

## ROMAN NAMES 2: WOMEN AND GIRLS

When we think of famous Romans, we often only remember *one* of their names. In fact, Roman citizen men often had **three** names, and citizen women often had **two**.

A Roman woman's name was often linked to the names of other family members, usually her father's. She might have **two** names:

1. **First name:** usually a *feminine version* of her father's *nomen* (clan name).  
*e.g. The daughter of Gaius Laelius Sapiens had the first name "Laelia".*



If there were lots of women in a family, they might all have the same name! We know, for example, of three sisters from the *Julii* clan, all called *Julia*: Julia Agrippina, Julia Drusilla and Julia Livilla. Second names could be very useful!

2. **Second name:** her family might choose:
  - a. To "number" her, e.g. *Major* ("Elder"), *Minor* ("Younger") or *Tertia* ("Third")  
*e.g. One of the daughters of Lucius Aemilius Paullus was called Aemilia Tertia*
  - b. To give her a *feminine version* of her father's *cognomen*  
*e.g. The daughter of Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus was called Pompeia Magna*
  - c. To give her a name in honour of a relative. The endings *-illa* or *-ina* mean "little".  
*e.g. The daughter of Marcus Plautius Silvanus was called Plautia Urgulanilla after her grandmother Urgulania.*
  - d. To call her "Postuma" if her father had died before she was born.



### A. Fathers and daughters

Look at the Roman names below. Using your knowledge of Roman names, match these Roman women to their fathers:

<i>Father</i>	<i>Daughter</i>
	
Marcus Livius Drusus <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pompeia Sulla
Lucius Caecilius Metellus <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Mucia Tertia
Quintus Mucius Scaevola <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Laelia Minor
Gaius Laelius Sapiens <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Clodia Pulchra
Quintus Pompeius Rufus <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Cornelia Postuma
Publius Clodius Pulcher <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Livia Drusilla
Lucius Cornelius Sulla <input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Caecilia Metella

### B. Reading Latin Inscriptions:

You are going to see some pictures of real Latin inscriptions. Can you read the names that have been highlighted?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### C. Choose your own Roman name:

If you were a Roman woman, what would your name be? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Hints:

- For your *first name*, you could use your surname (with an added *-a*, *-ina*, *-ia* or *-illa* to make it sound a bit more Latin).
- Then choose a *second name*:
  - a. If you have siblings, what “number” are you? *Major* or *Minor*, or even *Tertia*, *Quarta* or *Quinta*?
  - b. If you’ve already devised a *cognomen* for your family, add a feminine ending.
  - c. If you’d like to be named after a favourite relative, add *-illa* to show you’re the “little” version.