

Roman Slave Market - Applying for a job as a Roman Slave

This week we are going to be thinking about our skills and qualities.
For this task only, we will be using these skills and qualities to apply for a job as a slave.
In the real world, your aspirations can be much grander!



WALT-advertise and promote
our personal qualities and
skills



You are to imagine you live in Roman times, but are in the unfortunate position where you are to work as a slave. You have been captured and are to go the Slave Market in Rome.

For your Big Write tomorrow (Thursday) you will be writing your qualities and skills, as an advertisement, (which you would wear around your neck), to make a buyer choose you. You want to be bought by an owner who will look after you well, so think carefully about what you could write.



Slavery in Ancient Rome:



Slavery was an important part of Roman society and culture. Romans, especially the rich ones, depended greatly on their slaves for maintaining a luxurious lifestyle.

These slaves did most of the work for their masters and worked hard to provide them comfort. Slaves in Rome were used for domestic help, manual labour, and gladiator fighting. Educated slaves were even employed as physicians, teachers, and poets.

Educated and skilled slaves carried a hefty price tag. Slaves made up a substantial part of the Roman population. In the 1st century BC, 30 to 40 percent of Italy's population comprised of slaves.



Where were these slaves found?



Most of the slaves were prisoners captured during the wars that Rome fought against other nations. These prisoners were then brought to Rome and sold off to a slave trader. The slave trader sold these slaves in either open auctions or private sales.

Slaves were acquired from all the wars Rome fought during the Republic and the imperial era. Each war fetched thousands of slaves. Romans recruited slaves from all regions without any regard for race.

Abandoned children were also used as slaves. Roman law allowed fathers to sell their adult children as slaves. This right was awarded by the founder of Rome, Romulus.





Duties

Slaves possessing skills were greatly valued and were cared for. They were even employed as teachers and physicians. Some were employed as cooks in the households of rich Romans and were taken care of by their masters.

A domestic slave was expected to wake up early in the morning and start the hypocaust to warm up the room of his master. He then cleaned the house, washed clothes, worked in the kitchen to prepare meals, bathed and dressed their master and ran other errands.

Slaves with no skills were less fortunate and were made to work in mines, mills and fields. Their living conditions were poor and many of them died early. Condemned criminals and slaves punished for any offense were also sent to work in mines.

Some slaves were bought by owners of gladiator schools called 'Lanistas'. They were then trained to become gladiators and fought in hugely popular gladiator games.

Rich Romans could own hundreds of slaves who performed different duties. A typical Roman Emperor had close to 20,000 slaves at his service.

Look at these jobs that slaves did in Roman times. What qualities and skills would be needed for each one?



Farming (ploughing the land)



This is
what I
think!

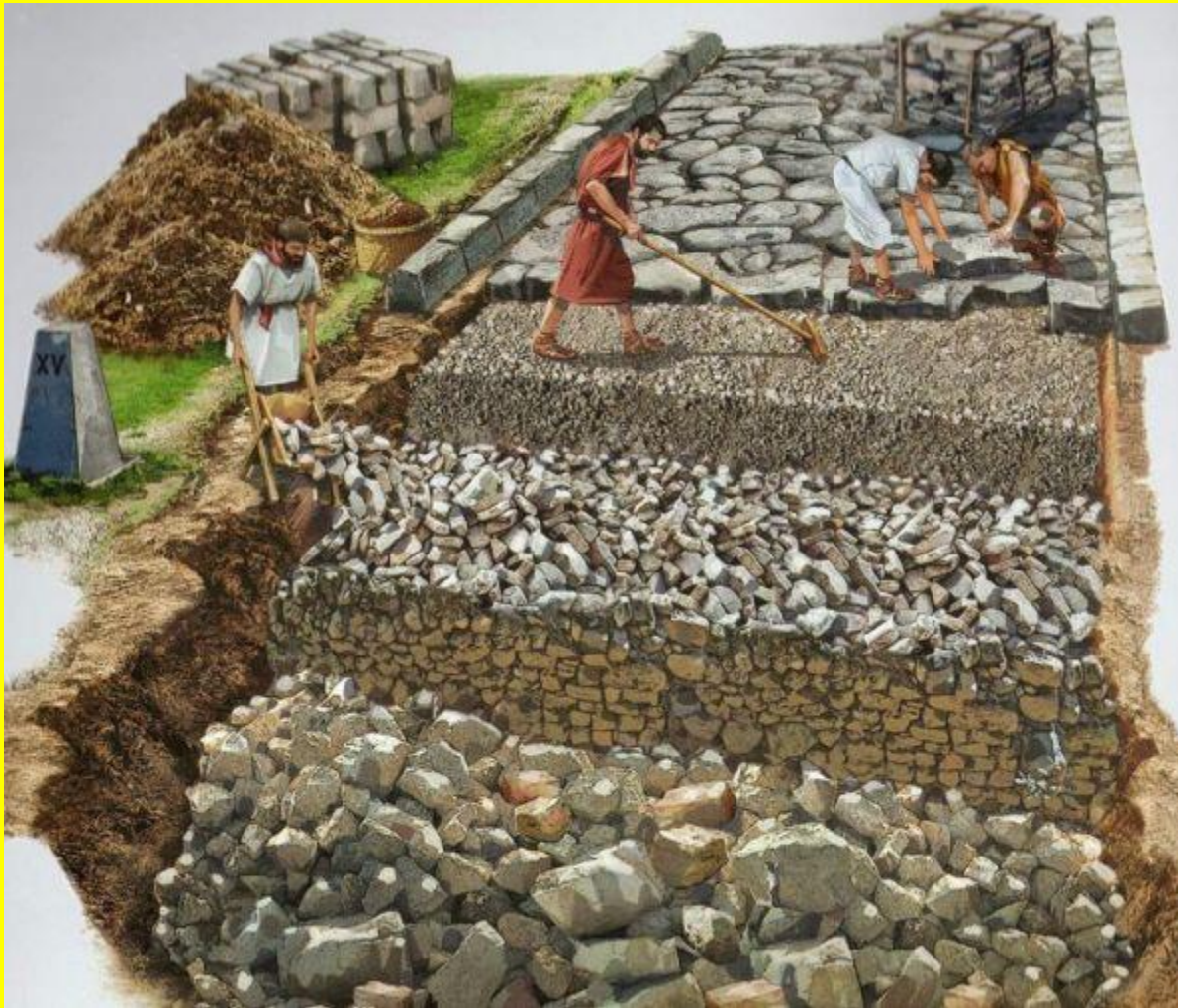


Serving food



Getting your owner dressed and ready for the day. Doing their hair and choosing their clothes.





Roman road building

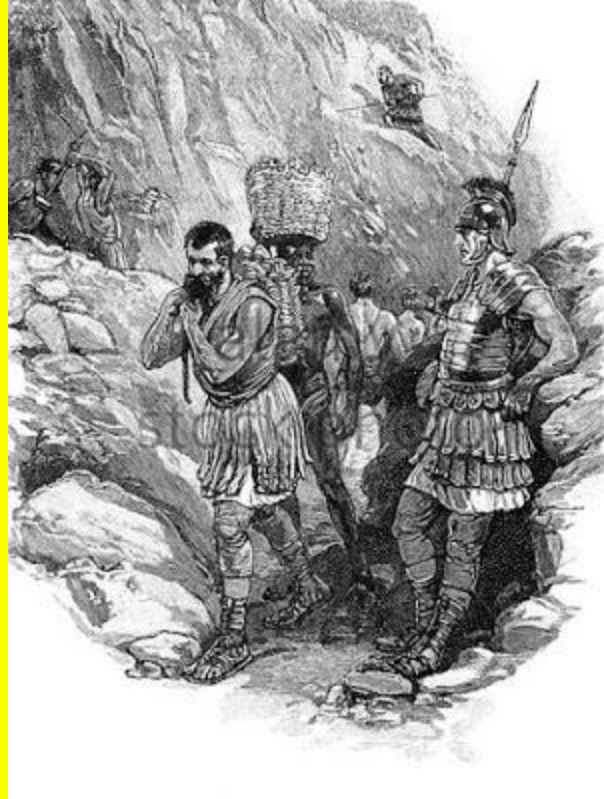


Cooking and preparing food





Gladiator fighting 🔊



Mining in roman times



Providing childcare

The moral of the story is....



- Skills and qualities are **transferable** for different jobs and careers, and this would be the same in Roman times.
- You have much in your favour. You are young. You are able to work hard. You are educated. You are polite and kind. You take care of others. You are strong and determined.

.....so why should we hire YOU?



What **skills** and
qualities can you
offer?

The Best Things about Me



With people around you, ask them / yourself
'What are the best things about me?'

Are you

Funny Trustworthy Pro-active
Cheerful Efficient Hard working
Friendly Helpful
Punctual
Considerate
Conscientious
Confident



Ready to plan your Big Write?



Using the persuasive phrases mat to help you, can you plan a piece of writing that advertises your skills and qualities?

Use the templates attached. One can be for your plan and one for your final Big Write. When you've finished your final version, don't forget to send it to me at year3@holy-family.surrey.sch.uk

