

Name _____

Eurasian History Homework: The Roman Republic and The United States **Due:**

Directions: Read Chapter VI, Section I of *World History* (pages 155-157) and answer the questions below.

Rationale: The focus of the Greece unit was basic political systems. As a transition to our study of Rome (in which we will focus on Rome's use of coercive physical power/its military), we will look at the political/legal structure of the Roman Republic and seek to understand its influence on the structure of the U.S. government.

1. How, when and why did the Romans establish the Republic?

2. What is a Republic and how does it differ from a Direct Democracy?

3. How did class affect political power in the Roman Republic? (focus on the *patricians* and the *plebeians*)

4. When and why were the Twelve Tables written? What important principle did they establish?

5. How could one argue (as early Roman writers did) that the system of the Roman Republic had the best features of a monarchy, aristocracy, and democracy?

6. Consider the chart on the top of page 157. It clearly shows the ways in which three branches of government were established by the Romans. In this system, the legislative branch writes laws, the executive branch enforces the laws, and the judicial branch interprets and judges based on the established laws. The system that the Romans developed had many similarities to how the U.S. government operates (in principle). There are also many differences. Using the Venn diagram below, highlight the differences and similarities in the systems.

