

Questions for Thought and Discussion

- What did you think you knew about the Etruscans before you read the book, and has the book changed your mind?
- What are the limitations of archaeology in helping us to understand a society?
- Does it make sense to think that whole populations moved? Or is it better to think that people adopt different cultural packages?
- How different does Etruscan religion seem from other religions, including our own?
- What are the uses of luxury in Etruscan society?
- What kind of social and political organization does Etruria have? How does it change?
- What do you think may have been the purposes of tomb painting in Etruria?
- How open to change and development was Etruscan society?
- What were the main differences between the Romans and the Etruscans – and the main similarities?
- What are the consequences of language loss to a society?
- Do you think the Etruscans disappeared because their language was no longer used?
- How would you characterise the Etruscan landscape under the Romans?
- What strikes you about the sarcophagi illustrated in the volume – what messages are they intended to convey?
- Why do you think the Etruscans continue to be fascinating?
- What does Etruria mean to you now?

Other Books by Christopher Smith

Early Rome and Latium: Economy and Society c 1000-500 BC
Smith, C. J (Clarendon Press 1996)

Religion in Archaic and Republican Rome: Evidence and Experience
Smith, C. J. & Bispham, E. (Edinburgh University Press 2000)

Sicily from Aeneas to Augustus: New Approaches in Archaeology and History
Smith, C. J. & Serrati, J. (Edinburgh University Press 2000)

The Roman Clan: The Gens from Ancient Ideology to Modern Anthropology
Smith, C. J. (Cambridge University Press 2006)

The Cambridge Ancient History: Plates to Volumes VII, Part 2 and VIII : the rise of Rome to 133 BC

Smith, C. J. (ed.) (Cambridge University Press 2013 2nd ed)

The Fragments of the Roman Historians: in 3 volumes

Cornell, T. J. (ed.), Bispham, E. (ed.), Rich, J. W. (ed.) & Smith, C. J. (ed.) (Oxford University Press 2013)

Further Reading

Sybille Haynes, Etruscan Civilization (London, 2000)

G. Barker and T. Rasmussen, The Etruscans (London, 1998)

J. Macintosh Turfa (ed.), The Etruscan World (London, 2013)

M. Torelli (ed.), The Etruscans. London: (Thames & Hudson, 2001)