

THE AENEID

Background

VIRGIL

- ◉ Publius Virgilius Maro (70-19 BC)
- ◉ From northern Italy
- ◉ Was brought up during the civil wars and the political turmoil of the end of the republic.

- ◉ Educated - literature, medicine, mathematics
- ◉ At 17, Virgil went to Rome to study rhetoric.
 - He failed miserably

VIRGIL

- ◉ Fled Rome after Caesar's death to Naples
 - Studied philosophy and wrote poetry
- ◉ His poems became loved and were sold in Rome.
- ◉ The civil war ended in 31 BC
 - Augustus was victorious
 - Pax Romana was restored
- ◉ *The Aeneid* was written to celebrate Rome and Augustus

THE WRITING...

- ◉ Took 11 years
- ◉ Shows knowledge of Greek literature
- ◉ Augustus became aware and asked to read some of the pages
- ◉ Augustus became Virgil's patron
- ◉ In 19 BC, Virgil travelled to Greece to visit the places in his epic.
- ◉ Virgil was not happy with his work but it was saved by the emperor.



FURTHERMORE...

Read pages 61-64 and add to these basic notes.