The period from the beginning of Augustus’s reign in 27 BC until the death of the last of the Good Emperors in AD 180 is often called the Pax Romana—the Roman Peace. Several essential traits, such as stable government, a strong legal system, widespread trade, and, most importantly, peace characterized this long era. During the Pax Romana the smooth working of the imperial government was seldom interrupted by war or invasion.
1. What is the Pax Romana, and why was it given this name?

2. Why do you think the expansion of the Roman Empire improved trade?