

How did the Romans change Britain?

The Romans invaded Britain in AD 43, bringing enormous changes to the way people lived. Before their arrival, most Britons lived in small, round, thatched houses in farming settlements and had no written language.

One of the most important things the Romans introduced was a network of long, straight roads. These allowed soldiers to march quickly from one place to another. Many modern roads in Britain still follow the same routes the Romans built.

The Romans also created proper towns, called "urban settlements." These had organised streets, market squares, temples, public baths and even sewers beneath the ground. Towns like London, York and Bath all began as Roman settlements.

Roman builders used stone and concrete, which meant their buildings were much stronger and longer-lasting than the wooden ones Britons had made before.

The Romans also introduced new crops, such as grapes and cabbages, and brought in coins as a way of trading. Latin, the Roman language, influenced the way English developed over many hundreds of years.

Questions

1. In which year did the Romans invade Britain?
2. What kind of homes did most Britons live in before the Romans came?
3. What did most Britons do for a living before the Romans arrived?
4. Why were Roman roads built long and straight?
5. Name two features you might find in a Roman town.
6. Name one British town that began as a Roman settlement.
7. What materials did Roman builders use that made their buildings stronger?
8. Name one new crop the Romans introduced to Britain.
9. What did the Romans use coins for?
10. Why do you think learning to read and write might have been useful for people living under Roman rule?



Text B Quiz



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