

IV FAMILY AND SCHOOL

Motivation task: Read the text about marriage in ancient Rome

Roman weddings are the source for many of our own **marriage** traditions such as the ring, the white dress and the veil.

Roman girls married at the age of 14. A girl's father chose her husband and arranged everything, including the **dowry's** size with the **bridegroom's** family. Economic interests and family relations were more important than love to Romans.

Romans were very superstitious, so they chose an appropriate day for the wedding party. A religious ceremony and a marriage contract were followed by a feast with all the family and friends.

In the Republic period, marriage moved the father's authority over a woman to the husband's father or grandfather. The father or grandfather was the **paterfamilias** and he controlled all the family's wealth. The property a woman possessed at the time of the marriage went to the paterfamilias' hands.

During the Empire the woman retained control of her own money. Such a system made divorce a more viable option for women.

Looking after the children and taking care of the household were the main jobs of a woman. In a poor family a woman did the work herself, but in a higher class family she would have servants and slaves to help her.

❖ Match the words on the left with the clues on the right

WORDS		CLUES
1. MARRIAGE	___	a) A male head of a family or household.
2. DOWRY	___	b) The occupants of a house regarded as a unit.
3. GROOM	___	c) Property or money brought by a bride to her husband.
4. PATER FAMILIAS	___	d) A married man especially in relation to his wife.
5. HOUSEHOLD	___	e) A man on his wedding day (antonym bridesmaid)
6. HUSBAND	___	f) The legal union of a man and a woman.
7. WEDDING	___	g) A circular ornament worn on a finger.
8. RING	___	h) A marriage ceremony and party.

❖ Match the words on the left with the synonymous on the right

			Write the meaning
1. feast	___	a) rich	_____
2. wealthy	___	b) family	_____
3. property	___	c) marriage ceremony	_____
4. household	___	d) slaves	_____
5. dowry	___	e) party	_____
6. wedding	___	f) possessions	_____
7. servants	___	g) property or money	_____

❖ Match the words on the left with the antonyms on the right

Write the meaning

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----|----------------|-------|
| 1. marriage | ___ | a) woman | _____ |
| 2. bride | ___ | b) wife | _____ |
| 3. man | ___ | c) divorce | _____ |
| 4. husband | ___ | d) bridegroom | _____ |
| 5. grandfather | ___ | e) mother | _____ |
| 6. girl | ___ | f) rich | _____ |
| 7. father | ___ | g) grandmother | _____ |
| 8. poor | ___ | h) son | _____ |
| 9. daughter | ___ | i) boy | _____ |

I FAMILY

The father or *paterfamilias* was the most important member of the family, and was usually the oldest surviving male. He had the power of life or death over everyone. He could sell a member of his family as a slave.

Mothers and children had to obey him. He was the owner of the house and its contents and had total authority. Family was not only blood **relatives** but also all the people working and living in the same roof. So the Roman family was a husband and a wife, their children as well as slaves and servants.

When a **newborn** arrived at home there were several ceremonies. Once the baby was born if the father lifted it up in his arms it would live, and if it was ignored the baby would be taken away to die. The baby was named when it was eight or nine years old.

While boys were given two or three names, girls had only one name (the feminine father's name). Later, they were given two. The second name was always the family name and the third was a sort of '**nickname**'.

1. Read the text and fill in the blanks. Use the word bank.

family	relative	newborn	nickname	citizen
--------	----------	---------	----------	---------

A _____ (1) is freeman of a city. A set of _____ (2) and children is a _____ (3). A child recently born is called a _____

(4). A _____ (5) is a name given to a person instead of the real name.

A _____ (6) connected by blood or marriage is called a _____ (7).

2. Look carefully at the following grid.

What would your name be if you were a Roman girl? _____

Praenomen or first name	Nomen gentile or clan name	Cognomen (Name of the family branch)
Gaius	Julius	Caesar ¹
	Cornelia ²	

¹ He was known as Caesar, the short form.

² Cornelia was Cornelius' daughter.

Women were not citizens of Rome. Their job was to take care of the house and to have children. Mothers who could read and write taught their children how to read and write. They taught their daughters how to cook and sew and care for a family. Women could go shopping or see a play or visit a temple.

Roman people respected and cared for the elderly. Grand-parents would take care of their grand children.

II SCHOOL

Romans valued education. This only applied to boys from rich families. Some were taught at home by Greek slaves. Later they attended schools where they learnt a variety of subjects, as oratory. This trained them to work in the government, the law, or as an officer in the army. It also helped them to run their estates (land). Boys went to school from around seven years old and left aged 16.

Roman girls did not go to school. Most of them stayed at home, where their mothers or their female slaves taught them how to cook, clean, weave a cloth and look after children. Only girls from rich families learned to read, write and do maths.

Poor children could be trained to be craftsmen or get a patron, a rich man who would pay for their education. In Ancient Rome, most children did not go to school, because it was not free and most parents could not afford it.

Some well-off parents would employ an educated slave called a **pedagogue** (p. 2) to teach their sons. School teachers and private teachers often came from Greece. The Greeks had a long cultural tradition that Romans admired.

Romans did not write on paper!

For short notes and at school Romans would write on flat wooden boards covered in wax, as the wax could be used again. These boards were called **wax tablets** (p. 1) and people used a metal **stylus** (p. 3, 4) to write on it. If a child made a mistake he smoothed the wax flat with the opposite end of the stylus and started again.

Romans did not have books!

For important documents Romans used papyrus or animal skin **scrolls** (p. 4) and ink. Roman writing has survived for 2,000 years and their language, as you already know, was **Latin**.

3. Match the words on the left with the correct clues on the right.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. Wax tablets | ___a. Subject that trained boys to work (law, army, etc.) |
| 2. Papyrus | ___b. A property consisting of an area of land. |
| 3. Stylus | ___c. An educated slave trained to teach children. |
| 4. Scroll | ___d. Flat wooden boards covered in wax. |
| 5. Oratory | ___e. A kind of paper made of reeds. |
| 6. Pedagogue | ___f. A pointed stick. |
| 7. Estate | ___g. A long piece of rolled skin. |

4. Complete the chart

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
	higher	
		the poorest
rich		
	older	
much		
	better	
		the shortest

5. Irregular verbs. Complete the chart

Present	Past simple	Past participle	Translation L1	Translation L2
	went			
teach		taught		
	learnt			
do				
		come		
		written		
know				
	read			
leave				
	chose			
be				
		made		
	took			
		seen		
have				
	sold			
		given		

6. Write 10 regular verbs. Use the texts in pages number 1, 2 and 3.

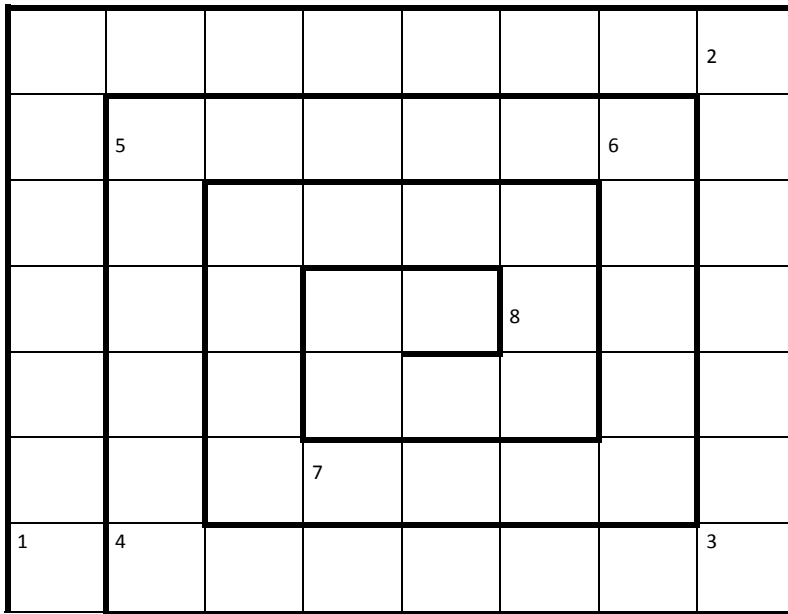
Present	Past	Past participle	Translation L1	Translation L2
cook	cooked	cooked	cocinar	cuinar

7. Cell work chop. In the box you will find words chopped. Find the pieces together and write the words in the space provided below.

ORAT	PEDA	AX	TES
STY	ORY	TABL	SC
ESTA	LUS	GOGUE	LA
ROLLS	YRUS	EEKS	W
TIN	ETS	PAP	GR

LATIN	ENGLISH	TRANSLATION	LATIN	ENGLISH	TRANSLATION

8. Families and school spiral



1. The male head of a family (it could be the grand-father, the father or the uncle) in Ancient Rome.
2. A roll of papyrus or animal skin used to write in the past, for instance in Ancient Rome. It is not a book.
3. A very useful tool to write on wax tablets.
4. 'Name' in Latin.
5. The language that Romans spoke.
6. A writing material used for important documents. It was also used by Egyptians.
7. The name of the family branch in Rome,
8. Property or land owned by the paterfamilias.

9. **VESTAL VIRGINS.** Fill in the blanks with the word bank.

6th Century B.C. - end of 4th Century A.D.)

Only a few women **played** a little role in the public _____ (1) life of Rome. The most remarkable example was the **Vestal Virgins**.

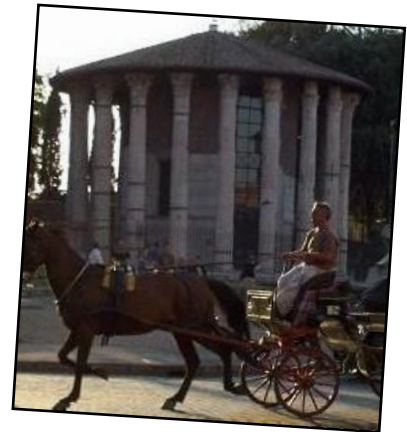
The Temple of _____ (2) (the goddess of the hearth) was **located** in the Roman Forum. The most important job of the six Vestal Virgins was to maintain the fire in the public hearth of the temple. It was said that disaster would strike

Rome if the _____ (3) ever went out. In addition, the Vestals made a special kind of flour called _____ (4) which was sprinkled on all public offerings to a god. Thus they had a role, though a rather limited one, in all public religious events.

The Vestals were chosen between the ages of _____ (5) and ten from among Rome's best families. They **served** for _____ (6) years, ten as students, ten in service, and ten as teachers. A violation of their vow of _____ (7) led to execution by being **buried** alive.

They often **appeared** in public and had special **reserved** seats at banquets and games.

At the end of their service they could retire or _____ (8). Most Vestals retired and they lived quite comfortably. The end of the Vestal Virgin happened when Emperor Theodosius came into power in A.D. 391.



WORD BANK

chastity³ Vesta religious fire thirty marry⁴ six mola⁵

9. **Write 6 lines about the life of a Vestal virgin.**

- a. They made _____
- b. They had a role _____
- c. Vestals were chosen _____
- d. Vestals served for _____
- e. Vestals could _____

³ Chastity: virginity.

⁴ To marry: take as one's wife or husband in marriage.

⁵ A kind of flour.

Forming the simple past tense

With most verbs, the simple past is created by adding -ED. However, with some verbs, you need to add -ES or change the ending a little. Here are the rules:

Verb ending in...	How to make the simple past	Examples
e	Add -D	<i>locate-located</i> <i>serve-served</i>
Consonant + y	Change y to i, then add -ED	<i>bury-buried</i> <i>marry-married</i>
One vowel + one consonant (but NOT w or y)	Double the consonant, then add -ED	<i>tap - tapped</i> <i>add-added</i>
[anything else]	Add -ED	<i>call - called</i> <i>play-played</i>

11. ONLINE ACTIVITIES

d) **Roman numbers:** Romans employed only 7 symbols to write numbers.

Roman Numeral	<i>I</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>X</i>	L	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>M</i>
Value	1	5	10	50	100	500	1000

The following rules are very important.

1. Symbols V, L, D can be used only once at a time. Symbols I, X, C, M can be repeated thrice at a time.
Examples: III stands for $1 + 1 + 1 = 3$. XXX stands for $10 + 10 + 10 = 30$.
2. Only symbols I, X, C are used for addition and subtraction.
Add when the smaller symbol is to the right of the bigger one.
Subtract when the smaller symbol is to the left of the bigger one.
Examples: XI stands for $10 + 1 = 11$. IX stands for $10 - 1 = 9$.
3. Symbol I can be added to or subtracted from V, X only.
Symbol X can be added to or subtracted from L, C only.
Symbol C can be added to or subtracted from D, M only.
Examples: VI stands for $5 + 1 = 6$. IV stands for $5 - 1 = 4$.

From: <http://www.syvum.com/cgi/online/serve.cgi/squizzes/math/roman1.tdf?0>

Here you are some websites with games to learn Roman numbers.

http://www.321know.com/g28w_nx1.htm#pgtp

<http://sln.fi.edu/time/keepers/Silverman/html/RomanMatch.html>

<http://www.manythings.org/fq/m/2982.html>

<http://fi.edu/time/keepers/Silverman/html/RomanSequence.html>

<http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/numbers/roman/index.htm>

12. Latin dictionary exercise. Fill in the blanks in English and in your language.

Latin	English	Your language
annus		
ante meridiem		
aqua		
bene		
canis		
circus		
cogito		
corpus		
de facto		
deus		
ego		
equus		
est		
hortus		
in		
index		
iris		
legere		
librarium		
locus		
magnus		
mare		
mens		
murus		
musica		
nihil		
non		
nota		

novus		
opus		
orbis		
post		
post meridian		
primus		
pro		
sanus		
solus		
sum		
tempus		
terra		
urbs		