The Romans occupied Britain for 4 centuries; their influence on the British culture was great. How did the Romans influence the Celtic culture? 1. Language. Very few people could read or write in Britain. It was the Romans who brought language, writing and numbers to Britain. Nowadays you can find the marks of Roman influence in the English words of Latin origin, as we know the Romans spoke Latin. The Romans built first towns in Britain that were connected by Roman roads. The roads were made of mortar and gravel and were made so well they exist till now. These were long straight roads with milestones marking every mile (1000 paces). Pre-Roman Britain The Beakers: Indo-European agriculture in the Bronze Age The Celts: Political organization and technology in an era of conflict. 4 Early Contact: Roman Exploration under Caesar, 55-54 BCE Appian, Gallic History: Caesar was also the first of the Romans to cross the Rhine. Claudius' Invasion, 43 CE Cassius Dio, Roman History, Book 60: Thus it came about that Plautius undertook this campaign; but he had difficulty in inducing his army to advance beyond Gaul. For the soldiers were indignant at the thought of carrying on a campaign outside the limits of the known world. The Roman conquest started in AD 43 and they were to remain for nearly 400 years. They wanted Britain's precious metals and they called the land Britannia, which meant 'land of tin'. But the Romans did not colonise the islands of Britain to any significant degree. To a population of around three million, their army, administration and carpet-baggers added only a few per cent. The Roman citizenship was more a political status than an ethnic identity. By AD 300, almost everyone in Britannia was Roman, legally and culturally, even though of indigenous descent and still Pre-Roman Britain. Man lived in what we now call the British Isles long before it broke away from the continent of Europe, long before the great seas covered the land bridge that is now known as the English Channel, that body of water that protected this island for so long, and that by its very nature, was to keep it out of the maelstrom that Early man came, settled, farmed and built. His remains tell us much about his lifestyle and his habits. Of course, the land was not then known as England, nor would it be until long after the Romans had departed. We know of the island's early inhabitants from what