

Boudica British tales



Have you heard of Boudica? She was queen of the Iceni, a tribe of people who lived in eastern England, in Britain, almost 2,000 years ago.

Boudica was tall, with very long red hair, and wore a gold necklace and a beautiful brooch. She was very intelligent, and had probably been to 'warrior school' so she knew how to fight.

By AD 43, the Romans had conquered southern England. At first, they allowed Boudica and her husband to continue to rule. But when Boudica's husband died, the Romans took all his land and property. They decided to rule the Iceni and they treated them very badly. So, in AD 60 or 61, Boudica and the Iceni rebelled against the Romans, together with other tribes who were also treated badly by the Romans.

Boudica and her large army defeated one Roman army and destroyed the capital of Roman Britain, Colchester. In Colchester she destroyed the temple built for Emperor Claudius. They also destroyed two more cities. Many people died.

'Now I am fighting for my freedom. We must win this battle or die. Let the men live as slaves if they want. I will not!'

Finally, Boudica and her army were defeated. The surviving Iceni people ran away, or were turned into slaves. Boudica probably killed herself with poison – her body has never been found.

The rebellion was so shocking to Emperor Nero, the ruler of the Roman Empire, that he wanted to withdraw from Britain!

In the end, the Romans occupied Britain for over 350 years more. But they also treated the British people more fairly and introduced lower taxes.

Boudica has been an inspiration to other female leaders such as Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria. Her rebellion was one of the most significant against the Roman Empire. Now, Boudica is remembered as one of Britain's greatest heroines.

Listen to this story <https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/short-stories/boudica>

Questions:

1. Who was Baudica?

2. How long ago was she alive?

3. What adjectives can you give to Baudica?

4. What happened when the husband of Baudica died?

5. Why was Baudica fighting?

6. Did the army of Baudica win or lost?

7. What is the name of the Roman emperor?

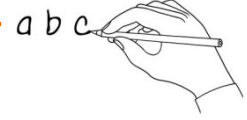
8. For how many years was the Roman empire occupied Britain?

9. Who other female leaders were influenced by Baudica?

10. Why is now considered as a Heroin?







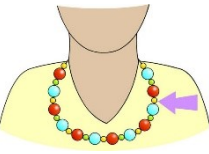







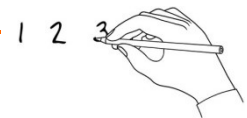
Boudica



1. What's the word?

Write the word under the pictures.

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| queen | England | tall | hair | gold | necklace |
| fight | died | army | temple | city | poison |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| | queen | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| | | | | | |



2. What's the order?

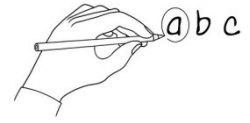
Listen to the story and put the sentences in order.

| |
|---|
| |
| |
| 1 |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |
| |

- Boudica and her army defeated one Roman army and destroyed the capital city.
- At first, the Romans allowed Boudica and her husband to continue to rule.
- Boudica was queen of the Iceni.
- In the end, the Romans occupied Britain for over 350 years more.
- Boudica and the Iceni rebelled against the Romans.
- They also destroyed two more cities.
- Then the Romans decided to rule the Iceni.
- Finally, Boudica and her army were defeated.



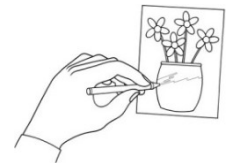
3. True or false?



Circle true or false for these sentences.

- a. Boudica lived almost 2,000 years ago. true false
- b. She was very intelligent and knew how to fight. true false
- c. The Romans treated the Iceni very well. true false
- d. She destroyed the school built for Emperor Claudius. true false
- e. Many people died. true false
- f. Boudica probably killed herself with a sword. true false
- g. The Romans treated the British people more fairly. true false
- h. Boudica is remembered as one of Britain's greatest teachers. true false

4. Write and draw!



Is there a famous hero or heroine from your country? Write about them and draw a picture!

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....