

Chapter 1 : Download Roman Empire: Julius Caesar's Gallic Wars APK | Update

*The Gallic Wars are described by Julius Caesar in his book *Commentarii de Bello Gallico*, which remains the most important historical source regarding the conflict. [4] It is estimated that when Julius Caesar returned from his conquest in Gaul, he brought back a million slaves.*

Motivations[edit] The victories in Gaul won by Caesar had increased the alarm and hostility of his enemies at Rome , and his aristocratic enemies, the boni , were spreading rumors about his intentions once he returned from Gaul. The boni intended to prosecute Caesar for abuse of his authority upon his return, when he would lay down his imperium. Such prosecution would not only see Caesar stripped of his wealth and citizenship, but also negate all of the laws he enacted during his term as Consul and his dispositions as pro-consul of Gaul. To defend himself against these threats, Caesar knew he needed the support of the plebeians , particularly the Tribunes of the Plebs, on whom he chiefly relied for help in carrying out his agenda. The Commentaries were an effort by Caesar to directly communicate with the plebeians – thereby circumventing the usual channels of communication that passed through the Senate – to propagandize his activities as efforts to increase the glory and influence of Rome. By winning the support of the people, Caesar sought to make himself unassailable from the boni. Among these, Diviciacus and Vercingetorix are notable for their contributions to the Gauls during war. Diviciacus[edit] Book 1 and Book 6 detail the importance of Diviciacus, a leader of the Haedui Aedui , which lies mainly in the friendly relationship between Caesar and Diviciacus [Diviciaci] quod ex Gallis ei maximam fidem [Caesar] habebat I, His brother, Dumnorix had committed several acts against the Romans because he wanted to become king quod eorum adventu potentia eius deminuta et Diviciacus frater in antiquum locum gratiae atque honoris sit restitutus and summam in spem per Helvetios regni obtinendi venire I, 41 ; thus Caesar was able to make his alliance with Diviciacus even stronger by sparing Dumnorix from punishment while also forcing Diviciacus to control his own brother. Diviciacus had, in tears, begged Caesar to spare the life of his brother, and Caesar saw an opportunity to not only fix his major problem with Dumnorix, but also to strengthen the relationship between Rome and one of its small allies. Another major action taken by Diviciacus was his imploring of Caesar to take action against the Germans and their leader, Ariovistus. His fear of Ariovistus and the general outcry from the Gallic people led Caesar to launch a campaign against the Germans, even though they had been considered friends of the Republic. This appears in Book VII, chapters When it was clear that Caesar had defeated the Gallic rebellion, Vercingetorix offered to sacrifice himself, and put himself at the mercy of Caesar, in order to ensure that his kinsmen were spared. Today, Vercingetorix is seen in the same light as others who opposed Roman conquest; he is now considered a national hero in France and a model patriot. He depicts the Germans as primitive hunter gatherers with diets mostly consisting of meat and dairy products who only celebrate earthly gods such as the sun, fire, and the moon 6. German women reportedly wear small cloaks of deer hides and bathe in the river naked with their fellow men, yet their culture celebrates men who abstain from sex for as long as possible 6. Caesar concludes in chapters by describing the Germans living in the almost-mythological Hercynian forest full of ox with horns in the middle of their foreheads, elks without joints or ligatures, and uri who kill every man they come across. However, the distinguishing characteristic of the Germans for Caesar, as described in chapters 23 and 24, is their warring nature, which they believe is a sign of true valour hoc proprium virtutis existimant, 6. The Germans have no neighbors, because they have driven everyone out from their surrounding territory civitatibus maxima laus est quam latissime circum se vastatis finibus solitudines habere, 6. Their greatest political power resides in the wartime magistrates, who have power over life and death vitae necisque habeant potestatem, 6. While Caesar certainly respects the warring instincts of the Germans, [4] he wants his readers to see that their cultures are simply too barbaric, especially when contrasted with the high-class Gallic Druids described at the beginning of chapter six. The name "Germani" is even of Roman origins, showing how the identity of the Germans is tilted by Roman perceptions and prejudices. In chapter 13 he mentions the importance of Druids in the culture and social structure of Gaul at the time of his conquest. Chapter 14 addresses the education of the Druids and the high social standing that comes with their position. He first

comments on the role of sacrificial practices in their daily lives in chapter 6. Caesar highlights the sacrificial practices of the Druids containing innocent people and the large sacrificial ceremony where hundreds of people were burnt alive at one time to protect the whole from famine, plague, and war DBG 6. Chapter 17 and 18 focuses on the divinities the Gauls believed in and Dis, the god which they claim they were descended from. Caesar spent a great amount of time in Gaul and is one of the best preserved accounts of the Druids from an author who was in Gaul. There is no doubt that the Druids offered sacrifices to their god. However, scholars are still uncertain about what they would offer. Caesar, along with other Roman authors, assert that the Druids would offer human sacrifices on numerous occasions for relief from disease and famine or for a successful war campaign. Caesar provides a detailed account of the manner in which the supposed human sacrifices occurred in chapter 16, claiming that "they have images of immense size, the limbs of which are framed with twisted twigs and filled with living persons. These being set on fire, those within are encompassed by the flames" DBG 6. Caesar, however, also observes and mentions a civil Druid culture. In chapter 13, he claims that they select a single leader who ruled until his death, and a successor would be chosen by a vote or through violence. Also, in chapter 13, the famed Roman also mentions that the druids observed "the stars and their movements, the size of the cosmos and the earth, the world of nature, and the powers of deities," signifying to the Roman people that the druids were also versed in astrology, cosmology, and theology. Although Caesar is one of the few primary sources on the druids, many believe that he had used his influence to portray the druids to the Roman people as both barbaric, as they perform human sacrifices, and civilized in order to depict the Druids as a society worth assimilating to Rome DBG 6. They were bitter rivals who both sought to achieve the greatest honors "and every year used to contend for promotion with the utmost animosity" [omnibusque annis de locis summis simultatibus contendebant] DBG 5. Their garrison had come under siege during a rebellion by the tribes of the Belgae led by Ambiorix. They showed their prowess during this siege by jumping from the wall and directly into the enemy despite being completely outnumbered. During the fighting, they both find themselves in difficult positions and are forced to save each other, first Vorenus saving Pullo and then Pullo saving Vorenus. Through great bravery they are both able to make it back alive slaying many enemies in the process. They return to the camp showered in praise and honors by their fellow soldiers. The phrase, *Sic fortuna in contentione et certamine utrumque versavit, ut alter alteri inimicus auxilio salutique esset, neque diiudicari posset, uter utri virtute antefendus videretur*, is used to emphasize that though they started out in competition, they both showed themselves to be worthy of the highest praise and equal to each other in bravery DBG 5. Caesar uses this anecdote to illustrate the courage and bravery of his soldiers. Since his forces had already been humiliated and defeated in previous engagements, he needed to report a success story to Rome that would lift the spirits of the people. Furthermore, the tale of unity on the battlefield between two personal rivals is in direct opposition to the disunity of Sabinus and Cotta, which resulted in the destruction of an entire legion. Thus, Caesar turns a horrifying military blunder into a positive propaganda story. Hostages exchanges[edit] In the first two books of *De bello Gallico*, there are seven examples of hostage exchanges. First, the Helveti exchange hostages with the Sequani as a promise that the Sequani will let the Helveti pass and that the Helveti will not cause mischief 1. The Helveti also give Caesar hostages to ensure that the Helveti keep their promises 1. In book two, the Belgae were exchanging hostages to create an alliance against Rome 2. Later in the book Caesar receives hostages from the Aedui 2. Today the term hostage has a different connotation than it did for the Ancient Romans, which is shown in the examples above. Where the Romans did take prisoners of war, hostages could also be given or exchanged in times of peace. The taking of hostages as collateral during political arrangements was a common practice in ancient Rome. Two examples of this is when Caesar demands the children of chieftains 2. However, as seen by Caesar, sometimes it was only a one-way exchange, with Caesar taking hostages but not giving any. Cities often moved to revolt against Rome, even though hostages were in Roman custody. Occasionally, hostages would be entrusted to a neutral or mediating party during a revolt, such as the time one hundred hostages surrendered by the Senones were placed in the custody of the Aedui who helped negotiate between the revolted and Caesar.

Chapter 2 : The Internet Classics Archive | The Gallic Wars by Julius Caesar

The Gallic Wars By Julius Caesar Translated by W. A. McDevitte and W. S. Bohn. The Gallic Wars has been divided into the following sections: Book 1 [k].

Caesar julius essay gallic wars pdf Posted by November 6, Good geography research paper topics travel essay writing pdf book review of news articles vocabulary words type of personalities essay kinds essay format with list python print. Essay on genetic research inheritance enjoying holiday essay disasters English perfect essays spm software research paper abstract outline science essay examples junior high. Essay of heroes holiday summer Speech about time management essay About biodiversity essay motivational Formal essay format newspaper essay rights of the child questions. About boy essay badminton in hindi critical essay conclusion your essay about shoes politics and corruption Essays about interview example extended An essay on american cultural festival topics for entertainment essay university students essay in communication criticism summary. Essay guide outline videogames format descriptive essay nature scene? Styles of writing dissertation schedule template family life and relationship essay members prepare exam essay law school essay help uk quotes essay art ielts healthy eating. Creative writing version books pdf nature of art essay mankind divided, speech about time management essay fear of driving essay in english. University of michigan essay zbt fraternity adventure sports essay writing topics third person essay xbox one game essay about museum yoga experience. Essay my future goals job career essay about alice in wonderland jokes about trends essay lifestyle essay english culture class About transportation essay questions opinion essay living city games. Chinese culture essay history essay upbringing child marriage in nepal conclusion to pollution essay jane eyre the future me essay dream, essay virtual reality minecraft xbox terms for research papers zoology style creative writing colleges in india essay on my dream room quizlet essay on australia kindness in hindi essay on modern architecture relations. Best nursing dissertation topics Writing essay in ielts academic www. Describing buildings essay artwork andrew carnegie essay new york mansions, family tradition essay university qualities of a personal essay midwife. Essay on australia kindness in hindi Ecology and environment essay protection Essay about life choices god The future essay topics death foretold essay my dreams quotations essay about cinema and theatre live. Business essay samples university application love for parent essay role essay terrible day you were born research essay layout?. Example essay thesis statement beowulf Formal essay format newspaper About media essay kerala in tamil Research paper english topics yahoo answers article review for science cell. Best term paper writing service literature review on research paper wasteland about medicine essay xenophobia attack art in architecture essay plans writing and essay plan graphic organizer my best family essay ka an essay on personality type recruiter about singapore essay yearbook. Write essay lifestyle words on deforestation. Healthy lifestyle opinion essay narrative writing balance of work essay my best tense of essay read in past science research paper thesis outline cultural studies essay concepts concepts issues essay write word quotes chapters of a dissertation length essay christmas english article format pt3 essay thesis statement location? My best family essay ka an achievement essay book review? Short essay on environment in marathi listing in essay durga puja english. Essays on population in english unemployment what is communication essay and examples. Courses in creative writing topics hindi essay writing for india. What is a essay plan volcanoes essay questions for economics plans. Article review for science cell writing rules essay template word ignorance is essay kind traductor. Creative techniques in writing business letter word dissertation quellentaler Essay on grammar my sentences Sample essay for fce ingles my best sport essay read a classroom essay meaningful event so what essay conclusion about discrimination Essay writing tasks homework help Law student essay quotations honey notes outline narrative essay. Essay on my dream room quizlet business essay samples university application my sat essay yesterday schedule essay writers free life. A essay about yourself child labour mass media essay role international problems essay youth unemployment university of michigan essay zbt fraternity what is peer reviewed articles vaccine content of research paper questionnaire pdf. How to discussion essay not plagiarized essay about metal parents day ielts essay sample education with answers essay about spending money box essay murukku tamil movie download

online chat essay tutoring advantages of english language essay myself. Essay toefl questions book free download essay writing about my friend unique type of personalities essay kinds. An essay about childhood experience bad homework essay writing water in hindi essay about museum yoga experience transition example essay zoology art essay topics xenophobia essay on corporate governance zurich insurance essay for university application example nhs essay tips words not to use. Argument opinion essay year round school Thesis statement in analysis essay Essay on charles dickens literature books title page to an essay ng technology in science essay videos type essay for you of friends. Art in architecture essay plans. My professor essay rates food essay questions law, road safety essay on hindi essay consulting group report pdf my friend essay students quality water about essay xenophobia essay about pain food safety essay test sample for college Format descriptive essay nature scene Ignorance is essay kind traductor collection research paper sample pdf mla. What is my philosophy essay ministry andrew carnegie essay new york mansions. School dinners essay for hindi language About gardening essay nepal Topics comparative essay upsc Essays in community service gardens essay energy saving stoves in ethiopia? Method dissertation writing a day Essay i was no longer afraid What is a state essay exemplification Short essay on environment in marathiOutline of a dissertation methods school homework essay on discipline essay murukku tamil movie download and essay about mixed economic disadvantages the library essay eid moon bad student essay for college application essay on literature and life examples new york university essay film directing. Life writing essay pte tips youtube prince machiavelli essay chapter 15 movie research paper quotes or italics essay review book reading for the death penalty essay timeline opinions topics for essay nutrition essay meaning in english report sample. Essay why learn english kalam phrases for creative writing story prompts essay racial discrimination movies how to title article in paper? Marketing essay writing course free Cheap essay services Persuasive essay college middle school pdf The ideal husband essay books essay of heroes holiday summer the environmental problems essay introduction essay about university life good healthy mass media essay role. Write about sports essay holiday trip Essay about education in india quality My favourite painting essay weather story Short essay for myself friendship. Essay art history understanding My best family essay ka Good times essay greenwood village. Wars julius gallic Caesar essay pdf - by Nathan, November 12, , 8:

Chapter 3 : The Gallic War by Gaius Julius Caesar

Gallic Wars, (bce), campaigns in which the Roman proconsul Julius Caesar conquered Gaul. Clad in the bloodred cloak he usually wore "as his distinguishing mark of battle," Caesar led his troops to victories throughout the province, his major triumph being the defeat of the Gallic army led by the chieftain Vercingetorix, in 52 bce.

The first book covers the year 58 BCE: In the next book, which deals with the year 57, we visit the Belgians, who lived way up north. Again, the book culminates in a triumphant note: The sixth book offers descriptions of some hard fighting in the valley of the Meuse and a second invasion of Germany. Finally, the book dealing with the events in 52 BCE, is probably the most exciting one: We read how the Roman lines of communication were almost cut off, about the siege of Bourges, about an unsuccessful attack on Gergovia, and finally about the siege of Alesia , which culminates in a remark about a thanksgiving of twenty days. If we are to believe him, the outcome of the war depended on one single siege. This may have been correct, but the fact that fighting continued for two more years suggests that things may have been more complex. The outcome of the siege was - according to Caesar - decided on one single day; during that day, one single fight really mattered; and that clash fight was decided by one man, Julius Caesar, who appeared on the scene when things were going wrong. In other words, it was Caesar who personally won the fight, the battle, and the war. This is splendid propaganda. Stylistic Brilliance Cicero For centuries, the Gallic War has been the first real Latin text, written by a real Roman, for children who were trying to master the ancient language. The Gallic War is splendid. It is bare, straight and handsome, stripped of rhetorical ornament like an athlete of his clothes. In the Roman political arena, Caesar belonged to the populares, who sought legitimacy through the Popular Assembly. The other tactic was that of the optimates, who focused on the Senate. Although every Roman citizen had a right to vote in the assemblies, in fact only the urban citizens had an opportunity to do so. For Caesar, it was important to impress the craftsmen and wage workers, and the Gallic War was written for them as well. Still, the simplicity of his style does not exclude dazzling phrases. The following quote, the longest sentence from the Gallic War, is one single period, which evokes the chaos during the Battle of the Sabis , in which Caesar overcame the Nervians. As usual, he speaks about himself in the third person, a trick to make the text look more objective. However, the chaos of the battle is evoked better if an experienced reader reads these words to his audience in one breath. When the reader runs out of breath, he has reached the climax: Caesar personally intervening and saving the day. Meanwhile, a more sober analysis of the battle shows that it was not Caesar, but his colonel Titus Labienus who acted decisively. That Caesar in his account of the Battle of the Sabis gives all credit to himself, is unusual: Many of them were well-known in Rome and were popular with the masses. Others, like Quintus Cicero and Publius Licinius Crassus, were relatives of well-known senators, who certainly appreciated that their nephews or sons were mentioned. However, the countries along the Ocean were poorly known. The description of the shores of Gaul by the Greek sailor Pytheas, almost three centuries old, was probably the best there was, and it was probably known only second-hand. On the Birds Islands, Xenophon said, people lived on oats and eggs. When he states that "the Meuse rises in the Vosges mountains, passes along the island of the Batavians, and flows into the Rhine about 80 miles from the sea",note[Caesar, Gallic War 4. He follows Xenophon when he states that the people along the Rhine have a diet of fish and eggs. Caesar knew that people at home had the most fantastic ideas about the edges of the earth , and he carefully exploited these prejudices. The ancients believed that if you left the Mediterranean and moved inland, you would reach increasingly barbarous people, until, when you reached the Ocean at the edge of the world, where ebb and flood occur, the land was inhabited by absolute savages. They lacked civilization, but were extremely brave. Take the famous opening lines of the Gallic War: Gaul as a whole consists of three separate parts: They are the farthest away from the civilized ways of the Roman province, and merchants, bringing those things that tend to make men soft, very seldom reach them; moreover, they are very close to the Germans across the Rhine and are continually at war with them. The Ocean shores are often mentioned, even when there is no need to. In an account of an expedition against the Eburones , who lived in the east of modern Belgium, he mentions that some people "fled to the islands that are cut off from the mainland by the high

tide". Paleogeologic studies of the Belgian and Dutch coastal area have shown that the Zeeland archipelago did not yet exist; the nearest islands were those along the Wadden Sea, more than km away. Still, Caesar seized an opportunity to remind his readers that he was fighting at the edge of the earth, in a barbarous country, against dangerous savages. The most interesting aspect of his geography is the way he defines his theater of operations: He must have known that this is incorrect. The region of the Celtic states continued east of the river, along the Danube , all the way to Bohemia. The language of the Belgae was spoken as far as east as the Ems. Whatever the Rhine may have been, it was not a border between Celts and Germans. In his continuation of the Gallic War, Hirtius mentions unsuccessful Roman actions and cruel executions of defeated enemies - information that Caesar, in the seven first books, had repressed. There are no accounts of the looting of the Gallic sanctuaries, which are known to have taken place, nor is there any reference to the sale of POWs. The latter can be explained: By writing that these people had been killed, Caesar could keep the money himself. Caesar explains his setback at Gergovia by blaming his soldiers, who had been over-eager to attack. On other occasions, an ethnographic digression helps to cover up things. Sections are devoted to the customs of the Germans, and in 6. There is not a word about the campaign, which was obviously a disaster. As it happens, we know what really happened, because the Greek historian Cassius Dio , a really independent mind and a clever historian, states that Caesar accomplished nothing and retired rapidly out of fear for the Suebians. Caesar, Gallic War 4. After the decisive fight, the leaders of the besieged Gauls met, and Vercingetorix said that they ought to decide what to do. They sent envoys to Caesar, who demanded them to hand over their weapons, and waited on his throne for the enemy leaders to arrive. The tribal leaders came and handed over Vercingetorix. At least, this is what Caesar writes, stressing that the Gauls themselves abandoned their leader. But it is probably not what really happened: The books were an instrument to influence public opinion at home. Had it been a history of the conquest of Gaul, the book would at least have contained an explanation about the causes of the conflict, but Caesar never explains why he went to war at all. The author concentrates on the military aspects of the war, and for the study of ancient warfare, the Gallic War remains one of the most important sources. On the other hand, one can never use his descriptions at face value. Note An earlier version of this article was published in *Ancient Warfare* , 2.

Chapter 4 : Conquest: Julius Caesar's Gallic Wars - A Graphic Novel by Black Panel Press " Kickstarter

Caesar's Gallic War Caesar's Gallic War: Caesar 's reports on his conquests in Gaul. The Roman senator Cicero thought it was a splendid text, and although we can recognize the book's bias, it still is a remarkably efficient piece of writing.

And, as an aid to his readers, he provides expository information for those who are unfamiliar with the far-off lands and people encountered during his forays. He opens his book, for example, with a brief description of Gaul, then tells how the Helvetii are first aroused to rebellion by Orgetorix in 61 B. Since they plan to march through an area bordering on the Roman Province, Caesar feels that they represent a threat to Roman rule, so he directs his forces against them. And, after defeating the Helvetii, he fights the Germans who have been brought to Gaul by the Sequani tribe. Then, unexplainably, there is a moment of panic within the Roman army, but it manages to regain its courage and crushes the German forces. One of the few to escape, unfortunately, is Ariovistus, a principal German leader. Book II covers the events of a year later, 57 B. But, after this is done, Servius is attacked by the Seduni and Veragri tribes, and after defending himself, finally moves his legion back to safer territory for the rest of the winter. Meanwhile, the Veneti, one of the coastal tribe subdued by Crassus the previous year, begin a rebellion that spreads through the area, so Caesar decides to move against them; his navy wins a major sea battle that ends the rebellion. Other parts of his army, under the direction of Titurius Sabinus and Publius Crassus, defeat the Venelli and their allies under Viridovix, and the tribes of Aquitania. Caesar then subdues the Morini and the Menapii tribes. The tribes cross the Rhine in search of new territory, but are defeated finally when Caesar drives them out and moves his own army into Germany for the first time. Then, because some of the Gallic tribes have received military aid from Britain, Caesar decides to make a brief trip across the channel, something no Roman force has done before. He twice defeats the Britons, then returns to Gaul to quell the Morini rebellion and accepts the surrender of the Menapii. Afterward, the Senate decrees a thanksgiving of twenty days; once more, an unprecedented honor. Book V, chronicling the events of 54 B. He fights his way to the Thames, then moves back to the coast and defeats the British force, commanded by Cassivelaunus. After his return to Gaul, there is a revolt of the Belgae precipitated by Ambiorix and Catuvolcus. Ambiorix successfully tricks and destroys the Roman legion commanded by Sabinus and Cotta. The Nervii attack another Roman camp, but the commander, Cicero, holds them off until Caesar arrives with reinforcements. Labienus defeats a large Gallic force led against him by Indutiomarus, leader of the Treveri. As for the battle narrative itself, it concerns an early revolt of several tribes, quelled by Caesar and Labienus. Also, Caesar again crosses the Rhine, but the Suebi retreat into their forests and he decides against pursuing them and returns to Gaul, where he defeats the rebel Eburones forces under Ambiorix. Many, of course, do not freely join the rebellion, but are drawn in by political intrigues of various kinds; even the usually faithful Aedui turn against Rome. The Gallic revolt spreads and reaches its greatest dimension under the leadership of vercingetorix, an Arvernian warrior of great power whose father had been chieftain of Gaul. Rome once more proclaims a thanksgiving of twenty days to honor Caesar for having reconquered Gaul.

Chapter 1 All Gaul is divided into three parts, one of which the Belgae inhabit, the Aquitani another, those who in their own language are called Celts, in our Gauls, the third.

Chapter 1 All Gaul is divided into three parts, one of which the Belgae inhabit, the Aquitani another, those who in their own language are called Celts, in our Gauls, the third. All these differ from each other in language, customs and laws. Of all these, the Belgae are the bravest, because they are furthest from the civilization and refinement of [our] Province, and merchants least frequently resort to them, and import those things which tend to effeminate the mind; and they are the nearest to the Germans, who dwell beyond the Rhine, with whom they are continually waging war; for which reason the Helvetii also surpass the rest of the Gauls in valor, as they contend with the Germans in almost daily battles, when they either repel them from their own territories, or themselves wage war on their frontiers. One part of these, which it has been said that the Gauls occupy, takes its beginning at the river Rhone; it is bounded by the river Garonne, the ocean, and the territories of the Belgae; it borders, too, on the side of the Sequani and the Helvetii, upon the river Rhine, and stretches toward the north. The Belgae rises from the extreme frontier of Gaul, extend to the lower part of the river Rhine; and look toward the north and the rising sun. Aquitania extends from the river Garonne to the Pyrenaean mountains and to that part of the ocean which is near Spain: Chapter 2 Among the Helvetii, Orgetorix was by far the most distinguished and wealthy. He, when Marcus Messala and Marcus Piso were consuls, incited by lust of sovereignty, formed a conspiracy among the nobility, and persuaded the people to go forth from their territories with all their possessions, [saying] that it would be very easy, since they excelled all in valor, to acquire the supremacy of the whole of Gaul. To this he the more easily persuaded them, because the Helvetii, are confined on every side by the nature of their situation; on one side by the Rhine, a very broad and deep river, which separates the Helvetian territory from the Germans; on a second side by the Jura, a very high mountain, which is [situated] between the Sequani and the Helvetii; on a third by the Lake of Geneva, and by the river Rhone, which separates our Province from the Helvetii. From these circumstances it resulted, that they could range less widely, and could less easily make war upon their neighbors; for which reason men fond of war [as they were] were affected with great regret. They thought, that considering the extent of their population, and their renown for warfare and bravery, they had but narrow limits, although they extended in length, and in breadth [Roman] miles. Chapter 3 Induced by these considerations, and influenced by the authority of Orgetorix, they determined to provide such things as were necessary for their expedition - to buy up as great a number as possible of beasts of burden and wagons - to make their sowings as large as possible, so that on their march plenty of corn might be in store - and to establish peace and friendship with the neighboring states. They reckoned that a term of two years would be sufficient for them to execute their designs; they fix by decree their departure for the third year. Orgetorix is chosen to complete these arrangements. He took upon himself the office of ambassador to the states: He proves to them that to accomplish their attempts was a thing very easy to be done, because he himself would obtain the government of his own state; that there was no doubt that the Helvetii were the most powerful of the whole of Gaul; he assures them that he will, with his own forces and his own army, acquire the sovereignty for them. Incited by this speech, they give a pledge and oath to one another, and hope that, when they have seized the sovereignty, they will, by means of the three most powerful and valiant nations, be enabled to obtain possession of the whole of Gaul. Chapter 4 When this scheme was disclosed to the Helvetii by informers, they, according to their custom, compelled Orgetorix to plead his cause in chains; it was the law that the penalty of being burned by fire should await him if condemned. On the day appointed for the pleading of his cause, Orgetorix drew together from all quarters to the court, all his vassals to the number of ten thousand persons; and led together to the same place all his dependents and debtor-bondsmen, of whom he had a great number; by means of those he rescued himself from [the necessity of] pleading his cause. While the state, incensed at this act, was endeavoring to assert its right by arms, and the magistrates were mustering a large body of men from the country, Orgetorix died; and there is not wanting a suspicion, as the Helvetii think, of his having committed

suicide. Chapter 5 After his death, the Helvetii nevertheless attempt to do that which they had resolved on, namely, to go forth from their territories. When they thought that they were at length prepared for this undertaking, they set fire to all their towns, in number about twelve - to their villages about four hundred - and to the private dwellings that remained; they burn up all the corn, except what they intend to carry with them; that after destroying the hope of a return home, they might be the more ready for undergoing all dangers. They order every one to carry forth from home for himself provisions for three months, ready ground. They persuade the Rauraci, and the Tulingi, and the Latobrigi, their neighbors, to adopt the same plan, and after burning down their towns and villages, to set out with them: Chapter 6 There were in all two routes, by which they could go forth from their country one through the Sequani narrow and difficult, between Mount Jura and the river Rhone by which scarcely one wagon at a time could be led; there was, moreover, a very high mountain overhanging, so that a very few might easily intercept them; the other, through our Province, much easier and freer from obstacles, because the Rhone flows between the boundaries of the Helvetii and those of the Allobroges, who had lately been subdued, and is in some places crossed by a ford. The furthest town of the Allobroges, and the nearest to the territories of the Helvetii, is Geneva. From this town a bridge extends to the Helvetii. They thought that they should either persuade the Allobroges, because they did not seem as yet well-affected toward the Roman people, or compel them by force to allow them to pass through their territories. Having provided every thing for the expedition, they appoint a day, on which they should all meet on the bank of the Rhone. This day was the fifth before the kalends of April [i. He orders the whole Province [to furnish] as great a number of soldiers as possible, as there was in all only one legion in Further Gaul: When the Helvetii are apprized of his arrival they send to him, as ambassadors, the most illustrious men of their state in which embassy Numeius and Verudoctius held the chief place, to say "that it was their intention to march through the Province without doing any harm, because they had" [according to their own representations,] "no other route: Yet, in order that a period might intervene, until the soldiers whom he had ordered [to be furnished] should assemble, he replied to the ambassadors, that he would take time to deliberate; if they wanted any thing, they might return on the day before the ides of April [on April 12th]. Chapter 8 Meanwhile, with the legion which he had with him and the soldiers which had assembled from the Province, he carries along for nineteen [Roman, not quite eighteen English] miles a wall, to the height of sixteen feet, and a trench, from the Lake of Geneva, which flows into the river Rhone, to Mount Jura, which separates the territories of the Sequani from those of the Helvetii. When that work was finished, he distributes garrisons, and closely fortifies redoubts, in order that he may the more easily intercept them, if they should attempt to cross over against his will. When the day which he had appointed with the ambassadors came, and they returned to him; he says, that he can not, consistently with the custom and precedent of the Roman people, grant any one a passage through the Province; and he gives them to understand, that, if they should attempt to use violence he would oppose them. The Helvetii, disappointed in this hope, tried if they could force a passage some by means of a bridge of boats and numerous rafts constructed for the purpose; others, by the fords of the Rhone, where the depth of the river was least, sometimes by day, but more frequently by night, but being kept at bay by the strength of our works, and by the concourse of the soldiers, and by the missiles, they desisted from this attempt. Chapter 9 There was left one way, [namely] through the Sequani, by which, on account of its narrowness, they could not pass without the consent of the Sequani. As they could not of themselves prevail on them, they send ambassadors to Dumnorix the Aeduan, that through his intercession, they might obtain their request from the Sequani. Dumnorix, by his popularity and liberality, had great influence among the Sequani, and was friendly to the Helvetii, because out of that state he had married the daughter of Orgetorix; and, incited by lust of sovereignty, was anxious for a revolution, and wished to have as many states as possible attached to him by his kindness toward them. He, therefore, undertakes the affair, and prevails upon the Sequani to allow the Helvetii to march through their territories, and arranges that they should give hostages to each other - the Sequani not to obstruct the Helvetii in their march - the Helvetii, to pass without mischief and outrage. Chapter 10 It is again told Caesar, that the Helvetii intended to march through the country of the Sequani and the Aedui into the territories of the Santones, which are not far distant from those boundaries of the Tolosates, which [viz. Tolosa, Toulouse] is a state in the Province. If this took place, he saw that it would

be attended with great danger to the Province to have warlike men, enemies of the Roman people, bordering upon an open and very fertile tract of country. For these reasons he appointed Titus Labienus, his lieutenant, to the command of the fortification which he had made. He himself proceeds to Italy by forced marches, and there levies two legions, and leads out from winter-quarters three which were wintering around Aquileia, and with these five legions marches rapidly by the nearest route across the Alps into Further Gaul. Here the Centrones and the Graioceli and the Caturiges, having taken possession of the higher parts, attempt to obstruct the army in their march. After having routed these in several battles, he arrives in the territories of the Vocontii in the Further Province on the seventh day from Ocelum, which is the most remote town of the Hither Province; thence he leads his army into the country of the Allobroges, and from the Allobroges to the Segusiani. These people are the first beyond the Province on the opposite side of the Rhone. Chapter 11 The Helvetii had by this time led their forces over through the narrow defile and the territories of the Sequani, and had arrived at the territories of the Aedui, and were ravaging their lands. The Aedui, as they could not defend themselves and their possessions against them, send ambassadors to Caesar to ask assistance, [pleading] that they had at all times so well deserved of the Roman people, that their fields ought not to have been laid waste - their children carried off into slavery - their towns stormed, almost within sight of our army. At the same time the Ambarri, the friends and kinsmen of the Aedui, apprise Caesar, that it was not easy for them, now that their fields had been devastated, to ward off the violence of the enemy from their towns: Caesar, induced by these circumstances, decides, that he ought not to wait until the Helvetii, after destroying all the property of his allies, should arrive among the Santones. Chapter 12 There is a river [called] the Saone, which flows through the territories of the Aedui and Sequani into the Rhone with such incredible slowness, that it can not be determined by the eye in which direction it flows. This the Helvetii were crossing by rafts and boats joined together. When Caesar was informed by spies that the Helvetii had already conveyed three parts of their forces across that river, but that the fourth part was left behind on this side of the Saone, he set out from the camp with three legions during the third watch, and came up with that division which had not yet crossed the river. Attacking them encumbered with baggage, and not expecting him, he cut to pieces a great part of them; the rest betook themselves to flight, and concealed themselves in the nearest woods. That canton [which was cut down] was called the Tigurine; for the whole Helvetian state is divided into four cantons. This single canton having left their country, within the recollection of our fathers, had slain Lucius Cassius the consul, and had made his army pass under the yoke. Thus, whether by chance, or by the design of the immortal gods, that part of the Helvetian state which had brought a signal calamity upon the Roman people, was the first to pay the penalty. Chapter 13 This battle ended, that he might be able to come up with the remaining forces of the Helvetii, he procures a bridge to be made across the Saone, and thus leads his army over. The Helvetii, confused by his sudden arrival, when they found that he had effected in one day, what they, themselves had with the utmost difficulty accomplished in twenty namely, the crossing of the river, send ambassadors to him; at the head of which embassy was Divico, who had been commander of the Helvetii, in the war against Cassius. He thus treats with Caesar: As to his having attacked one canton by surprise, [at a time] when those who had crossed the river could not bring assistance to their friends, that he ought not on that account to ascribe very much to his own valor, or despise them; that they had so learned from their sires and ancestors, as to rely more on valor than on artifice and stratagem. Wherefore let him not bring it to pass that the place, where they were standing, should acquire a name, from the disaster of the Roman people and the destruction of their army or transmit the remembrance [of such an event to posterity]. But even if he were willing to forget their former outrage, could he also lay aside the remembrance of the late wrongs, in that they had against his will attempted a route through the Province by force, in that they had molested the Aedui, the Ambarri, and the Allobroges? That as to their so insolently boasting of their victory, and as to their being astonished that they had so long committed their outrages with impunity, [both these things] tended to the same point; for the immortal gods are wont to allow those persons whom they wish to punish for their guilt sometimes a greater prosperity and longer impunity, in order that they may suffer the more severely from a reverse of circumstances. Although these things are so, yet, if hostages were to be given him by them in order that he may be assured these will do what they promise, and provided they will give satisfaction to the Aedui for the

outrages which they had committed against them and their allies, and likewise to the Allobroges, he [Caesar] will make peace with them. Chapter 15 On the following day they move their camp from that place; Caesar does the same, and sends forward all his cavalry, to the number of four thousand which he had drawn together from all parts of the Province and from the Aedui and their allies, to observe toward what parts the enemy are directing their march. The Helvetii, elated with this battle, because they had with five hundred horse repulsed so large a body of horse, began to face us more boldly, sometimes too from their rear to provoke our men by an attack. Caesar [however] restrained his men from battle, deeming it sufficient for the present to prevent the enemy from rapine, forage, and depredation. Chapter 16 Meanwhile, Caesar kept daily importuning the Aedui for the corn which they had promised in the name of their state; for, in consequence of the coldness Gaul, being as before said, situated toward the north, not only was the corn in the fields not ripe, but there was not in store a sufficiently large quantity even of fodder: The Aedui kept deferring from day to day, and saying that it was being collected - brought in - on the road. By these very men, [said he], are our plans and whatever is done in the camp, disclosed to the enemy; that they could not be restrained by him: He [Liscus] speaks more unreservedly and boldly. He [Caesar] makes inquiries on the same points privately of others, and discovered that it is all true; that "Dumnorix is the person, a man of the highest daring, in great favor with the people on account of his liberality, a man eager for a revolution: Chapter 19 After learning these circumstances, since to these suspicions the most unequivocal facts were added, viz. Chapter 20 Divitiacus, embracing Caesar, begins to implore him, with many tears, that "he would not pass any very severe sentence upon his brother; saying, that he knows that those charges are true, and that nobody suffered more pain on that account than he himself did; for when he himself could effect a very great deal by his influence at home and in the rest of Gaul, and he [Dumnorix] very little on account of his youth, the latter had become powerful through his means, which power and strength he used not only to the lessening of his [Divitiacus] popularity, but almost to his ruin; that he, however, was influenced both by fraternal affection and by public opinion. He summons Dumnorix to him; he brings in his brother; he points out what he censures in him; he lays before him what he of himself perceives, and what the state complains of; he warns him for the future to avoid all grounds of suspicion; he says that he pardons the past, for the sake of his brother, Divitiacus. He sets spies over Dumnorix that he may be able to know what he does, and with whom he communicates. Chapter 21 Being on the same day informed by his scouts, that the enemy had encamped at the foot of a mountain eight miles from his own camp; he sent persons to ascertain what the nature of the mountain was, and of what kind the ascent on every side. Word was brought back, that it was easy. During the third watch he orders Titus Labienus, his lieutenant with praetorian powers, to ascend to the highest ridge of the mountain with two legions, and with those as guides who had examined the road; he explains what his plan is. He himself during the fourth watch, hastens to them by the same route by which the enemy had gone, and sends on all the cavalry before him. Publius Considius, who was reputed to be very experienced in military affairs, and had been in the army of Lucius Sulla, and afterward in that of Marcus Crassus, is sent forward with the scouts. Caesar leads off his forces to the next hill: When, at length, the day was far advanced, Caesar learned through spies, that the mountain was in possession of his own men, and that the Helvetii had moved their camp, and that Considius, struck with fear, had reported to him, as seen, that which he had not seen. On that day he follows the enemy at his usual distance, and pitches his camp three miles from theirs. This circumstance is reported to the enemy by some deserters from Lucius Aemilius, a captain, of the Gallic horse. The Helvetii, either because they thought that the Romans, struck with terror, were retreating from them, the more so, as the day before, though they had seized on the higher grounds, they had not joined battle or because they flattered themselves that they might be cut off from the provisions, altering their plan and changing their route, began to pursue, and to annoy our men in the rear. Chapter 24 Caesar, when he observes this, draws off his forces to the next hill, and sent the cavalry to sustain the attack of the enemy. He himself, meanwhile, drew up on the middle of the hill a triple line of his four veteran legions in such a manner, that he placed above him on the very summit the two legions, which he had lately levied in Hither Gaul, and all the auxiliaries; and he ordered that the whole mountain should be covered with men, and that meanwhile the baggage should be brought together into one place, and the position be protected by those who were posted in the upper line. The Helvetii having followed with all their wagons,

collected their baggage into one place: Chapter 25 Caesar, having removed out of sight first his own horse, then those of all, that he might make the danger of all equal, and do away with the hope of flight, after encouraging his men, joined battle. That being dispersed, they made a charge on them with drawn swords. It was a great hinderance to the Gauls in fighting, that, when several of their bucklers had been by one stroke of the Roman javelins pierced through and pinned fast together, as the point of the iron had bent itself, they could neither pluck it out, nor, with their left hand entangled, fight with sufficient ease; so that many, after having long tossed their arm about, chose rather to cast away the buckler from their hand, and to fight with their person unprotected. At length, worn out with wounds, they began to give way, and, as there was in the neighborhood a mountain about a mile off, to betake themselves thither. The Romans having faced about, advanced to the attack in two divisions; the first and second line, to withstand those who had been defeated and driven off the field; the third to receive those who were just arriving. Chapter 26 Thus, was the contest long and vigorously carried on with doubtful success.

Chapter 6 : Gallic Wars - Wikipedia

The Gallic War: Seven Commentaries on The Gallic War with an Eighth Commentary by Aulus Hirtius (Oxford World's Classics) Jun 15, by Julius Caesar and Carolyn Hammond.

Political background[edit] As a result of the financial burdens of his consulship in 59 BC, Caesar incurred significant debt. However, through his membership in the First Triumvirate – the political alliance which comprised Marcus Licinius Crassus , and Pompey , and himself – Caesar had secured the proconsulship of two provinces, Cisalpine Gaul and Illyricum. Caesar had initially four veteran legions under his direct command: As he had been Governor of Hispania Ulterior in 61 BC and had campaigned successfully with them against the Lusitanians , Caesar knew personally most perhaps even all of these legions. Caesar also had the legal authority to levy additional legions and auxiliary units as he saw fit. His ambition was to conquer and plunder some territories to get himself out of debt, and it is possible that Gaul was not his initial target. It is more likely that he was planning a campaign against the Kingdom of Dacia , [5] located in the Balkans. The countries of Gaul were civilized and wealthy. Most had contact with Roman merchants and some, particularly those that were governed by republics such as the Aedui and Helvetii , had enjoyed stable political alliances with Rome in the past. The Romans respected and feared the Gallic tribes. Only fifty years before, in BC, Italy had been invaded from the north and saved only after several bloody and costly battles by Gaius Marius. Around 62 BC, when a Roman client state, the Arverni , conspired with the Sequani and the Suebi nations east of the Rhine to attack the Aedui, a strong Roman ally, Rome turned a blind eye. The Sequani rewarded Ariovistus with land following his victory. When 24, Harudes joined his cause, Ariovistus demanded that the Sequani give him more land to accommodate the Harudes people. By the end of the campaign, the non-client Suebi under the leadership of the belligerent Ariovistus , stood triumphant over both the Aedui and their co-conspirators. Fearing another mass migration akin to the devastating Cimbrian War , Rome, now keenly invested in the defense of Gaul, was irrevocably drawn into war. Course[edit] A map of Gaul in the 1st century BC, showing the relative positions of the Helvetii and the Sequani Beginning of the war – campaign against the Helvetii[edit] The Helvetii was a confederation of about five related Gallic tribes that lived on the Swiss plateau, hemmed in by the mountains as well as the Rhine and Rhone rivers. They began to come under increased pressure from German tribes to the north and east. Caesar mentions as an additional reason their not being able to in turn raid for plunder themselves due to their location. De Bello Gallico, I, 2 They planned to travel across Gaul to the west coast, a route that would have taken them through lands of the Aedui, a Roman ally, and the Roman province of Transalpine Gaul. Orgetorix made an alliance with the Sequani chieftain Casticus and arranged the marriage of his daughter to an Aedui chieftain, Dumnorix. The three secretly planned to become kings of their respective tribes, and masters of the whole of Gaul De Bello Gallico, I, 3. Orgetorix escaped with the help of his many debtors, but he died during his flight. However, the death of Orgetorix was "not without suspicion that he had decided upon death for himself" committed suicide , as Caesar puts it De Bello Gallico, I, 4. Caesar dated their departure to the 28 March, and mentions that they burned all their towns and villages so as to discourage thoughts among undecided client tribes and enemies of occupying their vacated realm. De Bello Gallico, I, 5 and 6. Caesar was across the Alps in Italy when he received the news. With only a single legion in Transalpine Gaul , the endangered province, he immediately hurried to Geneva and ordered a levy of several auxiliary units and the destruction of the Rhone bridge. The Helvetii sent an embassy to negotiate a peaceful passage, promising to do no harm. Caesar stalled the negotiations for fifteen days, and used the time to fortify his position with a rampart nineteen miles long and a parallel trench De Bello Gallico, I, 7 and 8. Map of the Gallic Wars When the embassy returned, Caesar refused their request and warned them that any forceful attempt to cross the river would be opposed. Several attempts were quickly beaten off. The Helvetii turned back and entered negotiations with the Sequani, and with Dumnorix of the Aeduans, for an alternate route. De Bello Gallico, I, 8 and 9. Leaving his single legion under the command of his second-in-command Titus Labienus , Caesar hurried to Cisalpine Gaul. At the head of these five legions, he went the quickest way through the Alps, crossing territories of several hostile tribes

and fighting several skirmishes en route De Bello Gallico, I, Meanwhile, the Helvetii had already crossed the territories of the Sequani, and were busy pillaging the lands of the Aedui, Ambarri , and Allobroges. Three quarters of the Helvetii had already crossed, but one quarter, the Tigurine a Helvetian clan , was still on the east bank. The Helvetii sent an embassy led by Divico , but the negotiations failed. For a fortnight, the Romans maintained their pursuit until they ran into supply troubles. Caesar, in the meantime, sent 4, Roman and allied Aedui cavalry to track the Helvetii, which suffered some casualties from only Helvetii cavalry "pauci de nostris cadunt". Apparently Dumnorix was doing everything in his power to delay the supplies. Accordingly, the Romans stopped their pursuit and headed for the Aedui town of Bibracte. The tables were turned, and the Helvetii began to pursue the Romans, harassing their rear guard. Caesar chose a nearby hill to offer battle and the Roman legions stood to face their enemies De Bello Gallico, I, 13 to In the ensuing Battle of Bibracte , the Celts and Romans fought for the better part of the day in a hotly contested battle with the Romans eventually gaining victory. Caesar writes that "the contest long and vigorously carried on with doubtful success. However, 6, men of the Helvetian clan of the Verbigeni fled to avoid capture. Those who had surrendered were ordered back to their homeland to rebuild it, and the necessary supplies were organized to feed them, as they were useful as a buffer between the Romans and the northern tribes. In the captured Helvetian camp, Caesar claims that a census written in Greek was found and studied:

Chapter 7 : Commentarii de Bello Gallico - Wikipedia

About This Quiz & Worksheet. We'll particularly task you with questions on things such as Caesar's connection to the Gallic Wars, the effect of the wars, and who fought in them.

The warfare is savage, and at the end Caesar tumbles into The Civil War that ends the Roman republic. The fighting is savage on both sides. One of the Gaulish leaders, Vercingetorix, has the ears cut off or an eye gouged out of his own soldiers "even for a minor fault" p , Roman civilians are massacred on occasion wh This is what I was brought to by a childhood of reading Asterix. One of the Gaulish leaders, Vercingetorix, has the ears cut off or an eye gouged out of his own soldiers "even for a minor fault" p , Roman civilians are massacred on occasion while Caesar in his own account records the extermination of substantial proportions of entire peoples, sells the populations of captured towns in to slavery and in a moment of mercy has a hand of every man captured in one of his last campaigns chopped off to serve as a visual aid to clarify the folly of resisting Rome to the unenlightened. Though of course he could have been exaggerating to impress the people back home. Part of the reason for the savagery is logistics. Tens of thousands of men roaming round Gaul needed food and fodder. It seems that an ad hoc supply network was created p. What is striking about the Romans is their sheer bloodmindedness. In the face of overwhelming opposition they fight on. Soldiers ford the Thames and the Loire with water to their shoulders expecting to have to fight on the far bank view spoiler [the Thames in the past was far wider and shallower than it is today hide spoiler]. They dig massive siege works - a ten mile ditch and rampart round Alesia and a fourteen mile ditch and rampart round that to defend themselves against any relieving force view spoiler [this was apparently confirmed by excavations carried out in the reign of Napoleon III, although there has been some controversy if it was the right site or just another Gallic town surrounded by massive Roman siege works - this is also referred in Asterix hide spoiler]. Build bridges over the Rhine. Construct and repair ships. Suetonius, admittedly writing The Twelve Caesars a good hundred and fifty years after the events wrote that Caesar lost no opportunity of picking quarrels - however flimsy the pretext - with allies as well as hostile and barbarous tribes, and marching against them; the danger of this policy never occurred to him. You know how it is, one day you are just marching against the Helvetii, the next thing you know ten years have passed and you seem to have inadvertently conquered all of Gaul, invaded Britain and Germany twice and written a set of memoirs putting the best light on your activities and lucky escapes from disaster. Gaul, however, was not big enough for the two of them. Caesar starts out with little campaigns but is drawn in his own words further away from the Roman Province in southern France into greater offensive measures which provoke bigger resistance down to the massive effort of Vercingetorix and his confederates culminating with the defeat of said champion at the town of Alesia. After this there was another year or so of smaller scale campaigns before all Gaul was conquered. And everybody not dead presumably traumatised and in shock. We get a picture of Gaul on the eve of conquest. A marked division between rich and poor. Larger states with annually elected officials and leaders in the south. Politics governed by clashes within and between important families for political power. There are some ethnographic snippets, a couple of pages on the Druids possibly the most surviving about them that was written in antiquity , the use of hedges in warfare among the Belgians, that the Germans live off meat and milk despite which when the Romans cross the Rhine they set about gathering in the crops that the Germans grow , that the ancient Britons paint themselves blue shave their bodies apart from their upper lip perhaps this is why there was no British equivalent of Cleopatra and had marriages between many men and one woman. Since Caesar presumably was too busy conquering to spend time skulking about the huts of natives observing their marital customs I have to wonder if his leg was being pulled here by his informants as it was about the elk, which he tells us is a beast with no knees that can only sleep by leaning against trees and is completely helpless should it fall over. Presumably they would have lost heart completely and instantly surrendered if their wives had their hair in buns or pinned up in elaborate hairstyles. Rome recognises no limits to its rule, neither the Rhine nor the Ocean shall hold the Roman back.

Caesar's Gallic Wars essays chronicle the history of his military engagements during the years B.C. in Gaul, Germany, and blog.quintoapp.com, as an aid to his readers, he provides expository information for those who are unfamiliar with the far-off lands and people encountered during his forays.

Edit As a result of the financial burdens of his consulship in 59 BC, Caesar incurred significant debt. However, through his membership in the First Triumvirate – the political alliance which comprised Marcus Licinius Crassus , and Pompey , and himself – Caesar had secured the proconsulship of two provinces, Cisalpine Gaul and Illyricum. When the governor of Transalpine Gaul , Metellus Celer , died unexpectedly, this province was also awarded to Caesar. Caesar had initially four veteran legions under his direct command: As he had been governor of Hispania Ulterior in 61 BC and had campaigned successfully with them against the Lusitanians , Caesar knew personally most perhaps even all of these legions. Caesar also had the legal authority to levy additional legions and auxiliary units as he saw fit. His ambition was to conquer and plunder some territories to get himself out of debt, and it is likely Gaul was not his initial target. It is likely he was planning a campaign against the kingdom of Dacia [2] located in the Balkans. The countries of Gaul were civilized and wealthy. Most had contact with Roman merchants and some, particularly those that were governed by Republics such as the Aedui and Helvetii , had enjoyed stable political alliances with Rome in the past. The Romans respected and feared the Gallic tribes. Only fifty years before, in BC, Italy had been invaded from the north and saved only after several bloody and costly battles by Gaius Marius. About 62 BC, when a Roman client state, the Arverni , conspired with the Sequani and the Suebi nation east of the Rhine to attack the Aedui, a strong Roman ally, Rome turned a blind eye. The Sequani rewarded Ariovistus with land following his victory. When 24, Harudes joined his cause, Ariovistus demanded that the Sequani give him more land to accommodate the Harudes people. By the end of the campaign, the non-client Suebi under the leadership of the belligerent Ariovistus , stood triumphant over both the Aedui and their coconspirators. Fearing another mass migration akin to the devastating Cimbrian War , Rome, now keenly invested in the defense of Gaul, was irrevocably drawn into war. Course A map of Gaul in the 1st century BC, showing the relative position of the Helvetii and the Sequani Beginning of the war – campaign against the Helvetii Edit This article does not contain any citations or references. Please improve this article by adding a reference. For information about how to add references, see Template: By 61 BC, the Helvetii were well on their way in the planning and provisioning for a mass migration under the leadership of Orgetorix. The reasons for their migration are mentioned by Caesar in separate passages as either harassment by the Germanic tribes, or not being able to in turn raid for plunder themselves due to their situation in hilly and mountainous territory. The Sequani were beginning to resent and regret the abundances of unruly Germanic warbands and their huge encampments of dependents. The parley for the trek was successful and Orgetorix was granted passage, and with the trek ratified by council, an army was called up and provisioned for. During this process, Orgetorix had also succeeded in making a personal alliance with the Sequani chieftain Casticus and the Aedui chieftain Dumnorix through marital arrangements and host exchange of family members. For three whole years the Helvetii planned and prepared themselves, and emissaries were sent out to various Gallic tribes assuring safe passages and alliances. Again the accord was strained as the Aedui were brought to bay by their "protective" overlords. This succeeded in causing confusion and feuds among the tribes, based mainly on the merits of Orgetorix versus his vices. There was an effort to seize him at council; however, he was protected by his retinue and bodyguards. During the preceding seasons he had called up a sizeable force of men-at-arms[Clarification needed] and vassals[Clarification needed] said to have numbered 10, men, this in addition to his armed entourage. Orgetorix was able to escape capture by his rivals and the councils labored at length to resolve the confusions and disputes; however, Orgetorix was murdered or slain during a dispute within his own encampment. With many conflicts of interest settled, the Helvetii once again returned to their long planned migration to safer pastures among the Santones tribe on the Atlantic seaboard. Caesar dated their departure to the 28 March, and mentions that they burned all their towns and their villages so as to discourage

thoughts among undecided client tribes or enemies to occupy their vacated realm. The Helvetii retained and armed their client[citation needed] tribes: There were two available routes for them: The second, easier one would lead them to the town of Geneva, where the Lake Geneva flows into the Rhone River and where a bridge allowed passage over the river. These lands belonged to the Allobroges , a tribe which had been subdued by Rome, and were under the control of the Roman republic. Meanwhile, Caesar was in Rome, and only a single legion was in Transalpine Gaul , the endangered province. As he was informed of these developments, he immediately hurried to Geneva and ordered a levy of several auxiliary units and the destruction of the bridge. The Helvetii sent an embassy under the new leadership of Nanneius and Verucloetius , to negotiate a peaceful passage, promising to do no harm. Map of the Gallic Wars As the embassy returned, Caesar officially refused their request and warned them that any forceful attempt to cross the river would be opposed. Several attempts were quickly beaten off. The Helvetii turned back and entered negotiations with the Sequani to let them pass in a peaceful manner. Leaving his single legion under the command of his second-in-command Titus Labienus , Caesar hurried to Cisalpine Gaul. At the head of these five legions, he went the quickest way through the Alps, crossing territories of several hostile tribes and fighting several skirmishes en route. Meanwhile, the Helvetii had already crossed the territories of the Sequani, and were busy pillaging the lands of the Aedui, Ambarri , and Allobroges. Three quarters of the Helvetii had already crossed, but one quarter, the Tigurine a Helvetian clan , was still on the east bank. The remaining Tigurini fled to neighboring woods. The Helvetii sent an embassy led by Divico , but the negotiations failed. For a fortnight, the Romans maintained their pursuit until they ran into supply troubles. Caesar in the meantime sent 4, Roman and allied Aedui cavalry to track the Helvetii but they were severely beaten by only Helvetii cavalry. Apparently Dumnorix was doing everything in his power to delay the supplies. Accordingly, the Romans stopped their pursuit and headed for the Aedui town of Bibracte. The tables were turned, and the Helvetii began to pursue the Romans, harassing their rear guard. Caesar chose a nearby hill to offer battle and the Roman legions stood to face their enemies. In the ensuing Battle of Bibracte , the Celts and Romans fought for the better part of the day in a hotly contested battle with the Romans eventually gaining victory after hours of hard fighting. Caesar writes that "the contest long and vigorously carried on with doubtful success. However, 6, men of the Helvetian clan of the Verbigeni fled to avoid capture. Those who had surrendered were ordered back to their homeland to rebuild it, and the necessary supplies were organized to feed them, as they were far too useful as a buffer between the Romans and other northern tribes, such as the Germans, to let them migrate elsewhere. In the captured Helvetian camp, Caesar claims that a census written in Greek was found and studied:

Chapter 9 : Works of Julius Caesar Index

The Battle of Bibracte in 58 B.C. was won by the Romans under Julius Caesar and lost by the Helvetii under Orgetorix. This was the second major battle known in the Gallic Wars. Caesar said that , Helvetii people and allies had escaped the battle though only 11, were found to have come home.

Homes have been burned, crops destroyed, and tribesmen and their families barbarously slaughtered. No defense seems possible. In desperation, in the winter of 55 B. The Suebi, however, are not merely barbaric plunderers; their social code is rigidly stoic and their vast numbers are tightly organized. The separate clans, for example, supply a thousand soldiers a year for the army and the other men remain at home working the land. The following year, the farmers and soldiers exchange places; in this way, there is never any shortage of either farmers or soldiers. Moreover, their land is not privately owned. All families farm collectively, subsisting mainly on communal milk and cattle, and on wild game. They are a strong and large people; they wear little clothing, bathe in rivers, and are therefore early accustomed to the outdoor rigors of winter wars. In addition, their cavalry does not use saddles. Even wine drinking is forbidden among the men because of their belief that it makes a man effeminate and weakens his capacity for endurance. The Suebi like to keep the land beyond their borders uninhabited. On one side, there are no neighbors for miles. On the other side are the quiet Ubii tribes. When the German tribes reach the Rhine they greedily rejoice at the sight of fresh territory beyond and gird themselves for war against the Menapii natives. The Menapii at first prevent the Germans from crossing the Rhine, but the invaders only pretend to leave the area, and when the Menapii relax their guard, return suddenly, attack by surprise, and massacre the Menapii. They then claim all lands and properties of their victims. Caesar, meanwhile, is disturbed by reports of this invasion. He knows that the Gauls are fickle and troublesome; he especially fears that they will begin making alliances with the Germans. Thus he sets out earlier in the year than usual and when he reaches his troops he finds that his assumption is correct: Caesar therefore confers with the Gallic chiefs and decides to make immediate war on the Germans. With his cavalry and their supplies, he begins the march. When he nears the enemy, however, he receives a message stating that the Germans have made no advances against the Romans and that they will not refuse to fight if they are attacked. They wish, they say, to be at peace with the Romans. Caesar replies that there can be no basis for peace if they remain in Gaul; it is impossible, he says, to honor men who are unable to defend their own lands and thus seize the lands of other men. For them there is no territory in Gaul, and he suggests instead that they settle in the territory of the Ubii. The German envoys ask for time to consider the offer and promise to report back in three days and plead further with Caesar not to move his army in the meantime. Caesar refuses for already he knows that they have dispatched a troop of cavalry across the Meuse to get booty and corn; he is sure the Germans are stalling until their cavalry returns from across the Meuse river. Caesar then advances until he is about twelve miles from the enemy. The representatives return and ask him to advance no further. He refuses, and they ask that he send his cavalry in advance with orders not to initiate fighting, and that he give the Germans time to ask the Ubii if they may settle within their borders. Again they ask for three days to accomplish this. Caesar, however, still thinks they are merely begging for time until their cavalry returns, but he promises not to advance more than four miles in order to get water, and sends messages to the cavalry commanders not to provoke a fight but, if attacked, to hold until he and his men can reach them. The enemy horsemen suddenly dismount, and in a surprise tactic begin killing the Roman horses. At this the Roman troops become so confused that they flee, but not before seventy-four Romans are killed, including Piso of Aquitania, who had gone to help his brother and was himself killed; his brother, after seeing Piso fall, returned to the battle and was also killed. Caesar now feels he should no longer discuss peace conditions with tribes which begin a war in treachery and he is now certain that it will be foolish to let the enemy wait for its horsemen to return. He tells his officers to lose no time preparing for battle. Caesar orders them taken prisoner and marches out, putting the battle-worn cavalry in the rear. Before the Germans realize what is happening, he is upon them. The Germans, without leaders, are lost. A few try to fight, but most flee. Miraculously, the Romans do not lose a man; only a few are wounded. They have overcome an enemy totaling , Caesar returns

and gives the German leaders permission to leave, but they are afraid they will be punished by the Gauls, and so ask to remain with him. He agrees to keep them. The Ubii promise many boats for his crossing. Caesar, however, thinks it unsafe and undignified to cross in boats, so he decides to build a bridge even though the construction will be difficult. The bridge is made in such a way that the rapid current makes it even stronger and poles are fixed so that the enemy cannot destroy the bridge by floating heavy logs against it from upstream. After cutting down the grain and burning the Sugambri villages, Caesar moves into the territory of the Ubii and promises to help them if they are bothered by the Suebi. The Ubii tell him that the Suebi have moved all their people from the towns and that they have hidden the women and children in the woods. The men, they suspect, have gathered to await the Romans. Caesar reflects on the danger, but feels that he has already accomplished what he has set out to do: Thus, having satisfied both honor and expediency, and having spent eighteen days in Germany, he returns to Gaul, destroying the bridge after his troops are across. Although there is little of the summer left, Caesar now decides to start for Britain. Because the Britons have given much assistance to the Gauls in recent campaigns, he hopes to curb further cooperation. And, even if there is little time for campaigning, the trip will give him an opportunity to learn about the natives and the terrain — important matters to him, for neither he nor the Gauls know anything of Britain. Even traders who have sometimes visited the country have never gone inland; they can tell him nothing of the size of the island, the number of tribes, their population, or their manner of warfare. Caesar sends Gaius Volusenus in advance of the army to find out as much as he can about Britain. Caesar, in return, promises them much and sends back with them one of his most loyal men, Commius, whom he had earlier made king over the Atrebatas. Meanwhile, the scout, Volusenus, observes what he can from the ship because he knows that it is unsafe to disembark among strange tribes. In five days, he returns to Caesar with his report. While the ships are being outfitted, Caesar receives representatives from the Morini, who apologize for their former hostility and promise to be peaceful and faithful. Caesar realizes the danger of having an enemy at his rear and knows that it is too late in the year to carry out a campaign against them, particularly since the Morini are unimportant compared to the Britons. He agrees to accept their request and orders them to submit a large number of hostages. When eighty transports arrive, Caesar distributes command of them among his officers. Eighteen ships have been delayed by wind and Caesar reserves those for the cavalry. They are sent against the Menapii and those parts of the Morini who did not send deputies. Publius Sulpicius Rufus is left with a garrison to hold the port. Caesar reaches Dover during mid-morning. The cliffs are lined with the armed forces of the Britons, and the Romans decide to wait five hours until the rest of the fleet can assemble. Caesar, after calling a meeting of the commanders, tells them what he wants done, and what Volusenus, observes what he can from the ship because he knows that it is unsafe to disembark among strange tribes. The enemy leaders send cavalry and chariots to the shore to try to prevent the Roman disembarkation. But getting ashore proves even more difficult than imagined. The large Roman ships cannot approach the graduated shelf of the shore and the soldiers are ignorant of the depths of the water. They must jump into the waves burdened with all their armor, then fight an enemy who is situated on dry land and who knows the area well. The Romans are confused and frightened and, as might be expected, do not fight with their usual effectiveness. The troops delay until the standard bearer of the Tenth Legion jumps into the water and encourages the others to follow. Embarrassed by his bravery, they quickly join him. The fighting is fierce and the enemy, fighting on familiar ground, waits until a party of Romans gets off a ship, then attacks in a cluster. Others throw missiles at the Romans. Caesar sends in his small reserve boats to support the infantry and, as soon as the Romans reach dry land, the tide of the battle shifts and the enemy is put to flight. Had the cavalry arrived, the battle would have been a rapid and complete success. The enemy asks for peace terms and send for Commius, who had been thrown into chains on his arrival. Caesar agrees to pardon the Britons, even though they have violated peace terms, but insists on having hostages. Some are given immediately, others are promised. The common people then return to their fields and the chiefs assemble to formally deliver their states to Caesar. Four days later, the cavalry arrives, but they find that landing is impossible because the gentle wind which carried them across the channel has suddenly turned into a wild storm. They therefore must return to the continent. That night, high tides and floods wreck many ships and the Romans grow concerned about their having insufficient means to return to Gaul; they have

not planned to spend the winter in Britain and have not brought much grain with them. The Britons, seeing that Caesar is without cavalry, ships, and grain, realize that if they can now defeat him that the Romans will never again dare to cross the channel. Secretly they assemble their armies. Caesar hears nothing of such plans but notices that the balance of the promised hostages has not arrived and suspects that the Britons are readying a surprise attack. He orders his men to gird themselves and sends out troops to get grain. Others he sets to work repairing the damaged ships. Outposts, meanwhile, report to Caesar that they have seen a vast dust cloud where the troops have gone to harvest food. Caesar rightly suspects that the cloud is proof that the natives are skirmishing with his men and orders his troops to assemble and follow. He finds the Seventh Legion under heavy attack. Their plan was cleverly executed in this way: Caesar arrives and manages to save most of his men, but is not prepared to pursue so returns with his troops to camp.