1. In geographic terms, Italy is a **peninsula**

2. Rome’s growth was made possible by its **climate** which provided Romans with a **large food supply**

3. Many of Italy’s ancient cities were **built on top of hills** (Rome on 7 hills)
4. No written records exist for Rome’s early history = not well documented
5. Romans believe that **Aeneas** came from **Troy** to Rome
6. Legend says that the founders of Rome were **Romulus and Remus** (twins raised by a wolf and later a shepherd)
7. Nobles did not want any more kings so they **overthrew** their last king. If they **hadn’t**, Rome would have had **more** kings.
Romans created a republic—but not a democracy (only Patricians could vote at first)

8. Republic - people elect their leaders
9. Patricians - wealthy landowners; upper class of Roman society
10. Plebeian - common people
11. **Dictator** - ruler with absolute power
12. Rome’s government included offices that could only be held by __________.
13. **Veto** - to reject or prohibit actions and laws of other government officials
14. The Roman law of the Twelve Tables is similar to the U.S. Constitution because they both were written to **protect people’s rights**

15. Checks and balances restrict the power of other officials and keep any one part of government from **becoming too strong**.
16. The Roman Forum was the **center of** Roman life.

17. The Forum also served as a **meeting** place.
18. The Roman trade network grew as Romans needed to bring in **food** from other parts of the Mediterranean.

19. Many nearby countries declared war on Rome because they were **threatened by Rome’s power**.

20. Rome was protected by **legions** - groups of Roman soldiers.

22. 218- B.C. Hannibal led an attack on Rome. His army included war elephants!
23. When Greece was conquered by Rome, **Greek culture** was adopted—including their gods and goddesses.

24. When the Gracchus brothers were killed Romans learned that **violence** could be used as a political weapon.

25. The Gracchus brothers wanted to **help** the Romans
ESSAY QUESTION

- List all three types of government in Rome and carefully explain each
  - Monarchy - rule by a king or queen = Etruscans were the last
  - Republic - people vote to select officials to make government decisions - this was Rome’s “favorite” form of government but at first only Patricians could make decisions
  - Dictatorship - one leader is in absolute control and usually the military enforces all government decisions. At first, dictators only could rule for 6 months