

HISTORY / DRAMA · Y3–Y4

Class Play: The Romans Come to Britain

A 15-minute performance for Year 3–4

Cast list

25+ parts — all pupils included

- NARRATOR × 3 (strong readers)
- JULIUS CAESAR × 1
- ROMAN SOLDIERS × 6 (can be more with class size)
- CELTIC CHIEF (Caratacus) × 1
- CELTIC WARRIORS × 6
- BOUDICCA × 1 (strong speaking part)
- ROMAN GOVERNOR × 1
- ROMAN CITIZENS × 4
- CHORUS (remaining pupils) — speak together at key moments
- STAGE MANAGER × 1 (optional — cues lighting/sound)



Scene 1 — Caesar's First Invasion (55 BC)

NARRATOR 1: The year is 55 BC. Rome is the most powerful empire the world has ever seen. Its armies have conquered most of Europe. But there is one island they have not yet reached — a small, foggy island at the edge of the known world. Britain. NARRATOR 2: Julius Caesar, the greatest general of his age, is watching the white cliffs from his ships. CAESAR: [surveying the horizon] Britain. They say it is a wild place. Full of warriors who paint themselves blue and fight like demons. [He pauses.] Perfect. ROMANS: [chanting] For Rome! For glory! For Caesar! NARRATOR 3: But the Celts were waiting. And they were ready. CELTIC CHIEF: Hold the beach! Let them come to us! CELTIC WARRIORS: For Britain! For our land! For our people! CHORUS: The Romans came to Britain's shore — but the Celts said: no more!

Scene 2 — The Conquest (AD 43)

NARRATOR 1: Nearly a hundred years later, another Roman Emperor — Claudius — sent 40,000 soldiers to Britain. This time, they stayed. NARRATOR 2: The Romans built roads — straight lines cutting across the countryside. They built towns with running water, heated floors, and public baths. ROMANCITIZEN 1: In Rome, we have everything. Here in Britannia, we will build everything. ROMAN CITIZEN 2: Straight roads. Strong forts. Hot baths. ROMANCITIZEN 3: And the Britons? Some of them like our ways. CELTIC WARRIOR: [aside] Some of them. Not all of us. CHORUS: The Romans built a world of stone — but Britain was not theirs alone.

Scene 3 — Boudicca's Revolt (AD 60)

NARRATOR 3: But not everyone accepted Roman rule. Queen Boudicca of the Iceni tribe had been treated very badly by the Romans. She was furious. And she had an army. BOUDICCA: [to her warriors] They took our land. They took our freedom. They thought we were nothing. We will show them what nothing looks like. [She raises her arm.] FOR THE ICENI! CELTIC WARRIORS: FOR BOUDICCA! NARRATOR 1: Boudicca's army burned three Roman cities to the ground — Camulodunum, Londinium, and Verulamium. ROMAN GOVERNOR: [alarmed] How did this happen? Pull back — we need more soldiers! NARRATOR 2: In the end, Rome's trained army defeated Boudicca's larger force. But she was never forgotten. CHORUS: Boudicca fought — and though she fell — her name rang out like a battle bell.

