The Rise and Decline of the Roman Republic

The Etruscans take power in Rome.

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In 509 B.C. the Romans drive the Etruscans from power.

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Romans create a new form of government called a republic.

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Most powerful group in the republic is the senate, made up of 300 patricians.

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Government is led by two consuls who share power for a year.

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In early republic, plebeians cannot hold office or be senators.

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After 367 B.C. at least one consul has to be a plebeian.

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A dictator can be appointed for six months if the consuls do not agree.

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Republic declines when Julius Caesar becomes dictator for life in 44 B.C.

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Civil war lasts for 13 years.

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