

veni, vidi, vici



VENI
VIDI
VICI

veni, vidi, vici is a famous phrase which people believe was said by Julius Caesar.

It means 'I came, I saw, I conquered'.

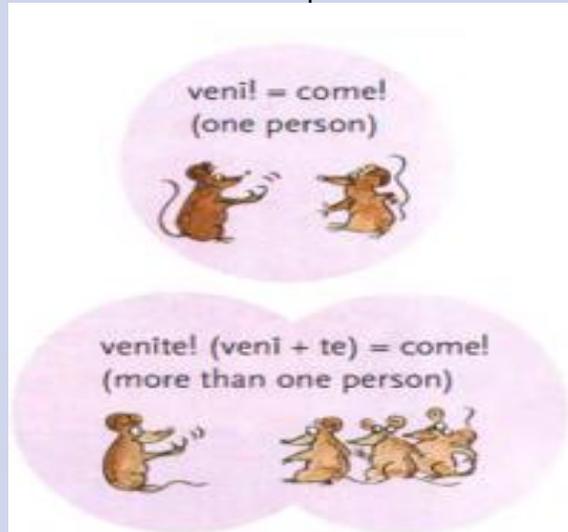
He is said to have used the phrase in a letter to the Roman Senate around 47 BC after he had achieved a quick victory in his short war against Pharnaces II of Pontus at the Battle of Zela (modern-day Zile, Turkey).

Verbs!

Flavius tells Rufus to do things; he also tells him **not** to do things. For instance, he says **cave!** Which means 'be careful' and **siste!** (stop!) and **relinque!** (leave it!). Verbs like this are called commands or orders. They are easy to spot as they are followed by an exclamation mark!

veni!	Claudia wrote this to Lepidina
surge!	Lepidina said this to Vibrissa when she wanted her to chase Minimus
redi!	The whole family shouted this at Rufus when he knocked over the peacock

If you want to give a command to more than one person in Latin, you add **-te** to the end of the command to make it plural.



Key Vocab

quid est?	what is it?
galea	helmet
gladius	sword
pilum	javelin
scutum	shield
cave!	be careful!
lorica	breastplate
siste!	Stop!
pugio	dagger
relinque!	leave it!
periculosus	dangerous
ecce!	look!
milities	soldiers
audite!	listen!
sumite!	pick up!
portate!	carry!
procedite!	go forward!
demittite!	put down!
testudinem facite!	make a tortoise!
veni	to come

Why was the Roman army important?

The Roman army was the largest fighting force in the ancient world.



It conquered a huge empire that stretched from Britain all the way to the Middle East.

The soldiers were the best trained, they had the best weapons and the best armour.

When the Romans invaded Britain, their army was so good that it took on armies 10 times its size and won!



Knowledge Organiser Latin: The Military Machine

Do as you're told!

Flavius and Iulius are watching the centurion. He is in charge of the soldiers and is giving them their orders. Can you spot the bossy verbs?



Grow your Vocabulary!

If you **relinquish** something it means you withdraw or give it up. Try using it!

Mrs Holloway slowly **relinquished** her grip on the monkey bars on the outdoor adventure playground and fell to the ground.

Proceed means to go forward or begin.

Ahh, Mr England, please **proceed** to the staffroom where your cup of tea awaits.

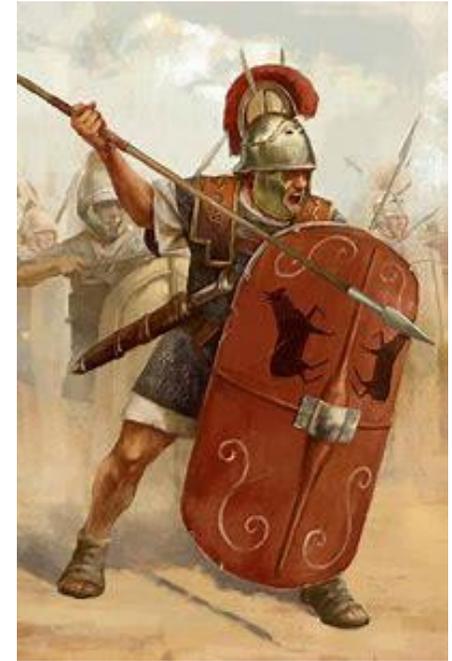


How was the Roman army organised?

Only **men** could be in the Roman Army, no women were allowed. There were two main types of Roman soldiers: **legionaries** and **auxiliaries**. The legionaries were the elite (very best) soldiers. A legionary had to be over 17 years old and a Roman citizen. Every new recruit had to be **fighting fit** - anyone who was weak or too short was rejected.

testudinem facite!

One of the Romans most famous formations was the Tortoise (**testudo**). Testudo is the Latin word for "tortoise". It was used to protect the soldiers from the soldiers in front and sides interlocked their shields. The soldiers in the back lines placed their shields over their heads to form a protective "shell" over top of the men. The Testudo was a very strong, tight formation. It was usually used to approach fortifications. The soldiers could march up to a fort in the Testudo formation and not one of them would get hurt.



Roman soldier wearing his **galea** (helmet) and holding a **pilum** (javelin) and **scutum** (shield)

