



■ Essential Question:

–What factors led to the collapse of the Roman Empire & what effect did the fall of Rome have on the Mediterranean world?

■ Warm-Up Question:

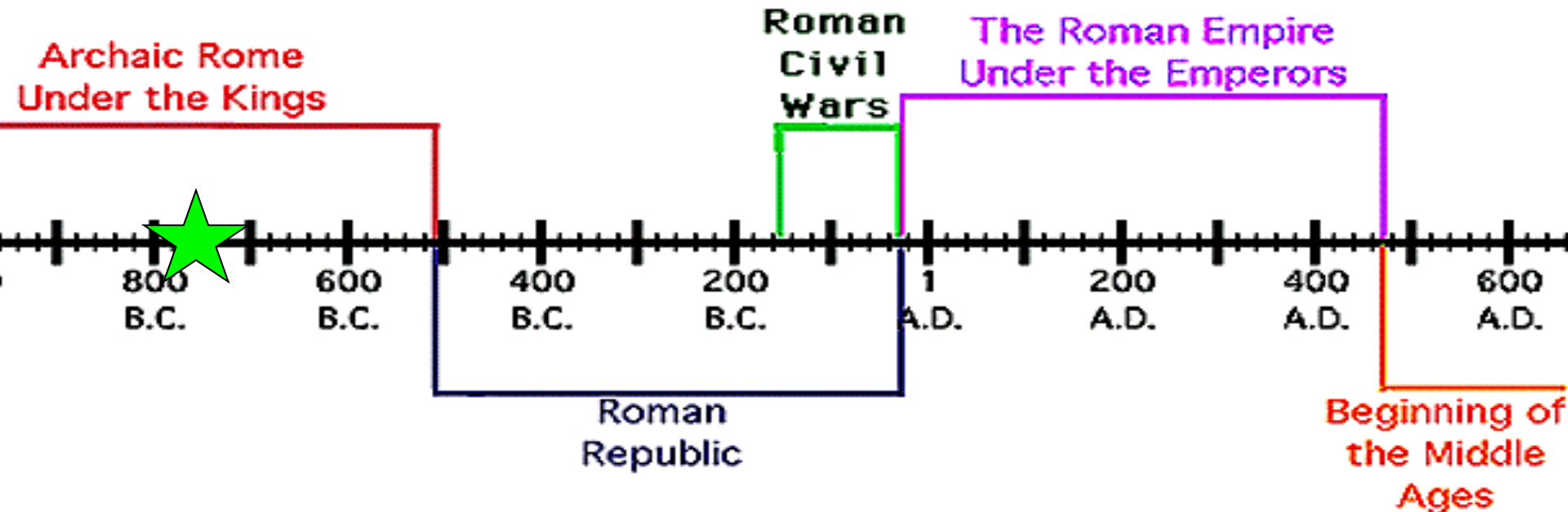
–On the cartoon on the next slide, identify as many Roman accomplishments as possible



The Roman Republic



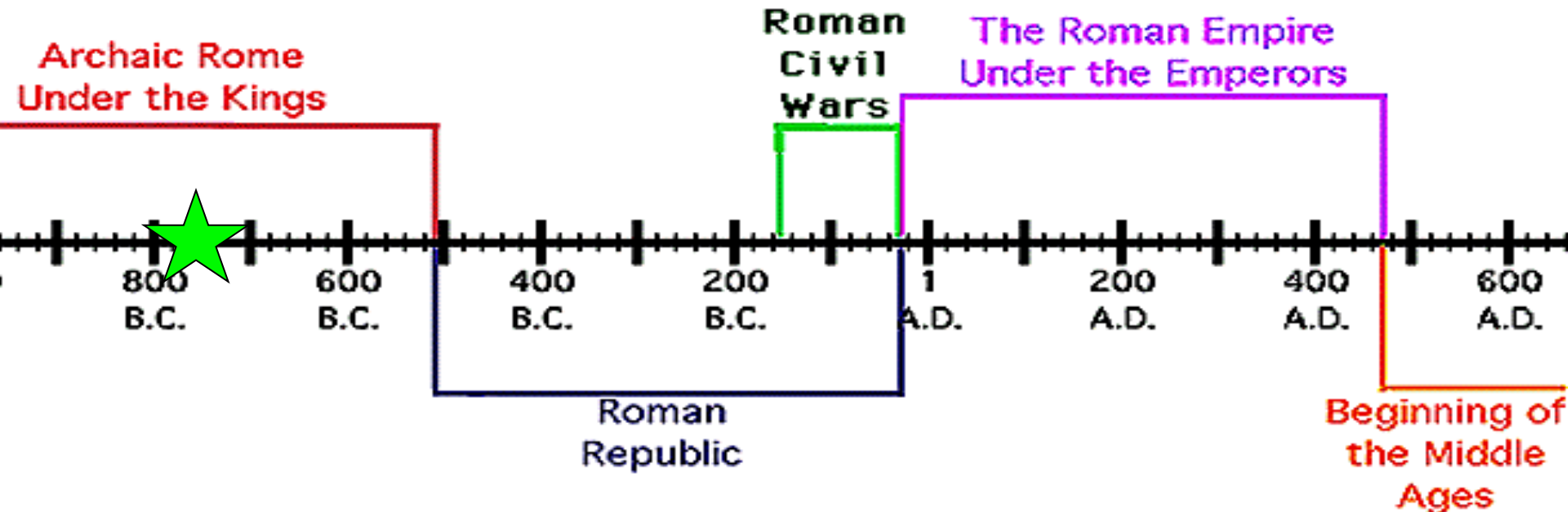
Rome began as a city-state that was heavily influenced by Greek culture



The Roman Republic



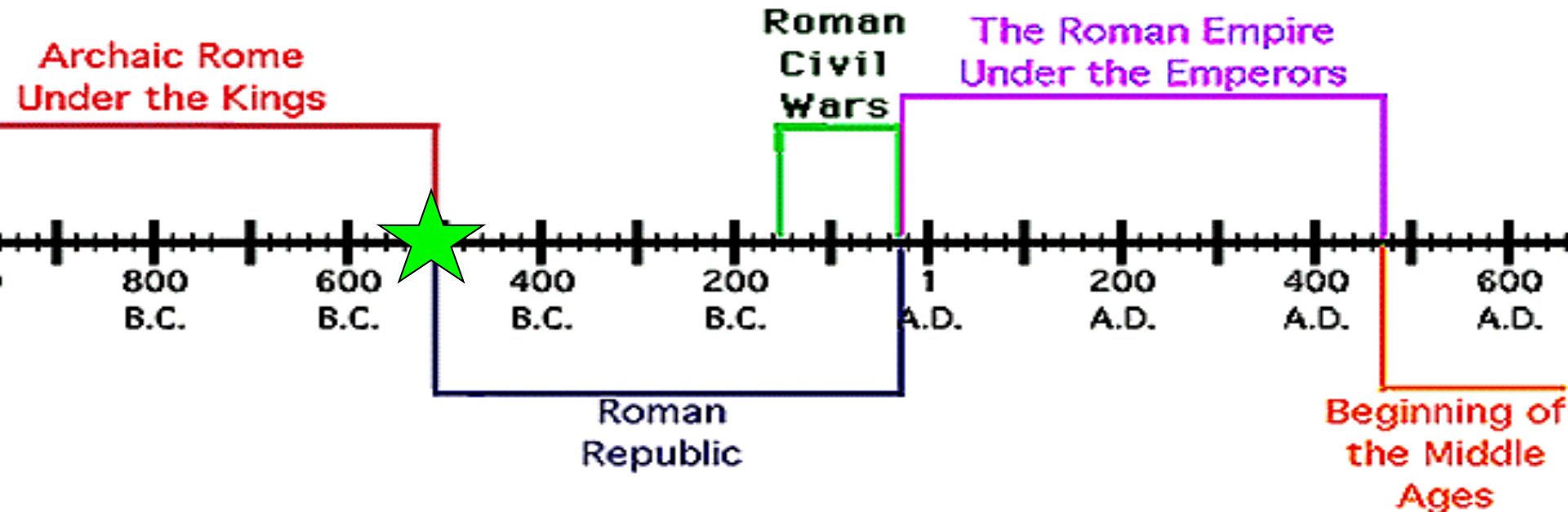
By 509 B.C.,
Rome was ruled by
elected Senators
who served in the
Roman Republic



The Roman Republic



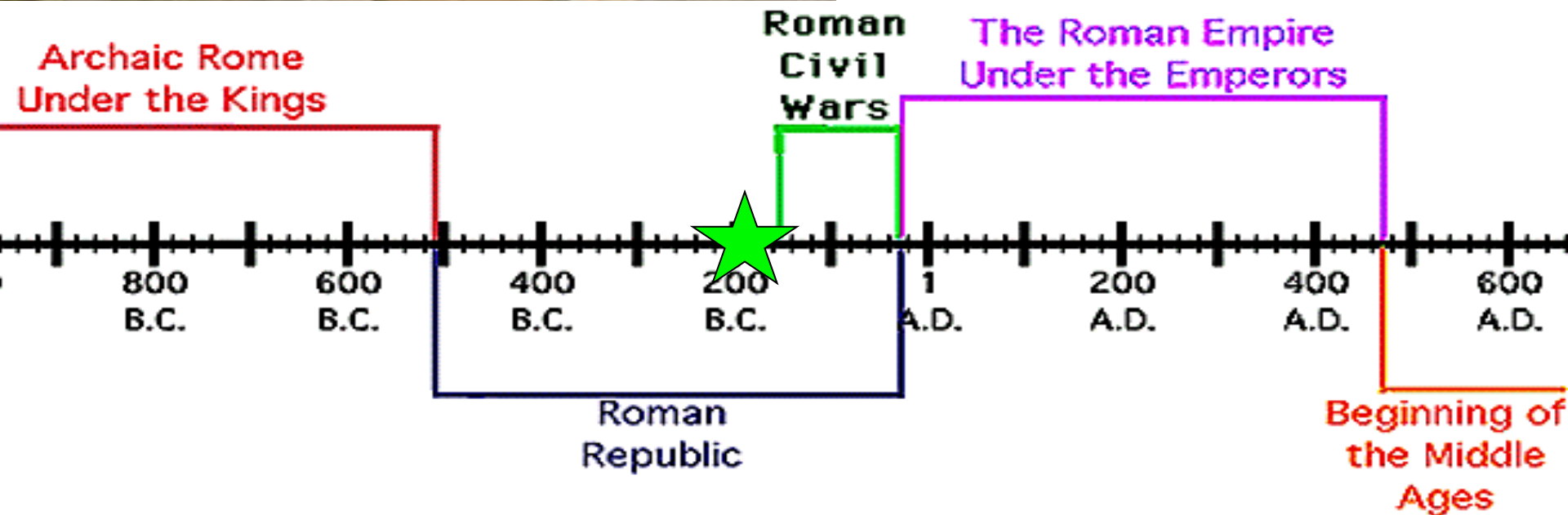
During the Republic, Rome expanded by defeating Carthage in the Punic Wars & later under generals like Julius Caesar



The Roman Republic



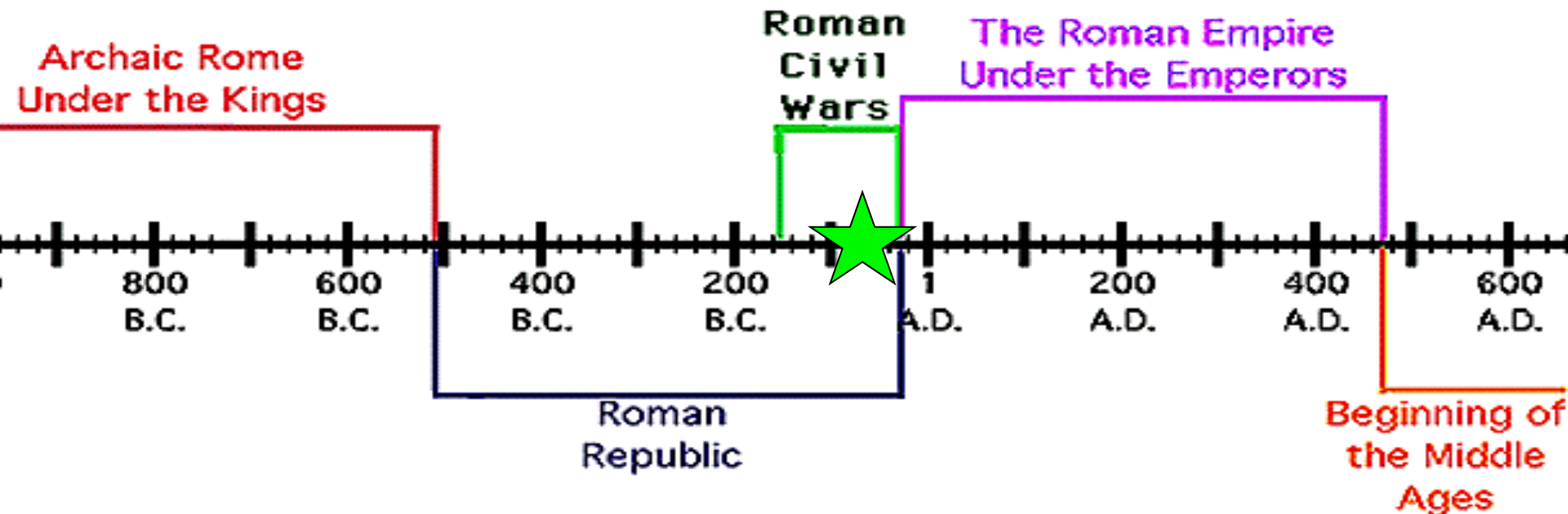
But, the Republic weakened due to corruption, civil wars, & the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44 B.C.



The Roman Empire



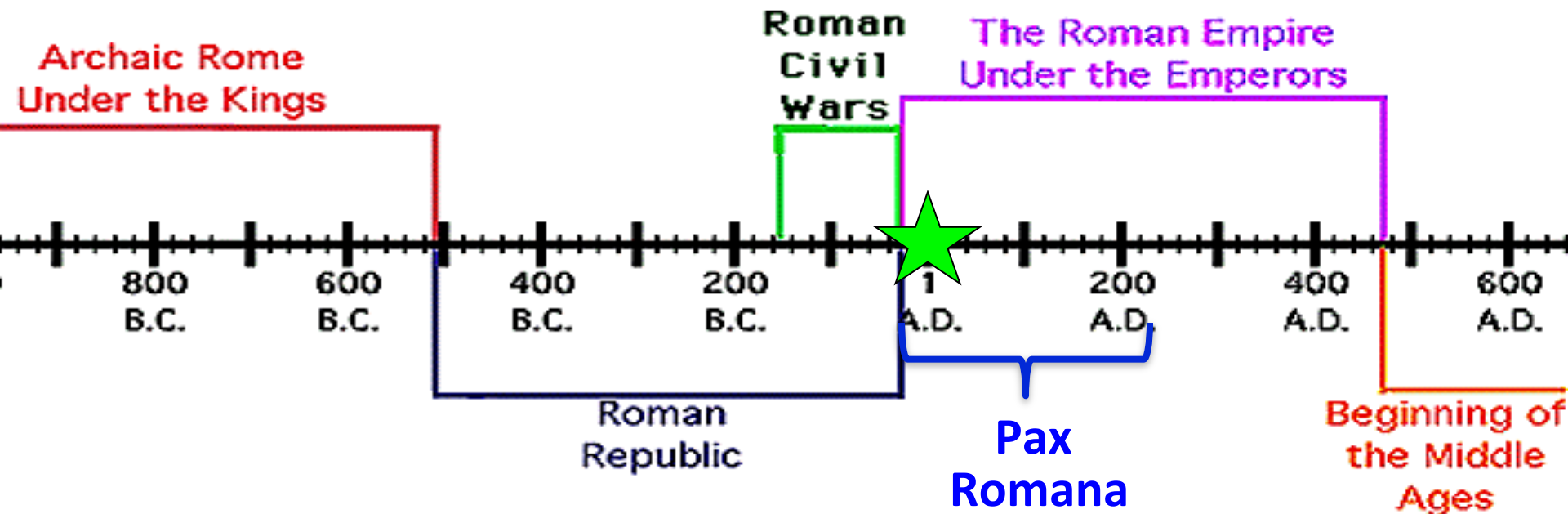
After Caesar's death, Rome became an empire ruled by the Emperor Augustus



The Roman Empire



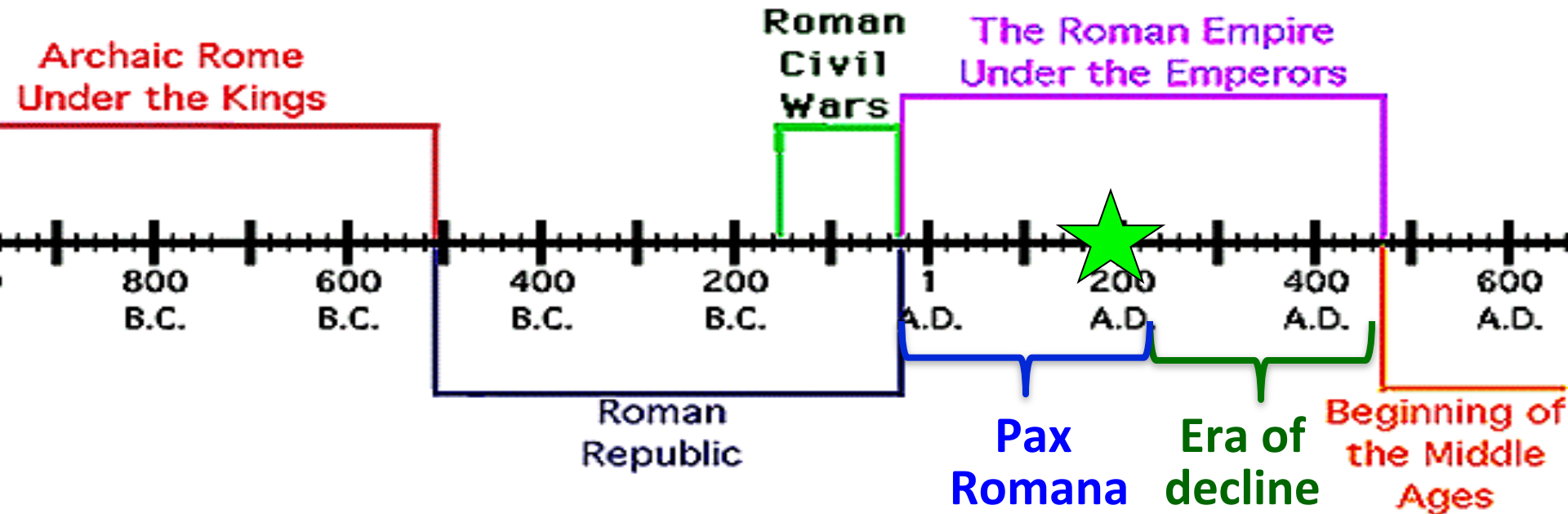
Under Augustus, Rome entered an era of peace & prosperity known as the Pax Romana



The Roman Republic



After 207 years of prosperity during the Pax Romana, the Empire began to decline & was conquered in 476 A.D.



Quick Class Discussion

- Why did the Roman Empire decline?
 - Brainstorm a list of reasons why the mighty Roman Empire might have entered an era of decline

The Decline of the Roman Empire

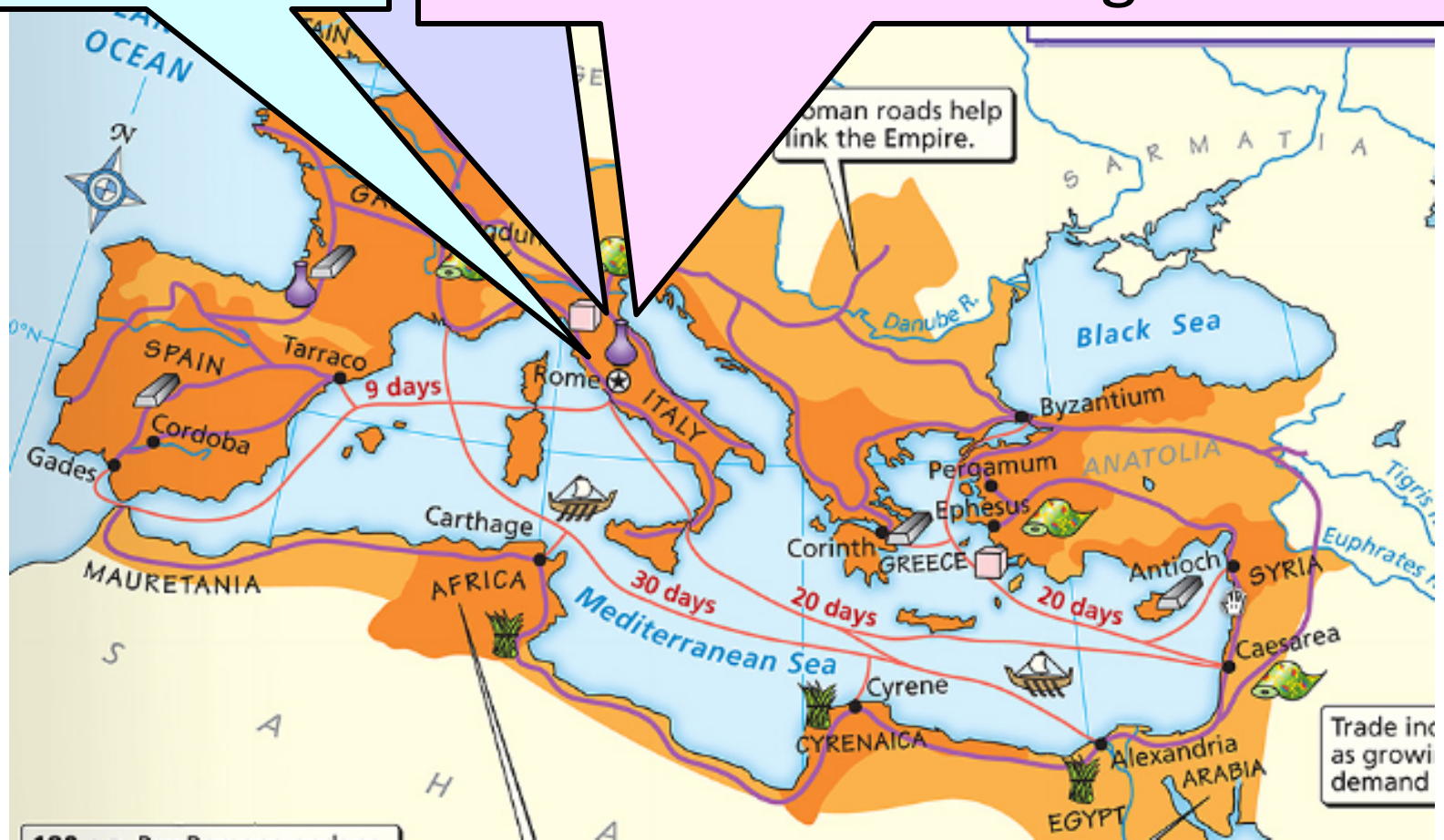
- The fall of the Roman Empire happened in 3 major stages:
 - An era of decline due to internal problems within Rome

The Romans experienced political problems

The empire was too large for one emperor to control

Emperors after the Pax Romana were weak

Citizens experienced a loss of confidence, patriotism, & loyalty to the Roman gov't



The Romans experienced economic problems

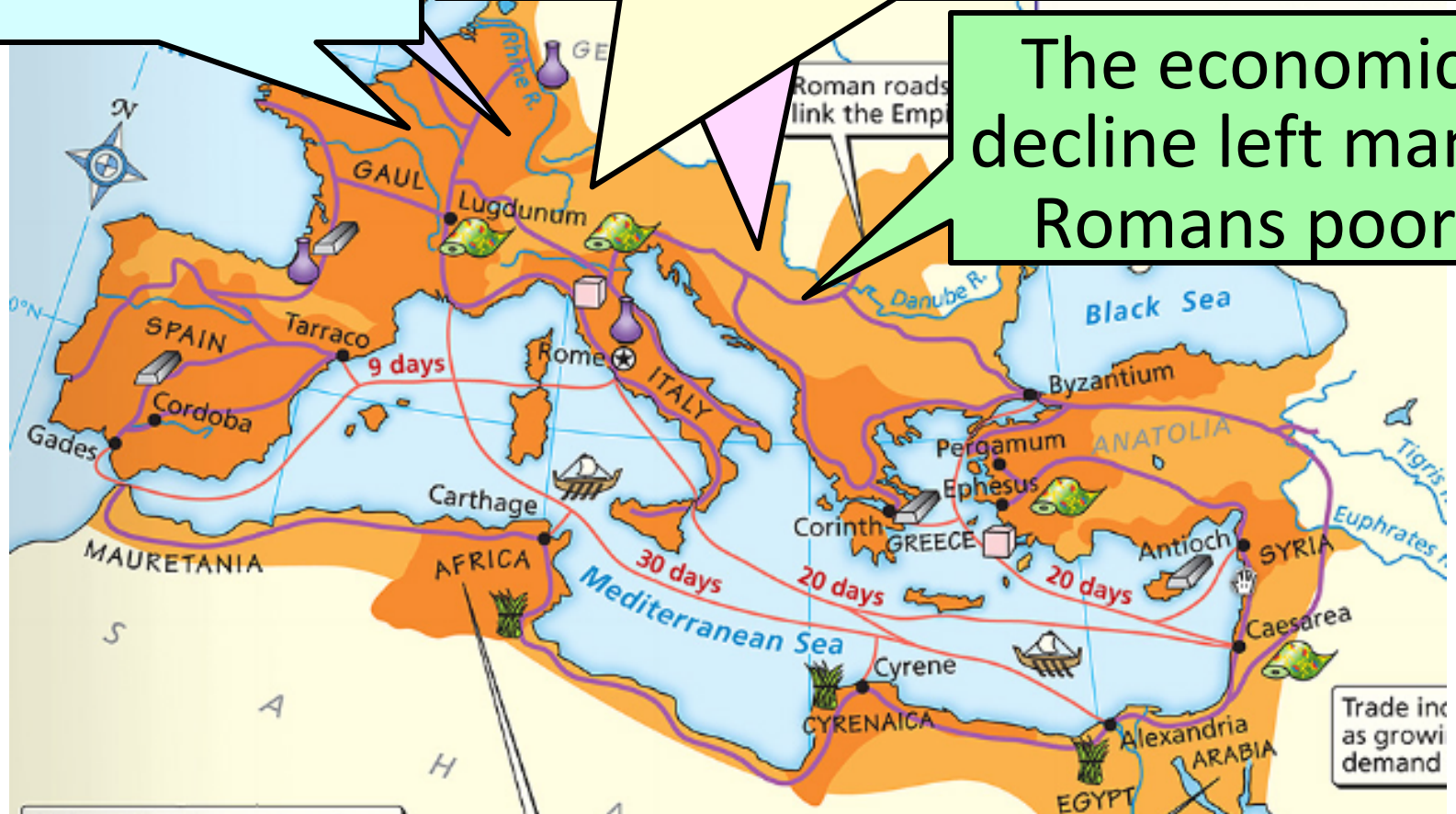
Outside groups disrupted trade

Rome had a trade imbalance (they bought more than they produced)

Poor harvests led to food shortages

The gov't raised taxes & printed new coins which led to inflation

The economic decline left many Romans poor

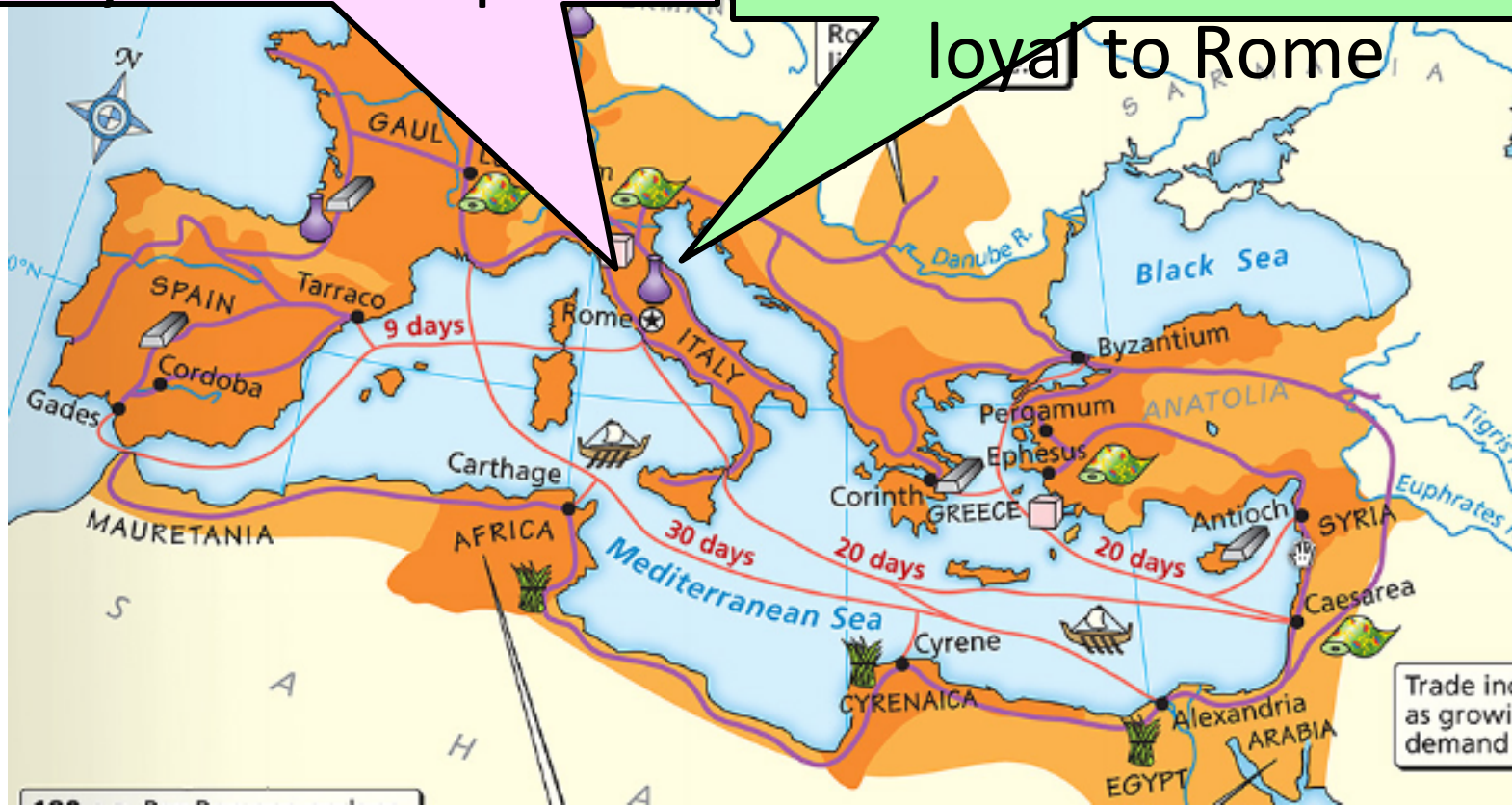


The Romans experienced military problems

Germanic tribes outside Rome were gaining strength

The Roman military was growing weak: generals were challenging the authority of the emperors

To save money, Romans hired foreign soldiers but these “mercenaries” were not loyal to Rome



Multiple Causes: Fall of the Western Roman Empire

Contributing Factors

Political

- Political office seen as burden, not reward
- Military interference in politics
- Civil war and unrest
- Division of empire
- Moving of capital to Byzantium

Social

- Decline in interest in public affairs
- Low confidence in empire
- Disloyalty, lack of patriotism, corruption
- Contrast between rich and poor
- Decline in population due to disease and food shortage

Economic

- Poor harvests
- Disruption of trade
- No more war plunder
- Gold and silver drain
- Inflation
- Crushing tax burden
- Widening gap between rich and poor and increasingly impoverished Western Empire

Military

- Threat from northern European tribes
- Low funds for defense
- Problems recruiting Roman citizens; recruiting of non-Romans
- Decline of patriotism and loyalty among soldiers

Immediate Cause

Invasion by Germanic tribes and by Huns

FALL OF ROMAN EMPIRE

Quick Class Discussion

- What would you do to save the empire?
 - Brainstorm a series of reforms that might save Rome from its decline

The Decline of the Roman Empire

- The fall of the Roman Empire happened in 3 major stages:
 - An era of decline due to internal problems within Rome
 - A brief period of revival due to reforms by Emperors Diocletian & Constantine

Attempts to Reform the Empire

- In 284 A.D. Emperor Diocletian came to power & made a series of reforms that temporarily halted Rome's decline
 - To fix the military, he doubled the size of the Roman army
 - To fix the economy, he fixed prices for goods
 - To fix the lack of loyalty, he presented himself as a godlike emperor



Diocletian's most important reform was realizing Rome was too large & dividing the empire into the Western Eastern Roman

But, the empire was also divided by wealth

The East was far wealthier than the West because it had most of the great cities & trade centers

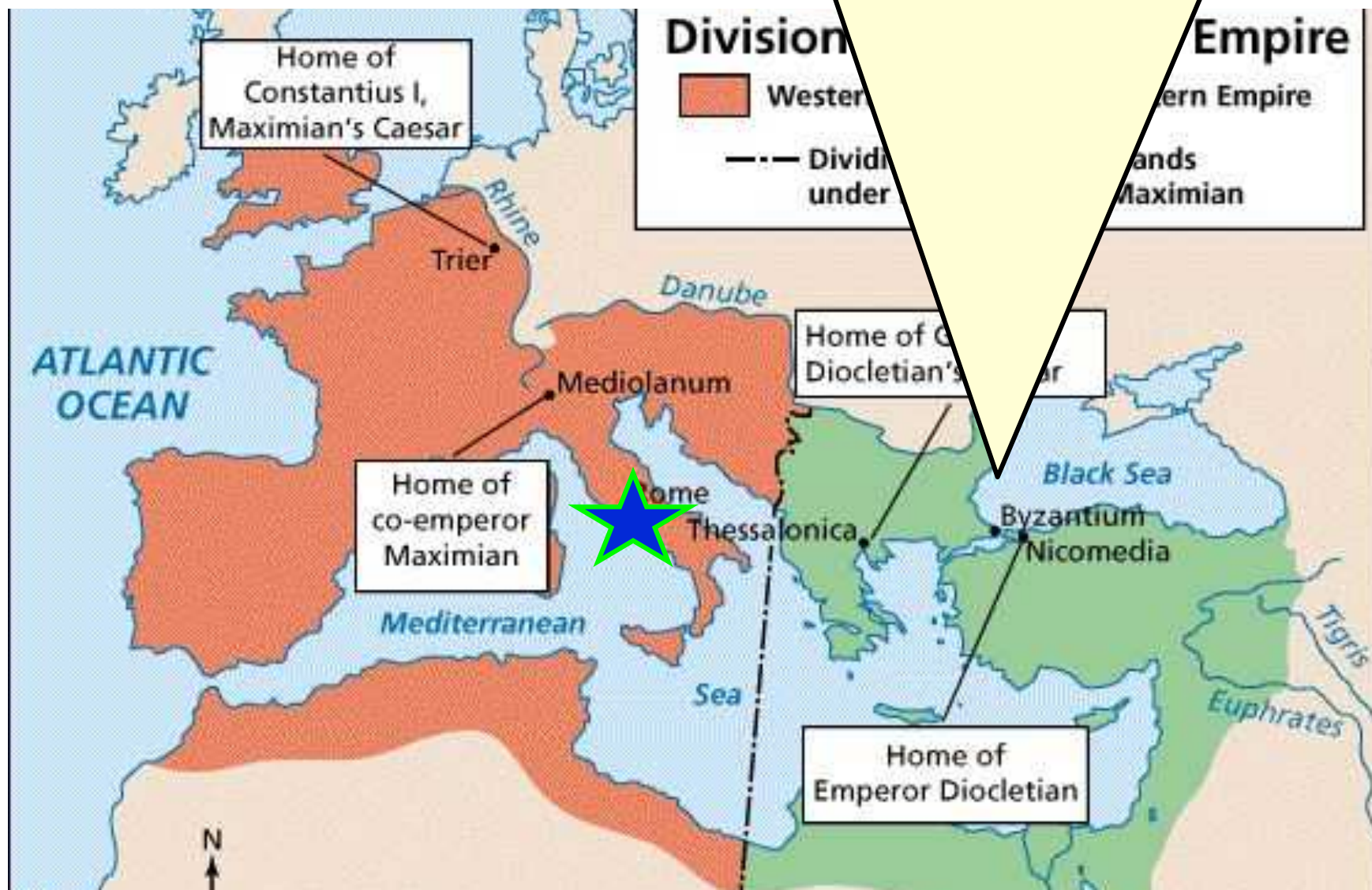


Attempts to Reform the Empire

- After Diocletian, the emperor Constantine came to power & continued to reform Rome
 - To help unify Rome, he ended persecutions & converted to Christianity
 - He moved the official capital from Rome to a new city in the East, called Constantinople



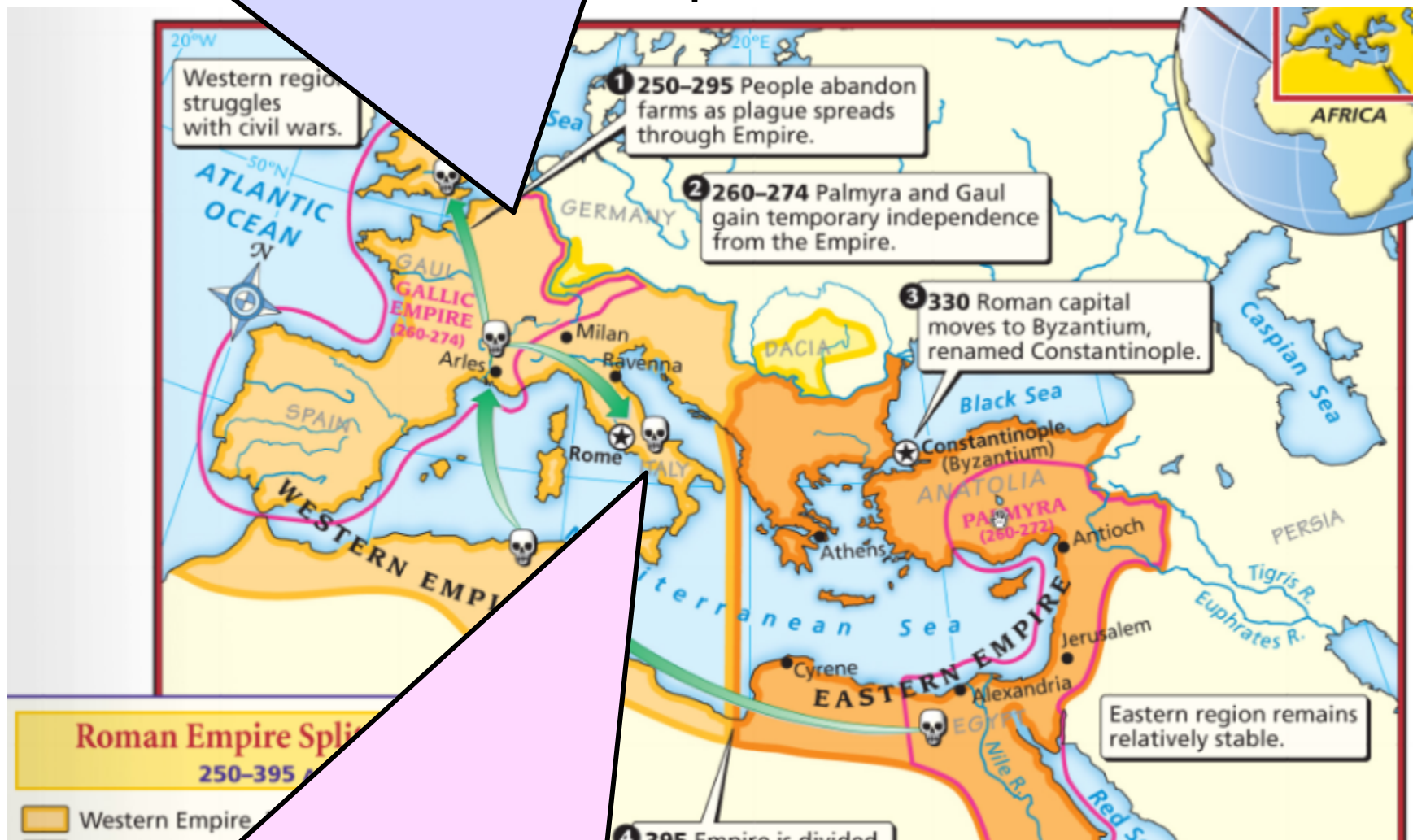
Constantinople was a major trade center & was easy to defend; the city was built in the Roman style but had a strong Greek & Christian influence



The Decline of the Roman Empire

- The fall of the Roman Empire happened in 3 major stages:
 - An era of decline due to internal problems within Rome
 - A brief period of revival due to reforms by Emperors Diocletian & Constantine
 - Continued decline, invasion by Germanic “barbarians”, & the conquest of Rome

After Emperors Diocletian & Constantine, the Western Roman Empire continued to decline



Disease, corruption, & declining economy exposed the West to attack from outside invasions

By 370 A.D., “barbarian” groups outside Rome, led by the Huns, began to attack



The weak Roman army in the West could do little to stop the invasions; By 476, Germanic barbarians conquered Western Rome

The Fall of Rome



“Destruction” one of the five paintings that make up American Hudson River Valley painter, Thomas Cole’s series “The Course of Empire”, which was painted between 1833 and 1836.

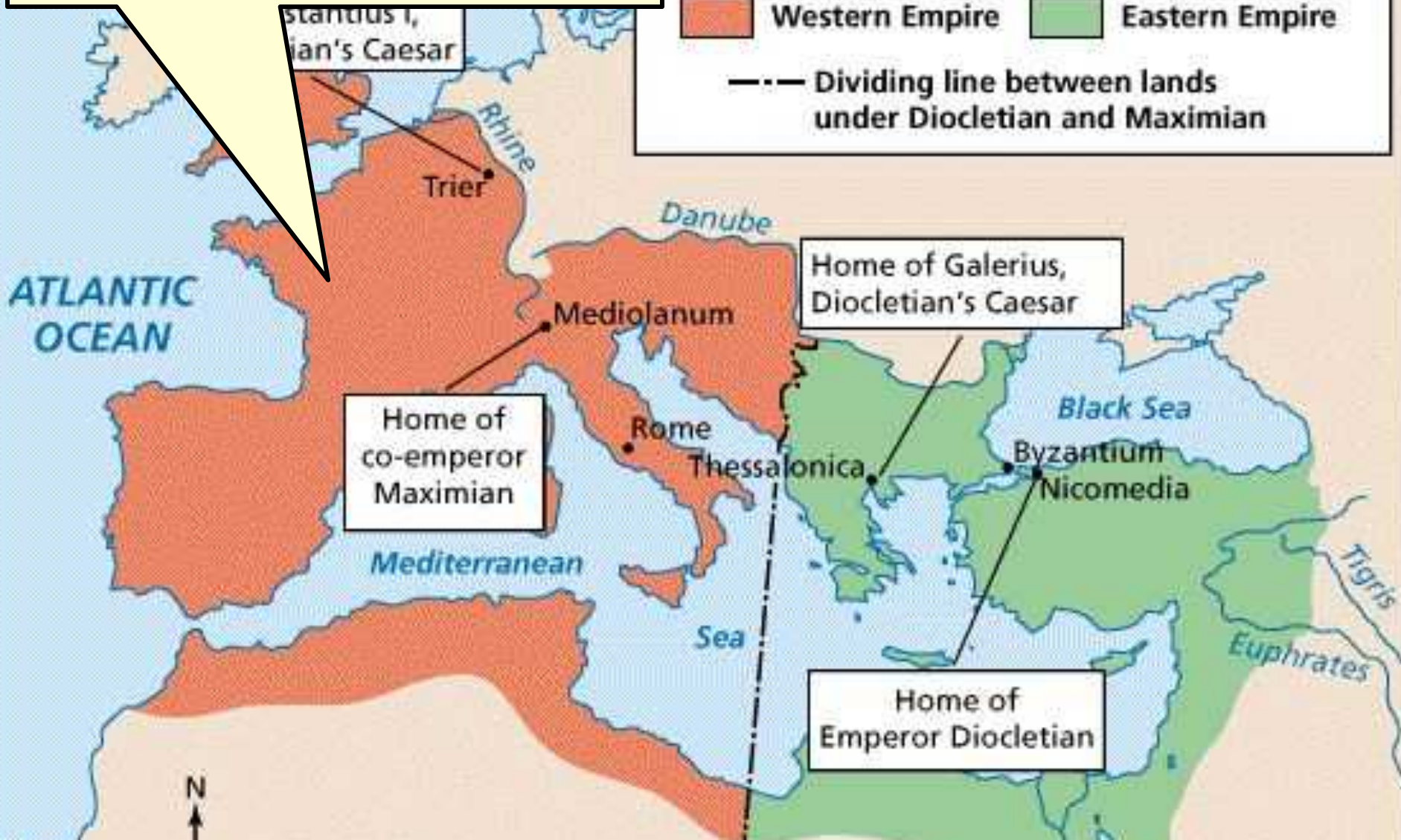
The decline of the Western Roman Empire led to the Middle Ages

fall of Rome

Division of the Roman Empire

Western Empire Eastern Empire

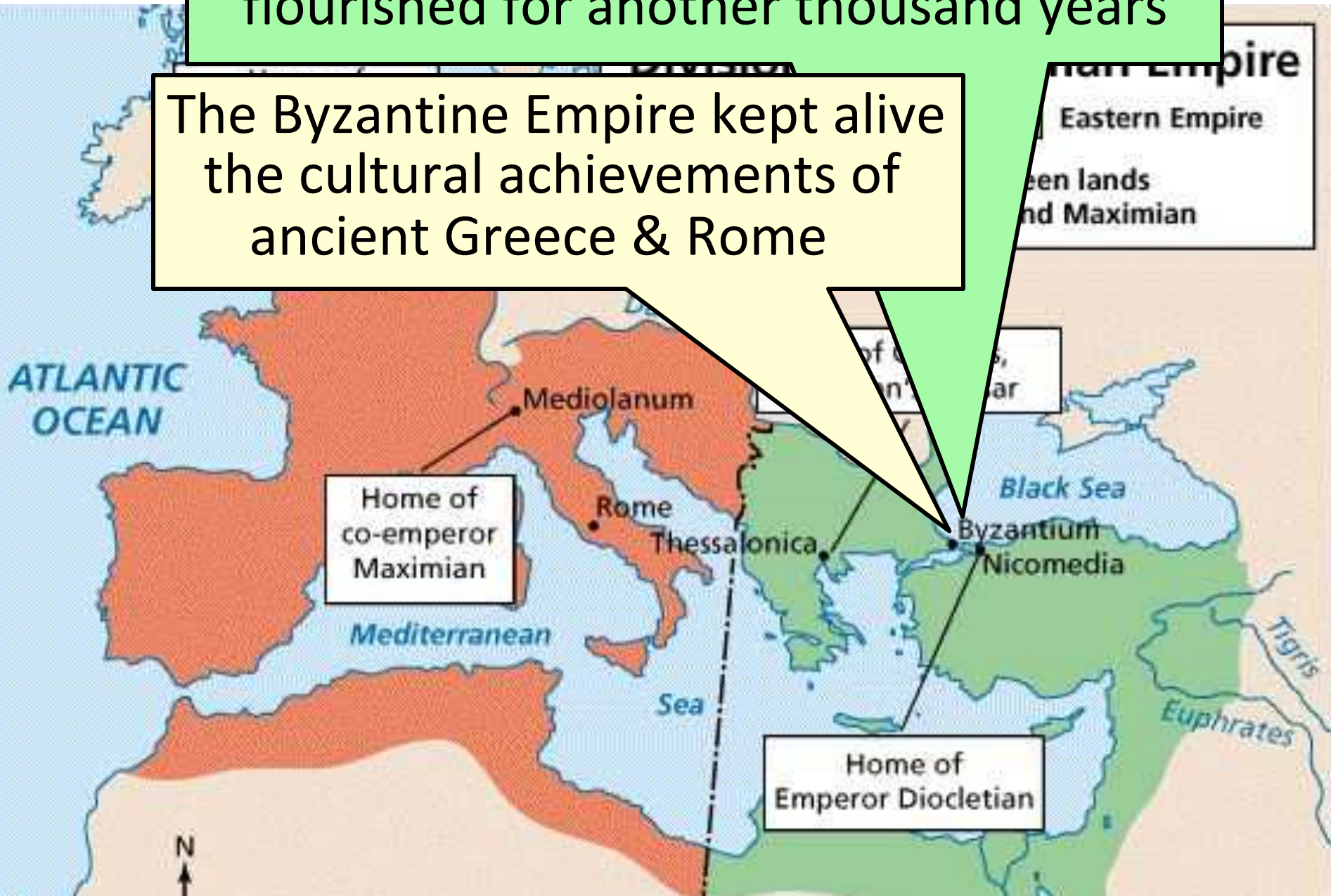
--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian





The East became the Byzantine Empire & flourished for another thousand years

The Byzantine Empire kept alive the cultural achievements of ancient Greece & Rome



The Classical Era

The combination of Greek & Roman achievements are known as Greco-Roman culture






The civilizations of the Classical Era produced important achievements that are still used today

Closure Activity

- What were the important cultural contributions of the Classical Era?
 - Match the achievement with the appropriate classical civilization



	Greece	Rome	Gupta India	Han China
Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Greeks worshiped many gods who behaved in very human ways. Philosophers used reason to understand the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rome adopted many of the Greek gods, but usually changed and added to them. Later, Rome adopted Christianity and helped spread it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hinduism became a more personal religion and gained followers. A more popular form of Buddhism developed and spread. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Han adopted the ethical system of Confucius as the basis for government.
Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sculpture portrayed ideal human beauty, such as this statue of a boxer. (This is a Roman copy.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romans modeled sculpture after Greek statues and developed more realistic sculpture. They also made beautiful mosaics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gupta statues were of Hindu gods and the Buddha, such as this figure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Han made intricate bronzes like this figure of a galloping horse. 
Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientists made advances in astronomy and mathematics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engineers developed domes and arches and built superb roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scholars made discoveries in astronomy, mathematics, and medicine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Han invented paper, various farming tools, and watermills.
Architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greek buildings show balance and symmetry; columns and pedestals were often used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roman advances include domes and arches, such as those in the Colosseum. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hindu temples like this temple of Vishnu at Deogarh began to have pyramidal roofs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Han buildings were wooden and none survive. This ceramic model of a three-story wooden tower shows Han styles. 