


SSWH3 EXAMINE THE POLITICAL, PHILOSOPHICAL, AND CULTURAL INTERACTION OF CLASSICAL MEDITERRANEAN SOCIETIES FROM 700 BCE/BC TO 400 CE/AD



ELEMENT F: ANALYZE THE FACTORS THAT LED TO THE COLLAPSE OF THE WESTERN ROMAN EMPIRE.

THIRD-CENTURY CRISIS

- ❑ In 235 CE the stability of the Roman Empire came to an end and the empire entered a period known as the Third-century Crisis.
 - From 235 to 284 CE Roman suffered from a series of weak and short-lived emperors, invasions, economic depression, and social unrest.
 - This led the Emperor Diocletian to institute a series of radical reforms including dividing the empire in half with two rulers.
- ❑ These reforms were effective for a time but by 476 CE the western half of the empire succumbed to invasion by Germanic tribes, leaving the eastern half (known as the Byzantine Empire by historians) to carry on Roman traditions.

