

Videos For The High School Latin Classroom

1. Pompeii - The Last Day/Colosseum - A Gladiator's Story

- **Pompeii – The Last Day** is a “docudrama” about the final day of Pompeii. The story is based on both Pliny the Younger’s account of the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius and on the most recent archeological evidence. It is well acted with multiple story lines that follow a wealthy politician and his family, two gladiators, and a fuller and his wife. Voice-over narration provides explanations for the most important historical and scientific points. The ending is quite moving. 50 minutes ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
- **Colosseum - A Gladiator's Story** is another excellent “docudrama”. One of the most notable aspects of this video is that the characters speak in Latin while the accompanying English narration provides historically accurate information about gladiators. *A Gladiator's Story* was inspired by an account of a match witnessed and recorded by the Roman poet Martial. The writers created a back-story for the two combatants and follow their lives as they rise from slavery in the mines, are trained in a gladiatorial school, and finally fight in the colosseum. 50 minutes ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Pompeii - The Last Day/Colosseum - A Gladiator's Story are sold together on Amazon.com for \$12.99

2. Foot Soldier: The Romans, narrated by Richard Karn (AI from *Home Improvement*), is an irreverent look at the life & training of the Roman foot soldier. Although the presentation is irreverent, the information is accurate and the off-beat sense of humor holds students’ attention. From A&E:

“Ancient accounts and modern findings are brought to life through extensive re-enactments, not just of battles but of the daily grind of life in the Caesars' army. What did they eat? How were they occupied in the long, dull stretches between battles? Who got stationed in unpopular backwaters of the empire, far from the comforts and culture of Rome? From the iron discipline and strict training to the cultural imperialism that took place after the battles, THE ROMANS is a unique view of an army that left a mark on civilization that still can be seen today.” 50 minutes ★ ★ ★

Foot Soldier: The Romans is available from the A&E Store for \$24.95.

3. Modern Marvels - The Colosseum is a straight-forward documentary about the construction and history of the Roman Colosseum.

50 minutes ★ ★ ★

Modern Marvels - The Colosseum is available at Amazon.com for 21.99.