



Augustus of Prima Porta is a 2.04m high marble statue of Augustus Caesar which was discovered in 1863 in the Villa of Livia at Prima Porta, near Rome. The sculpture is now displayed in the Braccio Nuovo of the Vatican Museums.

IV) THE ROMAN EMPIRE

The first emperor of Rome was Augustus (27 BC - 14 AD). During his long reign the Roman world entered a splendid era of civil peace and prosperity. Over the next few centuries, he was followed by a succession of emperors. Among the greatest were Trajan (98-117), Hadrian (117-138) and Marcus Aurelius (161-180). In the third century the Roman Empire began to decline. Diocletian (284-305), took the first step toward dividing the Empire: he organized the empire into four sections ruled by two emperors. The decline of Rome was complete when Constantine (306 - 337) moved the capital from Rome to the Greek city of Byzantium on the Black Sea in 330. He renamed it Constantinople in his own honour. The transfer of the capital meant a final division of the Empire.

Romulus Augustulus (475 - 476), whose name combined the name of Rome's legendary founder and that of its first emperor, was the last ruler of the West. In 476 he was deposed by the barbarian leader Odoacer. The Roman Empire was at an end, and the "barbarian" kingdoms of the Middle Ages took its place; but the Eastern, or Byzantine, Empire lasted another 1,000 years.

1) Read the text and complete the dates in the following list of Roman emperors:

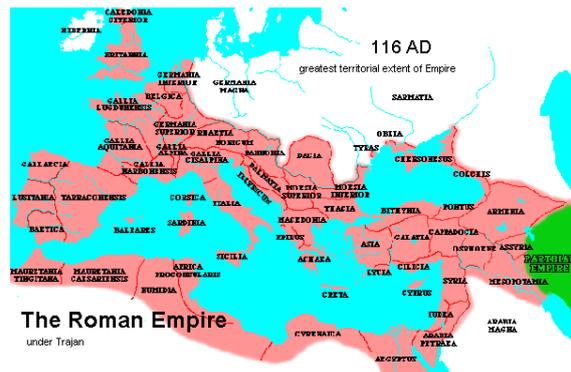
- a) Augustus ()
- b) Caligula (37 - 41)
- c) Nero (54 - 68)
- d) Trajan ()
- e) Hadrian ()
- f) Marcus Aurelius ()
- g) Diocletian ()
- h) Constantine ()
- i) Theodosius (379 - 395)
- j) Romulus Augustus ()

2) Copy these sentences under the correct map.

- a) The barbarian kingdoms after the fall of the Roman Empire.
- b) The Roman Empire under Trajan
- c) The Roman Empire in the days of Augustus
- d) The migrations and invasions of the barbarians.



a)



b)



c)



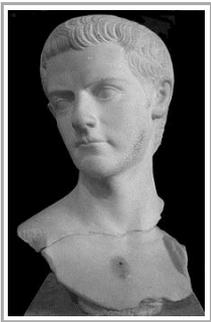
d)

ROMAN EMPERORS



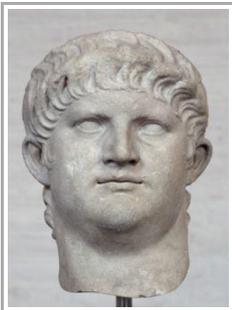
Augustus: Reign: 27 BC - 14 AD

Augustus was the first emperor of Rome. He replaced the Roman republic with a monarchy and during his long reign brought peace and stability. He transformed Rome with impressive new buildings. He also patronized the arts. The great writers Virgil, Horace, Livy and Ovid flourished in this age.



Caligula: Reign: 37 - 41

His real name was Caius Caesar Germanicus. As a small child, he wore military boots, and so he got his nickname. (*caligula*=little boot) He was emperor for four short years and showed strange behaviour. Caligula's extravagances included appointing his favourite horse as high priest and consul.



Nero: Reign : 54 - 68

Like the notorious Caligula, Nero was regarded as mad. When half of Rome was burned in a fire (A.D. 64), Nero accused the Christians of starting it and began the first persecution. The historian Suetonius states that Nero himself ordered the fires set, and that he watched the flames from a tower while singing a song about the destruction of Troy.



Trajan: Reign: 98 - 117

Trajan was born in Italica, the first Roman Emperor born outside Italy. He spent vast sums of money on building projects: an example is the Column of Trajan in Rome which commemorates his campaigns. Under his rule, the Empire reached its greatest territorial extent. Trajan was succeeded by Hadrian who was also born in Italica.



Marcus Aurelius: Reign: 161 -180

Marcus Aurelius spent most of his reign fighting against rebellious Parthians, Germans and Britons on the empire's frontier. He was known to be a humane ruler but he supported the persecution of Christians because he regarded them as natural enemies of the empire. He is also considered one of the most important stoic philosophers and wrote *Meditations*, a collection of reflections and aphorisms.



Diocletian: Reign: 284 - 305

Diocletian was declared emperor by the army. His administrative, and military reorganization laid the foundation for the Byzantine empire in the east and briefly strengthened the fading empire in the west. Diocletian's anxieties for the unity of the empire led him to decree the last great persecution of Christians in 303 - 304.



Constantine the Great: Reign: 306 - 337

Constantine I came to the throne in 306. For his capital he chose the ancient Greek city of Byzantium on the Bosphorus. In 313 his Edict of Milan ended pagan persecution of Christians. Constantine moved his seat of government from Rome to the East.



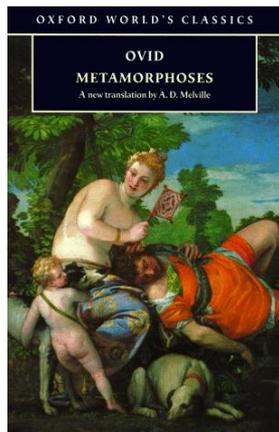
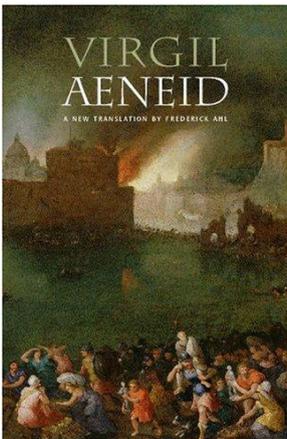
Theodosius the Great: Reign: 379 - 395

Theodosius was the last emperor of both the Eastern and Western Roman Empire. After his death, the two parts split permanently. He is also known for making Christianity the official state religion of the Roman Empire.

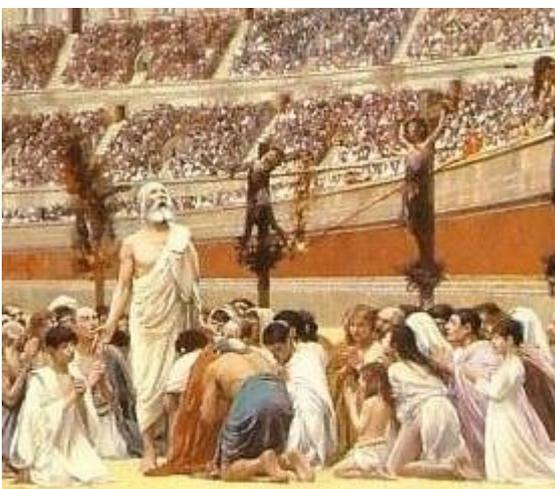
1) Read the texts on the preceding pages

- a) Name three characteristics of the reign of Augustus.
- b) Name two Roman Emperors associated with Italica.
- c) What excuse did Nero give to persecute the Christians?
- d) When did the Roman Empire achieve its greatest extension?
- e) Who wrote "Meditations"?
- f) What was the consequence of Diocletan's reorganization of the Empire.
- g) Where did Constantine establish the new capital of the Roman Empire?
- h) What was the result of the Edict of Milan?

2) Complete the text next to the illustrations with the name of the correct emperor:



a) The most famous poet of ancient Rome, Virgil wrote the *Aeneid*, one of the greatest epic poems in human history. Ovid, the author of *Metamorphoses*, a masterpiece on Greek and Roman myths, was one of the greatest influences on Western literature. Both these poets were highly regarded by the emperor _____



b) *The Christian Martyrs' Last Prayer*, by Jean-Léon Gérôme (1883). In its first three centuries, the Christian church endured periods of persecution at the hands of Roman authorities. _____ was the first Roman emperor to persecute the Christians.

3) Complete the right column of the timeline below with these sentences:

- a) Trajan's Forum and Column
- b) Fire of Rome
- c) Virgil's Aeneid
- d) Hadrian's Wall
- e) Foundation of Constantinople
- g) Teaching and death of Christ

Period: The Empire, 27 BC to AD 476

Cultural Events

1)	19 BC	
2)	9 BC	Ara Pacis Augustae
3)	2 BC	Augustus' Forum
4)		
5)		Tragedies of Seneca
6)	64	
7)	79	Pompeii destroyed
8)	80	Colosseum
9)	112	
10)	142	
11)	216	Baths of Caracalla
12)	324	

4) Try to identify the illustrations below



5) Find out more about Roman architecture. Match each text with the correct illustration.

- a) The *Ara Pacis Augustae* (Latin, "Altar of Augustan Peace"; commonly shortened to *Ara Pacis*) .It was built to commemorate the emperor's victorious return from Spain and Gaul. It consists of an altar on a podium enclosed by walls. Its sculptural decoration is among the finest examples of Roman art.

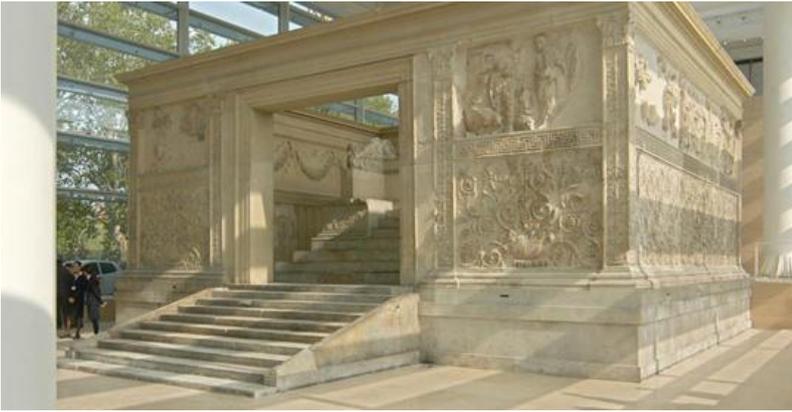
- b) Pompeii was a prosperous port and market town in Italy about 8 km. (5 miles) south-east of Vesuvius, having some 20, 000 inhabitants when it was suddenly destroyed by the volcanic eruptions of 24 August AD 79. The city was buried in ash to a depth of more than 5 m. About 2, 000 people are thought to have died. The site was rediscovered in 1748, and most of it has now been excavated.

- c) The *Colosseum* or *Coliseum* is an elliptical amphitheatre, it is the largest ever built in the Roman Empire. It is one of the greatest works of Roman architecture and Roman engineering. Originally capable of seating around 50,000 spectators, the Colosseum was used for gladiatorial contests and public spectacles.

- d) *Trajan's Column* is located in Trajan's Forum and it is most famous for its bas relief, which commemorates Trajan's victory in the Dacian Wars. The scenes depict mostly the Roman army in military activities. The carvings are crowded with sailors, soldiers, statesmen and priests, showing about 2,500 figures in all and providing a valuable source of information for modern historians on Roman and barbaric arms and methods of warfare.

- e) Hadrian's Wall is 118.3 km long and runs across northern England. It was mainly built from c. A.D. 122 to 126 under Emperor Hadrian The wall demarcated the northern boundary and defence line of Roman Britain. Hadrian's Wall, which has been preserved, is one of the largest and most significant remains of the Roman occupation in Britain.

1)



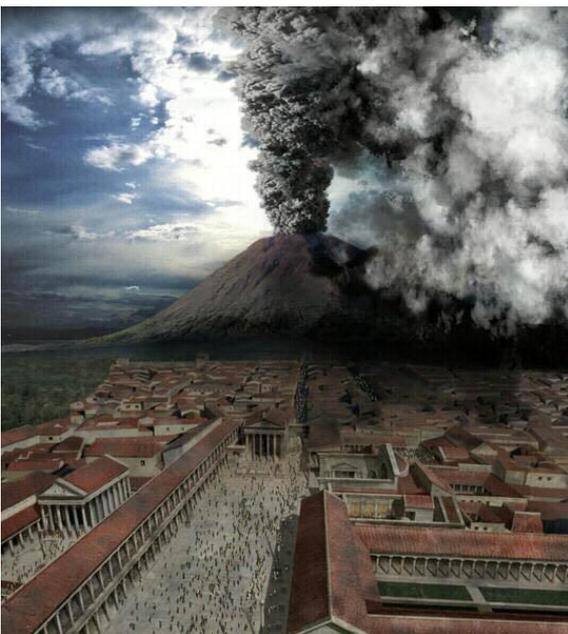
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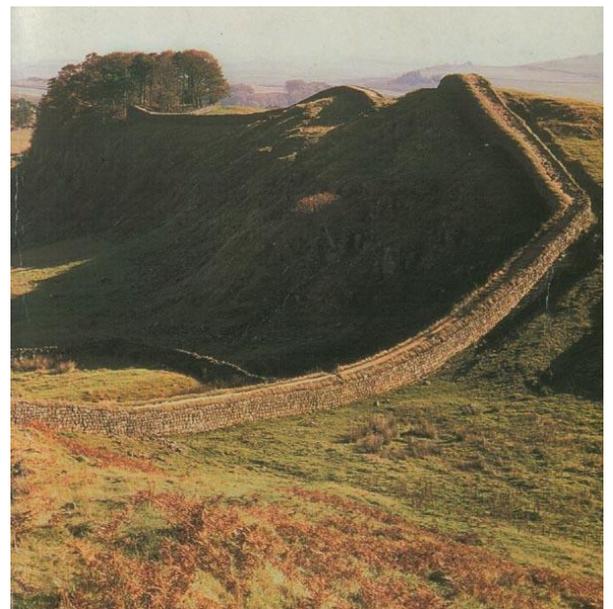
3)



4)



5)



THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

a) The Roman Empire in the fourth century

The Roman Empire of the fourth century A.D. extended entirely around the basin of the Mediterranean Sea, including modern Turkey, Israel, Egypt, and North Africa. Modern France (called Gaul) and modern Spain and Portugal (Iberia) were entirely Roman. Modern England was Roman, but modern Scotland and Ireland were barbarian (non-Roman, or non-civilised). The northern borders of the empire were the Rhine and Danube Rivers. The lands north of these rivers were occupied by a variety of tribes of Scandinavian origin that the Romans called the Germans.



1) Can you situate all the places mentioned in the text on the map on the left?

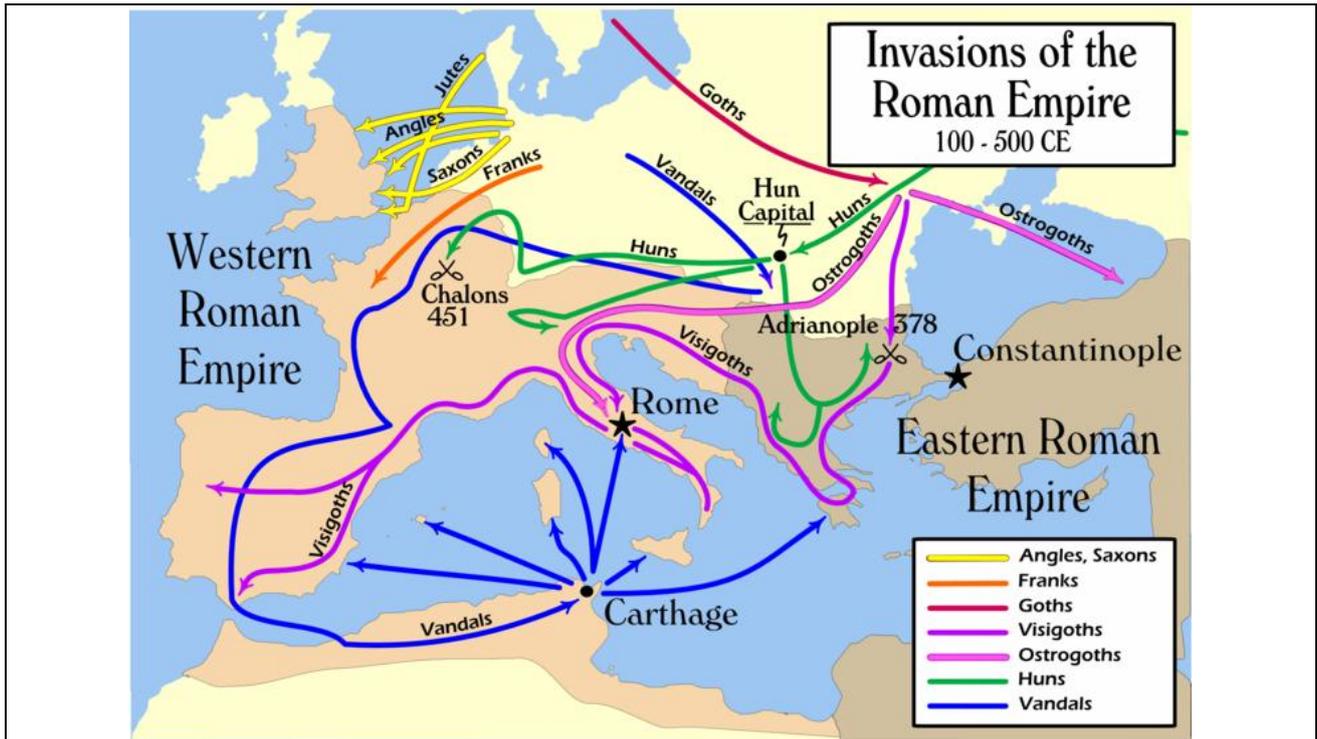
b) The Migrations of the Germanic tribes

During the 5th century, as the Western Roman Empire lost military strength and political cohesion, numerous Germanic peoples, under pressure from population growth and invading Asian groups, began migrating en masse in far and diverse directions, taking them to England and as far south through present day Continental Europe to the Mediterranean and northern Africa.



A 19th century artist's representation of Hunnic Cavalry

2) Look at the map.



i) Match the names of the tribe on the left with the sentences on the right.

a) Goths	1)	a Germanic tribe they migrated from Germany through Gaul, Iberia, and into North Africa. They raided the Mediterranean islands and sacked Rome.
b) Huns	2)	a Germanic tribe of the Rhine region. They migrated into present-day, northern France, Belgium and western Germany.
c) Vandals	3)	Germanic people whose homeland was on the north German coast.
d) Franks	4)	a nomadic people from Asia. They united in the 440s and invaded Gaul and Italy but were defeated in the battle of Chalons in 451.
e) Saxons	5)	a Germanic people originating in the Baltic area, who moved southwards and settled to the north of the Black Sea. In the fourth century they separated into Ostrogoths (East Goths) and Visigoths (West Goths).

ii) Write the names of the tribes that invaded:

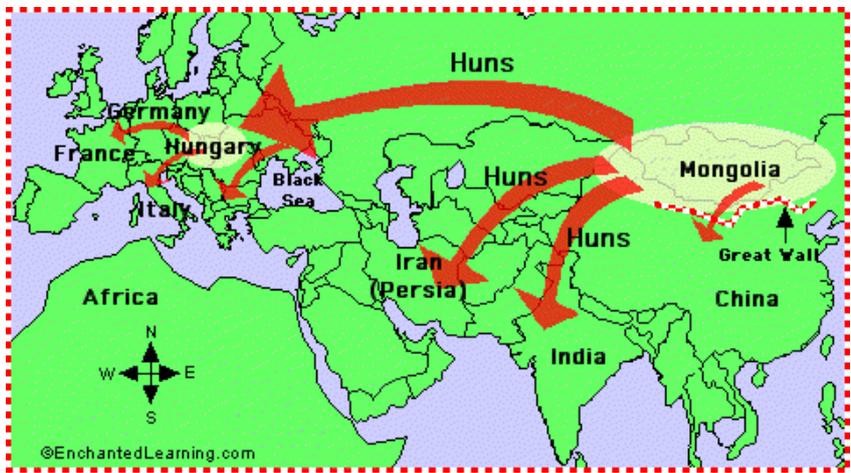
a) Gaul:	d) Iberian Peninsula:
b) Italy:	e) Northern Africa:
c) England:	

c) The Huns

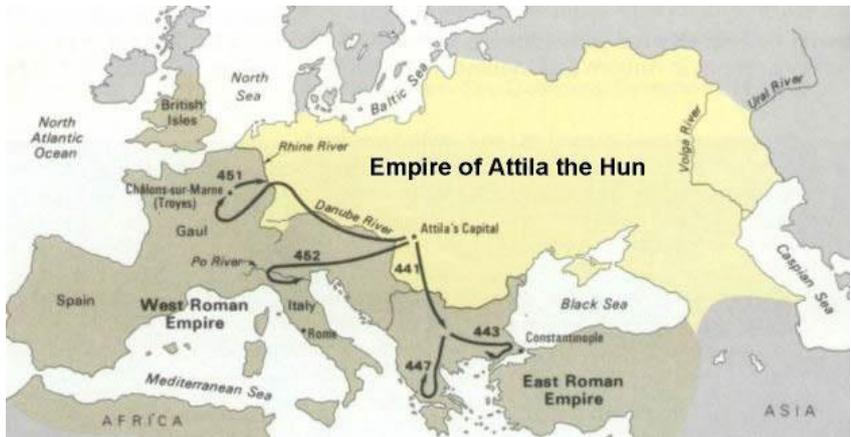
The Huns were a group of nomadic herdsman, warlike people from the steppes of North Central Asia north of China (Mongolia) who terrorized and destroyed much of Asia and Europe.

The Chinese successfully defended themselves against the Huns, but the people of India and Persia were invaded by separate hordes of Hunnish warriors attacking on horseback. In the fourth century the Huns entered eastern and central Europe. Attila the Hun (born about 406 - died 453) was the most successful king of the Huns. Under his rule the Huns united and extended their territory greatly, reaching ever deeper into Europe. After Attila's death, the Hunnish empire soon broke apart.

3) Read the text and complete the sentences next to the pictures.



i)
 The Huns originated in Central _____ and appeared in Europe in the _____ century.



ii)
 _____ united the Huns in the _____ century.

d) Visigoths and Ostrogoths

The Gothic tribes (Visigoths and Ostrogoths) had settled along the shores of the lower Danube and the Black Sea. At the end of the fourth century the Huns of central Asia invaded this region and pushed its inhabitants westward. As a result of this migration movement Germanic peoples gained control of most areas of the former Western Roman Empire.

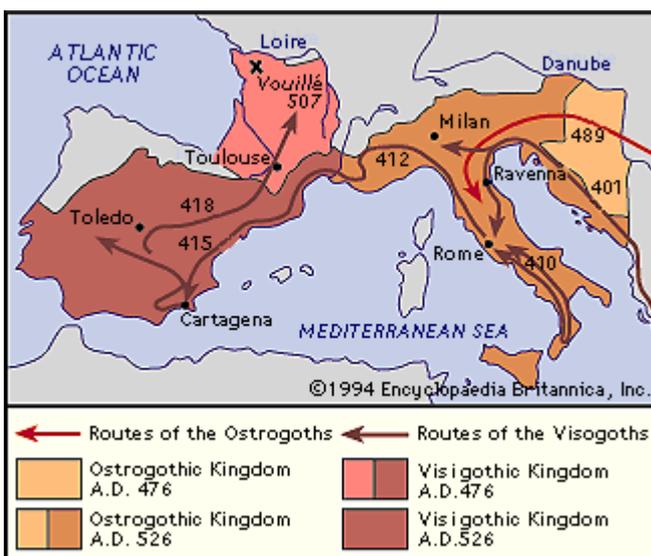
The first to formally enter Roman territory were the Visigoths. At first, the Romans tolerated them on condition that they defend the Danube frontier. Eventually, the Visigoths invaded Italy, sacked Rome in 410 and established a kingdom for themselves within the collapsing Roman Empire. They took over most of south-western France (Aquitaine) and when the Vandals left Spain for Africa the Visigoths began to take over Spain as well.

The Visigoths were followed into Roman territory by the Ostrogoths, the second of the two chief tribes of the Goths. In the late 5th century the leader of the Ostrogoths, Theodoric the Great, became the second barbarian ruler in Italy after the fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476. He established the Ostrogothic kingdom in Italy.

4) Read the text and answer these questions.

- i) Why did the Goths leave the area around the Black Sea?
- ii) What was the result of the migration of the Goths?
- iii) Why did the Romans accept the Visigoths?
- iv) Who was the first barbarian ruler in Italy?

5) Complete the sentences below the illustrations with the correct words.



i) Migrations and kingdoms of the _____ in the 5th and 6th centuries AD.

ii) _____ the Great founder of the Ostrogothic Kingdom in Italy.

