

THE ROMAN EMPIRE

IN THE FIRST CENTURY

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Guide

Directions: Use The Roman Empire in the First Century Web site [insert pbs link] to help you answer each of the following questions about religion in ancient Rome. Record your answers correctly and explain your ideas using specific examples and facts from the Web site content.

1. What was the objective of Roman worship?
2. How did Roman cult worship differ from most of today's religions?
3. What was the difference between a god and a spirit?
4. Who were the three most important Roman gods?
5. Explain the concept of "divine rule" and how this was used by the emperors.
6. Roman mythology was a blend of many cultures. Why was this possible?

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7. Explain the process the Romans used to get the gods to honor their prayers/requests.

8. Describe the various groups of Roman priests and their responsibilities.

9. Who were the Vestal Virgins and what was their job?

10. How did Augustus use religion to keep from being overthrown?