

## Boudicca's Rebellion

**Read the two extracts below and then complete the table.**

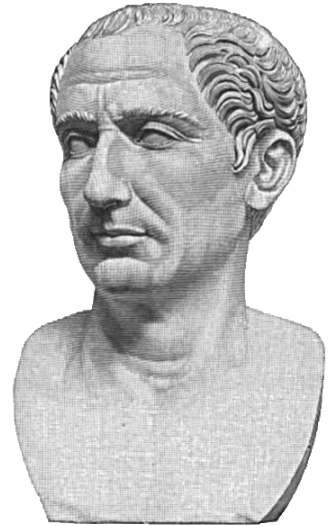
### Extract One- Cornelius Tacitus

Cornelius Tacitus was a senator (someone who gave advice) and a historian of the Roman Empire. Tacitus was related to Gnaeus Julius Agricola, who was an important Roman general responsible for the successful conquest of Northern England (he took land from the British tribes). Tacitus got most of his information about Boudicca's rebellion from Gnaeus Julius Agricola. Tacitus wrote about how the Romans took land, houses and belongings from the Iceni Tribe (a British tribe in the early Roman era). The Romans attacked the tribe's ruler, Boudicca, and hurt her two daughters. This made Boudicca angry, so in the year 61 AD, she took her army to the Roman town of Londinium (London) and burnt down their buildings. The Roman army were fighting in Wales at the time and couldn't make it home in time to stop Boudicca. On Boudicca's way back home to Norfolk, the Romans surprised her, and the Battle of Watling Street took place. Even though Boudicca had ten times as many men, the Romans were well trained and had strong armour to protect them, so Boudicca and her army lost the battle. It is not known exactly how Boudicca died, however according to Tacitus, Boudicca took poison to avoid being captured by the Romans.



## Extract Two- Cassius Dio

Cassius Dio was a Roman consul (leader of the Senate) and a historian who wrote in Greek. According to Dio, Boudicca's rebellion started in 60 AD and ended in 61 AD. Unlike Tacitus, Dio wrote that the rebellion was caused by a disagreement about a Roman loan (the borrowing of money or land). Dio was the only person to describe what Boudicca looked like. He said that she was tall and had red hair hanging down below her waist. He also said she had a piercing glare and wore a colourful tunic with a golden necklace. Dio agreed with Tacitus and also wrote how Boudicca began her rebellion by taking her army to the Roman town of Londinium (London) and burning down their buildings. The Roman army were fighting in Wales at the time and couldn't make it home in time to stop Boudicca. On Boudicca's way back home to Norfolk, the Romans surprised her, and the Battle of Watling Street took place. Despite Boudicca having ten times as many men, the Romans were well trained and had strong armour to protect them, so Boudicca and her army lost the battle. It is not known exactly how Boudicca died, however Dio believed that Boudicca died of illness from a wound.



Read the two extracts above and complete the table.

[illegible]

**Challenge: Answer the questions below**

1. What is different about the two versions of rebellion?

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2. What is the same about the two versions of rebellion?

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3. Why do you think there might be differences between the two versions?

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4. Which version do you think is most accurate? Why?

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