

Ellie's Roman Britain Expedition: A Historical Report

Learning objective: To analyse the impact of the Roman Empire on Britain and evaluate the legacy left behind.

Use this writing scaffold to structure your historical report. Ensure you use evidence to support your claims and maintain a formal tone. Ellie the elephant has provided some prompts to help you organise your research into the Roman way of life.

When the Roman legions first crossed the channel in AD 43, they initiated a profound transformation that would reshape the landscape of Britain for centuries to come.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · archaeological evidence · inhabitants · significant · transformation · legacy · nevertheless · subsequently · infrastructure

1. The Arrival: Describe the motivations behind the Roman invasion of Britain. Why might Emperor Claudius have wanted to expand his territory? (3 marks)

2. Roman Infrastructure: Explain how the construction of 'Via Romana' (Roman roads) influenced trade and military movement across the province. (3 marks)

3. Daily Life and Culture: Compare and contrast the lifestyle of a wealthy Roman citizen living in a villa with the life of a typical Iron Age farmer. (4 marks)

4. The Roman Legacy: Justify why some historians argue that the Roman occupation was the most influential period in British history. (4 marks)

5. Critical Thinking: What might have happened to the social structure of Britain if the Roman Empire had never invaded? Explain your reasoning. (5 marks)

6. Evaluation: Using archaeological evidence (such as mosaics, coins, or hypocausts), explain what these objects reveal about Roman values. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an archaeologist who has just discovered a hidden Roman settlement. Write a formal 'Site Report' describing three specific artefacts found and what they suggest about the people who lived there. Use your richer vocabulary to describe the materials and craftsmanship.