Roman Britain

Roman Maths Game

The Romans counted by using numerals, which were letters rather than the numbers we use today. Below is a table of Roman numerals with the number it stands for beside it and a brief explanation of how their counting system worked.

Roman Numeral	Number it represents
I	1
V	5
X	10
L	50
C	100
D	500
M	1000

If you wanted to write 3, you'd write III. To write 4, you'd write IV. Why? V is 5 and because you put I (or 1) before V (or 5) the numerals mean 5-1=4! To write 6, you move the I (or 1) to after V (or 5) so the numerals mean 5+1=6! Below is a table of 1-20 to help you some more.

Roman Numeral	Number it represents
I	1
II	2
III	3
IV	4
V	5
VI	6
VII	7
VIII	8
IX	9
X	10
XI	11
XII	12
XIII	13
XIV	14
XV	15
XVI	16
XVII	17
XVIII	18
XIX	19
XX	20

Using the tables above see if you can work out the Roman sums opposite. Remember to write your answer in numerals – you can write your answer in numbers as well as numerals if you want to! You might find a piece of scrap paper useful to write your working out on.

(Please note a small 'x' means times by, whereas a capital 'X' is a Roman numeral!) + means add, - means minus, / means divide and x means times by.

1) X + X   = _____

2) V x V   = _____

3) L + XIII   = _____

4) XXVII – V   = _____

5) XXX x X   = _____

6) XV / III   = _____

7) LXXXV x II   = _____

8) CL + L – XI   = _____

9) X + X – V   = _____

10) XXV / V   = _____

11) IV x XIX   = _____

12) CCX / X   = _____

Can you write the year you were born in Roman numerals?

For example, 2014 in Roman numerals is MMXIV (M = 1,000 and XIV = 14).

The year I was born in Roman numerals is _____ .

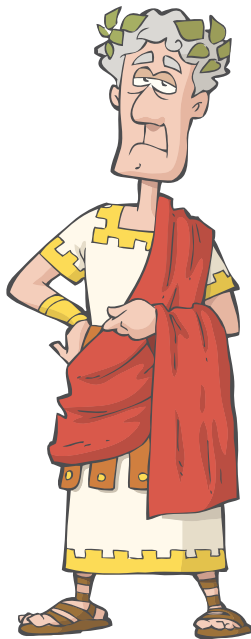### Now, can you write your age in Roman numerals too?
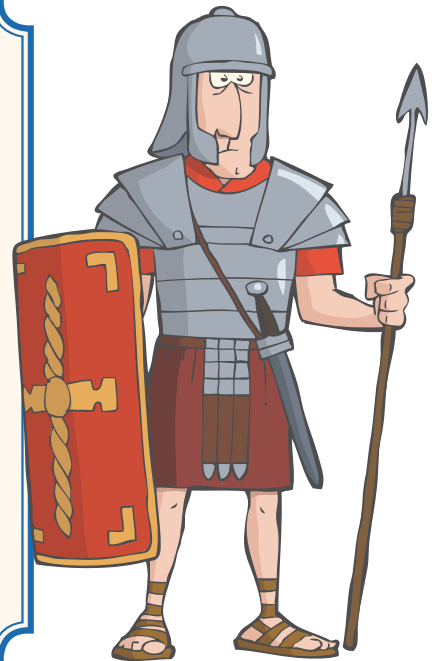
I am _____ years old.

Well done! Why not practise writing some other numbers in numerals too? You could try a phone number, today's date, someone else's birthday or even the time!

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Roman Maths Game Answers

1)	10 + 10	=	20 (XX)
2)	5 x 5	=	25 (XXV)
3)	50 + 13	=	63 (LXIII)
4)	27 − 5	=	22 (XXII)
5)	30 x 10	=	300 (CCC)
6)	15 / 3	=	5 (V)
7)	85 x 2	=	170 (CLXX)
8)	150 + 50 − 11	=	189 (CLXXXIX)
9)	10 + 10 − 5	=	15 (XV)
10)	25 / 5	=	5 (V)
11)	4 x 19	=	76 (LXXVI)
12)	210 / 10	=	21 (XXI)

Did you know?

In 47AD the first Roman town was at Colchester. They taxed the British in order to raise money to build roads, baths and towns.

In 140AD the Romans finally conquered Scotland.

In 401-410AD the Romans withdrew from Britain and the Anglo-Saxon migrants began to settle.