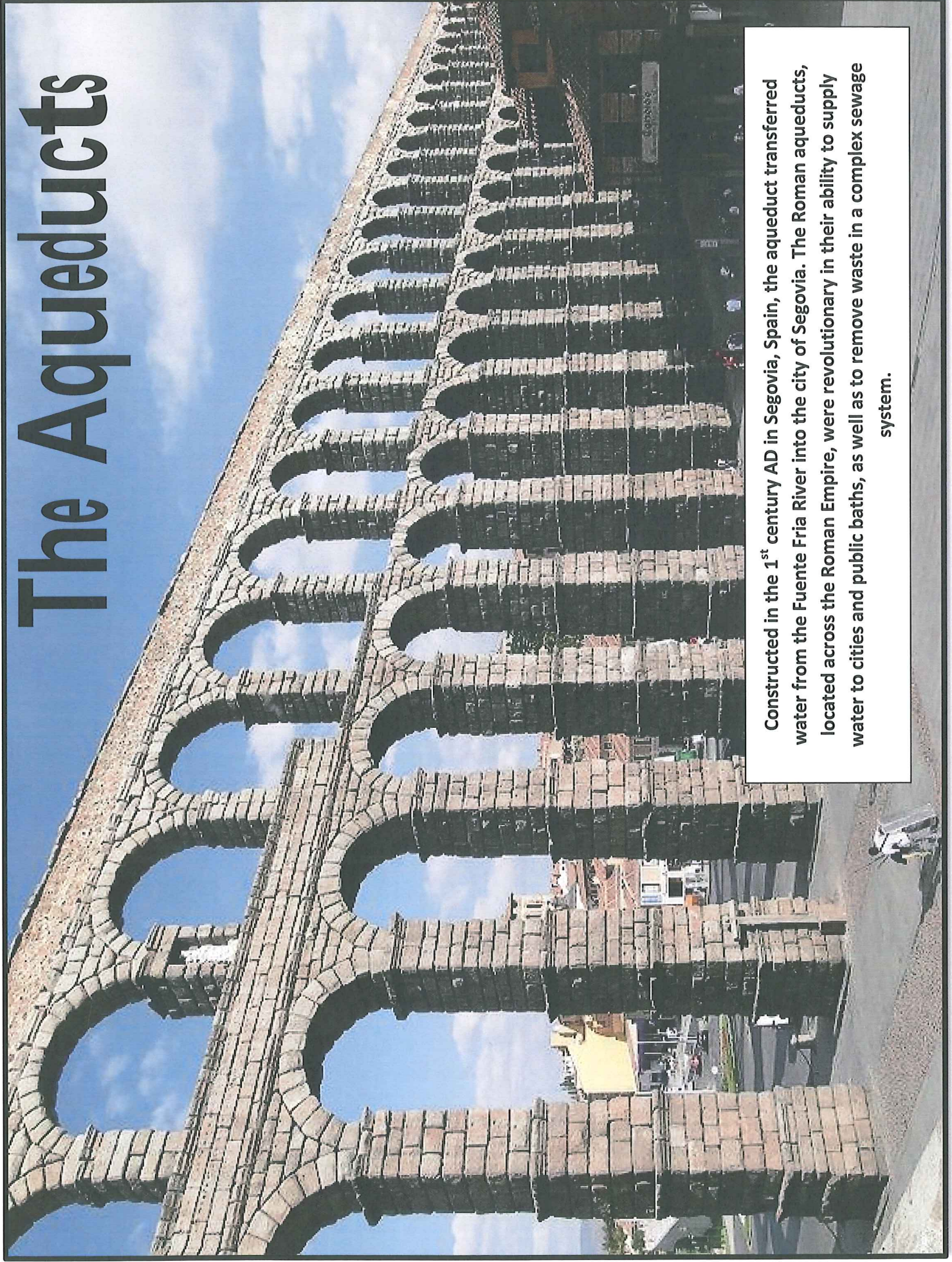
**Fun Fact:** Women in Rome were considered legally independent after giving birth to how many live babies?

The Maison Carrée was built in 16 BC in the town of Nîmes in southern France. It was dedicated to Gaius and Lucius Caesar, the adopted sons of Augustus.

# Maison Carrée



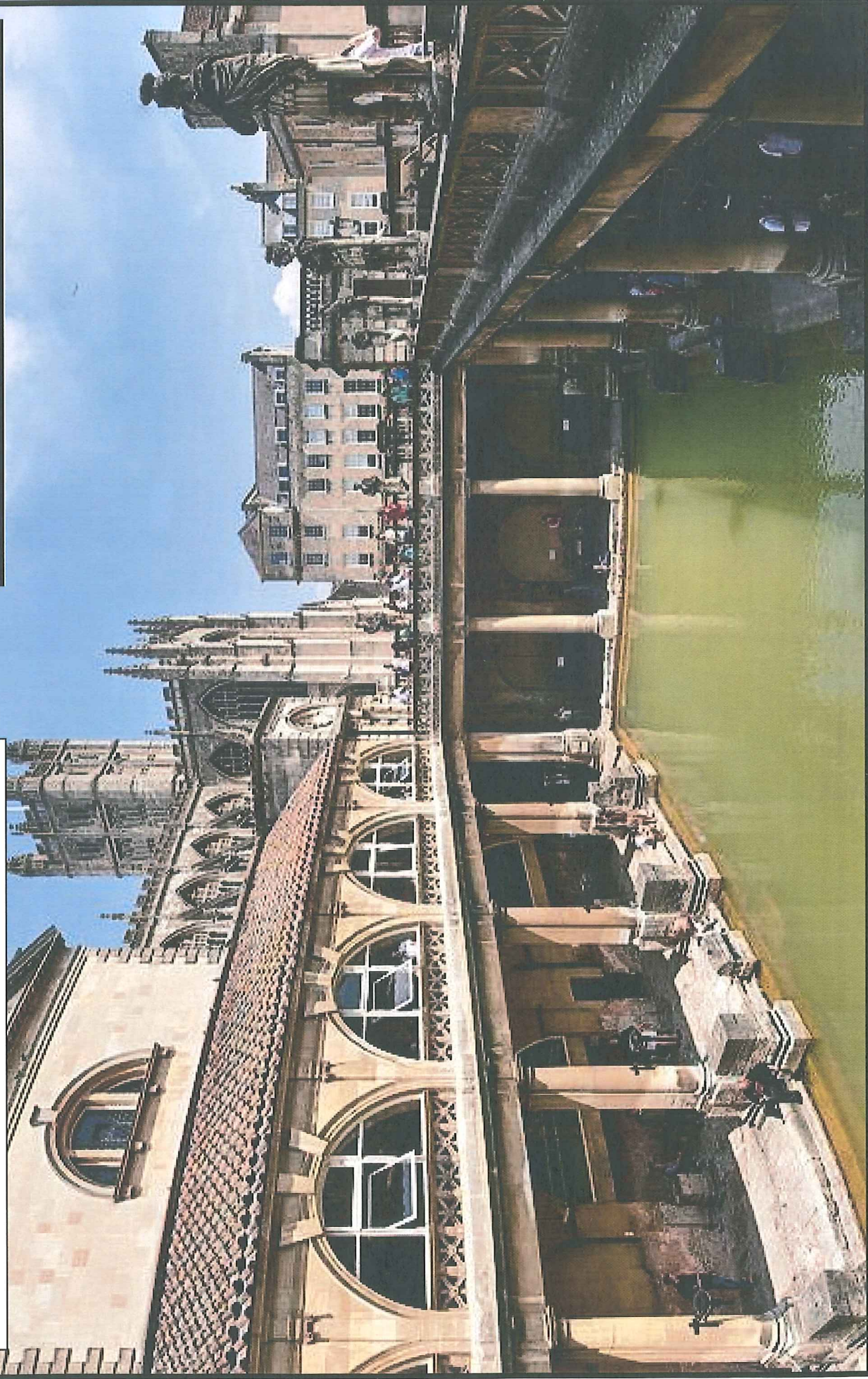
# The Aqueducts



Constructed in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD in Segovia, Spain, the aqueduct transferred water from the Fuente Fria River into the city of Segovia. The Roman aqueducts, located across the Roman Empire, were revolutionary in their ability to supply water to cities and public baths, as well as to remove waste in a complex sewage system.

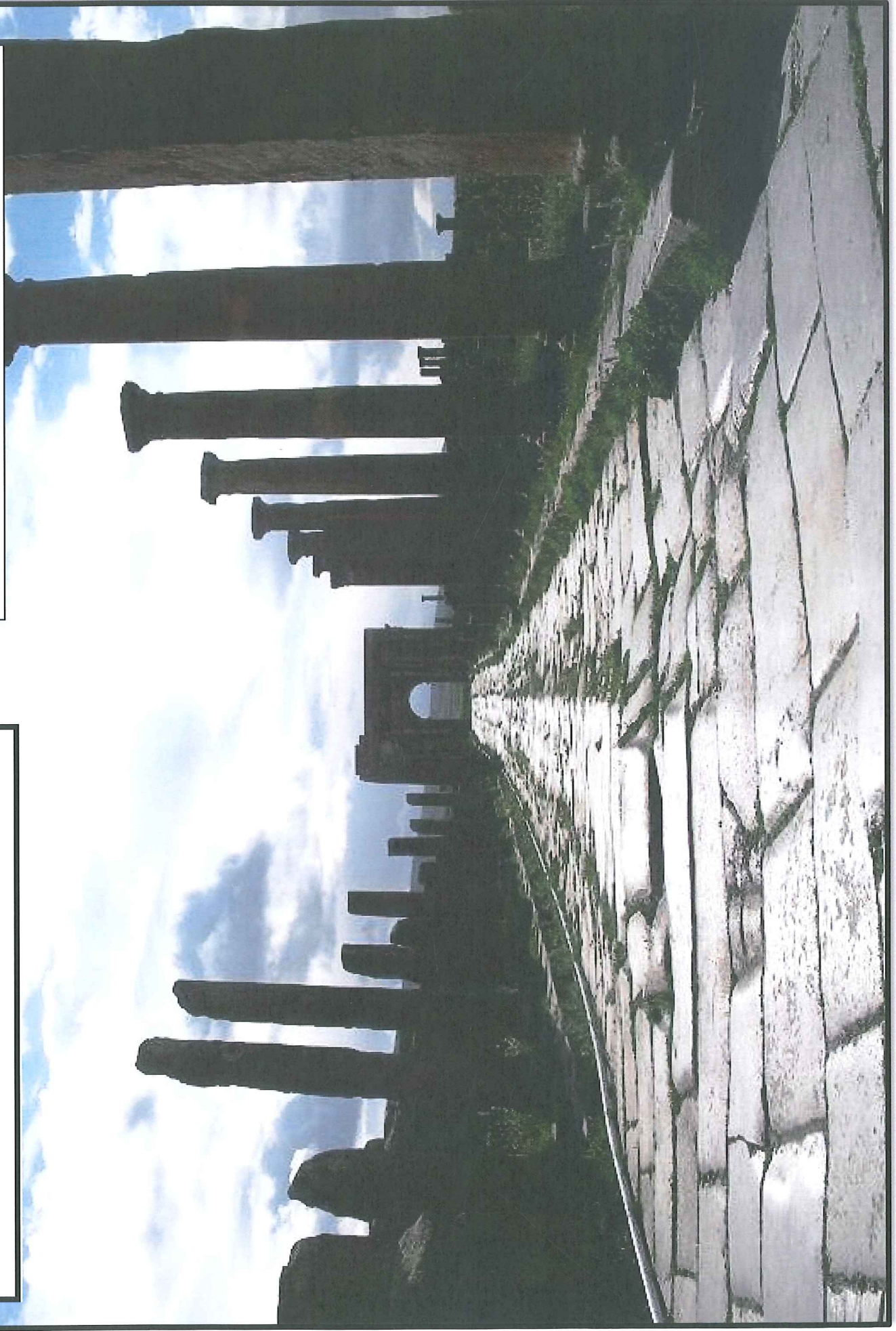
# The Baths

The Roman Baths are located in Bath, England. Each major city in the Roman Empire had a public bath, though this one is the most famous and still operational today. The baths are located below ground level and use water from hot springs.



Throughout the Roman Empire, roads were constructed. This road is located in Timgad, Algeria. By the end of the Roman Empire, over 250,000 miles of roads had been built.

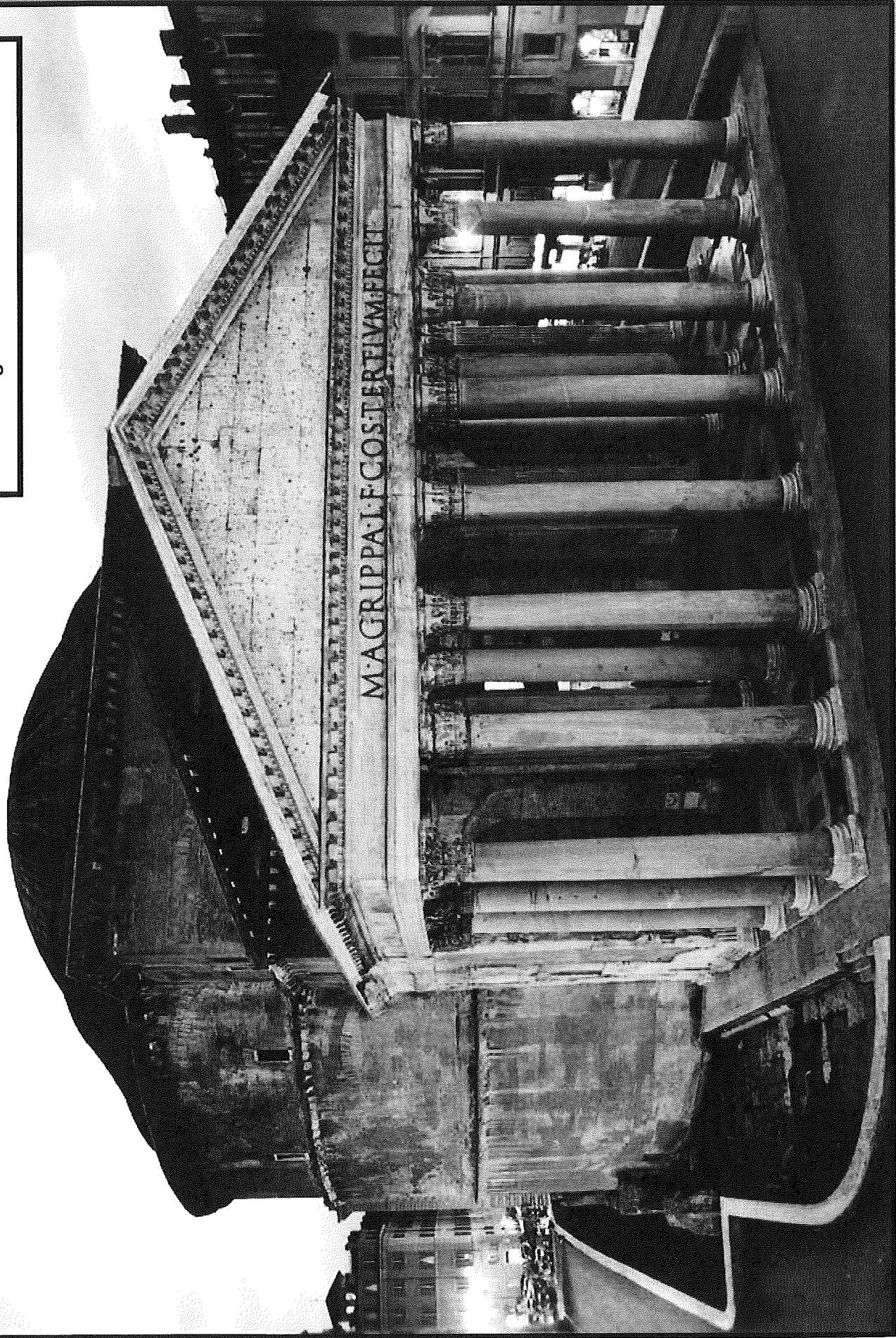
## Roman Roads



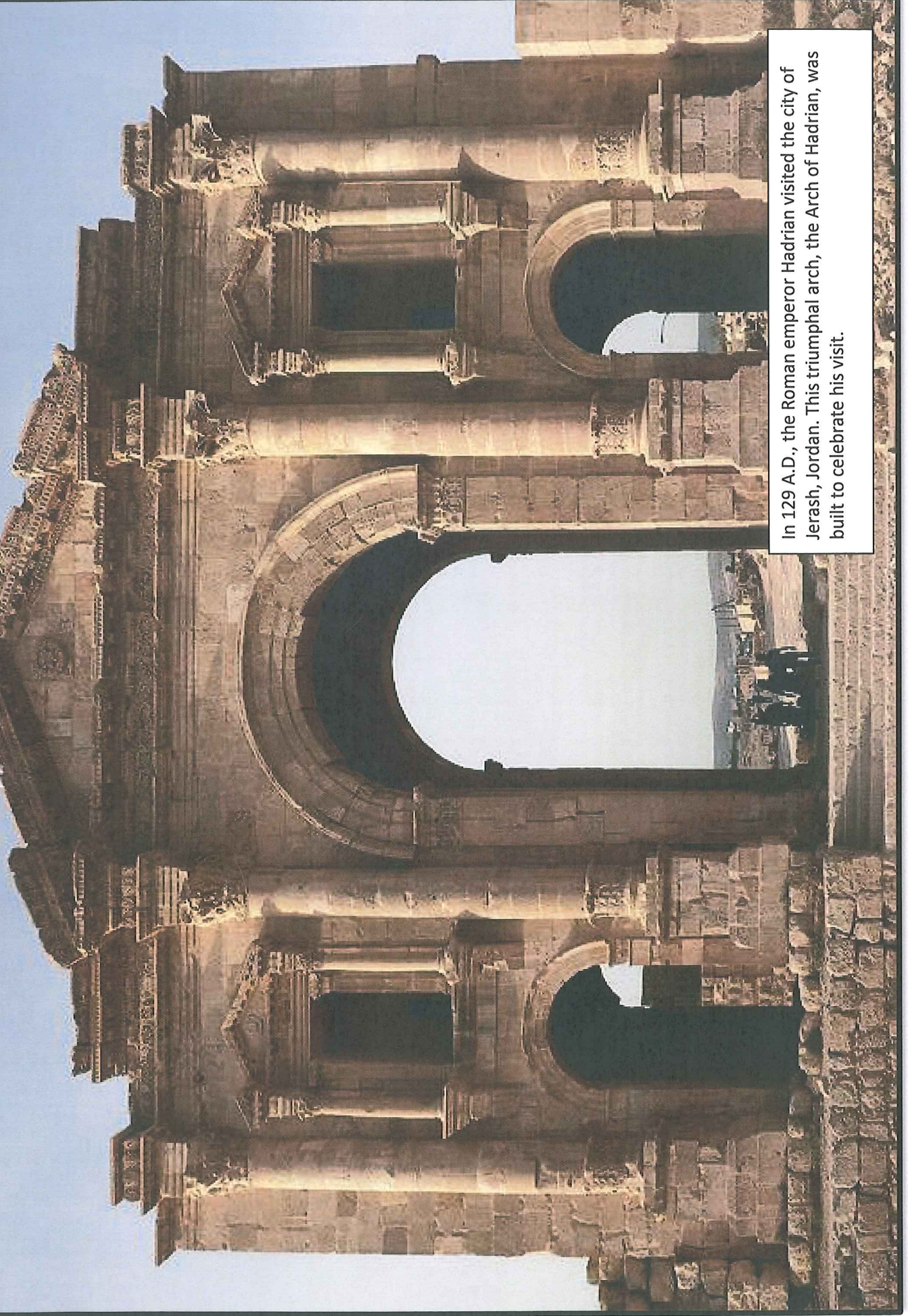


# The Pantheon

Built in 126 AD in Rome, Italy, the Pantheon was a temple dedicated to the gods. Even today, the Pantheon's dome is still the world's largest unreinforced concrete dome.



# Arch of Hadrian



In 129 A.D., the Roman emperor Hadrian visited the city of Jerash, Jordan. This triumphal arch, the Arch of Hadrian, was built to celebrate his visit.



# The Colosseum or Coliseum

Modified by Matthew Haley with thanks to Kristin Hock

# The Gladiators

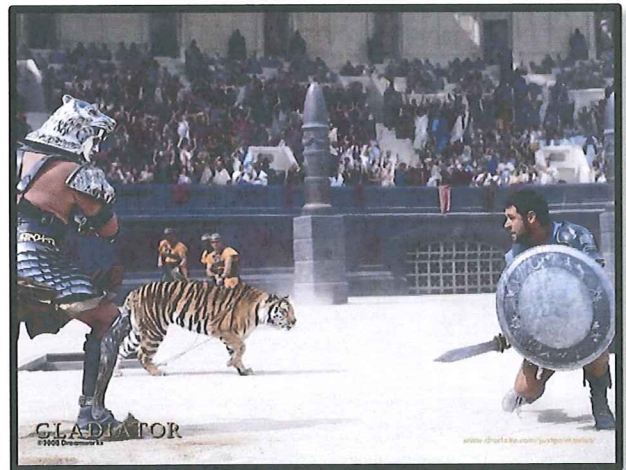
A gladiator from the Roman Empire was an armed fighter who entertained audiences in violent fights with other gladiators, wild animals, and condemned criminals. Most gladiators were enslaved people or prisoners of war, though some gladiators were upper-class Romans who wanted excitement and public attention. They were trained by managers who hired them out for several shows per year.



The night before they were to fight, gladiators would appear at a feast. There, they would be looked over by fans and gamblers who wanted to bet on the outcome of a match. When the gladiators entered the arena on the day of the games, they would walk past the emperor's box and say, "Hail Emperor, those who are about to die salute you."

Many gladiators did die. Those whose fighting pleased the crowd became idols of the people. A few won their freedom. Those who gave a poor performance were killed, even if they survived the fight.

All kinds of animals were used in the public games. Some animals pulled chariots or performed tricks. Most, however, fought one another or the gladiators. Sometimes, as many as 5,000 wild animals were killed in a single day. In some cases, such as that of the Mesopotamian lion and the North African elephant, whole species were eventually wiped out.



The most spectacular gladiatorial games were put on by the emperors themselves. In 108 AD, games were held for 123 days straight to celebrate Emperor Trajan's conquest of Dacia. During these games, it is estimated that 9,138 gladiators fought and 11,000 animals were killed.

*Adapted from Human Heritage: A World History*

# The family

In Rome, the family was all-important. The head of the household was the oldest living male. His word was law. If his family angered him, he had the legal right to disown his children, sell them into slavery, or even kill them. He arranged the children's marriages to improve social position or to increase wealth. Sons were important, because Romans put a lot of value on continuing the family name. If a father had no sons, he could adopt one—often a nephew—to make sure the family line would not die out.

Roman women usually married in their early teenage years, while men waited until they were in their mid-twenties. As a result, the women were usually much younger than their husbands. While the men had formal power, women exerted their influence behind the scenes in the household.



However, the influence of women only went so far.

The fathers had the right to decide whether to keep newborn babies. After birth, the midwife placed babies on the ground outside; only if the father picked it up was the baby formally accepted into the family. But often, babies were abandoned and any of those babies would be picked up and taken as a slave.

Even babies accepted into the families had a rocky start to life. Around 25% of babies did not survive their first year of life, and up to 50% of all children died before the age of 10. As a result, the Roman state gave legal rewards to women who had successfully given birth. After three live babies, women were recognized as legally independent.

Until the age of 12, most Roman boys and girls went to school together. Then, the sons of poor families went to work and the sons of rich families began their formal education in reading, writing, music, grammar, and arithmetic. When they were 15 years old, they entered a school of rhetoric, or speech and writing, to prepare for a political career.

Girls received a different kind of education. When they were 12 years old, their formal education stopped and the daughters of the rich were given private lessons at home. Some women even worked in or owned small shops. Wealthy women had enslaved people to do their housework, leaving them free to study the arts, literature, and fashion.

*Adapted from Human Heritage: A World History*

# Roman numerals

The Romans developed their own numeric system to help them with trade, the calendar, and record keeping. Numbers are formed by combining symbols together and adding the values. In fact, Roman Numerals are based on only seven symbols:

<b>I</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>M</b>
1	5	10	50	100	500	1,000

**V is 5, so VI is 5+1 or 6.**

**X is 10, so XII is 10 and 2, or 12.**

**IV is 1 before 5, so that's 4.**

**IX is 1 before 10, which is 9.**

**XX is two 10s, or 20.**

**MMMMIV is 5 thousands and 4, or 5,004.**