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LESSON 4: *The Tarquins (616-510 B.C.)*

FACTS TO KNOW

1. **King Ancus Marcius** – fourth king; built the harbor city Ostia
2. **King Tarquin** – Lucumo; built the Capitol, Temple of Jupiter, Circus
3. **Tanaquil** – wife of Tarquin; thought gods made Tarquin king
4. **seven-hilled city** – a nickname for Rome
5. **Circus Maximus** – racetrack built by Tarquin; could seat 250,000
6. **King Servius Tullius** – son-in-law of Tarquin; first to take census
7. **King Tarquin Superbus** – Tarquin the Proud; killed Servius; last monarch
8. **Sibylline Books** – the "holy books" (ritual books) of the Romans
9. **Ostia** – harbor and port of Rome at the mouth of the Tiber; means "mouths" in Latin

VOCABULARY

1. *the **augurs** were asked _____ male fortune-tellers
2. *the new building was called the **Capitol** _____ government building
3. *a kind of police called **lictors** _____ police officers
4. *Each lictor bore ... the **fasces** _____ emblem of authority; ax in a bundle of rods
5. ***porticoes** all around it _____ covered walkways
6. *a **census** taken in Rome _____ counting of a population; Latin: counting
7. **Sibyls** were women _____ female fortune-tellers
8. sheets from a plant called **papyrus** _____ plant pounded to make paper
9. *a cylindrical roll called a **volume** _____ cylindrical roll of paper or parchment; *volumen* is Latin for "roll"

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe the events that led Tanaquil to predict that her husband would be king.

As Tarquin and Tanaquil were approaching Rome in a chariot, an eagle swooped down and snatched Tarquin's cap with its beak. It then hovered for a few moments and then replaced the cap. Tanaquil interpreted this as a sign that Tarquin would be a great man, maybe a king.

2. List the seven hills of Rome.

Capitoline, Palatine, Aventine, Esquiline, Caelian, Quirinal, Viminal

3. On what hill did Tarquin build the Temple of Jupiter?

Tarquin built the Temple of Jupiter on the Capitoline Hill.

4. Describe the character of Servius Tullius and his works as king.

Servius Tullius was a good man who provided land for the poor, initiated the census at Rome, and built Rome's first true wall.

5. Describe the character of Tarquin Superbus. What did he bring to Rome?

Tarquin Superbus was arrogant and cruel. He brought the three Sibylline books to Rome.

6. What events took place in the Circus Maximus and in the Forum?

The Circus Maximus held horse races, games, and shows of various kinds. Public meetings were held at the Forum, which was located at the foot of Capitoline Hill. The Forum had a large speaker's platform with statues of prominent and famous Romans. The Forum contained all the major monumental buildings for public business, such as temples, law courts, and assembly halls. *Note: Today the word "forum" is used to mean a gathering for discussion and exchange of ideas.*

ACTIVITIES

1. What is the difference in meaning between the words *capitol* and *capital*? How do they both relate to the Latin word *caput*?
2. Explain what the fasces looked like and what each part represented.
3. Identify on your map of Ancient Rome: **Via Ostiens (toward Ostia), Circus Maximus**
4. Identify on your map of Ancient Italy: **Ostia**

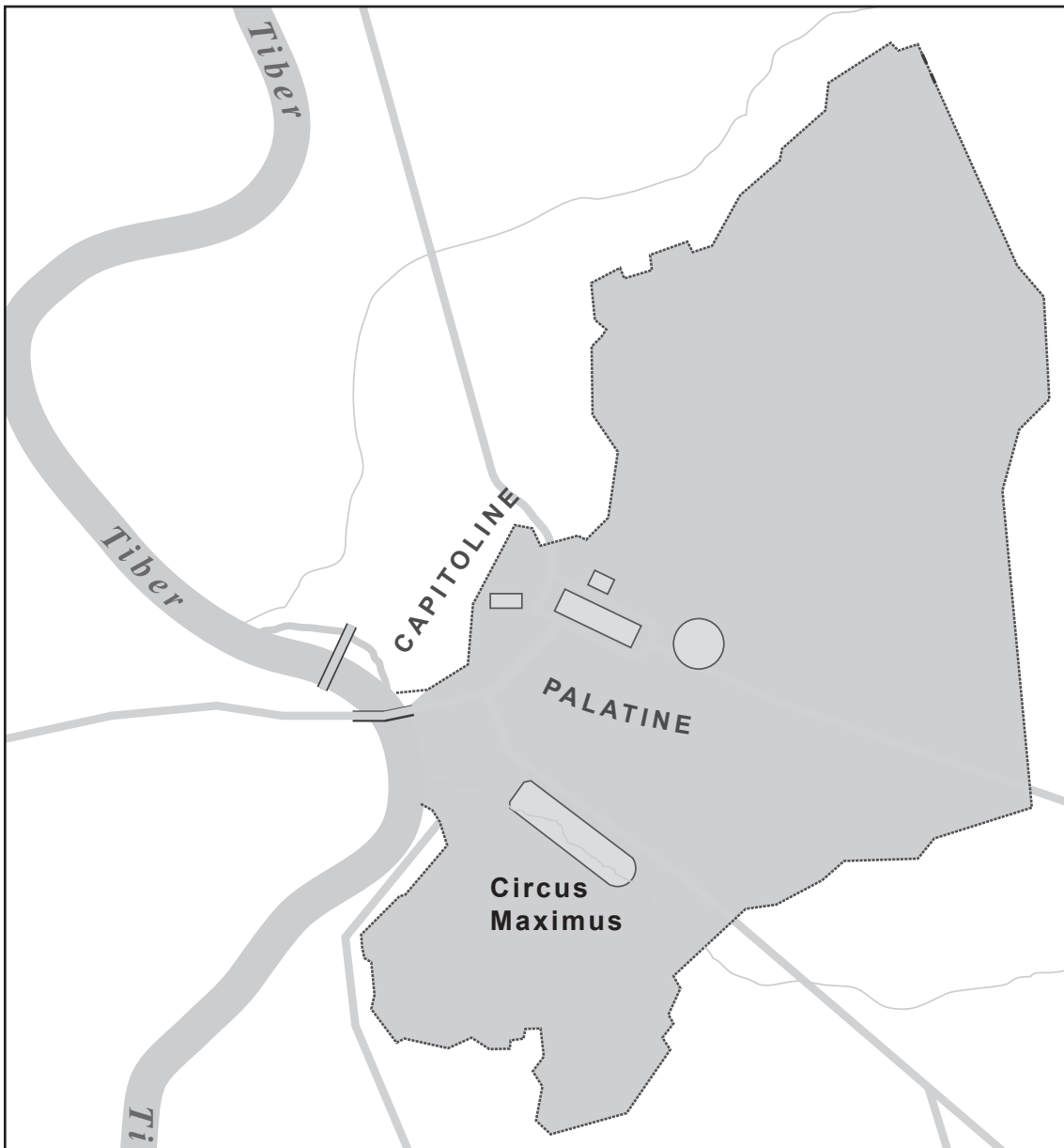
ACTIVITIES KEY

1. *Capitol* is the building where a legislative body meets. *Capital* is the seat of government of a nation or state. *Capital* also means money used to fund a business. *Caput* is the Latin word for "head."
2. The fasces is an ax enclosed in a bundle of rods tied with a strap. It was a symbol of authority; the ax indicated that the king could order criminals to be beheaded and rods meant he could punish offenders by flogging (beating). The fasces, then, symbolized civil authority. *Note: Mussolini reinstated the fasces as a symbol of his regime. This is the origin of the term "fascism."*

GEOGRAPHY REVIEW: *Study the location of the following places.*

Ancient Rome

- Palatine Hill
- Capitoline Hill
- Circus Maximus



1. On which hill was the Temple of Jupiter? Capitoline Hill
2. On which of the seven hills was Rome founded, that later became the residential area for the wealthiest Romans? Palatine Hill
3. What famous structure was built at the southern foot of the Palatine Hill? Circus Maximus

Italy

- Rome
- Ostia
- Alba

- Latium
- Etruria
- Campania

- Tiber River



1. What region occupies the plain on the coast of Italy north of Rome, between the Tiber and the Arno* Rivers?
Etruria
2. What region occupies the plain just south of Tiber River, that includes the cities of Rome and Ostia?
Latium
3. What region occupies the fertile southern plain, whose soil was enriched by the volcano Mt. Vesuvius?
Campania

*The Arno River flows through Pisa and Florence, where it runs beneath the famous Ponte Vecchio ("Old Bridge").