

Reading Questions: *Roman Law*

Working with a partner, read and discuss *Roman Law & the Twelve Tables* (handout) and *Roman Law* (textbook excerpt). Then, respond to the following in well-developed paragraphs (1 set of responses per partnership).

1. What were the origins of Roman law?
2. How did the *praetors* apply the 12 Tables in unclear situations? How did this process contribute to the gradual evolution of the Roman legal principles?
3. How did the Romans treat conquered peoples? What rights did these individuals have under Roman law?
4. Which of the Roman laws referred to in the handouts have modern parallels? Which are **most dissimilar** to our laws?
5. What was the Roman view of *natural laws* and how does it support the concept that “all people -- regardless of social or economic status -- should be treated equally under the law”?
6. What was the meaning of citizenship in Roman times? What is the meaning of citizenship in the United States today?

Due: Your responses may be typed or neatly handwritten, and are due on _____.

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