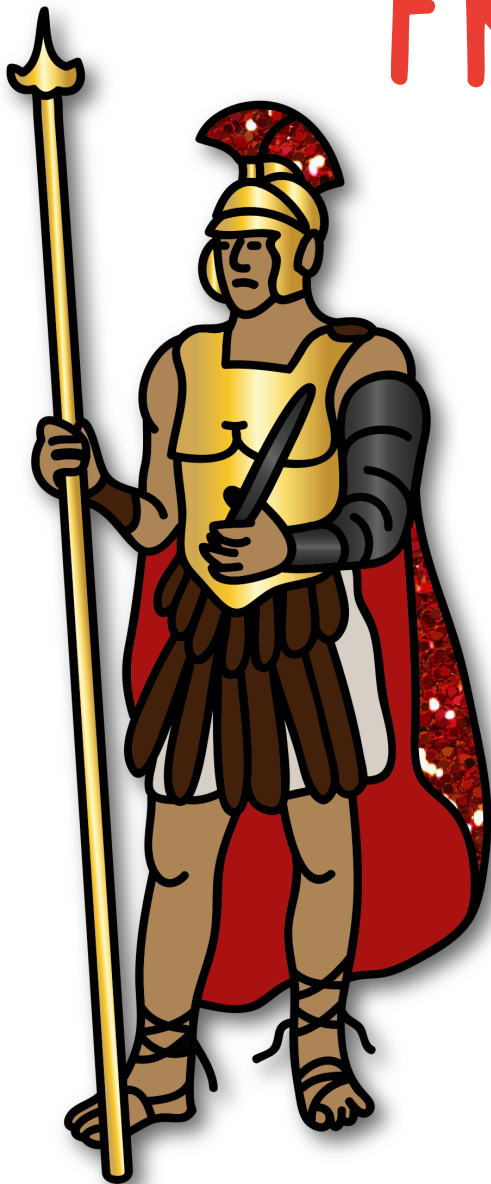


# Etruscan & Greek Influences on Romans

FREEBIE



- ✓ Non-Fiction Passages
- ✓ Note-Taking Template
- ✓ Activity & Rubric

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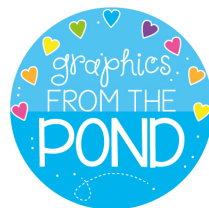
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Richard, Carl. *Greeks and Romans Bearing Gifts: How the Ancients Inspired the Founding Fathers*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2008.

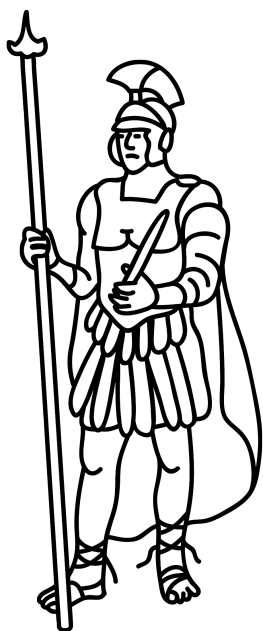
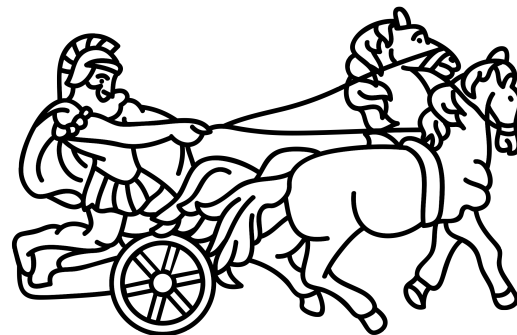
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## Etruscan and Greek Influences on Romans

### Introduction:

✓ The ancient Romans were a highly cultured group of people who had many advancements in the areas of art, government, architecture, engineering, literature and more. Many aspects of their ancient culture is still being used in countries today.

✓ However, the Romans did not invent their cultural traits. Instead, they were greatly inspired by the Etruscans and Greeks. Oftentimes, the Romans improved upon the elements of culture that they adopted.



### Etruscan Influence:

✓ The Etruscans lived in Etruria which was an area north of Rome in what is now known as Italy. Romans often came into close contact with Etruscans, especially when Rome was led by Etruscan kings before the era of the Roman Republic.

✓ Etruscans were highly cultured and were very advanced in the areas of writing, agriculture, crafts and dentistry (making false teeth out of ivory and wood). They took great pleasure in participating in many leisure activities such as dancing, holding banquets and hunting. They traveled to different areas of the Mediterranean and traded pottery, jewelry, leather and other luxury items with Egyptians, Greeks and Phoenicians.

### ✓ Romans learned the following knowledge from the Etruscans:

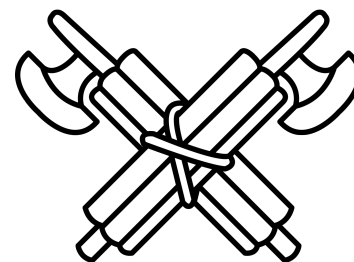
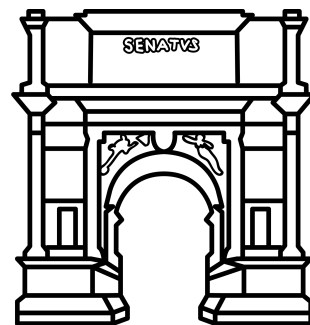
☆ Architecture - Romans adopted many styles and ideas from the Etruscans such as the arch, roads, markets, government buildings, temples and organized, well-protected cities.

☆ Engineering - Romans learned about the aqueduct and the cuniculus (underground passage used for irrigation and water transportation) from the Etruscans.

☆ Clothing style - Etruscans introduced Romans to the toga and the use of purple to represent royalty.

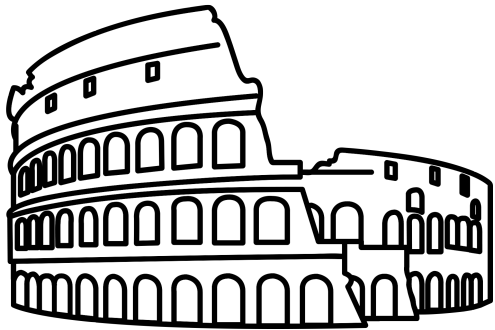
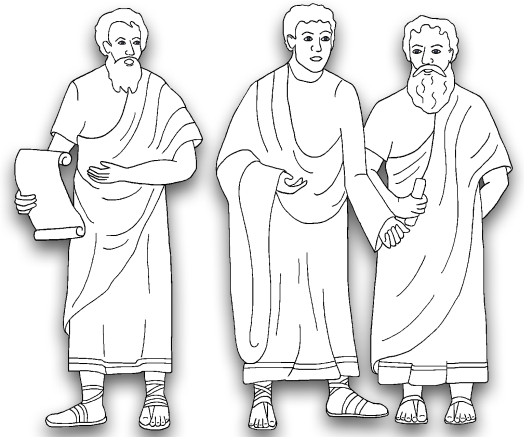
☆ Entertainment - Romans discovered chariot races and gladiator fights from the Etruscans.

☆ Symbol - The fasces (an ax bound together with rods) originally came from the Etruscans. The fasces represented the strength of the government.



## Greek Influence:

✓ Ancient Romans were also greatly influenced by Greeks. Romans and Greeks came into contact with each other often since Greek colonists established settlements on the island of Sicily and in southern Italy. Additionally, Romans and Greeks traded with each other and Etruscans passed on a lot of knowledge about Greeks to the Romans. Finally, when the Romans conquered Greece, they adopted many aspects of their culture.

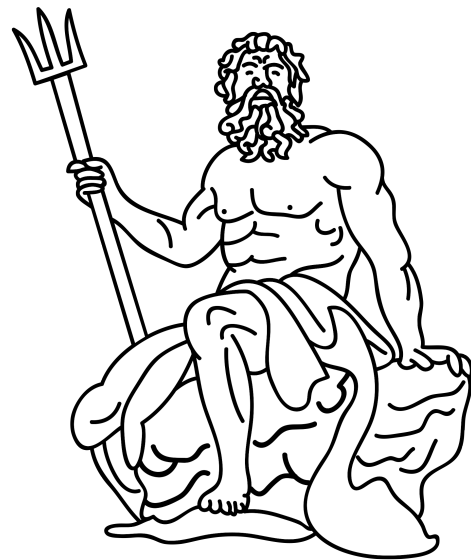


## ✓ Romans learned the following knowledge from the Etruscans:

☆ Architecture – Romans learned to use marble for temples from the Greeks. Eventually, Romans made even bigger buildings than the Greeks and used concrete to build the Colosseum and Circus Maximus.

Writing – After the Etruscans modified the Greek alphabet, the Romans revised it and made the Latin alphabet which is commonly used today. Additionally, the Romans used capital letters, and engraved their writing on bronze or stone like the Greeks.

Art – Like the Greeks, Romans also placed a high value on pottery which was not only beautiful but also useful for containing food, wine and water. Eventually, Roman art took on its own unique style. Artists focused on creating sculptures and portraits that resembled real heroes or leaders.



☆ Religion – Romans embraced Greek mythology as their own but changed the names to Roman names. For example, Zeus became Jupiter and Aphrodite became Venus. According to Romans, the purpose of their gods and goddesses was to defend and watch over Rome.



Name:

## Etruscan and Greek Influence on Romans: Note-Taking Guide

Directions: Using evidence from the text, write key details to support the topics listed.

### Etruscan Influence

### Greek Influence

Name:

# Thank You Card

As an ancient Roman, write a thank you card to the Etruscans or Greeks thanking them for their influence and contributions to Roman culture. Include a combination of detailed writing and colorful images.

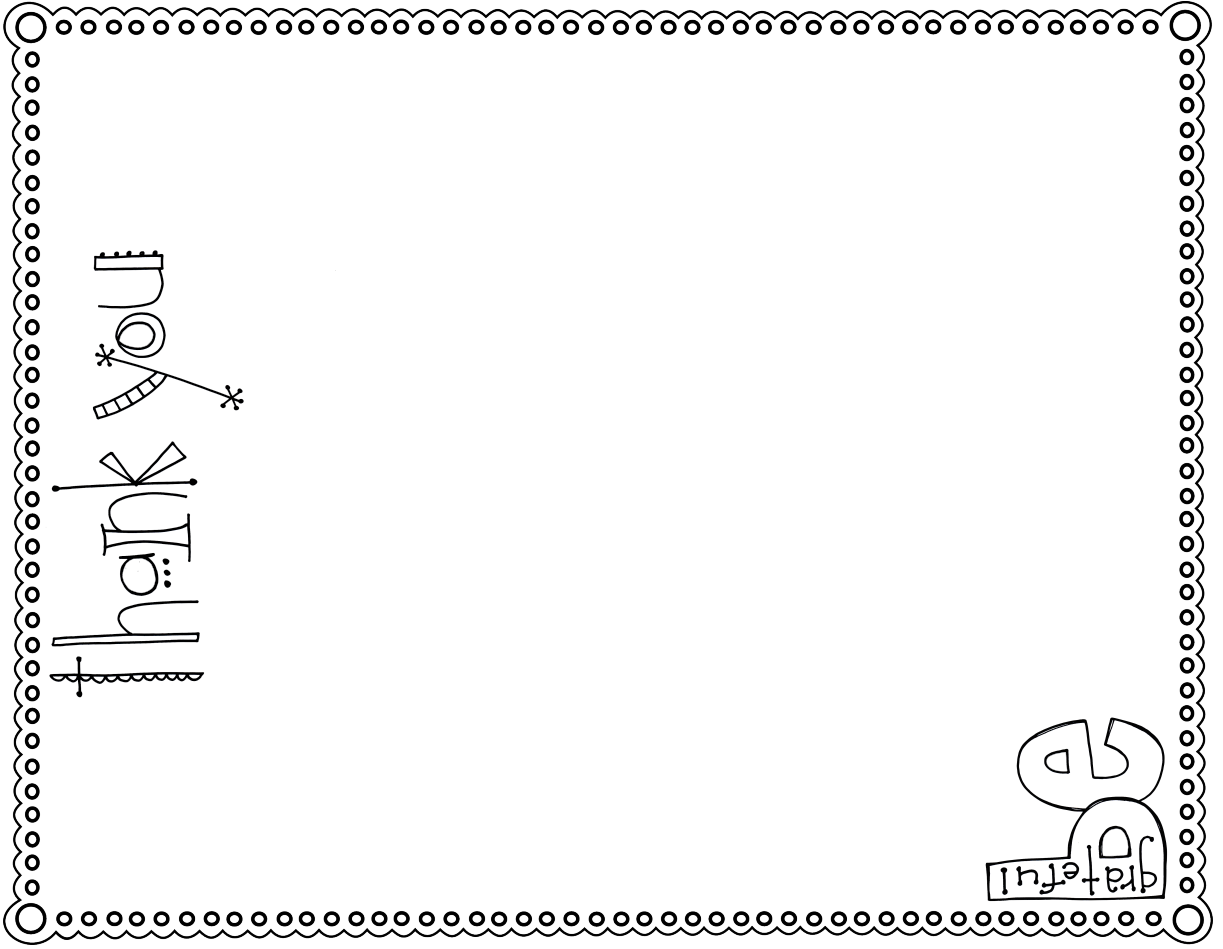
thank you

grateful

Name:

## Thank You Card

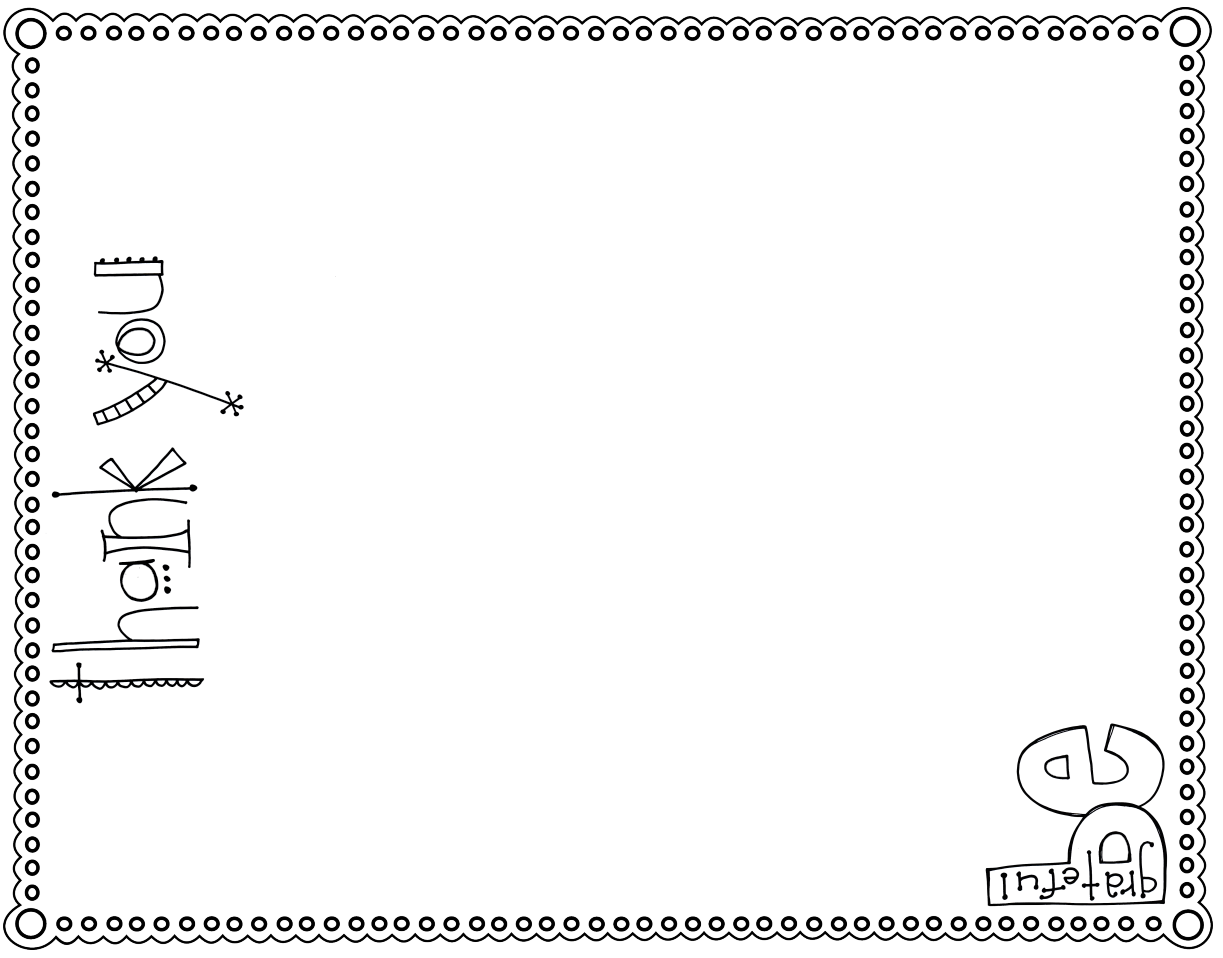
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Name:

## Thank You Card

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Rubric: Thank You Card

	A	B	C	D
<b>Writing</b>	Includes significant evidence that is fully developed and completely explained.	Includes effective evidence that is mostly developed and explained.	Includes relevant evidence that is occasionally developed and explained.	Includes limited evidence that needs to be more fully developed and explained.
<b>Word Choice</b>	Words explain the topics in an interesting and sophisticated way.	Words are adequate and correct but could be more interesting and sophisticated.	The word choices make sense but don't capture the attention of the reader.	Most words are vague and not specific.
<b>Mechanics</b>	There are no errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization or grammar.	1 - 2 errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or grammar.	3 - 5 errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar.	6 or more errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar.
<b>Images</b>	Exceptionally detailed and colorful. Includes superior effort.	Very good color and detail. Very good effort.	Can have more color, detail and effort.	Little to no color, detail or effort.

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_