

## FINAL TAKE HOME QUESTION

### Women in Antiquity

Imagine a typical upper-class woman in her early thirties in Rome during the period of the early empire. Describe in detail her background and life, striving to make her as **representative** of other women of her station as possible. She must be fictional, invented by you, not an actual historical woman. It can take the form of a fictional, third person narrative or a first person letter or autobiography or any other form that seems suitable. Let her voice and attitudes come through.

Explain how her life would be different from that of a typical woman of classical Athens, including legal, economic, educational, and religious factors as well as her private life.

Finally, evaluate the life of your fictional woman. Do you think that she was happy, secure, fulfilled? Does her life illuminate any attitudes that still persist? Can modern women learn anything from her life?

Instructions:

In 3-5 pages, write a coherent, well-organized, answer to the above questions. In your comparison, concentrate on your Roman woman. Avoid unsupported generalizations. Back up your statements with facts and details from your texts and notes. It is neither necessary nor recommended that you consult any sources other than the ones assigned for class. Since you are telling it from the Roman woman's point of view, it is not necessary to describe in detail the classical Athenian woman's life nor to back up your statements about her with quotations; include only as much information as is necessary to see the changes and differences in the life of the Roman woman.