



Instructions: Use the word bank to label the map. Read the Did you know? box. Number the 4 events in order, tick True or False, match each word to its meaning, then write short answers.

Word bank (places): Augusta Treverorum (Trier) Ctesiphon Edessa Nicomedia Palmyra Rome

1. Label the map



1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____
5 _____ 6 _____

Did you know?

- In 50 years there were more than 20 emperors.
- Coins were made with less and less silver, so prices went up.
- Queen Zenobia of Palmyra ruled a big part of the East.



Prices rise, coins shrink

About this story

In 235 AD the emperor Severus Alexander was killed by his own soldiers. For the next 50 years armies kept choosing their generals as emperors, the so-called soldier emperors. Most ruled for only a few years.

2. Put the events in order

Write 1 to 4 in the boxes (1 = first).

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Valerian captured; empire splits | ☐ Crisis begins |
| ☐ Diocletian ends the crisis | ☐ Zenobia defeated; Gaul reunited |

3. True or false?

A Roman emperor, Valerian, was captured by the Persians.	☐ True	☐ False
Zenobia ruled from Palmyra.	☐ True	☐ False
The crisis lasted only two weeks.	☐ True	☐ False
Diocletian helped end the crisis.	☐ True	☐ False

4. Match up

Write the letter of the right meaning in the box.

Inflation	A. Rule by four emperors.
Soldier emperor	B. When prices rise and money buys less.
Tetrarchy	C. Someone who takes power illegally.
Usurper	D. An emperor chosen by the army.

5. Short answers

1. How many emperors were there in about 50 years?

2. Which queen ruled Palmyra?

3. Which emperor reunited the empire?

4. Explain in your own words: In your own words, explain three problems Rome faced in the third century.

5. Stretch: Why did the empire split into three?