

Province of Thrace

Resources: One of Thrace’s most important resources was gold, which the Romans referred to as aurum. (Modern scientists often use the abbreviation “Au” when writing lab reports involving gold.) Gold is the most easily worked of all metals. Therefore, it can be easily made into such items as rings, bracelets, crowns, and coins. Its value is based on its scarcity and its beauty. To obtain this precious metal, the Romans used thousands of slaves to work the dangerous gold mines of Thrace.

What To Do: You are responsible for accomplishing one very important goal. You must secure military protection before the second phase of this activity begins by agreeing to trade some of your gold for at least one cohort (about 600 soldiers) of the Roman army. Unfortunately, you will have to give up two tokens of gold for each Roman cohort stationed in your province. Remember: Without the protection of the Roman army, you are too weak to survive on your own, and you would rather live under the “civilized” leadership of the Roman emperor than be conquered by a “ruthless” group of barbarians. Therefore, be very assertive in your efforts to trade with the Romans.



Cut out these tokens and trade them for goods from other provinces.

