

For 39 years married to one husband... left three surviving children by him, a son who has held the highest municipal posts through the favour of Augustus Caesar, another who in the army of the same Caesar Augustus has held the highest posts of the equestrian rank and is now marked out for a higher rank, and a most virtuous daughter married to a most upright man and through her, two grandchildren...

Questioning sources

If we are to study a *written source* in ancient history, we need to ask questions of that source:

Who wrote it?

When was it written?

Why was it written?

Who would read it? (Who *could* read in this society?)

Are these events found in other sources?

Are there contradictions in the source?

What sources were available to the author?

What sources were used by the author?

Are the conclusions/judgements sound?

Roman grave inscription from Corfinium, Italy