



Ancient Rome

From Republic To Empire



Disorder in the Republic

- The city of Rome was a dangerous place during the late republic (100_{BCE} – 50_{BCE})
- Politics were not working anymore – Generals were fighting for control of the city
 - Checks and Balances were no longer followed
 - There were riots and violence all over the city
- People still came to the city to live there
 - More and more confusion and violence



City of Rome



<http://www.cgexplorer.com/2009/06/07/video-digital-reconstruction-for-archaeology-ancient-rome-in-3d/>

Calls for Change



- Cicero – Roman philosopher and orator
- Cicero tried to change Rome for the better
 - Believed the Senate should be more powerful
 - Checks and Balances needed to return
- Roman generals did not listen and attempted to take more power
- The most powerful Roman general was Julius Caesar

Caesar's Rise to Power

- Caesar was a great general and a orator
 - Citizens and his soldiers loved him
- Caesar conquered most of Gaul (modern-day France)
- Caesar made an alliance with a man named Pompey so they could rule Rome together



Julius Caesar conquered Gaul and added it to the empire. This painting from the late 1800s shows a Frankish leader surrendering to Caesar by dropping his weapons at Caesar's feet.



Challenges to Caesar

- After 10 years, Pompey wanted Caesar to give up his power
- Caesar marched his army into Rome (illegal)
- Pompey ran away
 - Caesar caught him quickly
- Caesar returned to Rome and named himself dictator for life
- Four years later Caesar was killed by several aristocrats
 - March 15
 - “Et tu Brute”

Caesar's Assassination



Antony and Octavian

- Marc Antony and Octavian came to power next
 - Hunted down Caesar's assassins
- Octavian returned to Rome, Antony went to fight Rome's enemies
- Antony married Octavian's sister, Octavia
 - Divorced her 8 years later to marry Cleopatra
- Octavian was insulted and wanted to kill Antony



Octavian and Antony

- A civil war began in Rome
 - Between Antony and Octavian
- Octavian's navy fought Antony's navy at the Battle of Actium (by Greece)
 - Octavian won the battle
- Antony fled to Egypt
 - There he committed suicide with Cleopatra to avoid prison

Octavian

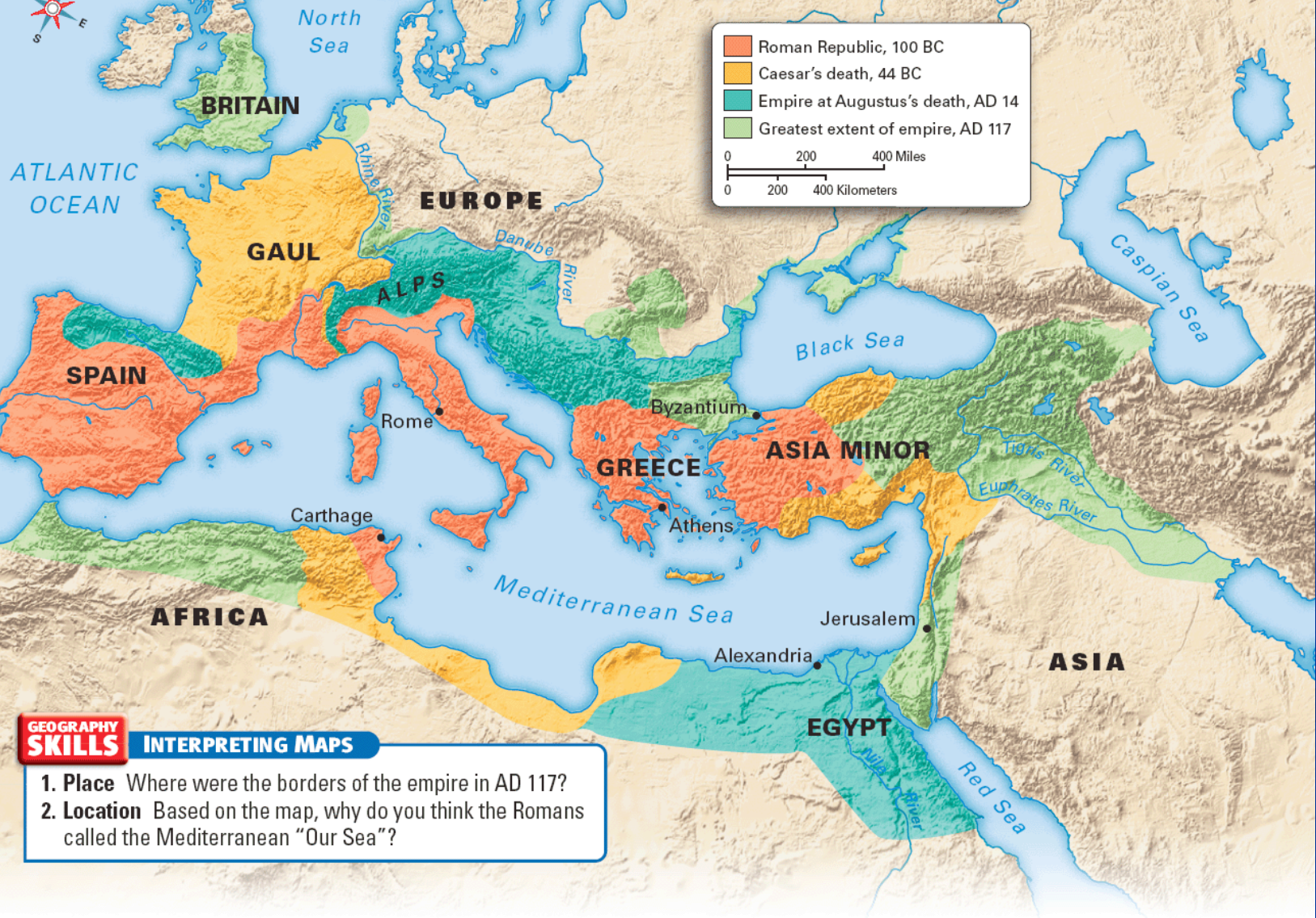


- Octavian becomes the sole ruler of Rome
- He gained more power and named himself princeps
 - Princeps = first citizen
- 27_{BCE} – Senate named Octavian “Augustus”
 - Augustus = revered one
 - This is end of Roman Republic; start of Roman Empire
- “I found Rome a city of bricks and I left it a city of marble”

Rome's Growing Empire

- Augustus and later Emperors worked to conquer more land
 - Some people conquered because they were threats to Rome
 - Some people conquered because they had resources
- 117_{CE} – Rome controlled:
 - Britain, Western Europe, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Turkey, Greece, North Africa

Expansion of Rome, 100 BC–AD 117



GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

INTERPRETING MAPS

- 1. Place** Where were the borders of the empire in AD 117?
- 2. Location** Based on the map, why do you think the Romans called the Mediterranean "Our Sea"?