

FUTURE NOTE Text in **Red** is information that is part of my report and is not part of the boy's report.

Michael Plasmeier

Pompeii

Hi, I am a 10-year-old boy, and this is where I live. My town is currently located in southern Italy, along the western coast, six miles south the volcano, Vesuvius. My town is an unimportant Roman town, south of our capitol Rome.

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Comment [MEP1]: FUTURE NOTE
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The language I am speaking now is Latin, which is a language used all over the world. **Latin was not a spoken language since the middle ages, but many languages are related to Latin.** Rome has many important playwrights, historians, orators, and poets who set many new standards for their work. We have an alphabet that has twenty-one letters and we have a newspaper.

We have a good government that has many officials like magistrates, consuls, tribunes, prators, aedils, and questors, which are elected by the senate, and then the emperor approves of them. **The senate was like parliament and it began to lose power to the emperor who was the head of state.**

We are the smartest people of all time. For transportation we either:

- walk
- ride in a litter carried by slaves
- ride on an animal
- travel by a wheeled vehicle

We are the greatest road builders of any civilization so far; we also have maps that are mainly used for military purposes. We even have lighthouses.

To count we use Roman Numerals. We used an abacus to make calculations and then we adopted the Greeks measuring system. Early calendars had 300 days, but it was changed to 350 days. Julius Caesar changed it to 446 days, but later someone reversed it back to 350 days. The sundial was invented in Rome.

To learn we: In early Rome, parents taught their children at home. For boys to go into public life they needed to learn outdoor skills such as to fight in armor, throw the javelin, and ride on a horseback, or to swim and box. In later times, wealthy people used slaves to teach children at home. Currently, boys and girls go to school at their schoolmaster's (magister ludi) home (like me).

We have lots of art in our town such as statues, which are the most popular art. They are copies of Greek statues, and are mostly located in the temples. We also have murals and mosaics.

We build many buildings in Pompeii. We borrowed from the Greeks and then adopted it to our needs. We use arches to support bridges, aqueducts, valets, and domes. We are the ones who invented concrete, which helped make the structures possible.

We eat good tasting food. We have Jentaculum, which is breakfast, and includes porridge or wheat pancakes, biscuits or bread with honey, dates, and olives. Cena is dinner. Rich people have huge social occasions and turn cena into feasts with three or more courses. For medicine, we have herbal remedies (e.g. Salt is used to cure many diseases) and then we adopted the Greek knowledge of medicine. **In later times, the church provided medical services because the poor could not afford a doctor.**

For clothes, men and boys wear a short-sleeved tunic to their knee, and women wear a long tunic to their ankle and a dress called a stola. Over these clothes, a citizen wears a toga.

We have different ways to entertain ourselves, e.g.

- Public bathes
- Chariot races
- Gladiator fights, which are fights between people and animals who sometimes fight until an animal or human dies
- Board games
- Dice rolling
- Reading
- Theaters are places where plays copied from the Greeks are performed. Some plays are serious and some are comedies.
- Dancing
- Music