Notes on Quiz #2: SPQR

1. An early Roman success that brought much-needed land wealth to Rome and made possible its first expansions into central Italy was
   a. the Conquest of Veii (396 BCE)
   b. the Sack of Rome (390 BCE)
   c. the First Samnite War (343–341 BCE)
   d. the Pyrrhic War (280–275 BCE)

Roman expansion was made possible by a number of factors. First, the greatly increased wealth that came from the capture of Veii meant Rome had more economic resources. Second, increased territory meant more peoples were subject to taxation and military service, which meant larger armies of Romans and allies could be put in the field. Third, poltical reforms stabilized the conflict between the patricians and the plebeians, allowing more unified action. Finally, military reforms, including the advent of the manipular army in place of the hoplite phalanx, meant more versatile armies and a greater wealth of tactics and strategies.

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2. According to Roman accounts, the first three dictators laid down all of the following precedents for future dictators EXCEPT:
   a. A dictator's power was limited to the specific need or crisis that had led to their appointment
   b. A dictator resigned at the end of his crisis
   c. Dictators were champions of the Roman nobility, to be used against foreigners and the lower classes alike
   d. The dictatorship was used to resolve crises both military and domestic

The first three dictators were appointed in response to a public perception that a crisis needed emergency resolution by the man most qualified to do so. The first dictators therefore saw their total power as bound to that specific need only, and each resigned immediately in the resolution of the crisis. All future dictators understood the office as bound to a specific mandate and resigned at the earliest moment, restoring normalcy to Rome. The first dictators also appointed a magister equitum as their first act.

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3. The Roman system of alliances and citizen communities in Italy included all of the following EXCEPT:
   a. Municipia (cities granted full or partial Roman citizenship)
   b. Socii (Italian and Greek-Italian cities having mutual defensive pacts with Rome)
   c. Canes felesque (cities treated affectionately by Rome and given regular food allowances)
   d. Latin allies (cities allowed intermarriage and binding contracts with Romans)

The Roman apparatus of alliances and citizen communities in Italy included municipia, socii, and Latin allies. Cats and dogs (canes felesque) were not a formal part of the system.

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4. Ways that expansion into central Italy impacted on Rome included all of the following EXCEPT:
   a. Public works: Paved highways and aqueducts in Italy, plus a major building boom in Rome
   b. Trade and manufacturing: Early coinage and increased production of manufactured goods
   c. Agriculture: Conquered land redistributed to poor but also amassed into large estates
   d. Art: Development of a new Greek-inspired medium involving humanlike forms with round, tinted faces depicting a range of strong emotions

Some of the ways expansion into central Italy impacted on Rome included:

- *Trade and manufacturing:* Increased production of manufactured goods (pottery and bronzes) and expansion of its markets in Italy and the west; early coinage.
- *Public works:* Paved highways and aqueducts in Italy, plus major building boom in Rome, including many new temples.
- *Agriculture:* Conquered land was redistributed to the poor but also amassed into large estates, producing lucrative crops for export and a demand for slaves.
- *Urban:* Increased urban population, free, slave, and ex-slave, from countryside and Italian cities; greater class tension as patricians defend prerogatives.
- *Art:* New temples and homes reflecting success in war; appropriation and Romanization of Greek art forms, especially literature and theater.

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5. A favorite Roman story of the old days when Roman leaders valued humility over ambition was the tale of
   a. Cincinnatus called to the dictatorship from his plow
   b. Claudius Pulcher naming his humble servant Glicia to the dictatorship
   c. The first dictator, Larcius, being chosen for his impressive, Hercules-like appearance
   d. The later-abandoned custom of granting dictators the cognomina Humilis Maximus ("humblest of men") on their departure from office

Dictators were appointed by the consuls in response to a public perception of need. The duty of the consul was to choose the needed man for any crisis, regardless of family or status. Cincinnatus was chosen for his utter humility, representing core Roman values and rejecting any thought of glory, power, or wealth from office as un-Roman. Glicia was the wrong choice because the consul, Claudius Pulcher, deliberately chose him as the most unsuitable person he could think of to take command of the fleet out of sheer pique. Both cases illustrate that the dictatorship depended on the honor of the consuls choosing them as much as that of the dictators themselves.

Optional Extra Credit

EC. What set the manipular army apart from the hoplite-style armies Rome had used before?

The Romans reshaped their military in the 4th century by replacing their old-fashioned Greek/Etruscan style hoplite army with the manipular army, which operated in smaller, more maneuverable bands (maniple = fist). This change allowed fighting on many kinds of terrain and against a variety of enemies, but required more drilling and training, further militarizing Rome.