

Salvēte Omnes!

Welcome to our summer assignment page for 2016. The purpose of this assignment is to keep you focused on the work ahead for the next academic year, while at the same time keeping all we did this past year clear in both your short-term and long-term memories. I hope we can accomplish this.

The summer assignment consists of two parts:

The first part involves watching a movie called “The Eagle.” The movie is very good (I think), and does a good job in showing how the Romans colonized England and attempted to impose their customs and laws on the various tribes they encountered. The story concerns a particular legion (consisting of about 5 to 6,000 men divided up into about six cohorts of about 1000 men each). This legion, the ninth, was lost in northern England (in what is now Scotland), and its standard, much like our Flag, was a golden eagle, and it too was lost, causing great embarrassment and consternation to the Romans.

The story follows Marcus Aquila (Channing Tatum) and his British slave/sidekick Eska (Jamie Bell) as they traverse the badlands of Scotland in search of a tribe that may have ambushed the legion and stolen the golden eagle. Once you view this film, available on Netflix and Amazon, and may even be on YouTube, and digest it, cogitating its meaning, please type the answers to the following questions:

- 1) Thinking about the film and the historic background, what do you think happened to the Ninth Legion, or possibly could have happened to it?
- 2) What was the purpose of Hadrian’s Wall?
- 3) What are some of the reasons Aquila goes in search of the Eagle of the Ninth?
- 4) What exactly was the “Eagle” of the Ninth? Discuss the “Eagle” as a literal symbol and a metaphorical idea.
- 5) What did the Romans think of the Picts (whom they called “the seal people” in the film), the indigenous people who lived north of Hadrian’s Wall?

Type the answers on a single sheet of paper, and make a copy so you can turn one in and have one to use for class discussion. Type your name and the date you watched the film on the top of the paper, then put the five questions and your answers to them on the paper. This will be due on our first full day of class.

The second part of this summer assignment involves studying vocabulary lists A (for chapters 1 to 7) and B (for chapters 8 to 12.) I will give you a vocabulary test consisting of 50 questions from both sheets on the Friday of the first week of class. There are .pdf files of both vocabulary lists for you to download, print out, and study for the test. This will be our major vocabulary review.

So that's it for the summer assignments. You can always email me (geigerw@lschs.org) if you have any questions about anything. Have a really nice summer, and I look forward to working with you next year.

Valête,

Magister