

“Years of Eruption” study sheet; due Monday, December 2, 2013

Please write your responses on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Who was emperor in 68 AD, and where did the revolt against him begin?
2. Where was Vespasian when Nero committed suicide?
3. What had Vespasian’s father and grandfather been employed as?
4. Ronald Mellor says that the civil war reveals a “dirty secret of the empire,” that power really rested where?
5. Where was Pliny the Younger was born?
6. What happens when Vespasian tries to cure the blind and the lame?
7. How are things going for the Jewish rebels in Judaea when Vespasian returns in 70 AD?
8. Who is Josephus?
9. What causes the collapse of the wall of Jerusalem?
10. How does the satirist Juvenal feel about Greeks in Rome? About women who have opinions on literature?
11. Josephus describes Vespasian’s triumph; what stands out for him above the rest?
12. What important post does Pliny the Elder receive from Vespasian?
13. What does Vespasian say on his deathbed?
14. Whom does Vespasian want to succeed him as ruler?
15. Why might a free person want to become a gladiator?
16. How did Pliny the Younger’s uncle, Pliny the Elder, die?
17. Why did the senate reject a plan to have slaves dress differently from non-slaves?
18. Who becomes emperor after the death of Vespasian’s elder son Titus?
19. What is Pliny’s approach to a career in Rome under a bad emperor?
20. What happens to Domitian? How were the next emperors, Nerva and then Trajan, chosen?