**World History I**

Mrs. Bailey

**Roman Law: The Twelve Tables**

**Pre-Write Activity: Dig Deep – Make a Solid Effort!**

1. Why do we have laws?
2. List at least 4 examples of laws we have today.
3. Explain the difference between civil law and criminal law.

**Step 1:** Whole Class - Discuss the meaning of these words

* + Codifying
  + Magistrates
  + Litigation
  + Summons
  + Stocks/Fetters

**Step 2:** Individually actively read and annotate the provided handout on the Twelve Tables.

* Questions, Comments, Words you don’t know, Key Points of Interest

**Step 3:** Discuss in small groups and/or whole group

* + All Groups and then Whole Group:
    - What didn’t you understand?
    - Were there words you did not know?

**Step 4:** Small groups will discuss the assigned tables/questions. Be ready to present your information to the whole class.

* + Group 1:
    - Table I: Do we have a similar law or requirement today?
    - Table II: If you are called as a witness in a trial today, may you refuse to testify?
  + Group 2:
    - Table III: Why do you think a law such as this existed? In other words what was the purpose? Do you think it is effective?
    - Table IV: What do these laws reveal about how children were valued?
  + Group 3:
    - Table V: Do modern people still create wills? Why?
    - Table VI: In essence, what is the woman allowed to do?
  + Group 4:
    - Table VII: What type of law would be categorize this as today?
    - Table VIII: Compare and contrast this to Hammurabi’s Code of Law. What connections can you make to modern laws?
  + Group 5:
    - Table IX: What does this law tell you about Roman government? If we had this law, would it be beneficial today?
    - Table X: Why do you think the first part of the law exists?
  + Group 6:
    - Table XI: Can you make connections to this law to periods of American history?
    - Table XII: Does this law seem fair?

**Step 5:** Whole class discussion of the following:

* + - What would it be like to live under these laws?
    - Share other thoughts/questions/discussion points.

**Step 6:** Reflective Writing Prompt (Individual) – Select and circle one of the following, then answer in complete and detailed sentences.

1. Laws are created to address contemporary problems. After reading and discussing the Twelve Tables, describe the problems that existed in Rome during the 5th century BCE.
2. Describe the rights that the Twelve Tables addresses.
3. Explain whether or not you feel these laws appear to be related to religious beliefs and provide examples to support your postion.
4. Compare and contrast the differences and similarities between our laws and problems to those of the Romans in the 5th century BCE.