

# 100% Sheet

## The World Before 1066: How did the Romans transform Britain?

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

After the partial conquest of Britain in 48AD the Romans carried out significant social, cultural and economic changes within the country.

### KEY KNOWLEDGE 2: Government and Governance

- The Roman Empire, and therefore Roman Britain, was arranged in a **strictly hierarchical fashion**.
- **Towns and cities made up 10% of the population** but it is here that power was concentrated.
- The government required an effective **taxation system** in order to **maintain key facilities such as roads and key government buildings**.
- Britain was ruled by **governors** who reported to the **Roman Senate**. In addition there were **judges** to run courts and **decide on the laws of the country**. Similarly **military leaders were brought in to run the Roman army** as there were a number of rebellions.


### KEY KNOWLEDGE 1: Transport and Buildings

- In total over **10000 miles of roads** were constructed in Britain.
- Roads allowed the **Roman army to move quickly** between areas—important as the **country was still not fully under their control**.
- Roads were built in **straight lines** where possible to ensure that journeys were as short as possible.
- Many of these roads still exist and are still used such as the **Fosse Way which connects Lincoln to Exeter**.
- Roman buildings were **made from stone** and often had **new technology** within them such as **central heating**.
- As the Roman's built towns they also constructed **sewer systems and clean water** in an effort to **prevent disease and keep towns clean**.
- In order to keep populations happy the Romans also **built bath houses, public buildings and churches**.
- Many defensive buildings were also constructed such as **forts, city walls and even Hadrian's Wall—a border between England and Scotland**.

### KEY KNOWLEDGE 3: Society and Culture

- **Very few Britons could read or write** before the Romans. Afterwards **rich citizens** living within areas such as Bath, London and Lincoln were **taught how to read, write and speak Latin**.
- **Laws were written down, as was History** so that it was preserved. The Romans also introduced **a new legal system, calendar and brought Christianity to Britain**.
- In addition key Roman buildings such as **forums, amphitheatres, baths and markets** were built in Romanised towns and cities.
- Despite this the **majority of people continued to work in agriculture and little changed in their day to day lives**.

Key Term	Definition
Sewer	A pipe or tunnel for removing human waste and water
Bath House	A communal place for people to bathe, wash and relax
Hierarchical	A system sorted by rank/authority. Most powerful at the top.
Taxation	Charging citizens money in order to pay for public services
Governors	Officials appointed to run a town or a region
Forum	The center of Roman towns—trials, trade, government
Amphitheatre	An early theatre for people to watch drama and sports
Agriculture	Farming including both crops and animals

<b>STONE AGE</b> Lower Palaeolithic 900,000 to 70, 000 BC Middle Palaeolithic 70,000 to 30,000 BC Upper Palaeolithic 30,000 to 10, 000 BC	<b>STONE AGE</b> Mesolithic 10,000 to 4,000 BC	<b>STONE AGE</b> Neolithic 4,000 to 2,300 BC	<b>Bronze Age</b> 2,300 to 800 BC	<b>Iron Age 800 to 43 BC</b>	<b>Roman 43 BC to 410 AD</b>	<b>Anglo-Saxon 410 AD to 800 AD</b>	<b>Viking 790 AD to 1066 AD</b>	
--	---	---	--------------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---