

Roman Soldier



1. Use these words to label the soldier's equipment.

helmet tunic armour shield sword sandals

2. Colour the soldier correctly, using the information below.

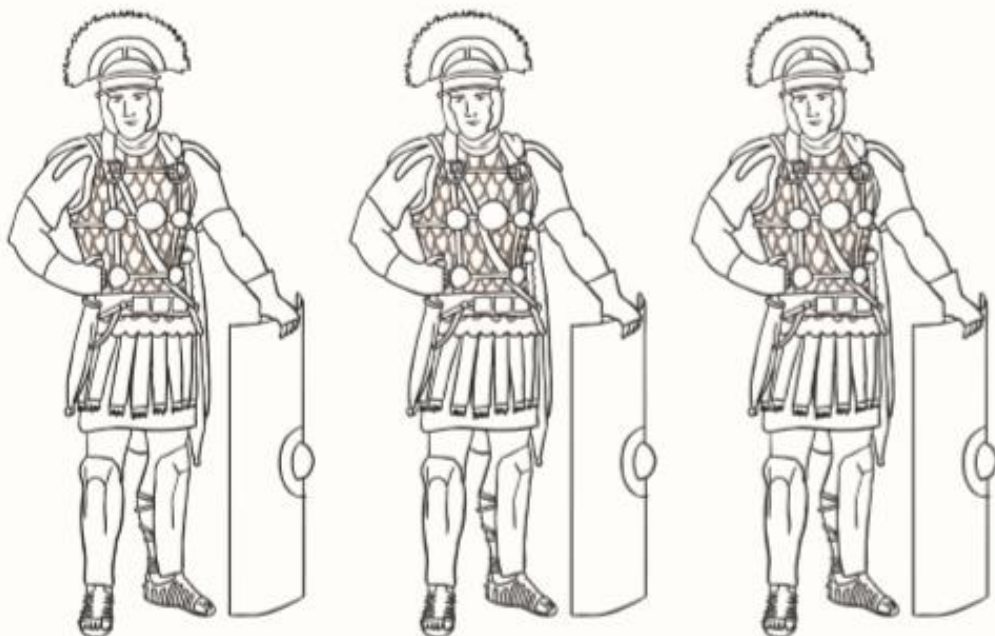
Tunics were usually red, and made of wool in the winter and linen in the summer.

The shield was plywood or leather. It curved round the body. The paint used was red, brown and beige.

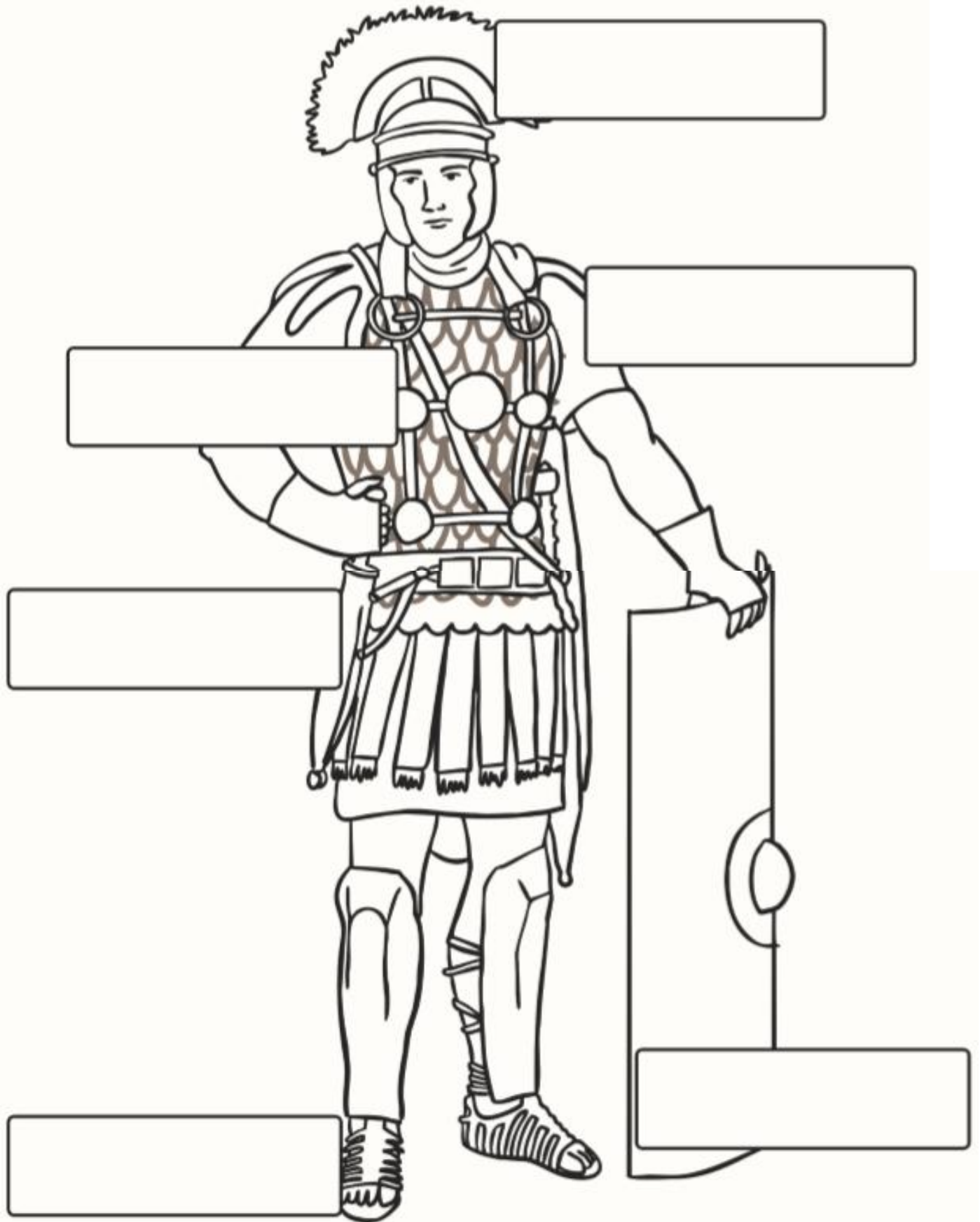
Sandals were worn all year around. They were made from leather. The soles had iron hobnails to make them last longer.

The helmets and armour were made of metal.

3. Draw a pattern on the shield, try and include the Roman eagle.



Roman Soldier



All about the Roman shield



The circular boss in the middle was used to punch with!

A Roman shield was called a **Scutum**.

It was quite light so that it could be held in one hand.

It was curved so that it would fit around a soldier's body to protect him from blows.

It was wide enough so that soldiers could join their scutums together in formation in battle.

The metal protrusion on the front could also be used to attack the enemy by using it in a punching motion.



What did the symbols on the shields mean?

These wings are eagles wings.

The eagle was the symbol of the Roman army.



The lightening bolts signify Jupiter.

Jupiter was the king of the Roman Gods.

The colour Red was the symbol of Mars, the Roman God of war.

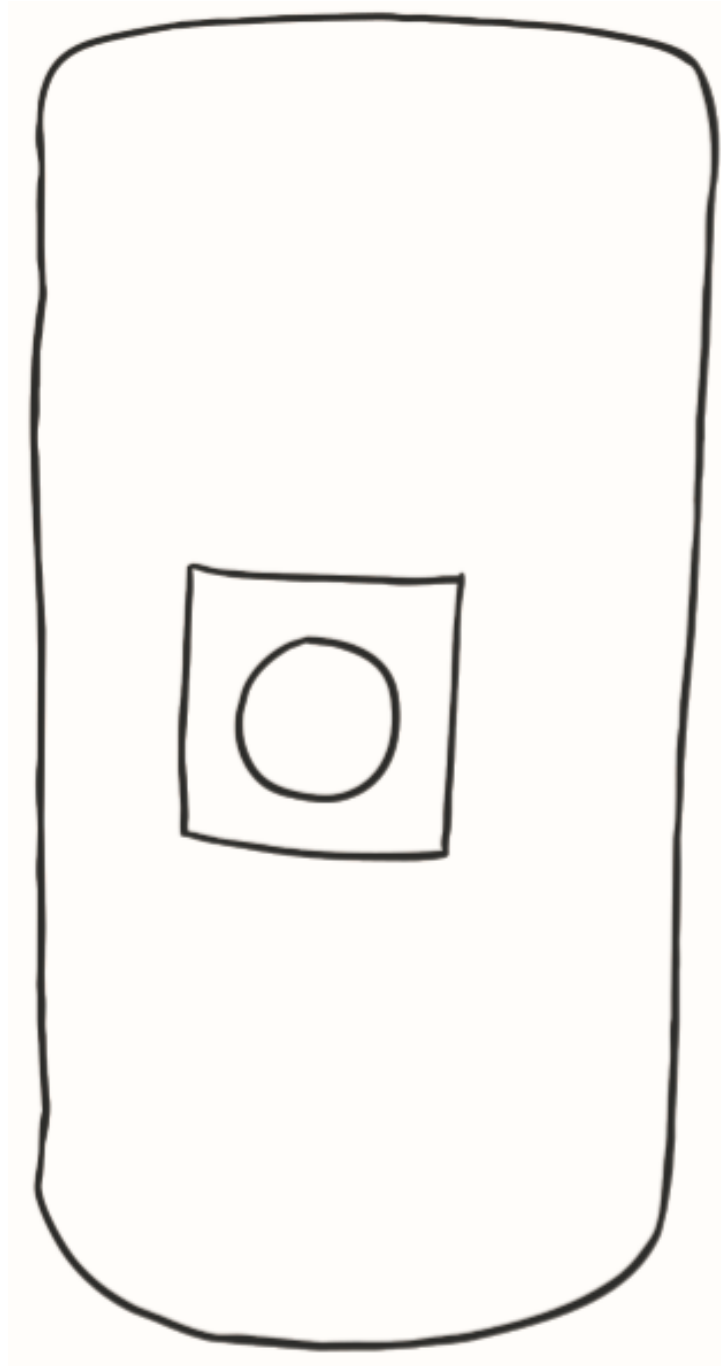
Some shields would also come with a wreath. The wreath symbolises Victory. Roman emperors would wear a wreath rather than a crown.



Senior Roman soldiers would pay a craftsman to paint their shield. It would have often have scenes from myths or from famous battles.



Designing a Roman shield



Describe the pattern you drew on the shield. Why did you use the colours you did?
