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| **Economic Characteristics** | **Social Characteristics** | **Political Characteristics** |
| Was self-sufficientUsed labor saving machines such as cranes, water wheel and cargo shipsRoads improved trade throughout empireForum was marketplace and business centerJobs varied throughout empire based on available resources | Art & architecture were strongly influenced by GreeksAdvancements such as sewer system, aqueducts, road, concrete, the dome and indoor plumbingStarted out following a polytheistic religion (much like Greece) but later converted to a monotheistic religion (Christianity)2 main classes (Patricians & Plebeians)Roman numerals & calendar | Checks and balances; separation of powerWritten laws – apply to all citizens3 branches (Senate, Assembly & Consuls)Senators & Consuls were aristocratsStarted 1st republic |