

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Why did the Roman Empire fall?

### **Directions:**

**Part 1** - Below is a list of reasons for the fall of Rome. Read each statement carefully and determine whether the statement is a Political, Social, Economic, Military or Religious cause for the Fall of Rome. Place the correct letter (P for political, S for social, E for economic, M for military, and R for religious) in the box to the left of the statement.

**Part 2** - After completing step one; complete the reverse side of this sheet by writing the complete statement under the correct cause.

<b>Cause</b>	<b>Reasons for the Fall of the Roman Empire</b>
	1. Barbarian attacks resulted in the decline of trade and agriculture
	2. There was a decline in the early Roman virtues of discipline, loyalty and hard work
	3. Empire became too large to rule efficiently
	4. Persecution of Christians lowered morals
	5. Funds were low for defense
	6. Roman citizens were no longer willing to serve in the army
	7. The rise and influence of Christianity resulted in Romans losing the warrior spirit
	8. High taxes, debt and poor harvests hurt small farmers and townspeople
	9. There was a widening gap between social classes
	10. Corruption and immorality became widespread in the army
	11. There was a decline in morality
	12. The Roman army was unable to control the barbarians
	13. There was disloyalty, lack of patriotism, and lack of confidence in the empire
	14. The unemployed became a financial burden on the government resulting in a welfare system called "Bread and Circus"
	15. The capital was moved to Constantinople
	16. People had little money to spend
	17. There was a decline in population
	18. Importing of goods led to an unfavorable balance of trade
	19. Devaluation of money and inflation occurred
	20. The division of the empire weakened the Western (Roman) half of the empire
	21. The problem of succession to the throne led to constant unrest

# CAUSES FOR THE FALL OF ROME

## Military Causes

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Religious Causes

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_



## Economic Causes

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

## Political Causes

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Social Causes

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_