**CHW3M Rome – Getting Ready for Julius Caesar**

*Let’s synthesize (put information together)*

We are approaching the end of the Republic. Boy, those 500 years went by really quickly. Don’t worry, you know what you need to know to get to the next part, Julius Caesar. This sheet fills in a few important items.

**PERSIAT Overview**

P – Romans in favour of their form of Republican government described it as: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Some powerful government positions included: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

S – Social War – Not surprisingly, the Italians (non-Romans) fought the Romans over the issue of citizenship in 90 CE – the Italians wanted the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Roman citizenship.

Despite some gains for the plebeians, it was still tough to be an ordinary person. Two famous brothers, Gaius and Tiberius Gracchus both ended up dead because they tried to address the gap between rich landowners (patricians) and the urban poor. Tiberius wanted to redistribute land from rich to poor. Gaius wanted to give a free monthly supply of grain to the poor and to give some rights to non-Romans.

There had been some army reforms that changed the loyalty of soldiers. The permanent army had a 16-year term of service. Veterans got a pension (money to live on) after they served. Having better conditions inspired more loyalty. The military was very organized which allowed soldiers to work their way up. But, the problem with the organization was that it inspired soldiers to be loyal to their general, not to the Roman state.

The late Republic experienced a series of civil wars. Finally, three strong military leaders came together in the First Triumvirate to try to seize power and govern Rome. They weren’t exactly following the constitution. The rule of three was made up of Pompey the Great, Crassus and Julius Caesar.

What happened to each of the three? Pompey, famous for defeating Mediterranean pirates, ultimately fell out with Caesar. He agreed with the Senate’s order to disband Caesar’s army and fled to Egypt where he was defeated and then killed by people loyal to Caesar. Crassus, famous for crushing a slave revolt and for fighting against the Parthians, was eventually defeated by the Parthians and killed. That left Caesar, famous as the subjugator of the Gauls (and others). Along with his incredibly loyal troops, he crossed the Rubicon River in 49 BCE into Italian territory even after the Senate told him not to. This made it an illegal act.

Now, as a group, take out the handout entitled “Alternative Interpretations of Caesar” and make the appropriate 🗶s and ✓s.