

Name:
Period:
Date:

Rome Unit Essay

Question: Why did the Roman Empire fall? Were internal or external problems more important to the fall of Rome? Why?

Directions: Read the question carefully, review all your notes on the Roman Empire, fill out this outline, and lastly write a 4 paragraph essay about the fall of the Roman Empire. In your thesis statement be sure to address which problems were most important to the fall of Rome. Ultimately, do you think Rome fell because of internal problems or external problems or the combination? Explain why.

I. Introduction:

A. Background information: Introduce the Roman empire, why it was powerful, and when it fell.

B. Thesis Statement: Why did Rome fall? Which problems were most important—internal or external problems—and why? (Remember to use a “because.”)

II. Internal Problems:

A. Topic Sentence: What internal problems do you think were most important to the fall of Rome?

B. Evidence 1: Discuss one internal problem that Rome had.

C. Commentary 1: Explain how this problem led to the fall of Rome.

D. Evidence 2: Discuss another internal problem that Rome had.

E. Commentary 2: Explain how this problem led to the fall of Rome.

F. Concluding Sentence: How important were these internal problems to the fall of Rome? Were they more important than the external problems? Why or why not?

III. External Problems

A. Topic Sentence: What external problems do you think were most important to the fall of Rome?

B. Evidence 1: Discuss one external problem that Rome had.

C. Commentary 1: Explain how this problem led to the fall of Rome.

D. Evidence 2: Discuss another external problem that Rome had.

E. Commentary 2: Explain how this problem led to the fall of Rome.

F. Concluding Sentence: How important were these external problems to the fall of Rome? Were they more important than the internal problems? Why or why not?

IV. Conclusion:

A. Restate your thesis: What problems were most important to the fall of Rome and why?

B. Importance: What does the fall of Rome teach us about countries in general? How can we learn from what happened to Rome?