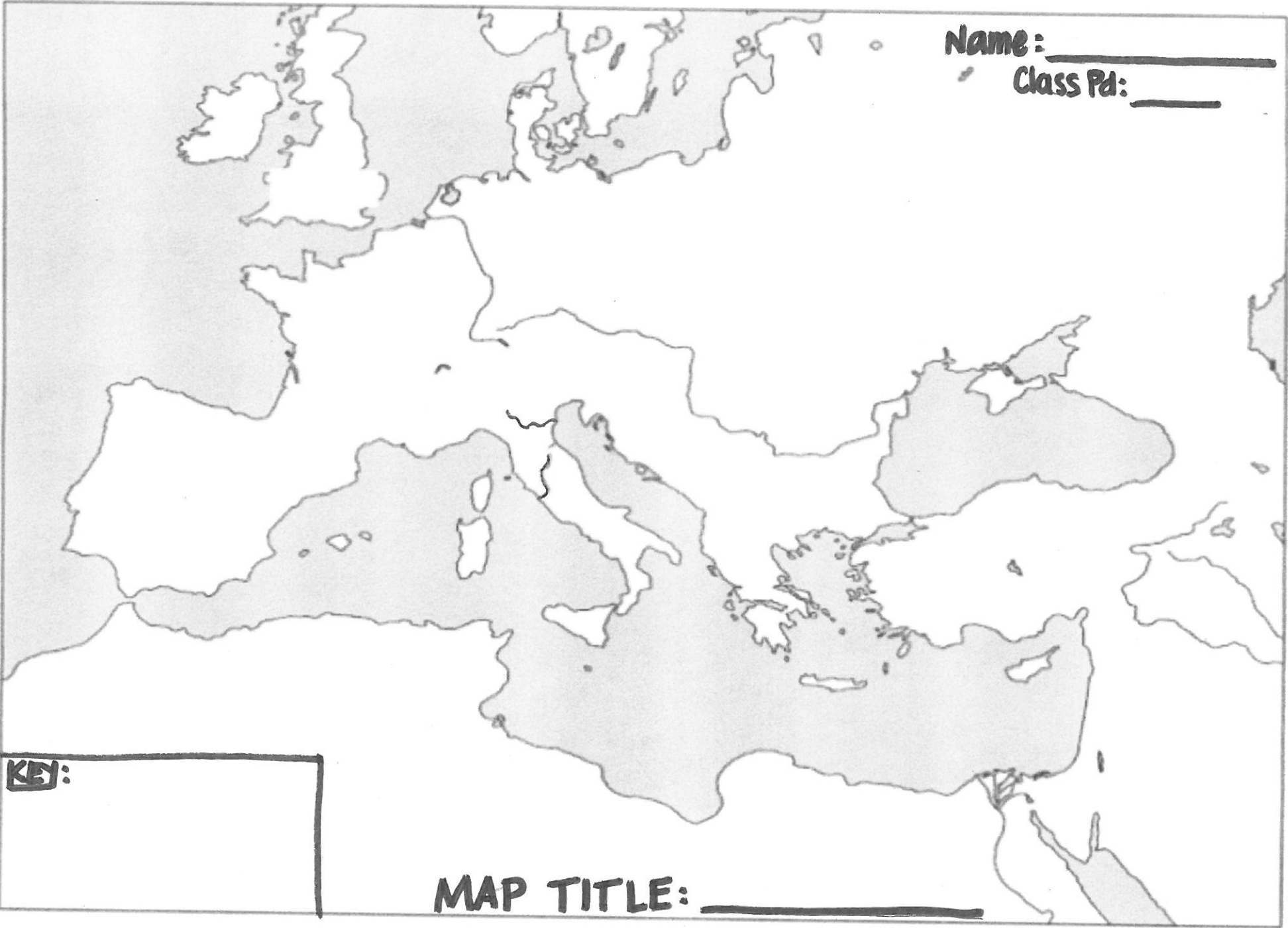


Name: _____
Class Pd: _____



KEY:

MAP TITLE: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

Ancient Rome Map Activity

___ 1. Complete your map using the instructions on the "Ancient Rome Map Instructions" page. (not attached)

___ 2. Use the "Rome's Beginning & Geography" article to complete the following activities to learn about the geography of Ancient Rome.

PART ONE: Using the reading, answer the following questions about Rome's geography.

1. Describe the peninsula that Rome is located on.

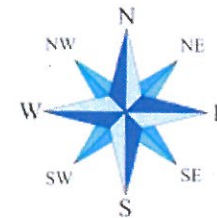
2. Which river was the city of Rome built near?

3. Which mountain ranges were important to Rome?

PART TWO: The location of the city of Rome had many advantages. Using information from the reading handout, write 1-2 advantages for each detail written below.

| | Advantages |
|---|------------|
| <i>Rome was built 15 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea.</i> | |
| <i>Rome was located along the Tiber River.</i> | |
| <i>Rome was built near the Alps and Apennine Mountains.</i> | |
| <i>Rome was built on seven hills.</i> | |
| <i>Rome had rich, volcanic soil.</i> | |

PART THREE: Using the compass rose and your map, determine if the following statements are true (T) or false (F).



___ 1. Sicily is located southwest of Italy.

___ 2. The city of Rome is located south of the Tiber River.

___ 3. The Apennine Mountains are west of the Adriatic Sea.

___ 4. Greece is west of the city of Rome.

___ 5. The Rhine and Danube rivers create the northern boundary of the Roman Empire (in A.D. 117).



Resource Map #1 ↑

Resource Map #2 ↓



Resource Map #3



Rome's Beginning & Geography

According to legend, Rome was founded by twin brothers named Romulus and Remus. They were the sons of Princess Rhea and the Roman god of war, Mars. To keep them safe from an enemy's plot to kill them, Princess Rhea placed her boys in a basket and sent them down the Tiber river. It is said a female wolf found them and took care of them until a shepherd adopted them. Once the boys reached manhood, they decided they wanted to build a city and rule over it as kings. They had a contest to see who would be the most powerful ruler between the two of them. When it seemed that Remus was winning, Romulus became angry and killed him. As legend has it, Romulus then became the first king of Rome and named the city after himself.

Where was Rome located?

Ancient Rome was located in the middle of the Italian peninsula. A peninsula is a piece of land surrounded by water on three sides. The Italian peninsula is 150 miles wide and 600 miles long. It is surrounded by the Adriatic Sea, Ionian Sea, and Mediterranean Sea.



What were the advantages of Rome's location?

Rome was situated 15 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea. It was far enough inland to keep the Romans safe from invaders, and it was in a central location for trading and traveling. Rome's geographic position on the Mediterranean Sea also made it easier to conquer new lands in the region.

Rome was located along the Tiber River. Just like the rivers of other ancient civilizations, the Tiber River provided fresh water for the people and animals who lived near it. They used it for drinking, bathing, and watering their crops. The river was also used for traveling and trading, providing a quick, direct route to the Mediterranean Sea.

Two mountain ranges, the Apennines and the Alps, provided protection for the people of Rome. The Apennine Mountains stretch from northern Italy to southern Italy, and the Alps form a natural boundary along the northern border. It was difficult for invaders to pass through the rugged mountains. The mountain ranges provided a natural obstacle with high peaks, snowy ridges, and rugged terrain.

Rome also had the advantage of being built on seven hills. The hills were steep and made it easy for the Romans to protect themselves from invaders. They could spot invaders from a distance and defend themselves easily from their elevated position.

The Romans were well fed due to the rich volcanic soil they used for farming. Most people lived in farming communities and some of their main crops were grapes, olives, and wheat. They made wine with the grapes, olive oil with the olives, and bread with the wheat. These items were a common part of their diet and were also used for trading.

