

Reading 2

Read this text about Romulus and Remus, the mythological twin brothers who founded the city of Rome, and answer the questions.



Romulus and Remus were twin boys born to a princess called Rhea Silvia. Their father was the violent Roman god of war, Mars. The king was afraid that some day Romulus and Remus would take his throne, so he had the boys left in a basket on the Tiber River. He figured they would soon die.

The boys were found by a she-wolf. The wolf cared for them and protected them from other wild animals. A friendly bird helped to find them food. One day some shepherds¹ found the twins. One shepherd took the boys home, raised them, and took care of them as his own children.

As the boys grew older, they became natural leaders. One day Remus was captured and taken to the king, who discovered his true identity. Romulus and some shepherds went there to rescue his brother and killed the king. When the city learned who the boys were, they wanted them to be kings. However, they didn't want the crowns because they wanted to found their own city. The twins left and started to find the perfect land for their city.

The twins eventually came to the place where Rome is located today. They both liked the general area, but each wanted to place the city on a different hill. Romulus wanted the city to be on top of Palatine Hill while Remus preferred Aventine Hill. They agreed to wait for a sign from the gods, called an augury, to decide which hill to use. Remus saw the sign of six vultures first, but Romulus saw twelve. Each claimed to have won.

Romulus started building a wall around Palantine Hill. However, Remus was jealous and began to make fun of Romulus' wall. At one point Remus jumped over the wall and destroyed it. Romulus became angry and killed Remus.

With Remus dead, Romulus continued to work on his city. He officially founded the city on April 21, 753 BC (before Christ), making himself king, and naming it Rome after himself.

¹ Pastor/artzaina

21. Romulus and Remus were the sons of _____ and _____.

22. The king...

- A. abandoned the twins in the Tiber.
- B. killed the twins in the Tiber.
- C. liked the twins and adopted them.
- D. wanted to start a war with Mars.

23. The two animals that helped Romulus and Remus were a _____ and a _____.

24. When Remus was captured, ...

- A. Remus and Romulus became kings.
- B. Romulus saved him.
- C. the king didn't know Remus was one of the twins.
- D. the king started looking for Romulus.

25. The twins didn't agree and had a fight because they wanted to build the city in the same _____, but on a different _____.

26. Say if these sentences are true or false:

	True	False
A. The king left the twins in the Tiber in order to protect them.		
B. We learn about the fights between the two brothers in paragraphs 3 and 4.		
C. Romulus thought he had won because he had seen more vultures.		
D. Rome was founded on Palatine Hill.		

27. Romulus killed Remus because he got...

- A. ambitious.
- B. furious.
- C. jealous.
- D. tired of fighting.

28. Romulus founded Rome...

- A. in the 6th century BC.
- B. in the 7th century BC.
- C. in the 8th century BC.
- D. in the summer of 753 BC.

29. One title for this text could be...

- A. THE FOUNDATION OF ROME.
- B. THE KILLING OF REMUS.
- C. THE TWINS AND THE WOLVES.
- D. THE WAR BETWEEN THE TWINS.

30. This text can appear in a...

- A. book of fairy tales.
- B. book of myths and legends.
- C. newspaper.
- D. travel magazine.