Crisis, Recovery, and the Creation of the Participate

- Senate issued the Last Decree of the Senate and Cicero had Catiline and his supporters arrested and executed without trial

**Julius Caesar**
- Caesar had been named on the Proscription List, so his career was slow going
- In 65 BCE gained popular support by restoring trophies to the Capitoline temple and sponsoring gladiator entertainment
- 63 BCE became the Pontifex Maximus, or chief priest of Rome
- 60 BCE wanted to run for the consulate, and had to give up his claims on triumph from his Praetorship in Spain
  - Asked for a province so he could recruit a large army
  - Senate was reluctant to permit him to pursue his ambitions and allocated him to the "foot paths and cattle trails of Italy"

**The Triumvirates (60-31 BCE)**
- Final collapse of the republic was hastened by two triumvirates, groups composed of ultra powerful senators who pursued their own interests
- Due to large armies, the senators removed the independent authority of the Senate

**The First Triumvirate**
- Crassus, Pompey, and Caesar banded together due to being thwarted by the Senate
- Pompey needed legislation passed, and in 59 BCE Caesar saw that it happened
- Caesar wanted a suitable province and was assigned to both Cisalpine and Narbonese Gaul
- Crassus was granted command against the Parthians
- Cicero was exiled for having illegally executing Catiline's supporters
- 58 BCE Gallic War undertaken by Caesar
  - Used the "divide and conquer" tactic to take the Celts
  - Defeated the Helvetii, Suebi, Belgae, and Nervii
  - Built a bridge in ten days that impressed the people with his literacy (his inscriptions still are difficult to translate) and engineering skills
  - Built the bridge and defeated all of those people in only eighteen days
- 54 BCE invaded Britian and installed client kings and set a precedence for Roman intervention
- 52 BCE Vercingetorix united the Gauls and revolted against the Romans
  - Took a huge battle at the fort of Alesia to defeat the Gauls
  - Caesar built up a massive amount of wealth and an effective army
- 54 BCE Crassus went to fight the Parthians, failed, and ended up being beheaded