

This is what the Roman Empire looked like before the successful invasion of Britain. Do you remember what countries had been conquered?

In 55 BC Julius Caesar had conquered Gaul (France) and continued North, invading Britain with two Roman legions.

The Romans fought several battles against different Celtic tribes before returning to Gaul (France).



A year later, in 54 BC, Caesar returned to Britain with a much larger army. He crossed the English Channel with five Roman legions, landing near Deal in Kent. The Romans marched inland and crossed the river Thames. Again they fought against the Celtic tribesmen and demonstrated the strength and power of Rome. Caesar agreed to leave Britain, but only if the tribes agreed to make a tribute (payment) to Rome.

The year is now 43 A.D and a new emperor is in charge...



Emperor Claudius
...and he needs
your help.



Claudius wants to invade Britain again but there have already been 2 failed attempts.

Why do you think the Romans wanted to invade Britain?
Why is Britain more difficult to invade?



Make a list of ideas



Think about what
Britannia might have
that the Romans
wanted/needed.

Here are some ideas for and against invading...

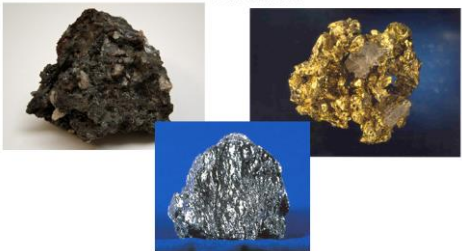
We could capture slaves in Britain who could then join our army.



If you conquer Britain, it will cost lots of money to defend it. Is it really worth it?



We can find tin, gold and iron in Britain.



We have the best army in the world. We can defeat anyone!



It's a difficult journey to Britain and the seas are rough.



If you try to conquer Britain but fail, you will look foolish.



If you conquer Britain you will have more power and people will admire you like they did Caesar.



The soil in Britain is good for growing wheat and other crops.



Which do you think is which?

The tribes in Britain are always fighting each other so it will be easy to conquer them.



I've heard the Britons are terrifying. They will surely kill us all!



We must punish the Britons for helping our enemies, the Gauls.



It's cold and wet in Britain.



Have a go at putting them in the correct place and adding ideas of your own.

For invading

Against invading

Draw a table and put each idea either for or against.

Are there any you are unsure of?

You must now decide: should Claudius invade Britain or not?



Discuss it with someone in your house if you need help deciding.

Now it's your turn...

Write a letter to Emperor Claudius to explain whether or not you think he should invade Britain.

Make sure you give at least three reasons for your decision.

Use cursive handwriting and check your spelling and punctuation carefully.



WALT: I can understanding the reasons for/against invasion.

Dear Emperor Claudius,

We have carefully studied the reasons for and against invading Britain. After much thought, we have come to the decision that_____.

We think this because _____

(give at least 3 reasons - you could try to give some opposite ones too)

We hope you will consider our advice.
Your loyal subject,

You can use
this template if
you need help

Read on after
completing task

Emperor
Claudius thanks
you for your
help.



In 43 A.D. Emperor Claudius launched a third and final invasion of Britain. Four Roman legions landed in three locations on the coast of Britain. A large battle was fought between the Romans and the Celtic tribes near to the River Medway. The Romans emerged victorious, but it took many years to gain control of Britain, as many tribes continued to fight against Roman rule. The Roman invasion of Britain was a gradual process.

This is the route of attack the Romans took through Britain in the first 40 years.

They landed in the South-East and made their way across the country into Wales and up towards the North.



They made their way into Scotland but were fought hard by the Celts and finally retreated.

Self-assess using smiley faces

