

ARE YOU A HISTORY BUFF OR A HISTORY BUFFOON?

Take this *difficilis** QUIZ to find out how much YOU know about the Romans and the Britons!

1. What stopped the Romans' first attempt to invade Britain?

- A. The people of Britain fought the Romans on the beaches and drove them back to their ships.
- B. The weather was so bad that the Romans gave up till the sun came out.
- C. The Romans forgot their passports and had to go home to get them.

2. How do we know about the Romans' time in Britain?

- A. From paintings on the walls of old Roman buildings.
- B. From books written by the Britons of the time.
- C. From letters, books and other documents written by Roman writers of the time.

3. Where were most of the soldiers in the Roman army that came to Britain from?

A. Africa, France, Germany, the Balkans, Spain and the Middle East.

B. Italy – only Roman citizens could be in the Roman army.

C. Everywhere – anyone could join the Roman army as long as he had his own sword and shield.

4. Which city was the capital of Roman Britain?

- A. Eboracum – York.
- B. Londinium – London.
- C. Camulodunum – Colchester.

5. Which animals did the Romans bring on their ships to help with their invasion of Britain?

- A. Elephants.
- B. Wolves.
- C. Ostriches.

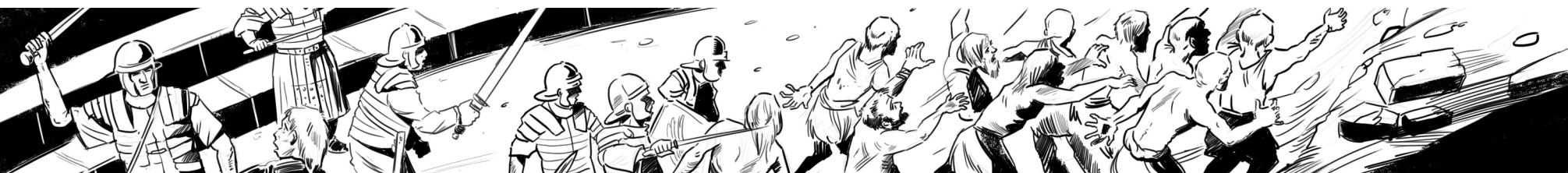
6. Who did most of the hard work in Roman Britain?

- A. Roman centurions.
- B. Slaves.
- C. Specialist contractors from Italy.

7. What were Roman amphitheatres used for?

- A. Staged fights between men and animals.
- B. Huge football matches – called *calcio* in Latin.
- C. Performances of a special kind of Roman musical theatre.

* That's Latin for 'difficult'.



8. What were the native women in Roman Britain allowed to do that the Roman women weren't?

- A.** Referee the football matches in the amphitheatres.
- B.** Work as clerks in the tax office in the capital city.
- C.** Train as warriors and rule as queens.

9. Which ruler in Britain paid the Romans taxes, instead of going to war against them?

- A.** Cartimandua.
- B.** Henry VIII.
- C.** Boudicca.

10. Why did the Romans leave Britain about 400 years after Julius Caesar first arrived in 55 BC?

- A.** It was too cold and wet and they had vitamin D deficiency because the sun never shone.
- B.** Warriors from Scotland, Ireland and Germany kept attacking and the Romans were losing control.
- C.** London's city wall and Hadrian's Wall both fell down at the same time.

Answers on the next page ➡

ANSWERS

1. B

Wild weather and a fierce storm in the English Channel were too much for the Romans. They gave up and decided to come back on a calm, sunny day.

2. C

Everything we know about the Romans' time in Britain was written by the Romans, and by a Greek author called Cassius Dio too. The people of Britain were illiterate. This means the history we know is told from a Roman point of view – it doesn't include what the people of Britain thought or experienced.

3. A&B

The 'Legionaries' in the Roman army had to be Roman citizens. They were the elite of the army. But the rest of the army were 'Auxiliaries' – soldiers recruited from the countries the Roman army invaded. These recruits didn't have much choice, but if they survived 25 years in the army their reward was Roman citizenship!

4. C

Colchester was the original capital of Roman Britain. London became the capital after the revolt led by Boudicca.



5. A

Nobody in Britain had ever seen elephants before. These huge animals filled people with fear and wonder. And that is exactly why the Romans brought them!

6. B

The Roman Empire was built upon the use of slaves – people captured and forced to work for no money. The local Britons kept slaves too, and so did the Anglo-Saxons who came after them, and the Vikings too.

7. A

The Romans brought exotic animals – and armed men called gladiators – to the amphitheatres to fight one another to the death. These displays were hugely popular and hugely violent. The Colosseum at Rome seated 50,000 people and 1,000s of men and animals fought and died there.

8. C

The women of Britain at this time could be warriors and rulers. The Romans did not like women to do these jobs. In particular, they disapproved of the women who were queens.

9. A

Cartimandua was Queen of the Brigantes, a Celtic people of the 1st century AD. She made a pact with the Romans to keep her people safe. Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni, refused to make a pact. She led an uprising against the Romans and many of her people died.

10. B

The whole of the Roman Empire was under attack. The Romans left Britain so they could keep control of a smaller empire. This left Britain open to invasion by peoples from Germany and elsewhere.

BUFF OR BUFFOON?**If you scored 10/10**

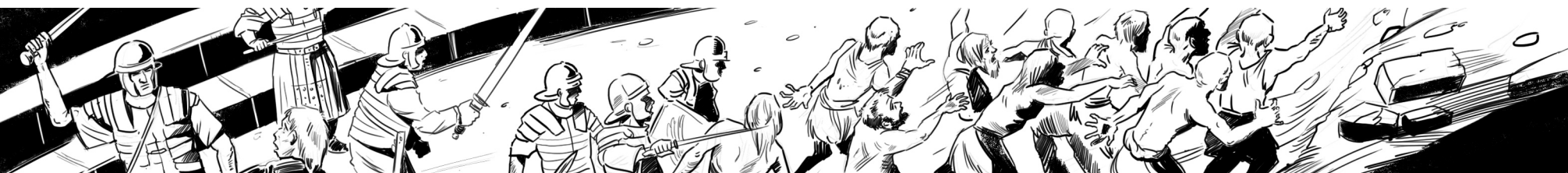
You're a top-class history buff. Seth and Nadiya will be glad to have you on their side as Defenders!

If you scored 5-9

You have more research to do before the Defenders will add you to their team!

If you scored 4 or under

Seth and Nadiya won't mind. They are history whizz-kids and will gladly give you a lesson!



ARE YOU A HISTORY BUFF OR A HISTORY BUFFOON?

Take this hard-as-iron QUIZ to find out how much YOU know about Iron Age Britain!

1. Why did people of the Iron Age build hill forts?

- A.** Hill forts were high up and near to the skies where Iron Age people believed their gods and spirits lived.
- B.** Hill forts were their homes – they lived in them as places to protect them from their enemies.
- C.** Hill forts were pitches on which to play an ancient form of football, a game that lasted all week and had three teams of 19 players each.

2. Why did Iron Age people put decapitated heads on stakes at the gates to their hill forts?

- A.** They liked to keep the heads of dead friends and family near by to make sure they didn't forget them.
- B.** The heads were there as a "Welcome to Our Fort" sign for good spirits and friends.

C. The heads were there to drive people away. They were a warning sign that said "ENEMIES KEEP OUT!" or this is where your head will end up too.

3. Who or what brought an end to the Iron Age?

- A.** The Romans who invaded Britain, bringing elephants on their ships to intimidate the local people.
- B.** The Golden Age, famous for its golden head-dresses and golden sandals.
- C.** The Ice Age, when the world was covered in vast sheets of ice.

4. What made iron so important that it signalled a new age called the Iron Age?

- A.** It was used to make weapons and tools for farming.
- B.** It was used to build multi-storey homes and shops.
- C.** It was used to build boats so people could travel overseas and trade with other countries.

5. What shape were houses in the Iron Age?

- A.** Rectangular.
- B.** Triangular.
- C.** Circular.



6. Why did Iron Age people throw shields and weapons into rivers and lakes?

A. As offerings to the Goddess of Fresh Water.

B. They believed it was unlucky to use a dead man's weapons, and so they threw away weapons belonging to those killed in battle.

C. We don't know.

7. What the Romans feared most about Iron Age people were their chariots. Why?

A. Iron Age chariots were super-fast and could thrash anyone in any race!

B. The Romans thought chariots pulled by two horses were actually eight-legged monsters that would kill them.

C. Iron Age people were expert at using chariots in war.

8. Where did Iron Age people get their clothes?

A. From the Iron Age high street.

B. It was very hot in Iron Age times so they didn't wear any clothes.

C. They made them.

9. What did people of the Iron Age use to write?

A. Nothing. They couldn't read or write.

B. Quills, ink and parchment.

C. Chalk on slate.

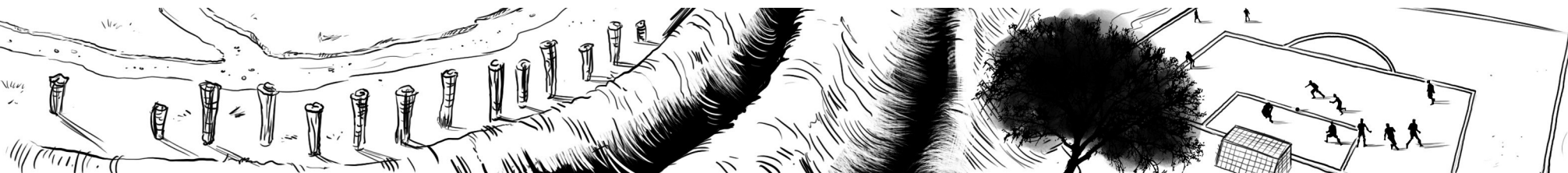
10. How did Iron Age people learn about their history?

A. They used Romans as slaves who wrote their history books for them.

B. Talented poets memorised stories and told and retold them.

C. They didn't believe that any history before existed before them, so they didn't bother.

Answers on the next page ➡



ANSWERS

1: B

Iron Age people built forts to protect themselves against their enemies. Sometimes, everyone lived within the fort. Other times, the local population would retreat to the hill fort from houses outside the fort.

2: PROBABLY C

The Iron Age people didn't leave any written records of why they did this, but some Roman writings suggest it was done to scare their enemies.

3: A

The Romans invaded Britain in 43 AD. That invasion marked the official end of the Iron Age, although many people in Britain continued to live an

Iron Age life for decades, if not centuries, after.

4: A

When people used iron to make their tools and weapons, it made them much stronger than the weaker metals and woods used before. Iron gave people the ability to make things, grow things and – when necessary – to fight with more power.

5: C

Iron Age houses were round. In fact, they are now called roundhouses. The Romans and Anglo-Saxons were more likely to build rectangular houses.

6: C

We don't know. A and B are ideas that could be true, but we can't be sure. What do you think?

7: C

One of the key tactics of Iron Age warfare was to drive chariots into the heat of battle to deliver the best warriors to fight where they were most needed.

8: C

Iron Age people made their own clothes from wool, leather and other natural materials.

9: A

The people of Iron Age Britain did not read or write. Most of what we know about them comes from the writings of Romans and other people.

10: B

Stories were passed from generation to generation by poets, known as bards. They entertained people by telling long, complex stories from memory.

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