

# Boudicca

## Who Was Boudicca and What Was She Like?

Boudicca was a British queen. She fought against the Romans.

Boudicca is believed to have:

- been very tall;
- had long, **auburn** hair;
- been scary to be around;
- had a fierce look in her eye;
- had a **stern** voice;
- worn a thick, colourful cloak;
- worn a large, golden necklace.



## When Did She Live?

Boudicca is thought to have lived between AD 30 and AD 60.

## What Is Boudicca Famous For?

Boudicca's husband was called Prasutagus. Prasutagus was the king of the Iceni people. When her husband died, Boudicca led the Iceni people in a battle against the Romans.

### Did you know...?

Boudicca and Prasutagus had two daughters but nobody knows what they were called.

## What Exactly Was Her Name?

There have been lots of different spellings of Boudicca's name throughout history. The first spelling was written by Tacitus, who spelt it both as Boudica and Boudicca.

It is thought that somebody who copied Tacitus's work in 1624 might have accidentally spelt her name as Boadicea. Her name has even been spelt as Buduica, Voadiciea and Bunduca!



Nobody alive today knows exactly how Boudicca's name would have been said. Even if Boudicca herself could tell us, she would probably not have known how to write it down because not many people could read and write when Boudicca was alive.

Most people now agree that her name is **pronounced** as Boo-dih-cah.

### Did you know...?

The name Boudicca is thought to come from the Celtic word 'boudā' which means 'victory'.



### What Happened to Boudicca?

Nobody knows exactly what happened to Boudicca. Some people think that Boudicca drank poison so that she would not be caught by the Romans. Other people think that she became poorly during the battle.

### Did you know...?

There is a statue of Boudicca in London near Westminster Bridge. The statue is called Boadicea and Her Daughters. The bronze statue shows Boudicca and her two daughters riding in a chariot which is being pulled by two horses. Boudicca has a spear in her right hand.

### Glossary

**auburn:** A reddish-brown colour.

**pronounce:** To correctly say a word.

**stern:** Serious or strict.



# Questions

1. What is the name Boudicca thought to mean? Tick one.

- ☐ fierce
- ☐ victory
- ☐ winner
- ☐ auburn

2. What was Boudicca's husband called? Tick one.

- ☐ Iceni
- ☐ Tacitus
- ☐ Voadiciea
- ☐ Prasutagus

3. Which of these statements are true? Tick **two**.

- ☐ Boudicca had two sons.
- ☐ Boudicca was alive in the year AD 68.
- ☐ Boudicca led the Iceni people.
- ☐ There is a statue of Boudicca in London.

4. Draw **four** lines to match each aspect of Boudicca to the adjective describing it in the text.

height

hair

eyes

voice

auburn

tall

stern

fierce

5. Find the information about the statue of Boudicca. What is Boudicca riding in?

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6. Find and copy the way that Boudicca's name was accidentally spelt in 1624.

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7. Explain why Boudicca might have been scary to be around.

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# Answers

1. What is the name Boudicca thought to mean? Tick one.

- ☐ fierce
- ☒ **victory**
- ☐ winner
- ☐ auburn

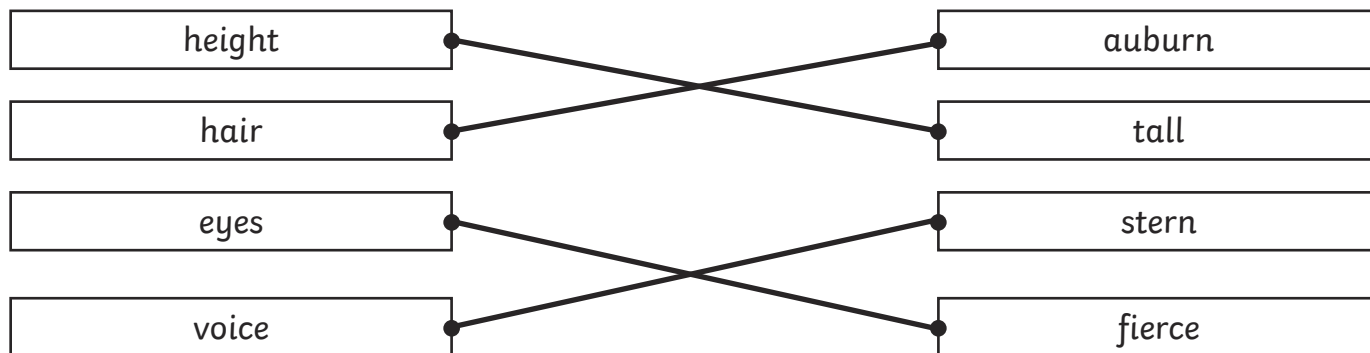
2. What was Boudicca's husband called? Tick one.

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- ☐ Tacitus
- ☐ Voadiciea
- ☒ **Prasutagus**

3. Which of these statements are true? Tick **two**.

- ☐ Boudicca had two sons.
- ☐ Boudicca was alive in the year AD 68.
- ☒ **Boudicca led the Iceni people.**
- ☒ **There is a statue of Boudicca in London.**

4. Draw **four** lines to match each aspect of Boudicca to the adjective describing it in the text.



5. Find the information about the statue of Boudicca. What is Boudicca riding in?

**The bronze statue shows Boudicca and her two daughters riding in a chariot which is being pulled by two horses.**

6. Find and copy the way that Boudicca's name was accidentally spelt in 1624.

**Boadicea**

7. Explain why Boudicca might have been scary to be around.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Boudicca might have been scary to be around because she is said to have had a fierce look in her eye and a stern voice so she sounds like she would be frightening.**