



The Gladiators

Rome and The Gladiators : unit key words starter.

 Task : colour code or number the following words and images with their definitions.

Strangle

Criminal

Beast

Spectator

Glory

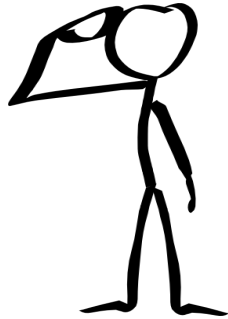
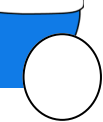
Gladius

Manica

Salute

Coward

Slaughter



A person who has broken the law

To kill using hands around the neck

To win or be famous

A person who watches an event

Armour to protect arm and shoulder

A short Roman sword

An action to show respect

A wild or dangerous animal

The opposite of brave

A very bloody killing or murder

Who were the Gladiators?

Name :

Class :

Discover : the types of people who fought as gladiators **Explore** : the concept of a professional gladiator **Skill** : Knowledge and understanding.

Murdoch

Peace

Death

Hannibal

A pulp

Coliseum

Expansion

War

Death

Men

Frontier

Fabulous

Pretend

Criminals

After destroying its main rival, _____ Barca of Carthage in 201 BC, the Romans began two hundred years of further wars and _____. By the end of this period, Rome controlled the whole of the Mediterranean and much of Europe. The Romans were used to violence. For example, If an army unit was cowardly in battle, one soldier in ten was randomly selected and battered to _____ by 9 other soldiers (hence the word decimate). Under the first emperor, Augustus in 31 BC, the Roman saw almost two hundred years of _____ (*pax romana*), thanks to the defence by their _____ armies. To keep alive memories of their warlike spirit the Romans set up _____ battlefields in cities and towns for public amusement, the Gladiator Games.. The _____ in Rome and other great Roman amphitheatres was where they organised fights to the death between hundreds of gladiators. In AD 80, the Colosseum saw 100 days of continuous fights and executions. Gladiators were mostly _____ , prisoners of war or slaves bought by a '*lanista*' or owner of gladiators. Professional gladiators were free men who volunteered to fight . These free men found popularity and gained the support of rich Roman citizens by becoming gladiators.

1: Why did the Romans organise the gladiator contests?

2: Where does the word 'decimate' come from ?

3: Where is the most famous amphitheatre located and what is it called ?

4: Give 3 types of people who became gladiators?

5: Why was a professional gladiator different to the other types of gladiator?



Slaves



Prisoners of War



Professionals

The Top Ten Gladiator Types.



Scissor

Little is written about this type of gladiator. It is thought they used a special short sword with two blades that looked like a pair of open scissors (perhaps to trap their opponents' weapons between the twin blades). They also had a metal tube that covered the arm, the hand end capped with a dagger attached to it the end.

Dimachaeri

Were light and fast, equipped for close-combat fighting. This gladiator used a two curved swords (scimitar or gladius). Their swords were used for attack and defence. The Dimachaeri were probably one of the most skilled, experienced and popular type of gladiator. They would have been ideally suited to fight heavily armoured opponents or other Dimachaeri.

Bestiarii

They were known as the 'beast fighters' and were trained to fight wild and sometimes exotic animals. They had very little protection and were armed with a spear or knife / dagger. These gladiators were usually criminals that were sent to fight dangerous animals with a high probability of death for the human.

Thracian

They wore broad rimmed Griffin shaped helmets that covered the whole head. They were protected by a small round or square-shaped shield / parmula , and their legs protected by two thigh-length guards / greaves. Their only weapon was the Thracian curved sword.

Retiarius

A very common type of gladiator that carried a three pronged spear / trident , a dagger, net and a large arm guard / manica extending to the shoulder and left side of the chest. They often fought Secutores or Murmillos. More protection was given by a metal shoulder shield / galerus, to cover the neck and lower face.



Secutor

Also called 'pursuers', they were similar to the Murmillo, with the same armour and weapons, including the tall rectangular shield and the short gladius sword. The helmet of the Secutor, covered the whole face except for two small holes to protect his eyes from the prongs of the Retiarius' trident. The helmet was round and smooth so that the Retiarius' net could grip on it.

Murmillo

This heavily armoured gladiator wore a large helmet with the shape of a fish on the crest. They were further protected with an arm guard, loincloth belt, a gaiter on his right leg and thick wrappings covering the tops of his feet. They also used a tall, military type shield and usually fought with Thracians or Retiarius.

Hoplomachus

They were based on the Greek 'armed fighter'. They wore quilted leg wrappings, loincloth, a belt, a pair of long shin-guards / greaves, an arm guard / manica on the sword-arm, and a brimmed helmet with a plume of feathers on the top and sides. They fought with a gladius and a very small, round shield. They also carried a spear, which the gladiator could throw before close combat. The Hoplomachi were paired against the Murmillo or Thracian.

Equites

They were specialised gladiators that fought on horseback with a spear and gladius, dressed in a full tunic, with a manica / arm-guard. Generally, the Equites only fought other Equities.

Samnite

An early type and heavily armed gladiator. The Samnites were powerful Italian tribes whom the Romans fought wars with between 326 and 291 BC. The Samnite gladiator was armed with a long rectangular shield / scutum, a plumed helmet, short sword, and a greave on his left leg. It was said that Samnites were lucky since they got large shields and good swords.



The Top Ten Gladiator Types.



Name :

Class :

Mission 1 : to name the ten types of gladiator using the information provided. **Mission 2** : Give one or two key features of each gladiator.



Name Bestiarii

1: Fought animals

2: Usually criminals



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:



Name

1:

2:

The Top Ten Gladiator Types.



Answers :



Bestiarii



Secutor



Retiarius



Scissor



Murmillo



Thracian



Samnite



Dimachaerus

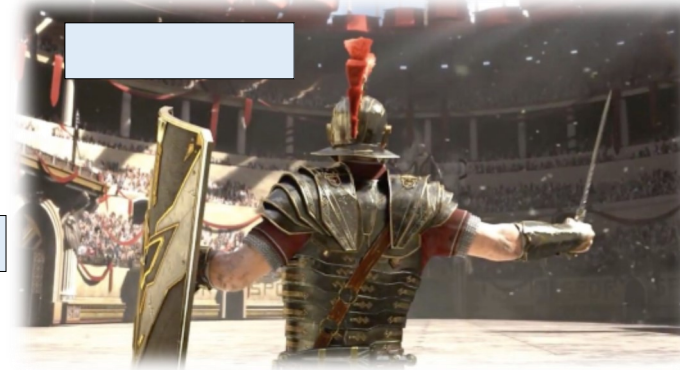


Equite




Hoplomachus

Recap : can you identify the types of gladiators in the images?



Did Most Romans Enjoy The Games ?

 **Mission** : to analyse and evaluate historical sources to gain a better understanding about how Romans felt about the games.



Did All Romans Enjoy The Games?

It is very easy to judge people from the past based on what we have seen in movies, based on common stereotypes or maybe even because of things you have been taught by your teacher. You are going to perform an investigation to try and gain a more accurate idea about the Roman people and what they said, felt and thought about watching the slaughter of humans and animals for their entertainment.

To most Romans the gladiator fights were more than killing. There was a magic about the games which they seemed to like. Entry to the games was free. It was a citizen's right to see the games. There would often not be enough room in the Colosseum and there would be fights outside. People waited all night to make sure of a place when the games started in the morning.

A

School Textbook, 1999.



Source Unknown

'Emperor Tiberius did not construct / b _____ any new places for gladiator exhibitions / s _____ and even left the fixing of Pompey's theatre unfinished after many years. He gave no gladiator shows at all, and did not like to attend / g _____ to those given by others.

Ancient History Book.

C

The wild beast hunts, two a day for five days, are magnificent. There is no denying it. But what pleasure is there in seeing a puny human mangled by a powerful beast or a splendid animal killed with a hunting spear.

Cicero, in a letter to friends in 50AD

D

Hermes, the martial pleasure of an age,
Hermes, well-learned in all arms,
Hermes, both gladiator and teacher,
Hermes, confusion and terror of his school,
Hermes, the only one who Helios fears,
Hermes, the only one for whom Advolans fell,
Hermes, taught to conquer, not kill,
Hermes, himself his substitute,
Hermes, wealth of the scalpers,
Hermes, care and heartthrob of the slave-girls,
Hermes, warlike and arrogant with a spear,
Hermes, menacing with a sea trident,
Hermes, his plumed helmet drooping, to be feared,
Hermes, glory of all kinds of war,
Hermes, alone is all and three in one.

**A poem about Hermes the gladiator
By Roman Poet , Martial.**

E

"When they had lost all hope of escape Pompey's elephants, tried to gain the compassion (help) of the crowd by screaming loudly. Much to the distress (unhappiness) of the public (people) that they forgot the games were for their own entertainment. Some people bursting into tears (crying) stood up together and shouted curses (swear words) on the head of Emperor Pompey, who, soon afterwards paid the penalty'.

**Pliny the younger, a Roman writer and philosopher.
AD 23-79.**

F

'The people no longer care about who r _ _ _ _ them. An emperor or a senate, They long eagerly for just two things - b _ _ _ _ and g _ _ _ _!'

**A Roman Politician.
AD 60.**

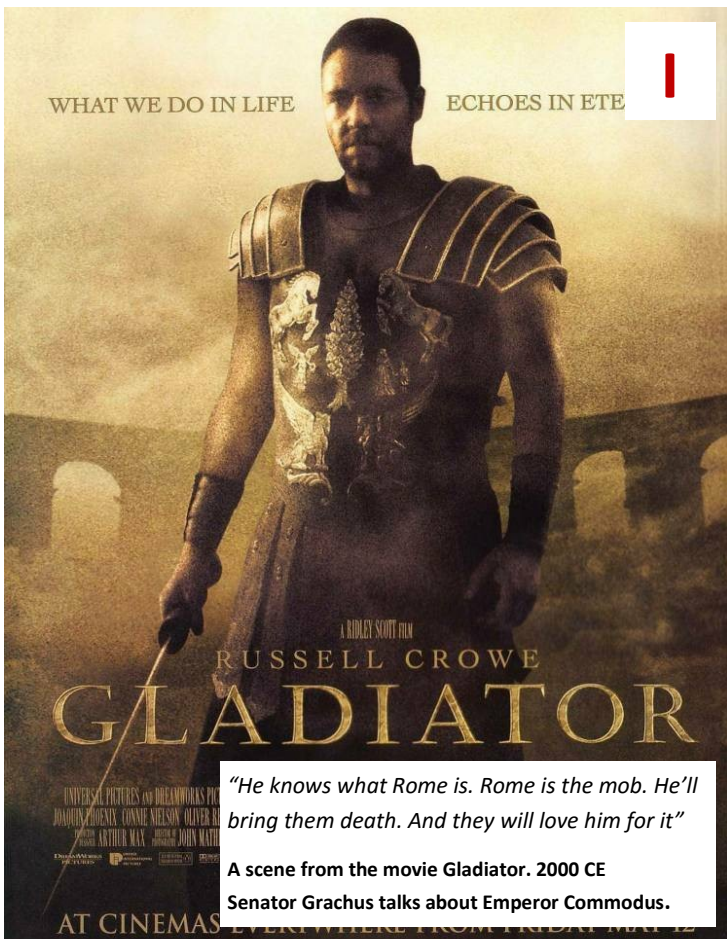


G

Seneca, Roman senator and philosopher, tells of a visit he once paid to the arena. He arrived in the middle of the day, during the mass execution of criminals during the interval between the wild-beast show in the morning and the gladiatorial show of the afternoon:

All the previous fighting had been merciful by comparison. Now we have pure unadulterated murder. The combatants have no protective covering; their entire bodies are exposed to the blows. No blow falls in vain. This is what lots of people prefer to the regular contests, and even to those which are put on by popular request. And it is obvious why. There is no helmet, no shield to repel / stop the blade / sword . Why have armour? Why bother with skill? All that just delays death. In the morning, men are thrown to lions and bears. At mid-day they are thrown to the spectators themselves. No sooner has a man killed, than they shout for him to kill another, or to be killed. The final victor is kept for some other slaughter. In the end, every fighter dies. And all this goes on while the arena is half empty. You may object that the victims committed robbery or were murderers. So what? Even if they deserved to suffer, what's your compulsion to watch their sufferings?

H



All of the lions were killed as they came out of the floor. It was not very exciting, as the lions did not fight like they do when let out of cages. Many of them unwilling to attack, were killed with arrows without a fight.

A Roman writer explain what he saw when 100 lions were let into the arena. C AD 60

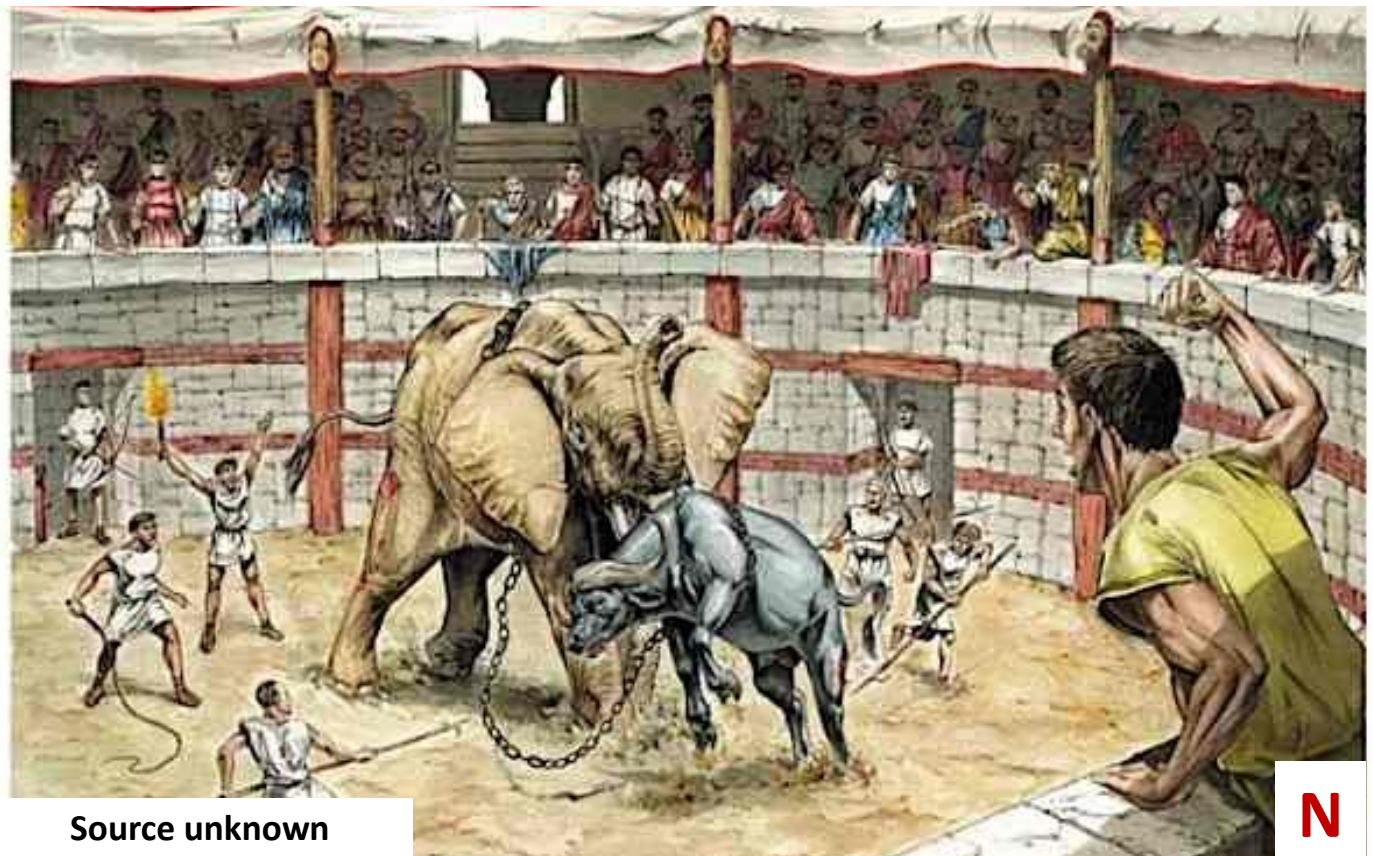


Gladiator fights also took place outside the Colosseum. Very rich Romans would invite their friends to their homes for dinner. Once they were full with food and drink they called in the gladiators. Once one man had his throat cut they applauded / clapped with delight / happiness . Once finished they began to eat their food again.

Source Unknown.

‘Emperor Pompey slaughtered wild beasts of all kinds. Indeed, five hundred lions were used up in five days, and eighteen elephants fought against men in heavy armour. Pompey was angry when people began to feel sorry for the elephants. After they elephants were wounded / hurt and could not fight, they crawled about on their knees with their trunks raised toward the heavens, and seeming crying out in wonder why had they been taken from their homes far away. Where they calling to the gods to help? ‘

Cassius Dio, A Roman Writer.



Source unknown

" Don't forget, there's a big gladiator show coming up the day after tomorrow. Not the same old fighters either. They've got a fresh shipment in. There's not a slave in that batch. Just wait. There'll be cold steel and blood for the crowd,. The amphitheatre / Colosseum will end up looking like a slaughterhouse. There's even a girl who fights from a chariot."

Written on a poster advertising Gladiatorial games.

"Kill, Kill they shout. Beat him! Burn Him!
Why won't he Kill him with his sword?
What a coward!. Why can't he die more quickly? They must fight. Oh-it's the break.
Let's have someone strangled while we wait"

A Roman writer explains what the Roman crowd were like when they watched the gladiators.

The Romans loved gladiators. They loved the men, the weapons, the fighting and the blood. The great amphitheatres of Rome, like the Colosseum, were always full with spectators, who watched men fight bloody battles, both with each other and with a dazzling array of wild and dangerous animals. It's not hard to imagine the excitement

www.romanguide.com
c 2005



YouTube : Spartacus
Fight To The Death Clip

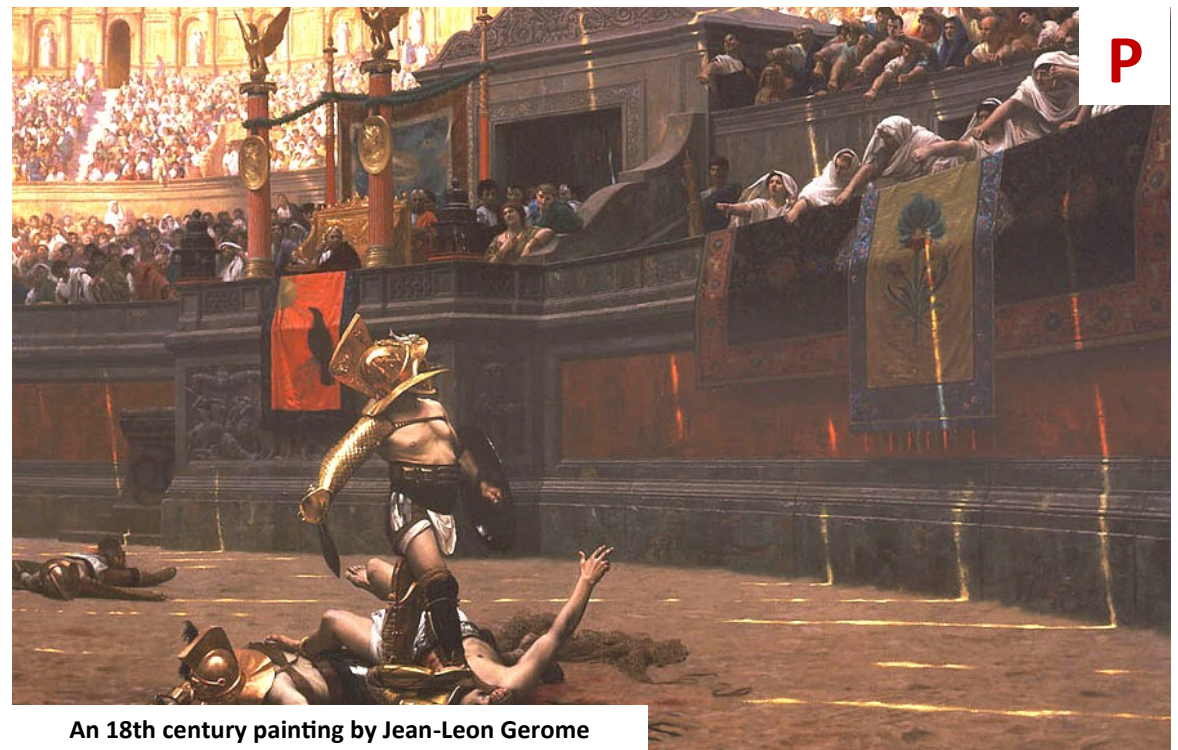
S

"These fighters are sent out with no armour of any kind; they are open to blows at all points, and no one ever strikes in vain...The crowd demands that the victor who has slain his opponent shall face the man who will slay him in turn; and the last conqueror is reserved for another butchering" - Seneca .

St. Augustine, a Roman philosopher tells "The Story of Alypius", the story of a young man who gets taken to a gladiatorial show. St. Augustine writes about the "cruelty", and "lust", of the crowd. The character in the story, Alypius, is at first repulsed and disgusted by the violence, but then has a change of heart, mainly because he has been over-powered and influenced by the cheering crowd.

Taken from an online essay about the Gladiators - written in 2006.

U



An 18th century painting by Jean-Léon Gérôme

Find a source of your own and add it here. You may be asked to share your finding with your classmates.

V

Did All Romans Enjoy The Games ? Source Study

 **Mission** : to complete the questions and tasks related to historical sources.

- 
Compare
- 
Question
- 
Guess
- 
Define
- 
Choose
- 
Biased?
- 
List
- 
Type
- 
Seeing

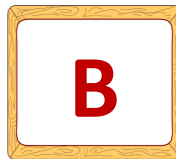


Suggests did enjoy Suggests did not enjoy

Why did Roman citizens fight outside the Colosseum?

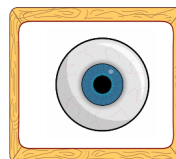


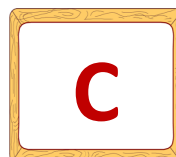
Roman citizens fought outside the Colosseum because



Suggests did enjoy Suggests did not enjoy

List the different animals you can taking part in the Venatio.





Suggests did enjoy Suggests did not enjoy

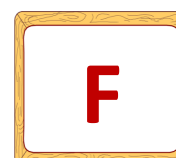
Give another meaning for the words below



Construct = b

Exhibitions = s

Attend = g



Suggests did enjoy Suggests did not enjoy

Why were the Roman people unhappy with Emperor Pompey?



The Roman people were



Suggests did enjoy Suggests did not enjoy

Guess the words left out of the source.



R

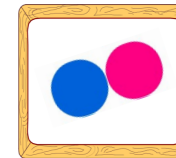
B

G



Suggests did enjoy Suggests did not enjoy

Compare source L to source A



Something that is corroborated is ..

Something that is not corroborated is ..



Compare



Question



Guess



Define



Choose



Biased?



List



Type



Seeing

M

Suggests did enjoy

Suggests did not enjoy

Compare source M to source F



Something that is corroborated is ..

Something that is not corroborated is ..

O

Suggests did enjoy

Suggests did not enjoy

Can you give 3 examples of bias shown in the advertisement?



1

2

3

Q

Suggests did enjoy

Suggests did not enjoy

Does the Roman writer have a good or bad opinion of the crowd? (explain)

?

S

Suggests did enjoy

Suggests did not enjoy

Can you give 3 examples of bias shown in the source?



1

2

3

T

Suggests did enjoy

Suggests did not enjoy

List 3 reasons why Seneca does not like what he has seen.



U

Suggests did enjoy

Suggests did not enjoy

What type of source is this - primary, secondary or tertiary. Explain your answer.



Rome and the Gladiators Review

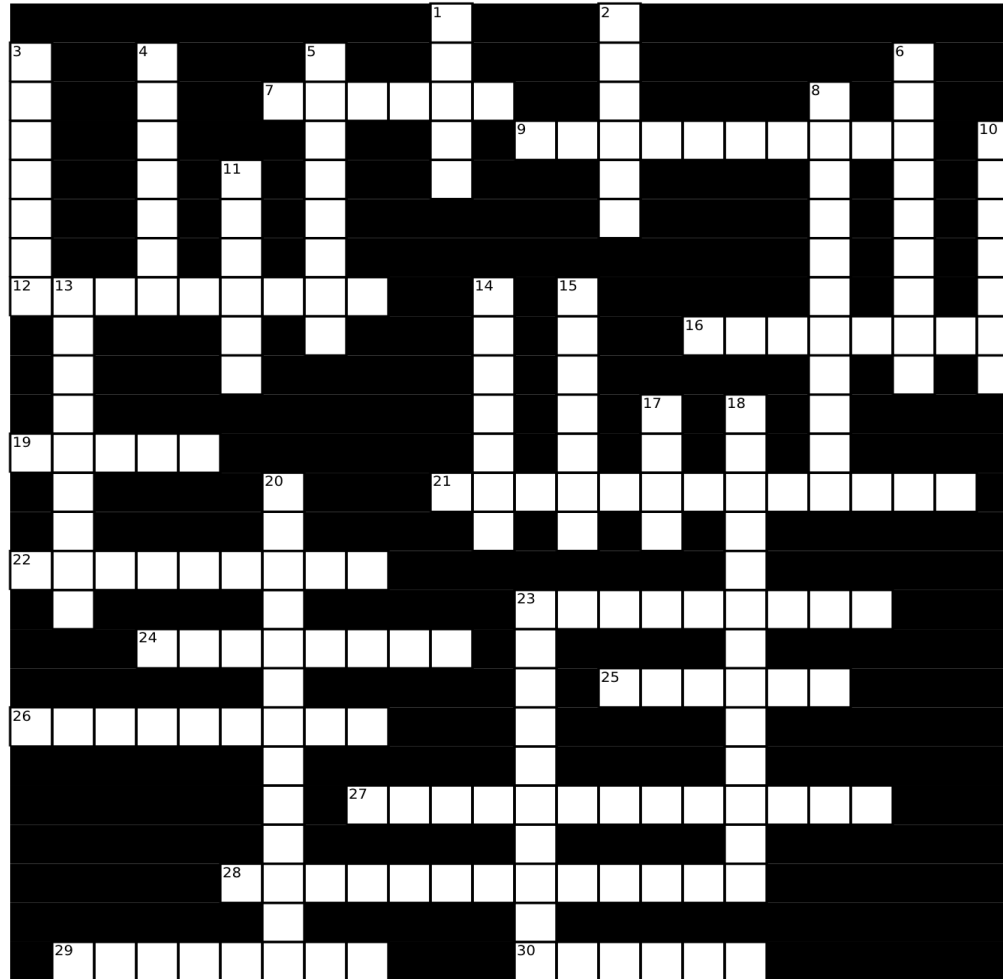
Name :

Class :

Mission : to complete the puzzle carefully, check spellings and review your learning.

Across

- 7 The Ferry Man
- 9 These people (**A**)
- 12 A rebel gladiator
- 16 Type of gladiator (**B**)
- 19 Very popular gladiators
- 21 The capacity of the Colosseum
- 22 Usually made to fight without armour
- 23 A famous amphitheatre
- 24 The people of Rome
- 25 What is this ? (**C**)
- 26 Bloody killing
- 27 'He has had it '
- 28 What is this ? (**D**)
- 29 What is happening ? (**E**)
- 30 'Those who are about to die *** you'



Down

- 1 Fame, money and popularity
- 2 He didn't like what he saw
- 3 Given to symbolise freedom
- 4 A pursuer
- 5 Pollice Verso sign
- 6 Fought against wild beasts
- 8 Type of gladiator ? (**F**)
- 10 Retarius' preferred weapon
- 11 Decision making power of Rome
- 13 *** of War
- 14 What's this ? (**G**)
- 15 A heavily armoured type of gladiator
- 17 The Romulus and Remus story was a ..
- 18 Popular gladiators
- 20 What's this ? (**H**)
- 23 Thrown to the lions



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H

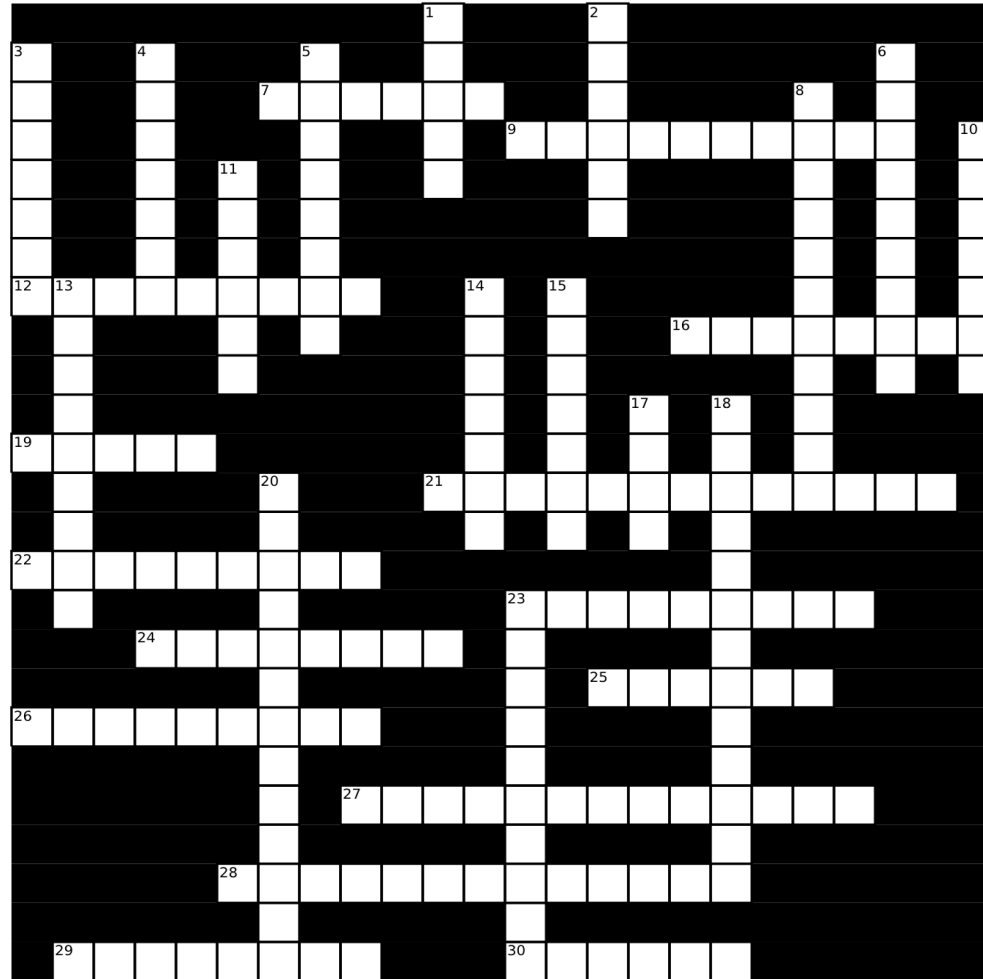
Rome and the Gladiators Answers

Mission : to complete the puzzle carefully, check spellings and review your learning.

Across



- 7 Charon
- 9 Spectators
- 12 Spartacus
- 16 Thracian
- 19 Women
- 21 Fifty Thousand
- 22 Criminals
- 23 Colosseum
- 24 Citizens
- 25 Manica
- 26 Slaughter
- 27 'Habet hoc habet'
- 28 Circus Maximus
- 29 Strangle
- 30 Salute



Down



- 1 Glory
- 2 Seneca
- 3 Gladius
- 4 Secutor
- 5 Thumbs up
- 6 Bestiarii
- 8 Hiplomachus
- 10 Trident
- 11 Senate
- 13 Prisoners
- 14 Venatio
- 15 Samnite
- 17 Myth
- 18 Professionals
- 20 Chariot Racing
- 23 Christians



A



B



C



D



E



F



G

H

Rome And The Gladiators

(Free Member Samples)

Full Pack Contents

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