

**REVIEW****CALIFORNIA CONTENT  
STANDARD 7.1***The Rise and Fall of Rome  
(44 B.C.–A.D. 476)*

**Overall Objective:** Analyze the causes and effects of the vast expansion and ultimate disintegration of the Roman Empire.

Read the chart below to answer questions on the next page.

**Growth of the Roman Empire**

- Strong leaders, beginning with Augustus, created a powerful government.
- A mighty army conquered lands around the Mediterranean and into northern Europe.
- Over 50,000 miles of roads allowed communication and transportation.
- A period of peace and prosperity strengthened the empire.

**Decline of the Roman Empire****Internal**

- Poor harvests and lack of income from new provinces
- Decrease in general level of education among citizens
- Communication breakdown within the empire
- Use of enslaved labor, less technological advances, especially in agriculture
- Political corruption
- Reduced patriotism among the people and armed forces
- Increasingly undisciplined military

**External**

- Invasions by Germanic tribes around the borders of the empire

**Impact of the Roman Empire**

- Representative government served as a model for future governments.
- Justice system, based on principles such as “equal treatment under the law” and “innocent until proven guilty,” also became widespread.
- Engineering and science advanced, as in road and aqueduct construction.
- Christianity spread to become a major world religion.
- Stoic ideals, duty, and public service shaped a concept of citizenship.
- Latin became the basis for many European languages.
- Art forms, such as the mosaic, the fresco, and realistic sculpture developed.

