

Boudicca's Revolt: Queen of the Iceni

 **Mission:** to analyse, evaluate and compare historical sources to find out what really happened when the Romans fought the Britons.

A “Have no fear of the Romans; for they are not better than us neither in numbers nor in bravery. And here is the proof: they have protected themselves with helmets and breastplates, forts and walls and trenches. They are influenced fear but we follow a plan of rough and ready action. We enjoy such a surplus of bravery, that we regard our tents as safer than their walls and our shields giving us greater protection than their whole suits of mail. Furthermore, this region is familiar to us and is our ally, but to them it is unknown and hostile. As for the rivers, we swim them naked, whereas they do not cross them easily even with boats. Let us, therefore, go against them trusting boldly to good fortune. Let us show them that they are hares and foxes trying to rule over dogs and wolves.”

**An account of Boudicca’s speech—written by Roman Historian Cassius Dio in his book: Roman History
Published c210 AD**

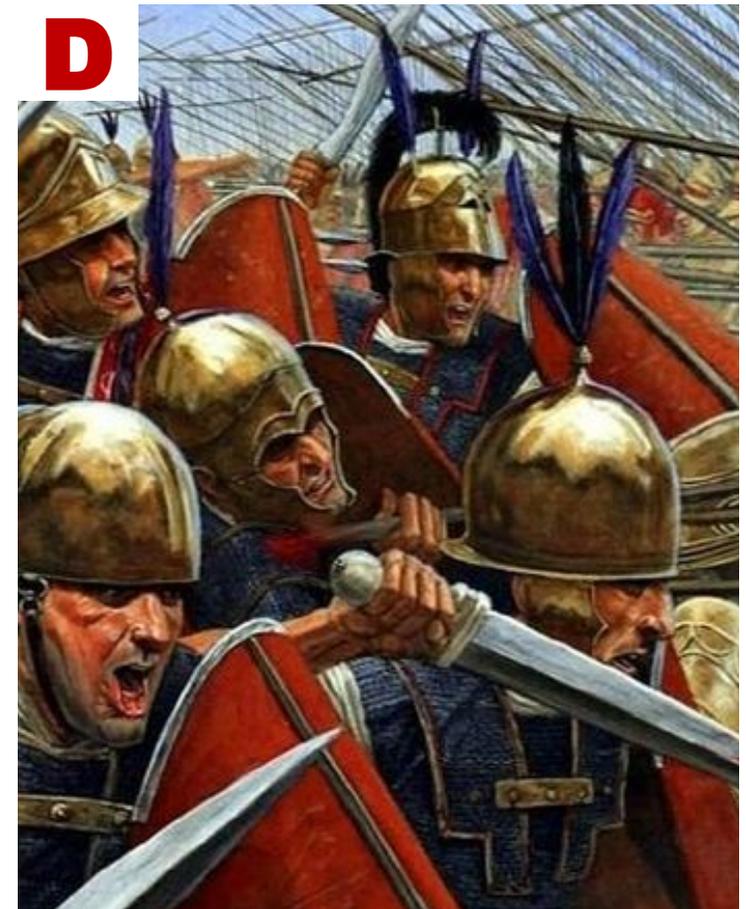
B Part of the Roman army was at Exeter, but its commander refused to come to help fight against Boudicca. Roman Commander Paulinus had to make do with what he could muster - perhaps 10,000 men.

Boudicca may have had ten times more soldiers than the Romans, but the Romans were well trained. There was a great battle. The only reports of it come from Roman writers, such as Tacitus. Tacitus says most of the Britons were killed. Rather than be captured, Boudicca drank poison to kill herself. The Romans had won.

Website: BBC Schools UK.

Roman Historian Suetonius writes that the Romans had an army of about 10,000, while Boudicca had 230,000 soldiers. "The Romans took up a position with a plain in front and dense woodland behind. Boudicca's tribesmen entered the plain, drawing up their wagons at the back, together with the women and children, as though in a grandstand. Lured into attack, the Britons were met first with a shower of javelins, and then by a disciplined assault. Trapped by their own carts, there was a terrible slaughter of the Britons" It is claimed that 80,000 Britons and 400 Romans were killed during the battle.

Website Article - Spartacus History Educational.



The Reaction of the USA to Soviet Expansion c 1947

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A *“The peoples of a number of countries of the world have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them in violation of the Yalta agreement ... now, every nation must choose between alternative ways of life. One way is based upon the will of the majority, free elections, freedom of speech and freedom from political oppression. The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror, a controlled press and radio; fixed elections, and the suppression of personal freedoms. I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation. I believe that our help should be primarily economic and financial . If we falter in our leadership, we may endanger the peace of the world -- and we shall surely endanger the welfare of our own nation. Great responsibilities have been placed upon us by the swift movement of events. I therefore ask the Congress to provide authority for assistance to Greece and Turkey in the amount of \$400,000,000 while they repair the damages of war. It is necessary only to glance at a map to realize that the survival and integrity of the Greek nation are of grave importance in a much wider situation. Confusion and disorder might well spread throughout the entire Middle East. The effect will be far reaching to the west as well as to the east.”*

US President Harry Truman in a speech to the US Congress, 12th March 1947. (Edited)

B ‘On the one hand Marshal Aid was an extremely generous act by the American people. On the other, it was motivated by American self-interest. They wanted to create new markets for American good. The Americans also remembered the disastrous effects of the Depression and wanted to do all it could to prevent another worldwide slump. Stalin viewed Marshall Aid with suspicion . After expressing some initial interest he refused to have anything to do with it. He also forbade any of the Eastern bloc states to apply for Marshall Aid. Stalin’s view was that the anti-communist aims behind Marshall Aid would weaken his hold on Eastern Europe. He also felt that the USA was trying to dominate by making countries reliant on the US dollar.’

Historian Ben Walsh, Modern World History.

‘The ruling gang of American imperialists has taken the path of open expansion, of enslaving weakened capitalist countries. It has hatched new war plans against the Soviet Union. Imitating Hitler, the new aggressors are using blackmail.’

GM Malenkov, a Soviet politician, speaking in 1947 about the Marshall Plan. Andrei Zhdanov echoed this opinion.

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The Failure at Gallipoli: who was to blame?

 **Mission:** to analyse + evaluate historical sources then consider who was most to blame for the failed Gallipoli campaign.

A 'In truth it is unfair to blame the British for the slaughter at the Turkish position at Nek in 1915. Instead it was mostly the fault of two Australian incompetents (fools) - Brigadier General Hughes and Colonel Antill. Hughes was a commander who didn't command and Antil was not but he did. The ordinary soldiers at Gallipoli were indeed lions led donkeys but not all donkeys were British. General Bridges of the Australian division died after needlessly exposing himself to shellfire while General Johnston was to blame for delaying an attack on a poorly defended Turkish position. When he finally decided to attack the Turks had reinforced their defences and the Kiwis were needlessly slaughtered'.

By journalist Saul David, article in the Daily Telegraph (a British newspaper) published in 2015

B "There were no terrible 'if' moments when the whole campaign could have been won. In reality, the landing had no chance as it was doomed from the outset. The strategic conception was wrong. The available resources were not there and the troop numbers were almost equal on both sides. The Turks had 60,000 fighting troops – bayonets, as they used to call them in those days – and the Allies had 70,000. The British already knew from the Western front that you needed two to three times the number of attacking forces to have any chance of even breaking into a well-defended enemy in trenches, let alone breaking through."

Ashley Elkins. Chief Historian at Australian War Museum

"We tend to look at it from the Allied side but the Turks certainly had something to do with our defeat. There's a risk of overlooking the very effective and courageous resistance of the Turkish army. They were very capable, they had many tricks up their sleeves that the Australians had to learn that they were experienced and hardened soldiers – more so than most of the Australians. They had very experienced officers who knew how to command in combat. That was something Australia also had to learn."

Internet Article - Brendan Nicholson. Austrlaimwar.com.au

D 'Still, it is worth remembering that British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill was only responsible for the naval aspects of the operation. The beach landing strategy came from Lord Kitchener and Ian Hamilton. There were benefits elsewhere from keeping the Turks occupied at Gallipoli. For instance, they were never able to launch a successful attack on the Suez Canal. There were also long-term benefits as well. The campaign highlighted the weaknesses of cooperation between the Allies in 1915, teaching Churchill and others valuable lessons. Of course, some of the blame must be laid at Churchill's feet, and Churchill realised that. He accepted his fate and left government to command a battalion on the Western Front. The experience tested his character and his judgment, but ultimately made him a better leader.

Warren Dockter - British Telegraph Newspaper.



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Did Most Romans Enjoy The Games ?

 **Mission:** to analyse and evaluate historical sources to gain a better understanding about how Romans felt about the games.



A 'I went to the games one day hoping for some excitement. I was bitterly disappointed. It was really butchery (lots of killing). Men were thrown to lions and to bears there was no escape for them.. "Kill him! burn him alive" was the cry: "Why is he such a coward? Why won't he rush (run) on the steel? Why does he fall so meekly (easily) ? Why won't he die willingly?" Unhappy that I am I can now choose not to go again. Why must I look on such a scene as this? Do not, my Lucilius, attend the games, I pray you. Either you will be corrupted or if you show disgust, be hated by the crowd.. So stay away.'

A letter from Petronius to his nephew Lucilius, AD 62. Petronius was a Roman writer and author.

B The Romans loved gladiators. They loved the men, the weapons, the fighting and the blood. The great amphitheaters of Rome, like the Colosseum, were always full with people, who watched men fight bloody battles, both with each other and with a dazzling array of wild and dangerous animals. It's not hard to imagine the excitement

www.romanguide.com, 2005.

'All of the lions were killed as they came out of the floor. It was not very exciting, as the lions did not fight like they do when let out of cages. Many of them unwilling to attack, were killed with arrows without a fight.'

A Roman writer explain what he saw when 100 lions were let into the arena. cAD 60

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D All the previous fighting had been merciful by comparison. Now we have pure murder. The gladiators have no protective covering; their entire bodies are exposed to the blows.

No blow falls in vain. This is what lots of people prefer to the regular contests, And it is obvious why. There is no helmet, no shield to stop the sword . Why have armour? Why bother with skill? All that just delays death. In the morning, men are thrown to lions and bears. At mid-day they are thrown to the spectators themselves. No sooner has a man killed, than they shout for him to kill another, or to be killed. The final victor is kept for some other slaughter. In the end, every fighter dies. And all this goes on while the arena is half empty. You may think that the victims committed robbery or were murderers. So what? Even if they deserved to suffer, what's your compulsion to watch their sufferings? **Seneca, the Younger (born 4BC) was a Roman senator and philosopher. tells of a visit he once paid to the arena in a letter to a friend.**

After the Revolution: The Rise of Joseph Stalin.

 **Mission:** to analyse, evaluate and compare historical sources to find out how Stalin was able to take power after Lenin's death.

A “We Communists are special people. We are made of special stuff. We are those who from the army of the great proletarian strategists, the army of Comrade Lenin. There is nothing higher than the honour of belonging in the army. There is nothing higher than the title of the member of the (Bolshevik) Party whose founder and leader was Comrade Lenin. Departing from us Comrade Lenin adjourned (left us) us to guard and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat. We vow to you, Comrade, that we will spare no effort to fulfil this. Leaving us, Comrade Lenin asked us to keep the unity of the party like the apple of our eye. We vow to thee, Comrade Lenin that we will honourably fulfil this as is your commandment.”

Joseph Stalin's speech at Lenin's funeral, January, 1924.

B Comrade Stalin, having become Secretary-General, has unlimited authority concentrated in his hands, and I am not sure whether he will always be capable of using that authority with sufficient caution. Comrade Trotsky, on the other hand, has already proved, is distinguished by outstanding ability and is perhaps the most capable man in Communist Party. But he has displayed excessive self-assurance and shown excessive preoccupation with the purely administrative side of the work. Yet, Stalin is too coarse (rough / hard) and although quite tolerable in our midst becomes intolerable in a Secretary-General. I suggest that the comrades think about a way of removing Stalin and appointing another man in who differs from Comrade Stalin, being more tolerant, more loyal, more polite and more considerate to the comrades”.

An extract from Lenin's Testament, published 1923, the year before he died.

To his comrades in the Party Stalin was looked down on as ‘Comrade Card Index’. The other Bolshevik leaders left him to assemble and organise people and files of information, not yet realising the power he was building for himself using this position. Most of them, being very well read were obsessed with a very different kind of danger, such as having the revolution hijacked (taken over) by another similar to Napoleon Bonaparte in France.

G Haskins, Author of A History of the Soviet Union, published 1923.

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Member of the **Central Committee of the Communist Party** carrying Lenin's coffin in Red Square, 27 January 1924.

The Birth of Communism: the Russian Revolution, 1917.

 **Mission:** to analyse + evaluate historical sources then consider how communist ideas helped create the Russian revolution in October, 1917.



A ‘The world is run by capitalists who own the banks and the factories. They make huge profits and become very rich. The people who work in these factories have to put up with terrible working conditions and they receive very little of the profits—instead this goes to the owners. Eventually, these workers will not accept the situation any longer and there will be a revolution. The workers will join together, rise up and take power for themselves. This will lead to a communist society in which a workers’ government will share out the wealth fairly. There will not be a division between rich and poor. ‘

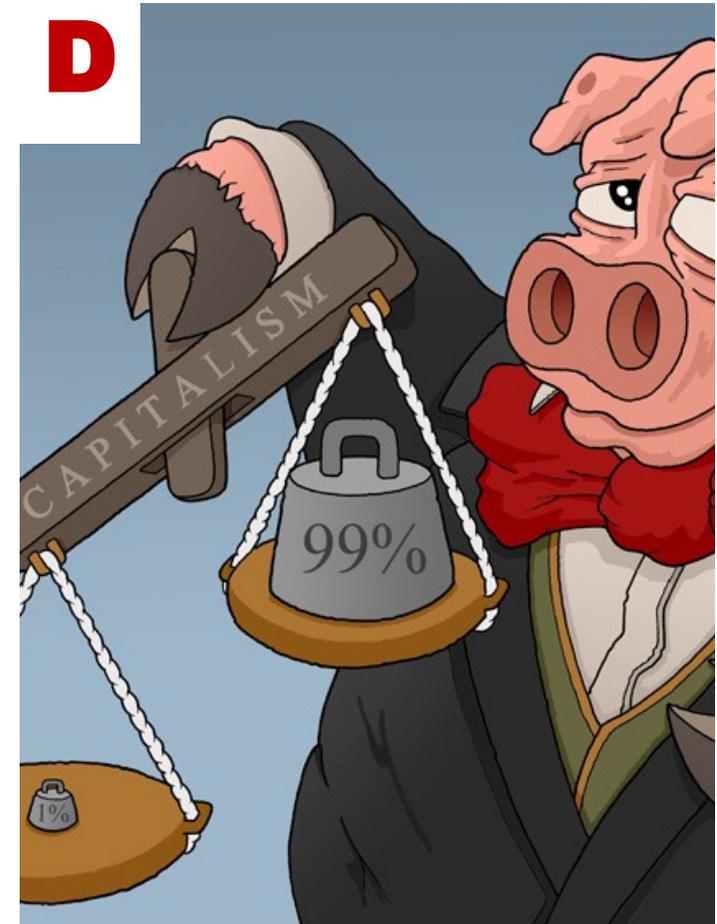
**An extract from Karl Marx’s manifesto, published in Germany in 1848.
The extract has been translated and simplified.**

B ‘Democracy for the minority is only democracy for the rich – that is the democracy of capitalist society. If we look more closely into the machinery of capitalist democracy, we see this everywhere - exclusion of women, the peasant and in the technique of the representative institutions, in the actual obstacles to the right of assembly (public buildings are not for paupers (poor people) and in the purely capitalist organization of the media we see restriction after restriction upon democracy. These restrictions, exceptions, exclusions, obstacles for the poor seem slight, especially in the eyes of one who has never known want himself and has never been in close contact with the oppressed (trampled) in their life. 99 out of 100, bourgeois publicists and politicians come under this category) yet still, they squeeze out the poor from politics, from active participation in democracy’.

From a letter sent by Vladimir Lenin from Finland to Russia, c July 1917.

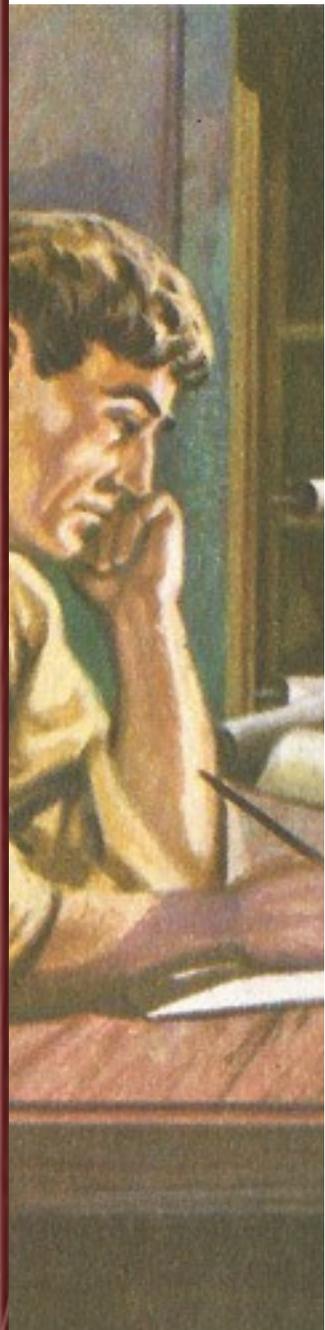
“The workers have taken control of the factories and run them by committees. The peasants have been told to share out the land between themselves. Our government has taken control of the banks and the wealth of the rich people has been confiscated. No political parties are allowed except the Communist Party. All newspaper are under our control. However, we are encouraging all classes of people to have access to the finest theatre and music. Women are equal to men and everyone is now called ‘Comrade’. The Tsar and his family have been shot. Russia is now known as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic. (USSR)

Speech by Vladimir Lenin, Bolshevik revolutionary July 25th, 1918.



A Look At Livy: the Roman Historian

 **Mission:** to analyse and evaluate historical sources and consider how Titus Livy's work helps us learn about the Romans.



A I have set myself the task of writing a complete history of the Roman people from the very beginning of its existence. I do not know for know if I did this well. Unless, I am wrong, there has never been any nation (country) greater in power, with a purer morality (behaviour) , or more fertile (rich) in good examples than in Rome ; or any state in which greed, or poverty have been kept away for so long. However, in these latter (more recent) years money has brought greed with it, and the unlimited opportunity for pleasure has created in men a passion for destroying themselves and everything else through self-indulgence (greed) and depravity (bad behaviour). But we should much prefer to start with favourable omens (signs) and if we follow the ideas of poetic writing it is pleasanter (nicer) to start by writing kind things for the gods and goddesses.

An extract from the book 'Ab Urbe Condita' by Titus Livius (Livy). Livy was a Roman historian and writer. Book written c 29 BC

B Livy was a special Roman historian because he played no part in politics or government. This was a disadvantage (not good) for him and his work because his exclusion from the Senate meant he had no personal experience of how the Senate (government) worked. This lack of knowledge shows itself from time to time in his work. It also stopped him from having first hand access to important (primary) sources such as records of Senate meetings, and texts of treaties and new laws. Also, if he had been a priest (holy man) he would have more inside information of great historical value and been able to look at the many documents and records of the priestly colleges. The special thing about his books was the fact that he saw and wrote about personal (people) history and what was moral (right and wrong).

www.britannica.com/biography/Livy: 2013

Above all, when thinking about Livy's choice of sources of information, we should remember that he is not an original researcher; his aim was to use reliable facts taken by others and put them into an accurate, reliable book. We can attack his choice in failing to directly use and the earliest written evidence (primary sources) ; but one can also applaud (say well done) to him for the astute (clever) choice of sources which were the best available for his writing style and patriotic (favourable to Rome) approach, and which were also easily accessible and easier to read and understand.

Article: Livy's use of sources by modern historian Ben Walsh. 2015

HISTORY VERSUS STORY		D
History is the study of the past; particularly in human affairs:	A story is an account of imaginary or real people and events told for entertainment.	
History is based on real facts, and evidence.	Stories can be based on fiction or real facts.	
History is studied or researched for educational purposes	Stories are listened to or read for entertainment.	
History can be told through stories.	Stories can be based on history.	

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