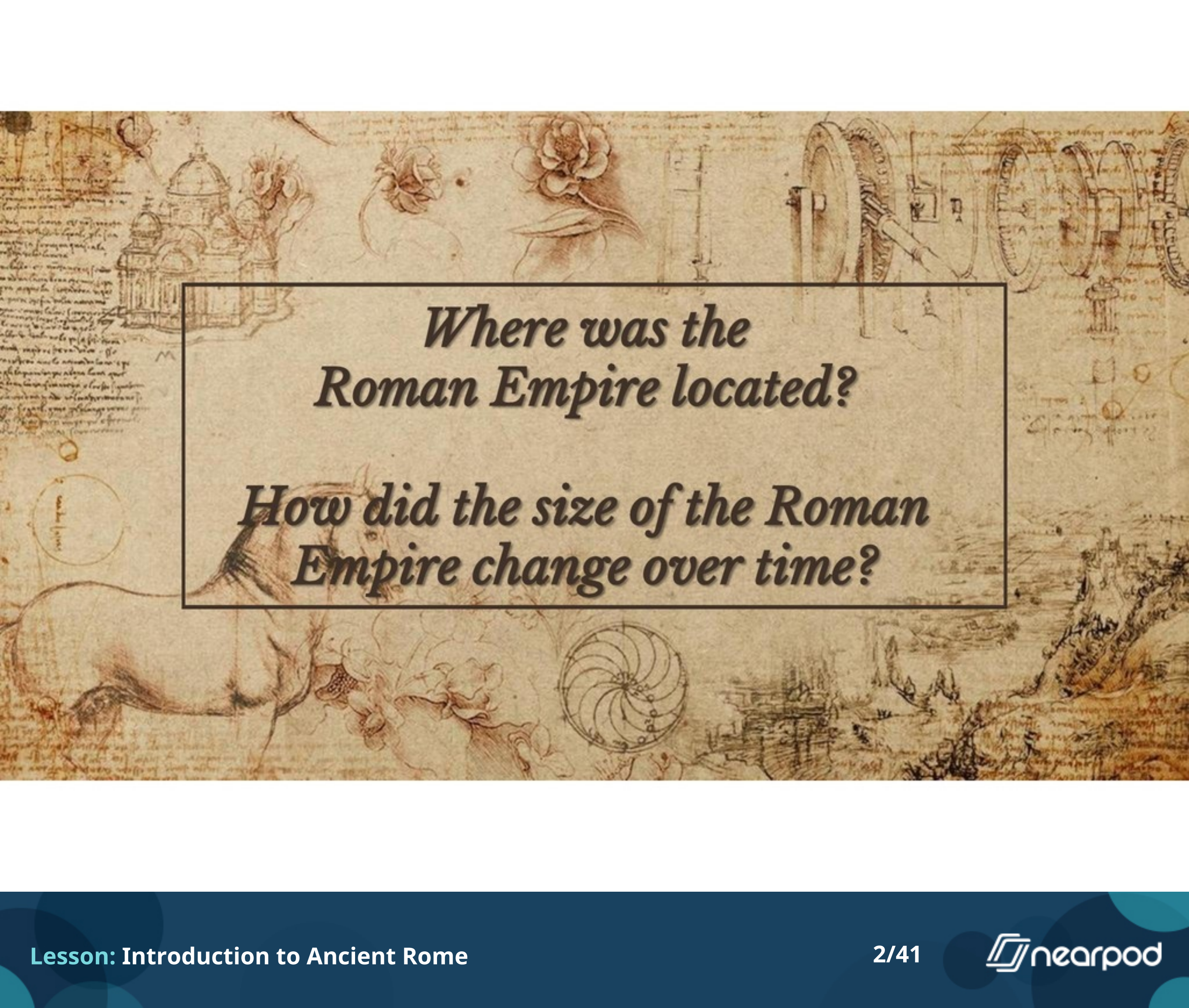


WHAT WAS THE GEOGRAPHIC AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT FOR THE RISE OF CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS IN ROME?



*Where was the
Roman Empire located?*

*How did the size of the Roman
Empire change over time?*

Open Ended Question



Which continent(s) was the Roman Empire located on?

Open Ended Question

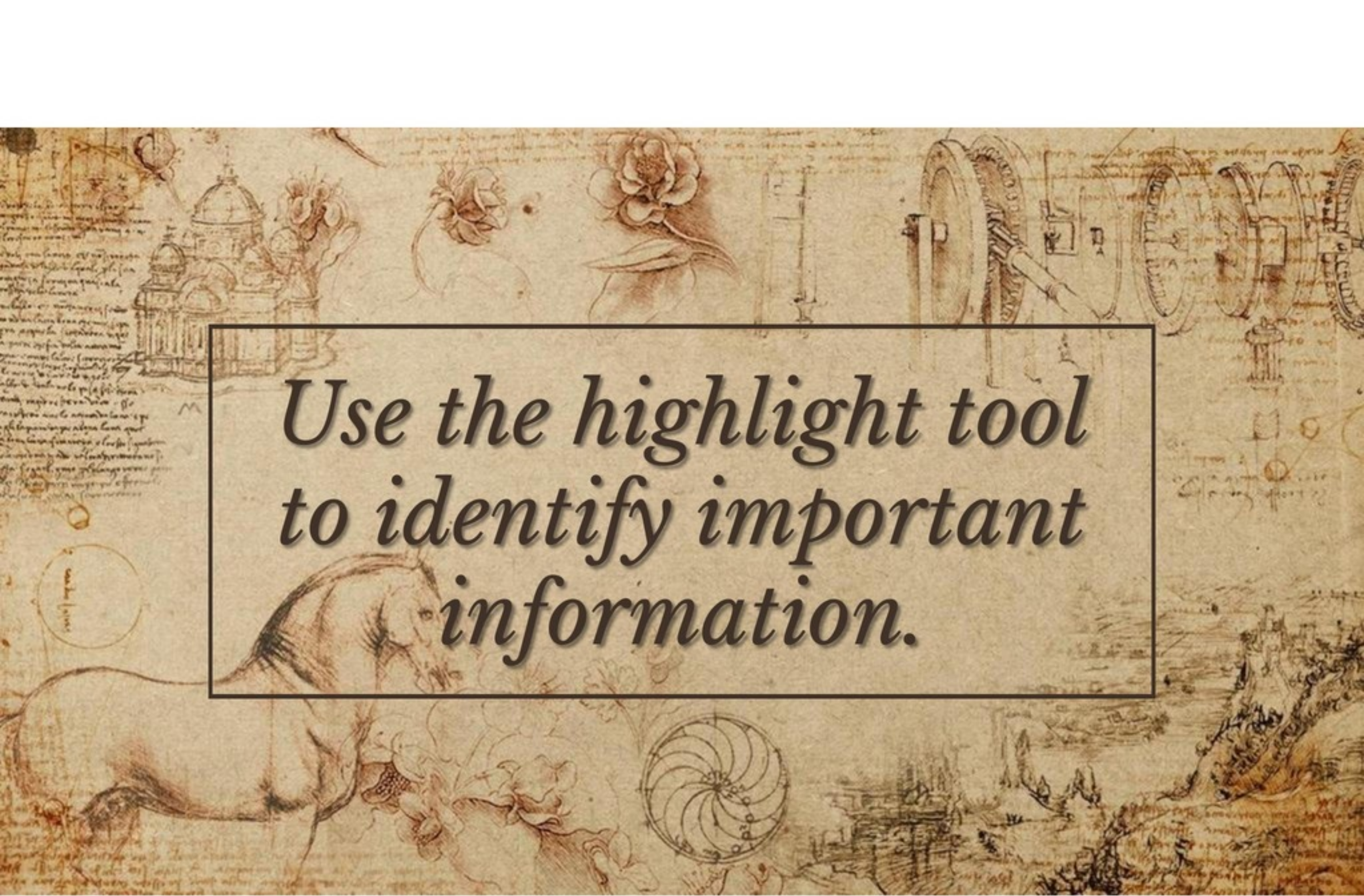


Which ocean is to the WEST of the Roman Empire?

Open Ended Question



Which sea is to the west of the Roman Empire?



*Use the highlight tool
to identify important
information.*

Draw It

Highlight the answers.

HOW DID DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES IMPACT ROME?

Unlike in Greece, the Italian peninsula, where Rome originated, did not have any mountains to prevent the area from uniting. The Greek city states were isolated, but in Rome, three geographic features promoted unity. First, Rome was located on a broad plain, a flat area of land. This broad plain supported a growing population because it was easy to farm. Second, Ancient Rome was located on the Italian Peninsula which juts into the Mediterranean Sea. A peninsula is a piece of land surrounded on three sides by water. Rome's location in the Mediterranean Sea made it easier to travel to foreign lands around the sea like North Africa, to conquer new territories, and to develop trade routes. Through these trade routes, Romans came in contact with lots of different people with whom they traded goods, ideas, and technology. Thirdly, two mountain ranges, the Alps and Apennines protected Ancient Rome from invasions to the north.

1. Identify one way the geography of Rome was different than Greece.
2. What geographic factors made it possible for the Romans to unite the Italian peninsula?



Open Ended Question


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Identify ONE way the geography of Rome was different than Greece.

Open Ended Question

Unlike in Greece, the Italian peninsula, where Rome originated, did not have any mountains to prevent the area from uniting. The Greek city states were isolated, but in Rome, three geographic features promoted unity. First, Rome was located on a broad plain, a flat area of land. This broad plain supported a growing population because it was easy to farm. Second, Ancient Rome was located on the Italian Peninsula which juts into the Mediterranean Sea. A peninsula is a piece of land surrounded on three sides by water. Rome's location in the Mediterranean Sea made it easier to travel to foreign lands around the sea like North Africa, to conquer new territories, and to develop trade routes. Through these trade routes, Romans came in contact with lots of different people with whom they traded goods, ideas, and technology. Thirdly, two mountain ranges, the Alps and Apennines protected Ancient Rome from invasions to the north.

What geographic factors made it possible for the Romans to unite the Italian peninsula?



*Use the highlight tool
to identify important
information.*

Draw It

Highlight the answers.

WHAT LED TO THE RISE OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC?

Rome was originally a small town on the banks of the Tiber River and grew in size and strength early on, through trade. The location of the city near the Mediterranean Sea provided merchants with an easily navigable waterway on which to traffic their goods. Greek culture and civilization, which came to Rome via Greek colonies to the south, provided the early Romans with a model on which to build their own culture. From the Greeks they borrowed literacy and religion, as well as their architecture. The Etruscans, to the north, provided a model for trade and urban luxury. Early on, the Romans showed a talent for borrowing and improving upon the skills and concepts of other cultures. The Kingdom of Rome grew rapidly from a trading town to a prosperous city between the 8th and 6th centuries BCE.

- ❖ Where was Rome located?
- ❖ How did Rome grow in size?
- ❖ Which body of water helped merchants trade their goods?
- ❖ From whom did the Romans borrow many of their ideas about literacy, religion, and architecture?

Draw It

WHAT LED TO THE RISE OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC?

Though Rome owed its prosperity to trade in the early years, it was war which would make the city a powerful force in the ancient world. The wars with the North African city of Carthage (known as the Punic Wars, 264-146 BCE) consolidated Rome's power and helped the city grow in wealth and prestige. Rome and Carthage were rivals in trade in the Western Mediterranean and, with Carthage defeated, Rome held almost absolute dominance over the region. As the Republic of Rome grew in power and prestige, the city of Rome began to suffer from the effects of corruption, greed and the over-reliance on foreign slave labor. Gangs of unemployed Romans, put out of work by the influx of slaves brought in through territorial conquests, hired themselves out as thugs to do the bidding of whatever wealthy Senator would pay them. The wealthy elite of the city, the Patricians, became ever richer at the expense of the working lower class, the Plebeians. In the 2nd century BCE, the Gracchi brothers, Tiberius and Gaius, two Roman tribunes, lead a movement for land reform and political reform in general. Though the brothers were both killed in this cause, their efforts did spur reforms.

✦ What allowed Rome to be a powerful force in the ancient world?

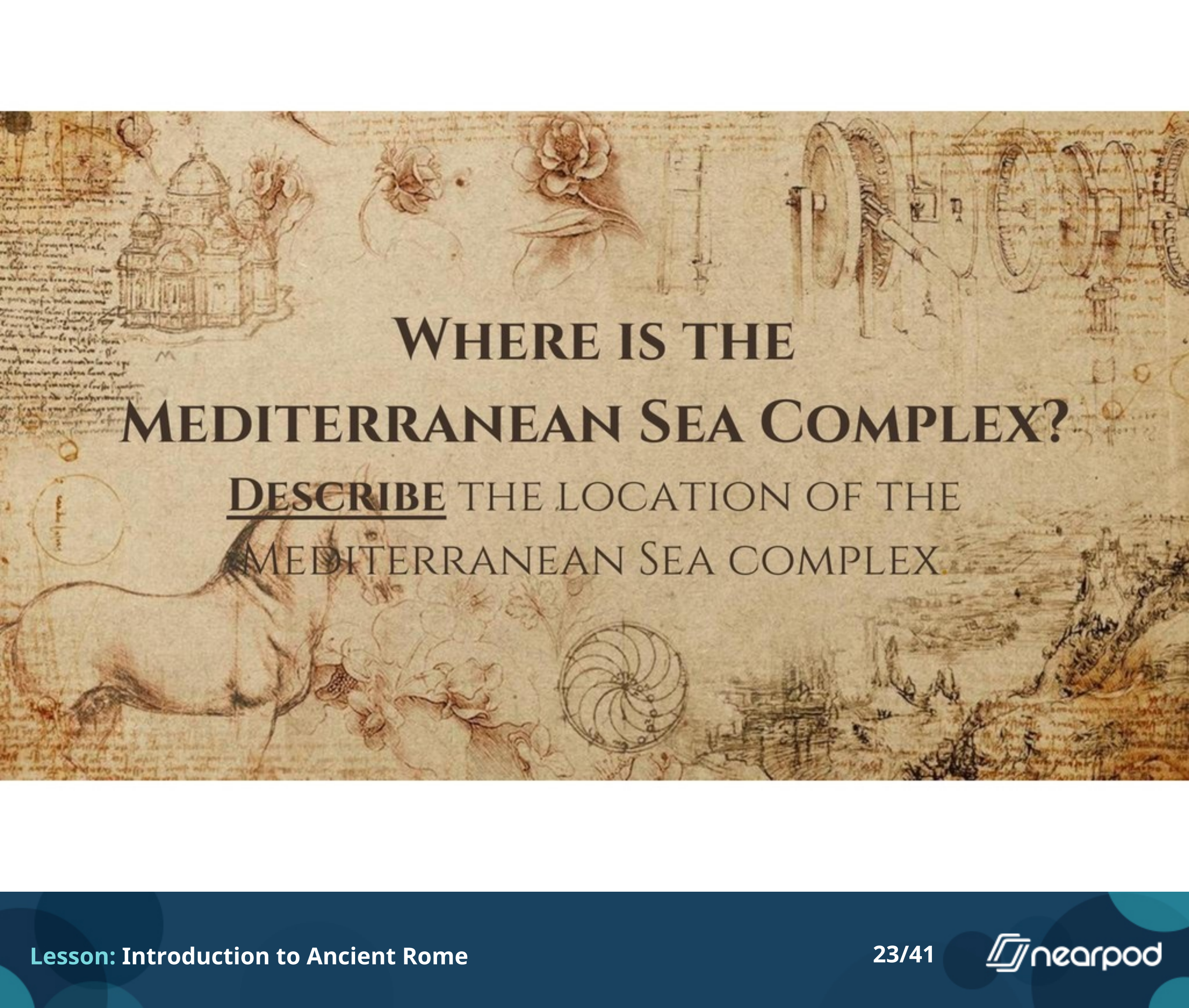
✦ What effect did the Punic Wars have on Rome's dominance over other regions?

✦ How did the Punic Wars impact the plebeians?

✦ How did the Punic Wars impact the patricians?

Open Ended Question

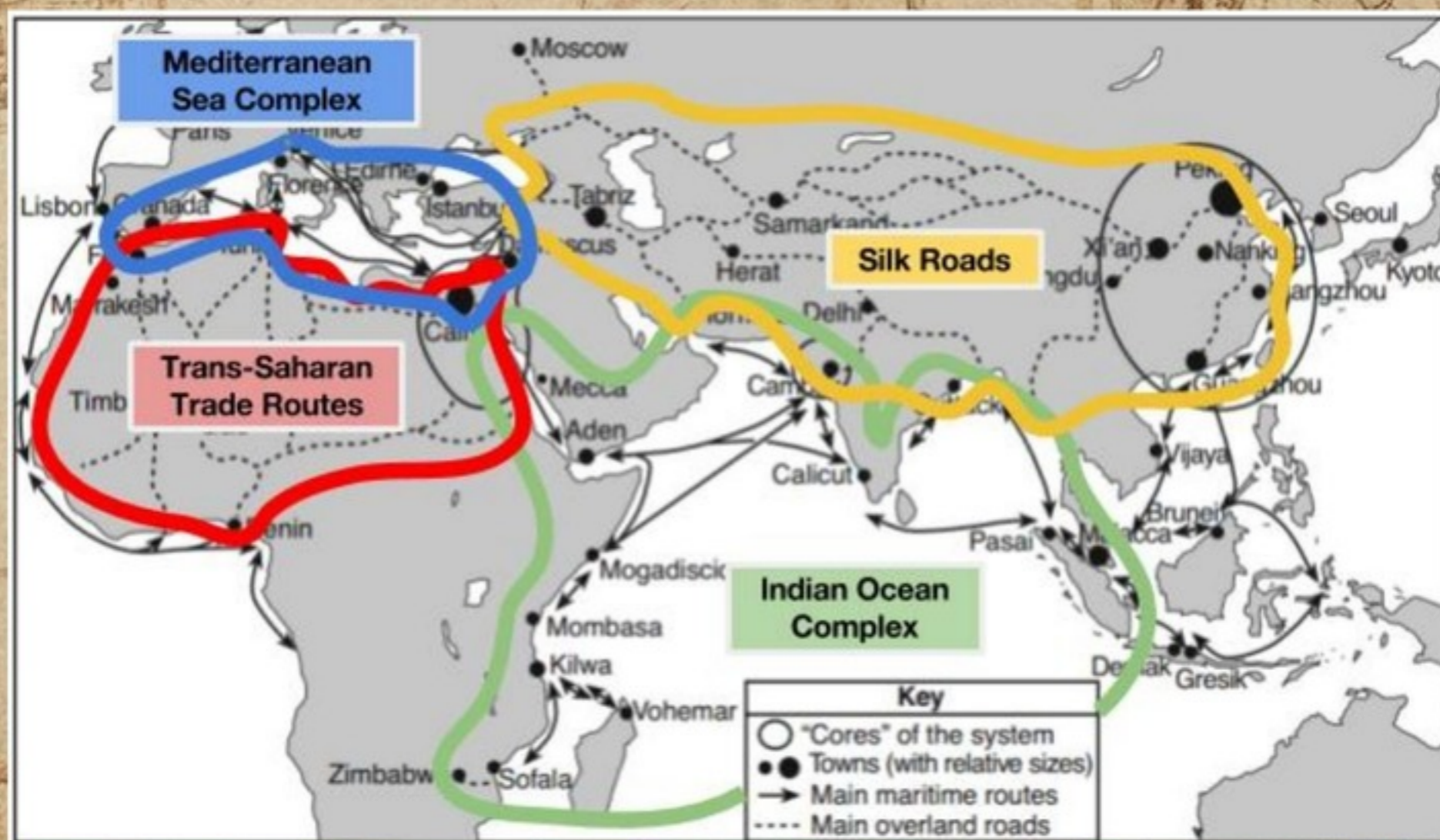
In a few sentences, describe how geography impacted the rise of Ancient Rome.



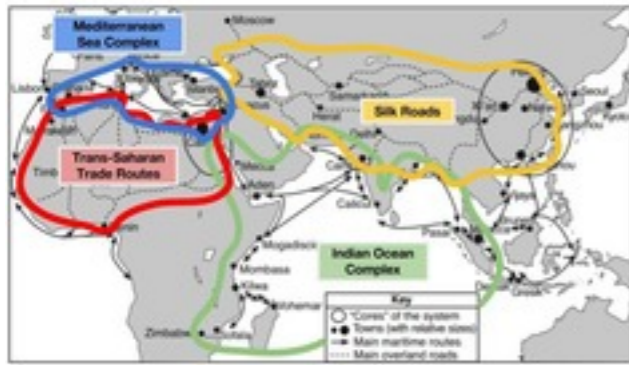
WHERE IS THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA COMPLEX?

DESCRIBE THE LOCATION OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA COMPLEX

WHICH CONTINENTS ARE CONNECTED THROUGH THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA COMPLEX?



Open Ended Question

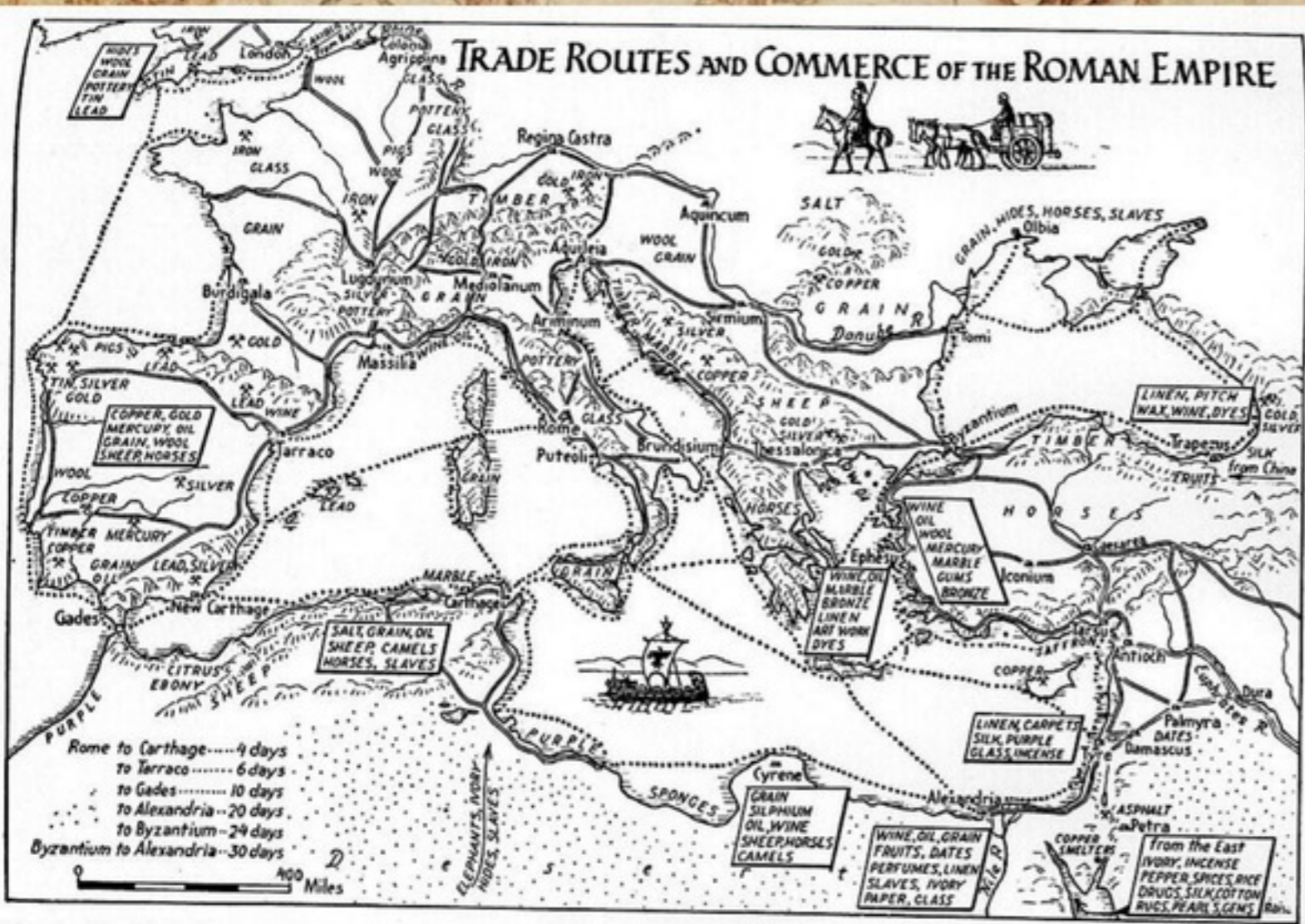


Which continents are connected through the Mediterranean Sea Complex?

1. IDENTIFY THREE
COMMODITIES/
GOODS THAT WERE
TRADED?

2. WHERE WERE THE
SOURCES OF SLAVES?

3. WHERE DID THE
PEPPER AND SPICES
THAT WERE TRADED
COME FROM?



Map 2 The Black Sea and Mediterranean slave trade. From Charles Alexander Robinson, Jr., *Ancient History: From Prehistoric Times to the Death of Justinian* (New York: Macmillan Co., 1951), p. 565. Copyright © 1951 by the Macmillan Co.

Open Ended Question



1. Identify three commodities/ goods that were traded?

Open Ended Question



Map 2 The Black Sea and Mediterranean slave trade. From Charles Alexander Robinson, *The Ancient World: From Prehistoric Times to the Death of Justinian* (New York: Macmillan Co., 1911), p. 701. Copyright © 1911 by the Macmillan Co.

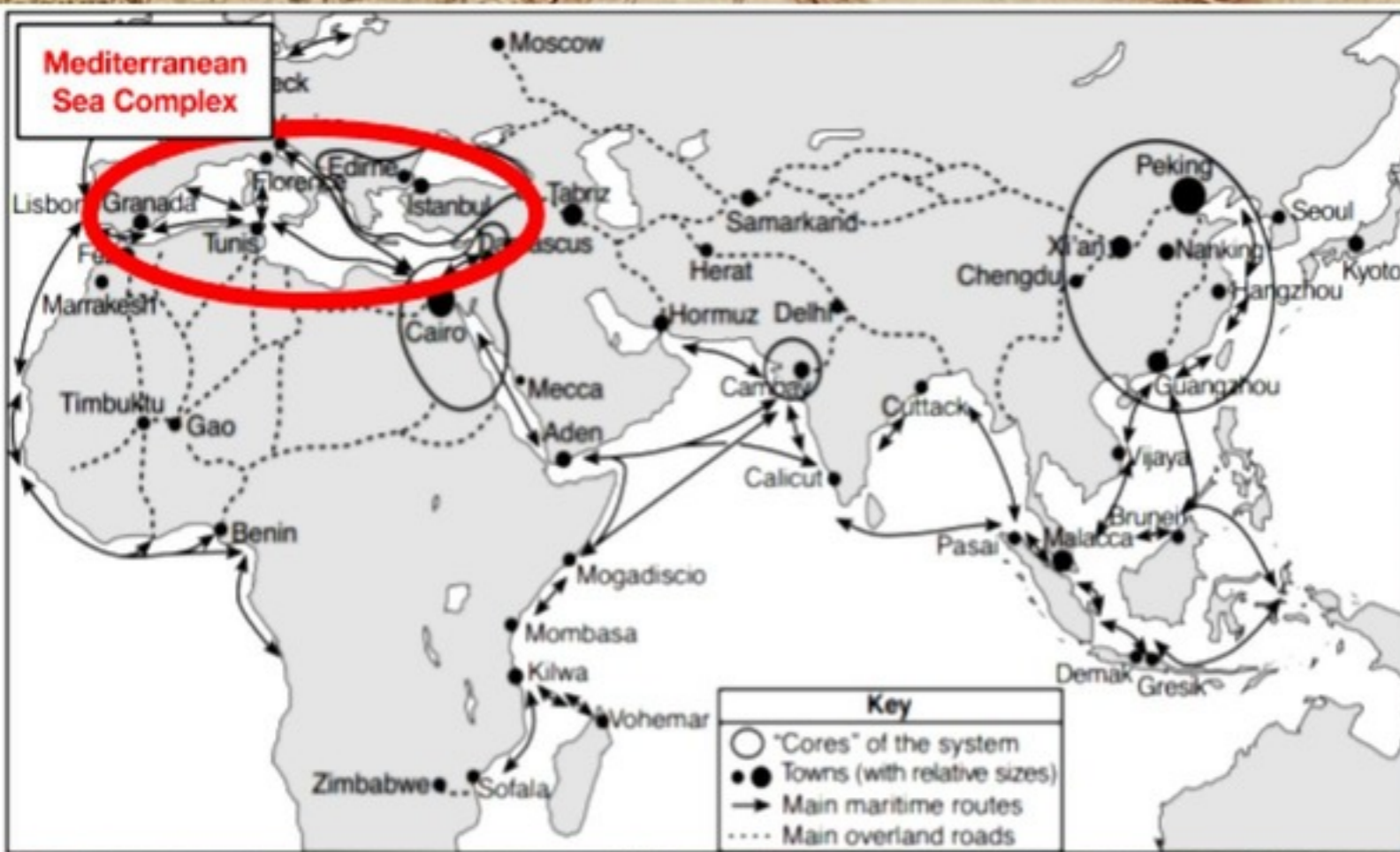
2. Where were the sources of slaves?

Open Ended Question



3. Where did the pepper and spices that were traded come from?

BASED ON THE
 MAPS, WHICH
 CIVILIZATIONS DID
 THE ROMANS HAVE
 CONTACT WITH
 THROUGH
 TRADE ROUTES?



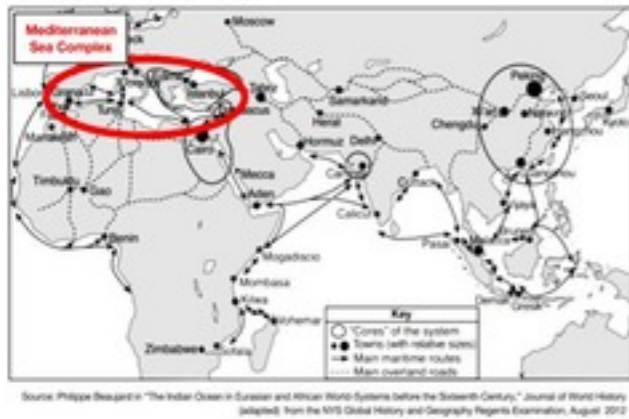
Classical Civilizations in 200 CE




Source: Philippe Beaujard in "The Indian Ocean in Eurasian and African World-Systems before the Sixteenth Century," *Journal of World History* (adapted) from the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Examination, August 2012

Source: Adapted from <http://www.history.com/history/world-200ad>

Open Ended Question



Based on the maps, which civilizations did the Romans have contact with through trade routes?



*Use the highlight tool
to identify important
information.*

Draw It

H

WHERE DID SILK SPREAD? WHY?

BY THE FIRST CENTURY CE SILK CLOTHES WERE POPULAR ON THE STREETS OF ROME AMONG ITS WEALTHY CITIZENS. MUCH CONSUMPTION OF SILK, AT BOTH ENDS OF THE SILK ROAD, WAS DEVOTED TO RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES. CHRISTIAN PRIESTS USED PURPLE SILK EMBROIDERED WITH GOLD SILK THREAD FOR THEIR VESTMENTS. KINGS, PRIESTS, AND SAINTS WERE SHROUDED IN SILKS AT THEIR BURIALS; EVEN BURIALS FROM LONG AGO WERE DUG UP AND SHROUDED IN SILK. IN

THE BUDDHIST AREAS, YARDS OF SILK WERE USED FOR BANNERS, SOMETIMES TENS OF THOUSANDS AT ONE MONASTERY. BUDDHIST LAY PEOPLE MADE DONATIONS OF SILK TO MONASTERIES AS A REWARD FOR THE MONKS' INTERCESSIONS AND AS A WAY TO GAIN MERITS FOR FUTURE LIFE. THE MONKS, IN TURN, TRADED SILK FOR DAILY PROVISIONS AND FOR THE "SEVEN TREASURES" USED TO DECORATE THEIR *STUPAS*, OR SHRINES: GOLD, SILVER, LAPIS LAZULI, RED CORAL, CRYSTAL, PEARLS, AND AGATE. DURING AFFLUENT TIMES, BUDDHIST MONASTERIES THUS BECAME SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC ENTITIES."

WHY WAS SILK IN DEMAND IN EUROPE AND OTHER PARTS OF ASIA?

WHAT IMPACT DID THE SALE OF SILK HAVE ON ROMAN SOCIETY?

WHAT IMPACT DID SILK HAVE IN ROME?

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE SILK TRADE ON ROME

"[B]Y THE TIME OF THE [ROMAN EMPEROR AUGUSTUS](#) (27 BCE – 14 CE), TRADE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE WEST WAS FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AND SILK WAS THE MOST SOUGHT AFTER COMMODITY IN EGYPT, GREECE, AND, ESPECIALLY, IN ROME."

ROMANS VALUED SILK AT ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD
POLITICIANS TRIED TO BAN THE SALE OF SILK BECAUSE ROMANS WERE SPENDING ALL OF THEIR MONEY ON IT INSTEAD OF BUYING ROMAN GOODS AND PRODUCTS OF MORE USE

POLITICIANS ALSO TRIED TO BAN SILK BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT IT WAS IMMORAL BECAUSE IT WAS TOO REVEALING WHEN WORN

Open Ended Question

In a few sentences, describe how trade might have affected Ancient Rome.