**Document 1 - Dio Cassius**

*Dio Cassius was a Roman administrator and historian. The Colosseum was finished in 80CE.*

  2. As for the men, several fought in single combat and several groups contended together both in infantry and naval battles. For Titus suddenly filled this same theatre with water and brought in horses and bulls and some other domesticated animals that had been taught to behave in the liquid element just as on land.

3. He also brought in people on ships, who engaged in a sea-fight there, impersonating the Corcyreans and Corinthians; and others gave a similar exhibition from outside the city in the grove of Gaius and Lucius, a place which Augustus had once excavated for this very purpose. There, too, on the first day, there was a gladiatorial exhibition and wild-beast hunt, the lake in front of the images having first been covered over with a platform of planks and wooden stands erected around it.

4. On the second day there was a horse-race, and on the third day a naval battle between three thousand men, followed by an infantry battle. The "Athenians" conquered the "Syracusans" (these were the names the combatants used), made a landing on the islet and assaulted and captured a wall that had been constructed around the monument. These were the spectacles that were offered, and they continued for a hundred days; but Titus also furnished some things that were of practical use to the people.  ..

Source: Dio Cassius 66.25.1-5 [translation from E.Cary, Dio's Roman History, v. 8. (Loeb (1914)]Taken from <http://abacus.bates.edu/~mimber/blood/gladiator.sources.htm#Cassius%20Dio>, accessed on June 7, 2015

Skill--**Source:** What do you know about the author of the document? Will that influence what he says? How?

Skill--**Context:** What is going on in Rome during the time of the Colosseum?

**Document 2 - The Colosseum**



Taken from: <http://pixgood.com/colosseum-battles.html>, accesssed June 7, 2015.

Skill--**Corroboration:** Provide evidence that Document 2 supports the writings in Document 1.

**Document 3 - Seneca, Epistles 7: The Gladiatorial Games**

“I turned in to the games one mid-day hoping for a little wit and humor there. I was bitterly disappointed. It was really mere butchery. The morning's show was merciful compared to it. Then men were thrown to lions and to bears: but at midday to the audience. There was no escape for them. The slayer was kept fighting until he could be slain. "Kill him! flog him! burn him alive" was the cry: "Why is he such a coward? Why won't he rush on the steel? Why does he fall so meekly? Why won't he die willingly?" Unhappy that I am, how have I deserved that I must look on such a scene as this? Do not, my Lucilius, attend the games, I pray you. Either you will be corrupted by the multitude, or, if you show disgust, be hated by them. So stay away.”

From: William Stearns Davis, ed., *Readings in Ancient History: Illustrative Extracts from the Sources*, 2 Vols. (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1912-13), Vol. II: Rome and the West.

Scanned by: J. S. Arkenberg, Dept. of History, Cal. State Fullerton. Prof. Arkenberg has modernized the text.

Taken from <http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/seneca-letters7.asp>, accessed June 7, 2015

Skill--**Close Reading:**

Read 1: Teacher Read Aloud, circle unfamiliar words

Read 2: Underline important information

Read 3: Pick out information that would justify the end of Gladiatorial games. While discussing, be sure to quote the document.

Skill—**Source:** Consider the author and intended audience. Would this impact the tone of the document?