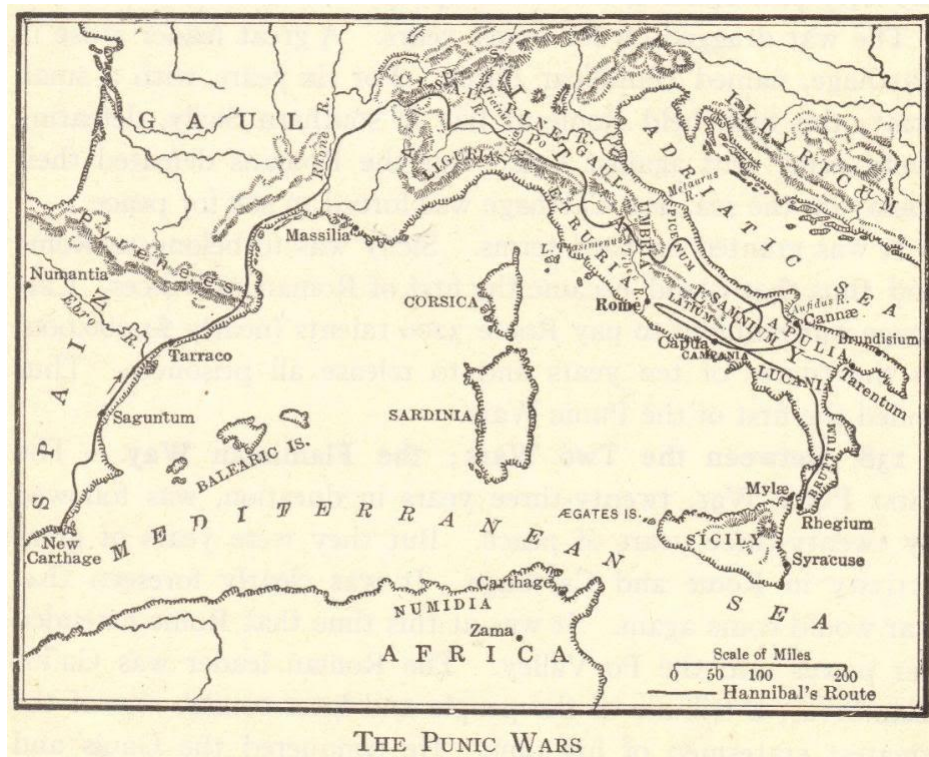


PUNIC WARS

(264-146 B.C.E.)



**World History
Workbook Series**

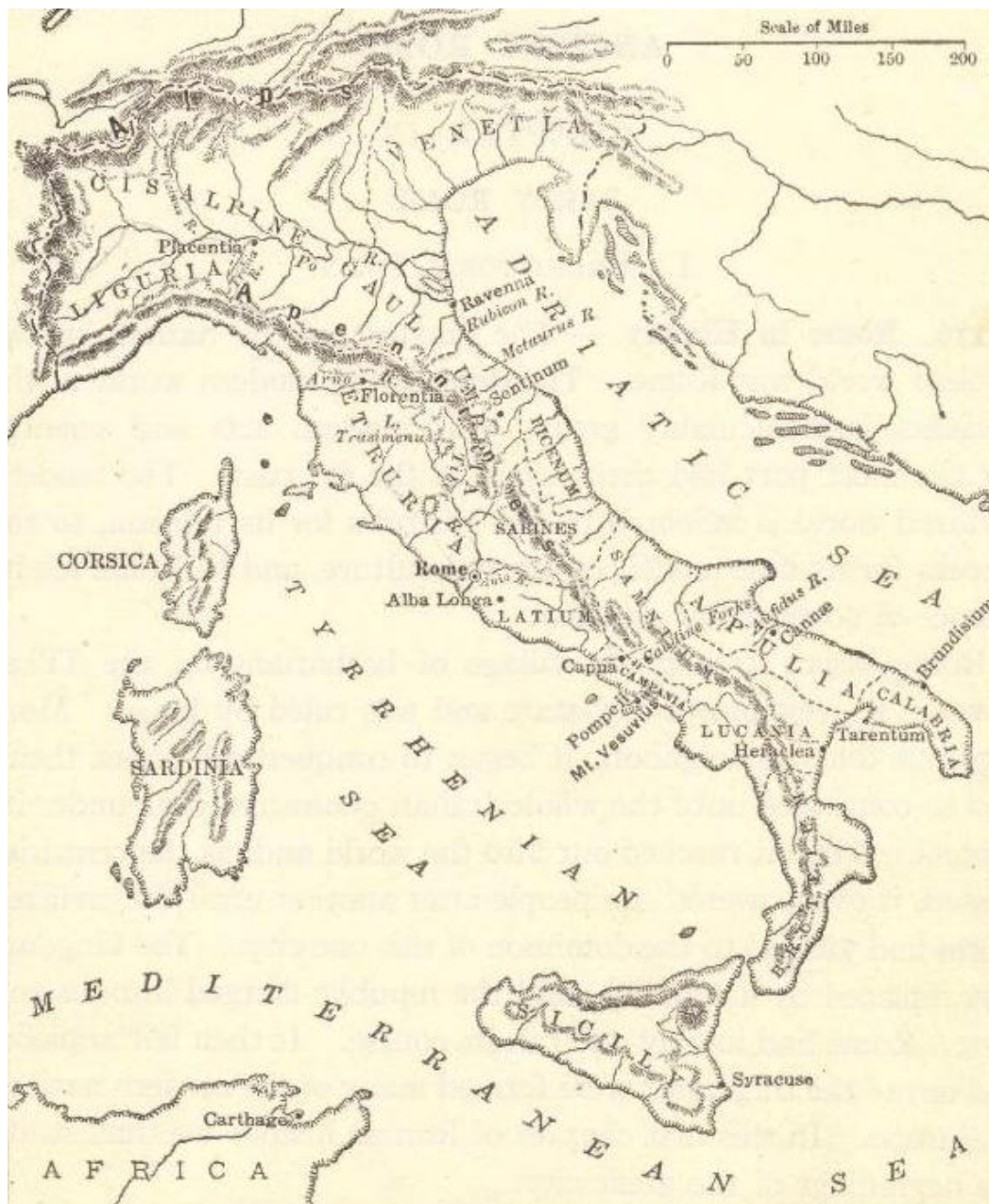
The Punic Wars

What was Carthage?

Carthage was a powerful city located near present-day Tunis, Tunisia, along the Mediterranean coast of Africa. It was founded as a Phoenician colony in the 8th century B.C.E. *Punic* is Latin for *Phoenician*.

Carthage had a large commercial empire. There was a great harbor at Carthage, making it a center of the Phoenician traditions of sailing and

trading. The ancient Phoenicians (Carthaginians) controlled trade in the western Mediterranean. The Carthaginian trading empire spread to the islands of Corsica, Sardinia, and western Sicily, as well as to the southern Iberian peninsula (modern-day Spain). Carthage was a major rival of Rome for control over Mediterranean trade.



Map Work

1. Color the island of Corsica red.
2. Color the island of Sardinia orange.
3. Color the island of Sicily yellow.
4. Place green stars over the cities of Rome and Carthage.
5. Color the Alps blue.
6. Color the Apennines violet.

The Punic Wars

7. Using the scale in the top right corner of the map, estimate the distance between Rome and Carthage. _____
8. What major city was located in Sicily? _____
9. Ancient Carthage was located on what continent? _____
10. Ancient Rome was located on what continent? _____

Where did Carthaginian power lie?

Carthaginian power rested in its navy, army, and government. Carthage's navy was very large and formed from the Phoenician sailing tradition. The Carthaginian army was comprised of

mercenaries (hired foreign soldiers). The government of Carthage was an oligarchy, ruled by elites who were made wealthy through trade.

11. Do you believe that mercenaries make good soldiers? Why or why not?

Why Punic "Wars" instead of Punic "War"?

There were three distinct wars between Rome and Carthage, stretching out over a hundred years. The First Punic War, waged over control of Sicily, ran from 264 until 241 B.C.E.; Rome won. In the Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.E.), Rome challenged Carthaginian

expansion in Iberia (modern Spain); Rome won again. In the Third Punic War (149-146 B.C.E.), Rome feared that Carthage was again becoming a threat; Rome attacked Carthage and obliterated the threat once and for all.

12. Do you think that years of constant warfare increase or decrease people's desire to fight? Explain your answer. _____

The Punic Wars

The First Punic War (264-241 B.C.E.)

The First Punic War was fought over a period of 23 years for control of the island of Sicily. Rome's strength was in its army (land forces). Carthage's strength was in its navy (sea forces). Rome's solution was to build up its navy. Rome built four fleets, each destroyed in turn, before mastering naval warfare.

Rather than bemoan the fact that they fought better on land than at sea, the Romans found a way to utilize their excellent hand-to-hand fighting skills on

the water. They achieved this through the use of an ingenious new weapon—the grappling hook. All that the Romans needed to do was to get close enough to a Carthaginian ship to attach a grappling hook, which lashed the two ships together. Once hooked, the ships' crews were forced to fight one another on deck.

The Romans effectively turned sea battles into land battles. Rome won the First Punic War, and Sicily became a province of Rome.

13. The Romans turned what seemed to be a weakness into a strength through the use of a grappling hook. What might have happened had the Romans given up hope of ever beating the Carthaginians at sea? _____

Life goes on between the first and second wars...

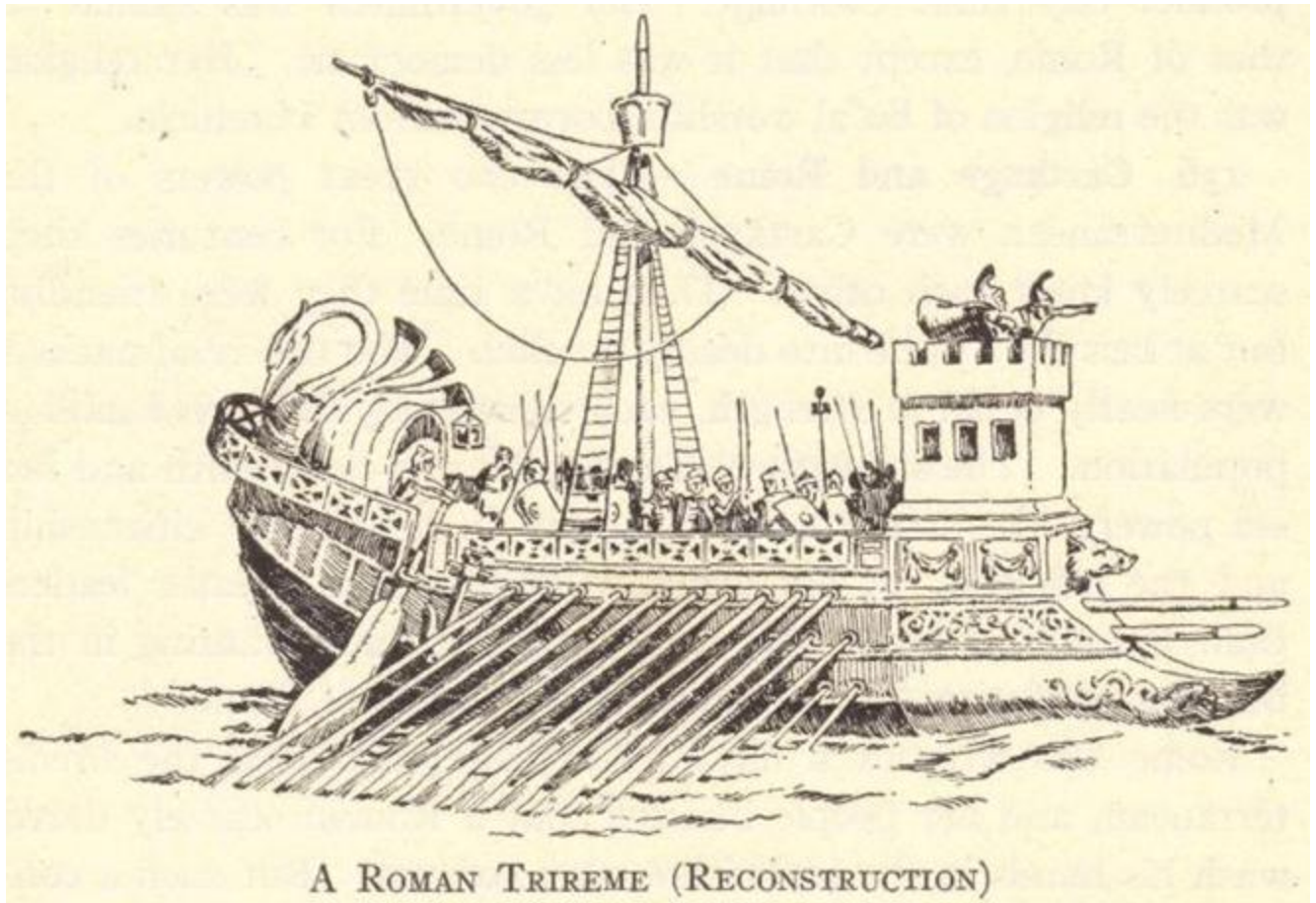
ROME: Rome came to control Corsica and Sardinia. In the Po River Valley, the Romans conquered the Gauls.

CARTHAGE: Carthage recovered from its defeat at the hands of the Romans. Carthage started expanding in the Iberia Peninsula (today's Spain).

Word Search Puzzle

S	G	R	A	P	P	L	I	N	G	H	O	O	K	E
A	F	R	I	C	A	K	J	D	I	Y	R	Y	M	G
R	S	I	C	I	L	Y	W	U	V	O	S	P	L	A
D	L	E	R	R	T	A	T	A	M	H	I	X	C	H
I	M	E	Q	Y	R	A	N	E	C	R	E	M	Z	T
N	B	O	F	B	A	T	T	L	E	D	A	R	T	R
I	N	A	P	G	D	S	T	H	R	E	A	T	A	A
A	O	L	I	G	A	R	C	H	Y	V	B	B	W	C

Africa	navy
Alps	oligarchy
battle	Rome
Carthage	Sardinia
empire	Sicily
grappling hook	threat
Iberia	trade
mercenary	war



Roman Trireme

The trireme was planned for fighting at close quarters. The bow was strongly built, to withstand the shock when its powerful metal ram pierced the side of an enemy ship. The ram protruded from below the raised deck or castle tower, at the front, the part of a ship now known as the forecastle. Sometimes the warship had one sail, often two or more. Back of the tower was a long deck for light-armed soldiers, with places for the oarsmen below. The rowers

were arranged about as in the Greek trireme. Near the stern was a deckhouse for the captain, with seats for the steersmen who guided the ship with sweeps hanging one from each side. In front of the stern post a carved ornament, the "goose-head," symbolized the floating powers of the ship. In later times, even down to the nineteenth century, vessels with several banks of oars, called galleys, were rowed by captives and prisoners known as galley slaves.

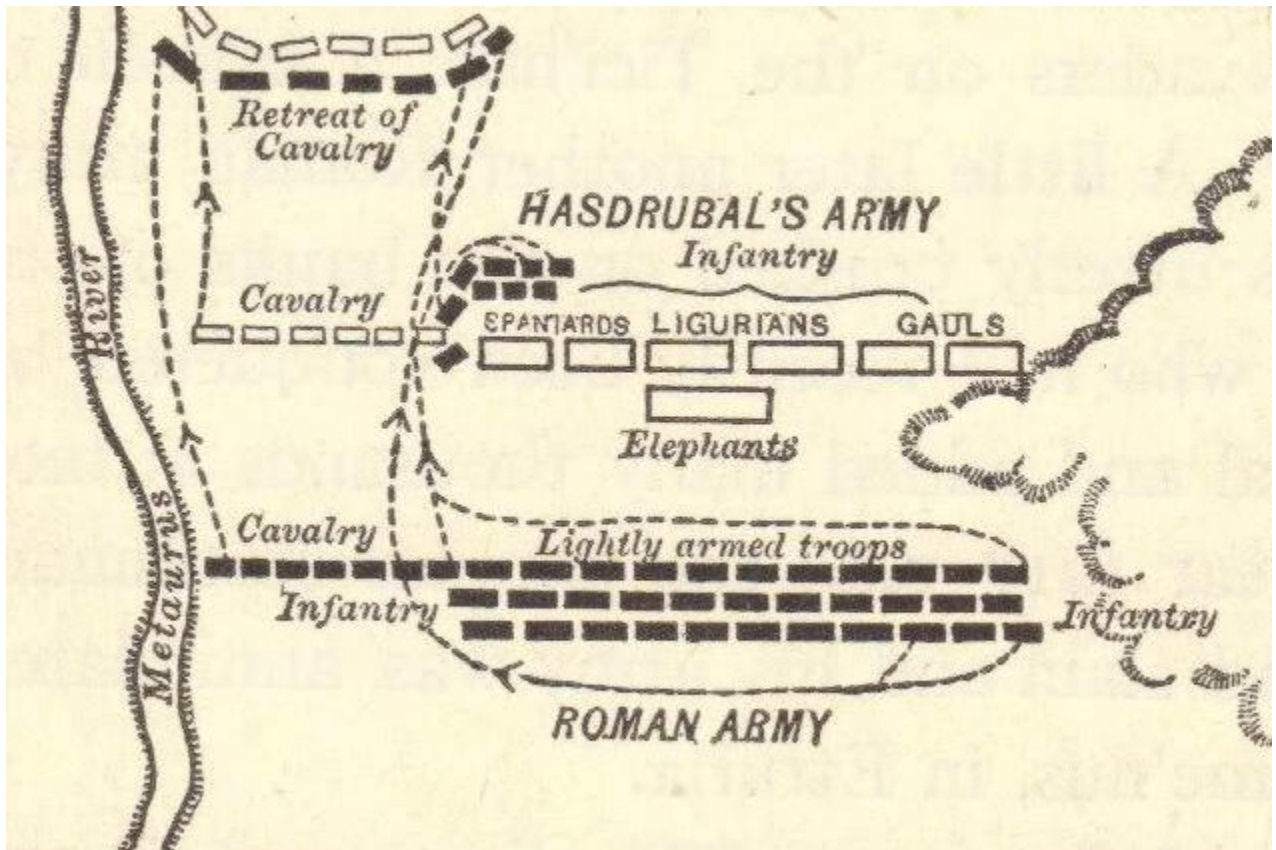
14. What do you imagine that a typical workday was like for a galley slave? _____

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The Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.E.)

A pivotal battle of the Second Punic War was the Battle of Metaurus in 207 B.C.E. Hannibal's brother, Hasdrubal, was bringing supplies and equipment to his brother for the siege against Rome. Roman Consul Marcus Livius was reinforced when Consul Gaius

Claudius Nero brought troops via a forced march. The Carthaginians were outnumbered and Hasdrubal was defeated. Consul Gaius Claudius Nero severed the head of Hasdrubal and had it thrown into Hannibal's camp as a threat.



15. Warfare in ancient times was, in some ways, more vicious than it is today. It is hard to imagine a modern general tossing a severed head into an enemy camp today. Do you believe that bloody intimidation tactics are useful? Why or why not? Why are they seldom used today? _____

The Punic Wars

Back to the Second Punic War...

During the Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.E.), the Carthaginians were led by General Hannibal. He trekked with 60,000 men and dozens of elephants through Iberia, along the Mediterranean coast, through Gaul, and across the Alps to Italy.

Hannibal fought in Italy for 15 years, winning many battles. At the Battle of Cannae (216 B.C.E.), the Romans lost over 50,000 soldiers. Yet, despite victories like that at Cannae, Hannibal and his Carthaginian troops could not manage to capture the city of Rome itself.

Roman forces were headed by General Scipio. Scipio led an army against Carthaginian Iberia, then led an army against Carthage itself. He then returned to Italy to defend the city of Rome.

At the Battle of Zama (October 19, 202 B.C.E.), Scipio orchestrated Hannibal's first and only defeat. Hannibal escaped and returned to Carthage. As part of the peace terms ending the war, Carthage lost its fleet, Iberia, and the larger part of its territory in northern Africa. Scipio earned himself the name Scipio Africanus.

16. Who led the Carthaginian forces during the Second Punic War? _____

17. Who led the Roman forces during the Second Punic War? _____

18. Imagine that you are a Carthaginian soldier marching with Hannibal from Iberia to Italy. What might you think about the journey? How might you feel upon finally arriving in Italy? _____

Word Search Puzzle

T	R	I	R	E	M	E	Q	P	I	H	S	R	A	W	R
S	D	M	G	V	T	R	E	K	K	E	D	L	M	X	H
A	W	E	H	A	N	N	I	B	A	L	P	S	A	J	T
P	C	N	E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T	S	K	Z	V	I
B	O	F	U	S	C	I	P	I	O	E	A	N	N	A	C

Alps

Cannae

elephants

Hannibal

Scipio

slave

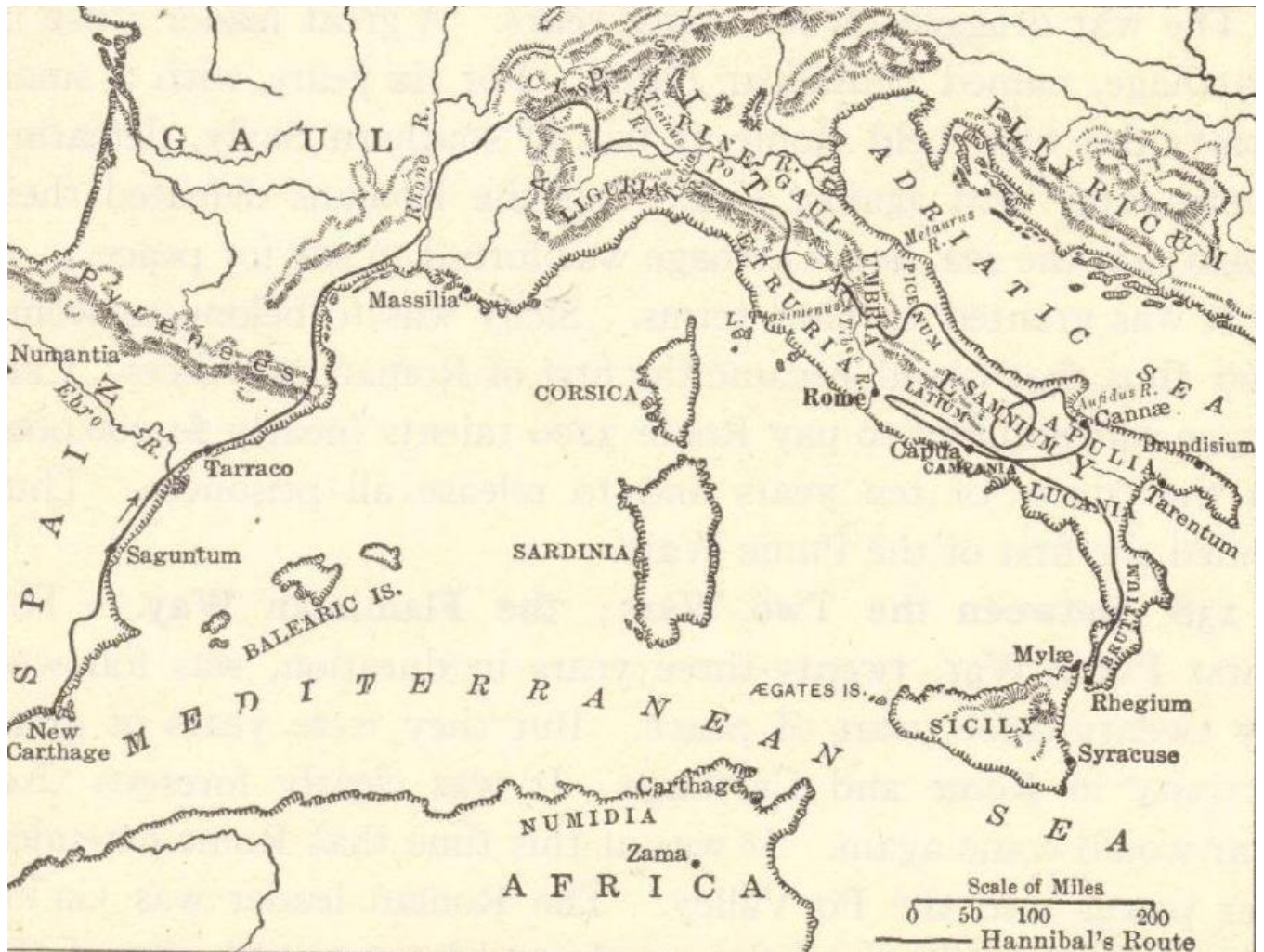
trekked

trireme

warship

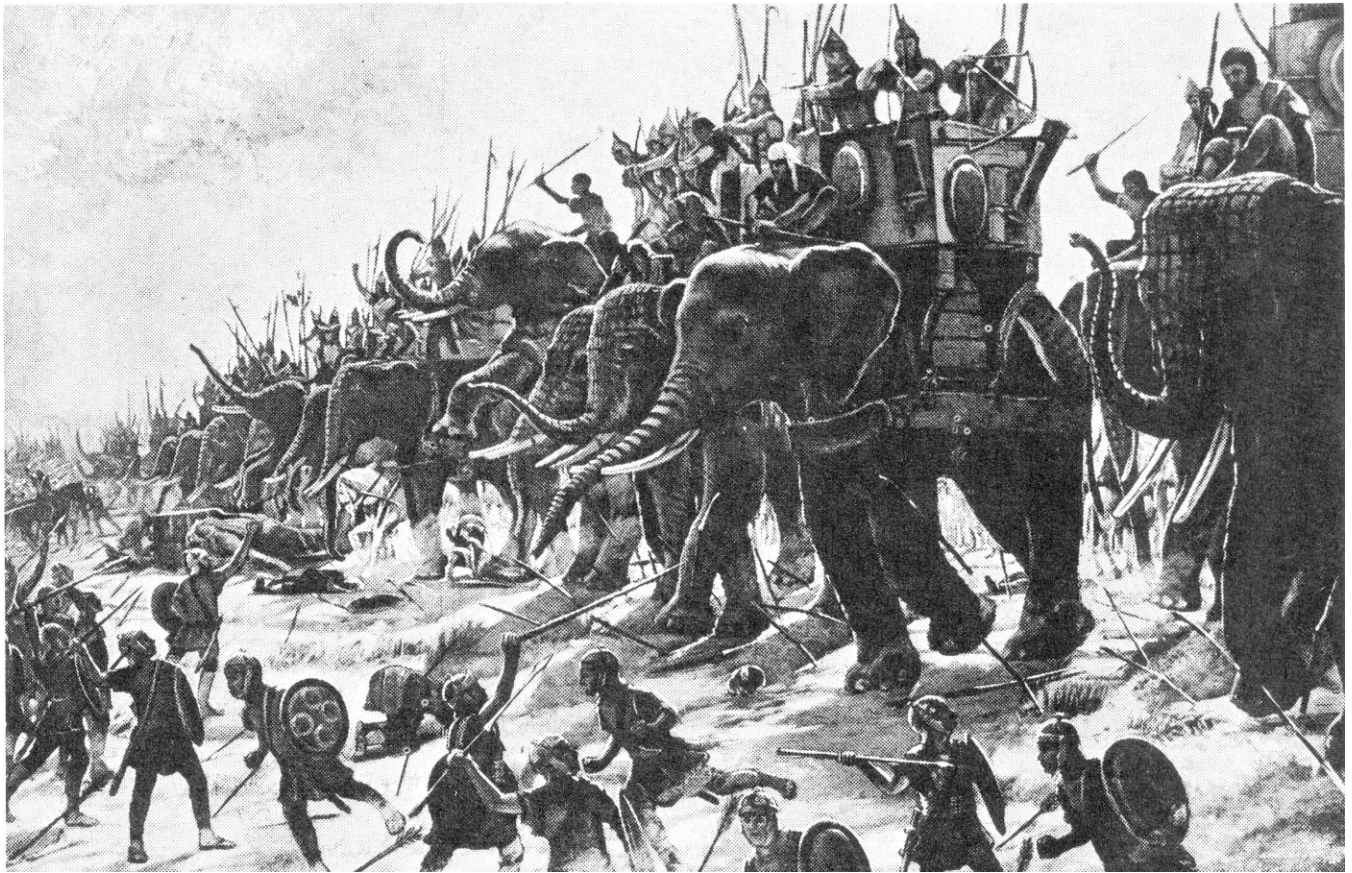
Zama

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Map Work

19. Trace Hannibal's march from New Carthage to Rhegium in green.
20. Draw a yellow star over the city of Cannae.
21. Draw a blue star over the city of Zama.
22. What mountain range separates Iberia (Spain) and Gaul (France)? _____
23. Using the scale at the bottom right corner of the map, estimate the distance between Carthage and Zama. _____
24. Using the scale at the bottom right corner of the map, estimate the distance between Cannae and Rome. _____



The Battle of Zama by Henri-Paul Motte, 1890

In the meantime...

CARTHAGE: Carthage rebuilt its trading networks and commercial power.

ROME: Rome felt threatened by competition from Carthage. Senator Cato ended all of his speeches with the warning: "*Carthago delenda est!*" ("Carthage must be destroyed!")

The Third Punic War (149-146 B.C.E.)

The Third Punic War began when Rome made ridiculous demands of Carthage. The Romans wanted 300 noble Carthaginian children to be given to Rome as hostages. Carthage was to be destroyed and rebuilt away from the Mediterranean coast.

Carthage refused Rome's demands. However, Carthage was now without

mercenary soldiers, and the Carthaginians were forced to defend their own city.

The Romans laid siege to Carthage. This Roman siege was successful. Carthage was burnt to the ground and became a Roman province. The men of Carthage were killed; the women and children were sold into slavery.

Results of the Punic Wars: During and After

Rome and Carthage had been what one might call the “superpowers” of the Mediterranean region. Rome’s defeat of Carthage left Rome as the only remaining “superpower.” It was much easier for Rome to conquer the rest of the Mediterranean once Carthage was out of the way.

For example, Rome conquered Macedonia. Hannibal had made an alliance with the Macedonian king. Rome attacked and defeated Macedonia in 197 B.C.E.

Rome went on from Macedonia to conquer the remnants of Alexander the Great’s empire in Eurasia. Benefited by fighting among the Greek city-states, Rome took over Greece, ending Greek independence in 146 B.C.E. The kingdom of Pergamum, located in modern-day Turkey, came under Roman rule in 133 B.C.E. Eventually, Rome would control the entire length of the Mediterranean coast and beyond.

25. Selling conquered people into slavery was a common practice in the ancient world. Do you think that this was fair? What might have happened had conquered peoples been left free to carry on with their lives? _____



Map Work

26. Which of the following modern countries was *not* under Roman control in ancient times?

- a. England
- b. France
- c. Ireland
- d. Israel

Provincial Governments

Each conquered area was a province of Rome. Each province was governed by a Roman proconsul. This proconsul was typically a member of the patrician (noble) class. More often than not, these proconsuls were corrupt.

Publicans were Roman tax collectors. A person became a publican by auctioning (bidding) for the job. Publicans squeezed as much money out of conquered peoples as they could.

Rome Grows Wealthy

Money, from taxes and war booty, as well as cheap goods, flooded Rome. Wheat flowed in from Africa and Sicily. Silver and tin came from Spain. Gems and luxury goods came from the east. The upper classes grew wealthier, and a new class of wealthy merchants and traders emerged.

The Roman government had more money than ever before. Whoever controlled the government could use this money for its own needs (e.g., government contracts). This reality caused greater tension in the struggle for control of the government.

27. Create a chart showing the imports that flowed into Rome.

Region	Export(s) to Rome

Old Roman Values Diminish

Originally, the Roman army was staffed by volunteers. A newer professional army lacked the former volunteer fighting spirit.

Morals and values declined. Corruption replaced dedication to public service. The pursuit of luxury, pleasure, and soft living replaced hard work, patriotism, and simplicity.

28. Why might a professional (paid) army be less effective than a volunteer army? _____

What did expansion mean for Rome?

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wealth<ul style="list-style-type: none">• From trade• From taxes• Power<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Control of most of the Mediterranean	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficult to manage an empire<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multicultural empire required a multifaceted approach• Wealth created new classes in Rome<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slaves gained by conquests displaced free farmers and workers• These problems ultimately ended the “Republic” and led to the “Empire”

29. Why did the increase in the number of slaves hurt Roman farmers and workers? _____

The Punic Wars

Life at the End of the Roman Republic and at the Start of the Roman Empire: The Rich Grew Richer, and the Poor Grew Poorer

Money from government contracts (building bridges, roads, and ships; supplying the armies)	High-interest loans	Bribes and graft in the provinces
Latifundia, the large farms of the wealthy, became operated by slaves	Poor farmers and workers could not compete with the products of slave labor	Wealthy class bought up the lands of impoverished farmers
Impoverished farmers and others flooded the city of Rome	These unemployed masses had one thing left—their right to vote	These unemployed masses—the “Roman mob”—threw their support to those politicians who offered “bread and circuses”

30. State, in your own words, how the “Roman mob” was created.

Vocabulary: Define the following terms in your own words.

31. proconsul _____

32. publican _____

33. latifundia _____

Review Questions

34. Where was the city of Carthage located? _____

35. What was the basic, underlying cause of all of the Punic wars? _____

36. Describe the military actions of Hannibal. _____

37. Why was it easier for Rome to expand following the defeat of Carthage? _____

38. How did Rome grow wealthy as its territory expanded? _____

39. Based on what you have read, what historical figure from the time of the Punic Wars do you find most interesting, and why? _____

The Punic Wars

Creative Expression: Select an event you have read about and create an illustration for it.

