|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Economic Characteristics** | **Social Characteristics** | **Political Characteristics** |
| Was self-sufficient  Used labor saving machines such as cranes, water wheel and cargo ships  Roads improved trade throughout empire  Forum was marketplace and business center  Jobs varied throughout empire based on available resources | Art & architecture were strongly influenced by Greeks  Advancements such as sewer system, aqueducts, road, concrete, the dome and indoor plumbing  Started 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 power  Written laws – apply to all citizens  3 branches (Senate, Assembly & Consuls)  Senators & Consuls were aristocrats  Started 1st republic |