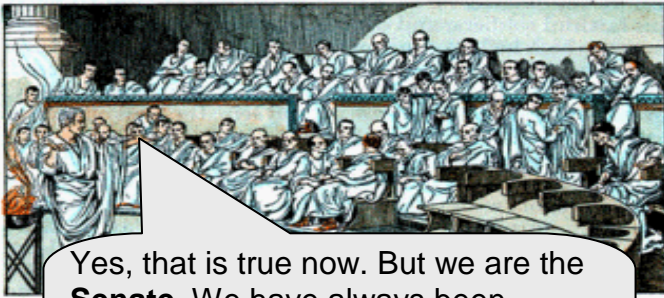


# How was Rome Governed?



Yes, that is true now. But we are the **Senate**. We have always been powerful and you need to watch your back. Don't get too powerful or you will make people very unhappy.

I am the **Emperor**. I am in complete charge. People have to do what I say.



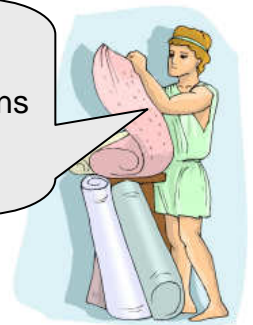
Before Julius Caesar took control in 48BC, the Roman Empire was not ruled by the Emperor but by two **consuls** who were elected by the **citizens** of Rome. Rome was then known as a **Republic**.

## The Republic



I am a **Patrician**. I am wealthy and I am a citizen of Rome which means I can go to the Assembly to vote.

I am a **Plebeian**. I have to work for a living, but I am a citizen of Rome which means I can go to the Assembly to vote



## The Assembly

Citizens of Rome – **Plebeians** and **Patricians**, met in the assembly to vote for **Consuls**, **Magistrates** and **Tribunes**.

Women and slaves were not allowed to vote



I am one of the two **Consuls** elected by the Assembly. We are elected for one year. It is our job to govern Rome. And we have to agree on all decisions.



I am one of the **Magistrates** elected by the Assembly. It is our job to keep law and order as well as looking after Rome's finances. When I retire I will become a Senator.

I am one of the **Tribunes** elected by the Assembly. It is our job to make sure that the people are treated fairly.



## The Senate



We are all **Senators**. We are retired magistrates and know a lot about how to govern Rome. It is our job to give advice to the consuls.

When Rome had an Emperor we gave advice to him. Unfortunately Emperors don't always listen.

### Key Words

**Empire** – Land ruled by an Emperor  
**Emperor** – Rules over an Empire  
**Republic** – Land ruled by elected ruler.  
**Senate** – Gives advice to the ruler.  
**Senator** – A member of the Senate

**Citizen** – Divided into Patrician or Plebians  
**Assembly** – Where citizens went to vote  
**Consuls** – Two, elected to rule Rome  
**Magistrates** – Elected to keep law and order  
**Tribunes** – Make sure people are treated fairly.