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CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL CLASSICS PROJECT

Eduqas GCSE Latin  
Component 3A

Latin Literature (Narratives)  
Tacitus, *Boudica*

For examination in 2022 and 2023

**Student Study Booklet**



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Front cover image of statue of Boudica near Westminster Pier, London, UK.

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***The passages in italics are summaries of events to support understanding of the narrative.  
They are not part of the prescription.***

## Boudica

Tacitus, *Annals* 14. 29-39

*In AD 60/61, roughly eighteen years after Claudius' successful campaign of conquest, there was a serious rebellion in Britain, which began amongst the Iceni tribe in East Anglia. G Suetonius Paulinus, the governor since AD 58, was away subduing the western parts of Britain and in particular besieging the island of Mona (Anglesey). It was during this campaign that Prasutagus, king of the Iceni died and Boudica, his queen, angered at the Roman treatment of her and her daughters, roused up her warriors and those of the neighbouring Trinobantes.*

### A

Therefore, Suetonius prepared to attack the island of Mona, which was well-defended by its inhabitants and was a retreat for fugitives. Ships were built with flat hulls to cross the short but dangerous straits. In this way the infantry crossed; the cavalry followed in the shallows or crossed swimming alongside their horses through the deeper water.

5

## Notes

## Section B

Lines 1 - 3

stabat pro litore diversa acies, densa armis virisque,  
 intercursantibus feminis; in modum Furiarum veste  
 ferali, crinibus deiectis faces praeferebant;

<b>1</b> sto stare steti status - stand pro + abl. - in front of, before litus, litoris n. – shore pro litore – on the opposite shore diversus, diversa, diversum - different (here: hostile) acies, aciei f. - army, battle-line densus, densa, densum - dense, packed closely together arma, armorum n. - weapons vir, viri m. - man <b>2</b> intercursans, gen. intercursantis - running between femina, feminae f. - woman	<b>3</b> in + acc. - in modus, modi m. - manner, way, style in modum – in the manner (of) Furiae, Furiarum f. - The Furies, three goddesses of vengeance vestis, vestis f. - clothing, attire feralis, ferale - funereal, appropriate for a funeral crinis, crinis m. - hair deiectus, deiecta, deiectum - let loose, dishevelled (literally: thrown down) fax, facis f. - torch, firebrand praefero praeferre praetuli praelatus - carry in front	

## Notes

**Section B**  
Lines 3 - 7

		Druidaeque	
		<p>circum, preces diras sublatis ad caelum manibus  fundentes, novitate aspectus perculere militem ut quasi  haerentibus membris immobile corpus vulneribus  praeberent.</p>	5
3	Druidae, Druidarum m. - Druids, the priests of the Gauls	percello percellere perculti perculsus - frighten, break with fear	
4	circum - around preces, precum f. pl. - prayers dirus, dira, dirum - fearful, terrible sublatus, sublata, sublatum - held up, offered ad + acc. - towards caelum, caeli n. - heaven, sky manus, manus f. - hand	perculere = perculerunt miles, militis m. - soldier, army ut + subjunctive - so that (purpose) quasi - as if, as though	
5	fundens, gen. fundentis - pouring novitas, novitatis f. - novelty, weirdness aspectus, aspectus m. - sight	haerens, gen. haerentis - sticking, clinging membrum, membra n. – body (literally: limb) immobilis, immobile - motionless corpus, corporis n. - body vulnus, vulneris n. - wound praebeo praebere praebui praebitus - offer, provide	

## Notes

## Section B

### Lines 7-10

dein cohortationibus ducis et se ipsi  
stimulantes ne muliebre et fanaticum agmen  
pavescerent, inferunt signa sternuntque obvios et igni  
suo involvunt.

10

7	dein – then cohortatio, cohortationis f. - encouragement dux, ducis m. - leader et - and se, gen. sui - themselves ipse, ipsa, ipsum - himself, herself, itself	9	agmen, agminis n. - gang, group pavesco pavescere - be afraid infero inferre intuli intatus - carry forward signum, signi n. - legionary standard signum inferre – to advance the standards
8	stimulans, gen. stimulantis - urging, goading ne - not to (with subjunctive, indirect prohibition) muliebris, muliebre - female, womanly, et - and fanaticus, fanatica, fanaticum - mad, furious, frantic	10	sterno sternere stravi stratus - scatter obvius, obvia, obvium - in the way ignis, ignis m. - fire suus, sua, suum - his, her, its own involvo involvere involvi involutus - roll up, envelop

## Notes

**Section B**  
Lines 10-14

praesidium posthac impositum victis  
excisque luci saevis superstitionibus sacri: nam crux  
captivo adolere aras et hominum fibras consulere deos  
fas habebant. haec agenti Suetonio repentina defectio  
provinciae nuntiatur.

10

- 10 praesidium, praesidii n. - garrison  
posthac - after this  
impositus, imposta, impositum - imposed on, placed upon  
victus, victa, victum - conquered, beaten  
11 excisus, excisa, excisum - cut down, torn up  
lucus, luci m. - grove (sacred to a deity)  
saevus, saeva, saevum - savage, fierce  
superstitio, superstitionis f. - superstition, religious belief  
(literally: excessive fear of the gods)  
sacer, sacra, sacrum - sacred, holy  
nam - for  
cruor, cruoris m. - blood  
12 captivus, captivi m. - captive, prisoner  
adoleo adolere adului adultus - sprinkle, cover with  
ara, arae f. - altar

- et - and  
homo, hominis m. - man, human  
fibra, fibrae f. - entrails, internal organs  
consulo consulere consului  
consultus - consult  
deus, dei m. - god  
fas indeclinable n. – (morally) right, lawful  
habeo habere habui habitus - consider  
hic, haec, hoc - this  
agens, gen. agentis - dealing with  
Suetonius, Suetonii m. - Suetonius Paulinus, Roman governor of Britain  
repentinus, repetina, repentinum - sudden  
defectio, defectionis f. - rebellion, uprising  
13 provincia, provinciae f. - province, territory outside Italy under Roman government  
nuntio nuntiare nuntiavi  
nuntiatus - report, announce

14

## Notes

## Section C

### Lines 1 - 4

rex Icenorum Prasutagus, longa opulentia clarus,  
Caesarem heredem duasque filias scripserat, tali  
obsequio ratus regnumque et domum suam procul  
iniuria fore.

1	rex, regis m. - king Iceni, Icenorum m.pl. - Iceni, tribe in East Anglia Prasutagus, Prasutagi m. - Prasutagus, king of the Iceni, husband of Boudica longus, longa, longum - long- standing, for a long time opulentia, opulentiae f. - wealth clarus, clara, clarum - famous, well-known	3	filia, filiae f. - daughter scribo scribere scripsi scriptus - write (in his will) talism, tale - such, such a kind of obsequium, obsequii n. - submissiveness, obedience ratus, rata, ratum - thinking (having reckoned) regnum, regni n. - kingdom et - and domus, domus f. - household, house suus, sua, suum - his, hers, its own procul - far from (here: safe from) iniuria, iniuriae f. - harm, injury sum esse fui - be	
2	Caesar, Caesaris m. - Caesar, Nero the emperor heres, heredis m/f. - heir, one who inherits duo, duae, duo - two	4		

## Notes

**Section C**  
Lines 4 - 5

quod contra vertit, adeo ut regnum per  
centuriones, domus per servos velut capta vastarentur.

5

<p>4</p> <p>qui, quae, quod - who, which contra - just the opposite verto vertere verti versus - turn out, happen adeo - so much so ut – that (with subjunctive – result clause) regnum, regni n. - kingdom per + acc. - by centurio, centurionis m. - centurion, commander of a century per centuriones – through (the actions of) the centurions</p> <p>5</p>	<p>domus, domus f. - household, house per + acc . - by servus, servi m. – slave per servos – through (the actions of) the slaves velut - as though captus, capta, captum - captured vasto vastare vastavi vastatus - plunder, lay waste</p>	

## Notes

## Section C

### Lines 6-10

iam primum uxor eius Boudica verberibus adflecta et  
 filiae stupro violatae sunt: praecipui quique Icenorum,  
 quasi Romani cunctam regionem muneri accepissent,  
 avitis bonis exuuntur, et propinquai regis inter mancipia  
 habebantur.

10

6	iam - now primum – first iam primum – to begin with uxor, uxoris f. - wife is, ea, id - he, she, it Boudica, Boudicæ f. - Boudica, queen of the Iceni, widow of Prasutagus verber, verberis n. - whip, stick adficio adficere adfecit adfectus - affect a person verberibus adflecta – beaten (literally affected by whips/sticks) et - and	8	Iceni, Icenorum m.pl. - Iceni, tribe in East Anglia quasi - as if Romanus, Romani m. - a Roman cunctus, cuncta, cunctum - whole, entire regio, regionis f. - region, area munus, muneris n. - gift accipio accipere accepi acceptus - receive avitus, avita, avitum - ancestral, belong to one's ancestors bonus, bona, bonum – good (here: bonis = estates) exuo exuere exuui exutus + abl. - deprive of
7	filia, filiae f. - daughter stuprum, stupri n. - rape, dishonour violo violare violavi violatus - violate, treat with violence violo violare violavi violatus - violate, treat with violence praecipuus, praecipua, praecipuum - principal, chief quisque, quaeque, quodque - each, every	9	propinquus, propinqui m. - relative rex, regis m. - king inter + acc. – among (here: as like) mancipium, mancipii n. - possession, slave habeo habere habui habitus - consider, treat as
		10	

## Notes

**Section C**  
Lines 10-14

<p>qua contumelia et metu graviorum, quando      in formam provinciae cesserant, rapiunt arma,      commotis ad rebellionem Trinobantibus et qui alii      nondum servitio fracti resumere libertatem occultis      coniurationibus pepigerant, acerrimo in veteranos odio.</p>	10
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<b>10</b>	qui, quae, quod - who, which contumelia, contumeliae f. - humiliation, insult et - and metus, metus m. - fear gravis, grave - bad, serious quando - since, when	<b>13</b>	rebellatio, rebellionis f. - rebellion, revolt Trinobantes, Trinobantium m.pl. - Trinobantes, tribe from Suffolk and Essex qui, quae, quod - who, this aliis, alia, alium - other nondum - not yet servitio, servitionis n. - servitude, slavery fractus, fracta, fractum - broken resumo resumere resumpsi resumptus - take back libertas, libertatis f. - freedom occultus, occulta, occultum - secret coniuratio, coniurationis f. - conspiracy, plot pango pangere pepigi pactus - pledge, promise acer, acris, acre - bitter, fierce in + acc. - against, towards veteranus, veterani m. - veteran, retired soldier odium, odii n. - hatred
<b>11</b>	in + acc. - into forma, formae f. - status, appearance provincia, provinciae f. - province, territory outside Italy under Roman government cedo cedere cessi cessus - be reduced rapio rapere rapui raptus - take up, snatch arma, armorum n.pl. - arms, weapons	<b>14</b>	libertas, libertatis f. - freedom occultus, occulta, occultum - secret coniuratio, coniurationis f. - conspiracy, plot pango pangere pepigi pactus - pledge, promise acer, acris, acre - bitter, fierce in + acc. - against, towards veteranus, veterani m. - veteran, retired soldier odium, odii n. - hatred
<b>12</b>	commotus, commota, commotum - incited, encouraged ad + acc. - to		

## Notes

**Section C**  
Lines 15-18

quippe in coloniam Camulodunum recens deducti  
pellebant domibus, exturbabant agris, captivos, servos  
appellando, foventibus impotentiam veteranorum  
militibus similitudine vitae et spe eiusdem licentiae

15

15 quippe - indeed  
in + acc. - into  
colonia, coloniae f. - colony,  
settlement of retired Roman  
soldiers  
Camulodunum, Camuloduni n.  
- capital of the Trinobantes,  
modern Colchester  
recens - recently  
deductus, deducta, deductum -  
brought in, settled  
16 pello pellere pepuli pulsus -  
drive out, expel  
domus, domus f. - house,  
home  
exturbo exturbare exturbavi  
exturbatus - expel forcibly,  
drive out  
ager, agri m. – field (here:  
lands)  
captivus, captivi m. - prisoner

17

servus, servi m. - slave  
appellantum, appellanti n. -  
calling  
fovens, gen. foventis -  
supporting  
impotentia, potentiae f. -  
violence, unrestrained behaviour  
veteranus, veterani m. -  
veteran, retired soldier  
miles, militis m. - soldier  
similitudo, similitudinis f. -  
similarity  
vita, vitae f. - life, lifestyle  
et - and  
spes, spei f. - hope  
idem, eadem, idem - same  
licentia, licentiae f. - freedom to  
misbehave, licence

18

## Notes

## **Section C**

### **Lines 18-22**

ad

hoc templum divo Claudio constitutum quasi arx  
aeternae dominationis aspiciebatur, delectique  
sacerdotes specie religionis omnes fortunas  
effundebant.

20

## Notes

**Section C**  
Lines 22-25

nec arduum videbatur excindere coloniam  
 nullis munitentis saeptam; quod ducibus nostris parum  
 provisum erat, dum amoenitati prius quam usui  
 consulitur.

25

22	nec - not arduus, ardua, arduum - hard, difficult videor videri visus sum - seem excindo excindere excidi excisus - tear out colonia, coloniae f. - colony, settlement of retired Roman soldiers	24	parum - too little provideo providere provided provisus - make preparation for, provide provideo providere provided provisus - make preparation for, provide dum - so long as amoenitas, amoenitatis f. - attractive appearance, attractiveness prius - first quam - than usus, usus m. - practical use, need
23	nullus, nulla, nullum - not any munimentum, munimenti n. - fortification, defensive wall saeptus, saepta, saeptum - protected quod - because dux, ducis m. - leader noster, nostra, nostrum - our	25	consulo consulere consului consultus + dat. - consider, pay attention to

## Notes

## D

Meanwhile, for no clear reason, the statue of Victory at Camulodunum collapsed and was up-turned as if surrendering to enemies. Women thrown into a frenzy, were prophesying that the end was at hand, and bizarre groans were heard in their local senate house; the theatre rang with wailing and, in the estuary of the river Thames, an image of the colony had been seen overturned. In addition, the sea had taken on a bloody colour and, as the tide went out, likenesses of human bodies were left on the shore, so that the Britons were given hope and the veterans fear; but because Suetonius was far away, they sought help from Catus Decianus, the procurator; he sent them no more than two hundred poorly armed soldiers. Inside Camulodunum there was only a garrison. They relied on the temple to protect them and they were hindered by accomplices of the rebels who were secretly disrupting their plan, so that they constructed neither a ditch nor a rampart, nor did they evacuate their old men and women, leaving the young men alone to resist the rebels. They were as careless as if they were in the middle of peace, whilst they were actually surrounded by a horde of barbarians. Everything else was attacked, ransacked and burnt. The temple in which the soldiery had gathered was besieged for two days, then stormed. The victorious Britons intercepted Petilius Cerialis, commander of the Ninth Legion, as he was arriving with help. They routed the legion and massacred the infantry. Cerialis escaped to the camp with the cavalry and defended himself with its fortifications. Terrified by this disaster and the hatred of the province which his greed had driven to war, the procurator Catus left for Gaul.

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## Notes

## E

However, Suetonius bravely made his way through the enemy to Londinium, a town which did not have the status of a Roman settlement, but which was an important commercial centre. He was undecided whether to choose to make a stand there, but having seen the lack of military resources, and that Petilius' recklessness had been his downfall, he decided to sacrifice this one place to save the whole province. He was not swayed either by weeping and tears nor by pleas for his help and he gave the signal for departure taking with him any who wished to accompany him. Those who were women or were too old to fight or who were held back by attachment to the place were overwhelmed by the enemy. The same fate befell Verulamium, for the barbarians avoided forts and garrisons since they were eager for plunder but not keen on hard work and made for the places which were most ripe for looting and unprotected by defenders. It is agreed that about 70,000 citizens and allies were killed in these places which I have spoken of, for the British did not take or sell prisoners as is usual in the business of war, rather they hastened to slaughter, gibbets, fire and crucifixion, as though they were taking vengeance in advance for the punishment that would be inflicted on them.

5

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15

## Notes

## Section F

### Lines 1 - 4

iam Suetonio quarta decima legio cum vexillariis  
 vicesimanis et e proximis auxiliares, decem ferme milia  
 armatorum erant, cum omittere cunctationem et  
 congredi acie parat.

<span style="color: orange;">1</span> iam - already Suetonius, Suetonii m. - Suetonius Paulinus, Roman governor of Britain quartus, quarta, quartum - fourth decimus, decima, decimum – tenth quarta decima - fourteenth legio, legionis f. - legion cum + abl. - along with, with vexillarius, vexillarii m. - veteran, old soldier retained under the standard vicesimani, vicesimanoum m. pl. - soldiers of the twentieth legion et - and e/ex + abl. - from proximus, proxima, proximum - neighbouring, nearby	<span style="color: orange;">3</span> auxiliares, auxiliarium m.pl. - auxiliary troops decem - ten ferme - almost mille, milia nom. pl., milium gen. pl. - thousand armatus, armata, armatum - armed sum esse fui - be cum - when omitto omittere omisi omissus - cease, leave out cunctatio, cunctationis f. - delay, hesitation et - and <span style="color: orange;">4</span> congregior congregri congressus sum - gather acies, aciei f. - battle formation paro parare paravi paratus - prepare

## Notes

## Section F

### Lines 4 - 6

deligitque locum artis faucibus et a  
tergo silva clausum, satis cognito nihil hostium nisi in  
fronte et apertam planitiem esse sine metu insidiarum.

5

4 deligo diligere delegi delectus -  
choose, select  
locus, loci m. - place, location  
artus, arta, artum - narrow  
fauces, faucium f. pl. - jaws,  
throat (here: entrance)  
et - and  
a/ab + abl. - by  
5 tergum, tergi n. - rear, back  
silva, silvae f. - woodland, forest  
clausus, clausa, clausum -  
closed  
satis - sufficiently, enough  
cognitus, cognita, cognitum -  
having learned

6 nihil - no, nothing  
hostis, hostis m/f. - enemy  
nisi - except, unless  
in + abl. - in  
frons, frontis f. - front  
et - and  
apertus, aperta, apertum - open  
planities, plantitiae f. - plain,  
open space  
sum esse fui - be  
sine + abl. - without  
metus, metus m. - fear  
insidiae, insidiarum f.pl. -  
ambush

## Notes

## Section F

### Lines 7-8

igitur legionarius frequens ordinibus, levis circum  
armatura, conglobatus pro cornibus eques adstitit.

## Notes

**Section F**  
Lines 8-13

at	
<p>Britannorum copiae passim per catervas et turmas      exultabant, quanta non alias multitudo, et animo adeo      feroci ut coniuges quoque testes victoriae secum      traherent plaustrisque imponerent quae super      extremum ambitum campi posuerant.</p>	
10	

<b>8</b> <b>9</b> <b>10</b>	at - but Britannus, Britanni m. - a Briton, copiae, copiarum f.pl. - forces, troops passim - everywhere, all over the place per + acc. - amongst caterva, catervae f. - group of soldiers (infantry) et - and turma, turmae f. - troop of cavalry exulto exultare exultavi exultatus - rush about wildly, run riot quantus, quanta, quantum - as great non - not alias - at another time non alias – at no other time, never before multitudo, multitudinis f. - throng, crowd et - and	<b>11</b> <b>12</b> <b>13</b>	animus, animi m. - mind, spirit adeo - so ferox, ferocis - ferocious, fierce ut – that (with subjunctive – result clause) coniunx, coniugis m/f. - wife quoque – also testis, testis m/f. - witness victoria, victoriae f. - victory secum - with them traho trahere traxi tractus - bring, drag plastrum, plaustri n. - wagon, cart impono imponere imposui impositus - place, put qui, quae, quod - who, which super + acc. - beyond extremus, extrema, extremum - furthest ambitus, ambitus m. - border campus, campi m. - plain, open space pono ponere posui positus - position, place
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## Notes

## Section G

### Lines 1 - 3

Boudica curru filias prae se vehens, ut quamque  
nationem accesserat, solitum quidem Britannis  
feminarum ductu bellare testabatur,

1	Boudica, Boudicae f. - Boudica, queen of the Iceni, widow of Prasutagus currus, currus m. - chariot filia, filiae f. - daughter prae + abl. - in front of se - himself, herself, itself vehens gen. vehentis - driving, riding ut - as quisque, quaeque, quodque - each, every natio, nationis f. - tribe	3	accedo accedere accessi accessus - approach solitus, solita, solitum - usual, customary quidem - indeed Britannus, Britanni m. - a Briton femina, feminae f. - woman ductus, ductus m. - leadership bello bellare bellavi bellatus - wage war testor testari testatus sum - bear witness
2			

## Notes

**Section G**  
Lines 3 - 6

sed tunc non ut  
tantis maioribus ortam regnum et opes, verum ut unam  
e vulgo libertatem amissam, confectum verberibus  
corpus, contrectatam filiarum pudicitiam ulcisci.

5

3 sed - but  
tunc - then  
non - not  
ut - as, since  
4 tantus, tanta, tantum - so great,  
such great  
maiores, maiorum m.pl. -  
ancestors  
ortus, orta, ortum - sprung from,  
risen from  
regnum, regni n. - kingdom  
et - and  
opes, opum f.pl. - wealth,  
resources  
verum - truly  
ut - as

5 unus, una, unum - one  
e + abl. - from, out of  
vulgus, vulgi n. - people, crowd  
libertas, libertatis f. - freedom  
amissus, amissa, amissum -  
lost  
confectus, confecta, confectum -  
battered  
verber, verberis n. - beating, a  
blow  
6 corpus, corporis n. - body  
contrectatus, contrectata,  
contrectatum - stolen  
filia, filiae f. - daughter  
pudicitia, pudicitiae f. - chastity  
ulciscor ulcisci ultus sum -  
avenge, seek revenge

## Notes

**Section G**  
Lines 6-9

eo  
proiectas Romanorum cupidines ut non corpora, ne  
senectam quidem aut virginitatem impollutam  
relinquant. adesse tamen deos iustae vindictae:

<b>6</b> <b>7</b> <b>8</b> <b>9</b>	eo - to such a point proiectus, proiecta, proiectum - driven forwards, advanced Romanus, Romani m. - a Roman cupido, cupidinis f. - desire ut – that eo ... ut – (with subjunctive - result clause) to such an extent that non - not corpus, corporis n. - body ne ... quidem - not even senecta, senectae f. - old age ne ... quidem - not even aut - or	virginitas, virginitatis f. - virginity, maidenhood impollutus, impolluta, impollutum - unpolluted relinquo relinquere reliqui relictus - leave adsum adesse adfui - be present, be near tamen - however deus, dei m. - god iustus, iusta, iustum - justified, lawful vindicta, vindictae f. - revenge, punishment	

## Notes

## Section G

### Lines 10-13

cedidisse legionem quae proelium ausa sit; ceteros  
 castris occultari aut fugam circumspicere. ne strepitum  
 quidem et clamorem tot milium, nedum impetus et  
 manus perlatueros:

10

- 10 cado cadere cecidi casus - fall, perished  
 legio, legionis f. - legion  
 qui, quae, quod - which  
 proelium, proelii n. - battle  
 audeo audere ausus sum - dare  
 audeo audere ausus sum - dare  
 ceteri, ceterae, cetera - the rest  
 11 castra, castrorum n. - camp  
 occulto occultare occultavi  
 occultatus - skulk, hide  
 aut - or  
 fuga, fugae f. - escape, flight  
 circumspicio circumspicere  
 circumspexi circumspectus - look around

12

- ne ... quidem - not even  
 strepitus, strepitus m. - noise, din  
 et - and  
 clamor, clamoris m. - shouting  
 tot - so many  
 mille, milia nom. pl., milium gen. pl. - thousand  
 nedum - still less, not to speak of  
 impetus, impetus m. - attack  
 et - and  
 manus, manus f. - might, strength  
 perfero perferre pertuli perlatus - endure, bear (perlatueros [esse] – be about to endure)

13

## Notes

## Section G

### Lines 13-15

si copias armatorum, si causas belli  
secum expenderent, vincendum illa acie vel cadendum  
esse. id mulieri destinatum: viverent viri et servirent.

15

13	si - if copiae, copiarum f.pl. - forces armatus, armata, armatum - armed si - if causa, causae f. - cause bellum, belli n. - war secum - with themselves expendo expendere expendi expensus - weigh up, consider both sides vincendus, vincenda, vincendum - must conquer ille, illa, illud - that acies, aciei f. - battle line	15	vel - or cadendus, candenda, cadendum - must fall sum esse fui - be is, ea, id - this mulier, mulieris f. - woman destinatum, destinati n. - decision, resolve vivo vivere vixi victus - live, be alive vir, viri m. - man et - and servio servire servivi servitus - be a slave, live in slavery

## Notes

## H

Not even Suetonius was silent in such a crisis. Although he had confidence in the courage of his men, he combined pleas and prayers that they should ignore the shouts and empty threats of the barbarians, saying that there were more women to be seen among them than young fighting men. He said they were unwarlike and unarmed and that they would surrender immediately when, after being routed numerous times, they realised the strength and courage of their conquerors. He added that even in a force consisting of many legions, it is the few who bring battles to an end and that the glory of these men would be increased because a small band of men earned the glory of an entire army. He said they should stand together, cast their javelins and continue the slaughter with their shield-bosses and swords. They should take no thought for plunder: when victory is won there would be enough for all. This stirred the hearts of the veterans who were experienced in battle, and Suetonius confident of the outcome gave the signal to fight.

## Notes

**Section I**  
Lines 1 - 3

ac primum legio gradu immota et angustias loci pro  
munimento retinens, postquam in proprius suggressos  
hostes certo iactu tela exhauserat, velut cuneo erupit.

<b>1</b> ac - and so primum - at first legio, legionis f. - legion gradus, gradus m. - position, ground immotus, immota, immotum - motionless et - and angustiae, angustiarum f.pl. - narrowness locus, loci m. - place pro + abl. - in the place of, as their <b>2</b> munimentum, munimenti n. - fortification, defence retinens, gen. retinentis - keeping, retaining	<b>3</b> postquam - after in + acc. - against, at proprius - nearer suggressus, suggressa. suggressum - having approached hostis, hostis m/f - enemy certus, certa, certum - certain iactus, iactus m. - aim, throwing telum, teli n. - spear, missile exhauiro exhauire exhausi exhaustus - use up, empty velut - as if cuneus, cunei m. - wedge formation erumpo erumpere erupi eruptus - burst out

## Notes

**Section I**  
**Lines 4 - 7**

idem auxiliarium impetus; et eques potentis hastis  
 perfringit quod obvium et validum erat. ceteri terga  
 praebuere, difficii effugio, quia circumiecta vehicula  
 saepserant abitus.

5

4 idem, eadem, idem - same  
 auxiliares, auxiliarium m.pl. -  
 auxiliary soldiers  
 impetus, impetus m. - attack  
 et - and  
 eques, equitis m. - cavalry  
 potentus, protenta, potentum -  
 extended in front, at full stretch  
 hasta, hastae f. - spear  
 5 perfringo perfringere perfergi  
 perfractus - break through  
 qui, quae, quod - which,  
 whatever  
 obvius, obvia, obvium - in the  
 way  
 et - and  
 validus, valida, validum - serious,  
 strong  
 sum esse fui - be

6 ceteri, ceterae, cetera - rest, the  
 remaining ones  
 tergum, tergi n. - back  
 praebeo praebere praebui  
 praebitus – provide  
 tergum praebere – turn one's  
 back, retreat  
 praebuere = praebuerunt  
 difficilis, difficile - difficult, hard  
 effugium, effugii n. - flight, escape  
 quia - because  
 circumiectus, circumiecta,  
 circumiectum - placed around  
 vehiculum, vehiculi n. - wagon,  
 means of transport  
 saepio saepire saepsi saeptus -  
 protect, fence around  
 abitus, abitus m. - escape, exit

7



## Notes

**Section I**  
**Lines 7 - 9**

et miles ne mulierum quidem neci  
temperabat, confixaque telis etiam iumenta corporum  
cumulum auxerant.

7	et - and miles, militis m. - soldiery, soldier ne ... quidem - not even mulier, mulieris f. - woman ne ... quidem - not even nex, necis f. - slaughter, death tempero temperare temperavi temperatus - restrain oneself confixus, confixa, confixum - pierced	9	telum, teli n. - spear, missile etiam - also, even iumentum, iumenti n. - baggage animal corpus, corporis n. - body cumulus, cumuli m. - heap, pile augeo augere auxi auctus - increase
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## Notes

**Section I**  
**Lines 9 - 13**

clara et antiquis victoriis par ea die  
 laus parta: quippe sunt qui paulo minus quam octoginta  
 milia Britannorum cecidisse tradant, militum  
 quadringtonis ferme interfectis nec multo amplius  
 vulneratis. Boudica vitam veneno finivit.

10

9 clarus, clara, clarum - evident,  
 clear  
 et - and  
 antiquus, antiqua, antiquum - old,  
 of our history  
 victoria, Victoriae f. - victory  
 par - of equal size to  
 is, ea, id - this  
 dies, diei m/f. - day  
 10 laus, laudis f. - glory, praise  
 partus, parta, partum - acquired,  
 accomplished  
 quippe - indeed  
 sum esse fui - be  
 qui, quae, quod - who, which  
 paulo - a little  
 minus - less  
 quam - than  
 octoginta - eighty  
 11 mille, milia nom. pl., milium gen.  
 pl. - thousand

12 Britannus, Britanni m. - a Briton  
 cado cadere cecidi casus - fall,  
 die  
 trado tradere tradidi traditus - say,  
 hand down  
 miles, militis m. - soldier  
 quadringtoni quadringtonae  
 quadringtona - four hundred  
 ferme - almost, about  
 interfector, interfected, interfectedum  
 - killed  
 nec - not  
 multo - much  
 amplius - more, greater (number)  
 vulneratus, vulnerata, vulneratum  
 - wounded  
 Boudica, Boudicæ f. - Boudica,  
 queen of the Iceni, widow of  
 Prasutagus  
 vita, vitae f. - life  
 venenum, veneni n. - poison  
 finio finire finivi finitus - finish, end

13

## Notes



## Notes

**Section J**  
Lines 2 - 4

auxitque copias Caesar  
missis ex Germania duobus legionariorum milibus, octo  
auxiliarium cohortibus ac mille equitibus;

<span style="color: orange;">2</span> augeo augere auxi auctus - increase copiae, copiarum f. - forces Caesar, Caesaris m. - Caesar, Nero, the emperor <span style="color: orange;">3</span> missus, missa, missum - sent ex + abl. - out of Germania, Germaniae f. - Germany duo, duae, duo - two	<span style="color: orange;">4</span> legionarius, legionaria, legionarium - belonging to a legion, legionary mille, milia nom. pl., milium gen. pl. - thousand octo - eight <span style="color: orange;">3</span> auxiliares, auxiliarium m.pl. - auxiliary troops cohors, cohortis f. - cohort, unit comprised of about 600 soldiers ac - and mille - thousand equites, equitum m.pl. - cavalry

## Notes

## Section J

### Lines 4 - 8

quorum  
adventu nonani legionario milite suppleti sunt, cohortes  
alaeque novis hibernaculis locatae quodque nationum  
ambiguum aut adversum fuerat igni atque ferro  
vastatum.

5

4 qui, quae, quod - who, which  
5 adventus, adventus m. - arrival  
nonanus, nonana, nonanum - ninth  
legionarius, legionaria,  
legionarium - belonging to a  
legion, legionary  
miles, militis m. - soldiery  
suppleo supplere supplevi  
suppletus - supplement, fill up  
cohors, cohortis f. - cohort, unit  
comprised of about 600 soldiers  
ala, alae f. - wing (of an army)  
novus, nova, novum - new  
hibernacula, hibernaculorum n. - winter quarters

5 loco locare locavi locatus - place,  
locate  
quisque, quaeque, quodque - each  
natio, nationis f. - tribe  
ambiguus, ambigua, ambiguum - uncertain  
aut - or  
adversus, aduersa, adversum - turned against, in opposition  
sum esse fui - be  
ignis, ignis m. - fire  
atque - and  
ferrum, ferri n. - sword  
8 vasto vastare vastavi vastatus - lay waste, ruin

## Notes

**Section J**  
**Lines 8 - 10**

sed nihil aeque quam fames adfligebat  
 serendis frugibus incuriosos, et omni aetate ad bellum  
 versa, dum nostros commeatus sibi destinant.

**10**

<span style="color: orange;">8</span> sed - but nihil - nothing aeque - as much qui, quae, quod - as fames, famis f. - hunger adfligo adfligere adflixi adflictus - strike down, afflict  <span style="color: orange;">9</span> serendus, serenda, serendum - sowing, planting fruges, frugum f. - crops incuriosus, incuriosa, incuriosum - careless, negligent et - and	<span style="color: orange;">10</span> omnis, omne - every, each aetas, aetatis f. - age-group ad + acc. - towards bellum, belli n. - war versus, versa, versum - turned to, engaged in dum - while noster, nostra, nostrum - our commeatus, commeatus m. - supplies, provisions se, sui - himself, themselves destino destinare destinavi destinatus - intend	

## Notes

## K

The savage tribesmen were not inclined to seek peace too quickly because Iulius Classicianus, the successor to Catus, was on bad terms with Suetonius, and was obstructing the public good because of his rivalry; he spread a rumour that they must wait for the new governor who would be merciful to those who surrendered, and without the anger of an enemy or the arrogance of a victor. At the same time, he made a report to Rome that they should expect no end to the battles unless they replaced Suetonius whose failure he attributed to the man's bad character and whose success to good luck. So Polyclitus, one of the imperial freedmen was sent to oversee the situation in Britain, with Nero's great hope being that he would be able by his authority, not only to bring about harmony between the governor and the procurator but that peace would settle the rebellious spirit of the barbarians.

5

10

## Notes