

Roman numbers

Use the information in this box to answer the following questions.

I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	50	100	500	1000
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	L	C	D	M

1. 21 is XXI. What is the Roman number for:

- (a) 22 (b) 23 (c) 24 (d) 25
 (e) 26 (f) 27 (g) 28 (h) 29

2. What is the Roman number for

- (a) 312 (b) 419 (c) 535
 (d) 663 (e) 742 (f) 953

3. Write down the Roman number for the number of your house.

4. What year were you born? (a) Write it down the normal way here.
 (b) Write it down in Roman numbers here.

5. Try these calculations and answer using Roman numbers:

Additions

- (a) $C + X =$
 (b) $XXX + VI =$
 (c) $IX + VI =$
 (d) $VII + XVI =$

Multiplication

- (a) $X \times X =$
 (b) $V \times C =$
 (c) $II \times LI =$
 (d) $IX \times CCC =$

Subtractions

- (a) $C - L =$
 (b) $XL - III =$
 (c) $D - CXX =$
 (d) $XX - III =$

Division

- (a) $X \div V =$
 (b) $XX \div IV =$
 (c) $CXX \div VI =$
 (d) $MMMDC \div IX =$

Teacher's sheet

Based on pages 8 and 9 of The Romans in Britain

Roman numbers

Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Resources

A photocopy of the worksheet.

Using the worksheet

You may wish to introduce the worksheet here to support the work on Latin to give a sense of how the Romans were different from us or you may use it after activity 7B when the Roman alphabet has been introduced. If you leave it until then you could also introduce the writing tablet and let the students make one. They could then do their calculations on the tablet.

Younger students

The younger students should be able to cope with the earlier questions and the more able may try some of the calculations. You could also put some Roman numbers on the board and ask the students to write them as the numbers we use today.

Here are five to try LXXXIV (84), CCXII (212), DCLXXI (671), CMXLVI (946), MDCVII (1607).

Outcomes

The students can:

- Know that Roman numbers are different from the ones we use today.
- Convert the numbers we use today into Roman numbers.
- Convert Roman numbers into the numbers that we use today.
- Make calculations using Roman numbers.

Older students

Let the students try the whole of the worksheet. You could also put some Roman numbers on the board as suggested for younger students.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Know that Roman numbers are different from the ones we use today.

- Convert the numbers we use today into Roman numbers
- Convert Roman numbers into the numbers that we use today.
- Make calculations using Roman numbers.

Answers

- (a) XXII.
(b) XXIII.
(c) XXIV.
(d) XXV.
(e) XXVI.
(f) XXVII.
(g) XXVIII.
(h) XXIX.

- (a) CCCXII.
(b) CDXIX.
(c) DXXXV.
(d) DCLXIII.
(e) DCCXLII.
(f) CMLIII.

Answers 3 and 4 will depend on the student.

5. Additions

- CX.
- XXXVI.
- XV.
- XXIII.

Subtractions

- L.
- LVII.
- CCCLXXX.
- XVII.

Multiplication

- C.
- D.
- CII.
- MMDCC.

Division

- II.
- V.
- XX.
- CD.