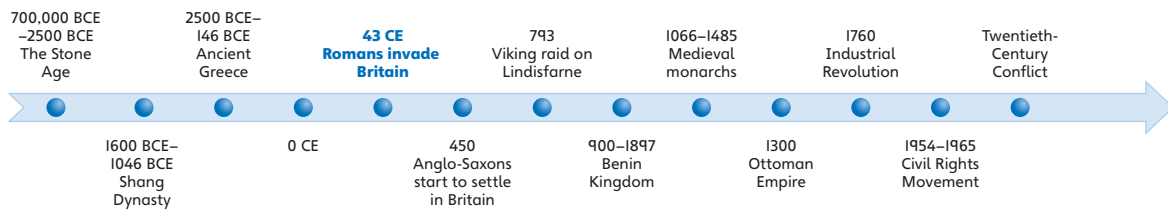


Lesson 1

How did the Roman Empire become so successful?



The greatest empire

An **empire** is a group of countries ruled by a single person or state.

The Roman Empire was the greatest empire of the ancient world. It successfully conquered lands all over Europe, as well as parts of Africa and western Asia. It became so big that it had to be split in two: the Western European Empire and the Eastern Empire (known as Byzantium).

The Romans spread their **culture** across the empire and made sure that all of their people were well-ruled.



You can still see Roman ruins across the world today. This is the Colosseum in Rome. There are also Roman ruins in Britain.

The history of the Roman Empire

When Rome was first founded, it had a king. There were seven kings before Rome became a republic: this means that it was ruled by officials chosen by the people. Rome was a republic for nearly 500 years before it became an empire ruled by one **emperor**.

The Roman Empire began in 27 BCE under the first emperor, Augustus Caesar. It flourished for the next 400 years, until it became too big and tribes from across Europe, Africa and Asia attacked.

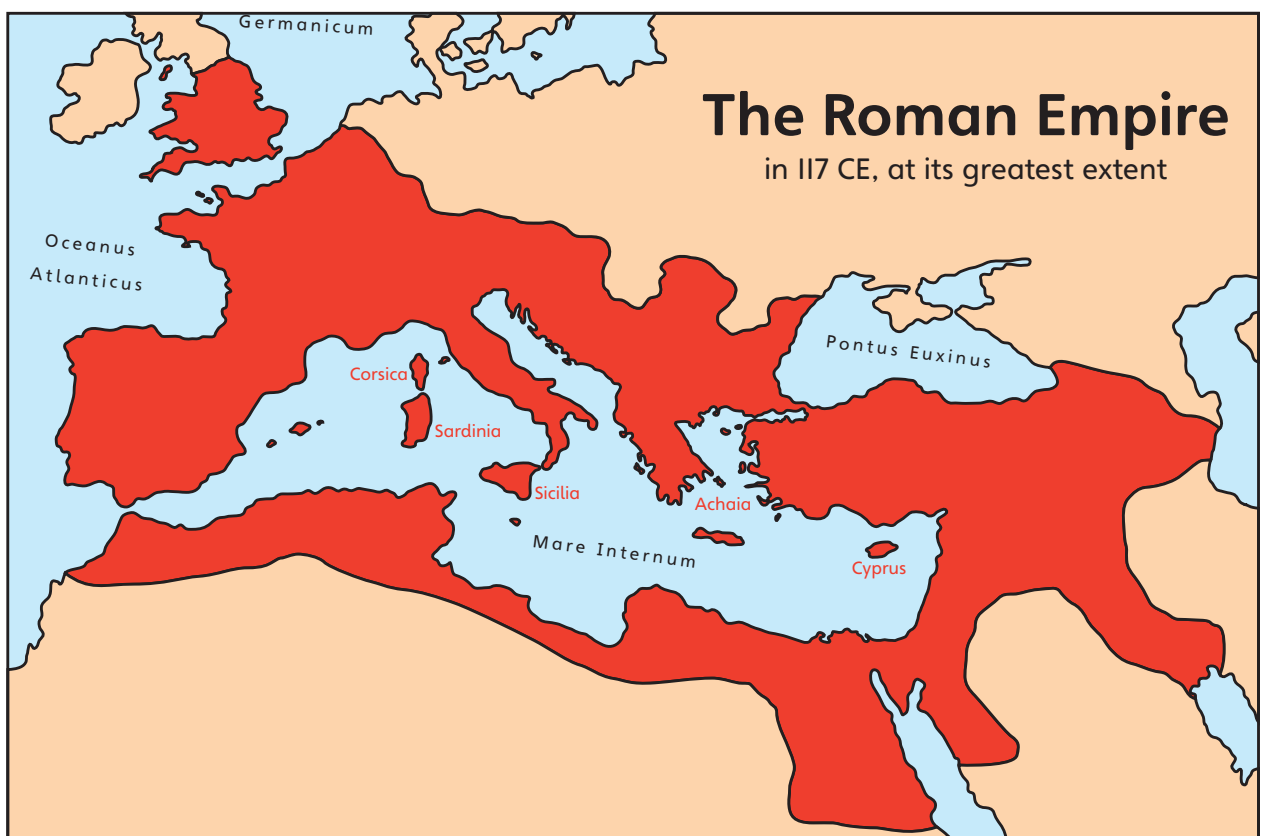
In 476 CE, the last Roman emperor gave up power and the Roman Empire in the west was over.



1. Look at the map below. It shows the Roman Empire in 117 CE. Mark the city of Rome.



2. Label where you live.



Lesson 2

How did the Romans invade Britain?



Quiz

1. Read the statement below. Tick 'True' or 'False'.
A republic is ruled by an emperor.

True ☐ False ☐
2. How many consuls led the Roman Republic? Tick the correct answer.
a. 1 ☐ c. 4 ☐
b. 2 ☐ d. 5 ☐
3. When did Rome defeat Carthage? Tick the correct answer.
a. 264 BCE ☐ c. 146 BCE ☐
b. 218 BCE ☐ d. 53 CE ☐
4. What were the most powerful families in Rome known as? Tick the correct answer.
a. enslaved people ☐ c. patricians ☐
b. plebeians ☐ d. freemen ☐
5. What was the name of the first Roman emperor? Write your answer.
A _____ C _____

The invasions of Britain

Britain was difficult to invade and take over because it is an island. The Roman leader, Julius Caesar, tried twice to take control of Britain, in 55 and 54 BCE. He was not successful, as the tribes who lived in Britain fought back.

There were lots of different tribes in Britain at that time. We now call them the Celts. They sometimes fought with each other to gain more land. Sometimes they traded with each other, and with people from Europe, including the Romans. Each tribe had its own king. There was no single leader for all.



I. Read the statements below. Tick 'True' or 'False' for each one.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. The Romans travelled to Britain in 55 BCE. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. In 55 BCE, Britain had one king. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Julius Caesar successfully conquered Britain in 55 BCE. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. People in Britain lived in tribes in 55 BCE and were called Celts. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |

Almost 100 years later, Emperor Claudius ruled in Rome. Claudius wanted to make the Roman Empire much bigger. In 43 CE, he decided to send his armies to try and conquer Britain.



A bust of Claudius

Lesson 3

How did Britain change under the Romans?



Quiz

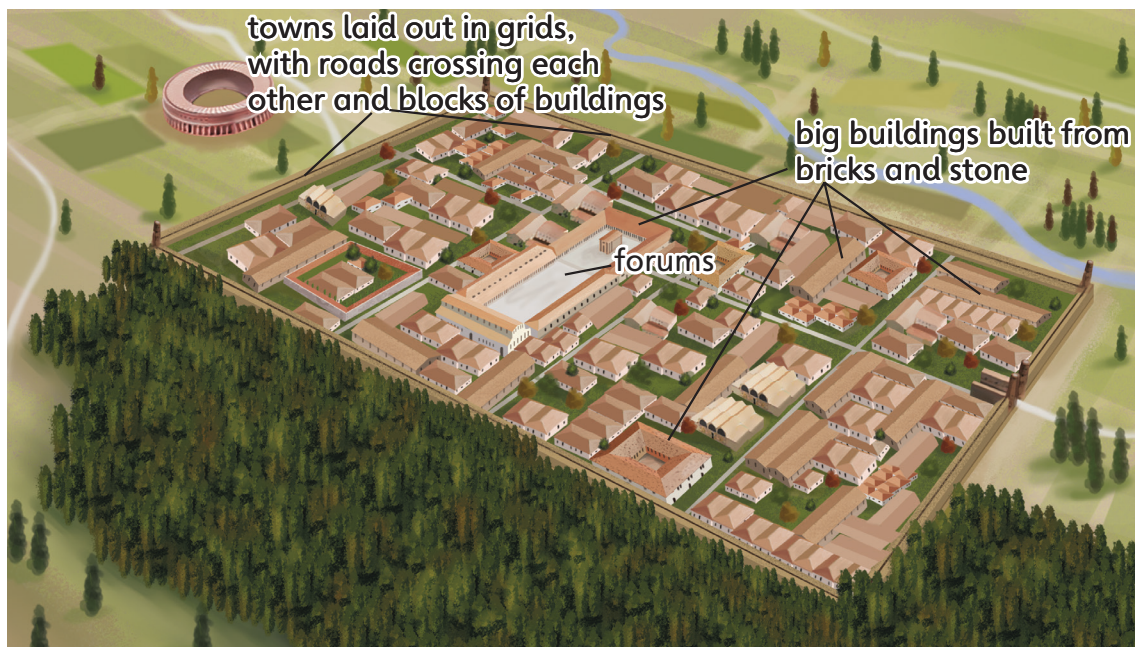
1. What was the name of the first Roman governor of Britain? Tick the correct answer.
 - a. Aulus Plautius ☐
 - b. Julius Caesar ☐
 - c. Claudius ☐
2. Read the statement below. Tick 'True' or 'False'.

The Roman army used a technique called the tortoise formation. True ☐ False ☐
3. What do we now call the people living in Britain at the time the Romans invaded? Tick the correct answer.
 - a. Plebeians ☐
 - b. Saxons ☐
 - c. Freeman ☐
 - d. Celts ☐
4. What was a client king? Tick the correct answer.
 - a. a tribal leader allowed to remain a king, but who had to pay taxes to the Roman emperor ☐
 - b. the leader of the Roman Empire ☐
5. Name one item a Roman soldier would take into battle. Write your answer.

Romanisation

Romanisation was a way of keeping the Roman Empire strong and powerful. Romanisation meant bringing Roman culture and civilisation to the people conquered by the Romans. The idea was that, if everyone lived in a similar way and shared a language, life would be more peaceful.

In Britain, the Celts mostly lived in small villages and worked on farms. Once the Romans were in charge of most of Britain, they began to change things, just as they had done in other places. Over the next 300 years, Britain was 'Romanised'.



A Roman town



1. List the ways in which Romans changed Britain. Write your answer.

Can you think of any benefits of the way Romans built towns? Write them down.
