**The Early Roman Republic: Patricians and Plebeians**:

In the early republic, different groups of Romans struggled for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. One group was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the aristocratic landowners who held most of the power. The other important group was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the common farmers, artisans, and merchants who made up the majority of the population. The patricians \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their power and social status. They claimed that their ancestry gave them the authority to make \_\_\_\_\_\_ for Rome and its people.

The plebeians were citizens of Rome with the right to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They, however, were barred by law from holding most important government positions. In time, the Senate allowed them to form their own assembly and elect representatives called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Tribunes protected the rights of the plebeians from unfair acts of patrician officials. Eventually, plebeian pressure on the patricians gained them additional political \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Government under the Republic:**

In the first century B.C.E., Roman writers boasted that Rome had achieved a balanced \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What they meant was that their government had taken the best features of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (government by a king), an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (government by the nobility), and a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (government by the people).

1. In place of a king, Rome had two officials called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Like kings, they commanded the \_\_\_\_\_\_ and directed the government. However, their power was limited. First, a consul’s term was only one year long. The same person could not be elected consul again for ten years. Second, one consul could always overrule, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the other’s decision.

2. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the aristocratic branch of Rome’s government. It had both legislative and administrative functions in the republic. By tradition, there were 300 members, chosen from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ class of Roman society. Later, plebeians were allowed in the senate. Because membership was \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_, the senate provided continuity. It also exercised enormous influence over both foreign and domestic policy.

3. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were the more democratic side of the government. All citizen-soldiers were members of the *Centuriate Assembly*. An assembly organized by the plebeians, the Tribal Assembly, elected the tribunes and made laws for the common people. Later, it won the right to make laws for the republic.

In times of crisis, the republic could appoint a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—a leader who had absolute power to make laws and command the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A dictator’s power lasted for only six months. Dictators were chosen by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and then elected by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Roman Citizenship:**

In the time of the Republic, the rights of citizenship could be acquired by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, by naturalization [by petitioning for citizenship of foreign-born], or for a slave, by being freed by his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Children of a legal marriage enjoyed these rights. Before 445 B.C.E., a legal marriage could be entered into by patricians only, but in that year it was given to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ also. The formal announcement of a slave’s freedom by his master made him a citizen. The slaves of a Latin acquired the rights of citizenship when he was adopted by a Roman citizen. [Latins were members of one of the tribes on the peninsula of Italy].

Those who received an honorable discharge after having served 25 years in the auxiliary force, or 26 years in the navy, became Roman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The conditions on which citizenship was granted to individuals or particular communities cannot be so exactly stated. Personal favor, or political considerations, or a desire to reward those who had rendered a noteworthy service to the community were usually the deciding factors in these cases. The greatest addition to the number of citizens, however, came by way of freeing the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

All Roman citizens, except freedmen, had the full employment of the traditional rights of commerce, marriage, the right of appeal, the right to due process of law; the right to vote, and the right to hold office. The two principal obligations resting on Roman citizens were the payment of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and service in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Roman citizens in Italy paid no direct taxes. Those in the provinces were subject to two taxes. The exemption of Roman citizens in Italy was the peculiar privilege going with the Italic Rights. Military service was incumbent on [necessary for] every freeman but, since a sufficient number of soldiers were usually to be had by voluntary enlistment, it was rarely necessary to resort to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The Roman Republic was based on a balance of interests. In the chart below, based on the information above, fill out the correct information for the three levels of government:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Monarchical** | **Aristocratic** | **Democratic** |
| *2 consuls*  *+ other magistrates* | *Senate*  (330 men) | *Assembly of Tribes*  *Tribune* |
| **What they did:**  -  -  -  - | **What they did:**  -  -  -  - | **What they did:**  -  -  -  - |
| **Basis of Power:**  -  - | **Basis of Power:**  - | **Basis of Power:**  - |
| **Limits on Power:**  -  - | **Limits on Power:**  -  - | **Limits on Power:**  -  - |