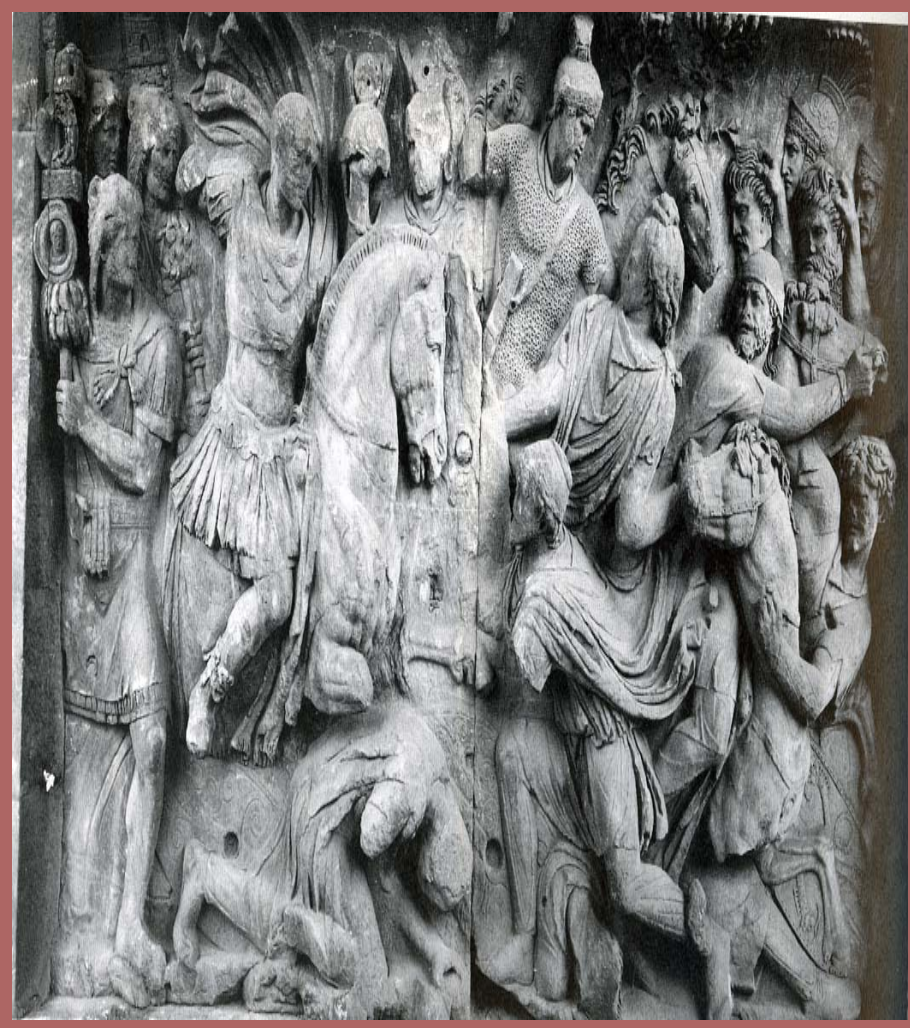


The Roman Gladiators



A Gladiator's Life



- As Rome expanded, it came into contact with other cultures which often lead to armed conflict
- A majority of the men, women and children of their conquered lands became slaves
- The conquered were escorted back to Rome where they would be sold in slave markets
 - Often, a strong, soldier-aged man would be sold as a gladiator

A Gladiator's Life

- These men were sent to a *ludus gladiatorius* to be trained
- Training took place under the supervision of an ex-gladiator
 - Called a *lanista*, “butcher”
- Both physical and psychological abuse was common
 - Whipping was the most common
- The average day consisted of lifting weights, getting fit and learning the art of death
 - Fresh gladiators were given wooden swords until they could be trusted with metal



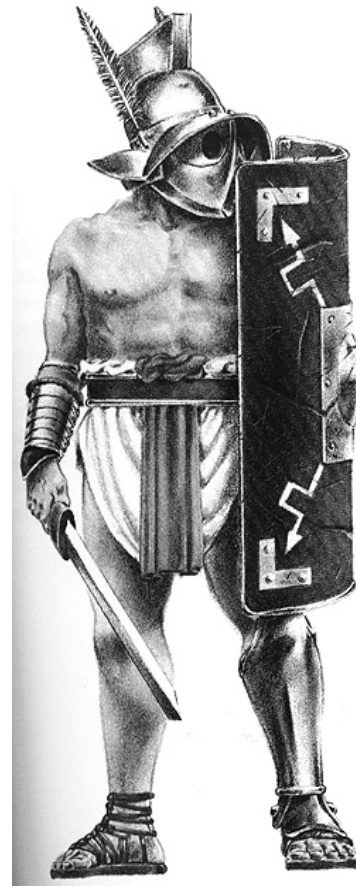
A Gladiator's Life

- A common misunderstanding is that only slaves were gladiators
- Other men were included in the race of gladiators, including criminals, bankrupt Romans, and those condemned to death
- These men would be trained based on their physical attributes



Types of Gladiators

- Samnite
 - Carried a sword
 - *gladius*
 - Had a long shield
 - *scutum*
 - Wore a visored helmet
 - *galea*



Samnite

Types of Gladiators

- Retiarius
 - Carried a trident
 - *tridens*
 - Used a net to snare his opponent
 - *rete*
 - Wore armour for his throwing arm
 - *galerus*



Types of Gladiators

- Murmillo
 - Carried a dagger
 - *sica*
 - Carried a shield
 - *parma*
 - Protected by leg bands and a leather belt



Types of Gladiators

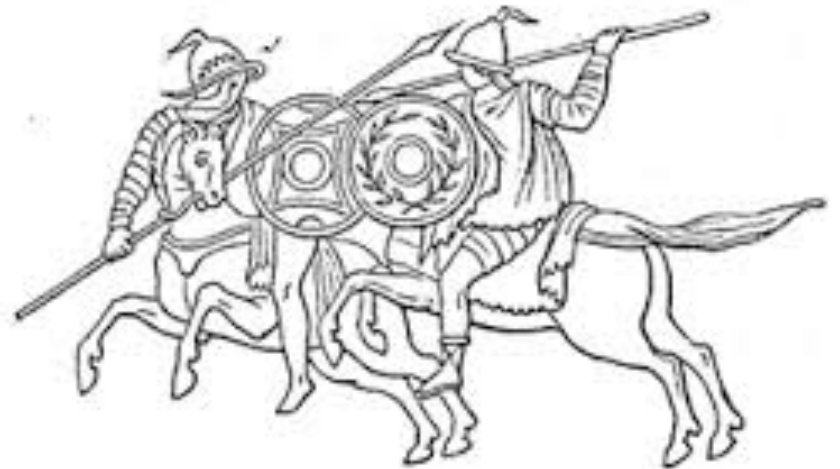
- Thraex

- Used a small shield
 - *parma*
- Carried a curved dagger
 - *sica*
- Wore greaves on both legs
 - *ocrea*



Types of Gladiators

- Andabatus
 - Wore an eyeless helmet
 - Charged opponents on horseback



Types of Gladiators

- Dimachaerius
 - Carried two swords
 - *gladius*
 - Wore little armour



Types of Gladiators

- Laquerius
 - Tried to snare his opponents with a lasso
 - *laqueum*
 - Opposite arm is protected with armor
 - *galeus*
 - Similar to a *retarius*



Types of Gladiators

- Secutor
 - Wore light armor
 - Chased opponent



Types of Gladiator

- Hoplomachus
 - Armed only with a spear
 - *hasta*
 - Small shield and light armor



Types of Gladiator

- Bestiarius
 - Specialized in fighting animals
 - Typically lightly armed
 - Used only whips or spears
 - *flagellum*
 - *hasta*



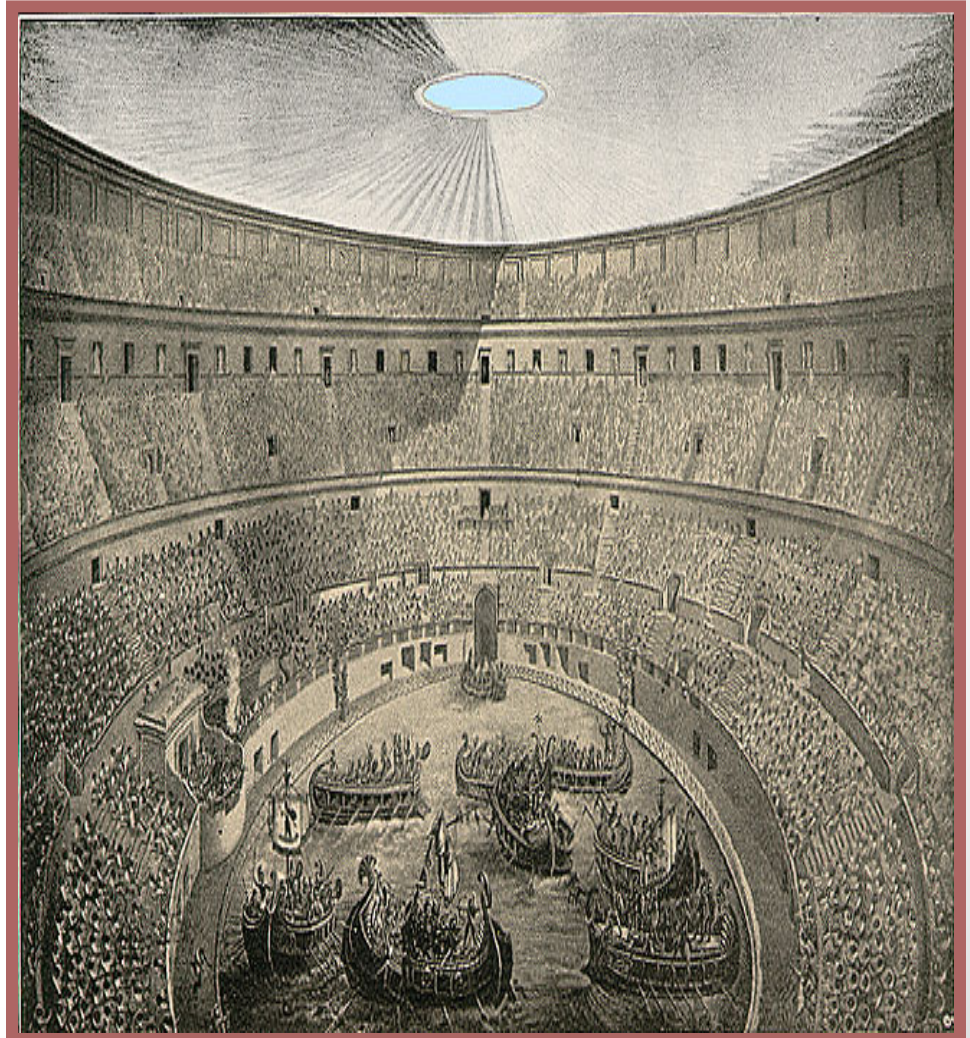
The Fights

- A gladiator fought at the Colosseum, concerned about survival and what the *lanista* would do if he did not perform well
- Gladiators fought once for sport, not necessarily with the intent to kill
- Gladiators fought again in late day but it is to the death now



Colosseum

- Built by Emperor Vespasian and Titus,
- Named for nearby statue of Nero
- Seated 45,000 with seating based on social class
- Hosted:
 - Exotic animal hunts
 - *venationes*
 - Gladiatorial fights
 - *munera*
 - Executions
 - *carnificera*
 - Plays
 - *carmines*
 - Mock naval battles
 - *naumachia*

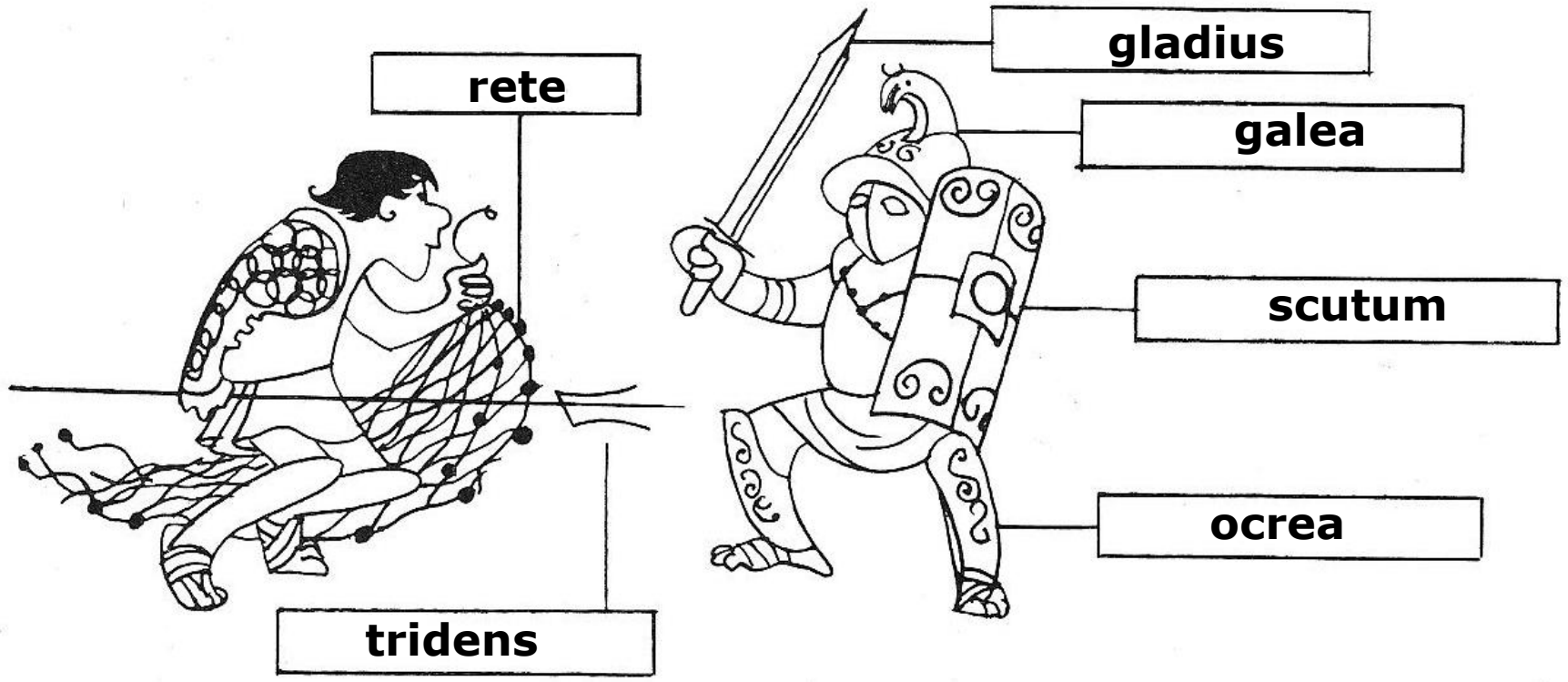


Types of Gladiators

- Defeated gladiators could appeal for mercy but it was up to the crowd. The emperor or host of the event would give the judgment
 - Thumbs down did not mean death. It meant to spare the gladiator and a thumb up meant to kill him
 - Therefore, death did not always come at the hands of one's opponent







Identify the equipment which these gladiators wear