

# What was the Roman Empire and how did it impact Britain?

## Type of History



Military



Political



Social



Religious

## Golden Thread Concepts

Religion  
Beliefs  
Worship  
Persecution

Conflict  
Power  
Invasion  
Conquer  
Military  
Exploration  
Defence

Leadership  
Empire  
Governance  
Law  
Hierarchy

Society  
Peasantry  
Class systems  
Settlement  
Migration  
Achievements  
Exploration  
Legacies  
Revolution

## Secondary Concepts



Historical significance



Similarity and difference



Cause and consequence



Continuity and change

## When?



9500- 4000 BCE  
Human occupation of Britain began (Stone Age)



2300- 800 BCE  
Bronze Age Britain



800 BCE - 50 CE  
Iron Age Britain



753 BCE  
The building of Rome begins



202 BCE  
Roman army conquers territories outside of Italy



112 BCE  
The Roman Empire spreads across Europe and the top of Africa



55 BCE  
Julius Caesar first attempts to invade Britain



54 BCE  
Julius Caesar tries and fails to invade Britain again



43 BCE  
Emperor Claudius succeeds in invading Britain



60-61 BCE  
Boudiccan rebellion



275 CE  
Increase in Saxon raids on South East British coasts



313 CE  
Christianity recognised in Britain



395 CE  
Roman Empire divided into two parts – East and West

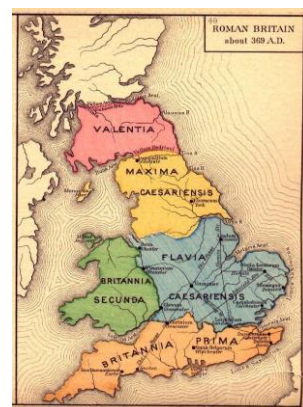
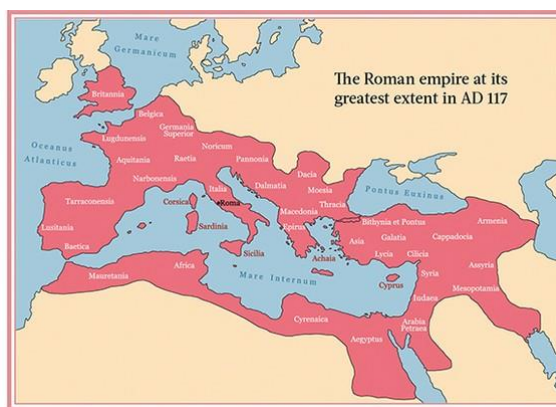


c. 410 CE  
Roman rule ended in Britain

## Key Vocabulary

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Conquest   | To get or overcome by force  |
| Emperor    | A ruler of an empire (or an empress)   |
| Empire     | A group of nations, people or land under one ruler or government                                   |
| Forum      | A central place in Roman settlements where people gathered for trade, business and public meetings |
| Occupation | One country taking over another  |
| Rebellion  | The act of disobeying rules or fighting against authority  |

## Where?



## What?



An empire is a group of countries, people or land controlled and ruled by one single powerful person, government or country. Empires help to move resources around. They can be difficult to manage.



Roman history is separated into three different periods. The Romans existed long before they arrived in Britain. Before the Romans settled in Britain, the land was inhabited by Iron Age people called Celts (the Romans called them Britons).



Emperor Caesar tried to invade Britain twice but was unsuccessful. In 43 CE, Emperor Claudius launched a successful invasion of Britain. The Roman army gradually extended its control over much of present-day England and Wales until the Roman occupation of Britain ended in 410 CE.



The Roman occupation had a mixed reception from the native population. Boudicca was ruler of the Iceni tribe. She gathered an army to rebel against the Romans when they tried to take control of the tribe and her land. She attacked and destroyed Roman settlements until her army was eventually defeated.



Roman society was made up of a social hierarchy. Women had a low social status. The Roman Empire facilitated the movement of people from and into Britain. Roman Britain was a multicultural society made up of soldiers from across the empire. This was very different to society in Iron Age Britain.



The army of the Roman Empire was very advanced for its time. The soldiers were well-trained and well-equipped with the best weapons and armour. The Roman army was very organised. The Roman army conquered many territories which resulted in the growth of the Roman Empire.



Roman housing was different to Iron Age housing. Roman towns were laid out in a grid. A forum (market square) was at the centre of the town where people came to trade. The Romans founded Chester as a fortress.



Roman religion was polytheistic. They believed in different gods and goddesses. They were largely tolerant of the beliefs of those they conquered. The Romans often equated their own gods with those that the native people believed in. Christianity became increasingly popular.



The Romans introduced lots of new achievements to Britain including roads, aqueducts, sewage systems, stronger building materials, central heating and public baths. Some of these achievements improved daily life for native Britons.