



**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE
ANCIENT HISTORY (JACT)**

Document Study 1: Roman World

Britain Through Roman Eyes

2452

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

- 8 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

**Thursday 21 May 2009
Morning**

Duration: 1 hour



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink. Pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- Up to 10 marks will be awarded for clarity of expression, structure of arguments, presentation of ideas, spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- This document consists of **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Britain Through Roman Eyes

Answer any **two** questions.

- 1 Read the extract and then answer **both parts** of the question which follows. You are expected to refer to the extract and to use your own knowledge in your answers.

When they saw that the Trinovantes had been protected against Cassivellaunus and spared any injury on the part of the Roman troops, several other tribes, the Cenimagni, Segontiaci, Ancalites, Bibroci, and Cassi, sent embassies and surrendered. From them Caesar learnt that he was not far from Cassivellaunus' stronghold, which was protected by forests and marshes and had been filled with a large number of men and cattle. (The Britons apply the term 'strongholds' to densely wooded spots fortified with a rampart and trench, to which they retire in order to escape the attacks of invaders.) He marched to the place with his legions, and found that it was of great natural strength and excellently fortified. Nevertheless, he proceeded to assault it on two sides. After a short time the enemy proved unable to resist the violent attack of the legions and rushed out of the fortress on another side. A quantity of cattle was found there, and many of the fugitives were captured or killed.

Caesar, *Gallic Wars* 5.21

(Caesar, *The Conquest of Gaul*, trans. S. A. Handford, revised J. F. Gardner; Penguin)

- (a) What does this passage tell us about the effectiveness of British resistance to the Romans during Caesar's second invasion of Britain? [20]
- (b) How far do you agree that Caesar's writings are not very useful in helping us to understand his reasons for returning to Britain in 54 BC? In your answer you should refer to this passage and to other sources you have studied. [25]

[Total: 45]

- 2 Read the extract and then answer **both parts** of the question which follows. You are expected to refer to the extract and to use your own knowledge in your answers.

In Britain the situation inherited by the imperial governor Publius Ostorius Scapula was chaotic. Convinced that a new commander, with an unfamiliar army and with winter begun, would not fight them, hostile tribes had broken violently into the Roman province. But Ostorius knew that initial results are what produce alarm or confidence. So he marched his light auxiliary battalions rapidly ahead, and stamped out resistance. The enemy were dispersed and hard pressed. To prevent a rally, or a bitter treacherous peace which would give neither general or army any rest, Ostorius prepared to disarm all suspects and reduce the whole territory as far as the Trent and Severn. 5

The first to revolt against this were the Iceni. We had not defeated this powerful tribe in battle, since they had voluntarily become our allies. Led by them, the neighbouring tribes now chose a battlefield at a place protected by a rustic earthwork, with an approach too narrow to give access to cavalry. The Roman commander, though his troops were auxiliaries without regular support, proposed to carry these defences. At the signal, Ostorius' infantry, placed at appropriate points and reinforced by dismounted cavalrymen, broke through the embankment. The enemy, imprisoned by their own barrier, were overwhelmed – though with rebellion on their consciences, and no way out, they performed prodigies of valour. During the battle the governor's son, Marcus Ostorius Scapula, won the Citizen's Oak-Wreath for the saving of a Roman's life. 10 15 20

Tacitus, *Annals* 12. 31

[Tacitus, *The Annals of Imperial Rome*, trans. M. Grant; Penguin]

- (a) What does this passage tell us about the extent of Roman control over Britain in the early years following the invasion of Claudius? [20]
- (b) To what extent did the Roman conquest of Britain before c. AD 60 depend on military superiority? In your answer you should refer to this passage and to other sources you have studied. [25]

[Total 45]

- 3 Read the extract and then answer **both parts** of the question which follows. You are expected to refer to the extract and to use your own knowledge in your answers.

The climate is wretched, with its frequent rains and mists, but there is no extreme cold. Their day is longer than in our part of the world. The nights are light, and in the extreme north so short that evening and morning twilight are scarcely distinguishable. If no clouds block the view, the sun's glow, it is said, can be seen all night long: it does not set and rise, but simply passes along the horizon. The reason must be that the flat extremities of the earth cast low shadows and do not raise the darkness to any height; night therefore fails to reach the sky and its stars. The soil will produce good crops, except olives, vines, and other plants which usually grow in warmer lands. They are slow to ripen, though they shoot up quickly – both facts being due to the same cause, the extreme moistness of the soil and atmosphere. Britain yields gold, silver, and other metals, to make it worth conquering. Its seas, too, produce pearls, but they are of a dark bluish-grey colour. Some think that the natives are unskilful in gathering them; for whereas in the Indian Ocean the oysters are torn alive and breathing from the rocks, in Britain they are collected as the sea throws them up. I find it easier to believe that the pearls are of inferior quality than that people miss a chance of making a larger profit.

Tacitus, *Agricola* 12

[Tacitus, *The Agricola and the Germania*, trans. H. W. Mattingly, revised S. A. Handford; Penguin]

- (a) What does this passage tell us about Roman views of the economic potential of Britain? [20]
- (b) How reliable an assessment of Britain's economy is presented by Greek and Roman writers? In your answer you should refer to this passage and to other sources you have studied. [25]

[Total 45]

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