The Roman Empire

**Part 1: VOCABULARY**

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| **Difficult word/phrase** | **Translation** | **Easier replacement** |
| ancient |  | very old |
| encyclopedia |  | (huge book or web site full of information) |
| expansive |  | big and wide |
| emperor |  | (male ruler of a country) |
| regarded as |  | thought of as |
| dictator |  | mean ruler |
| begrudgingly |  | (in a grouchy, unwilling way) |
| supreme |  | (most powerful/better than anyone or anything else) |
| the norm |  | the normal way of things |
| monarchy |  | (rule by a king or queen) |
| stability |  | (firm and steady nature/lasting nature/strength) |
| initiated |  | started |
| vast |  | huge |
| lacked |  | didn't have |
| paranoid |  | nervous (that someone will hurt you) |
| descended |  | moved downward/originated |
| swift |  | fast |
| ascended |  | rose/climbed up |
| throne |  | (seat of power of a king or queen) |
| distinguished by |  | told apart by |
| prosperity |  | richness |
| expansion |  | (act of something getting bigger, wider, etc.) |
| attained |  | reached |
| meditations |  | deep thoughts |
| civil wars |  | (wars between groups that all live in one country) |
| upheaval |  | big change/big changes |
| sole |  | only |
| mercenary |  | paid soldier |

**Part 2: LISTENING COMPREHENSION**

Watch the video and do the exercise below.

https://youtu.be/h6hxwSzB\_DI

**Part 3: SPEAKING**

Turn to the person next to you, and discuss some of these questions:

1. Would you rather go into the past and meet your ancestors or go into the future and meet your great-great-grandchildren?
2. Would you rather have more time or more money?
3. Would you rather have a rewind button or a pause button on your life?
4. Would you rather be able to talk with the animals or speak all foreign languages?
5. Would you rather win the lottery or live twice as long?
6. Would you feel worse if no one showed up to your wedding or to your funeral?
7. Would you rather be without internet for a week, or without your phone?
8. Would you rather meet George Washington or the current president?
9. Would you rather lose your vision or your hearing?
10. Would you rather work more hours per day, but fewer days or work fewer hours per day, but more days?
11. Would you rather listen to music from the ’70s or music from today?
12. Would you rather become someone else or just stay you?
13. Would you rather be Batman or Spiderman?
14. Would you rather be stuck on a broken ski lift or in a broken elevator?
15. For your birthday, would you rather receive cash or gifts?
16. Would you rather go to a movie or to dinner alone?
17. Would you rather always say everything on your mind or never speak again?
18. Would you rather make a phone call or send a text?
19. Would you rather read an awesome book or watch a good movie?
20. Would you rather be the most popular person at work or school or the smartest?
21. Would you rather put a stop to war or end world hunger?
22. Would you rather spend the night in a luxury hotel room or camping surrounded by beautiful scenery?
23. Would you rather explore space or the ocean?

(Discussion questions from: https://www.signupgenius.com/groups/would-you-rather.cfm )