

# ABOUT THIS PACKET

The Reading Passages in this packet allow students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

TASK	OVERVIEW
<b>TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANKS</b>	Using Close Reading strategies, students will use context clues to fill in the missing words in the reading passage. This will then be used as the main passage to use for the remaining tasks.
<b>TASK 2: VOCABULARY</b>	The vocabulary activity helps kids identify and understand new or unfamiliar words before they complete further activities.
<b>TASK 3: RESPOND</b>	Students will choose from three writing prompts and write their answer to just one of them using complete sentences.
<b>TASK 4: TRUE OR FALSE</b>	Students complete this activity to show overall comprehension of the passage. They may refer back to the passage when necessary. In the end, they add up the TRUE statements.
<b>TASK 5: MULTIPLE CHOICE</b>	For a quick formative check for understanding, students will answer 10 multiple choice questions.
<b>TASK 6: WORD SEARCH</b>	Students will search for key vocabulary words related to the topic. Several unused letters will spell out a secret message.
<b>FINAL TASK: SUMMARY (OPTIONAL)</b>	This is an optional summary graphic organizer to use if needed. Could be used for early finishers, an extension activity, or as a final check for understanding.

GRADE LEVEL	RANGE
4	MIDDLE
4	END
5	BEGINNING
5	MIDDLE
5	END
6	BEGINNING
6	MIDDLE
6	END
7	BEGINNING

# TASK #1: FILL IN THE BLANK

EARN THIS!

Directions: Use the words below to fill in the reading.

Christian	centuries	Eastern
Justinian I	gods	invaders
330	Israel	New Rome

In 285, the Roman Empire was split into two parts by the Emperor Diocletian. Over the years, it was split again and reunited, but in \_\_\_\_\_ AD, the empire was divided into two for good. The Byzantine Empire was the \_\_\_\_\_ part of the Roman Empire, which occupied the same area as the current countries of Italy, Greece, and Turkey, as well as parts of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and \_\_\_\_\_. The name Byzantine Empire was used to describe a particular era of the Roman Empire, which was from approximately the year 330 to 1453 AD. Generations of emperors, or Basileus, ruled the Byzantine Empire for eleven \_\_\_\_\_.

Emperor Constantine was one of the first emperors of the Byzantine Empire and came into power in 306. He named the capital city Nova Roma, meaning \_\_\_\_\_, in the year 330, the capital city came to be better known as Constantinople, (Constantine's city) or even as Byzantium. He wanted to squash out the old Roman religion in which they believed in many \_\_\_\_\_ and goddesses in favor of a new religion with one god. The old city of Rome in Italy had pagan (non-Christian) ties to the old religion, and he wanted to start fresh with a new capital of the \_\_\_\_\_ religion. Constantine ruled for 30 years.

Throughout the years around 300-500, much of the Western portion of the Roman Empire was attacked by different groups. The land changed hands many times as new \_\_\_\_\_ came in and wanted to capture the city of Rome in present-day Italy. Even though the rules and political structure changed in the Western Roman Empire, the Byzantine Empire, that was the eastern portion, was not as affected.

Around the year 500, things started to change for the Byzantine Empire. Invaders started pushing toward Constantinople from the East. The Byzantine Empire fought back, and under their new emperor in 527, Emperor \_\_\_\_\_, they even regained some of the Western lands surrounding the Mediterranean Sea like Italy, Spain, and Portugal that had been attacked and lost. Justinian ordered all Roman laws

# TASK #4: TRUE OR FALSE

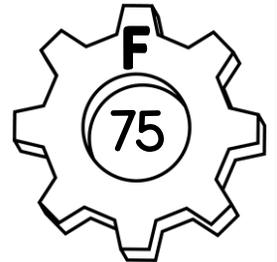


EARN THIS!

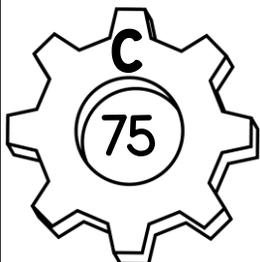
Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the gear that corresponds to that question. If it is false, cross out the gear. When you are finished add the **TOTAL** of ALL TRUE gears.



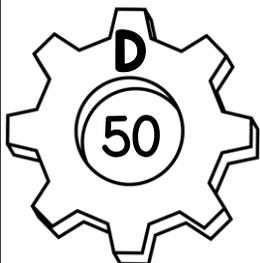
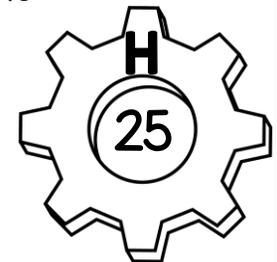
**A.** Constantine ruled for 46 years.



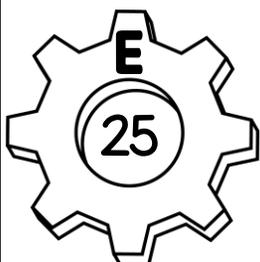
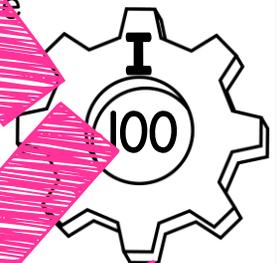
**B.** New Rome became better known as Constantinople or Byzantium.



**C.** Today, Istanbul is the largest city in Turkey.



**D.** The Byzantine Empire fell to the Ottoman Empire in 1453.



**E.** Justinian rewrote the laws into one book called the Corpus of Justin.

**F.** In 285 AD, the Roman Empire was split into two parts by the Emperor Diocletian.

**G.** The Byzantine Empire was the Western part of the Roman Empire.

**H.** Heraclius made Greek the official language.

**I.** The Black Death was a highly contagious disease that was carried by fleas living on rats.

**J.** Justinian had left behind a lot of debt.

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

# TASK #5: MULTIPLE CHOICE



EARN THIS!



Complete the multiple choice questions below by circling the correct answer.



1. What is another word for emperors of the Byzantine Empire?

- A. Themas
- B. Nova Roma
- C. Byzantium
- D. Basileus

6. Constantine ruled for \_\_\_ years.

- A. 15
- B. 20
- C. 25
- D. 30

2. Which emperor split the Roman Empire into two parts?

- A. Byzantium
- B. Justinian I
- C. Diocletian
- D. Heraclius

7. The Black Death was a disease that was carried by \_\_\_ living on rats.

- A. Mosquitoes
- B. Flies
- C. Fleas
- D. Ticks

3. When did Emperor Constantine come into power?

- A. 306
- B. 330
- C. 453
- D. 488

8. The Byzantine Empire was the \_\_\_ part of the Roman Empire.

- A. Eastern
- B. Northern
- C. Southern
- D. Western

4. Who was the leader of the Ottoman Empire when it took over?

- A. Sultan Mehmed
- B. Sultan Ankara
- C. Sultan Heraclius
- D. Sultan Diocletian

9. Justinian regained some of the Western land surrounding the \_\_\_ Sea.

- A. Caribbean
- B. Mediterranean
- C. Timor
- D. Ankara

5. The Byzantine Empire divided their territory into smaller areas called '\_\_\_'.

- A. Depletions
- B. Themes
- C. Nomarchs
- D. Basileus

10. What word means used up?

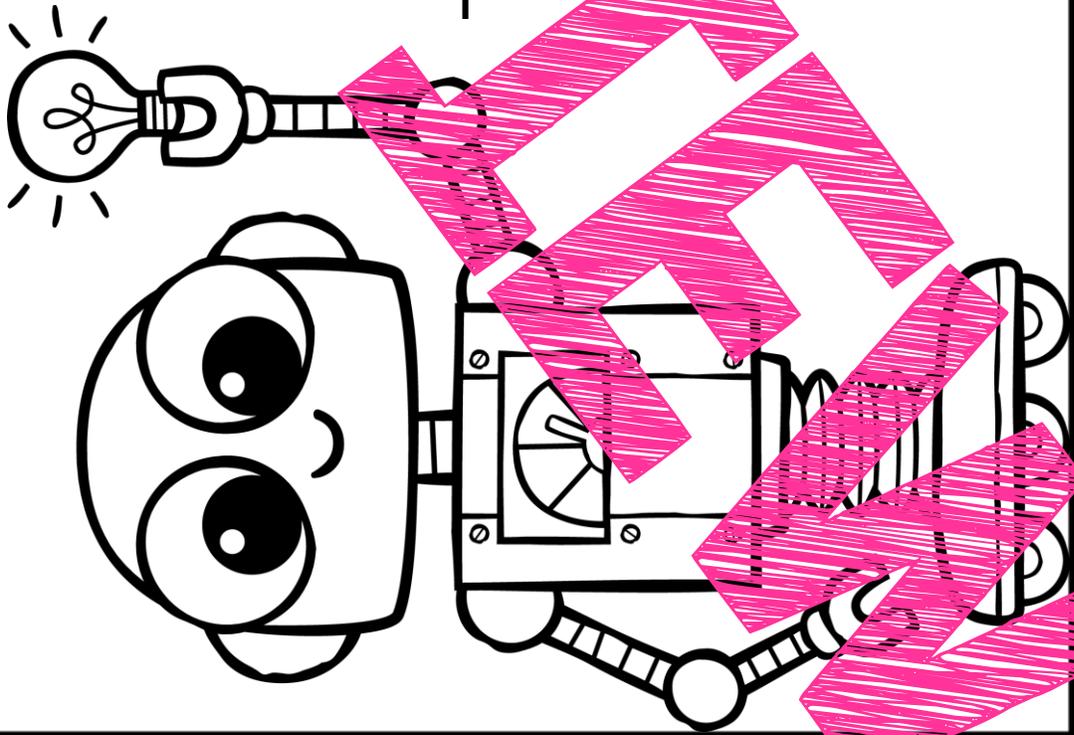
- A. Basileus
- B. Deplore
- C. Themes
- D. Depleted

# BOT CARDS

Complete all 6 tasks correctly, then color and assemble your robot.



# Brilliant Bot Builder



a *read*

*For successfully  
completing 6 reading  
comprehension tasks.*

# MORE RESOURCES

Click on each icon to learn more!

