**Hard and Soft Power in Ancient Rome**

Ancient Rome

From: Simon Fellowes

**History Standards: 6.7.3**

Identify the location of and the political and geographic reasons for the growth of Roman territories and expansion of the empire, including how the empire fostered economic growth through the use of currency and trade routes.

**CCSS Standards: Writing, Grades 6-8**

1. Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis reflection, and research.

10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Guiding Question:**How did Ancient Rome become so powerful?

**Overview of Lesson:**

Students should be knowledgeable about the rise of the Roman Empire and the basic principles of its existence. This lesson should be positioned as students learn about Rome’s unprecedented expansion.

Explain to students the difference between “hard power” and “Soft power”. You may wish to give examples from school – a principle suspending students is “hard power”, while putting up anti-cheating posters might be “soft power”. Have students brainstorm examples from their own lives, and list them on the whiteboard as a T-Chart.

Tell students that Rome used both kinds of power to secure their new empire. Ask them which one they think would be more important, and why – they can discuss it for one minute with their elbow partner. Then give them the worksheet and ask them to sort the actions to the appropriate column – it may be helpful to do the first one or two as a class and model the think-aloud reasoning. Thereafter, give them 10-15 minutes or as much time as necessary. they may check their work against a partner’s when they finish.

Go through the answers with your class and discuss any that caused problems. Then, give students the remaining time to address the paragraph with their best writing and detailed examples.

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

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

Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TYPES OF POWER**

**SOFT POWER**

**HARD POWER**

1. **The Romans used their large, highly trained, and well-equipped army to defeat any tribe or culture that got in their way!**
2. **The movies from one country give a positive image of its people and its values.**
3. **One boy threatens to beat up another boy if he doesn’t give him his lunch money.**
4. **The Romans built 50,000 miles of road. These roads helped to move information and soldiers quickly around the Roman Empire.**
5. **Barbarian people wanted to live in Roman towns so that they could enjoy the bathhouses, theaters, and large markets.**
6. **Roman forts gave the Roman army safe places from which to launch attacks against enemy tribes.**
7. **Roman artists and writers were admired by other cultures.**
8. **The idea of citizenship made people from many different cultures loyal to Rome.**
9. **Many tribes chose to surrender to the Romans quickly as they did not want to be turned into slaves.**
10. **People throughout the Roman Empire used the language of Latin to write letters, trade, and keep records.**
11. **The President promises to give money to another country if they create a democratic government.**
12. **One country uses their military to invade another country.**

**HOW DID ANCIENT ROME BECOME SO POWERFUL?**

Write at least one paragraph to answer the question above. Write neatly and clearly. Check for spelling and grammar mistakes.

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