**Caractacus**

**Possible Resources:**

Warwick Classics Network – [The Catuvellauni before Rome](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/classics/warwickclassicsnetwork/romancoventry/resources/interactions/rebellion/caratacus/)

Twinkl – [Famous Celts](https://www.twinkl.co.uk/homework-help/history-homework-help/the-celts/famous-celts)

Historic UK – [Caractacus](https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/Caratacus/)

YOUTUBE – [The Mysterious Celtic Tribes of Britain](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZi13qIDIOM)

YOUTUBE – [The Speech of Caractacus](https://www.google.com/search?q=Caractacus+speech+to+claudius&sca_esv=dcbcef83952848e4&rlz=1C5CHFA_enGB846GB846&biw=1672&bih=918&sxsrf=ADLYWIKUaiVxEAuR4TBB3IUlIdJkM6705Q%3A1729711219617&ei=c0wZZ_OsJa-zhbIP-r-CgAo&ved=0ahUKEwizsry2nKWJAxWvWUEAHfqfAKA4KBDh1QMIDw&uact=5&oq=Caractacus+speech+to+claudius&gs_lp=Egxnd3Mtd2l6LXNlcnAiHUNhcmFjdGFjdXMgc3BlZWNoIHRvIGNsYXVkaXVzMgUQIRigATIFECEYoAFIwhxQgwZYuxtwAXgAkAEAmAF6oAHnDKoBBDE2LjK4AQPIAQD4AQGYAhOgAoANwgILEAAYsAMYogQYiQXCAgsQABiABBiwAxiiBMICBBAjGCfCAgoQLhiABBhDGIoFwgILEAAYgAQYkQIYigXCAhMQLhiABBgUGIcCGMcBGI4FGK8BwgIKEAAYgAQYFBiHAsICCxAuGIAEGJECGIoFwgIFEAAYgATCAhEQLhiABBiRAhjHARiKBRivAcICBRAuGIAEwgIHEAAYgAQYCsICBhAAGBYYHsICCBAAGBYYHhgPwgIgEC4YgAQYkQIYxwEYigUYrwEYlwUY3AQY3gQY4ATYAQHCAggQABiiBBiJBcICCBAAGIAEGKIEwgIEECEYFcICBRAhGJ8FwgIHECEYoAEYCpgDAIgGAZAGBboGBggBEAEYFJIHBDE2LjOgB8NH&sclient=gws-wiz-serp#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:cc0eee29,vid:7Ue5RIP8qdg,st:0)

Kiddle – [Caractacus facts for kids](https://kids.kiddle.co/Caratacus)

[Tacitus’s *Annals*](https://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/Texts/Tacitus/Annals/12A%2A.html)33 – 40 – primary account of Caractacus’s rebellion.

**Suggestions:**

* Have a debate about the pros and cons of living under Roman rule as a Briton. Would you want to live this way? Why might Britons/ Caractacus have rebelled? Why didn’t *all* of the Britons rebel?
	+ Emphasise that Britain was divided into separate tribes during this period.
* Role-play a meeting held by the leaders of the different tribes. They debate whether they should fight the Romans. Would the tribes have different opinions?
	+ Hint – think about which tribes have been controlled by the Romans for a while, and which might be positively impacted by their presence (e.g. trade)
* Hold a mock trial for Caractacus in Rome – students can vote about whether they think he should have been forgiven or not (perhaps have an Emperor!)
	+ What would you have done? Would you beg for mercy? Or remain defiant?
* Have a conversation with students about primary evidence and secondary evidence. We don’t have anything written by Caractacus himself, we can only use what Tacitus (a Roman) wrote about him.
	+ Can we trust Tacitus’s work? He wasn’t there, so how does he know what was said during this speech? Might his writing be biased against a rebel?
* Compare Caractacus and Boudicca and their rebellions. Do you think one was a better leader than the other? Was one of their rebellions more successful? Why do you think Boudicca is more famous than Caractacus?
* Design a ‘WANTED’ poster for Caractacus. How might the Romans have described their enemy? Would they want to make him seem scary? Or would they want to show him as an annoying and foolish nuisance?
* Research what happened *after* Caractacus rebelled. What happened to his tribe? Did the Romans react differently to the Britons after this? Did rebellion make things worse? Or did it not really have any impact in the long run?