

Starter- Roman Invasion timeline

Can you match the dates and events up?

133 BC

800 BC

AD 305

44 BC

237 BC

AD 79

The Romans have also taken control of the whole of Italy, Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica.

The Romans have now also taken over much of Spain, Greece and its islands, part of north Africa and are starting to conquer more eastern European countries. They have established many large Roman cities in these places.

The Romans have now conquered France and Germany, which are just across the sea from England.

After three attempts, the Romans have eventually penetrated into England and control much of the south. They strengthen their stronghold across Europe and they have become a powerful empire.

The Romans only occupy Rome. Large Celtic settlements are prominent across Europe.

The height of the Roman empire. This was the time that the Romans had most power and controlled the most countries. England is completely under Roman control but the Romans never manage to take Scotland.

Enquiry question:
How did the Roman army
managed to conquer so
much land?

Who can remember what groups of people in Britain were called before the Roman's invaded?

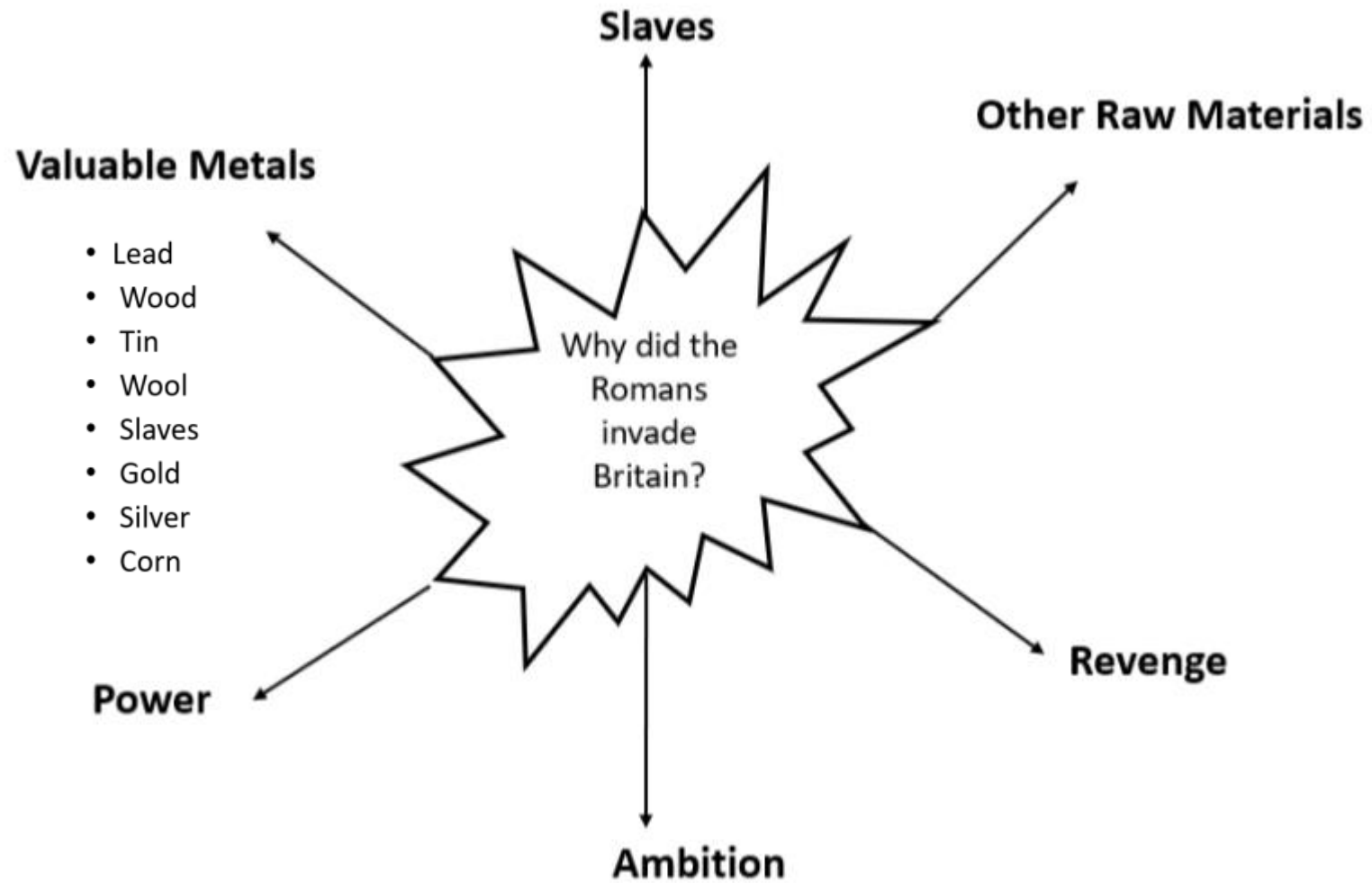
Can you remember how they lived?



Lets remind ourselves how the **Celts** lived before the Roman's invaded them:
Celts video- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zcfygk7

How did they live?

But...life changed when the Roman's invaded.
Why did they invade Britain?



1. Roman roads

The Romans were famous for their long, straight roads. You can still see some Roman roads today, two thousand years after they were built.

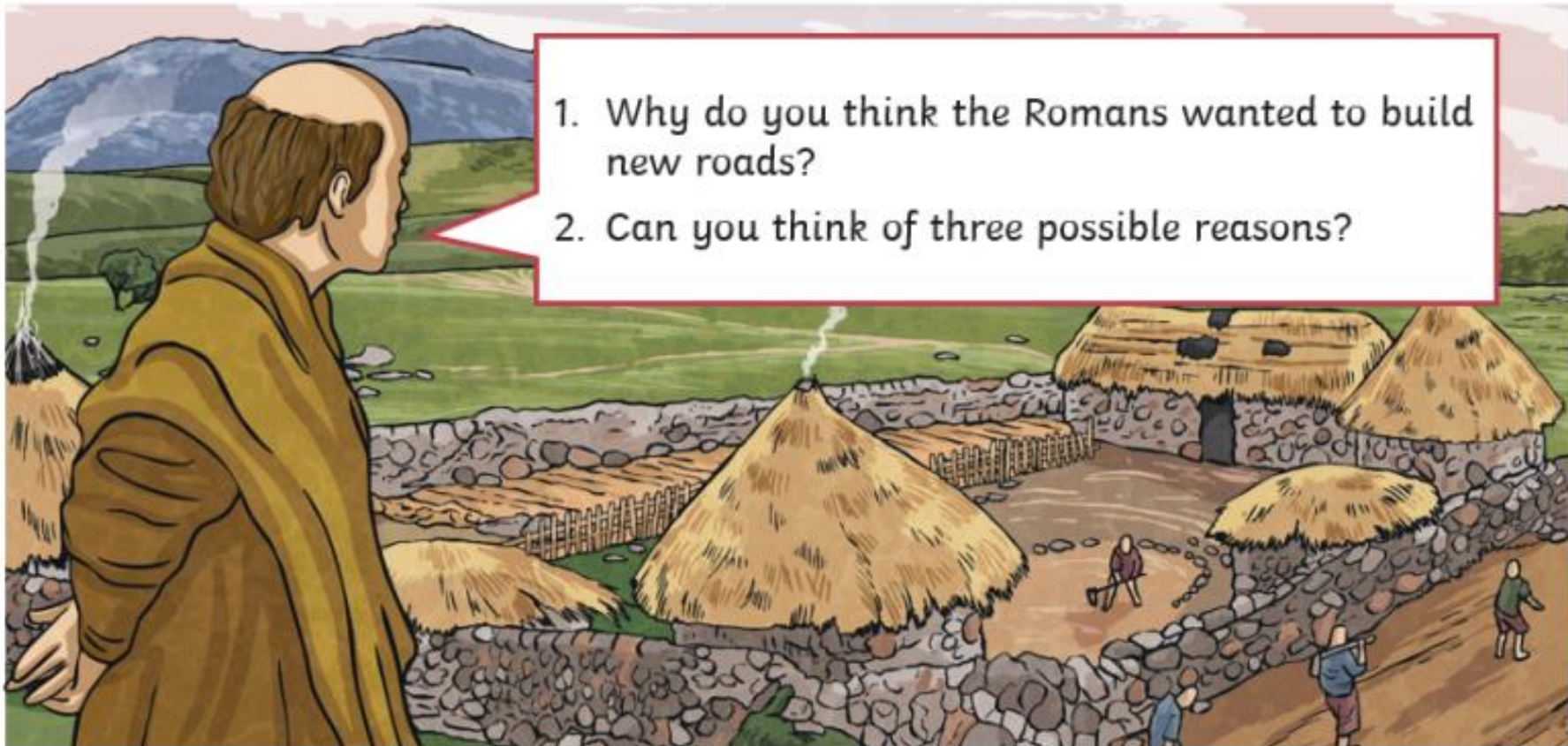
Why was it so crucial for the Romans success that they built roads?



Watch <https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zjc4d2p>

Before the Roman Roads

Before the Romans arrived, Britain had no proper roads. The Celts rode horses, walked and travelled in carts pulled by oxen along paths and tracks. These paths and tracks connected local farms and hamlets, and there were some longer routes for trade. These tracks were often in very poor condition.



1. Why do you think the Romans wanted to build new roads?
2. Can you think of three possible reasons?

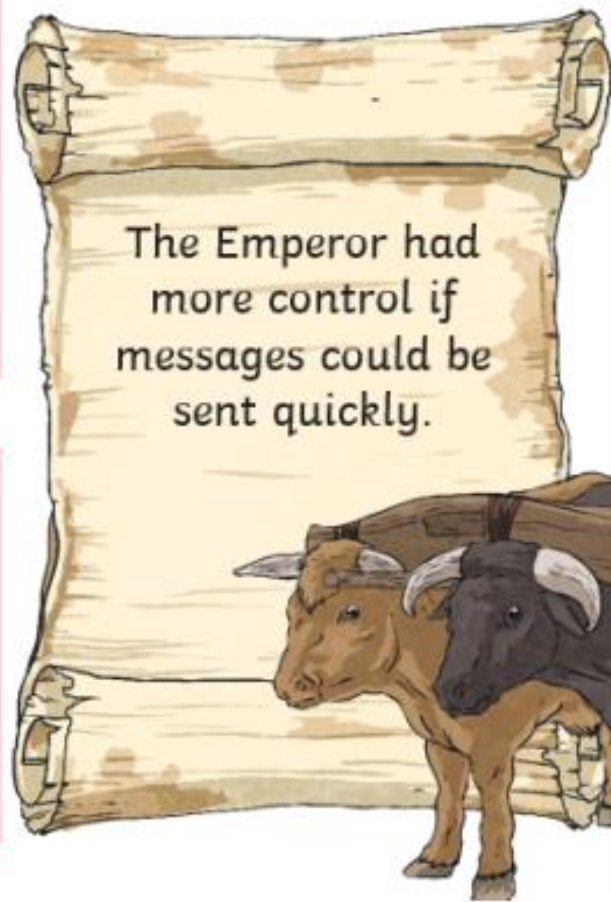
Roman Roads

Why did the Romans want better roads?

Did you think of any of these reasons?



Troops could be quickly moved from one place to another.



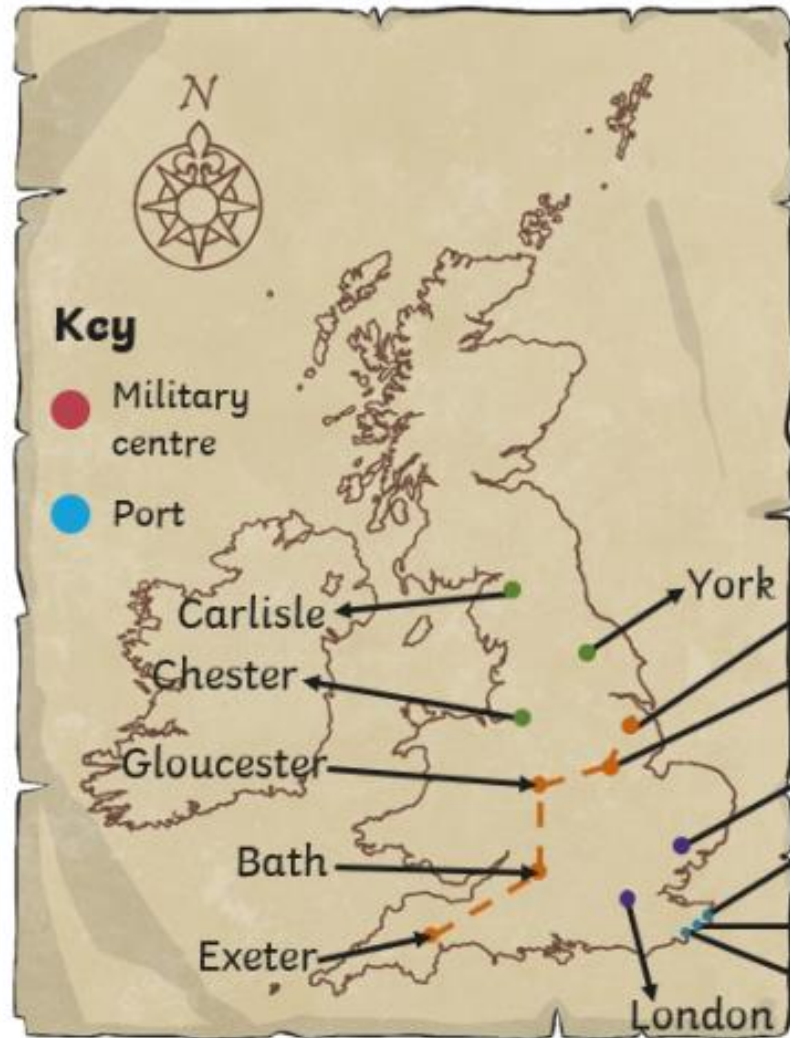
The Emperor had more control if messages could be sent quickly.

Supplies could be sent to different areas of the country.



Better links between places was good for trading.

The First Roman Roads



The Fosse Way was one of the first great Roman roads in Britain. It ran from Exeter to Lincoln, passing through Bath, Gloucester and Leicester.

Over the years, the Romans continued to build more roads, linking to many places throughout Britain.

Eventually, around 2000 miles of Roman roads had been built.

Other Routes

- Chester to York
- London to Lincoln to York
- Chester to Carlisle
- Dover, Lympe and Richborough to London to Wroxeter

Building the Roads

To build a Roman road, we would need to:



- 1 Dig a large ditch the width of your road.
- 2 Fill your ditch with a layer of rubble and a layer of stones.
- 3 Dig two smaller ditches either side.
- 4 Cover the stones with a layer of sand or small pebbles and gravel, thicker in the middle to make a camber so that the rain will drain off into the two side ditches.
- 5 Set a layer of smooth paving stones into the sand or gravel to make a hard surface.

2. The Roman Army

Watch this video all about the Roman army:
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zn2mhyc



Think about these while watching the video.

Q. Why were the Romans successful?

Q. What made the Roman army so strong?

Q. Why do you think some Celts gave into the Romans?

Q. What would this do to the Celts?

Roman army-
The Roman army
had organised
tactics and battle
plans to help them
in battle.

Can you try to act
them out?



The Turtle was used to advance towards the enemy by creating a shell out of shields around a group of soldiers.



The Orb was used when the army had been split. The legionaries would protect the archers and officers.



The Repel Cavalry was used to protect against soldiers on horses. Soldiers used their shield as protection and threw spears.

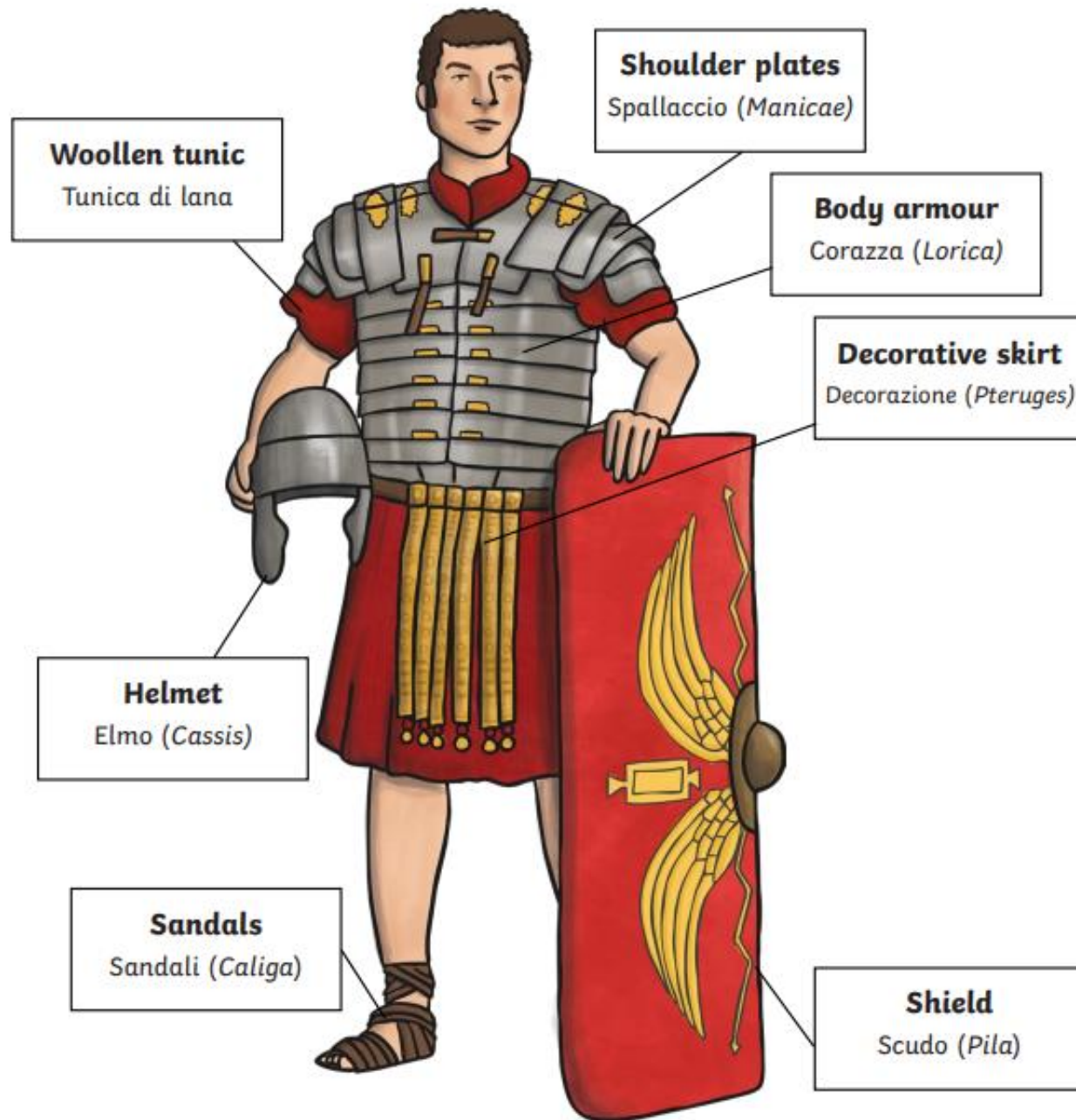


The Wedge was used to divide the enemy by the legion creating a 'V'.

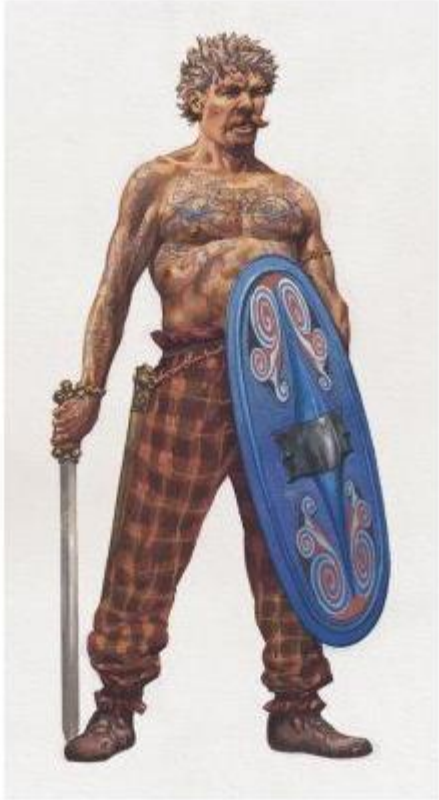
2. The Roman Army

- **organised** and divided into legions. These were made up of 4,000-6,000 soldiers
- **well-trained** and very advanced
- Soldiers were '**fighting fit**' and if seen as weak were rejected from the army
- had the **best armour** to protect their bodies
- had the **best weapons** and lots of them
- has organised **battle plans** and **marching formations** when in fighting
- good at working in a **team**
- very **disciplined** and would be punished if they didn't follow orders

3. A Roman soldier



Celtic soldier



How are they different?
What do you think they use body paint for?
Were they protected?
Whose armour was better? Why?
Who would have made a better soldier?

Roman soldier



Activity: use the sub-headings below and write some information about why the Roman army was so successful.

WALT: Understand how and why the Romans were successful in their invasion.

WILF: Bronze: comparing Roman and Celtic soldiers by labelling

Silver: Identify main reasons for success and put into simple sentences

Gold: Write complex sentences using subordinating conjunctions and connecting adverbs
(When, Once, While, However, Also, Therefore, As a result, Consequently)

1. Roman roads

2. Roman army

3. Roman soldier

Upload on teams

