

Home School Task

LO: To write a letter

Main Task:

- Your attendant will deliver a letter for you.
- Write a letter home to your family explaining your journey so far.
- Tell them what has happened to you since you left home.
- Tell them what might happen to you in the arena.

REMEMBER

- Capture
- Journey
- Sold
- Training
- The Staff
- The Gladiators
- What might happen to you

Dear Mother,

I have finally been able to write to you! How are you? It seems much longer than 6 months when the vicious Romans invaded our homes in Gallia and we were separated! The last few weeks have been incredibly eventful! The violent Romans captured me, along with 100 other young Gauls, and made us walk 200 miles from Gallia to Rome. It was exhausting walking in the sweltering heat. My leather sandals rubbed my swollen feet raw and we were allowed only small amounts of water to drink. Some men did not last the journey, their bodies just left on the straight road. When we got to Rome the Romans made us stand on a stage in a market place. We were the ones being sold! Some men were sold to be slaves, others to work in quarries. Due to my muscular physique and young age I was sold to become a gladiator!

We trained every day from sunrise to sunset under the watch of the terrifying lanisters and practised fighting with wooden swords. We were made to fight each other and prepare for our future fights in the most famous amphitheatre in Rome- the Colosseum. If any men disagreed with the intimidating lanisters or not followed their orders then they would be whipped and beaten. Luckily I have a talent for throwing spears accurately and using a net to capture opponents so the lanisters aren't too hard on me. There are lots of different types of gladiators, depending on the weapons and armour they wear. It isn't just other gladiators we will fight in the great arena, but wild animals too! I have heard that lions, tigers and even bears are put in the arena to entertain the crowds of Rome. The thought of fighting an aggressive wild animal scares me, they are much stronger than a human and have razor sharp claws and teeth!

I was told yesterday that the lanisters are pleased with my progress in training and I will be participating in my first fight tomorrow! I feel sick with nerves at having to fight for my life in front of thousands and the Emperor of Rome. All I can do is pray to the Gods to keep me alive. I hope that you are well and managed to start a better life under Roman rule in Gallia.

Love Julius

Features of a letter

- Dear...
- Love from....
- Questions for your mother
- Recount your journey so far in chronological order
- Paragraphs for each stage of your journey
- Explain your emotions
- The 5 senses

Gallia	Gaul	capture	journey	slave market
sweltering		exhausting	violent	Roman Soldier
Lanister	gladiator	training	nervous	anxious
frightening	wild animals	sword	spear	