



Instructions: No word bank: name the numbered places from memory or from the module. Number the events in order and write each date. Analyse the source, explain significance, then write full-sentence answers and plan the essay.

1. Name the places (no word bank)



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

Did you know?

- Constantinople was built on the site of the Greek city of Byzantium; today it is Istanbul.
- Constantine's gold solidus coin stayed stable for about 700 years.
- Constantine was baptised only shortly before his death in 337 AD.
- At Nicaea in 325 AD bishops agreed the first version of the Nicene Creed.

Background

Constantine was born around 272 AD in Naissus (Niš, Serbia), son of the tetrarch Constantius and Helena. When his father died at Eboracum (York) in 306 AD, the soldiers there declared Constantine emperor. Years of civil war followed between rival emperors.

2. Timeline: order and date

Number the events 1 to 7 (1 = earliest) and write the date of each.

#	Event	Date
1	Battle of the Milvian Bridge	
2	Council of Nicaea	
3	Edict of Milan	
4	Constantinople dedicated	
5	Declared emperor at York	
6	Constantine defeats Licinius and rules alone	
7	Constantine dies	

4. Significance

Person or term	Who or what? Why were they significant?
Constantine I	
Helena	
Maxentius	
Licinius	
Theodosius I	

3. Source analysis

Constantine was told in a dream to mark the heavenly sign of God on his soldiers' shields and so to go into battle. He did as he was commanded, marking Christ on the shields with a letter X turned, its top bent round.

Lactantius, On the Deaths of the Persecutors 44 (written c.315 AD; paraphrased)

1. What does Lactantius say Constantine did before the battle, and why?

2. Lactantius was a Christian teacher who later worked for Constantine. How might this affect his account?

3. Another writer, Eusebius, describes a vision in the sky instead. What does this tell us?

5. Cause and consequence

1. Explain two reasons why Constantine supported Christianity.

2. Explain two consequences of Constantine's reign.

6. Longer answers (full sentences)

1. Explain the difference between the Edict of Milan (313) and Theodosius's law (380).

2. Why was the Council of Nicaea called?

3. How did Constantine's choices shape Europe?

4. Was Constantine's support for Christianity sincere or political? Discuss.

5. Explain in your own words: Why was Constantinople a good place for a capital?

7. Essay question

Essay: Did Constantine change the Roman Empire more than any other emperor? Use evidence from this course.

Plan: introduction · point for (evidence) · point against (evidence) · conclusion with your judgement.
