

The Roman society back during the Roman Empire was a hierarchical, patriarchal society which means that men control it and is only run by men but some women that were high up in the chain could slip in their own thoughts on what they wanted to happen and this happened more later into the Roman empire. Women had limitations set to what they could do such as not being able to be by themselves in public, always had to listen to the man of the house, not being able to own property and having to sit in the back and top of the amphitheatres during gladiatorial games (2). The Romans were also influenced by a lot of war (2) as they are descendant as told to be of the gods Mars and Venus so this is why the Roman empire expanded so fast and became the first superpower to exist as they lived of war and fighting. This love of war led (once they controlled a lot of places) to start making the slaves of war, or volunteers, fight against each other as gladiators - potentially fighting to the death. The Roman people were all about their gladiator games as they people loved it and were entertained by it – the games linked to Roman funerals and reflected the bloodthirsty nature of the Romans (2). The games were also used as a way for politicians to gain favour with all the people of Rome as they would pay for everything.

The Hunger Games is directed by Gary Ross and written by Suzanne Collins. The main protagonist is Katniss Everdeen, a young woman, who is part of the one of the 12 districts controlled by the Capitol, a place of riches and glory. Every year for one girl and one boy aged between 12 - 18 from each district to fight for the death and wishing that "the odds be ever in their favour" - Effie Trinket (1) - as part of the entertainment for people in the Capitol and as a means to control the districts. Katniss, aged 16, is part of district 12 and volunteers as a tribute at the reaping when her little sister's name gets called to compete. Katniss then has to compete by fighting with 23 other tributes to the death.

### Similarities (3)

Both used games to entertain the public and gain favour of the people (or at least some of the people)

Both used slaves as fighters - gladiators in Rome, volunteers or selected children in the hunger games

Would train and look after fighters

Both come from hierarchical society

Uprisings led by fighters - Spartacus' uprising in 70 BCE

People could be sponsors for the gladiators

Many different styles of fighters / gladiators

### Differences: Roman society (3)

Timing:  
approx. 2000 years ago

Religion and deities:  
Influenced by the Gods and their divine intervention

Setting for fighting:  
Gladiatorial games were held in private residences but largely in public arenas - such as the amphitheatre in Pompeii, the Colosseum, the amphitheatre at El Djem (1).

Participants:  
most of the gladiators were men/women aged over 20

Selection of participants:  
The gladiators were sourced from slavery and war. A few were volunteers.

### Differences: The Hunger games (3)

Timing:  
Set in modern / future times

Religion and deities:  
No gods involved at all. the 12 districts were more reliant on the capital

Setting for fighting:  
the games were randomly selected varied from many different environments such as tundras to forests and deserts.

Participants:  
Each district had to send one boy and girl aged 12 - 18 to fight in the games

Selection of participants:  
Randomly chosen from a lot.

<p>Economics: The person hosting the games had to pay for any deaths in the arena</p>	<p>Economics: Funded by the Capitol (money sourced from all of the districts by each providing resources)</p>
<p>Purpose: Entertain the masses <i>If, therefore, such entertainment is demanded by the people, men of right judgment must at least consent to furnish it, even if they do not like the idea. - Cicero</i>  <i>"the people... longs eagerly for just two things - Bread and Games!" Juvenal (1)</i></p>	<p>Purpose: Was all about controlling the people by using fear</p>

### Why are there differences between Roman gladiators and the Hunger Games?

The capitol in the Hunger Games was the main source of control and power in their world so the leader, President Snow (performed by Donald Sutherland) was not really a president as it was more of a hierarchical system rather than a democracy. Snow used his power to show fear in the 12 districts in such making the hunger games which was also made to be used as a distraction for the people of the capitol so they do not realise the conflict which is happening all around them forcing them to send 2 tribunes each year to fight and die *"Hope is the only thing greater than fear" (1)* (President Snow). This compared to ancient Roman society is much different but has similarities as whoever is hosting the gladiatorial games did it more to win the popularity of the people rather than control them with fear and death. the games were still used as a way to destroy the people that he didn't make his city. Both President Snow and Roman emperors both used the games to keep control of the people even though it may be done in different ways - fear in the Hunger games is used to control the outside districts while emperors such as Titus used the game to gain favour - *Martial's accounts of the opening of the Colosseum reflect his intent to woo the people through what Juvenal referred to as "panem et circenses" (1).*