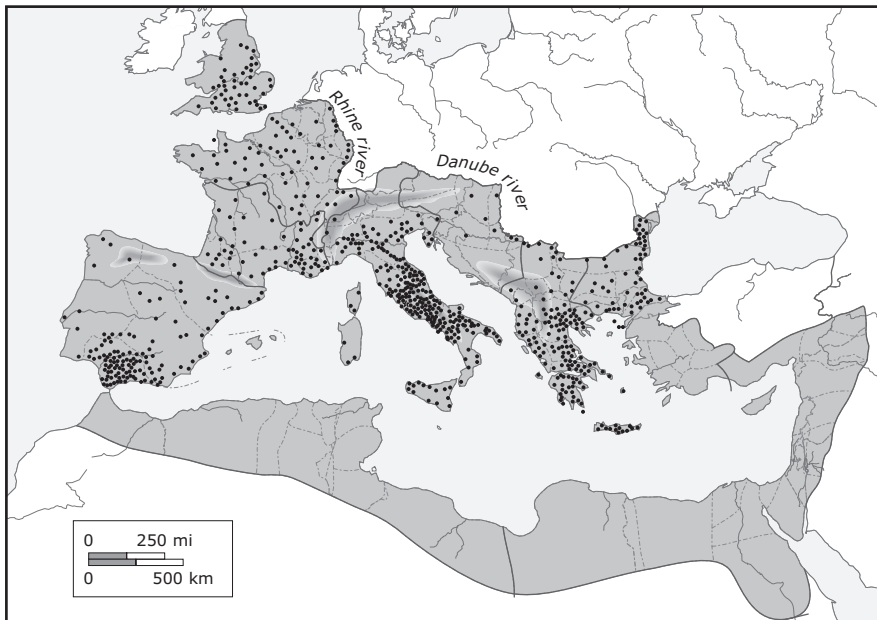


1 Roman Towns**Reading, Writing**

In the Roman era, a large number of towns were founded by Roman settlers. They designed their towns and houses according to typical Roman examples – basically, this meant that the towns were designed on a grid with a river flowing through the centre and then surrounded by a wall for protection from invaders – in this way the Roman way of living was spread all over the Empire, even to the remotest areas. Many of these towns were founded by legionaries near military camps. These camps were situated in strategically important places, for example on the banks of rivers or lakes, or on the seashore.

The map below shows Roman towns in Europe.



Using the map above and other maps from the internet or your school library, write a paragraph describing the distribution of towns in Europe in Roman times. Use the writing frame below to write a paragraph that describes the distribution of towns on the map.

Writing frame

In the extreme (north/south/east/west)	Roman towns would be in (Portugal... etc) today
Town grouping was especially dense	in the (north/south/east/west/centre) of (Italy etc)
Typically, towns were founded along	(rivers/mountains/islands/coasts)
The densest grouping was located in	...

2 Exploring Roman town names

Reading, Speaking

Many ancient towns still exist today. Some Roman names are still recognisable in modern names: *Milan* in Italy, for example, was called *Mediolanum* in Roman times. Other names have been lost, such as *Eboracum* in England which is *York* today.

Work with a partner. Match the Roman names of ancient cities to their modern names. Say which town names go together and what makes you think they are a matching pair.

Useful phrases

I think Milan may be Mediolanum	because	they both start with the letter ...
		they share the syllable ...
		they are almost the same
		they look similar
		I've been there
		I've heard it before
		I've read it in Asterix
		there's nothing else left

Roman name	Modern English name
Londinium	Toledo
Lutetia	Augst
Roma	Naples
Athenae	Marseilles
Colonia	Paris
Panormus	Palermo
Toletum	Cologne
Corinthus	Athens
Augusta Raurica	London
Augusta Treverorum	Rome
Neapolis	Trier
Massilia	Corinth

Roman towns in my country

Writing, Reading

Are there any Roman towns in your country? Collect their Roman and modern English names in a list.

The Roman Empire
Christoph Suter**Overview**

This worksheet focuses on towns founded by the Romans and their distribution in the Empire.

Learning objectives

- to learn about the number and dispersion of Roman towns
- to compare ancient and modern town names
- to practise giving reasons for a statement
- to practise talking about geographic orientation

Roman towns**Reading, Writing, Speaking**

- Read the introductory text in class.
- Give some comments on the map and ask students what they find interesting about it.
- Students individually write a short paragraph on the basis of the writing frame.
- Students could also extend their texts on the basis of the class discussion.

Exploring Roman town names**Reading, Speaking**

- Students work in pairs.
- Ask them to read the introduction.
- After students have completed the matching task, have a feedback session in class. Ask for the reasons why they have matched a pair.

Answer key:

Roman name	Modern English name
Londinium	London
Lutetia	Paris
Roma	Rome
Athenae	Athens
Colonia	Cologne
Panormus	Palermo
Toletum	Toledo
Corinthus	Corinth
Augusta Raurica	Augst
Augusta Treverorum	Trier
Neapolis	Naples
Massilia	Marseille

Roman towns in my country**Writing**

- This could be an option for homework or for project work.