
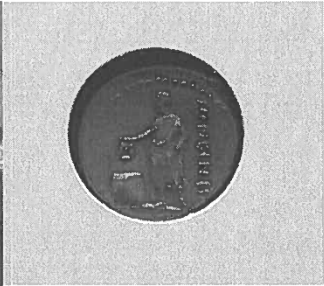


Candidate 5 evidence

Classical Studies Higher Resource Sheet			
Candidate Name		Scottish Candidate Number	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Praetor: held imperium power (army), Comitia Centuriata, provinces (less important), discharge connected civil law, admin justices , chief mag. - Consul: two take turns leading (power check), could veto, foreign business/association for Senate, imperium power,. - Censor: five years eighteen month term, census, bring/get rid of members. - Minimum age, no repeat, Cicero, finish consulship . - Few roles, little chance of being selected. - Was man's choice to give up: could re-apply if wanted. - 1 mister leader of Uk responsible for policy's, 22 cabinet senior member of gov - Comitia Centuriata, 193, 18 equites, 80 first plebs, 95 lower 6 classes, group based on age - Comitia Tribuata, 4U + 31R, elected magistrate senate. - Laws/mag/try presided con/mag, balanced, legality - Wealthier first, once majority reached stop, plebs opinions not heard. - Favoured older, older had political influence - Split Constituencies (live), 73, elect a representative, member of SMP - No banking/business, 300-500 member's, usually patrician (corrupt, money) could be Plebis, peace/war, elect officials, ambassadors, senatus consultum, senatus consultum ultimum (enemy of sate), no ship for foreign commerce, elected body, vote (hand, voice, split). - Few plebs in Senate, dominated higher classes, limited time, didn't get to younger members. - Tribuata pleb, for plebs, taken into account. - Parliament- important issue vote/debate 			
Source A		Source B	
https://www.worldhistory.org/Roman_Senate/			
			
Source C	https://www.azquotes.com/quote/653327		
<p>"Never was a government that was not composed of liars, malefactors and thieves" - Cicero</p>			

To what extent was Rome governed by the people?

Politics was a vast and rich part of life in Ancient Rome, however this system that the Romans followed was often described as an oligarchy – meaning that people felt that the city of Roman was not entirely ran by everyone and instead was ran by a small number of elites. The political system that was followed in Ancient Roman has had a huge hand in influence the political of modern society today. In this essay I will determine if Rome was ran by its citizens, we will do this by looking at the following points: firstly I will look at the Cursus Honorum and its different roles, then I will go onto look at the committee in Rome specifically focusing on the Comitia Centuriata and the Comitia Tribuata, then lastly I will look at the Senate and how it was ran.

The Cursus Honorum was a big part of Roman politics and possessed an array of different roles in which aspiring politicians of Rome could take on, these roles would also all end with the person gaining consulship. These roles where as follows: Questor, Aedile, Praetor, Consul and Censor. Members of the Cursus Honorum were usually of a higher classes, for Example, patricians. You had to meet a minimum age requirement to be elected for these role and it was forbidden to repeat a year in office, thus if you weren't elected one year you had to wait and re-apply. To be elected for the each role in the Cursus Honorum at the minimum age was seen to be a huge political success. One Example of this was a man called Cicero who was elected in 'his year' at the age of forty – two. A Praetor was in charge of discharge duties connected to civil laws, they also helped with the administration of justices. Similarly to the role of a Consul, a Praetor held imperium power meaning that they could command an army. A Praetor also had the power to govern a province, however they were usually limited to those of less importance. The second highest role in the Cursus Honorum was a Consul. Two Consuls were always elected and they would take turns in leading the city, with there being two Consuls it created a power check on both individual, insuring that neither of them would become a tyrant to the city. Consuls also had the power to veto the actions of the other consul if they felt it wasn't in the best interest of the city. Usually, Consuls would deal with a foreign business, they would also help facilitate the association of foreign states with the Senate. A Consul held imperium power like a Praetor. The highest ranking role in the Cursus Honorum was a Censor. A Censor was elected by the Comitia Centuriata, they were brought in every five years to serve an eighteen month term, during this time they would conduct a census. During this census they were able to bring new citizen into the Senate if they wished, they also and the power to banish members of the Senate. The power of a Consul was absolute, nobody could challenge them. This system was prevalent in Rome for years and did not change as it was a good system that worked for the city and the citizens of Rome. The Cursus Honorum had many different role which often had limited numbers of members, this made it extremely difficult climb up the ranks and a lot of men who applied each year were not selected. Many men ended up giving up as they felt it was too difficult to

be elected. Thus it could be argued that many citizens in Rome never got to share their political influence and opinions because the system was too harsh. However it could be argued that it was their own choice to give up and not pursue a political pathway, these men could have re-applied but they didn't. It could also be said that the Cursus Honorum was corrupted. Since this system was largely dominated by the wealthier classes of Roman society many of them would use their money to pry their way in, see source C on the resource sheet where the ancient political, Cicero, states that the political system in Rome was often corrupt. Thus, Rome was not governed by the people as it gave plebeians an unfair chance when sharing their political views in the Cursus Honorum. Politics in Ancient Rome has had a large part in influencing the political system in the UK today. For example in the UK government today there are many different roles a person can take on. The most important person in British politics is the prime minister and there is only one of them, however there are also twenty-two cabinet ministers. Cabinet ministers are senior members of the government who meet to discuss important issues that the government is facing. Although this system may have changed, for example the UK government does not possess the same role, it is clear that UK politics has been shaped by politics in Ancient Rome because we follow a set-out system just as they did in Rome.

In Ancient Rome there were two types of assemblies that would take place. These assemblies were often known as committees and were called the Comitia Centuriata and the Comitia Tribuata. These committees were highly important in Rome as they helped to establish new laws, elect new magistrates and try the jury cases of Rome. In the Comitia Centuriata all citizens were split up into 193 centuries – the first eighteen would go to the equites class of Rome, then the next eighty would be given to the first class of plebeians and the further ninety – five would be given to the remaining lower six classes of plebeians. Once divided up into these centuries, everyone would vote on important issues surrounding Rome. This system favoured the wealthier classes of Roman society. When voting the top classes of Rome would get to vote first and once a balanced majority was reached voting would stop, see source B on the resource sheet which depicts a Roman citizen voting. Since the wealthy classes took up ninety – eight centuries and the poorer classes only took up ninety – five centuries, the wealthy were usually able to sway the vote to suit what they wanted as they dominated more centuries. This was unfair as the six lower classes of plebeians never got their political opinions heard, therefore it could be argued that Rome was not governed by the people. This system was also built to favour the older men of Roman society. Centuries were not only determined by class but also by age – men would be split up into junior and senior members. Usually, there were a lot more junior members, meaning that the older, more mature males of society were often favoured as they had more of a political influence and there was less of them so they were able to dominate the votes. The second committee that was prevalent in Ancient Rome at the time was the Comitia Tribuata. This committee was not divided into centuries, instead it was divided up geographically. All together the citizens of Rome were divided up into thirty – five tribes –

four urban tribes and thirty – one rural tribes. In Ancient Rome wealthier members of society were able to branch out and live all across the state of Rome, however the lower classes of plebeians were often confined to the cheaper living areas as they had no many to expand across Rome. Thus, when voting in the Comitia Tribuata, the wealthier citizens were able to dominate the vote as they made up majority of the group, whilst plebeians were only a part of few voting groups. Therefore Rome was not governed by the people as the wealthier classes could sway the vote to suit their political opinions. Similarities to this system can be seen in modern UK politics. In Britain today every member of society is split up into different constituencies based on where they live (geographical). In these constituencies everyone will elect a representative to represent their constituencies and each constituency also possesses their own MP. Similarities can be seen in our system today and the system in Ancient Rome. For example, everyone is split up geographically, just as in Rome.

The Senate was responsible for governing the city of Rome. The Senate did not propose legislation, instead they were known as a deliberate governing body. The Senate was made up of members called senators. Senators were expected to be completely devoted to the state, this meant that they were not allowed to involve themselves in banking or any forms of public business. Senators were also not allowed to own a ship large enough to participate in foreign commerce, nor were they allowed to leave Italy without the permission from the other senators. Although senators did enjoy some special privileges, for example, they possessed reserved seating at any game or public ceremony and they had the honour of wearing the tunica calvus. The Senate numbered from 300 to 500 members, meetings would take place at nightfall to discuss pressing issues that surrounded Rome at the time, see source A on the resource sheet which depicts a meeting taking place in the Senate building. Usually members of the senate were of the patrician class, however any plebeian that gained the title of magistrate official would earn a Senate membership. When it came to voting in the Senate, if the issue was of minor importance, it would usually be put to a raise of hand or a show of voice. However if there was not clear majority or the issue was of more importance there was usually a physical splitting of house – senators would split and go to either side of the chamber to cast their votes. The Senate was a huge part of Roman politics, however was this system fair? In the Senate meetings were held to a strict time frame, during this time frame, senators had to discuss and resolve an array of different issues surrounding Rome, everyone would take turns sharing their political views starting with the oldest members and making their way to younger members. However issues that were being discussed were often cut short as the members felt that they didn't have enough time. This meant that a lot of younger members never got to share their opinions and views as they would move on from certain issues without consulting them. Therefore Rome was not governed by the people as many members didn't even get to share their political thoughts. The Senate also favoured the wealthier classes of society. Usually patricians would dominate the Senate and although plebeians could join it was extremely rare. This meant that

only the patricians views were being heard and the plebs were often left out. However it could be argued that plebeians interests were taken into account as the tribune of the plebs could veto any action made by the senate if they felt it wasn't in the best interest of the plebs. Thus, although the plebs may have not had as much of a say, they were not entirely forgotten about in this system. The system of the Senate could be compared to the UK parliament. In the UK parliament members will attend meetings to discuss, vote and resolve certain issues that surround the UK government. This system is quite similar to the Senate in Ancient Rome as they would also meet it discuss and resolve issues in Rome.

Overall, it is clear that Rome, although governed by some wealthier members of society, was not fully governed by the people. This is clear as members of Roman society were often not provided a fair chance to share their political views, for example, in the Cursus Honorum and in the Senate. However, it could be argued that often it was the citizens own choice give up and not to peruse a political pathways, for Example in the Cursus Honorum male citizens would quit as they felt the system was to harsh. A key factor in showing that Rome was not governed by its whole population people is the Comitia Centuriata and the Comitia Tribuata as these systems both highly favour the wealthier classes of society as these classes were usually able to sway the votes. To conclude, although some members of Roman society had a say in sharing their political influence, a lot of citizen didn't get to share their views, thus Rome was not governed by the people.