

Roman Society during the Late Republic

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



Roman Religion

- Originally Romans didn't anthropomorphize gods
- No myths, images, buildings
- **numina** 1000s of spirits or energies (i.e. wheat)
- Ancestor worship, household gods, **lares** & **penates**
- Vestal Virgins, **pontifex maximus**
- Augury & haruspices
- **Saturnalia**
- Etruscan & Greek influenced on Roman religion
 - Greek Gods, myths & temples
- Later eastern religions & cults become popular
 - Cybele, Isis

Roman Religion



Roman Myth & Religion

Women



- Women had more rights & status than Greece (especially Athens)
- Citizens who own land, inherit, education & divorce
- Motherhood & *matrona* every important
- Freedom of movement (Men & women bath together)
- Arranged marriage
- Can't vote or hold political office



Engineering & Architecture

Socio-Economic Issues

- With expansion sudden influx of slaves
- Slaves in every home & business = unemployment
- More & more small farmers move to Rome
- Changing global economy
- New lands to farm = *latifundia* (over 400 acres)
- Patrician land holdings shuts out Plebeians
- Plebeians' demand for land reform grows
- Growing social unrest between classes
- Equestrian upper middle class grows (*equites*)





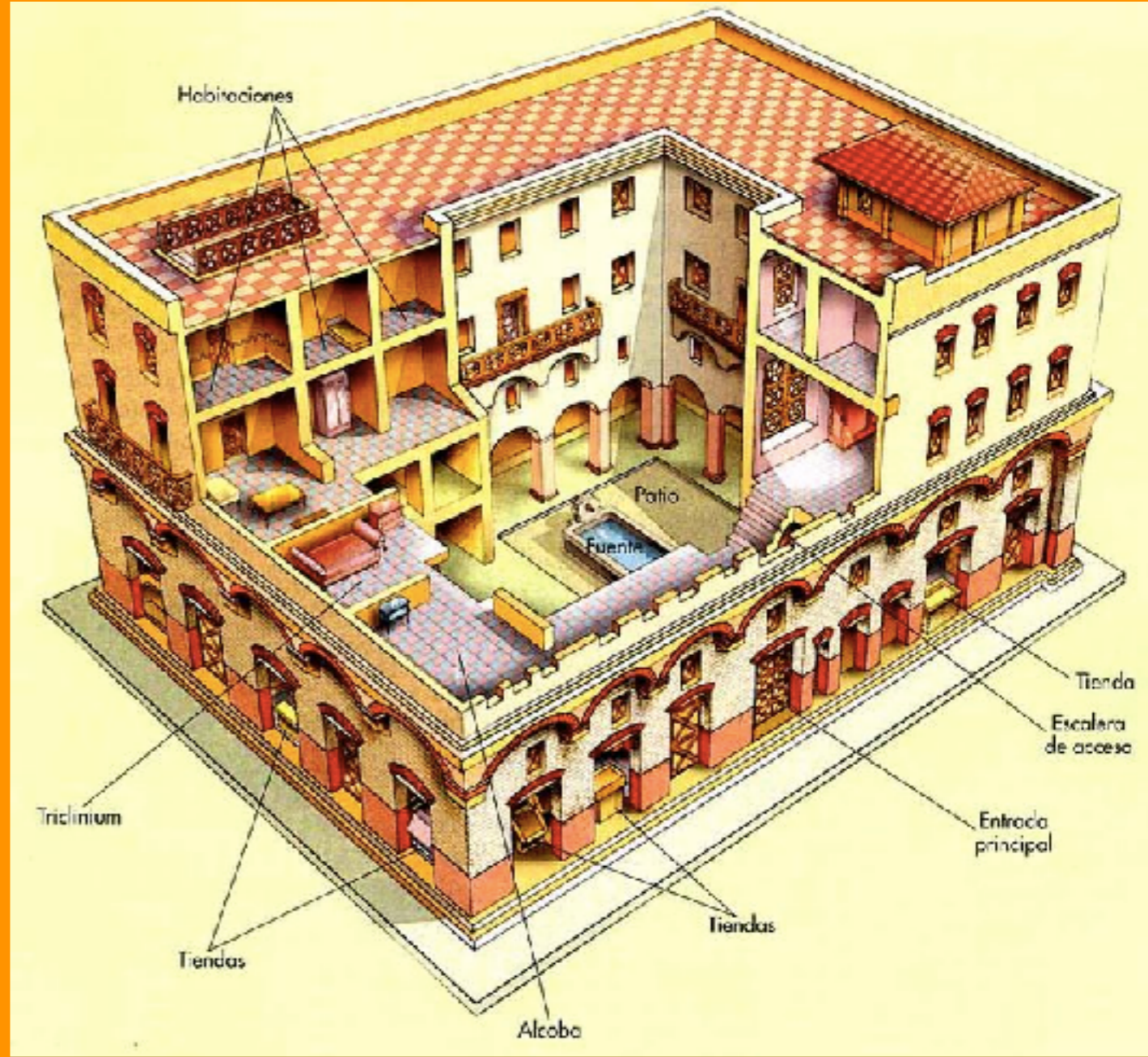
Art & Literature

- Greek becomes 2nd language for the educated
- Italian art forms replaced by Greek
- Imported Greek art
- Greek literature translate into Latin
- Rise of Latin poetry, history, satire & drama
- **Plautus** (254-184 BC) & **Terrence** (190-159 BC)

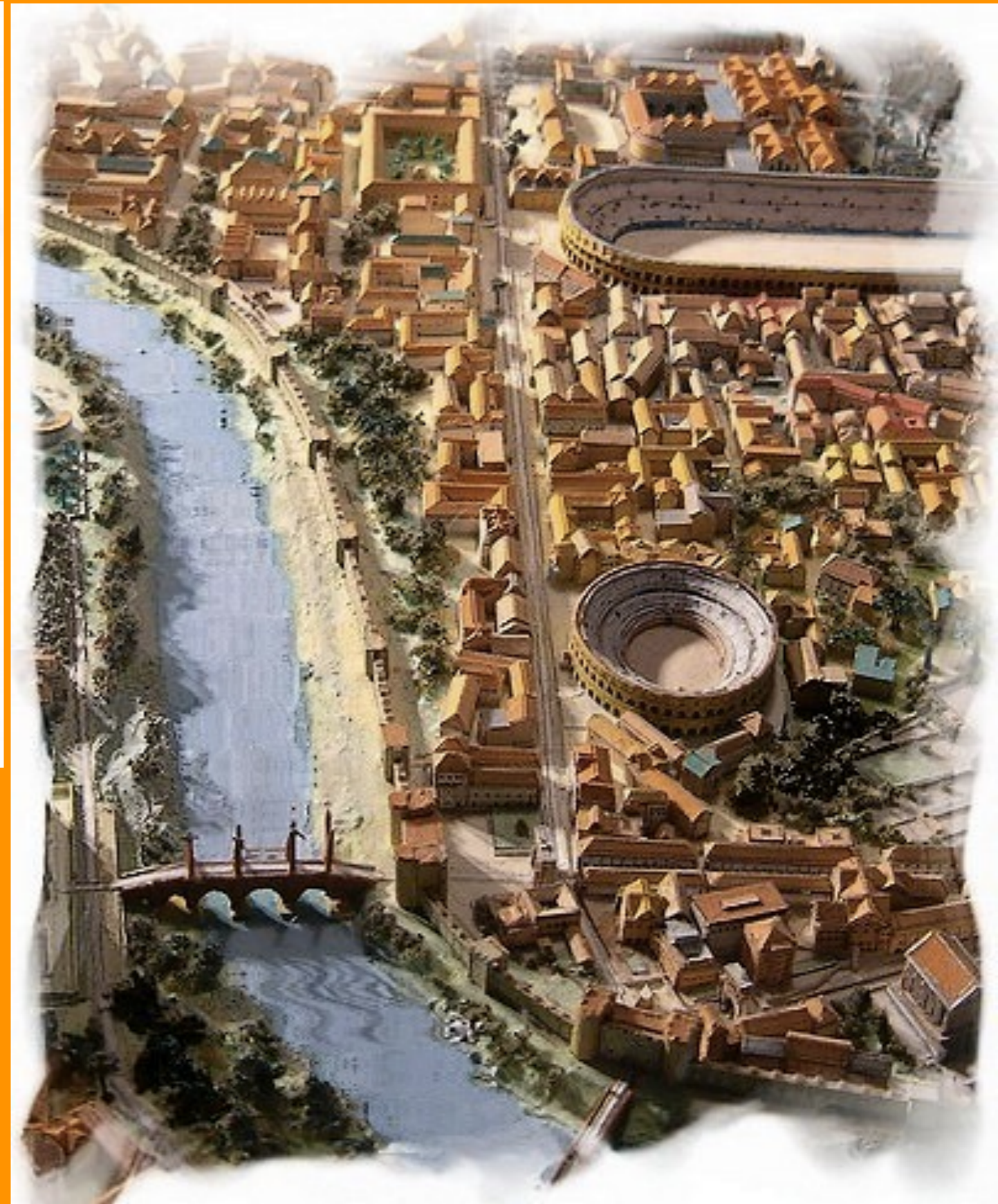


City of Rome

- Rome grows into mega city
- Unemployed farmers move into the city
- “The Dole”
- Domestic slaves
- Entertainments
- More and more foreigners moving to Rome
- Public buildings built in Greek style
- More forums being built



insula



Urban Growth

THE END