

RES REPUBLICA – THE REPUBLIC

(A matter of the people)

The Citizens of Rome

(Divided into two classes)

They all met in the **assembly**. Here they elected:

Elected

The Magistrates, officials who were appointed to be judges, to look after the city's finances and other jobs.

Retired

The Patricians
(nobles who owned large estates and were descended from the founders of the city.)

The Plebeians
(ordinary peasant farmers and craftsmen.)

Two Consuls governed the city. They were elected for one year only ~~and could not be elected again until 10 years had passed.~~ They both had to agree before a decision was made

Tribunes were appointed to protect the ordinary people against unfair treatment.

The Senate - When magistrates retired they became members of the senate. They had a lot of experience and gave advice to the Consuls. The Senate became very important and ended up controlling Rome.

- When Romans spoke of "the people" they meant Roman Citizens. This did not include the many slaves in Rome, most of whom were prisoners of war. Nor did it include women.
- Only Roman citizens were able to vote.
- Only Roman citizens could be elected into government jobs.
- All Roman citizens were expected to fight in the army when needed.