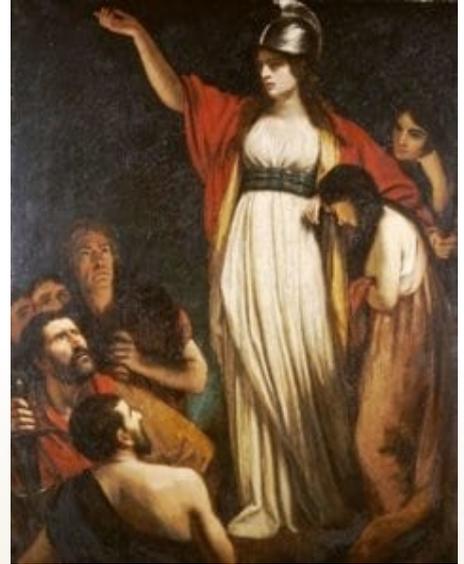


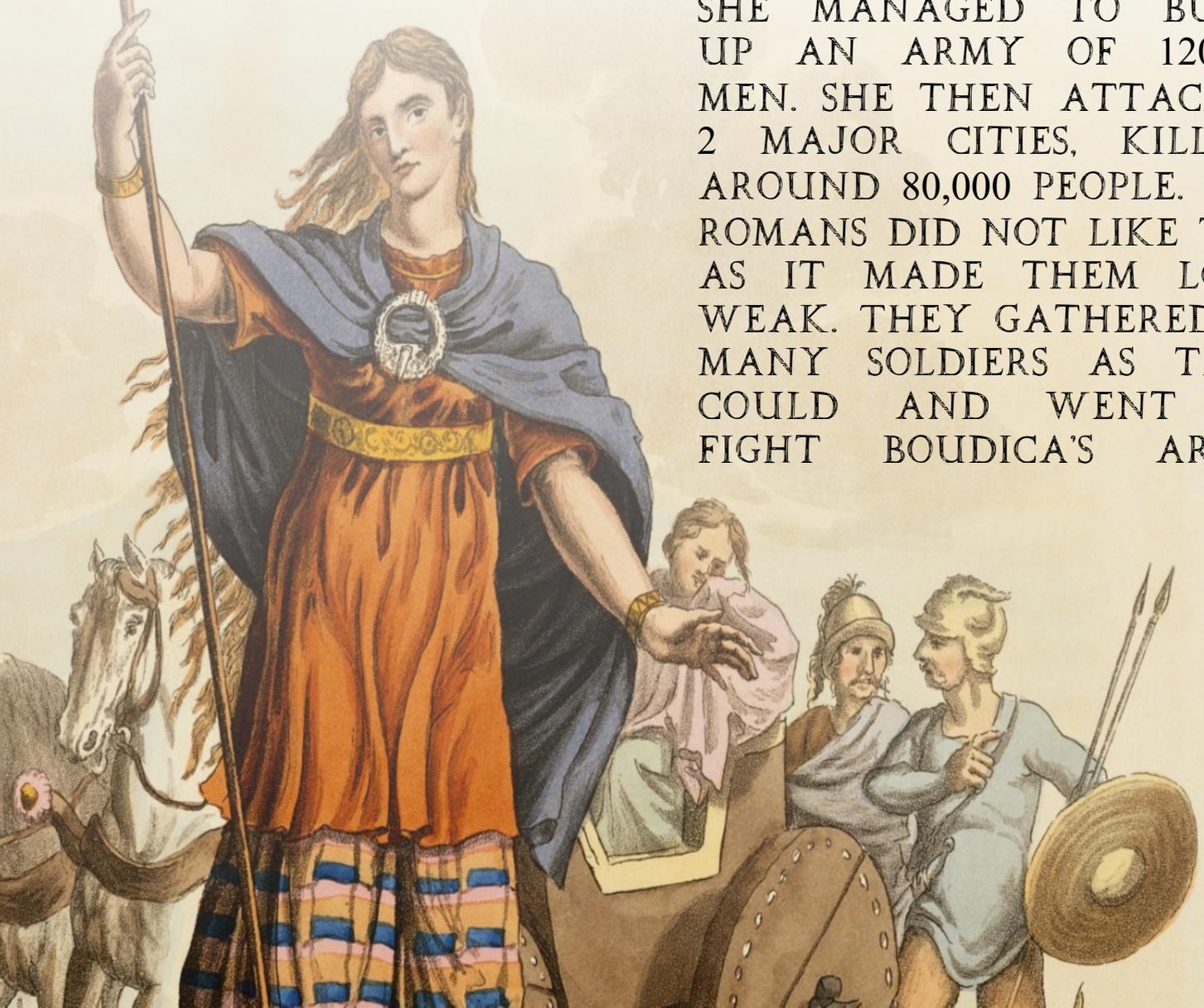
BOUDICA

BOUDICA WAS A BRITISH QUEEN WHO LED A REVOLT AGAINST THE ROMANS AROUND 60AD.

WHEN HER HUSBAND, PRASUTAGUS (KING OF THE ICENI TRIBE) DIED, THE ROMANS REFUSED TO SHARE THE LAND AND ORDERED IT TO BE TAKEN BY FORCE AND THEY HURT BOUDICA AND HER DAUGHTERS. BOUDICA WAS INFURIATED BY THIS.



SHE MANAGED TO BUILD UP AN ARMY OF 120,000 MEN. SHE THEN ATTACKED 2 MAJOR CITIES, KILLING AROUND 80,000 PEOPLE. THE ROMANS DID NOT LIKE THIS AS IT MADE THEM LOOK WEAK. THEY GATHERED AS MANY SOLDIERS AS THEY COULD AND WENT TO FIGHT BOUDICA'S ARMY.



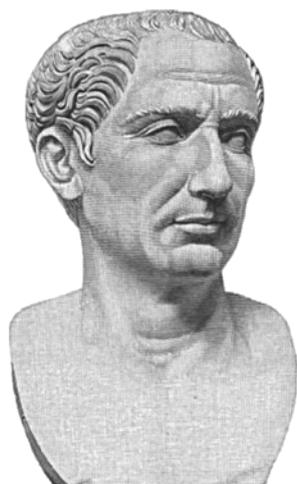
HOW DO WE KNOW ABOUT BOUDICA?

WE ONLY KNOW ABOUT BOUDICA FROM 2 REAL SOURCES. BOTH OF THESE WERE WRITTEN BY ROMAN MEN - TACITUS AND CASSIUS DIO.



TACITUS

DO YOU THINK THAT THIS HAS ANY IMPACT ON HOW WE SHOULD THINK ABOUT THEIR WRITING AND VERSION OF EVENTS?



CASSIUS DIO

NEITHER OF THE MEN WERE ACTUALLY ALIVE WHEN THE REVOLT HAPPENED, BUT THEY WROTE ABOUT IT AFTERWARDS FROM WHAT THEY HAD HEARD AND READ ABOUT.

DO YOU THINK THIS IS IMPORTANT WHEN WE LOOK AT THESE SOURCES? SHOULD WE TRUST PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T SEE IT FOR THEMSELVES?

WE KNOW FROM HISTORY THAT THE ROMANS HATED LOSING TO ANYONE IN BATTLE.

WE ALSO KNOW THAT THE ROMANS DIDN'T REALLY THINK THAT HIGHLY OF WOMEN. THEY WEREN'T ALLOWED TO DO AS MANY THINGS AS MEN.

HOW DO YOU THINK THE ROMANS WOULD HAVE FELT TO HAVE BEEN DEFEATED . . . BY A WOMAN?

WHAT DID THEY SAY ABOUT BOUDICA?

CASSIUS DIO SAID THIS:

...A TERRIBLE DISASTER OCCURRED IN BRITAIN. TWO CITIES WERE SACKED, EIGHTY THOUSAND OF THE ROMANS AND OF THEIR ALLIES PERISHED, AND THE ISLAND WAS LOST TO ROME. MOREOVER, ALL THIS RUIN WAS BROUGHT UPON THE ROMANS BY A WOMAN, A FACT WHICH IN ITSELF CAUSED THEM THE GREATEST SHAME...BUT THE PERSON WHO WAS CHIEFLY INSTRUMENTAL IN ROUSING THE NATIVES AND PERSUADING THEM TO FIGHT THE ROMANS, THE PERSON WHO WAS THOUGHT WORTHY TO BE THEIR LEADER AND WHO DIRECTED THE CONDUCT OF THE ENTIRE WAR, WAS BOUDICCA...A BRITON WOMAN OF THE ROYAL FAMILY AND POSSESSED OF GREATER INTELLIGENCE THAN OFTEN BELONGS TO WOMEN...IN STATURE SHE WAS VERY TALL, IN APPEARANCE MOST TERRIFYING, IN THE GLANCE OF HER EYE MOST FIERCE, AND HER VOICE WAS HARSH; A GREAT MASS OF THE TAWNIEST HAIR FELL TO HER HIPS; AROUND HER NECK WAS A LARGE GOLDEN NECKLACE, AND SHE WORE A TUNIC OF DIVERS COLOURS OVER WHICH A THICK MANTLE WAS FASTENED WITH A BROOCH. THIS WAS HER INVARIABLE ATTIRE..." (ROMAN HISTORY, LXII.1-2)

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS DESCRIPTION?

WHAT DO YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THE ROMANS AND LOSING?

WOULD THE ROMANS MAKE ANYTHING UP ABOUT HER APPEARANCE AND WHY?



WHAT DID THEY SAY ABOUT BOUDICA?

TACITUS WRITES THAT BOUDICA SAID THIS TO HER SOLDIERS:

"WE BRITISH ARE USED TO WOMEN COMMANDERS IN WAR; I AM DESCENDED FROM MIGHTY MEN! BUT I AM NOT FIGHTING FOR MY KINGDOM AND WEALTH NOW. I AM FIGHTING AS AN ORDINARY PERSON FOR MY LOST FREEDOM, MY BRUISED BODY, AND MY OUTRAGED DAUGHTERS... CONSIDER HOW MANY OF YOU ARE FIGHTING - AND WHY! THEN YOU WILL WIN THIS BATTLE, OR PERISH. THAT IS WHAT I, A WOMAN, PLAN TO DO! - LET THE MEN LIVE IN SLAVERY IF THEY WILL..." (THE ANNALS' BY TACITUS)

REMEMBER THAT TACITUS WASN'T THERE TO HEAR THIS SPEECH HIMSELF - WHAT DOES THAT MEAN ABOUT WHAT HE WRITES?

DOES BOUDICA COME ACROSS AS A STRONG PERSON OR SOMEONE QUITE WEAK?

DO YOU THINK THE ROMANS LIKED A WOMAN STANDING UP TO THEM?

TACITUS ALSO WROTE THAT, DURING THE BATTLE, 80,000 BRITONS OUT OF 230,000 WERE KILLED, COMPARED WITH ONLY 400 OUT OF 10,000 ROMANS.

DO YOU THINK THESE NUMBERS ARE ACCURATE?

WHY MIGHT THEY NOT BE?

THE BOUDICA PROBLEM

THESE 2 SOURCES ARE THE ONLY REAL EVIDENCE THAT WE HAVE OF BOUDICA. WE HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEM, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE HAVE TO TRUST THEM COMPLETELY.

DISCUSS WHETHER YOU TRUST THESE SOURCES OR NOT.

NOW WRITE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT WHY WE SHOULD TRUST THESE SOURCES.

THEN WRITE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT WHY WE SHOULDN'T TRUST THESE SOURCES COMPLETELY.

WORD BANK

BOUDICA

TACITUS

CASSIUS DIO

ATTITUDE

WOMEN

PRIMARY

DEFEAT

TRUST

APPEARANCE

BIASED

TRUTH

ACKNOWLEDGE



CONTRADICTING SOURCES

SOMETIMES WE FIND A PIECE OF EVIDENCE THAT CONTRADICTS OTHER EVIDENCE. IN THE CASE OF BOUDICA, BOTH TACITUS AND CASSIUS DIO SAY THAT BOUDICA DIED IN DIFFERENT WAYS:

TACITUS SUGGESTED THAT BOUDICA DIED OF AN ILLNESS, POSSIBLY FROM A WOUND.

CASSIUS DIO SUGGESTED THAT BOUDICA DIED BY DRINKING POISON AFTER REALISING SHE COULD NOT BEAT THE ROMANS.

IF THE SOURCES CONTRADICT EACH OTHER, HOW DO WE DECIDE WHICH ONE TO TRUST?

THINK ABOUT BOTH DEATHS - DO THEY SUGGEST THAT BOUDICA DIED BRAVELY OR WEAKLY? WHY DO THEY DO THIS?

WRITE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT HOW CONTRADICTING SOURCES CAN BE A PROBLEM FOR HISTORIANS.

THINK ABOUT:

- HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH SOURCE IS TELLING THE TRUTH?
 - DO THEY CONTRADICT EACH OTHER ON PURPOSE?
 - HOW DO THEY ACTUALLY CONTRADICT EACH OTHER?
 - IS THERE A TIME WHERE IT'S HELPFUL TO FIND CONTRADICTIONS?