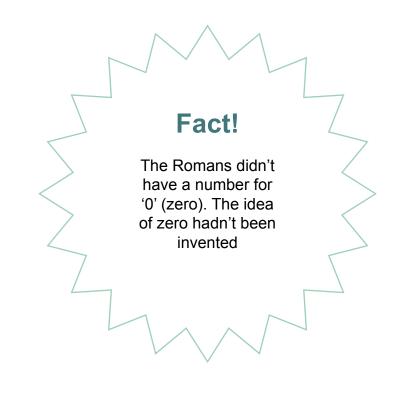# British History - Roman Gemstones

Activity 2 – Roman Numerals

The Romans had a completely different numbering system to the one that we have today.
Here is a list of Roman numerals and their values:

1 = I	20 = XX
2 = II	30 = XXX
3 = III	40 = XL
4 = IV	50 = L
5 = V	60 = LX
6 = VI	70 = LXX
7 = VII	80 = LXXX
8 = VIII	90 = XC
9 = IX	100 = C
10 = X	500 = D
11 = XI	1000 = M
12 = XII	

Fact!

The Romans didn't have a number for '0' (zero). The idea of zero hadn't been invented

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British History - Roman Gemstones

Activity 2 – Roman Numerals

How would we write the following Roman numerals?

XIII _____

XXX _____

LXXIV _____

CCLI _____

 MD _____

MMMMMDXLIII _____

MMMMMMMMM _____

What would be the Roman numerals for the following?

20 _____

88 _____

90 _____

246 _____

3572 _____

1555 _____

10,431 _____

Try to complete the following Roman sums:

Jupiter bought VI pearls and I emeralds. How many gems did Jupiter have altogether?

Mercury gave Diana VII amethyst and XII jasper. How many gems did Mercury give Diana altogether?

Venus wanted to buy XX sapphire as well as XL topaz. How many gems is that?

Minerva had M carnelian, but Cupid borrowed D carnelian. How many carnelian has Minerva got now?

You can also write the date and year using Roman numerals. Use a Roman numeral conversion website to help you to discover which year is
MCMXCVII: _____.

Now write the following in Roman numerals:

Today's date: _____

This year: _____

The dates of birth of members of the group: _____

The year the Romans conquered Britain: _____

The year that the Roman fortress at Caerleon was built: _____

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