**Ancient Rome Vocabulary**

Romulus and Remus According to legend, the competing brothers who founded the city of Rome

Aqueducts Channels used to carry water over long distances

Plebian A person in the Roman lower class, this was the majority of the population

Patrician A person who owned land and belonged in the Roman upper class

Republic a political system or form of government in which people elect representatives to exercise power for them

Senate Long lasting political institution of ancient Rome

Julius Caesar Leader who helped transition Rome from a republic to an empire

Empire a land with different territories and peoples under a single ruler

Augustus First emperor of the Roman Empire

Pax Romana The long period of peace and stability that existed under the Roman Empire, especially in the 2nd century A.D.

Twelve Tables Ancient Roman legislation that served as the foundation of Roman law

Colosseum A large arena in Rome known for its arches and as a home to gladiators

Bible The holy book of Christianity

Christianity A major world religion based on the teachings of Jesus

Messiah A leader the ancient Jews predicted would come to restore Israel

Constantine First Roman emperor to adopt Christianity

**Byzantine Empire Vocabulary**

Byzantine Empire The society that developed in the eastern Roman Empire after the west fell.

Justinian One-time Emperor of the Byzantine Empire

Justinian’s Code An effort by Justinian to organize and simplify Roman law and help guarantee fairer treatment for everyone.

Constantinople The capital of the Byzantine Empire; the modern day city of Istanbul

Hagia Sophia a 6th century structure in Constantinople, originally built as an Orthodox Christian church

Ottoman Turks Group who captured Constantinople in 1453 and brought an end to the Byzantine Empire.

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