

Unit 3 Home Learning Week 10

Monday - Reading

The text is the same for all activities. You choose which questions you want to do starting from Bronze...

Bronze (all)

Silver (most children),

Gold (some children),

Platinum (challenge)..

Hadrian's Men - Show Captures Hearts of the People!

By Susan James, Arts Editor ★★★★★

On Friday 5th June 2016, I was invited to watch the new performance 'Hadrian's Men' by The History Team, the world-famous group that re-enacts important times in history. The group had been booked to perform at Hadrian's Wall since 2010 in a one-off performance that will show the public just what it was like to live in Roman Britain. The tickets were sold out within hours back in 2010 with the audience coming from all parts of the globe including Japan and Canada.

The performance is all about a key person, Cassian, a Roman soldier whose job it was to patrol the wall. Cassian is played by Scott Pearson and this is his first acting role. With views across Northumberland behind us, we sat looking at the famous Hadrian's Wall as the opening scene shows Cassian going about his daily work. We are introduced to a range of characters: some Roman and others Barbarians. The key scene in the play is the battle between the soldiers on the wall where the Barbarians try hard to take the wall down. You see much sword fighting going on and as we know from history, the Roman soldiers of course win the battle, with many of the Barbarians being killed.

The show lasted around one hour with a break in the middle lasting twenty minutes. There were a range of actors cast for the performance, of all ages, and the costumes looked just like those we have seen in the museums. There were important artefacts used in the show and even animals to really make it feel real. There were soldiers on horses as well as farm animals used in the market scenes.

Scott Pearson, who played Cassian, was outstanding throughout. His performance drew the audience in and really made you feel you were part of the story. The audience were in tears at the sad scene where his wife dies but Scott was able to make people laugh out loud with some of the lines he said. His co-actor, Rupert Harrington, put on another great performance. Known for working in theatres, this was quite a change for him.

"This is very different to theatre. You don't have a flat stage to work with and rarely do you have real animals on stage. I loved doing this performance and I'm planning to do more re-enactment work in the future," said Rupert.

The set could not have been better. The actors were actually performing next to Hadrian's Wall in a section that the actors could walk around. There was drumming during the marching of the army which made you really feel you were part of it all. The costumes, I felt were a key part of the performance. With little details that showed the ranks of the soldiers, the costumes have been well thought out and well made. With the performance being outside and open to the weather, the actors had layers and layers of clothes to wear to make sure they were not cold waiting for their lines.

The National Arts Club have given The History Team a grant of money (around £250,000) to perform this play across the UK. It will be performed at museums and in schools in order for children to learn about Roman Britain and how important Hadrian's Wall has been to our history.

Manager of the Housesteads Roman Fort, Michael Wittlemore was there to watch the performance. "Wow, it really was history brought to life. We were thrilled to find out that we would be hosting the performance here near Housesteads and I was grateful to be invited to watch. It was great to see young people in the audience too – it is important to teach them why the Romans are key to our history," said Michael.

Overall, this was a real treat to see. The evening was incredible and I felt the plot behind the play was true to life. The small section of wall was transformed for an evening and the audience were taken back in time for an hour. I do hope that the actors get the chance to perform this play again.

To follow the progress of The History Team please see their website:
www.thehistoryteam.co.uk.

Bronze - all children answer these

Circle the correct answer.

The play is called...

Harry's Men

Hattie's Boys

Hadrian's Men

Hadrian's Girls

The number of stars the show received was...

five

eight

three

four

The show was put on by The...

Maths Team

History Team

Literacy Team

Art Team

Audience members have travelled from Japan and...

Canada

Chad

China

Chile

Tickets sold out within hours back in...

2001

2011

2010

2100

Silver - do Bronze then most children answer these.

Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

	True	False
The Arts Editor is called Sandra James.		
She watched the show on Friday 5 th June, 2016.		
Cassian is a Roman soldier.		
The role of Cassian is played by Scott Appleson.		
The show lasts for one hour.		
The History Team have been given a grant of £2,500.		

Gold – Do Bronze and Silver then some children answer these.

Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

	True	False
The play takes place at Hadrian's Wall.		
There is a 10 minute break during the performance.		
Live animals are used during the performance.		
Roger Harrington also acts in the show.		
The performance takes place inside a large shelter.		
Michael Wittlemore was there to watch the performance.		

Correct the false statements in the space below.

Platinum – do Bronze, Silver, Gold then do the Challenge

The statements below are wrong. Use a range of secondary sources to correct them.

- The Romans came from Rome which is a city in Greece.

- The Romans arrived in Britain in 55 AD.

- The Romans stayed in Britain for almost 300 years.

Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum..

Bronze - all children answer these

Circle the correct answer.

The play is called...

Harry's Men

Hattie's Boys

Hadrian's Men

Hadrian's Girls

The number of stars the show received was...

five

eight

three

four

The show was put on by The...

Maths Team

History Team

Literacy Team

Art Team

Audience members have travelled from Japan and...

Canada

Chad

China

Chile

Tickets sold out within hours back in...

2001

2011

2010

2100

Silver - do Bronze then most children answer these.

Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

	True	False
The Arts Editor is called Sandra James.		✓
She watched the show on Friday 5 th June, 2016.	✓	
Cassian is a Roman soldier.	✓	
The role of Cassian is played by Scott Appleson.		✓
The show lasts for one hour.	✓	
The History Team have been given a grant of £2,500.		✓

Gold – Do Bronze and Silver then some children answer these.

Use the information in the text to decide whether these statements are true or false.

	True	False
The play takes place at Hadrian's Wall.	✓	
There is a 10 minute break during the performance.		✓
Live animals are used during the performance.	✓	
Roger Harrington also acts in the show.		✓
The performance takes place inside a large shelter.		✓
Michael Wittlemore was there to watch the performance.	✓	

Correct the false statements in the space below.

There is a 20 minute break in the performance.

Rupert Harrington also acts in the show.

The performance takes place outside.

Platinum – do Bronze, Silver, Gold then do the Challenge

The statements below are wrong. Use a range of secondary sources to correct them.

- The Romans came from Rome which is a city in Greece.

The Romans came from Rome which is a city in Italy.

- The Romans arrived in Britain in 55 AD.

The Romans arrived in Britain in 55 BC.

- The Romans stayed in Britain for almost 300 years.

The Romans stayed in Britain for almost 400 years.