NAME: _____

HISTORY

THE STORY OF LUCRETIA

While in the Roman camp Sextus Tarquinius (son of the King- Tarquin **the Proud**) and Lucius Tarquinius Collatinus (also the king's nephew) placed bets on which of their wives was more virtuous. To test it, they decided to visit them by surprise and discovered them at parties. However, at Tarquin's house they find her wife, Lucretia, sitting by the fire, surrounded by her slaves, and weaving.

The king's son, Sextus Tarquinius, became obsessed with Lucretia's beauty and days later, he would return to her house. Taking advantage of her condition, Lucretia gave him hospitality and offered him a room to spend the night. However, at night Sextus entered Lucretia's room and raped her.

Although Lucretia could have kept her secret, she decides to send emissaries to her father and her husband, Lucius Brutus, and tells them what happened:

«Colatinus, there are traces of another man in your bed; now, only my body has been violated, my will is innocent; my death will attest to this. But give me your right hand and your word that the guilty will not go unpunished."

The noble Lucretia decided to take that decision without hesitation to commit suicide by stabbing herself with a dagger.

Thus the corrupt and abject monarchy ended in the year 509 BC, which will be identified as a form of tyranny since then, and marked the origin of a new regime: ***THE ROMAN REPUBLIC.***

1. Tarquin the proud and Lucius Tarquinius Collatinus placed bets on which of their wives was more virtues_____
2. Sextus Taquinius became obsessed with Lucretia's beauty_____
3. Lucretia kept the secret for days and then send emissaries to her father and her husband_____
4. Lucretia committed suicide with hesitation _____
5. This action marked the ended of a monarchy and the start of a new regime _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS