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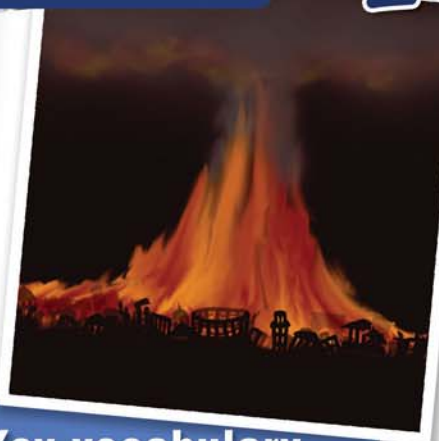
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## Unit 1

## Lesson 1

## History

## Emperor Nero



## Key vocabulary

- ▶ **government**  
the system that rules a country or state
- ▶ **intelligent**  
smart
- ▶ **mean**  
not kind
- ▶ **history**  
the story of the past
- ▶ **murder**  
to kill
- ▶ **wife**  
a married woman
- ▶ **servant**  
a slave or worker
- ▶ **greedy**  
selfish

## Pre-Reading

Look at the picture and answer the questions.

1. What is happening in this picture?
2. Do you know the name of the city in this picture?
3. What would you do if something like this happened in your hometown?

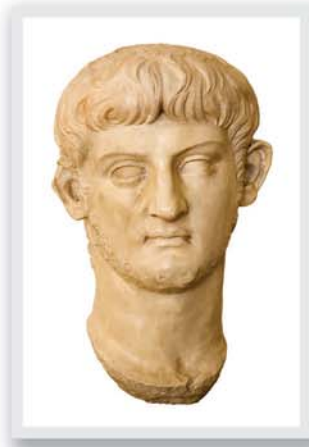


Two thousand years ago, kings called emperors ruled the city of Rome. At that time, Rome was one of the strongest cities in the world. The city's **government** ruled many other countries. Some emperors were **intelligent** and kind. Other emperors were foolish and **mean**. One of the worst emperors in **history** was Nero.

In 54 CE, Nero's mother **murdered** the old emperor, Nero's stepfather. Later, Nero became worse than his mother. He murdered his stepbrother, his stepsister (who was his first **wife**), his second wife, and even his mother, Agrippina. First, he tried to leave Agrippina in the middle of the sea. She swam safely to the beach. Then, he told his **servant** to kill her with a club.

In 64 CE, a fire started in Rome. Many buildings burned down. Nero sang songs during the fire. Later, he built a giant castle for himself where the fire had been. Nero was **greedy** and did not care about the poor people who lost their homes. Many people said that Nero started the fire. Nero lied and said that Christians started the fire.

Finally, the people of Rome wanted a new emperor. The army came to Rome to murder Nero. Nero decided to kill himself. Before he died, he cried, "What a great artist the world is losing!"



▶ Marble head of Nero (37- 68 CE)  
Roman Emperor from 54 to 68 CE

## Learning Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the key vocabulary words.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ emperor cared only about himself.
2. Nero \_\_\_\_\_ many members of his own family.
3. Nero was not \_\_\_\_\_, nor was he a kind emperor.
4. Nero was one of the worst emperors in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Nero told his \_\_\_\_\_ to kill Agrippina with a club.
6. Rome's \_\_\_\_\_ ruled many other countries thousands of years ago.
7. Nero killed both his first \_\_\_\_\_ and his second one.
8. Some emperors were kind to their people, but Nero was \_\_\_\_\_.

greedy government intelligent servant murdered history wife mean

## Understanding the Passage

A. What would be the best title for the passage?

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. The Castle of Rome | b. Why Nero Murdered People |
| c. The Worst Emperor  | d. The Government of Rome   |

B. Choose the main idea of each paragraph. One choice will NOT be used.

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. The 1 <sup>st</sup> paragraph | • a. Nero ended his own life because the army was coming to kill him.            |
| 2. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> paragraph | • b. Nero was one of the worst emperors in history.                              |
| 3. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> paragraph | • c. Nero put many members of his own family to death.                           |
| 4. The 4 <sup>th</sup> paragraph | • d. A fire destroyed a large part of Rome, and Nero built a castle for himself. |
|                                  | • e. Nero was remembered by some people for his artistic talent.                 |

### Understanding Details

Choose the best answer.

- Thousands of years ago, \_\_\_\_\_ called emperors ruled the city of Rome.
  - soldiers
  - governments
  - kings
  - presidents
- Nero tried to leave his mother in the middle of the sea; however, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - she was drowned
  - she did not die
  - she was killed
  - Nero regretted it
- Which of the following did Nero NOT do?
  - He killed his first wife.
  - He built a giant palace for himself.
  - He murdered his friends.
  - He sang while Rome burned.
- What can you guess from Nero’s final words?
  - He did not see himself as a bad ruler.
  - He felt sorry for his crimes.
  - He admitted to having burned part of Rome.
  - He felt guilty for destroying art.

### Write in Your Own Words

Answer the following questions in 1 or 2 sentences.

- At first, how did Nero try to murder his mother?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Whom did Nero blame for burning Rome?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Why do you think Nero killed himself?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Visualize the Passage: Main Ideas & Details

Authors support main ideas with supporting details. Choose the details from the box that support the following five main ideas.

Main Ideas	Supporting Details
Nero murdered many members of his own family.	1.
Nero blamed others for a major fire in Rome.	2.
Even when he died, he did not understand that he was a bad emperor.	3.
Nero’s city of Rome was one of the most powerful cities in history.	4.
Nero was a greedy ruler.	5.

- The emperor told his servant to kill his mother.
- Nero said, “What a great artist the world is losing!”
- The emperor did not like Christian people.
- Nero built a giant castle for himself after a large fire.
- The Roman government ruled many other countries.

### Summarize the Passage

Complete the summary by filling in the blanks.

○ Two thousand years ago, 1 \_\_\_\_\_ ruled the city of 2 \_\_\_\_\_. One of the 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Roman rulers was Nero. He murdered many members of his own 4 \_\_\_\_\_. He even put his own 5 \_\_\_\_\_ to death. In 64 CE, a 6 \_\_\_\_\_ burned a part of Rome. Nero built a 7 \_\_\_\_\_ for himself and said that Christians had 8 \_\_\_\_\_ the disaster. Finally, he killed himself. His last words were, “What a great artist the world is losing!”

- family    emperors    castle    worst    started    fire    mother    Rome

# Lost in Rome

## Pre-Reading

Look at the picture and answer the questions.

1. Where in the world is this building?
2. Do you know the name of this building?
3. What do you think people did in this building?



Today was really **memorable**. Our **tour group** woke up at 7:00 a.m. At breakfast, Mom and Dad were **exhausted**. I was excited, though. We were going to visit the Colosseum. Two thousand years ago, **gladiators** fought each other to the death there. Can you imagine people murdering each other for **entertainment**?

The Colosseum was full of other tour groups when we got there. I thought it was much too hot and noisy. Our tour leader, Julia, carried a big purple umbrella, so we could find her in the **crowd**.

Near the entrance to the Colosseum, there was a man selling gelato—that's the Italian word for ice cream. I ran to buy myself a **cone**. When I turned around, I didn't see Mom and Dad. Far away, though, I saw a purple umbrella. But, when I ran to the umbrella, I saw that a different tour leader was carrying it!

I felt like a scared little girl. Then, I remembered that I had a card with the hotel's name on it. I used my money to get a taxi back to the hotel. The man who works in the front of the hotel called Julia for me. Julia told my parents where I was. They were really **relieved**! Mom cried when she saw me.



## Key vocabulary

- ▶ **memorable**  
hard to forget
- ▶ **tour group**  
a group of people visiting a place together
- ▶ **exhausted**  
tired
- ▶ **gladiator**  
a Roman warrior who fought to the death
- ▶ **entertainment**  
fun and amusement
- ▶ **crowd**  
a large group of people
- ▶ **cone**  
something that you can eat ice cream out of
- ▶ **relieved**  
free from pain or worry



## Learning Vocabulary

Match each of the vocabulary words with the correct definition.

Vocabulary Word	Definition
1. memorable	a. a type of amusement
2. tour group	b. an ice cream holder
3. exhausted	c. less worried
4. gladiators	d. not easy to forget
5. entertainment	e. visitors to a location
6. crowd	f. needing rest
7. cone	g. a large group of people
8. relieved	h. Roman warriors

## Understanding the Passage

A. What would be the best title for the passage?

- a. A Letter from The Colosseum
- b. A Day of Awful Entertainment
- c. Getting Lost in Rome
- d. The Story of The Colosseum

B. Choose the main idea of each paragraph. One choice will NOT be used.

- 1. The 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph
  - 2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph
  - 3. The 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph
  - 4. The 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph
- a. The girl talks about how scary it was to get lost inside the Colosseum.
  - b. The girl describes waking up and their plans for the tour.
  - c. The girl talks about the noise and the heat at the Colosseum.
  - d. The girl describes returning to the hotel.
  - e. The girl gets lost after buying some ice cream.

### Understanding Details

Choose the best answer.

- The girl was \_\_\_\_\_ after waking up at 7:00 a.m.  
 a. fresh                      b. tired                      c. eager                      d. angry
- The tour leader carried a purple umbrella so that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. the members of her group would not get wet  
 b. the members of her group could see her  
 c. the members of her group could visit the Colosseum  
 d. the members of her group could have some shade
- Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage?  
 a. What the Colosseum was once used for  
 b. How the girl’s parents felt in the morning  
 c. The girl’s feelings about the Colosseum’s temperature  
 d. Whether or not she liked visiting the Colosseum
- What is probably true about entertainment in Rome two thousand years ago?  
 a. Many people enjoyed watching gladiators fight.  
 b. People usually did not enjoy the battles in the Colosseum.  
 c. The Romans liked gelato very much.  
 d. Fights between gladiators were only held in the summertime.

### Write in Your Own Words

Answer the following questions in 1 or 2 sentences.

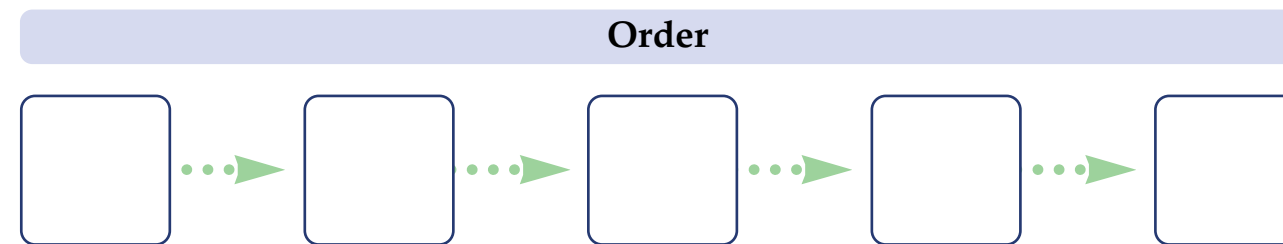
- Why did the girl get lost?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- How did the girl return to the hotel?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Why do you think the girl’s mother cried at the end of the passage?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Visualize the Passage: Sequencing

When authors write stories they often describe a series of events in chronological order. Put the following events in the correct order.

EVENTS

- a. The girl accidentally followed the wrong tour leader.
- b. The tour group reached the Colosseum.
- c. The girl took a taxi back to the hotel.
- d. The girl bought some gelato.
- e. The girl’s parents met her at the hotel.



### Summarize the Passage

Complete the summary by filling in the blanks.

○ The girl describes a family visit to 1 \_\_\_\_\_. The tour group wakes 2 \_\_\_\_\_ at 7:00 a.m. and goes to the Colosseum after 3 \_\_\_\_\_. The tour leader, Julia, carries a 4 \_\_\_\_\_ umbrella. At the Colosseum, the girl buys 5 \_\_\_\_\_ gelato and then follows a purple umbrella. Unfortunately, a 6 \_\_\_\_\_ tour leader is carrying it. The girl takes a taxi back 7 \_\_\_\_\_ the hotel, and the man who works there 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Julia to explain the story to her.

calls    different    breakfast    up    some    Rome    purple    to