

Punic Wars (264-146 BC)

LW4U1 - Grade 12 Classical Civilization - Mr. A. Wittmann
Unit 3



Review of Republic's Political Structure

| Class | Property Rating in denarii | No. of votes in assembly | Military service |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Aristocrats | | | |
| <i>Patricii</i> (patricians) | n.a. (hereditary) | 6 | Officers/legionary cavalry |
| <i>Equites</i> (knights) | hereditary/over 25,000 | 12 | Officers/legionary cavalry |
| Commoners | | | |
| First Class | 10,000 - 25,000? | 80 | Legionary cavalry |
| Second Class | 7,500 - 10,000 | 20 | Legionary infantry |
| Third Class | 5,000 - 7,500 | 20 | Legionary infantry |
| Fourth Class | 2,500 - 5,000 | 20 | Legionary infantry |
| Fifth Class | 400 (or 1,100) - 2,500 | 30 | Legionary infantry (<i>velites</i>) |
| <i>Proletarii</i> (a.k.a. <i>capite censi</i>) | Under 400 (or 1,100) | 1 | Fleets (oarsmen) |



Before Punic Wars

S.P.Q.R

- Roman citizen = soldier/farmer
 - Summer = campaigning season
- *pater familias* & *patronus/clientes*
- Romans valued:
 - law
 - engineering
 - technology
 - war
- Evolution of a complicated, sophisticated, all inclusive legal system:
 - natural law
 - human law
 - civil law

Roman Law

Punic Wars, 264–146 B.C.





Punic Wars

Social & Political Crisis

- Carthaginian maritime empire was Rome's revile
- Now Rome controls western Mediterranean
- Now Rome is a world power
- Victory leads to great wealth
- Unrest between patricians & plebeians
- Patricians divided into 2 factions...
 - Optimates & Populares
- This ongoing conflict caused on going, devastating civil wars.
- More than 100 years of civil wars will end with the founding of the empire.

THE END