

**WHO WAS WHO IN ROME**

Use the clues to write each group in its box. Three of these groups were citizens, but they did not have the same rights. Read the clues to place each group. The group with the most rights goes on the left.

CITIZENS**NOT CITIZENS**

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◆ **GROUPS** ◆◆ **CLUES** ◆

- Patricians
- Freedmen and freedwomen
- Enslaved people
- Plebeians

- A. People who had been enslaved and were set free. The men could vote but could not hold high office; their children were born free citizens.
- B. Often captured in war or born to enslaved mothers. They worked on farms, in mines and in homes, could be sold, and had no rights.
- C. Members of a few old, rich families. At first only they could be senators, consuls or priests.
- D. Most citizens: farmers, craftspeople, traders and soldiers. They won their own officials, the tribunes, and by 367 BC could become consul.

◆ **HOW THE ROMAN REPUBLIC WAS RUN** ◆

The Roman Republic split power among several parts so that no one person could rule alone like a king. Each part could check, or limit, the others. Citizens elected their leaders, but only men could vote, and rich families held most of the power.

MALE CITIZENS**Consuls**

Who: Two men elected by the citizens each year; they served for only one year

What it did: letter

Senate

Who: About 300 men, most of them former officials, who served for life

What it did: letter

Assemblies

Who: Male citizens meeting together to vote

What it did: letter

Tribunes of the plebs

Who: Ten plebeians elected each year

What it did: letter

- A. Protected ordinary citizens. Could stop an official or a law by saying "veto," which means "I forbid."
- B. Advised the consuls, controlled the treasury and dealt with other countries.
- C. Ran the government and led the army in war. Each of the two could block the other's decisions.
- D. Elected officials, passed laws and voted on war and peace.

1. Patricians and plebeians were both citizens. How were their rights different at first? Name one right plebeians won and when.

2. Give two ways the Republic made sure a consul could not become a king.

3. Why were the tribunes of the plebs important to ordinary citizens?
