

TYOLOGY ON ROMAN COINAGE

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EXERCISE 1

- Compare the Athena/owl tetradrachms minted in Athens in c. 5th century BC to the Roma/Dioscuri denarii minted in Rome after 211 BC.



Obverse: head of
Athena
Reverse: ΑΘΕ [of the
Athenians]
-Owl, olive branch
and crescent moon
above
Tetradrachm, Athens
c. 5th century BC



Obverse: X – head of Roma
Reverse: ROMA - Dioscuri galloping
Denarius, Rome
after 211 BC

EXERCISE 2

- Would you consider the Victory depicted on the Pompeian and Caesarian coins as “personal”? How else would you describe Victory? What about the wreaths on the Pompeian coin and the Gallic arms on the Caesarian coin? (i.e. what is general or specific about these coins?)



Obv: CONCORDIAE Laureate head of Concordia
r. Rev: L·VINICI Victory walking r., carrying palm
branch decorated with four wreaths
Rome, 52 BC, RRC 436 (see also RRC 426/4)



Obv: Female head right, wearing oak wreath /
Rev: L·HOSTILIVS SASERNA, Victory walking
right, holding trophy of Gallic arms over left
shoulder, and caduceus in right hand
Rome, 48 BC, RRC 448/1

EXERCISE 3

- Compare the Antonian coin to the Octavianic coin. What do the omissions and/or additions of titles and religious symbols on these coins tell us about the rivalry between Antony and Octavian?



Obv: M ANTONIVS III VIR R P C
(III R P C - (Triumvir Reipublicae Constituendae) -
head of Antony, r., lituus behind/
Rev: C CAESAR III VIR R P C –
head of Octavian, r.
43 BC, Gaul, RRC 492/1.



Obv: C CAESAR IMP III VIR R P C PONT AVG(vr)-
head of Octavian, r./Rev: M ANTONIVS IMP III
VIR R P C AVG – head of Antony, r.
43 BC, Gaul, RRC 493.

EXERCISE 4

- Compare the Antonian coin to the Octavianic coin. Would you necessarily consider the Octavianic coin as “new”? How might you rather characterize it?



Cistophorus. Ephesus, 39 BC. *RPC 1*: 2202.

Obv: M ANTONIVS IMP COS DESIG ITER ET TERT – jugate heads of Antony, wearing an ivy wreath, and Octavia/Rev: III VIR R P C – Dionysus standing l., holding cantharus and a thyrsus, on a cista mystica between two snakes.



Cistophorus. Ephesus, 28 BC. *RIC I* (second edition – 1984) : 476

Obv: IMP CAESAR DIVI F COS VI LIBERTATIS P R VINDEX (Vindicator of the liberty of the Roman people) – laureate head of Octavian, r./Rev: PAX – Pax standing l. on parazonium, holding a caduceus in l. hand; in field r., snake emerging from a cista mystica, all enclosed in laurel wreath.