

Table Members

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Notes from Packet

- Abducted Greek Theatre
 - Made it gorier
 - Stole and destroyed artwork and statues
- Planets named after Roman gods
 - Ares god of war for greek
 - Mars god of war for roman
 - Dionysis god of theatre for greek
 - Bacchus god of theatre for roman
- Largest theatre in North Africa
- No microphones
- No amplification at all
- Thousands of viewers at once
- Actors wore painted masks
- No artificial lights (no candles, etc)
- For comfort had Awnings, Fruit Vendors, Showers of Perfumed Water if too hot
 - Invented their own plumbing system
- Greed, Horseplay, Infidencies, and women in scanty costumes.
- Roman aristocracy frowned upon theatre
- Audience mostly lower classes
- Lower classes scoffed at art-loving and intellectual, demanded spectacle and vulgarity
- Theatre became decant and hollow
- Degraded into slapstick
- Playhouses were portable wooden platform
- 61 bc roman leader Pompey had a huge outdoor auditorium built
 - Made it a temple of Venus and claimed it was a temple of worship. Steps served as seats
- Caesar ordered a playhouse that was two playhouses back to back
- Amphitheatre for chariot races and gladiatorial contests
- First to use a front curtain
 - Built in the ground and would rise up.
- First to use a claue who gave cues to clap
- Seneca (circa 4 BC - 65 AD)
 - Known for bombastic and gorey plays
 - More to be read than performed (closet drama)
- Plautus (254-184 BC)
 - Plays influenced Shakespeare and Moliere
- Eventually plays were overshadowed by collusiems

- Gladiatorial contests, christians being fed to lions, slaves fighting on ships until all dead
- Christian Church banned all theatrical activity once rome fell
 - Banned for 400 years
- Through India brought back theatre

Video Notes

- Parses influenced
 - Crude with similar characters
- Commedia dell'arte where upper classes made fun of lower classes
- Most roman plays were spinoffs of Greeks
 - Also used theatre design and costume
- Independently came up with violence
- Also celebrated religion with theatre
 - Ludi Remoni
 - Ludi Apollinares
 - Ludi Megalenses Cybele
- Politicians used it to gain power
- Marcus Scaurus made a big fancy theatre
 - Marble and bronze
 - Up to 80000 people seated
- Pompeius built a temple to venus
 - Planned to also be a theatre
 - Once senate found out, it was too late
- Stage called Pulpton
- Orchestra used for fancy seating for important leaders, politicians, and aristocrats
- Seating called Cevea
 - Three sections
 - Richer in front
 - Media cavea was for male commoners
 - Furthest for common women and children
- All actors were lower classes
- Looked down upon by higher ranks due to things said and done on stage
 - Made fun of politicians and participated in sexual acts
- Acting was dangerous
 - People threw stuff at them (stones, sticks, food)
 - Little pay
- Specific clothing that represented character
 - Chiton
 - Yellow = woman
 - Purple = rich man
 - Yellow tassles = god

- Had double who would speak while actor would act
- Four types of plays
 - Comedy
 - Most popular
 - Made fun of everyone
 - Tragedy
 - Copies of greek.
 - Focused on morals
 - Mime
 - Short and explicit.
 - Talking, sex, hated christianity, women actors
 - Pantomime
 - Told a serious story by dance
- Livius Andronicus
 - Copied greek plays
 - Latin writer
- Platus
 - Mainly wrote popular comedies
- Terence
 - Mainly comedies.
 - Not as popular or boisterous
- Seneca
 - Master of tragedy
 - Copies of greek tragedies but violent
- Constantine banned

History Channel Video Notes

- Animals from far away
- Captives from far away
- Colosseum financed from jewish relics taken
- 12 thousand jewish captives worked on collesiam
- Wooden cranes and devices used for lifting stones
- Built in 8 years
- 168 feet tall
- Tallest building in rome
- Used two theatres back to back to make collesiam
- Set new standard
- Network of tunnels and stairs
- Ticket corresponded to a number above a gate
- 120 drinking fountains
- 2 bathrooms
- Retractable roofs operated by sailors from navy

- Move it according to sun and wind
- 80 AD colosseum complete
- Designer died 1 year before it was completed
- 100 days of violence
 - 5,000 slaughtered in a single day
 - Bloodshed in this scale was only known in war
- Schedule
 - Morning animals ate man
 - Slaves fought after
 - Afternoon was man against man (gladiator fights)
- Got water and ships for a fight
 - Only used for a decade before replaced
- Lots of water channels for flooding the colosseum
 - Plumbing tunnels older than colosseum
 - Reconfigured for the flooding for naval battles
- System of elevators and trapdoor allowed animals to pop up and kill unsuspecting people in the gladiator pit
- Very advanced