

Chapter 1, Section 2 The Fall of Rome	
The Decline of Rome/Political and Social problems	After Aurelius's death, Commodus and the Severans ruled Rome. At the end of the Severan rule, Rome's leadership grew weak, and the government grew corrupt.
Economic and Military Problems	The economy worsened and law and order broke down and invaders began pushing into the empire's territory, and the Roman government could not pay Roman soldiers.
Inflation	Rapidly increasing prices, occurred because money became less valuable.
Barter	People began bartering or exchanging goods without using money once the Roman government put less gold in its coins.
Diocletian's reform	He divided the empire into four parts. He issued rules and set prices and wages. He ordered workers to stay in the same job until they died.
Constantine's reform	He tried to stop the empire's decline. The sons of workers had to follow their father's trade. Sons of farmers had to work their father's land and sons of soldiers had to serve in the military. He moved the capital city to Byzantium, which later became known as Constantinople.
Results of reform	Both Diocletian and Constantine introduce reforms that actually halted the decline of the Roman Empire.
Rome Falls	Theodosius became emperor after Constantine's death. When he died the empire was split into two separate empires: The Western Roman Empire and the Eastern Roman empire.
Rome is Invaded	Germanic groups were in search of warmer climates and better grazing lands for their cattle began to invade Rome. One group the Visigoths feared the Huns and asked Rome for protection; Rome required the Visigoths to be loyal to them.
Battle of Adrianople	The Visigoths rebelled against the Romans and beat the Romans at the Battle of Adrianople. More Germanic groups invaded Roman territory.
Alaric	The Visigoth leader Alaric and his soldiers captured the city of Rome and burned it. The Vandals overpowered Rome's territories in Spain and northern Africa. They entered Rome and destroyed buildings.
Rome Falls	Odoacer was a Germanic leader who took control of Rome's government from the 14 year old emperor Romulus Augustulus. <i>This event marked the end of the Western Roman Empire.</i> A band of Visigoths killed Odoacer and set up a kingdom in Italy. The Eastern Roman Empire continue to prosper after the fall of the Western Roman Empire
The Legacy of Rome	The laws and government of the United States today were influenced by the laws and governments of ancient Romans. Just like the Romans, Americans believe a <u>republic</u> that is made up of equal citizens is the best form of government. The alphabet of the <i>Latin language</i> is used throughout the Western world today and many European languages stemmed from Latin as well as English. Western architecture uses styles of the Romans, such as domes and arches. Christianity began and spread in the Roman Empire.