

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

**Women in Ancient Greece and Rome**  
**Reading Focus Questions: Republican Rome 1**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Which is NOT true of the Sabine women? (a) they were seized by the Romans so that Roman wives would be guaranteed to be pure (b) they refused to give in to the demands of their new “husbands” (c) they quickly had children for their new “husbands” (d) they were instrumental in stopping a war between the Sabines and the Romans
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. In Livy’s version of the story, the Sabine women are won over by (a) their secret desire for their husbands (b) their fear for their parents and families and willingness to sacrifice themselves to save them (c) their religious convictions that oblige them to remain married to one man, even if married through rape (d) Romulus’s promise that they will be honored members of the new city and will come to love their husbands
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The poet who presents the rape of the Sabine women in a largely erotic light: (a) Livy (b) Lucretia (c) Pliny (d) Ovid
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The Roman girl Tarpeia betrayed the Roman citadel to the Sabines and was (a) killed by the Sabines in disgust at her treachery (b) honored with a statue in the forum for an act that ultimately led to peace (c) punished by the Romans by exile to the Sabines (d) rewarded by the Sabines with jewels, but held in universal disdain
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Which is NOT true of the public art of the early Roman republic? (a) real women and their activities are not typically a subject (b) the figures of both men and women are idealized (c) some scenes from Roman history are portrayed on wall paintings, but men are featured on these (d) there is evidence of at least five statues dedicated to real women
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Cloelia is known for (a) an assassination attempt on the Etruscan king (b) her suicide after being dishonored by the Etruscans (c) leading an escape by female hostages from the Etruscans by swimming across the Tiber (d) persuading her father to let her make a dynastic marriage with the Etruscan king
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Veturia persuades her son Coriolanus to abandon his attack on Rome by (a) showing him how shameful it would be to act as an enemy to the city where his family lives (b) threatening to jump off the walls to her death if he attacks the city (c) heaping scorn on him for his cowardly treachery (d) threatening to kill his wife and sons as enemies of Rome if he attacks the city
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. One thing that the stories of the Sabine women, Lucretia, and Verginia (p. 227) have in common is (a) the women all die (b) the women are all raped (c) the women become the focus for major changes in Roman life and/or politics (d) the stories all show the dangers of cross-cultural marriage
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Evidence of the lawcodes of early Rome does NOT show (a) fear of women poisoning unwanted family members (especially husbands) (b) concern about preventing adultery (c) no provision for divorce (implying that it did not, at least officially, exist) (d) strictures against women speaking in public and owning property

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Which of the following is NOT true of the Lupercalia? (a) they are fertility rites dedicated to the goddess Lucinia (b) men and women have different but equally important roles to play in the rituals (c) women who wanted to conceive were symbolically whipped by young men dressed in goat skins (d) The Romans traced the origins of the ritual to the era of Romulus
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Which is NOT true of the Vestal Virgins? (a) they were chosen in childhood to serve for 30 years (b) they were given special seats of honor at banquets and games (c) the Vestal Virgins are not liable to punishment for infractions except by the senior Vestal Virgin (d) they were accompanied by attendants holding the fasces that were usually restricted to (male) holders of high political office
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The daughter of Gaius Valerius Maximus was named \_\_\_\_\_, and the daughter of Marcus Tullius Cicero was named \_\_\_\_\_.

**Match the following terms or names with their definitions:**

**Terms:** Ceres, Gens, Juno, Manus, Matrona, Paterfamilias, Pudicitia, Tutor, Univira

1. The term for a married woman, with the implication of a position of strength and virtue in the home:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Term for the husband's power over his wife (and children) – women could marry under their husband's power or maintain their connection with their paternal family:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. The queen of the gods and patroness of married women: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Term that means the chastity and moral strength that a woman, especially a married woman, should have:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. The word for a clan: \_\_\_\_\_

6. The man who handles the business and public affairs for a woman who is not under the direct control of a husband or father:

\_\_\_\_\_

7. The goddess of grain and agricultural fertility: \_\_\_\_\_

8. The word for a woman who remained faithful to a single husband, even after his death:

\_\_\_\_\_

9. The (male) head of household, with (at least nominally) life and death power over his family (sons as well as daughters)

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