

THE ROMANS IN BRITAIN

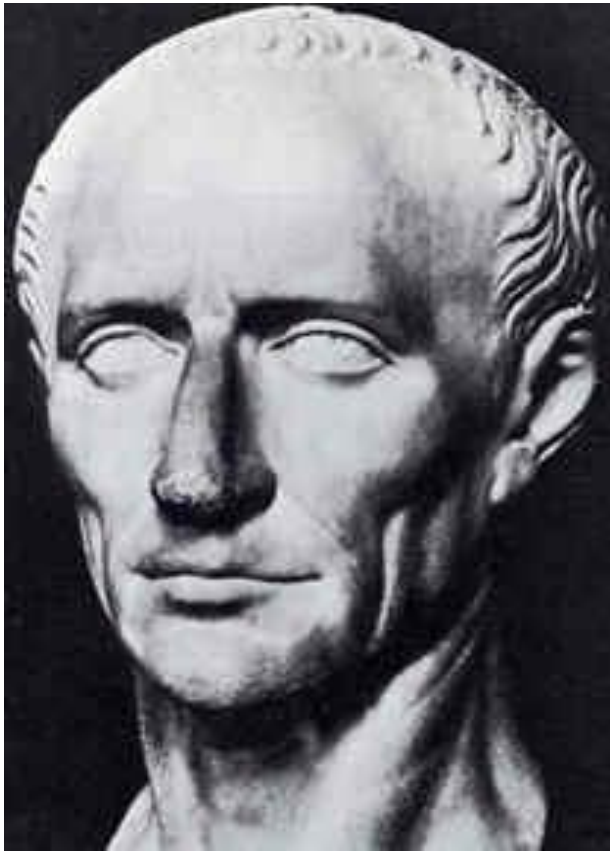


The Romans came to Britain nearly 2000 years ago and changed the country.



In late August 55 BC, 12,000 Roman soldiers landed about 6 miles from Dover.

Caesar was impressed with the fighting qualities of the Britons.



“The Romans were faced with serious problems. These dangers frightened our soldiers who were not used to battles of this kind, with the results that they do not show the same speed and enthusiasm as they usually did in battles on dry land.”

The Romans were cross with Britain for helping the Gauls (now called the French) fight against the Roman general Julius Caesar. They came to Britain looking for riches - land, slaves, and most of all, iron, lead, zinc, copper, silver and gold.





The native people of Britain who were conquered by the Romans are usually known as the Britons. They were descended from people who had lived in this country for many generations. They were also related to the native people of Gaul and Germany.

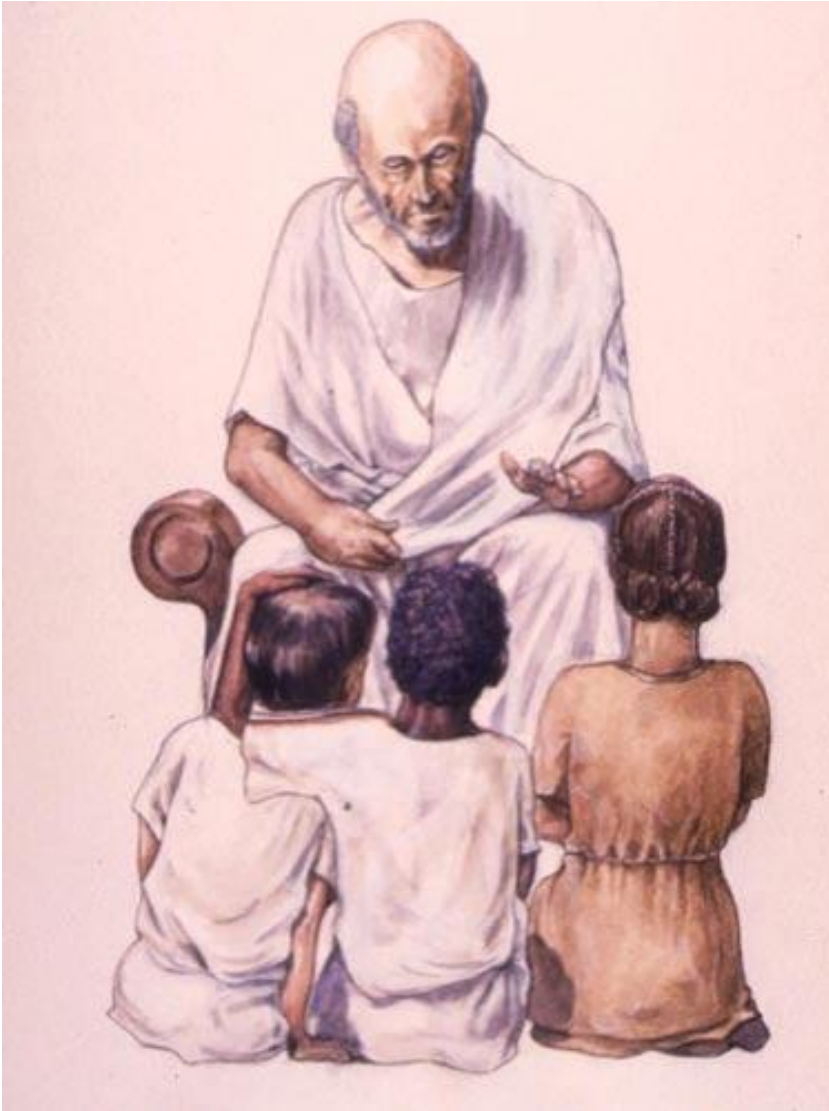


The Romans built the **first towns** in Britain. They were linked to one another by good roads and were centres of trade and government.

The River Thames was quick way to transport goods between Britain and the Continent. The Romans saw this and built the town of *Londinium* around the river's main crossing point.



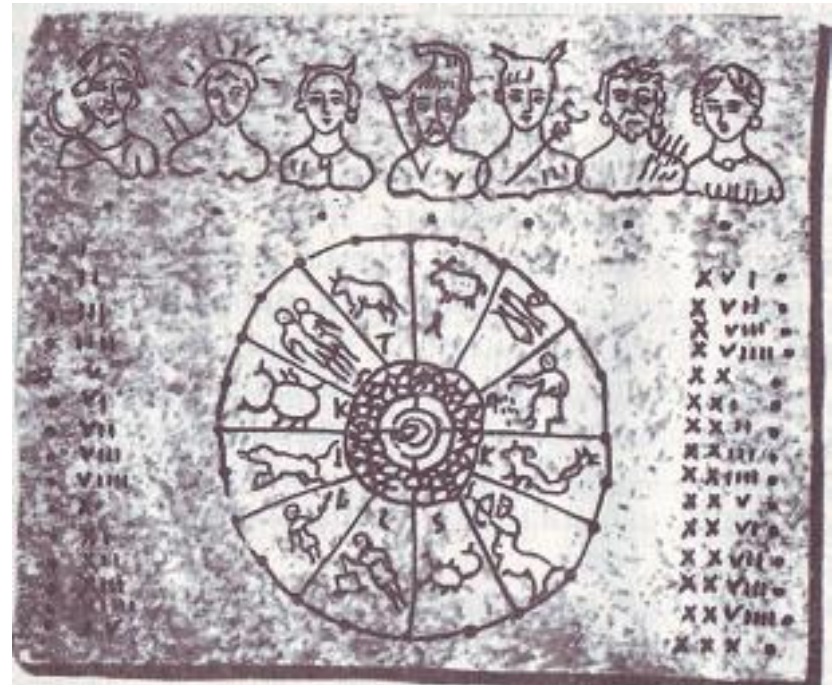
Language



The language that is used now British was developed from the Romans. The Romans spoke and wrote in Latin and many of words are based on Latin words.

Calendar

The calendar that we use today is more than 2,000 years old. It was started by Julius Caesar, a Roman ruler.



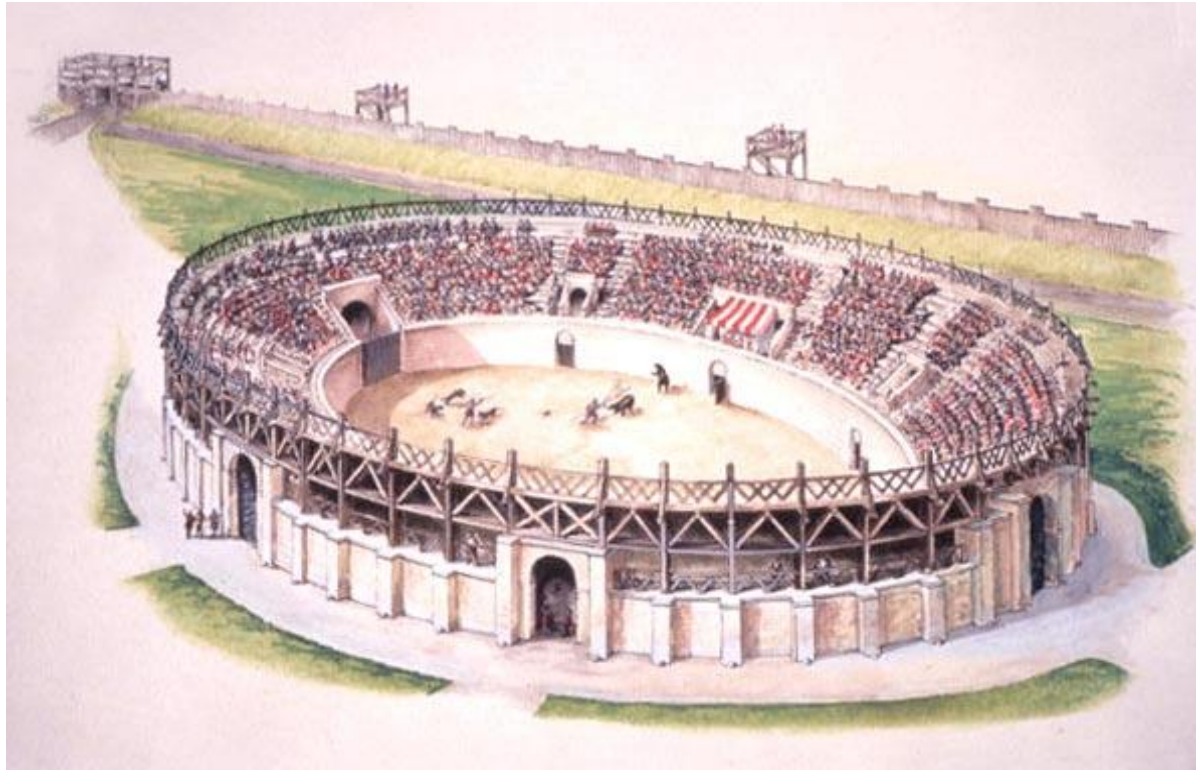
The *laws and ways* for determining what to do with someone who is accused of breaking a law came originally from the Roman Empire.



Money



Money in Roman times meant coins; there were no bank notes. The Romans had a very complicated system of coinage which included gold and silver coins. There were also bronze and copper coins.



The Romans introduced *amphitheatres* to Britain. An amphitheatre was an oval arena often used for bloodthirsty contests between armed men known as gladiators.

The Romans loved *hunting* and found that much of Britain was great hunting country. There was a lot more open land and forest in Roman times.



The Romans remained in Britain from **43 AD to 410 AD**.
That is almost four hundred years (four centuries).



Even today, the ruins of Roman buildings, forts, roads, and baths can be found all over Britain.

Thank you!

