

Aim: What role did emperors play in Rome?

Notes

I Augustus

- Octavian (Caesar's nephew) comes to power in 31 BCE
- Won popular support
- Named "Augustus": the Exalted One
- Becomes emperor of Rome
- He restored peace after 100 years of civil war
- Massive public works bridges, roads, aqueducts (great engineering skills)
- developed army and a new coinage system
- Police and fire protection
- Status of women rose
- Entertainment- Coliseum gladiators and games
- Bread and circuses to feed and entertain the people of Rome
- The empire expanded under Augustus
- He added Spain, northern Gaul, and parts of Hungary and Croatia and annexed Egypt
- 14 AD dies and Rome had no laws of succession

II Pax Romana

1. Government- ruled by an emperor
2. Laws- One set of laws governed the empire
3. Engineering- roads and bridges
4. Language- The Roman **alphabet** became the basis for the western alphabet and **Latin**, the Roman language, became the basis for many European languages
5. Literature- Virgil, Horace, Tacitus and Livy wrote poetry and history
6. Religion- Followers of a Jewish holy man named Jesus founded a new religion called Christianity.