

1. How did the Roman Empire fall?		
1	What was the Roman Empire?	1. The Roman Empire was founded by Augustus Caesar Rome in 27 BCE and ended in 476 CE
2	How big was the Empire?	1. At its biggest the Roman Empire stretched from Britain to Egypt
3	How did the Empire fall?	1. Barbarian tribes kept attacking different areas in Europe and it became more difficult to defend against them 2. Rome was suffering from economic problems and the taxes used to try to raise money caused poverty 3. The Roman Empire had expanded too far for the army to be able to defend itself effectively 4. There was lots of unrest and criticism of Roman leaders

2. What was the Roman Empire's legacy in Britain?		
1	How did the Roman Empire come to Britain?	1. The Romans invaded Britain in 43 CE and soon conquered most of the British Celtic tribes 2. They stayed for around 400 years
2	What did the Romans leave behind in Britain?	1. Many of our roads are based on old Roman roads 2. Many English words and laws can be traced back to the Romans 3. Many Roman towns are still important today e.g. Chester, Bath, Lincoln, Colchester 4. Romans were the first in Britain to use calendars, coins and bricks 5. They introduced lots of food to the British diet e.g. peas, grapes, carrots 6. The Romans who stayed in Britain were made up of diverse and multi-ethnic people
3	What happened after the Romans left Britain?	1. In 410 CE, the Romans returned to Italy to defend their homeland from invasion 2. The Britons were left to fend for themselves and soon new tribes began to invade from Denmark and northern Germany 3. These tribes were called the Angles, Saxons and Jutes 4. They became known as the Anglo-Saxons

3. Was there a Dark Age after the Romans in Britain?		
1	Why do some historians call the period a 'Dark Age'?	1. Some historians call the time after the Roman Empire fell the 'Dark Ages' 2. This is partly due to the fact that we don't have many written sources from this time 3. This is also because they believe that the fall of the Roman Empire led to a period of cultural and scientific backwardness
2	How could we say that there was a Dark Age?	1. The population of towns and cities went down and it is likely that the living conditions there became worse 2. Grand homes and public buildings were abandoned 3. Schools separate to the church disappeared with the Roman Empire
3	How could we disagree that there was a Dark Age in Britain?	1. The Anglo Saxons were excellent farmers 2. The Anglo Saxons created many towns e.g. any town with the name -ton, -wich, -worth -ham or -hurst 3. The Christian Church developed and became very important and kings and queens created good relationships with the Popes 4. Anglo Saxon poetry was celebrated and collected e.g. Beowulf 5. Alfred the Great, king of Wessex, protected England from Viking invasion. He promoted arts, literature and learning 6. One of the most clear records of history from this time was the Anglo Saxon Chronicle 7. For most normal people who didn't benefit from Roman rule, life didn't change between the Roman Empire and Anglo Saxon rule

4. What happened after the fall of Rome in Europe and the East?		
1	What happened in Europe?	1. There was a break down of trade in Europe, with miles of Roman roads falling into ruin 2. Much of Roman architecture was lost as Barbarian tribes would attack and loot settlements 3. The Church became more powerful as people looked to the church for guidance after the law and order of the Romans disappeared
2	What happened in north Africa?	1. When the Roman Empire began to collapse, north Africa didn't experience much disruption at first 2. In 429 AD, the area (apart from Egypt) was invaded by the Vandals who ruled until the 6 <sup>th</sup> century when the Byzantine Emperor Justinian regained the area
3	How did the Empire continue in the East?	1. In 285 CE, the Roman Empire was divided into two parts, the Eastern Roman Empire and the Western Roman Empire 2. The Eastern Roman Empire became known as the Byzantine Empire. 3. The Byzantine Empire lasted long after the fall of the Western Roman Empire until it was taken over by the Ottoman Empire in the 15 <sup>th</sup> Century
4	What was the Byzantine Empire like?	1. The Byzantine Empire ruled most of Eastern and Southern Europe up to the 15 <sup>th</sup> Century 2. Its capital city, Constantinople, was the largest and wealthiest city in Europe during the time 3. The Emperor Justinian reformed many of the old Roman laws, including Emperor granting the rights of women to buy and own land which was a big help to widows after their husbands had died 4. In 1054 CE, the Byzantine Empire split from the Catholic Church and formed the Eastern Orthodox Church. Constantinople became the centre of this church

Key word	Definition
Anglo-Saxon	The collective name for the invading tribes from Denmark and Germany
BCE	Before Common Era. This refers to any years that happen before the year 0. This used to be called BC.
Briton	The name given to the people of Britain at the time of the Roman Empire
CE	Common Era. This refers to any years that happen after the year 0. This used to be called AD
Conquer	To take over an area, country or people by force
Dark Ages	A phrase often used to describe the period directly after the fall of the Roman Empire
Economic	Something relating to money or a country's economy
Empire	A set of different countries or regions ruled by one 'mother country'
Interpretation	A way in which someone has viewed the past.
Pagan	A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religion
Source	A piece of evidence from the time period being studied