**READING 34** *(slightly edited) The historian Florus reviews the qualities of Rome's first seven kings: Romulus, Numa, Tullus Hostilius, Ancus, [Tarquin, Servius,] and Tarquinius Superbus.*

Haec est prīma aetās populī Rōmānī et quasi **infantia**, quam habuit sub rēgibus septem, quādam fātōrum industriā tam variīs ingeniō, ut reī pūblicae ratiō et ūtilitās postulābat. nam quis Rōmulō ardentior? tālī opus fuit, ut invāderet rēgnum. quis Numā religiōsior? ita rēs poposcit, ut ferōx populus deōrum metū **mītigārētur**. quid ille **mīlitiae** artifex Tullus? bellātōribus virīs quam **necessārius** [fuit], ut acueret ratiōne virtūtem! quid **aedificātor** Ancus, ut urbem **colōniā extenderet**, ponte iungeret, mūrō tuērētur? … Postrēmō Superbī illīus inportūna **dominātiō** nōn nihil, plūrimum vērō prōfuit. Sic enim **agitātus** iniūriīs populus cupiditāte lībertātis incendēbātur.

*Vocabulary:*

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| quasi (adv.) | as it were | bellātor, -ōris | warlike |
| infantia, -ae *f.* | infancy | quam necessārius | "how necessary" |
| industria, -ae *f.* | diligence, activity | acuō, -ere | to sharpen |
| tam variīs … ut | "so different … as" | aedificātor, -ōris *m.* | architect, builder |
| variīs *modifies* rēgibus | | colōnia, -ae *f.* | colony (Ostia) |
| ūtilitās, -tātis *f.* | advantage, usefulness | extendō, -ere | to extend, expand |
| ardēns, -ntis | eager, passionate, bold | tueor, -ērī | to guard, protect |
| invādō, -ere | to seize, take hold of | postrēmō (adv.) | finally |
| religiōsus, -a, -um | pious, religious | inportūnus, -a, -um | savage, uncivil |
| poscō, -ere, poposcī | to demand, require | dominātiō, -iōnis *f.* | dominion, rule |
| ferōx, -ōcis | fierce, insolent, wild | prōsum, -desse, prōfuī | to be useful, benefit |
| mītigō, -āre | to tame, soften | agitō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus | to agitate, disturb |
| quid | "what about?" | | |
| mīlitia, -ae *f.* | army | | |
| artifex, -ficis *m.* | creator, originator | | |