

Text Analysis

In 48 CE, the Emperor Claudius gave a speech to the Roman Senate in order to approve the admission of Gauls into the Senate, most of whom had already received Roman citizenship.

This speech is preserved on a bronze tablet that was displayed in the capitol of a Gallic Province, Lugdunum (modern day Lyons). I have pulled out a section from toward the end of the inscription.

Prompt: Based on the translation provided, identify THREE reasons why the Roman Senate should admit the Gauls into their organization. In a separate paragraph, identify & translate FOUR Latin words or phrases that demonstrate the Gauls as worthy of admission into the Senate.

Assuredly, Conscript Fathers, it is not without some hesitation that I cross the limits of the provinces which are well known and familiar to you, but the moment is come when I must plead openly the cause of Further Gaul.

It will be objected that Gaul sustained a war against the divine Julius for ten years.

But let there be opposed to this the memory of a hundred years of steadfast fidelity, and a loyalty put to the proof in many trying circumstances.

My father, Drusus, was able to force Germany to submit, because behind him reigned a profound peace assured by the tranquillity of the Gauls.

And note well, that at the moment he was summoned to that war, he was busy instituting the census in Gaul, a new institution among them, and contrary to their customs.

Timide quidem, Patres conscripti, egressus adsuetos familiaresque vobis provinciarum terminos sum, sed destricte iam Comatae Galliae causa agenda est,

in qua si quis hoc intuetur, quod bello per decem annos exercuerunt diom lulium,

idem opponat centum annorum immobilem fidem obsequiumque multis trepidis rebus nostris plus quam expertum.

Illi patri meo Druso Germaniam subigenti tutam quiete sua securamque a tergo pacem praestiterunt,

et quidem cum a census novo tum opere et inadsueto Gallis ad bellum advocatus esset;