

Year 5 History Assessment: The Roman Empire and its Impact on Britain

Learning objective: To assess understanding of Roman life, the invasion of Britain, and the lasting legacy of the Roman civilisation.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed, accurate answers. Ensure your spelling and grammar are clear.

Nova the owl has been studying the ruins of a Roman villa in Britain. She has discovered evidence of a hypocaust (underfloor heating system), intricate floor tiles, and a collection of coins featuring the faces of Roman Emperors. She wonders how such a distant civilisation managed to change the way people lived in Britain for centuries.

Word bank: Centurion · Legion · Aqueduct · Boudica · Hadrian's Wall · Latin · Mosaic · Governor

1. Identify two reasons why the Roman Empire wanted to invade and occupy Britain. (2 marks)

2. Explain the role of a Centurion within a Roman Legion. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the lifestyle of a wealthy Roman living in a villa with that of a local Iron Age Briton. (4 marks)

4. Describe the purpose of Hadrian's Wall. Why was it considered a significant engineering feat? (3 marks)

5. What might happen if the Romans had never left Britain? Justify your answer by referencing the infrastructure they introduced. (4 marks)

6. Explain why Boudica is a significant figure in British history. (3 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Imagine you are a Roman engineer arriving in Britain. Write a report (approx. 100 words) describing your plans to build a new road and the benefits it will bring to the Empire. (7 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of a Roman mosaic, focusing on the geometric patterns and colours you might find in a high-status villa.



Extension challenge: Research the cost of living in Roman times. If a loaf of bread cost 2 pence and a tunic cost £4.00, calculate how many loaves of bread a Roman soldier could buy with a daily wage of 50 pence. Explain your working. Total: /25