

Classical to the Core

Latin as the Lynchpin to the Goals of the Standards

Melanie C. Stowell (Arlington, VA, Public Schools)

Ivy J. Livingston (Harvard University)

Friday, November 14, 14

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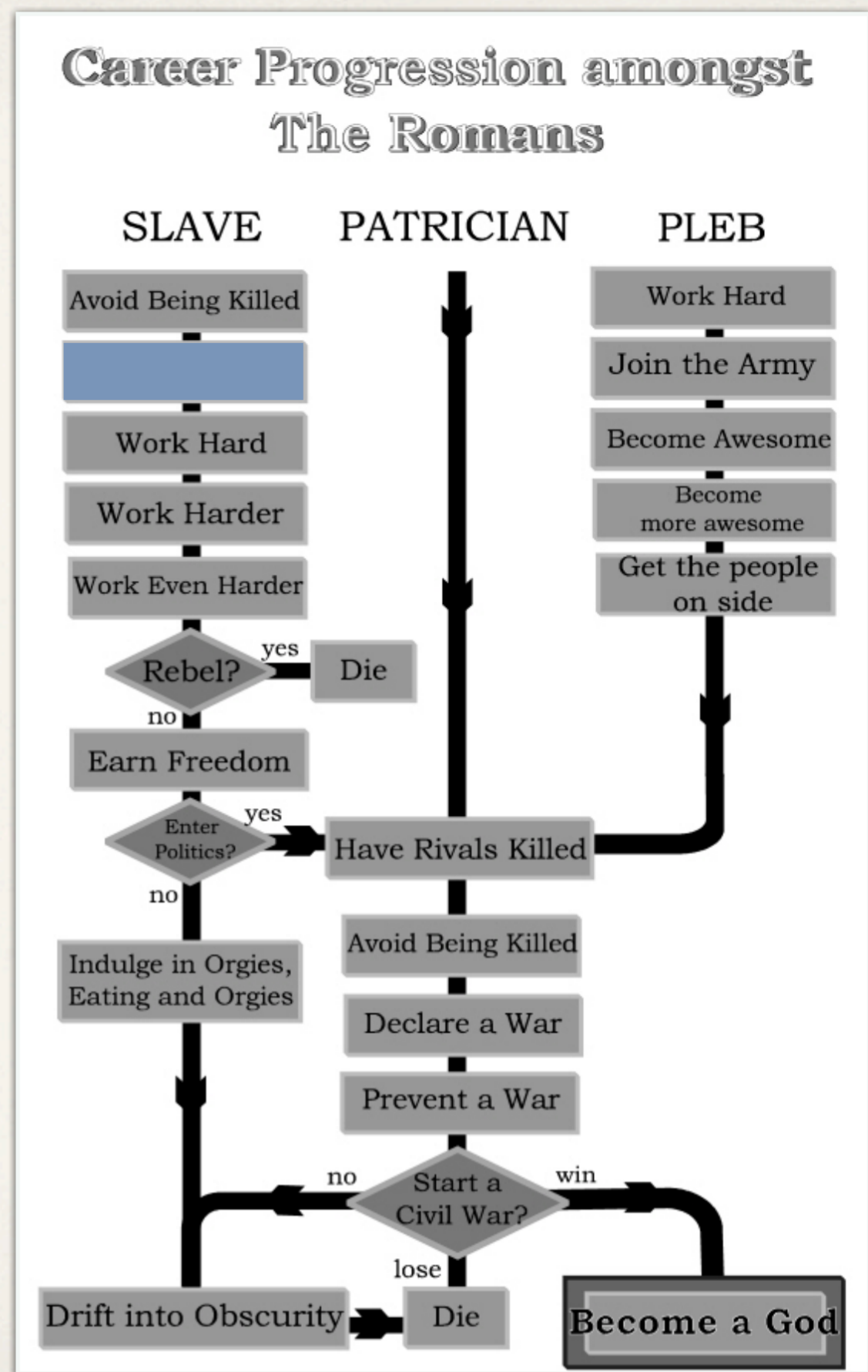
While we note how the study of the Classics can support Common Core standards, the approaches and activities can, of course, be used in any Latin classroom.

Cursus honorum

Our next major topic is the cursus honorum. We've already seen the office of consul appear on several coins.

1. Rome started as a Monarchy (like the US)
2. It became a Republic (like the US)
3. It had a highly structured political hierarchy and a form of democratic oligarchy (like the US)
4. The richer you were, the more political power you had (like the oh **** it)

<http://www.cracked.com/funny-904-the-roman-republic>



We added this chart more for your entertainment [slightly objectionable content obscured; refer to link for unexpurgated copy], but it does make some interesting comparisons.

Appius Claudius C. f. Caecus

Censor Cos Bis Dict Interrex III
Pr II Aed Cur II Q Tr Mil III com-
plura oppida de Samnitibus cepit
Sabinorum et Tuscorum exerci-
tum fudit pacem fieri cum Pyrrho
Rege prohibuit in censura Viam
Appiam stravit et Aquam in
urbem adduxit Aedem Bellonae
fecit.

APPIVS CLAVDIVS
C·F·CAECVS
CENSOR·COS·BIS·DICT·INTERREX·III
·PR·II·AED·CVR·II·Q·TR·MIL·III·COM
PLVRA·OPPIDA·DE·SAMNITIBVS·CEPIT
SABINORVM·ET·TVSCORVM·EXERCI
TVM·FVDIT·PACEM·FIERI·CVM·TYRRHO
REGE·PROHIBVIT·INCENSVRAM·VIAM
APPIAM·STRAVIT·ET·AQUAM·IN
VRBEM·ADDVXIT·AEDEM·BELLONAE
FECIT

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You can transition from, or review, naming conventions [see part 2] with questions like: Quid est praenomen viri? nomen, cognomen? (Actually, his cognomen was Crassus.) Quis est pater Appii Claudii? What kind of agnomen is Caecus?

It might be interesting to begin discussion of the cursus without the usual sort of chart. Students should recognize COS from the coins. If we hint that the first two lines list other offices held, what might the number be for? And what are the other offices? Censor is written in full and followed by consul, but what about the rest?

[could digress into the double meaning of blind in both Latin and English]

Honores Appii Claudii Caeci

APPIVS CLAVDIVS
C·F·CAECVS
CENSOR·COS·BIS·DICT·INTER·REX·III
·PR·II·AED·CVR·II·Q·TR·MIL·III·COM
PLVR·A·OPPIDA·DE·SAMNITIBVS·CEPIT
SABINORVM·ET·TVSCORVM·EXERCITVM·FVDIT·PACEM·FIERI·CVM·TIRRHOREGE·PROHIBVIT·INCENSVRAM·VIAM·APPIAM·STRAVIT·ET·AQVAM·IN·VRBEM·ADDVXIT·A·EDEM·BELLONAE·FECIT

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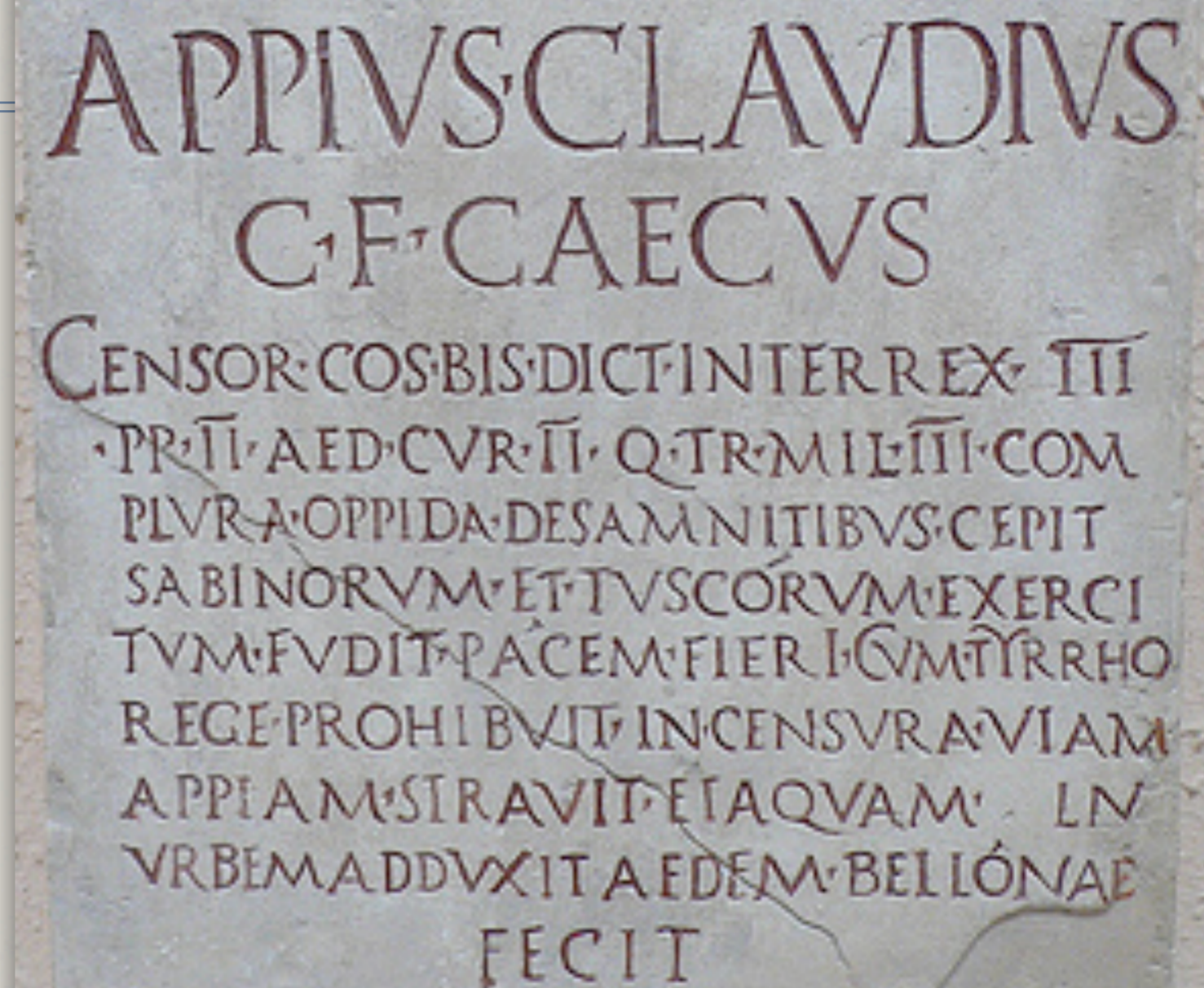
5

Make a list of the offices, starting from those. You could let students begin with the hypothesis that each office is a single word and test it by comparing other sources ...

At some point, could discuss what censor(ship) and census mean in English and how these somewhat disparate ideas are connected through the Roman office.

Honores Appii Claudii Caeci

- * CENSOR = Censor
- * COS = Consul (cosol)
- * DICT
- * INTERREX
- * PR
- * AED
- * CUR
- * Q
- * TR
- * MIL



APPIVS CLAVDIVS
C·F·CAECVS
CENSOR·COS·BIS·DICT·INTERREX·III
·PR·II·AED·CVR·II·Q·TR·MIL·III·COM
PLVR·A·OPPIDA·DE·SAMNITIBVS·CEPIT
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Corneli Nepotis Vita Catonis

M. Cato ...Romam demigravit in foroque esse coepit.

Primum stipendium meruit annorum decem septemque.

Q. Fabio M. Claudio consulibus **tribunus militum** in Sicilia fuit ...

Quaestor obtigit P. Africano consuli ...

Aedilis plebi factus est cum C. Helvio.

Praetor provinciam obtinuit Sardiniam ...

Consulatum gessit cum L. Valerio Flacco, sorte provinciam nactus Hispaniam citeriorem, exque ea triumphum deportavit.

At Cato, **censor** cum eodem Flacco factus.

RH.6-8.3

Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g. how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).

Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato

- ❖ CENSOR
- ❖ COS
- ❖ DICT
- ❖ INTERREX
- ❖ PR
- ❖ AED CUR
- ❖ Q
- ❖ TR MIL

- ❖ Tribunus militum
- ❖ Quaestor
- ❖ Aedilis plebi
- ❖ Praetor
- ❖ Consul
- ❖ Censor

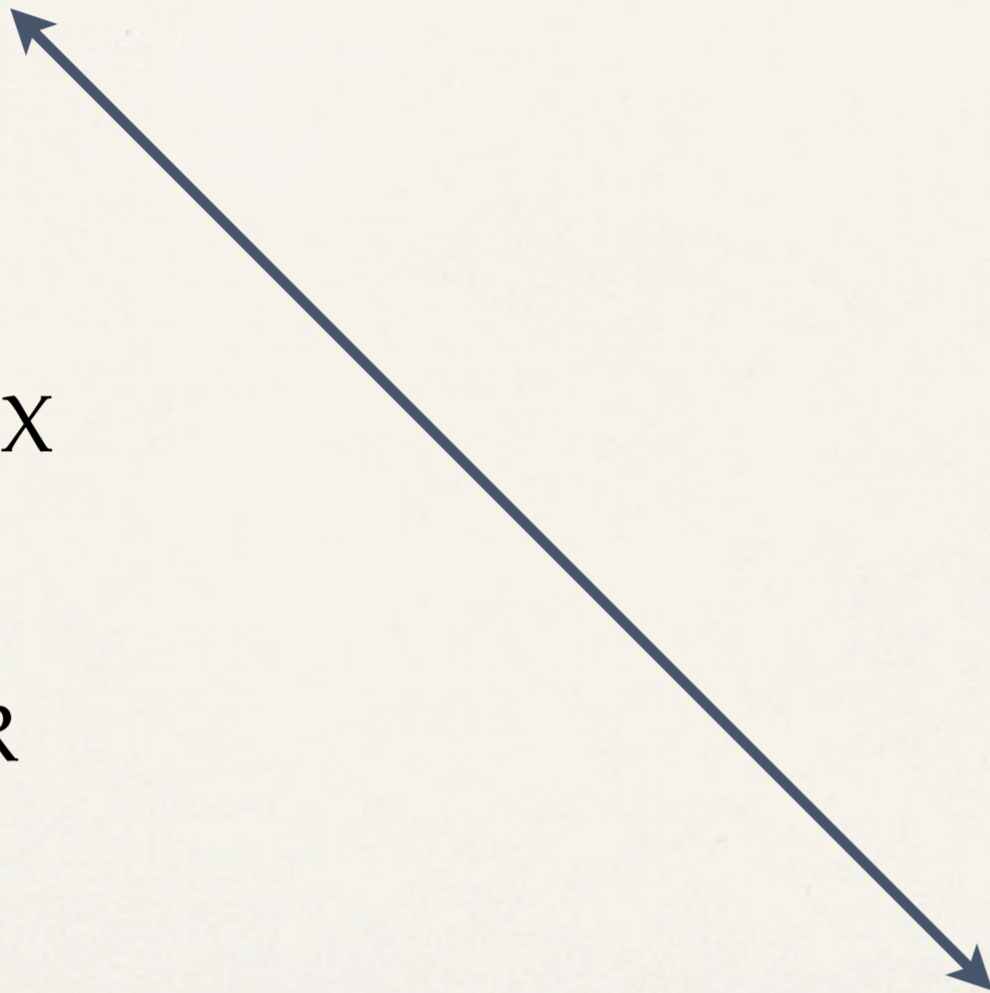
By matching things up, we can resolve the questions of the two word offices. DICT and INTERREX are leftover. We can explain that these are extraordinary magistracies.

Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato

- * CENSOR
- * COS
- * DICT
- * INTERREX
- * PR
- * AED CUR
- * Q
- * TR MIL

- * Tribunus militum
- * Quaestor
- * Aedilis plebi
- * Praetor
- * Consul
- * Censor



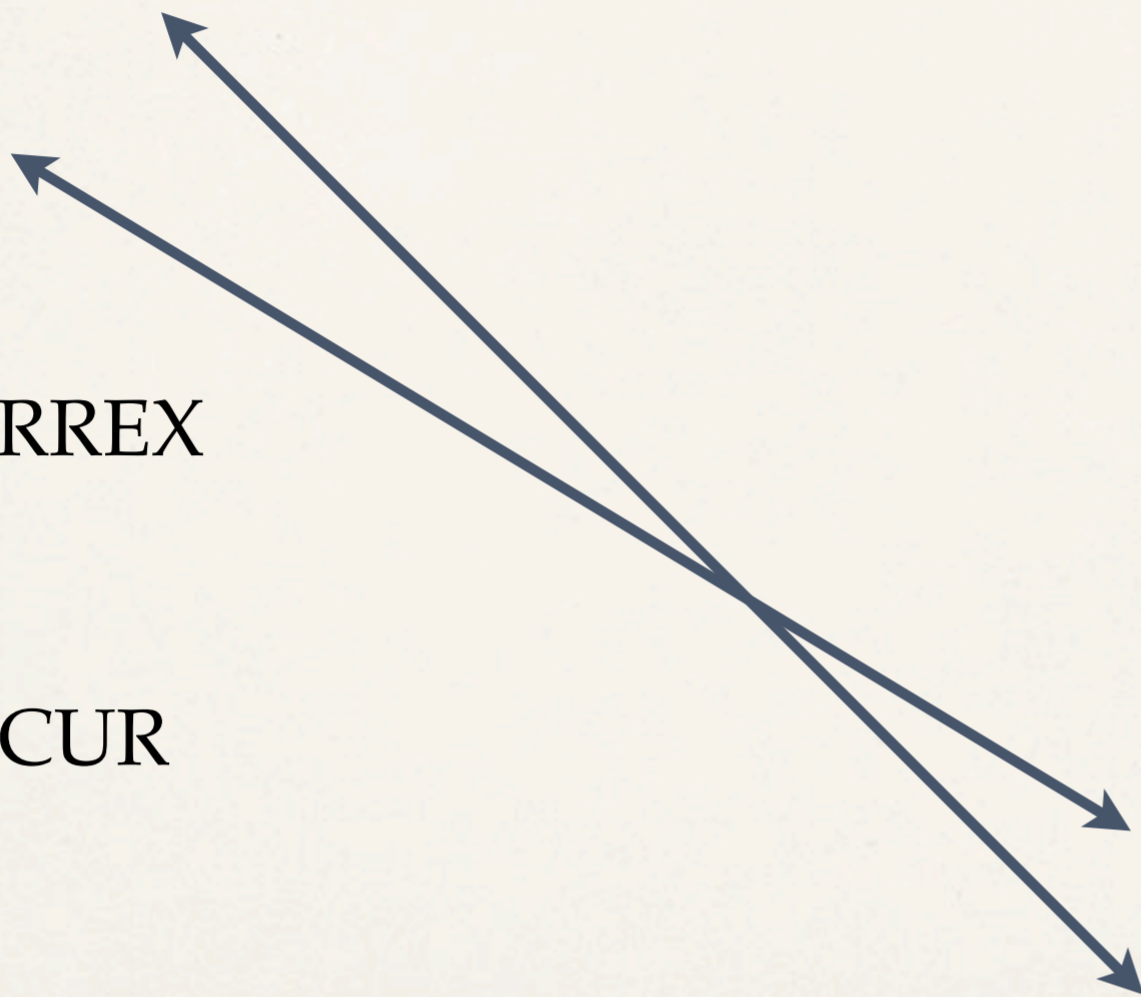
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- * COS
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- * PR
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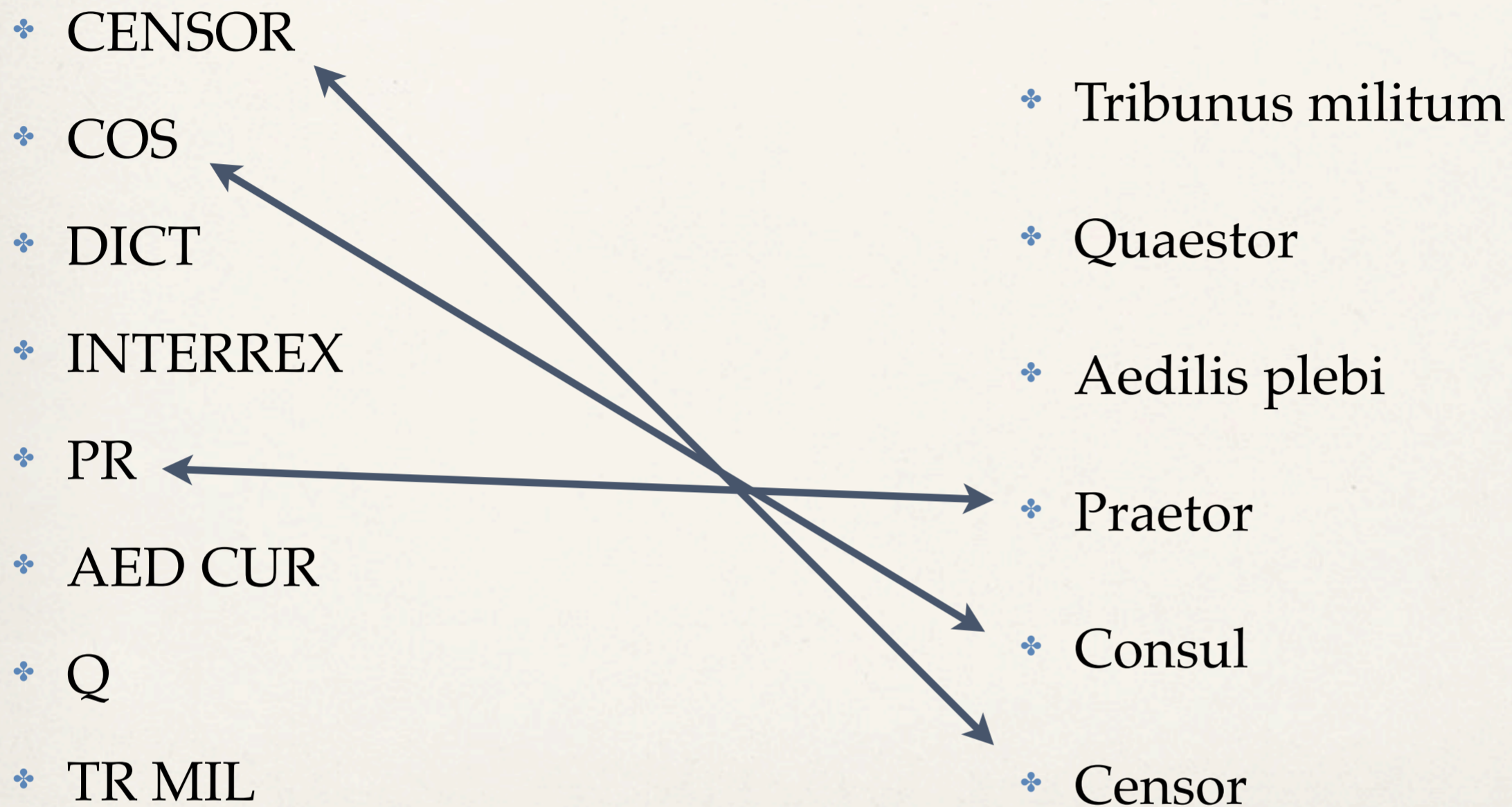
- * Tribunus militum
- * Quaestor
- * Aedilis plebi
- * Praetor
- * Consul
- * Censor



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Ap. Claudius Caecus

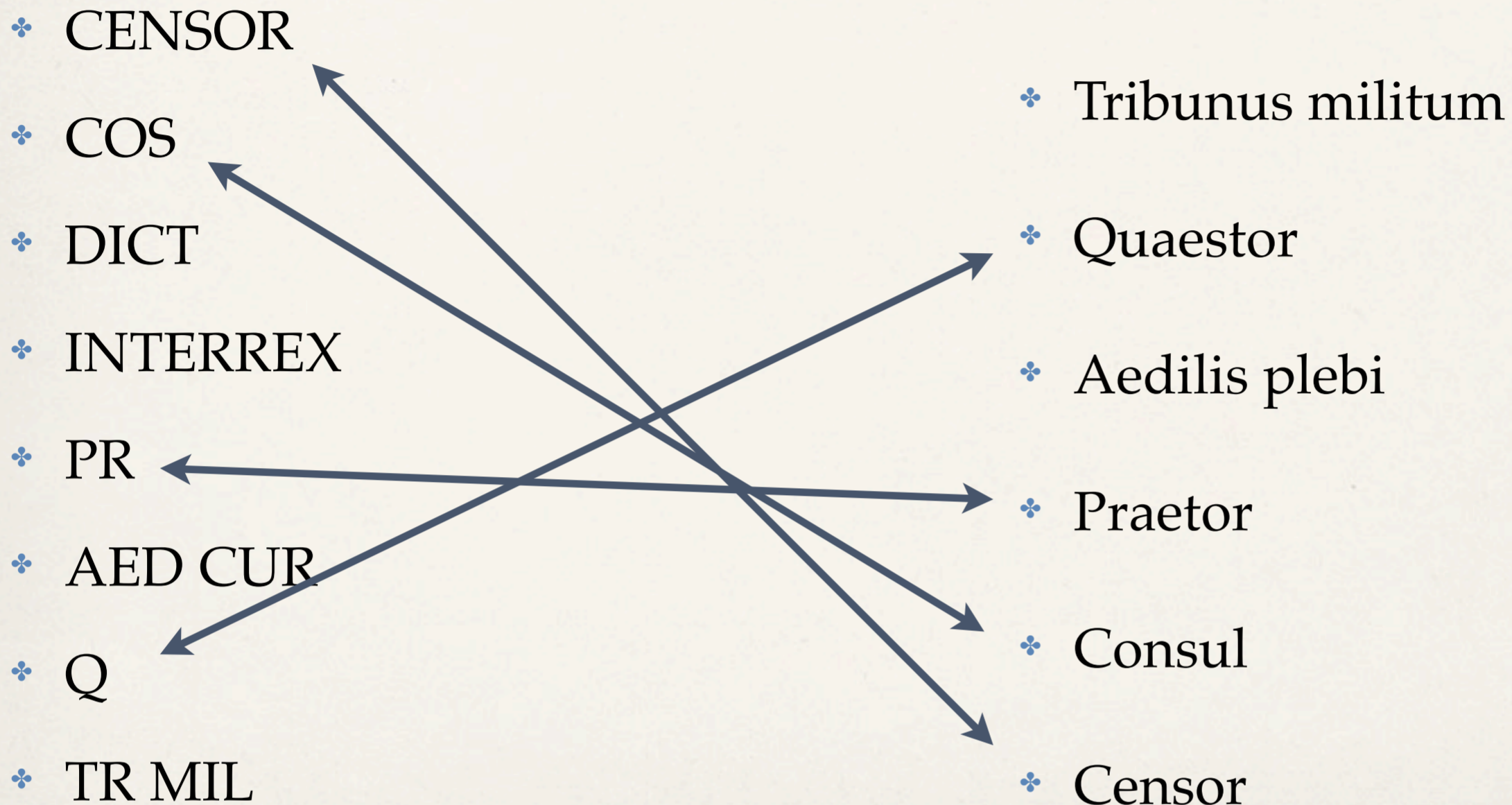
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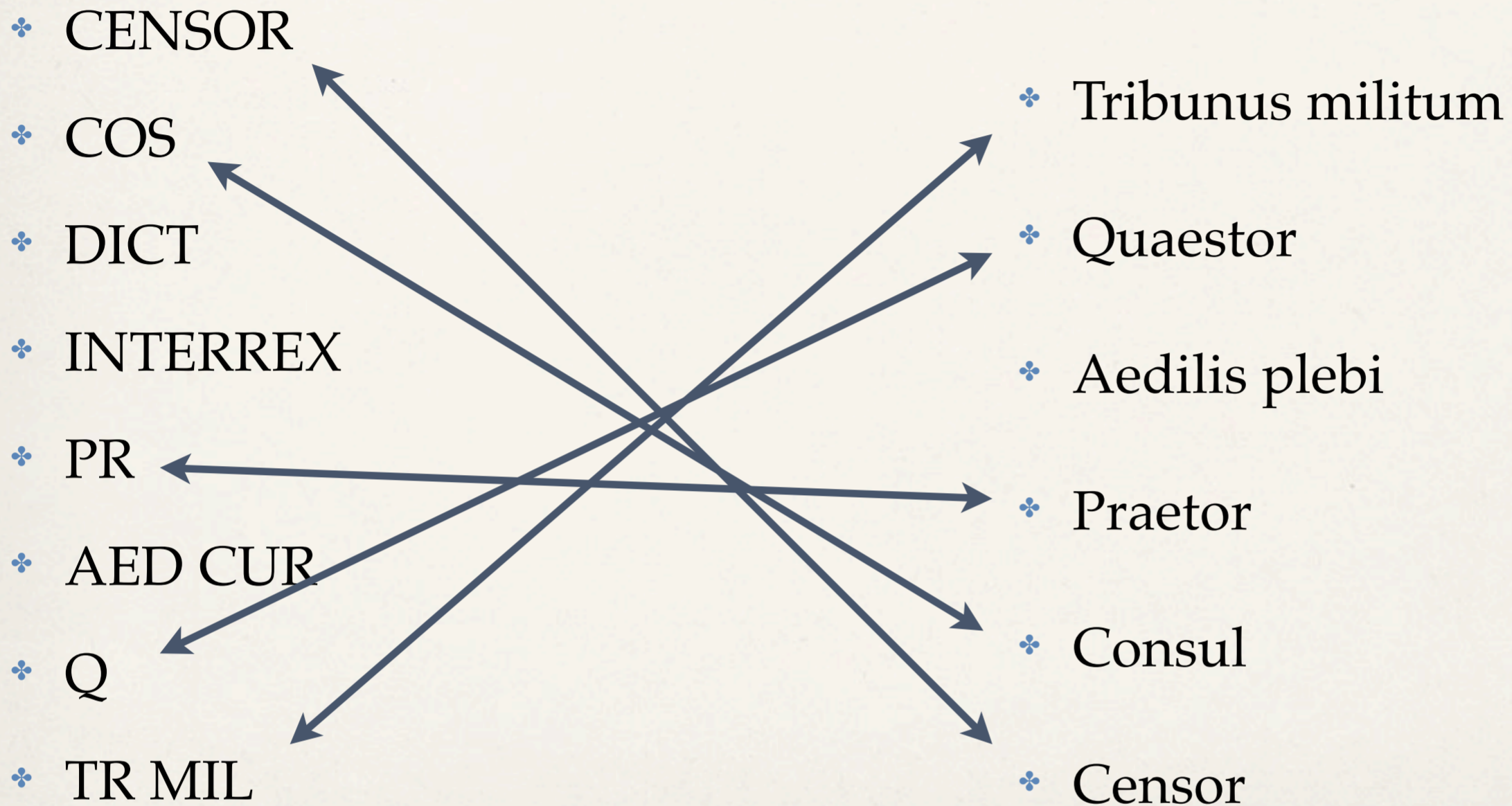
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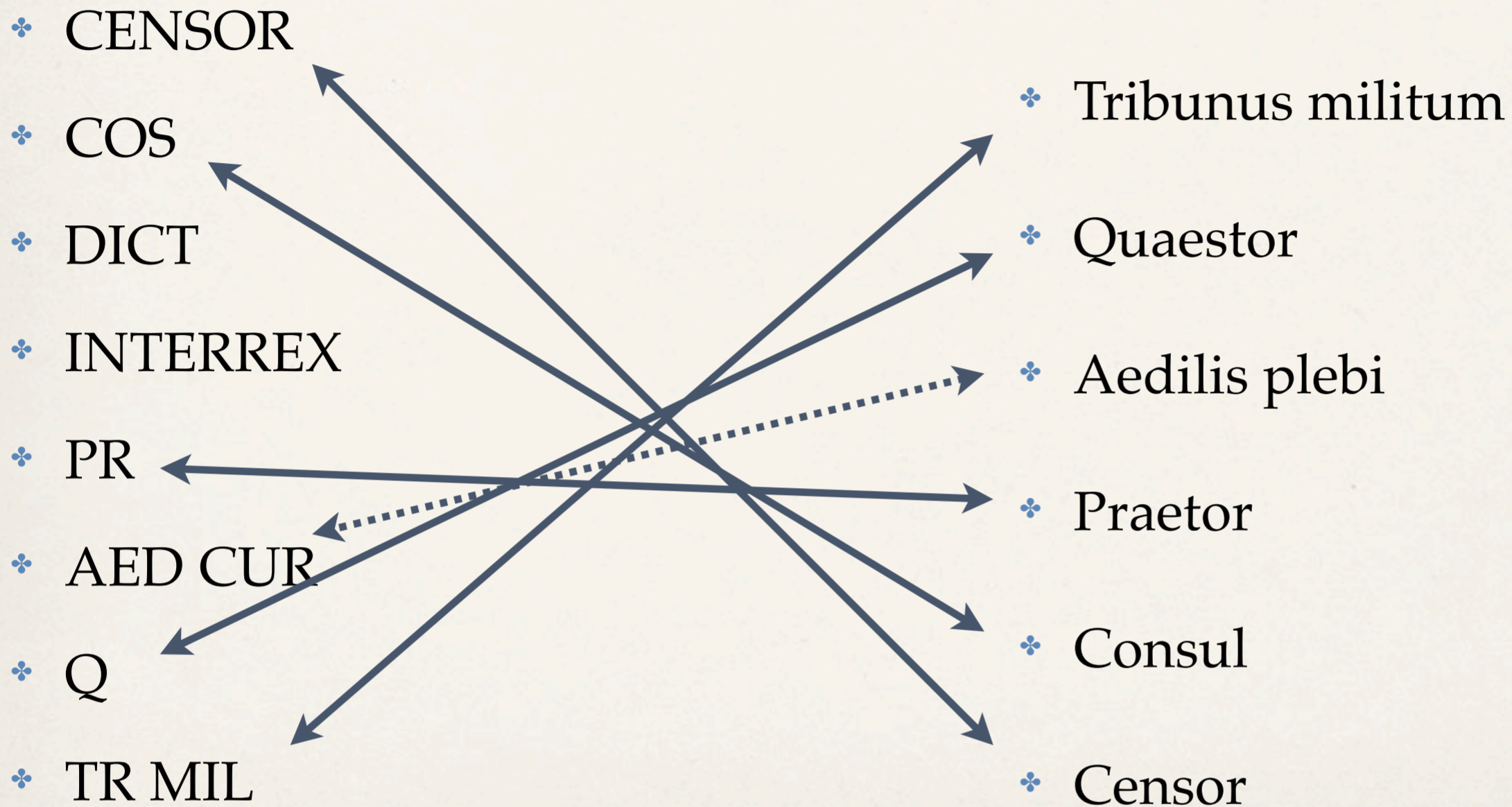
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Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato



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Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato

❖ CENSOR

❖ COS

❖ PR

❖ AED CUR

❖ Q

❖ TR MIL

❖ Tribunus militum

❖ Quaestor

❖ Aedilis plebi

❖ Praetor

❖ Consul

❖ Censor

Leaving out dictator and interrex, the offices are in the exact reverse order. App. Claudius does jump from cur aed to mil tr to censor. Was censor, consul, and praetor in that order. Censor in 312 BC, and consul in 307 and 296

Don't confuse military tribune with tribunus plebi. Since the tribunes of the people are elected only by the plebs, they are not exactly magistrates.

Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato

- ❖ TR MIL
- ❖ Q
- ❖ AED CUR
- ❖ PR
- ❖ COS
- ❖ CENSOR

- ❖ Tribunus militum
- ❖ Quaestor
- ❖ Aedilis plebi
- ❖ Praetor
- ❖ Consul
- ❖ Censor

Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato

* Aedilis curulis

Namque Attius Clausus, cui
postea Appio Claudio fuit Romae
nomen, ... ab Inregillo, magna
clientium comitatus manu,
Romam transfugit ...

Appius inter patres lectus, haud
ita multo post in principum
dignationem pervenit ...

Ap. Claudius deinde et P.
Servilius consules facti.

Livy 2.16, 21

* Aedilis plebi

The Romans used to call men who
had no family distinction, but were
coming into public notice through
their own achievements, "new men,"
and such they called Cato ...

His third name was not Cato at first,
but Priscus. Afterwards he got the
surname of Cato for his great
abilities. The Romans call a man who
is wise and prudent, *catus*.

Plutarch *Life of Cato* 1.2

The remaining difference is in the type of aedile. Looking at what else we know about them, we can see that Appius was of patrician rank (ancestor admitted to senate in 504 and made consul in 495) and Cato was from a plebeian family. This introduces the important concept of the "new man" (καίνος ἄνθρωπος in Greek; ask the students for the Latin).

Plebeian Aediles were assistants to the Plebeian Tribunes. Curule Aediles were created later when patricians offered to pay for additional public games in exchange for the office.

Transcending class boundaries by one's own talent and work.
Interestingly, it was Appius Claudius Caecus who allegedly said: "faber est suae quisque fortunae" (each man is the creator of his own fortune).
But Livy (39.40) says of Cato: "in hoc uiro tanta uis animi ingeniique fuit, ut quocumque loco natus esset, fortunam sibi ipse facturus fuisse uideretur."



Sella curulis

<http://www.vroma.org/~bmcmanus/sella.html>



Funerary relief. National Museum of Rome.
ca. 50 BC – AD 50.

Photo by Marie-Lan Nguyen. Creative Commons Attribution Generic 2.5 license.

The name of the office is connected with that of the chair.

Ap. Claudius Caecus

M. Porcius Cato

* Aedilis curulis

existat igitur ex hac ipsa familia aliquis ac potissimum Caecus ille; minimum enim dolorem capiet qui istam non videbit. qui profecto, si exstiterit, sic aget ac sic loquetur: "mulier, quid tibi cum Caelio, quid cum homine adulescentulo, quid cum alieno? ... non patrem tuum videras, non patruum, non avum, non proavum, non <abavum, non> atavum audieras consules fuisse;"

Cicero Pro Caelio 33

* Aedilis plebi

The Romans used to call men who had no family distinction, but were coming into public notice through their own achievements, "new men," and such they called Cato ...

His third name was not Cato at first, but Priscus. Afterwards he got the surname of Cato for his great abilities. The Romans call a man who is wise and prudent, *catus*.

Plutarch Life of Cato 1.2

Could also bring in Cicero's evocation of Ap. Claudius Caecus as a stern ancestor of Clodia Metelli who reminds her of the long patrician lineage of her family. Provides an opportunity to talk about how she and P. Clodius Pulcher changed the spelling of their names, but the idea that this was a plebeian variant has been contested.

Aedileship was optional, but could show commitment to public service. Aedilis from aedes "temple". And gave opportunity to put on lavish displays, as P. Clodius Pulcher (93–52 BC) did.

RL 7.9

Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history.

On the origin of the patrician class

Centum creat senatores, sive quia is numerus satis erat, sive quia soli centum erant qui creari patres possent. Patres certe ab honore patriciique progenies eorum appellati.

Livy 1.8

... centum ex senioribus legit, quorum consilio omnia ageret, quos senatores nominavit propter senectutem.

Eutropius 1.2

Cato on the Greeks

Dicam de istis Graecis suo loco, M. fili, quid Athenis exquisitum habeam et quod bonum sit illorum litteras inspicere, non perdiscere. vincam **nequissimum et indocile genus** illorum, et hoc puta vatem dixisse: quandoque ista gens suas litteras dabit, omnia conrumpet ...**nos quoque dictitant barbaros** et spurcius nos quam alios *Οπικων* appellatione foedant.

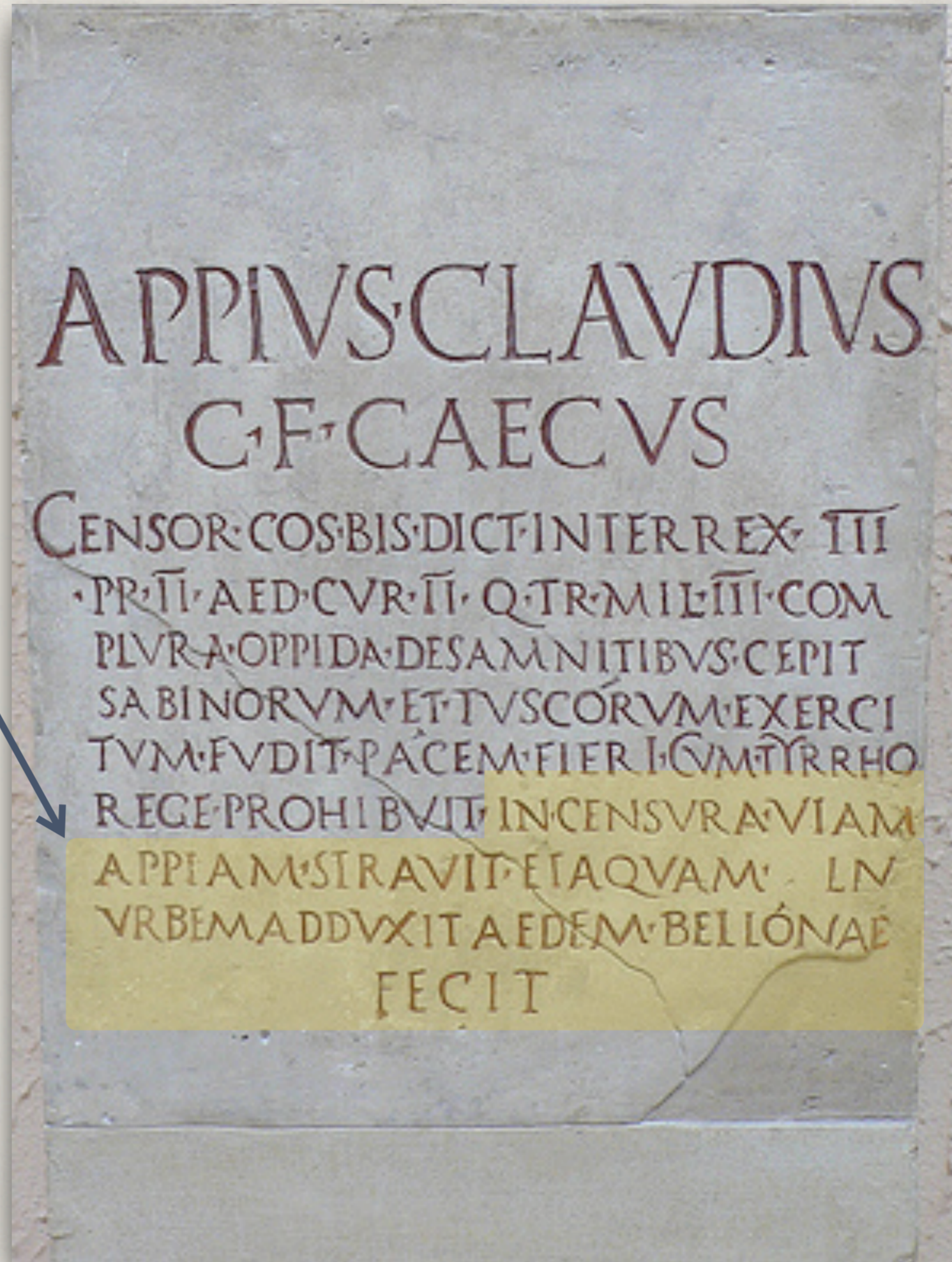
Plutarch *NH* 29.13

In censura Viam

Appiam stravit et aquam in
urbem adduxit. Aedem Bellonae
fecit.

Et censura clara eo anno Ap.
Claudi et C. Plauti fuit;
memoriae tamen felicioris ad
posteris nomen Appi, quod
viam munivit et aquam in
urbem duxit.

Livy 2.9



Turning back to the other achievements of Appius Claudius, we learn that he left three substantial monuments: a road, an aqueduct, and a temple.

"The extraordinary greatness of the Roman Empire manifests itself above all in three things: the aqueducts, the paved roads, and the construction of the drains."

Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Ant. Rom. 3.67.5[10]

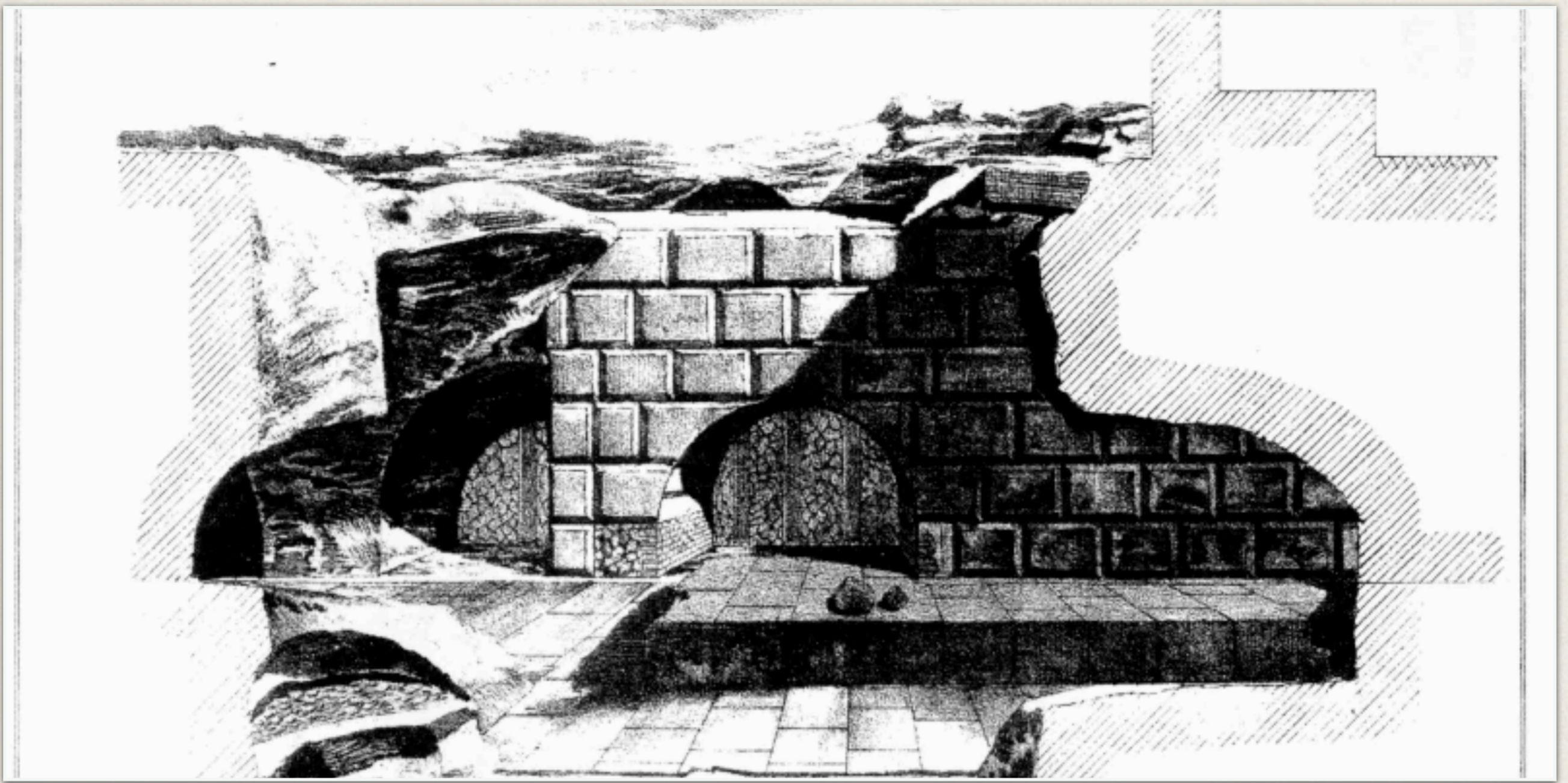
Livy 10.19.17

Dicitur Appius in medio pugnae discrimine, ita ut inter prima signa manibus ad caelum sublatis conspiceretur, ita precatus esse: "Bellona, si hodie nobis uictoriam duis, ast ego tibi templum uoueo."



Monty Python's *Life of Brian*

1979. Dir: Terry Jones



Aqua / Aquaeductum

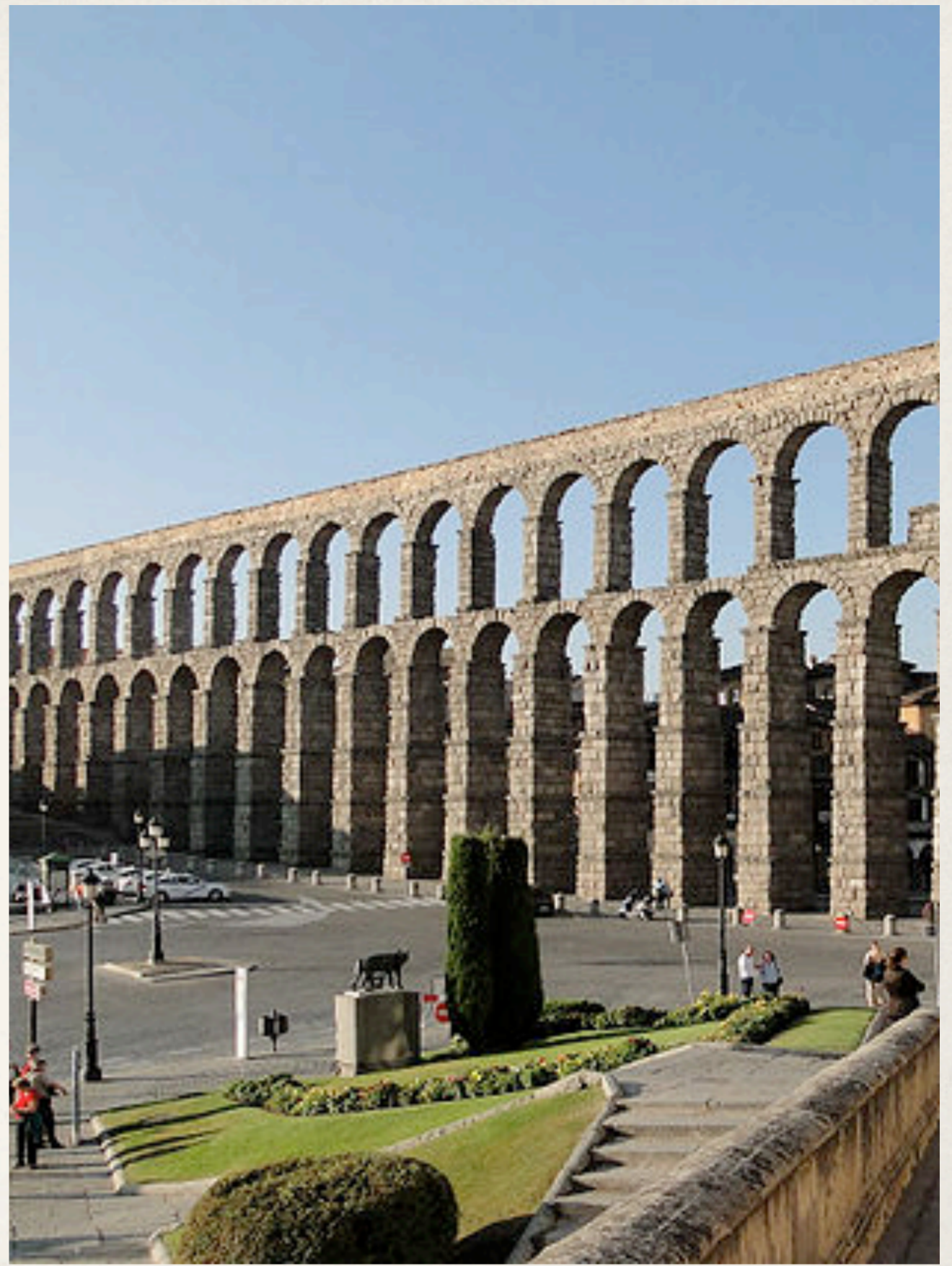
nil magis mirandum ... in toto orbe terrarum (Pliny NH 36.15.24)

Drawing by J. H. Parker <<http://www.romanaqueducts.info/aquasite/romappia/foto6.html>>

Speaking of what the Romans have done for us, let's consider the first of Appius' monumental legacies.



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pont_du_gard.jpg



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aqueduct_of_Segovia_02.jpg

We're used to seeing impressive structures like the Pont du Gard and the one in Segovia, Spain.



<http://www.news24.com/Technology/News/Hi-tech-explorers-map-Romes-ancient-aqueduct-20131029>

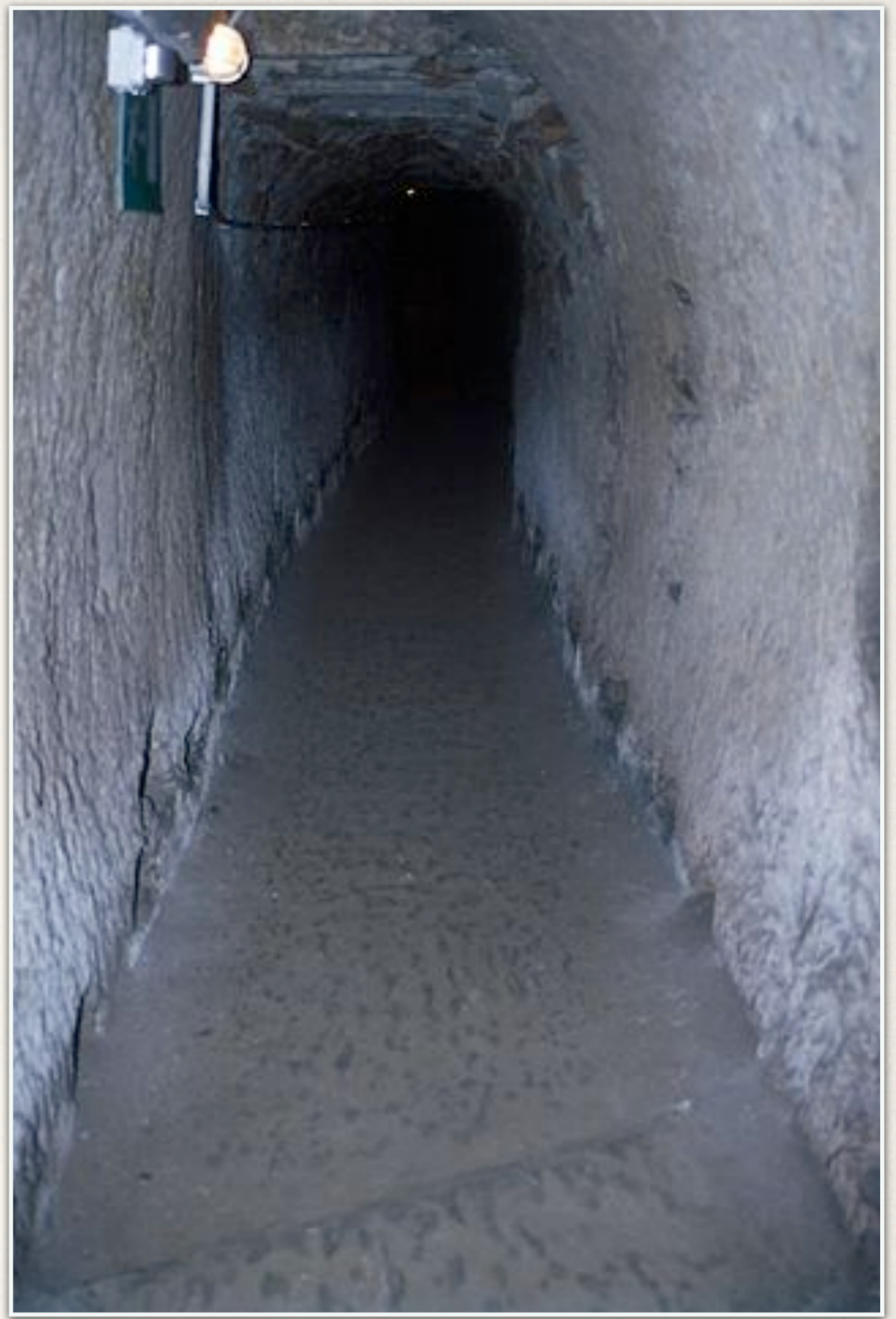


Photo: Tyler Bell <<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tylerbell/4099020671/>>

But in fact, Appius' aquaduct was largely underground (not actually either of these images).

.....

Right pic in Naples. Left pic is actually Aqua Claudia, which brings us to the question of names.

- ❖ Eo tempore Ap. Claudius censor **Aquam Claudiam** induxit et Viam Appiam stravit.

Eutropius 2.9

- ❖ Viam usque Brundisium lapide stravit, unde illa Appia dicitur. **Aquam Anienem** in urbem induxit.

ps.-Aurelius Victor *De viris illustribus* 34

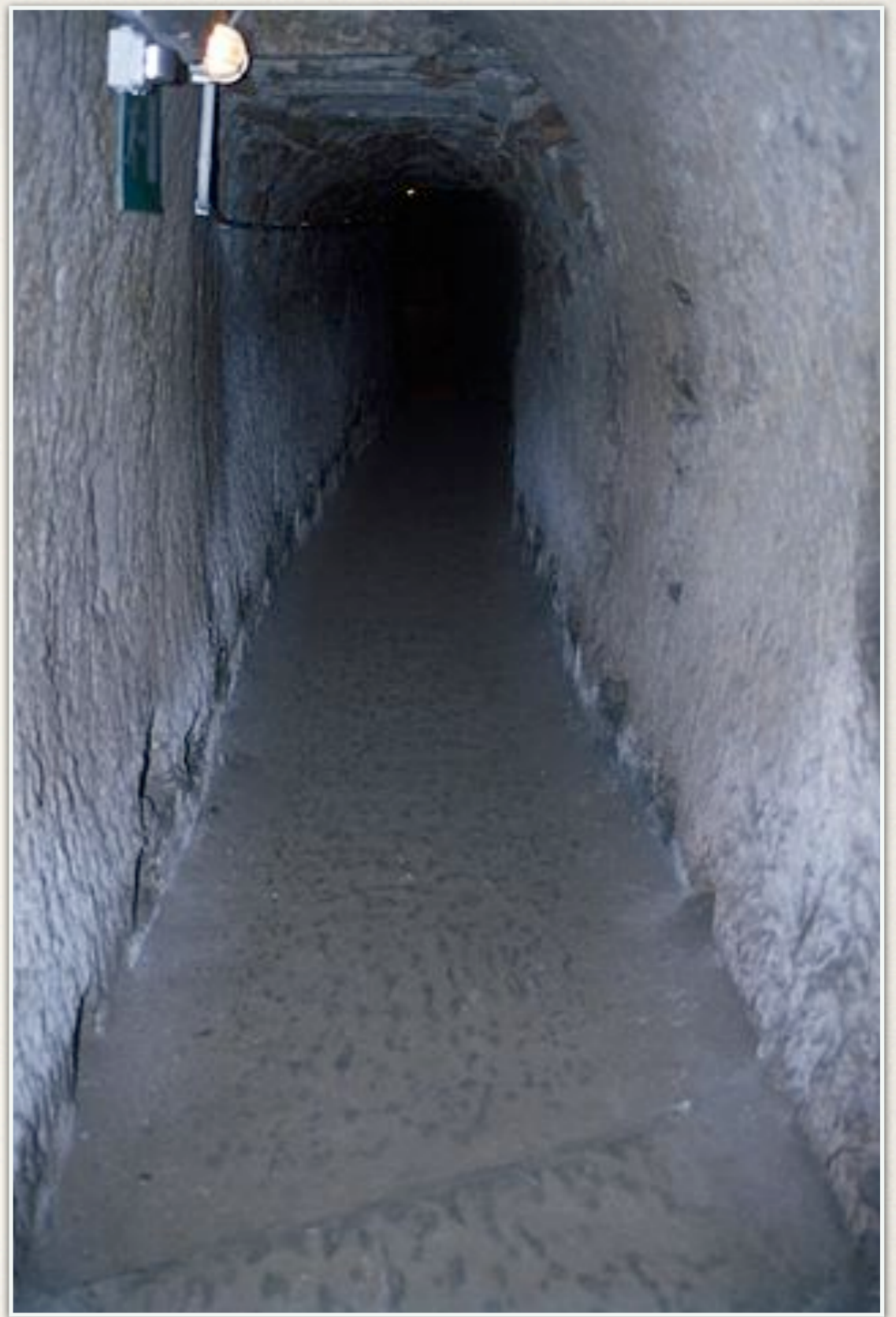


Photo: Tyler Bell <<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tylerbell/4099020671/>>

First you might point out the specifically technical use here of vocabulary with multiple meanings: inducere, sternere.

While the road was named in the inscription, the aquaduct wasn't and sources, as we can see, vary in the name given; what was it in fact called?

Once again, have the students evaluate sources, and the sources sources.

M. Valerio Maximo P. Decio Mure consulibus, anno post initium Samnitici belli tricesimo **Aqua Appia** in urbem inducta est ab Appio Claudio Crasso censore, cui postea Caeco fuit cognomen, qui et Viam Appiam a Porta Capena usque ad urbem Capuam muniendam curavit.

Frontinus 1.5

And a third...students don't have to read all of this if it's too advanced.

Here's a perfect opportunity to spiral back to previous discussion of Roman nomenclature, if we point out the reference to his cognomen originally being Crassus.

.....

Note the verb muniendam (cf. munivit in Livy 2.9). Such a road was called a via munita.

	Appia	Aniensis	Claudia
Author	Frontinus	ps.-Aurelius Victor	Eutropius
Date	1st century	4th century?	4th century
Work	<i>De aquaeductu</i>	<i>De viris illustribus</i>	history of Rome from founding

So how can we judge the reliability of the sources?

We have date of writing, obviously, and the nature and purpose of the work. Hopefully students will see that Frontinus is not only closest in date to the event, but is also writing a work specifically about aqueducts.

Eutropius epitome of Livy.

Sextus Julius Frontinus (ca. 40–103 AD)

Flavius Eutropius (fl. second half of 4th c.)

Sextus Aurelius Victor (ca. 320 – ca. 390), but this may not be him.

At the ninth annual Jeanne S. Chall Lecture on Wednesday, October 9, University of Michigan Professor Nell Duke, Ed.M.'95, Ed.D.'99 ... helped educators navigate shifts in educational practice in response to Common Core State Standards (CCSS) ...

Among the various ways Duke noted how to incorporate these shifts in the classroom are by ... heightening awareness about the Internet's trustworthiness by using the WWWDOT approach. The latter requires students **asking specific questions about websites used for information, such as who wrote the site, why, and when.**

Jill Anderson for Harvard GSE blog

RH.9-10.1

Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

... tristis et aspera censura ... [M. Porcii Catonis
et L. Valerii Flacci] fuit ...

Aquam publicam omnem in privatum aedificium
aut agrum fluentem ademerunt ...

cloacas, in Aventino et in aliis partibus, qua
nondum erant, faciendas locaverunt.

Livy 39.40

During his censorship, the aforementioned M. Porcius Cato was also involved with public works. Here we have the problem of people routing water from the aqueducts to their private property (cf. stealing cable?). We also get a mention of the third engineering marvel of Rome: the sewers.

"The extraordinary greatness of the Roman Empire manifests itself above all in three things: the aqueducts, the paved roads, and the construction of the drains." (Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Ant. Rom. 3.67.5)



Via Appia

Appia longarum ... regina viarum (Statius Silvae 2.12)

Photo copyright Radosław Botev

Back to the public—and enduring—legacy of our friend Appius, we have the lovely “queen of roads.” In fact, Appius was responsible for STARTING the road which bears his name, but it was extended and improved over time.

Cn. et Q. Ogulnii aediles curules ... semitam ... saxo quadrato a Capena porta ad [Campum] Martis straverunt.

Ab aedilibus curulibus ... via a [Campo] Martis silice ad Bovillas perstrata est.

Censores Romae T. Quinctius Flaminius et M. Claudius Marcellus ... viam silice sternendam a porta Capena ad [Campum] Martis locaverunt.

Livy 10.23.12, 10.47.4, 38.28.3

For those who want to read through the slides later, here are some sources about upgrades made to the road surface.

We learn that the curule aediles, as well as the censors, were also involved with public works.

Note the building materials involved (saxo quadrato, silice)

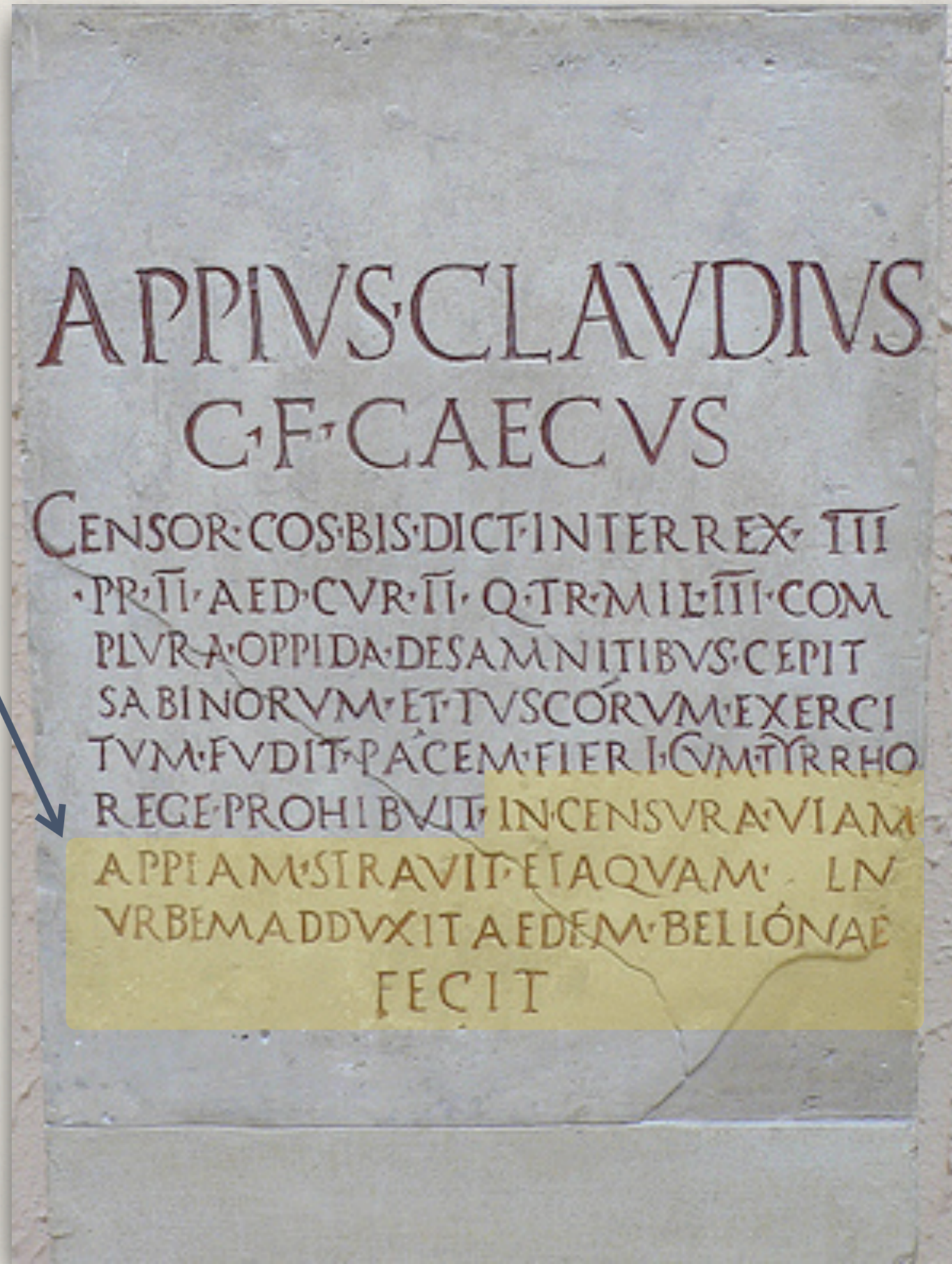
Nice contrast of active and passive. Single sentence with both ab agent and ab place from which. And another nice gerundive.

In censura Viam

Appiam stravit et aquam in
urbem adduxit. Aedem Bellonae
fecit.

Et censura clara eo anno Ap.
Claudi et C. Plauti fuit;
**memoriae tamen felicioris ad
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urbem duxit

Livy 2.9



M. Valerio Maximo P. Decio Mure consulibus, anno post initium Samnitici belli tricesimo Aqua Appia in urbem inducta est ab Appio Claudio Crasso censore, cui postea Caeco fuit cognomen, qui et **Viam Appiam a Porta Capena usque ad urbem Capuam muniendam curavit**. Collegam habuit C. Plautium, cui ob inquisitas eius aquae venas Venocis cognomen datum est. Sed quia is intra annum et sex menses deceptus a collega tamquam idem facturo abdicavit se censura, **nomen aquae ad Appii tantum honorem pertinuit, qui multis tergiversationibus extraxisse censuram traditur, donec et viam et huius aquae ductum consummaret.**

Frontinus 1.5

But while Livy focuses on the positive benefits (both for society and Appius Claudius's legacy), Frontinus reveals a little more scepticism about Appius' motives. His "good works" could only be achieved by extending his censorship beyond that of his co-censor, which was clearly frowned upon, and is in fact part of a substantial negative tradition, at least among later historians.

.....
Diod. 20.36.1-2 on misuse of public funds. Mommsen argued that Appius prolonged term was legal. Suetonius gives Appius Claudius as one of the good Claudii, but not because of public works.

Tabula Peutingeriana

<http://www.omnesviae.org/>


OMNES VIAE: ROMAN ROUTEPLANNER
a reconstruction of an antique Roman map with internet technology

| en | de | el | fr | it | nl |

Map | Reconstruction | Acknowledgements |


ITER VESTRUM
AB:
AD:

ITER BREVISSIMUM
AB 'ROMA' AD 'BOBELLAS'
SUMMA X MILIA PASSUUM / LEUGA GALLICA.
FERE DIES DVRAT.




ROMA (Roma)

x. VIA APPIA



BOBELLAS (Frattocchie)



Google

Map data ©2013 Google Terms of Use

RENATUS FORO HADRIANI FECIT MMXI | VOORBURG (AT) XS4ALL .NL

● Tabula Peutingeriana
● missing part, reconstructed

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You can show students the extent of the Via Appia (and a whole bunch of other Roman roads) on the famous Peutinger Table, which— though medieval— is believed to derive from an ancient map. At the website [omnesviae.org](http://www.omnesviae.org), students can plot routes along the roads and calculate distances and approximate travel time.

Tabula Peutingeriana

<http://peutinger.atlantides.org/>



Scale = 1:100000

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Here's another digital version.

Aureus. AD 88–89.
Classical Numismatic
Group, Inc. [http://
www.cngcoins.com](http://www.cngcoins.com).
Creative Commons
Attribution Generic 2.5
license.



Status Marcello suo salutem.

Inveni librum, Marcelle carissime, quem pietati tuae
dedicarem. **tertio viam Domitianam miratus sum qua
gravissimam harenarum moram exemit: cuius beneficio
tu quoque maturius epistolam meam accipies, quam tibi
in hoc libro a Neapoli scribo.**

Status Silvae 4 pr.

What do we know about how roads were constructed? Again, this is something that crops up in many textbooks, presented in English with very little, if any, reference to how we know this stuff.

Unexpectedly, one of our best sources for the construction of roads is in fact literary. This is the prologue to Book 4 of Statius' "Silvae," a collection of occasional poems on various topics, one of which is the Via Domitiana, which joined the Via Appia at Formiae

It's in the form of a letter to its dedicatee, Marcellus, and the relevant part for us is...
"Thirdly, I show admiration for the Via Domitiana, by means of which the annoying delays caused by the sandy ground have been eliminated. Thanks to it, you will receive the letter I write to you from Naples in this volume more swiftly."

Interestingly, after his assassination, Domitian suffered damnatio memoriae: his coins were melted, his statues destroyed or recut into the image of Nerva. Negative historical accounts were written under his successors, but do we have reason to believe that Statius'

Hic primus labor incohare sulcos
et rescindere limites et alto
egestu penitus cavare terras;
mox haustas aliter replere fossas
et summo gremium parare dorso,
ne nutent sola, ne maligna sedes
et pressis dubium cubile saxis;
tunc umbonibus hinc et hinc coactis
et crebris iter alligare gonfis.

Statius Silvae 3.40–48

The first labour was to mark out
trenches,
Carve out the sides, and by deep
excavation
Remove the earth inside. Then they
filled
The empty trenches with other matter,
And prepared a base for the raised
spine,
So the soil was firm, lest an unstable
floor
Make a shifting bed for the paving
stones;
Then laid the road with close-set
blocks
All round, wedges densely
interspersed.

Trans. A. S. Kline

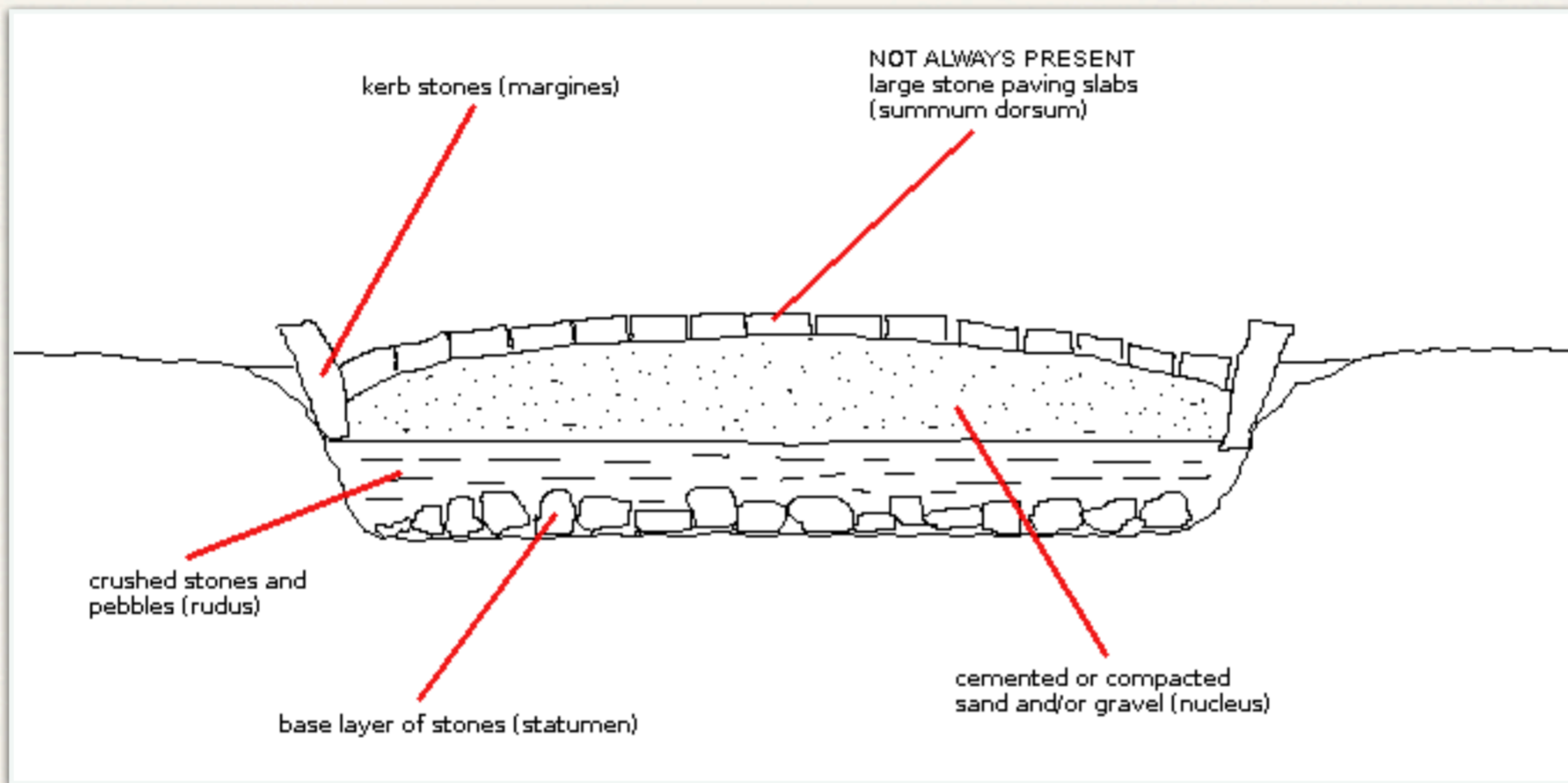
We're not going to go through this in detail now, but again, you have a source that describes a process and that students can compare to other kinds of evidence. It's not an easy read, but can be done with enough assistance.



Cross-section of a Roman road in Fuenterroble, Spain.

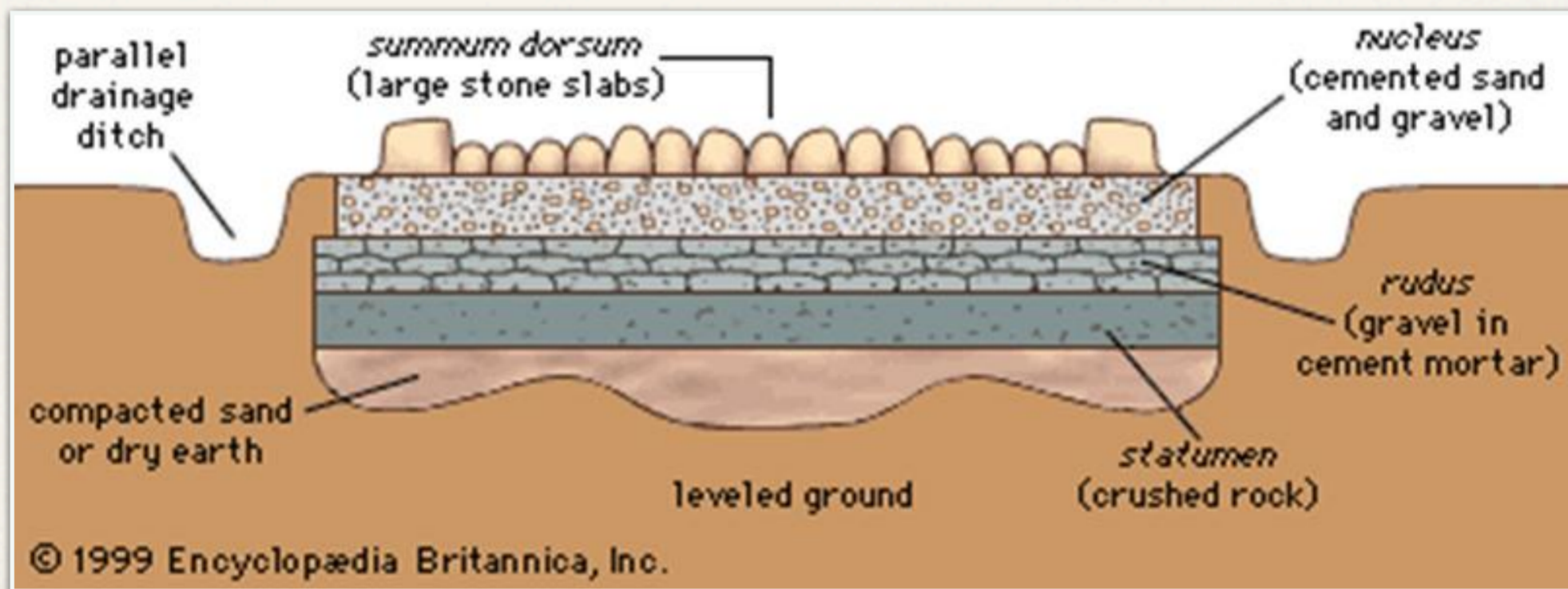
Photo copyright Jim Paton < <http://www.flickr.com/photos/27727912@N03/4592690220/> >.

To accompany the written sources, we have archaeological evidence.



[Wikimedia Commons user PocklingtonDan](#). Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 3.0 license.

Here's a diagram to help students see what they are looking at and to connect the terminology with what they have seen in the literary source.



Here's another diagram, which comes from an interesting source ... ultimately from the Encyclopædia Britannica, but via ...



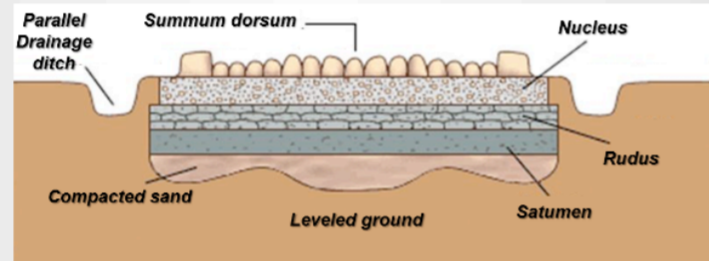
Pavement Drainage

Please note – Drainage of water away from pavements has been an important consideration in road construction for more than 2000 years. This chapter addresses some basic surface and subsurface drainage considerations that should be evaluated in the design and construction of all pavements. Many localities have established certain standards and requirements for pavement drainage, as has the Virginia Department of Transportation. All applicable sections of these state and local requirements should be followed. The information contained herein is provided as an additional reference source for basic design and construction considerations.



I – General Pavement Drainage

Since the Romans began building long lasting roads highway engineers have recognized the critical necessity of good drainage in the design and construction of any type pavement. Probably no other feature



plays as important a role in determining the ability of a pavement to withstand the effects of weather and traffic and in providing trouble-free service over long periods of time.

However, modern materials processing, handling, and placement often results in base and subbase courses that do not adequately drain or transmit water. Traffic volumes and loads with accentuate this problem and often lead to moisture induced premature and catastrophic pavement distress.

Related Pages

- Recycling
- Pavement Design By Use
- Structural Design
- Use of Prime Coat

<http://www.vaasphalt.org/asphalt-pavement-drainage/>

... the website for the Virginia asphalt association, whose engineers are still concerned with the same issues of drainage and road run-off as the Roman engineers were.



Q GRANIVS M F
LABEO TR MIL
LEG TERTIAE

Photo: A. Fassbender. <http://cil.bbaw.de/dateien/cil_view.php?KO=KO0047230>

Roads were built for military purposes, but also by military engineers. The Via Appia was built during the Samnite Wars, both to facilitate troops movement, but also to provide a swift supply route. As Rome's empire expanded, and wars were fought on fronts outside of Italy, the road system was extended.

This particular inscription was found near the Mausoleum of Caecilia Metella on the Via Appia.