Year 2
Autumn 2
Lesson 2

The Roman Empire



Prior Learning



True or False

The Roman empire began in Spain.

False, it began in Italy

Italy is in the continent Europe.

True!

An empire is controlled by an emperor.

True!

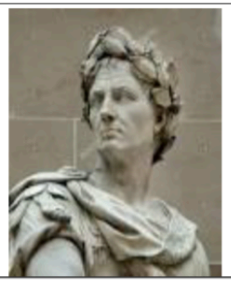
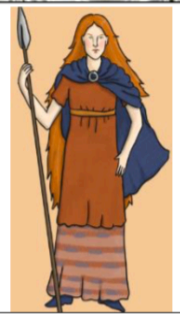
An empire is made up of just one country.

False, an empire is made up of lots of countries.

Our Knowledge Organiser

Year 2 Knowledge Organiser- History- The Romans

Key Vocabulary	Definition
empire	A group of states or countries ruled over by a single person
legion	A large group of soldiers who form one section of an army.
invasion	The entering or taking over of a place, by force
rebellion	When a group of people are angry about something, usually something done by the people in power, and rise up and fight them
emperor	A man who rules an empire
defeat	To win against someone in a fight, war, or competition
aqueduct	Bridge-like system built to move water from one location to another
centurion	Soldier in the Roman army responsible for the command of one hundred men.

General Julius Cesar	First attempt to invade Britain in 55BC. It was an unsuccessful invasion.	
Emperor Claudius	Successfully invaded Britain in 43AD	
Boudicca	Led a rebellion against Emperor Claudius. She was queen of the tribe Iceni.	

55 BCE: Julius Caesar tries to invade Britain but was forced to withdraw

43 CE: Emperor Claudius successfully invades Britain and Britain becomes part of the Roman Empire.

201-210 CE: The Romans withdraw from Britain. The Anglo Saxons come to Britain and begin to settle.

Key Vocabulary

Our key words for today's lesson are:

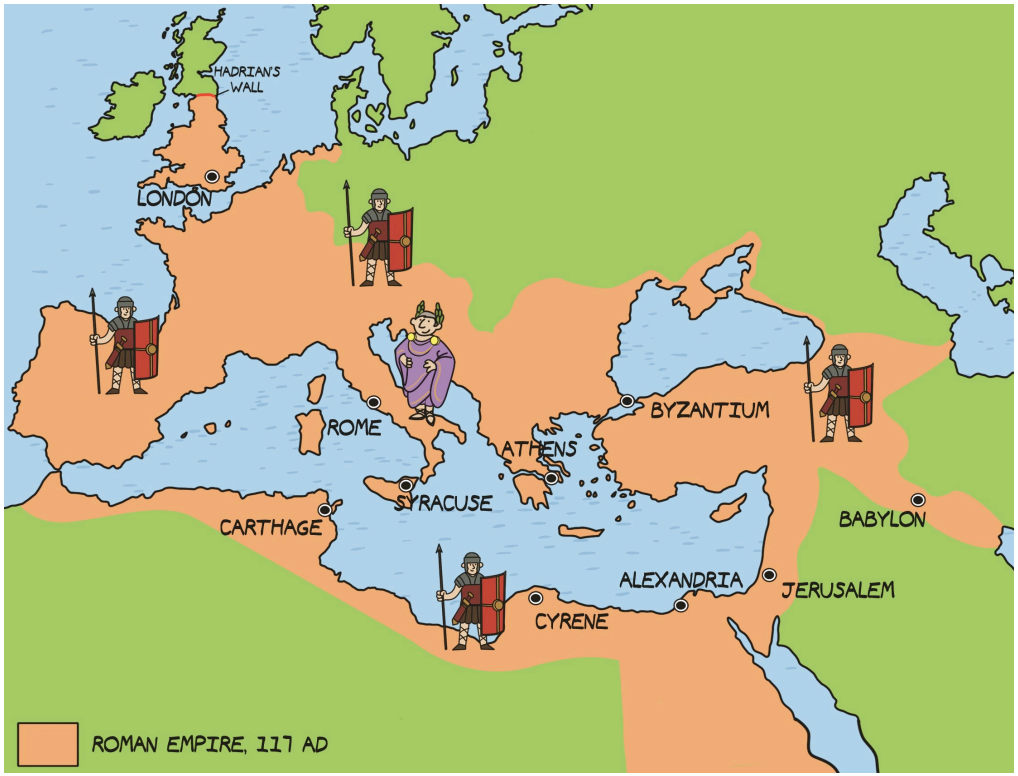
Citizen
Legion
soldier
Centurion
service
Helmet
shield

Bow and arrow
Slingshot
Catapult
Cavalry
Century
Armour

L/O To know that the Romans had several large armies with many soldiers.

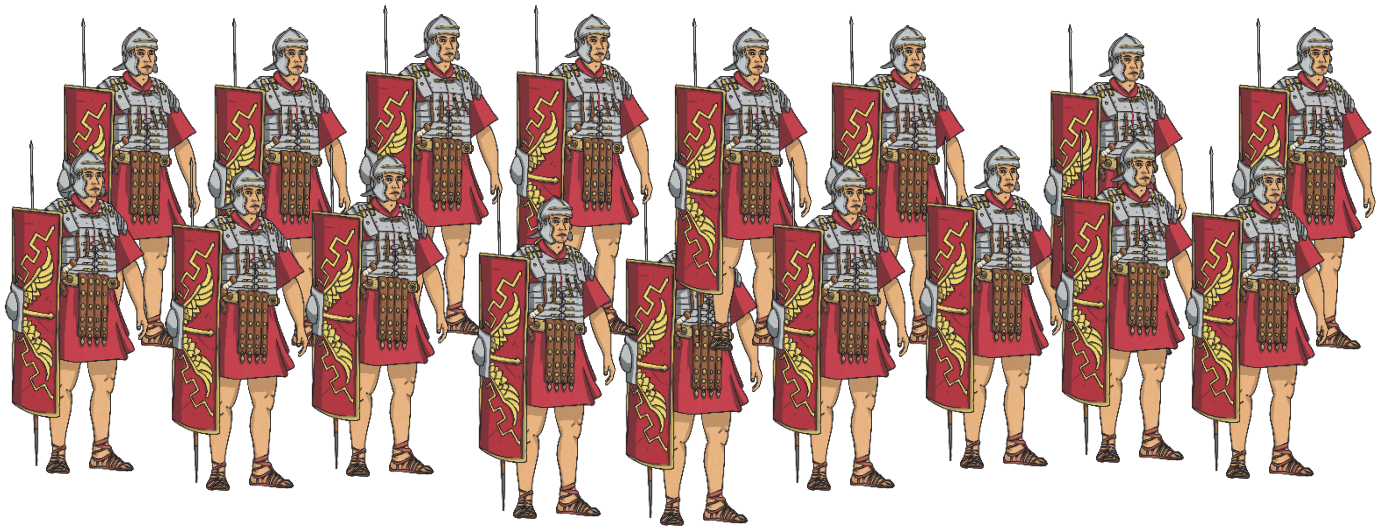
The Roman Empire stretched across three continents, from the border between England and Scotland, all the way to modern day Iran. This enormous territory was governed without the use of cars, planes or mobile phones.

How did the Romans do it? The answer was their army.



L/O To know that the Romans had several large armies with many soldiers.

One of the main reasons Rome became so powerful was because of the strength of its army. It conquered a vast empire that stretched from Britain all the way to the Middle East. The army was **very advanced** for its time. The soldiers were the best trained, they had the best weapons and the best armour. Being a soldier was a serious business.
When the Romans invaded Britain, their army was so good that it took on armies 10 times its size and won!



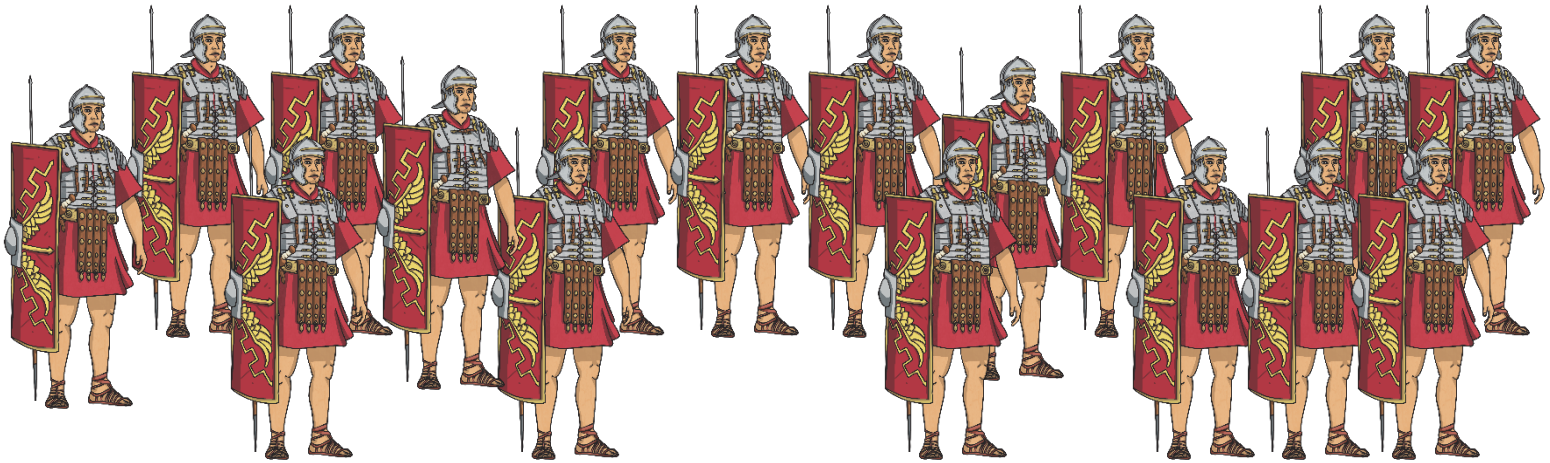
L/O To know that the Romans had several large armies with many soldiers.

Only **men** could be in the Roman Army, no women were allowed. There were two main types of Roman soldiers: **legionaries** and **auxiliaries**.

The legionaries were the elite (very best) soldiers. A legionary had to be over 17 years old and a Roman citizen. Every new recruit had to be **fighting fit** - anyone who was weak or too short was rejected.

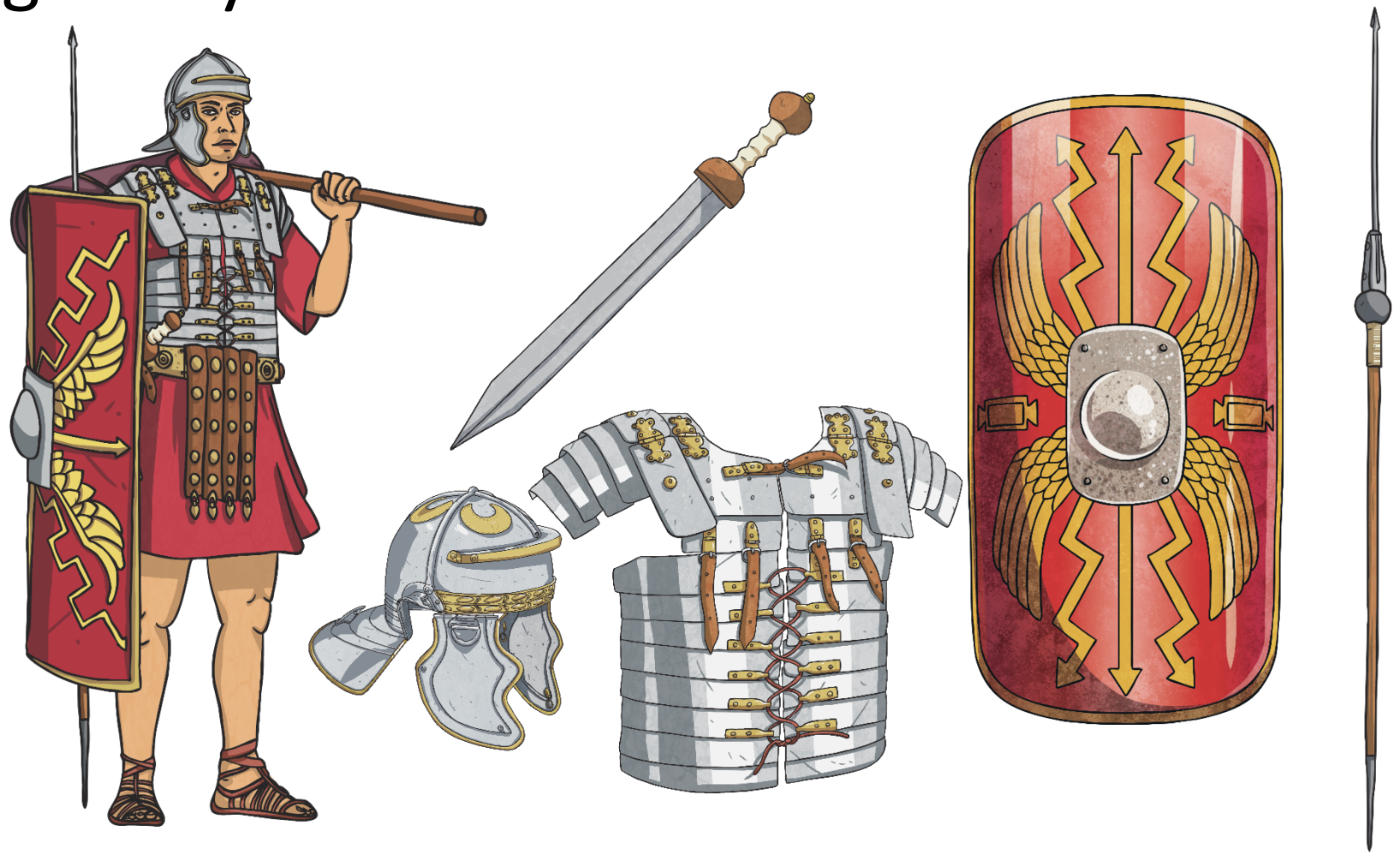
Legionaries signed up for at least 25 years' service. But if they survived their time, they were rewarded with a gift of land they could farm. Old soldiers often retired together in military towns, called **'colonia'**.

An auxiliary was a soldier who was **not** a Roman citizen. He was only paid a third of a legionary's wage. Auxiliaries guarded forts and frontiers but also fought in battles, often in the front lines where it was the most dangerous



Talk Task

Legionary's Uniform



What makes the legionary's uniform and equipment so effective?

L/O To know that the Romans had several large armies with many soldiers.

Helmet: The outer rim protects the forehead and prevents the sword blows from penetrating the helmet. The rear of the helmet has a guard to protect the neck.

Shield: It was semi-circular so that any objects thrown at the soldier would rebound to the other side.
The roman soldiers used the shields to create battle formations.

Body Armour: The iron bands were attached together by leather internal strips.
Additional curved metal strips were positioned on the shoulders to provide extra coverage.

Tunic: It was a wide, under garment which was worn underneath the body armour to protect the body from the armour and allow freedom of movement in battle.

Sandals: Heavy leather for marching, with metal studs on the bottom.



https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwmpfg8/articles/zqbnfg8

L/O To know that the Romans had several large armies with many soldiers.

How Did You Become a Legionary?



The legions were made up of recommended Roman citizens.

Recruits had to be 25 and had to stay in the army for at least 25 years.

Legionaries were not allowed to be married whilst they were in the army.

What If You Were Not a Roman Citizen?



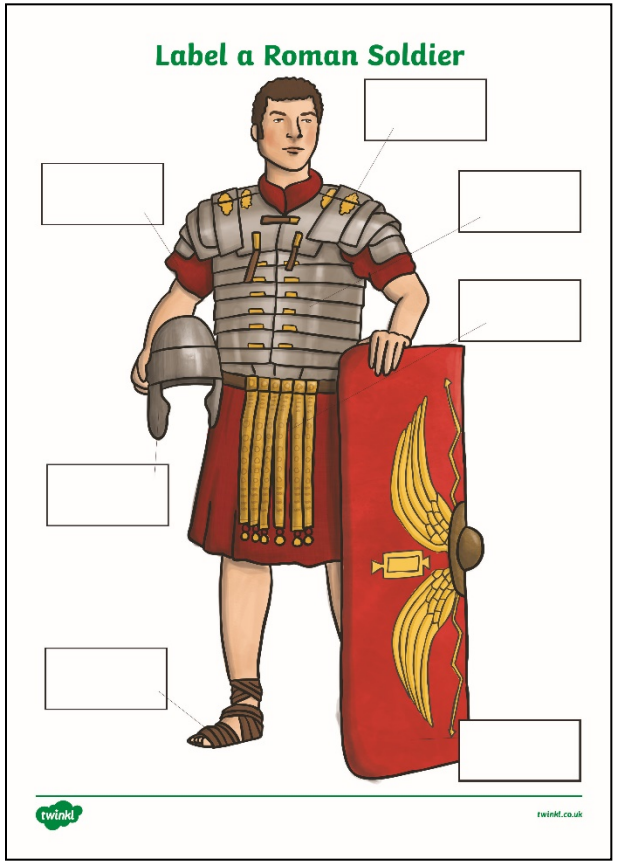
Soldiers could join as an auxiliary. Auxiliaries often had special skills such as horse riding and archery. The auxiliary soldiers would receive citizenship when they retired.

L/O: To know that the Romans had several large armies with many soldiers.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqtf34j/articles/zqbnfg8

Task

Can you draw and label the different items worn by a Roman Soldier?



And finally…Step for depth

Write a description of the weapons a Roman soldier may have used.

Why was the Roman Army so good at invading?

