

Title: Why did the Roman Empire Collapse?

- Barbarian invasions – often from more than one area
- Slave revolts (weakens Rome's economy)
- Empire is too big – army is overstretched - too many problems to deal with at once
- Natural disasters:
 - Bad harvests – causes unhappiness and riots
 - Fire – destroyed a grain storehouse – not enough food
- Assassination attempts by jealous family members / army
- Not enough taxes collected – so not enough money to deal with problems (e.g. Needed to bribe the barbarians to keep the peace)
- Army mutiny / rebellion (disloyalty)
- Poor emperor decision-making (personal failures)
- Not enough forts and roads to protect the empire