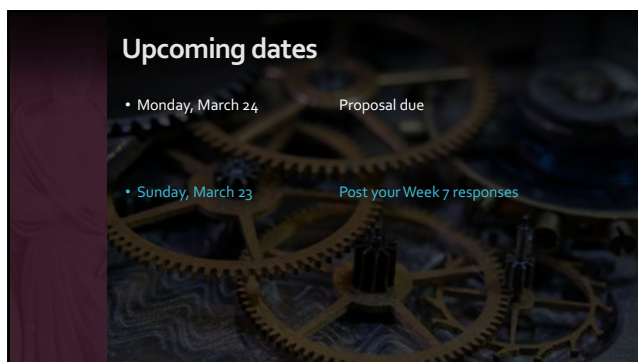
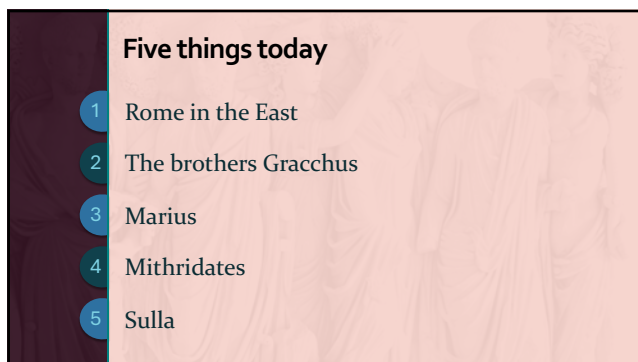


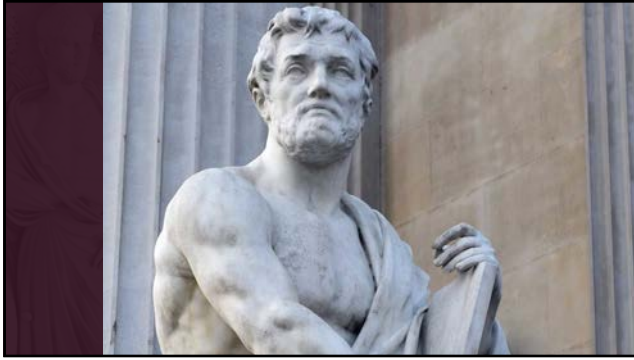
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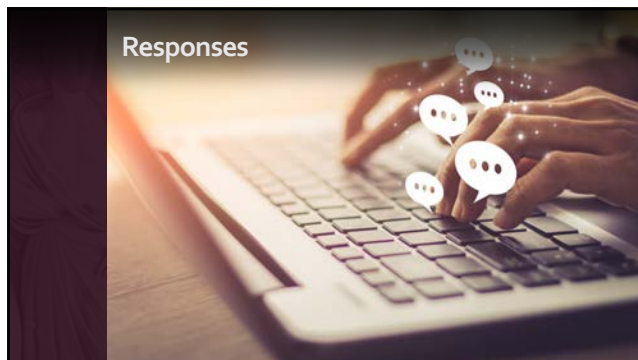
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Quiz #5: Optimates and Populares

- All of the following are true of Tiberius Gracchus's land-reform bill EXCEPT:
 - It was designed to break up large estates made up of public land and divide them among landless Roman citizens.
 - Tiberius's failure to consult the senate before presenting the bill to the assembly was unprecedented and illegal.
 - The pontifex maximus, Scipio Nasica, led an angry mob of senators to club Tiberius and his supporters to death.
 - The land commission to break up the estates was set up anyway despite Tiberius's death.
- The Social War (90-88 BCE) refers to the armed conflict between
 - Facebook and MySpace
 - the optimates and the populares
 - the patricians and the plebeians
 - the Italian allies and Rome.
- Gaius Marius's impact on Roman history includes all of the following EXCEPT:
 - skillfully defeating Jugurtha after a long war conducted by his optimate enemy, Metellus
 - reforming the army to defeat the Cimbri and Teutones after a disastrous Roman defeat under optimate generals
 - marrying Julius Caesar's aunt
 - winning his seventh consulship during a period of peace and good will between the factions
- In your opinion, what did the populares stand for?

- Mithridates's proarranged massacre of thousands of Italians in Asia Minor sparked a chain of events that led to the consul Sulla doing all of the following EXCEPT:
 - being given the commission to wage war against Mithridates
 - marching his army on Rome to restore order after riots in favor of replacing him with Marius
 - staying in Rome to protect the government and not marching east to fight Mithridates
 - having himself declared dictator to reconstitute the state after the Marian disruption
- The ultimate decree of the senate (*senatus consultum ultimum*) called on
 - the gods to punish Roman robbers who rose against their own city
 - the consuls to take any necessary action to preserve the state
 - posterity to witness the justice of the senate's actions
 - architects to design comfort benches for senators to sit on

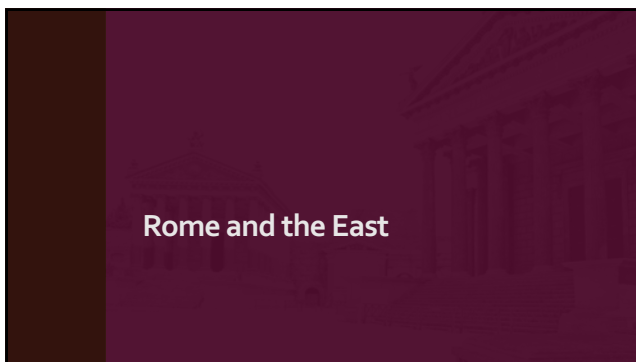
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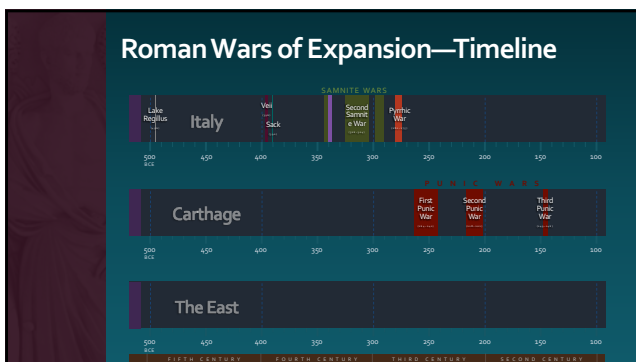
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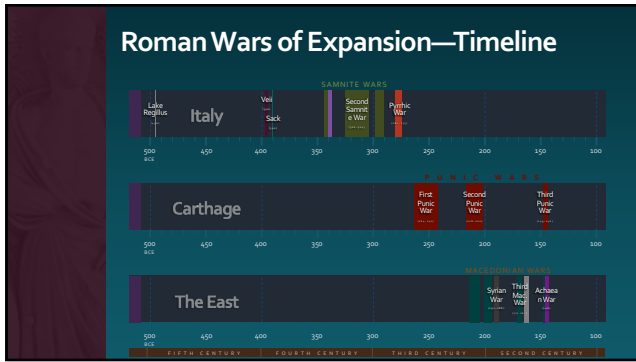
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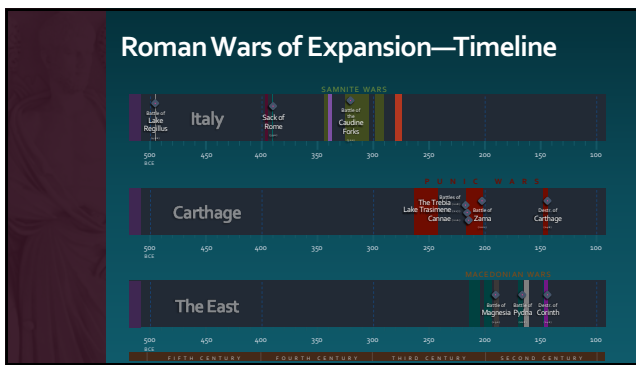
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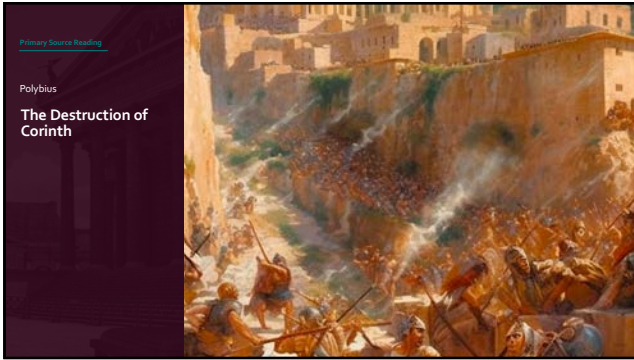
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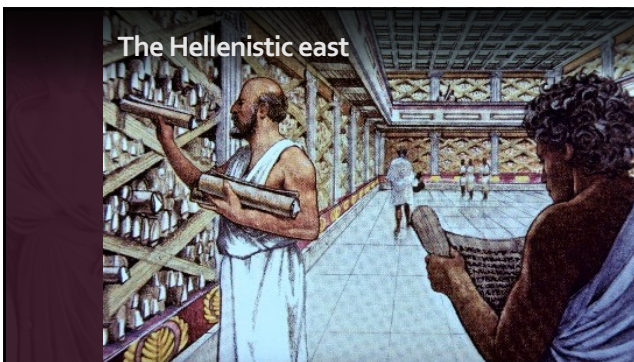
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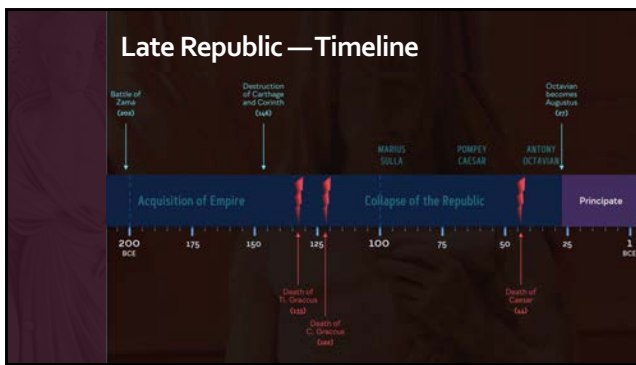
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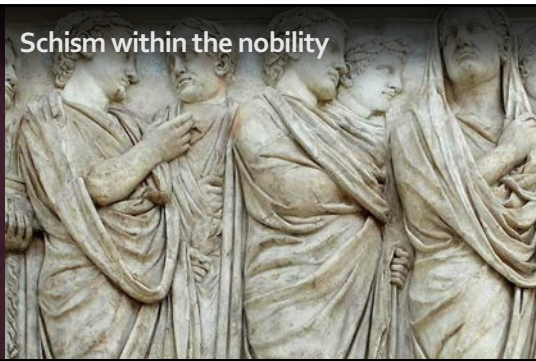
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Recruitment



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Schism within the nobility



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Optimates and Populares



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Caveat 1: Divide was among the elite families



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Caveat 2: "The victors write the histories"



26

Caveat 3: The dangers on both sides



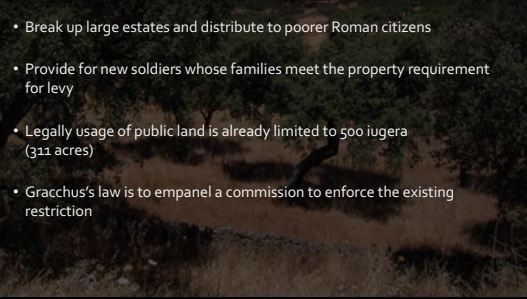
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Ti. Sempronius Gracchus: Cream of the elite



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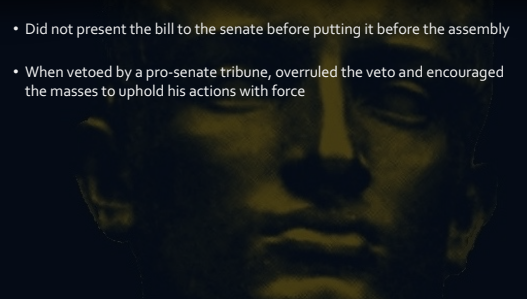
Redistribution of public lands



- Break up large estates and distribute to poorer Roman citizens
- Provide for new soldiers whose families meet the property requirement for levy
- Legally usage of public land is already limited to 500 iugera (311 acres)
- Gracchus's law is to empanel a commission to enforce the existing restriction

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Tiberius's defiance



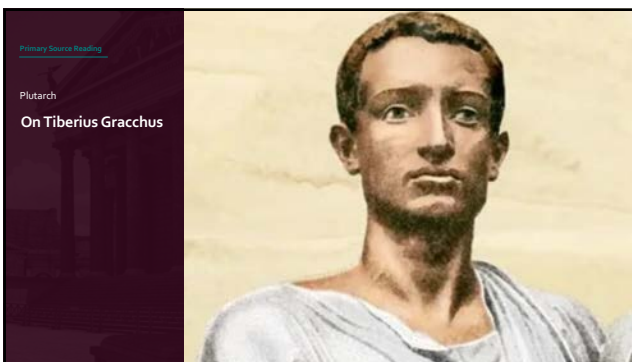
- Did not present the bill to the senate before putting it before the assembly
- When vetoed by a pro-senate tribune, overruled the veto and encouraged the masses to uphold his actions with force

30

Conservative extremists' fury

- Too popular to oppose
- Constitution offers no recourse
- Consuls refuse to act against him as an insurrectionist
- Pontifex Maximus (P. Cornelius Scipio Nasica) picks up a club and leads a mob of extremist senators to beat Tiberius and his followers to death
- Body thrown in the Tiber to deny proper burial

31



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C. Gracchus: More radical reforms

- Empowering of the order of knights at the expense of the senate
- Re-empaneling the land commission
- Reforming military service terms
- Citizenship for the Italian allied peoples

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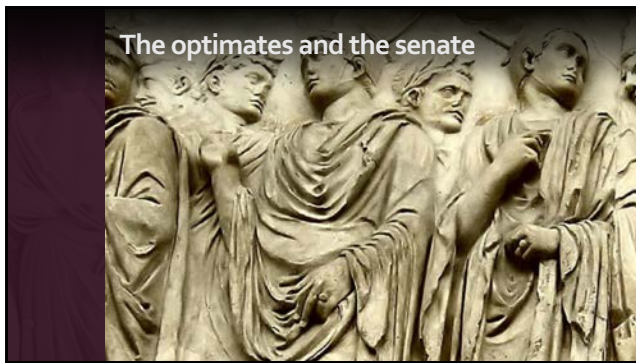
Divisions within the nobility

POPULARES	OPTIMATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders who seek popularity among the people of Rome Demonize the senate as oppressing the masses and protecting privilege at Rome's expense, especially in war Urge Romans to place their faith and trust in great men, not institutions <p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gracchus brothers Gaius Marius Julius Caesar Octavian/Augustus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders who seek to protect the old ways Champion the senate as guardians of tradition and the collective, anonymous rule that made Rome strong Urge Romans to place their faith and trust in institutions, not great men <p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sulla Metellus Numidicus Cato (the younger)

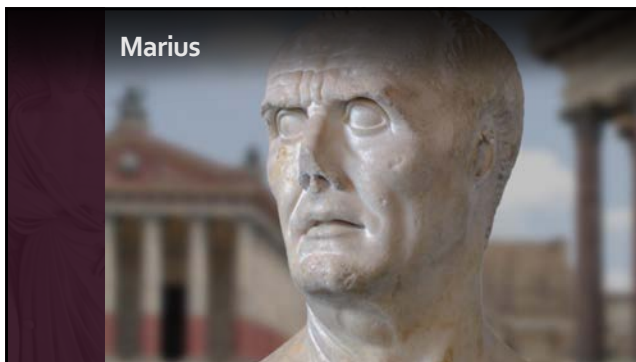
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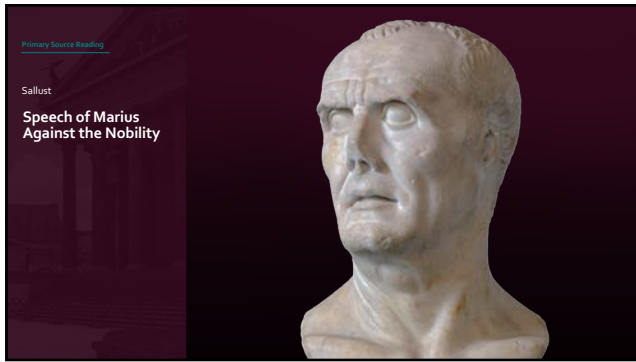
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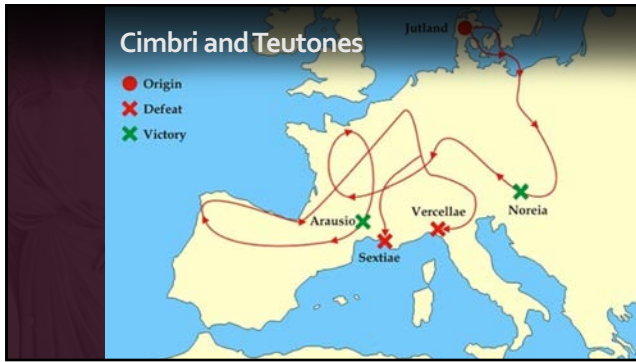
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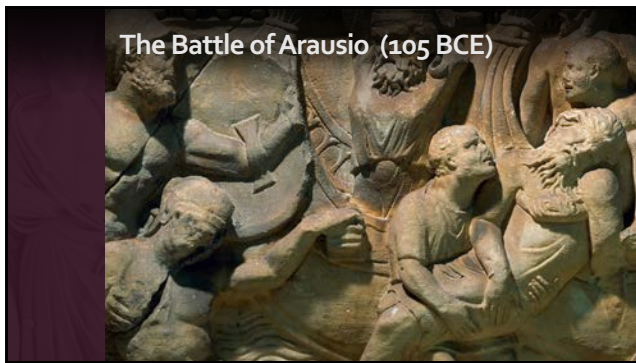
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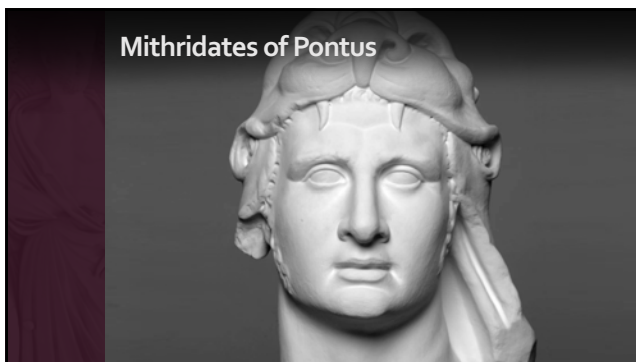
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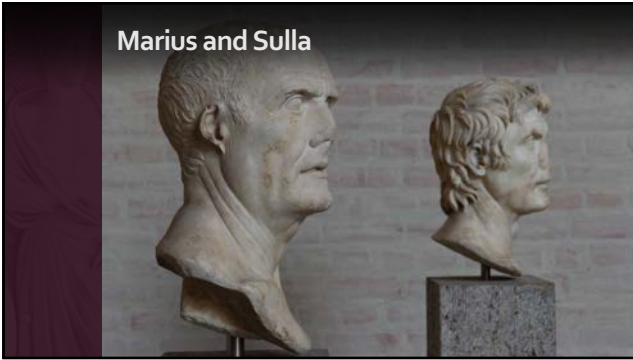


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Marius and Sulla



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Sulla's march on Rome



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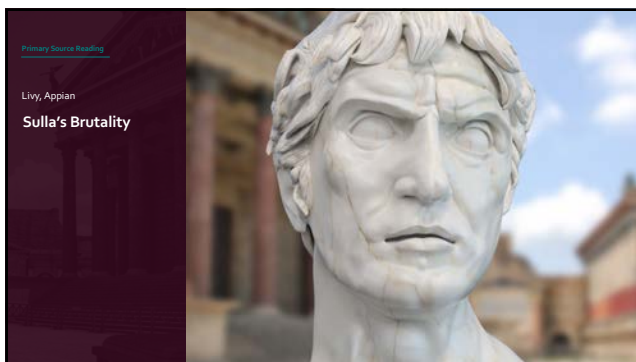
Marius and Cinna take over Rome



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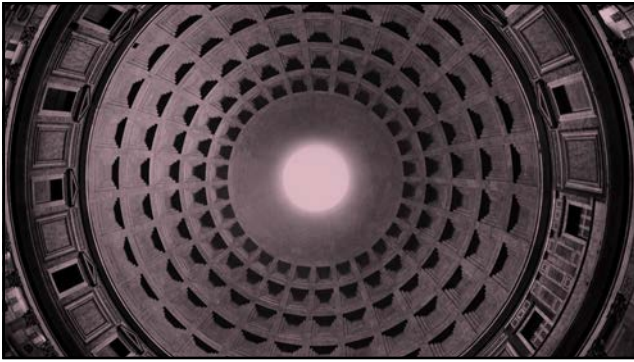
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