Chapter I
1-4 Gaul has three parts, inhabited by three tribes (Belgae, Aquitaini, and Celtae/Galli) who are different in language, institutions, and laws.
4-5. The rivers that separate the three areas.
6-11. Three reasons why the Belgae are the bravest.
11-15. The final reason explains why the Helvetians surpass the other Gauls in courage, because they fight regularly with the Germans, either in Germania or in their own land.
15-18. The boundaries of the land the Gauls occupy.
18-21. The boundaries of the land the Belgae occupy.
21-24. The boundaries of the land the Aquitani occupy.

Chapter II
1-6. The richest and noblest Helvetian made a conspiracy among the nobility because of a desire for power and persuaded his people to leave their land with the argument that because of their surpassing courage they would easily get control of all Gaul.
6-12. He easily swayed them because the Helvetians were hemmed in on all sides by natural barriers.
12-15. As a result they had less freedom of movement and were less able to wage war against their neighbors, and thus their warriors were afflicted with great sorrow.
15-18. They considered their land, 240 miles by 180 miles, too small in comparison with their numbers and their glory in war.

Chapter III
1-6 Persuaded by their situation and the authority of Orgetorix, the Helvetians decide to get ready for departure: they buy all the wagons and pack animals they can; plant as many crops as possible for supplies on the trip, and make alliances with the nearest states.
6-9. They considered two years necessary to accomplish these goals and decided to schedule their departure for the third year, with Orgetorix put in charge.
10-18. Taking on the embassy to the other states, he persuaded Casticus of the Sequani, whose father had been an important ally of Rome that he should seize the power his father once held; and he persuaded Dumnorix of the Aedui, whose brother was the beloved leader of their tribe to try the same thing and even gave his daughter to him in marriage.
18-22. He proved that this was easily done because he was about to seize power among the Helvetians; clearly the Helvetians would gain power over all Gaul and he personally would help them to acquire their kingdoms with his resources and army.
22-25. The three make their agreement and expect to seize control of all Gaul once they have seized their individual kingdoms.

Chapter IV
1. News of the secret agreement was revealed to the Helvetians by informers.
1-3. Orgetorix is forced by tribal custom to make his defense in chains and if he lost he would be burned alive.
4-8. On the day of the trial Orgetorix brings all his extended family and his clients and people who owed him money, and by their presence he escaped from pleading his case.
8-12. When the state decided to pursue him with troops and the judges raised an army from the fields, Orgetorix died; the Helvetians believe that he committed suicide.

Chapter V
1-2. Despite the death of Orgetorix, the Helvetians decide to continue their plans for departure.
2-9. When they considered themselves ready, they burn all their towns and villages, all their private buildings, and all the grain except what they were going to take with them, a three month supply; the purpose was to make them more prepared to face all the perils of their trek with all chance of returning home gone.
9-14. They persuade the Raurici, the Tulingi, and the latovici, their neighbors to follow the same plan: burn everything and leave; they also add the Boii as allies, who had migrated across the Rhine into the Noric territory (between the Alps and the Danube).

Chapter VI
1-2. There were two possible routes by which the migration could travel.
2-5. One was through the Sequani; narrow and difficult and open to attack from a mountain that overhung the road.
5-9. The other was through the Roman province, much easier and more accessible because the tribes there had been pacified recently and the Rhone River, easily forded at several locations, flowed there.
9-11. The town of the Allobroges, Geneva, was right next to the Helvetian land and had a bridge across the Rhone.
11-14. The Helvetians thought that they would persuade the Allobroges because they were not well-disposed to the Romans or they would force them to allow a march across their territory.
14-17. With everything finally prepared, they set a date: March 28th, 58 BCE.

Chapter VII.
1-4. Caesar learns the Helvetians are on the march through the Roman province and heads to Geneva as quickly as possible.
4-7. Caesar drafts a legion and orders the bridge to Geneva torn down.
7-10. When Helvetians learn Caesar has come, they send ambassadors to him (N and V. are leaders).
10-13. The ambassadors were to declare that the Helvetians intended to journey through the province without causing any trouble; they were asking his permission to do so.
13-18. Caesar remembered the Helvetian defeat of a Roman army earlier (50 years) and didn’t want to allow it; he also that the warrior Helvetians would not be able to refrain from causing harm.
18-21. To stall for time while his soldiers are assembling, Caesar tells the ambassadors to come back later on the Ides of April when he will give his decision.

Chapter VIII
1-6. Meanwhile Caesar built a defensive wall/ditch from Lake Lemanus to Jura Mts. 19 miles long.
6-8. He then stationed troops in forts along the wall to be able to stop the enemy advance more easily if they tried to go against his will.
8-11. He told the returning legates that he would not allow the Helvetians to advance and would stop them if they used force.
12-16. The Helvetians tried to cross by day and night the Rhone River where it was shallow; checked by the Roman fortifications, they finally ceased trying.

Chapter IX
1-2. Only one exit path, very narrow, left, through the Sequani.
2-5. Unable to persuade the Sequani, they enlist Dumnorix, an Aedui, to ask the Sequani for them.
5-9. Dumnorix was powerful among the Sequani because he had influence and was generous; he was also married to Orgetorix’s daughter (a Helvetian); he also wanted revolution because he wanted support from others he helped when he seized power in his state.
10-13. He gets the Sequani to agree to the Helvetic march across their land with an exchange of hostages between the two tribes.

Chapter X.
1-4. Caesar learns of the Helvetian plan to march through the Sequani and Aedui into the territory of the Santones, which was not far from the Roman province.
4-7. Caesar realized that having a warrior people as neighbors to an inviting (to invade) Roman province would be dangerous.
7-13. Therefore he puts Labienus in charge of the wall/ditch fortification; he heads to Italy, drafts two legions, gets three legions out of their winter quarters, and heads back.
13-15. Three tribes tried to stop his army by occupying the high ground.
15-20. After the tribes were defeated near Ocelum, the last town in Nearer Gaul, he marched through the territory of the Voconti, then through the Allobrogges and into The Segusiavi, who were the first people across the Rhone outside the province.

Chapter XI
1-3. The Helvetians reached the Aedui and started to destroy the fields.
3-5. The Aedui, unable to defend themselves, send ambassadors to Caesar for help.
5-8. The Aedui declare they have deserved better of the Romans and ought not have their fields ruined, their kids enslaved, and their towns attacked in full view of a Roman army.
8-11. The Ambarri, their relatives, also inform Caesar that they can’t stop the Helvetians.
12-14. The Allobrogges, who also have land across the Rhone, flee to Caesar and tell him they have nothing left but the land itself.
14-17. Caesar decides he can not wait until all his allies are wiped out and that he should set out for the Santones (where the Helvetians are heading – check X.1-4).

Chapter XIII
1-3. After the battle he built a bridge and followed the Helvetians on the other side of the river.
Caesar’s De Bello Gallico
BOOK I OUTLINE

3-8. The Helvetians, alarmed by Caesar’s crossing in one day when it had taken them twenty, sent to Caesar an embassy, whose head was Divico, their leader in the war that defeated the army under Cassius fifty years earlier.
8-11. Divico said: If the Romans made peace with them, the Helvetians would go and stay wherever Caesar wanted them to be.
11-13. If Caesar continued pursuing them with war, he should remember that the Helvetians were a courageous people and had defeated the Romans before.
13-16. Because Caesar had attacked one group of Helvetians who were unaware and unable to be aided by the other Helvetians, he should not overvalue his own bravery or look down on the Helvetians.
16-18. The Helvetians had learned from their ancestors to do battle with bravery rather than with trickery or ambushes.
18-21. Thus Caesar should not allow this place where they stood to acquire a bad name because of the destruction of a Roman army and a disaster for the Roman people.

Chapter XIV
1-3. Caesar responded: Because he remembered those events the Helvetians had mentioned, there was less doubt about his reply.
3-7. He took it more seriously because the Roman people had fallen into something undeserved; if anyone had been aware of an injury/wrong, it would have been easy to take precautions; but the people had been deceived because they did not know of any action by them which might cause fear and they did not think that something was to be feared without cause.
7-11. If he did want to forget the old harm done to Rome, surely he could not put aside the memory of the fresh injuries, that the Helvetians had attempted a journey by violence through a Roman province against his wishes and that they had harrassed three Gallic allies of the Romans.
11-13. The fact that they gloried ion their victory with such insolence and marveled that they had gone unpunished for so long all led to the same conclusion.
14-17. For the gods were accustomed to giving those they wanted to punish for their crimes greater successes and a longer freedom from punishment so that those men would grieve more at the change in their fortunes.
17-21. Therefore if hostages were given by the Helvetians to them so that he would know that they would do what they were promising, and if they gave satisfaction to the Gauls whom they had harmed, then he would make peace with them.
21-25. Divico replied: The Helvetians had been trained by their ancestors to accept, not give, hostages, and the Romans were witnesses to that fact. He then left.

Chapter XV
1-5. As the Helvetians move their camp, so does Caesar, who sends ahead four thousand of his cavalry from the province and the Gauls to see what direction the enemy are heading.
5-7. The cavalry, following the rear column of the Helvetians too closely, engaged in a battle in a bad location and lost a few men to the Helvetian cavalry.
7-11. Cheered by the fact that a small force of their cavalry had “defeated” a larger Roman force, the Helvetians began to resist more boldly and to provoke the Romans with their rear column.
11-13. Caesar held his men back from battle and considered it more than satisfactory just to keep the marching Helvetians from doing harm to others.
13-16. For fifteen days the march continued with the distance between the two forces about five or six miles.

Chapter XVI
1-2. Caesar asked the Aedui for the grain they had publicly promised.
2-5. Since Gaul was further north and therefore cold(er), the grain in the fields was not yet ripe and there was not even a great supply of grain on hand.
5-8. He was less able to use the grain he had brought up the river by boat because the Helvetians, whom he did not wish to leave, had turned their march away from the river.
8-9. The Helvetians kept leading him on, saying the grain was in the process of being gathered, etc.
9-12. When Caesar realized he was being led on and that the day for grain distribution to the Roman soldiers was near, he summoned the chiefs of the Aedui, many of whom he had in his camp.
13-15. Diviciacus and Liscus were among these, who were in charge of the Vergobret, the highest magistracy, elected yearly, which had life and death power among the Helvetians.
15-18. Caesar rebuked them gravely because he was not being helped by them at a critical time with the enemy so near when grain was not able to be purchased or gathered from the fields.
18-20. He also complained more gravely because he had been abandoned, especially when he had undertaken the war, influenced by their prayers for help.

Chapter XVII
1-4. Liscus, influenced by Caesar’s speech, reveals what he had previously been silent about: there were several men whose authority/power among the common people was very strong and who in fact were more powerful than the magistrates themselves.
4-10. These men, with traitorous and evil speech, were frightening the people away from grain-gathering which they were obliged to do; they argued that it would be better, if the Aedui were no longer to hold the leadership of Gaul, to prefer the rule of (other) Gauls rather than the rule of the Romans; they had no doubt that if the Romans defeated the Helvetians, the Romans would snatch freedom from the Aedui and the rest of Gaul.
10-12. The Roman plans and actions inside the camps were reported to the enemy by the same men, and they were not able to be stopped by him (Liscus).
12-15. Furthermore, because he had been forced to reveal the matter to Caesar, he knew with what great danger he had acted, and for that very factor he had been silent as long as he had been able to keep silent.
Chapter XVIII.
1-4. Caesar figured that Dumnorix, the brother of Diviciacus, was the man behind the actions; because he did not want to talk any more in front of such a large group, he dismissed the council and kept Liscus.
4-5. Asked by Caesar about his remarks in the assembly, Liscus spoke more freely.
5-8. Caesar sought further in formation from other sources secretly and found confirmation: Dumnorix, with great boldness and great influence among the people through his generosity, wanted revolution.
8-11. For several years he is said to have purchased the tax collecting and customs-gathering of the Aedui because no one dared to bid against him.
11-15. By these methods he had increased his family property and had acquired great amounts to be used “generously;” he kept a large number of horsemen with him, which he paid for himself; he had influence at home among his own people but also among the neighboring tribes.
15-19. To increase his power he had married his mother to a powerful man among the Bituriges, had taken his wife from the Helvetians and had married off his sister and other female relatives to men from other states.
19-23. Because of this relationship Dumnorix supported the Helvetians and he also hated the Romans and Caesar because his power had been lessened by the Romans’ arrival and his brother had been restored to his old position of power and influence.
23-26. If anything bad happened to the Romans, he had high hopes of getting power through the Helvetians; because of Roman power he was in despair not only about that, but also about the influence that he did have.
27-32. Caesar also found out in his inquiry that in an unsuccessful cavalry battle a few days earlier the initial flight from the battle had been started by Dumnorix and his cavalry (D. was in charge of the Aedui cavalry sent to help Caesar by the Aedui) and the remaining cavalry had been frightened by the flight of these men.
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Chapter XIX
1-8. Once this was learned, given the fact that Dumnorix had led the Helvetians through the Sequani, that he had arranged the exchange of hostages, that he had done all this without the consent of Caesar or his people, and that he was now accused by the magistrate of the Aedui, Caesar thought he had enough cause to punish him or to order his state to do so.

8-12. One factor stood in the way: Caesar had known well the enthusiasm of Dumnorix’s brother Diviciacus towards the Romans, his good will towards Caesar himself, and his other noble characteristics; so he feared offending the brother by punishing Dumnorix.

12-17. So, before he tried anything, Caesar summoned Diviciacus, removed all interpreters except one (Procillus) he trusted greatly.

17-20. Caesar revealed what had been said about Dumnorix in the council of the Gauls and what each man had said to Caesar privately.

20-22. Caesar sought, with no offense intended, that Diviciacus either decide the case against his brother or order his people to do so.

Chapter XX
1-7. Diviciacus begged Caesar not to take action against his brother; he knew these facts were true, and no one had more sorrow than he did from this because when Divicius was most powerful among his people and when Dumnorix was young and lacked power, the youth had gained power through his older brother, which he was now using not only to lessen his power but almost to destroy it.

8-9. Nevertheless Diviciacus was still moved by love for his brother and the opinion of the people.

9-13. If anything bad happened to Dumnorix, no one would think that it had happened without his (Div.) acquiescence, since he (Div.) was Caesar’s friend and therefore all Gaul would turn away from him (Div.).

13-17. Caesar took the weeping man by the hand and asked that he stop talking; because of his (Div.) influence with him, Caesar would overlook the injury to Rome and his (Caesar’s) pain because of the good will and the prayers.

17-21. Caesar summoned Dumnorix and in his brother’s presence revealed what he knew and what his (Dum.) people were complaining about; he said he (Dum.) should avoid all suspicions for the rest of time and he (Caesar) forgave him because of his brother (Div.).

22-23. Caesar put guards on Dumnorix to know what he did and with whom he talked.
Chapter XXI
1-4. That same day Caesar found out the enemy had camped at the foot of a mountain eight miles ahead, and so he sent scouts to find out the height and access to the mountain. 4-8. With news that it was an easy climb, after midnight he sent Labienus with two legions and leaders who knew the ascent of the mountain; he revealed to them his plan. 8-10. A few hours later before dawn he followed on the enemy’s path with his cavalry in front. 10-12. Considius, a veteran of Sulla’s and Crassus’ army, was sent ahead with the scouts.

Chapter XXII
1-7. At dawn when Labienus held the mountain, Caesar was within a mile and a half of the enemy camp, and neither arrival of the Roman forces had been noticed by the Helvetians, Considius galloped up to Caesar to report (mistakenly, we learn later) that the enemy held the mountain which Caesar wanted Labienus to take and he knew that from the Gallic weapons and markings he had seen. 7-8. Caesar led his men to a nearby hill and drew them up in battle formation. 9-13. Labienus, with orders from Caesar not to fight unless his troops were near the enemy’s camp so that a coordinated attack could be launched from all sides, since he had seized the mountain, waited for Caesar’s troops to arrive and held back from battle. 13-16. Much later in the day Caesar finally learned from scouts that Labienus did hold the mountain and that the frightened Considius had reported as seen what he had not seen. 16-18. That day with the same space between as usual, Caesar followed the enemy and pitched camp three miles away.

Chapter XXIII
1-6. The next day, since only a two-day supply of grain was left before he had to distribute more to his army and since he was about eighteen miles from Bibracte, a large and well-stocked Aedui town, Caesar thought he should take care of the situation; he turned away from the Helvetians and hastened towards Bibracte. 6-8. This news was reported to the enemy by deserters from the Gallic cavalry. 8-13. The Helvetians, either because they thought the Romans were fleeing in panic, especially since the Romans had not attacked the day before after they had taken the higher ground, or because they thought the Romans could be shut off from a grain supply, with their own plans and their course changed they begin to skirmish with the rear guard of the Romans.

Chapter XXIV
1-3. When Caesar saw this he took his troops to the nearest hill and sent out the cavalry to withstand the enemy’s attack. 3-9. Caesar drew up a triple battle line with four veteran legions, put two others and all the auxiliary troops on a ridge, and ordered all the baggage put in one spot, which was to be fortified/protected by those in the higher battle line. 9-12. The Helvetians followed with all their baggage and put it in one spot; then they formed a very thick battle formation, drove back the Roman cavalry and advance near the Roman front line.
Chapter XXV
1-3. Caesar removes everyone’s horse so no flight is possible and joins battle.
3-6. The soldiers in the higher places smash the enemy formation with thrown spears and then charge with their swords.
6-12. The Gauls are trapped in the phalanx when Roman spears join the shields together so they can’t be used; the Gauls then choose to fight without their shields.
12-14. The Gauls finally retreat to a mountain about a mile away.
14-19. Two tribes at the rear of the Gallic column as a defense of their baggage train attack the advancing Romans from the open side; the routed Helvetians rejoin the battle.
19-22. The Romans mount a two-pronged response: the first two battle lines advance against the defeated Helvetians returing to battle and the third Roman battle line against the attacking two tribes.

Chapter XXVI
1-4. The battle continues on two fronts for a long time; when the enemy cannot withstand the Roman attack any longer, they retreat to that nearby mountain or gather at the baggage train.
4-6. In the long battle, no Gaul turned away from the Romans in flight.
6-11. For most of the night a battle rages at the baggage train where the Gauls fight from behind the overturned wagons.
11-13. Finally the Romans get control of the baggage train; Orgetorix’s daughter and one of his sons are captured.
13-18. A large number of survivors made a long march starting that night and going for several days to the territory of the Lingones, and no Romans pursaued them because they were tending the wounded and burying the dead.
18-22. Caesar warned the Lingones not to help the Helvetians; if they did, they would suffer the same fate. Caesar then followed with all his army three days later.

Chapter XXVII
1-2. Out of food and equipment, the Helvetians send legates to Caesar about surrendering.
2-6. After the legates presented their requests humbly and in tears, Caesar ordered the Helvetians to stay where they were and await his arrival.
6-7. On arriving, Caesar demand hostages, all their weapons, and the slaves of the Romans who had fled to the Helvetian side.
7-15. In the chaos of surrender, six thousand Helvetians from one group snuck away toward the territory of the Germans; they either feared that they would be killed by their neighbors since they had no more weapons or they thought that in the large number of people they would not be missed or even noticed as missing.
Chapter XXVIII
1-5. Caesar ordered the tribes through whom the escaping Helvetians had gone to gather them and hand them over, or suffer the same fate; the returned men he treated as enemies (killed) and all the rest he accepted their surrender after the formalities were completed.
5-9. All the tribes were ordered back to their original lands; the Allobroges were to supply them with grain, but the tribes had to rebuild all their towns and villages they had torched.
10-14. Caesar ordered this because he didn’t want the Germans crossing the Rhine to take over the rich land of the Helvetians.
14-18. He allowed the Aedui to settle the Boii in their land and the Aedui later made them their equals in law and freedom.

Chapter XXIX
1-5. In the Helvetian camp tablets in Greek were found with a census of those who left, broken down by warriors, then children, old men, and women.
5-12. From 368,000 who set out, only 110,000 returned home.

Chapter XXX
1-3. Legates from all Gaul came to congratulate Caesar.
3-6. They knew that Caesar had acted to avenge Rome’s old injuries at the hands of the Helvetians, but the result was as beneficial to Gaul as it was to Rome.
6-12. They knew that the Helvetians left their homes in the midst of prosperity with this plan: make war on Gaul, seize power, choose the best home area from the wide range that Gaul possessed, and make the rest of the tribes of Gaul their subjects.
12-15. The legates asked Caesar’s permission to hold a meeting on a certain day because they had some things which they agreed that they wished to obtain from him.
15-17. Caesar agreed and the day was set, and everyone agreed to keep the proceedings a secret, unless authorized by the group.

Chapter XXXI
1-5. Several leaders of the Gauls return to Caesar and ask to meet with him in secret, throwing themselves at his feet in tears.
5-8. The leaders wanted him to keep what they said in their meetings secret as much as they wanted to get what they asked for.
9. Diviciacus spoke on their behalf.
9-11. There were two major factions in Gaul: the Aedui and the Arverni.
11-13. They had fought for so long that the Arverni and the Sequani had hired with money the Germans to cross into Gaul.
14. Fifteen thousand had already crossed.
15. After the barbaric Germans came they fell in love with the new lands and brought over more, so now there were 120,000 there.
17-21. The Aedui and their allies fought with them often and had just suffered a major disaster, losing all their leaders and cavalry.
Caesar’s De Bello Gallico
BOOK I OUTLINE

21-28. Broken by this, the Aedui, allies and formerly powerful in Gaul, had to give hostages to the Sequani, to swear that they wouldn’t ask for the hostages back or ask the Romans for help or ever deny that they were under Sequani control.

28-30. He (Diviciacus) was the only Aeduan who could not be forced to make the same oaths.

30-32. Therefore he fled his state and sought help from Rome.

32-39. But the Sequani were in even worse shape because they had taken the Germans into their land and were being forced out because more Germans kept coming.

40-44. Soon there would be no Gauls in Gaul because the quality of land and life in Gaul was so much better than in Germany.

44-49. Ariovistus, because he had beaten the Gauls once, was treating them badly, demanding the noblest children as hostages and torturing all if they did not do his every command.

49-51. Ariovistus was a horrible man whose rule could be endured no longer.

51-55. If Caesar and the Romans didn’t help, soon all the Gauls would have to move, just like the Helvetians had.

55-57. If these statements were reported to Ariovistus, he would torture whatever hostages he had.

57-61. Caesar, because of his defeat of the Helvetians, because of his army, and because of the reputation of Rome was able to stop the arrival of more Germans in Gaul and to keep Gaul safe from Ariovistus.

Chapter XXXII

1-2. After the speech all the Gauls began to weep and plead with Caesar.

3-6. Caesar noticed the Sequani only looked at the ground in silence, and in wonder he asked them why.

6-9. When Caesar could get no response at all from them, Diviciacus spoke for them.

9-13. The Sequani were worse off than the other Gauls because they didn’t dare complain or ask for help even in secret, and feared Ariovistus even when he was absent.

13-16. The other Gauls had the opportunity to flee, but the Sequani, who had received Ariovistus into their lands and whose towns were under his control, had to endure all kinds of torture.

Chapter XXXIII

1-4. Caesar cheered them up and promised that he would look into it; he also hoped that Ariovistus would stop harming the Gauls because of Caesar.

5-12. With the council dismissed, many things urged him to consider the situation and then take action: first, the Aedui, long-time friends of Rome were under German sway and had hostages with the Germans, which situation Caesar considered very shameful to him and the Roman people.

13-20. Second, more and more Germans were crossing the Rhine and soon clearly they would occupy all Gaul and then attack northern Italy, as other Germans had done in the past because only the Rhone separated the Sequani from our province.

20-23. Therefore he had to take action as quickly as possible. Ariovistus had gotten too arrogant to bear.
Chapter XXXIV
1-4. He decided to send legates to Ariovistus requesting a meeting on neutral ground to talk about the state and their major concerns.
4-7. Ariovistus’ reply: if he wanted anything from Caesar, he would go to him; if Caesar wanted something from him, Caesar should come to him.
7-10. He would not go into those areas of Gaul Caesar controlled without an army and it required a great deal of work to get his army to any particular place.
10-12. He wondered what business it was of Caesar or the Roman people what he did in the part of Gaul that he had conquered in war.

Chapter XXXV
1-2. When Caesar heard this, he sent more legates to Ariovistus.
2-7. Since Ariovistus had benefited from the kindness of Caesar and the Romans and been named a friend of Rome during Caesar’s consulship and now he brought thanks to Caesar and Rome (sarcasm) when invited to a talk, he complained and didn’t think he had to talk or consider their common interest.
7-10. These were what Caesar asked of him: first, that no more Germans would be led across the Rhine into Gaul.
10-12. Second, Ariovistus would return the Aeduan hostages and also permit the Sequani to return the hostages they held to the Aedui.
12-13. He should stop hurting the Aedui and not wage war on them or their allies.
13-15. If he did this, he would have great thanks for him from the Roman people and Caesar.
15-20. If Caesar did not obtain what he asked, since the senate had decreed that whichever Roman governed the Gallic province should protect the Aedui and the rest of the friends of the Roman people as much as he could for the benefit of Rome, he (Caesar) would not ignore the injuries of the Aedui.

Chapter XXXVI
1-7. Ariovistus’ reply: the law of war was that the winners gave orders to the ones they beat however they wanted; in the same way the Romans were accustomed to order those they defeated by their judgment, not by the prescription of another. If he wasn’t telling the Romans how to use their power, it wasn’t necessary for him to be hindered by the Romans in his command.
7-9. The Aedui had made war against him and had lost, and therefore were his tributaries.
9-11. Caesar was causing him harm by disrupting his tax-collecting by his arrival.
11-15. He would not return the hostages to the Aedui, and he would not wage war on them or their allies if they remained in the agreement they made with him and paid their tribute every year; if they did not pay, the name of Rome would be no help to them.
15-17. As to Caesar’s statement that he would not ignore the injuries of the Romans, no one waged war with Ariovistus without suffering serious harm.
18-20. Caesar could come whenever he wanted he would then learn what the unconquered, well-practiced warrior Germans who hadn’t been in a house for fourteen years could do with courage.