

HUI216, Final exam — May 18, 2009

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READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS! DO NOT OPEN THE EXAM UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO!

Please make sure that your beeper and/or cell phone are turned off and stored away, out of sight. This applies also to iPods, PDAs, and all portable electronic devices.

Fill in your NAME and IDENTIFICATION NUMBER on the scantron form before starting.

There are 40 multiple-choice questions and 4 essay questions in this exam: the multiple-choice questions are worth 2 points each (no partial credit), the essay questions are worth 7 points each (partial credit is available; recommended length 100-200 words).

Multiple-choice answers must be filled in on the scantron form with a black #2 pencil. Short-answer questions must be written on the exam, with a pen.

Scantron forms and exams will be collected together.

You have two hours to finish the exam.

You are not allowed to ask any questions during the exam.

If you need assistance (for example, if your pen stops working or you don't have a pencil), raise your hand.

You cannot leave the room until you are finished and have handed in the exam.

When you are ready to hand in the exam, get up and form a line on the right side of the classroom.

Please have your ID card ready.

If there are 10-12 people already waiting in line, please remain seated until the line gets shorter.

Remember that once you get up to hand in the exam, you cannot go back to your seat and you cannot write anything on your exam or the scantron form.

Please leave the room quietly, trying not to disturb those who are still working on the exam.

1. The emperor Constantine (305-337 AD) is one of the most famous in Roman history. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 11.2 The fall of the Roman Empire: Constantine (***)]:

- A. Constantine moved the capital of the Roman Empire from Rome to Milan, in northern Italy, to be closer to the borders of the Empire in central and eastern Europe, areas strategically important and economically more vital
- B. An official historical document from the age of the Roman Empire, which survived through the Middle Ages, proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that Constantine donated the city of Rome to the Pope and to the Church. He did so to show gratitude, and out of respect for the religion he himself had converted to
- C. With the edict of Milan Constantine guaranteed freedom of religion to the Christians. Constantine himself, according to tradition, converted to Christianity, either out of a sincere personal desire, or for political reasons
- D. Constantine moved the capital of the Roman Empire from Italy to Alexandria, in the Middle East, to bring the administrative and military apparatus closer to those areas that had become culturally and spiritually important, Israel and Egypt

2. The book written by Edward Luttwak, *The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire*, looks back to the experience of the ancient Romans to find examples that could be useful for modern-day strategists. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 9.1, The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire (***)]:

- A. Roman weapons were universally more advanced than those used by their enemies
- B. Roman tactics were almost invariably superior, and the typical Roman soldier was a warrior intent on proving his courage, initiative and extraordinary heroism
- C. The endurance of the Roman Empire depended solely on a fortunate succession of great generals and a multitude of competent soldiers
- D. The principal goal of the Romans was to provide security for their civilization without constraining the vitality of its economic base, and without compromising the stability of the political order

3. The pages written by Tacitus about the life of Emperor Nero helped establish the legend of an extraordinarily corrupt Roman Empire. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topics 10.5 Tacitus and Nero (***)]:

- A. The mechanism of succession from one emperor to the next was not clearly regulated in ancient Rome. This lack of fixed rules allowed Nero and his mother to act quickly and win the throne
- B. All of these statements are correct
- C. Nero was acclaimed emperor in front of a small military unit, which was guarding the imperial palace. The Roman Senate followed "the voice of the soldiers,"

without asking why former Emperor Claudius's will was not publicly read (it may have mentioned his son Britannicus, who was the legitimate heir to the throne)

D. When Nero became emperor, he was just a teenager. During the first years of reign he was assisted by Seneca, a great philosopher from Spain, and Burrus, a man with extensive experience in the military

4. The fall of the Roman Empire cannot be explained citing just one event or a single problem. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 11.2 The fall of the Roman Empire (***)]:

- A. It has been demonstrated that ancient Romans suffered from lead poisoning caused by the plates and pots that they used: this contributed significantly to the demise of their political system
- B. The Roman Empire collapsed, because the Romans suffered from serious political problems at the same time that they were facing an economic crisis and had to maintain a large army and long defense lines
- C. Towards the end of the Roman Empire, the growing number of Christians made it difficult for the Roman government to find good soldiers, willing to fight aggressively enough
- D. The rapid spread of malaria throughout the territories controlled by Rome became a decisive factor in the collapse of the Roman Empire

5. When we look at the excerpts from Tacitus, about the mutiny of the Roman legions and about the lives and crimes of the members of one of the most famous Roman imperial families, should we believe everything we read? Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topics 10.4-10.5 Tacitus narrates a mutiny of the Roman legions. Tacitus and Nero (***)]:

- A. All of these statements are correct
- B. Maybe. When it comes to the Roman sources regarding the time of the first Emperors, including the remaining documents pertaining to the administration of the Empire and the laws passed during that period, one cannot overlook the uniformity and consistency found in the accounts of Tacitus and other historians
- C. No. The myth of an extraordinarily corrupt Roman Empire, plagued by all kinds of immoral behaviors, especially in reference to the first century of the common era, is mostly an exaggeration, conjured up by an elite of conservative, nostalgic historians who had a virtual monopoly in the field of historiography
- D. Yes. Classical historians were not too different from their modern counterparts: they usually took into consideration many social and economic phenomena, and trends that involved the whole society, rather than focus almost exclusively on single individuals (heroes or villains), and on the direct consequences of their actions

6. Identify the correct statement from among the

following, regarding St. Augustine [see Topics 13.2 St. Augustine and the virtues of the ancient Romans (***)]:

A. St. Augustine believed that the values of Greco-Roman civilization were, for the most part, radically different from the principles of Christianity, and therefore incompatible with it

B. All of these statements are correct

C. St. Augustine agreed with those who saw in the sack of Rome a sign of the weakness of the new God accepted by the Romans, a God who seemed unable or unwilling to protect the city of Rome and its inhabitants

D. The City of God was written in the years following the sack of Rome by the Visigoths. In it, St. Augustine tried to provide a systematic re-examination of Roman history, suggesting that God supported the development of the Roman Empire (under which Jesus was to be born)

7. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the rape of the Sabine women [see Topic 4.6 Aeneas and the foundational myths of the Romans (***)]:

A. It happened because Aeneas, coming back from the Trojan War, found his wife (the famous Queen Dido) dead

B. Romulus and his gang, in order to complete the process of the foundation of the new city, Rome, needed women: the narrative justifies their use of force and deceit

C. The rape of the Sabine women is one of the foundational myths that the Romans took from Greek culture

D. The ancient Romans did not believe in political diplomacy but only in war and the use of brutal force. Therefore this episode was an indication of their unmitigated aggressive attitude

8. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding Italy during the period following the foundation of Rome [see Topics 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5 Italy 1000 BC-400 BC, the Etruscans, the Indo-Europeans, the Greeks (**/**)]:

A. Under the Roman government, Italy was united for a very long time, since the time the Republic was established in Rome

B. The Latins (later known as Romans, after the foundation of the city of Rome) and the Greeks originally were Indo-Europeans. The Latins and other Indo-European tribes arrived in Italy in several waves, coming from the East and from the North

C. Greeks living in Italy were responsible for introducing only a very small number of words in Latin, which later got into Italian and other languages: e.g. "person" (Italian persona) comes from a Greek word indicating the mask worn by theatrical performers

D. With the example of their legal system, the Etruscans contributed to the creation of the first Roman laws, the Laws of the 12 tables. According to Roman sources, a

committee of legal experts was sent to Piedmont to study their model of justice

9. Identify the statement that correctly lists the most important contributions of the ancient Greek civilization to Roman society [see Topic 4.5 Early Italy: the Greeks and Roman civilization (***)]:

A. City planning, commerce, the arch. Religious practices, such as the art of predicting the future through the observation of the guts of sacrificed animals, and of natural phenomena, mostly having to do with the sky (for ex., the flight of birds)

B. Farming and the language of agriculture, the wheel, horse riding, hunting

C. All of these statements are correct

D. The alphabet, elements of religion (including numerous myths and the names of many divinities), literature and music, the arts and theater

10. In the years 70-73 AD, when a few hundred Jewish rebels occupied a hill in the Israeli desert, in a place called Masada, of no particular strategic value, how did the Romans respond to the crisis? Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 9.1, The Grand Strategy of the Roman Empire (***)]:

A. The Romans guarded the place with a small garrison and simply waited for the eventual surrender of the occupants

B. An entire legion was deployed around Masada for 3 years. Roman troops even built a ramp to have better access to the hill. Jewish historian Josephus was commissioned to write a book about the events, to deter others from rebelling against the Romans

C. The Roman government took no immediate action, relying solely on diplomacy and propaganda to resolve the crisis and deal with its short-term negative effects

D. Roman soldiers immediately attacked Masada through its steep paths, and conquered it suffering considerable casualties. Those losses were considered acceptable in the culture of the Roman military

11. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the characteristics of the ancient Romans [see Topic 4.6 Eclecticism of the ancient Romans (***)]:

A. The Romans borrowed from other cultures, which facilitated the assimilation of the subjects through an exchange of customs and ideas

B. The Romans tolerated other cultures, provided they were not radically different. They feared and at times persecuted Jews and Christians, who despised polytheism and could not easily accept some of the social customs and the political/religious rituals of the Romans

C. The Romans established a unified economy, where trades were supervised by Rome's central administration, and supported by creating and maintaining a network of

roads, ports and shipyards, storage facilities, military strongholds, defense lines

D. All of these statements are correct

12. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the complex history of Italian civilization [see Topics 1.1-1.4 Multiple identities in Italian civilization (**/***)]:

- A. In various areas of Italy the political institutions, the official language, the economic policies and even the school systems have been different for a very long time
- B. Different areas of Italy today have different cultures and sometimes different languages because their histories were different, even though their destinies were affected by the same crucial events at one point or another
- C. When we talk about the South and the North of Italy as well-defined entities we are really making a very broad generalization: if one considers the regions in the North of Italy, for example, only the politically motivated propaganda of today's Northern league party can rightfully claim that all the regions in the Po valley have a common identity and share common traditions
- D. All of these statements are correct

13. "La parola Italia" ("The Word Italy") was the title of a conference held in Florence in February of 2001, which focused on issues of national identity [see Topic 1.3 "La parola Italia" (***)]. Identify the correct statement from among the following:

- A. As former premier Giuliano Amato said at the conference, ideals such as State and Nation have finally acquired prestige in Italy today, thanks to the efforts of Italian politicians and their parties
- B. All of these statements are correct
- C. Patriotism and nationalism in Italy were weakened by the events of 1943-45, when Italian fascists who continued the war on the side of the Germans exploited those values for their propaganda
- D. Italians of today have acquired a strong national identity, and therefore they do not support the idea of a stronger European Union

14. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the Italian language, its history and its internal components [see Topic 1.9 National Italian identity and the issue of language (***)]:

- A. All of these statements are correct
- B. The standard Italian of today is based on the literary Tuscan language of the past, on the dialect spoken by middle-class educated inhabitants of a small area in northern Tuscany, and on the lexicon of other areas of Italy
- C. The ancient language of the Italian literary masters (Dante, Boccaccio, etc.) was imposed to all Italians, because it was extremely rich and varied, and yet very easy to use, even for those who did not have a university

degree

D. At the time of the unification of Italy, the dialect of Florence was proclaimed the new national language. Italian also borrowed words, rules and expressions from the literature of the period known as Baroque, between the Renaissance and the Enlightenment

15. To 19th-century British writer Maurice Hewlett, and to some of his fellow travel writers, political decadence and the Darwinian laws of natural extinction established the premise for exotic explorations of Tuscany [see Topic 3.2 Maurice Hewlett and Tuscany (***)]; see also a required reading: "Maurice Hewlett, and local identities, cultures in Tuscany" (**)]. Identify the correct statement from among the following:

- A. Anglo-American travel writers from the late 1800s and the early 1900s often believed that, given the uniform history of most Tuscan towns, their medieval origins as independent city-states, their long-lasting feud, the alleged lack of industrial development, the limited social mobility, Tuscany was the perfect 'laboratory' to rediscover what life was like in a pre-modern civilization.
- B. All of these statements are correct
- C. British traveler/writer Maurice Hewlett loved Italy, and especially Tuscany. What makes Hewlett different from other authors is that he firmly believed that the people living in various parts of Tuscany shared the same culture and belonged to the same ethnic group
- D. As James Buzard has noted in his book, *The Beaten Track. European Tourism, Literature, and the Ways to Culture*, 19th-century chronicles of travels to Italy were fairly accurate, often including "everyday features of the visited place, such as the gradual improvements in standard of living, the mundane political struggles, the ordinary commerce"

16. According to the 2001 national census, there are approximately 57 million people living in Italy [see Topic 2.2 The 2001 national census (***)]. Identify the correct statement from among the following:

- A. Most of the Italian population lives in cities with more than 1,000,000 residents: the urban culture that has developed in those large metropolitan areas has been a strong unifying factor in Italian history
- B. Almost half of the Italian population lives in towns with less than 20,000 residents: this fact can explain the strength and vitality of the many different local cultures
- C. A significant number of cities in Italy (more than 3) have more than five million people: even after the fall of the Roman Empire, the city of Rome has remained the main center of Italy's political and cultural life
- D. All of these statements are correct

17. Pre-Roman and Roman Italy was inhabited by various ethnic groups and saw the development of various cultures and civilizations. Identify the correct statement

from among the following [see Topics 4.5, 4.8 The ancient Greeks and Roman civilization. The Griko dialect and the Italian Greeks (*/***)]:

A. The foundation of the city of Rome was universally attributed by Roman traditions to a man called Hannibal. He was a Carthaginian hero celebrated in the Greek epic poem entitled the *Iliad*

B. All of these statements are correct

C. In areas of northern Italy, especially in Veneto and Lombardy, there are today communities still speaking a dialect called Griko or Griko, which derives from the Greek language. Those Greek-speaking Italians are the direct descendants of the original Greeks from classical antiquity

D. Magna Graecia [=Great Greece] for a long time has been the name used to identify southern Italy, because of the number of Greek colonies that were established there during antiquity (Naples, Syracuse, etc.)

18. Identify the statement that correctly lists the ethnic groups and civilizations that were present in Italy during the earliest stages of Roman civilization [see Topics 4.1 Italy from 1000 BC to 400 BC (***)]:

A. Patricians, plebeians, slaves, soldiers, foreigners

B. Huns, Visigoths, Goths, Vandals, Germanics

C. Romans, Greeks, Etruscans, Gauls, Carthaginians

D. Tuscans, Slovenes, Albanians, Catalans, Franks

19. As Garry Wills pointed out in his 1997 article published by *The New York Times*, "The canon -- that body of Western thought and art that is supposed to be at the core of all our education -- is succumbing to attack or neglect, is opposed as repressive or dismissed as irrelevant." Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 5.5 "There's Nothing Conservative About the Classics' Revival," by Garry Wills (*NYT*, 1997) (***)]:

A. For many intellectuals of the Renaissance, the classics were tools, even weapons, that belonged to the medieval order and to the Church: therefore they could not be used to promote effectively the new ideas of Renaissance culture

B. An important element in the revival of the classics is an emphasis on multiculturalism. For example, Virgil's *Aeneid* consciously weaves different cultures into the foundation of Rome: the Greeks who brought their culture to Latium, the Latins and Sabines already there, the Etruscans -- all are presented as formative elements in the future Rome

C. All of these statements are correct

D. The much-hyped multiculturalism of postmodern culture represents an insurmountable challenge to the revival of the classics, precisely when scholars are trying to reclaim their validity. Whenever there was a resurgence of interest in the classics, in the past, it was only because the classics were presented in an objective, detached way

20. When we look at the excerpts from Tacitus, about the mutiny of the Roman legions and about the lives and crimes of the members of one of the most famous Roman imperial families, should we believe everything we read? Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topics 10.4-10.5 Tacitus narrates a mutiny of the Roman legions. Tacitus and Nero (***)]:

A. All of these statements are correct

B. Maybe. When it comes to the Roman sources regarding the time of the first Emperors, including the remaining documents pertaining to the administration of the Empire and the laws passed during that period, one cannot overlook the uniformity and consistency found in the accounts of Tacitus and other historians

C. No. The myth of an extraordinarily corrupt Roman Empire, plagued by all kinds of immoral behaviors, especially in reference to the first century of the common era, is mostly an exaggeration, conjured up by an elite of conservative, nostalgic historians who had a virtual monopoly in the field of historiography

D. Yes. Classical historians were not too different from their modern counterparts: they usually took into consideration many social and economic phenomena, and trends that involved the whole society, rather than focus almost exclusively on single individuals (heroes or villains), and on the direct consequences of their actions

21. Under the Emperor Septimius Severus (193-211 AD) the crisis of the Empire became evident. Roman society, and particularly the economy and the military, suffered from problems that became increasingly common in later years. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 11.2 The fall of the Roman Empire: Septimius Severus (***)]:

A. To compensate for the existing trade deficit, Severus reduced the number of troops in the Roman army. Public funds previously employed to maintain a large army were used instead to support the failing economy

B. To reduce the existing deficit and to boost the economy, Severus increased the amount of silver or gold contained in Roman coins. The use of coins once again replaced the barter system that had been established in several areas of the Empire

C. In spite of frequent attacks by Germans, in central and eastern Europe, and by Parthians (Persians) in the Middle East, under Severus the Roman empire continued to expand, and did so for a long time after the second century. Those conquests supported the continued expansion of the economy

D. Under Severus, inflation increased significantly, and reached the level of hyperinflation. Trade deficit and a shortage of silver and gold made the economic situation worse

22. We don't really need eccentric theories to explain the end of the Roman Empire, because we have sufficient

knowledge of the variety of problems that affected Roman society and its economy towards the end. For example, the Emperor Diocletian came up with controversial solutions for some of the Empire's most serious problems. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 11.2 The fall of the Roman Empire: Diocletian (***)]:

- A. To maintain social unity, Diocletian put an end to the practice of enlisting barbarians recruits, especially Germans, in the Roman army
- B. Diocletian's reforms produced a significant, long-term growth in the Roman economy. Social mobility increased to the point that it became necessary to create new laws to limit the power of the plebeians
- C. To put an end to the political clashes between the Emperor and the senators, the Roman Senate got back most of the power that it had lost at the end of the Republic
- D. To stop inflation, Diocletian introduced fixed wages/prices, and heavier taxes. In so doing, he produced economic stagnation and a disheartening loss of social mobility. A black market economy and other forms of social disorganization followed

23. Identify the correct statement regarding the process of political unification in Italy [see Topics 3.2-3.5 Chronology and overview of Italian civilization (**/***)]:

- A. In 1861, when the Italian kingdom was first created, under the Savoy dynasty, it was given a federal structure, because of the diverse history of the various Italian regions
- B. Italy, as a national State, is much older than the United States of America. Unity has never been a pressing issue in modern Italian history
- C. During most of their history, from the end of the Roman Empire to the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, Italians have lived united under one government
- D. For most of its history, after the fall of the Roman Empire, Italy has been fragmented politically

24. During the last 15-20 years, the population growth rate in Italy has been negative or close to zero. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the reasons behind the declining birth rate in Italian society [see Topic 2.1 Statistics and data about contemporary Italy (***)]:

- A. After the economic boom of the early 1960s, the Italian economy has been on a steady decline, and the impoverished Italian families have compensated by reducing the number of children
- B. After so many young Italians left their country to emigrate abroad, during the first half of the 20th-century, Italy was left with an increasingly ageing population
- C. Public support per child in Italy (with reference to direct funding and to services offered to the families) is

one of the lowest in the European Union; other countries with limited public support (for example, Spain) also have low birth rates

D. All of these statements are correct

25. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the physical characteristics of the Italian peninsula, and how they affected Italian history and the evolution of Italian civilization [see Topic 1.5 Geography (***)]:

- A. The Italian territory is quite rich in natural resources and has a fertile soil: during much of Italy's history (for example, during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance), agriculture was the driving force in the economy
- B. The climate, in almost all of Italy, is usually much colder than in New York State: the harsh climate of the mountainous areas slowed down the development of a national economy
- C. Only a very small portion of the Italian peninsula (approximately 1/4 or 25%) is covered by mountains
- D. Being close to northern Africa, western and central Europe, Italy's commercial economy prospered during much of its long history: one of the most important activities during the past has been the import of various goods from the Middle East

26. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the history of Italy during the Renaissance [see Topic 3.3 Humanism and the Renaissance (1375-1550): political events (***)]:

- A. During the Renaissance, after a long series of costly wars, the South of Italy and a small portion of Southern Tuscany fell under the influence of the Arabs, while small portions of the Northeast and of the Northwest went back to the Byzantine Empire
- B. All of these statements are correct
- C. In the 16th century, after the Italian states submitted directly or indirectly to the political influence of foreign powers, the chances of seeing the creation of a modern unified nation in the Italian peninsula were greatly increased, because foreign occupation immediately produced popular insurrections and revolts
- D. Between 1494 and 1559 France, Germany, Spain and several of the Italian states fought constantly. In the end Spain emerged victorious, acquiring control over the South of Italy, strategic areas of Tuscany, and Lombardy

27. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding slavery in ancient Rome [see Topic 6.4 Slavery in Roman society (***)]:

- A. Roman writer Varro, in a book on agriculture divides the instruments of agriculture into three classes: the articulate, comprising the slaves, the inarticulate, comprising the cattle, and the mute, comprising the vehicles
- B. All of these statements are correct

C. The fact that a number of slaves were emancipated and integrated into Roman society is atypical in the context of ancient civilizations. During the age of the Roman Empire, in a period of wild capitalism, there is anecdotal evidence that more than a few *liberti* (freedmen) became very wealthy

D. In Roman society, slaves were usually prisoners of war (not just soldiers of a defeated army, but also civilians captured and deported). Slave breeding was common, and exposure of infants, trade, kidnapping and piracy were all significant sources of slaves

28. Many elements of Roman civilization have survived. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 5.2 The relevance of Roman civilization (what remains) (**)]:

A. The modern Neo-Latin languages (such as Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, etc.) derive from ancient Latin

B. We still have a large number of Latin documents and texts: for a long time they were lost or forgotten, and almost all of them have been found in the course of modern archaeological excavations

C. The Catholic Church and the Italian governments stopped using Latin right after the fall of the Roman Empire. However, the Latin language was reintroduced in Italian society and culture by 15th-century humanists

D. No Roman city, unfortunately, has survived in its pristine form

29. Do you remember the story and the characters in the 2002 Italian novel entitled *The Last Legion*? Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 11.3 *The Last Legion*, by Valerio Massimo Manfredi (**)]:

A. *The Last Legion* is the story of Aurelius, a Roman veteran from an elite military unit, who rescues young Romulus, the last Roman Emperor who was deposed by barbarian leader Odoacer

B. *The Last Legion* is the story of Spartacus, a soldier who becomes a gladiator and fights in the arena with the last Roman Emperor

C. *The Last Legion* is the story of Attilius, an aqueduct engineer who dies in Pompeii, during the famous eruption of the Vesuvius volcano

D. *The Last Legion* is the story of Nero and his mother, Agrippina: it describes how they conspired to kill the Emperor Claudius and his son Britannicus

30. Roman historian Tacitus wrote a valuable account of one of the first persecutions of the Christians, which happened in Rome in 64 AD. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 12.4 The Romans, the Jews, the Christians (**)]:

A. Tacitus, narrating about the great fire of 64 AD and the persecution of the Christians, shows a deep appreciation

of Judea (Israel) and of its diverse cultures

B. Christians initially were held responsible for the fire that destroyed half of the city of Rome, but in the end, according to Tacitus, they were convicted for the crime of "hatred against mankind"

C. The Emperor Nero, well known for his moderation and clemency, was reluctant to use torture or capital punishment against the Christians

D. Evidence shows beyond any doubt that the Christians of Rome were indeed responsible for the fire that destroyed half of the city

31. Pliny's report to the emperor Trajan is a good indication of the attitude of the Romans towards the Christians, and provides one of the oldest non-Christian descriptions of the Mass and the celebration of the Eucharist. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 12.4 The Romans, the Jews, the Christians (**)]:

A. Pliny was willing to release those Christians who recanted, recited in front of him an invocation of the pagan gods, and made offerings of wine and incense to the emperor's statue

B. Pliny, like many other Romans, admired the Christians for their "stubbornness and unshakeable obstinacy", which to him was a sign of their strength of character

C. Roman citizens who were accused of being Christians suffered the same fate of those who were not citizens, endured the same harsh treatment

D. Pliny's detailed report and the etymology of the word "pagan" confirm that Christian religion spread first to the countryside and then to the cities

32. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the ancient Romans and religion [see Topics 12.2 The ancient Romans and religion (**)]:

A. Individuals in Roman society would routinely sacrifice small animals in the temples, to thank the gods for their protection or in exchange for big and small favors

B. Ethics and ethical behaviors in Roman society were mostly supported by religious practices and rules; conformity to established social practices and the justice system had a much more limited influence on the moral choices made by the individuals

C. The Romans in general were eclectic and superstitious, but only rarely accepted and recognized gods from other religions

D. Individuals in Roman society, beside using apotropaic formulae and gestures, prayed often and intensely during their daily lives

33. The Roman poet Lucretius was one of the Latin poets who had a great influence on Western culture and literature. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 12.1 Lucretius: *On the Nature of Things*. Atomism. Epicurus (**)]:

- A. Involvement in politics, generally, was considered to be a wise behavior by followers of Epicurus such as Lucretius. They praised citizens who sacrificed themselves for the well-being of society
- B. Lucretius's long poem, *On the Nature of Things*, was written mainly to entertain the reader with examples of aesthetically beautiful literature; it was not really a didactic poem, composed to teach about nature and the universe
- C. Lucretius thought that the "pagan" gods existed and lived in outer space, between the planets. He also thought that they deeply cared about the humans, punishing bad behavior and rewarding good deeds, in life as well as after death
- D. Lucretius believed that everything in nature is the result of the combination of atoms and void. He believed that our five senses function thanks to the stimulation produced by atoms coming in contact with them

34. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding today's Italians and their attitudes towards the key national symbols [see Topics 1.7-1.8 The Italian anthem, the flag and the coat of arms of the Italian Republic (**)]:

- A. The official emblem of the Italian Republic includes a white cross prominently displayed, a visual reference to the relevance of Christian religion in the Italian heritage
- B. In a 2003 song entitled "Io non mi sento italiano" (I don't feel Italian), singer Giorgio Gaber complains that the Italian national anthem brings to mind the fanaticism of the fascists
- C. The Italian national anthem is a chorus from Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Nabucco*, in which the Jews enslaved in Babylon sing about their lost homeland
- D. The Italian flag was modeled after the French flag, considered by many the quintessential symbol of democracy: it has the same colors, red, blue and white, which are also connected to the city of Naples

35. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding foreign immigration to Italy in recent years [see Topic 2.3 Immigration (*)]:

- A. The number of foreign-born residents living in Italy has remained constant during the last 15 years
- B. The number of foreign-born residents living in Italy has grown significantly during the last 15 years
- C. The number of foreign-born residents living in Italy is much larger than in the rest of the European Union
- D. The number of foreign-born residents living in Italy has decreased significantly during the last 15 years

36. St. Ambrose, a Roman citizen born in France, shaped the format and the formulae of many Catholic rituals. Ambrose, together with Augustine and other Doctors of the Church, introduced and popularized the allegorical interpretation of the Bible and of Christian life. Identify

the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 13.1 St. Augustine, St. Ambrose and the allegorical interpretation of the Bible, of faith and life (*)]:

- A. All of these statements are correct
- B. The allegorical interpretation was based on the assumption that the Bible was directed by God to the Church in general, not just to a single group in a specific place, or to a community that lived only during a certain time
- C. During this time, both the Bible and human life were seen as having multiple layers of signification: through the Bible and through all events God is communicating with each individual
- D. An example of the allegorical interpretation of the Old Testament is the episode of the prophet Jonah in the belly of the whale: the allegory does not take away from the reality of Jonah's experience, and yet at the same time that story was read also as a prophecy of Jesus's death and resurrection

37. During the third and second century BC, Rome faced the Carthaginians during the three Punic wars. Identify the correct statement among the following [see Topic 7.1 The three Punic Wars; Hannibal in Italian culture (**)]:

- A. At the end of the second Punic war, Carthaginian general Hannibal crossed the river Tiber with his soldiers and entered Rome
- B. Virgil, a famous Roman commander who converted to Christianity, defeated Hannibal in Sicily
- C. Carthage, at the end of the third Punic war, became the dominant power in the Mediterranean Sea
- D. The story of Hannibal is still echoed in modern Italian culture, and Hannibal himself is the subject of many songs, including children's songs

38. Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini, also known as "il duce," and the fascist movement, during their more than 20 years of government in Italy, tried to establish a connection between the ancient Romans and the Italians of the 20th century. Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 8.1 The myth of Roman civilization in Fascist Italy (**)]:

- A. References to Roman civilization became very common in fascist Italy, inside the arts, architecture, and the language of politics
- B. The word fascism derives from the Latin "*fasces*" a bundle of rods bound together around an ax: in fascist Italy the *fasces* were used as a symbol of government and authority in coins, notes, and stamps
- C. The self-imposed title of Mussolini, "*duce*", comes from the Latin *Dux* and means leader
- D. All the statements are correct

39. The Romans always had an attitude of tolerance regarding religions. They were polytheists, meaning that they believed in many and different gods and deities.

Identify the correct statement from among the following [see Topic 12.3 Polytheism in ancient Rome (**)]:

- A. Romans were eclectic and superstitious; they would routinely accept and recognize gods from other religions.
- B. Romans had tabernacles honoring the “*Unknown God*”, and made sacrifices for all divinities that might exist but had never been revealed to them
- C. All the statements are correct
- D. Even Emperors usually became gods

40. Identify the correct statement from among the following, regarding the history of the European Union [see Topic 3.6 The European Union (**)]:

- A. Postwar treaties in Europe originated from the great

- desire of peace shared by the countries that had initiated and lost World War II (Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Great Britain, and Russia)
- B. Spain and Portugal joined the Union during the 1950s, long before the restoration of democracy in those countries and the demise of their fascist regimes
- C. In spite of increased cooperation in areas such as the economy, defense and foreign politics, Western Europe during the last 60 years has had a considerable number of small military conflicts
- D. Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands signed the first economic treaties that marked the beginning of the European Union

41. Discuss the preservation and the revival of medieval culture in Italy.

42. Discuss the portrayal of Roman civilization in 20th-century movies.

43. Discuss the contents and the theme of the narration of the murder of Agrippina in Tacitus.

44. Discuss the issue of dual or plural identities/cultures in Italian civilization.
