

HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS

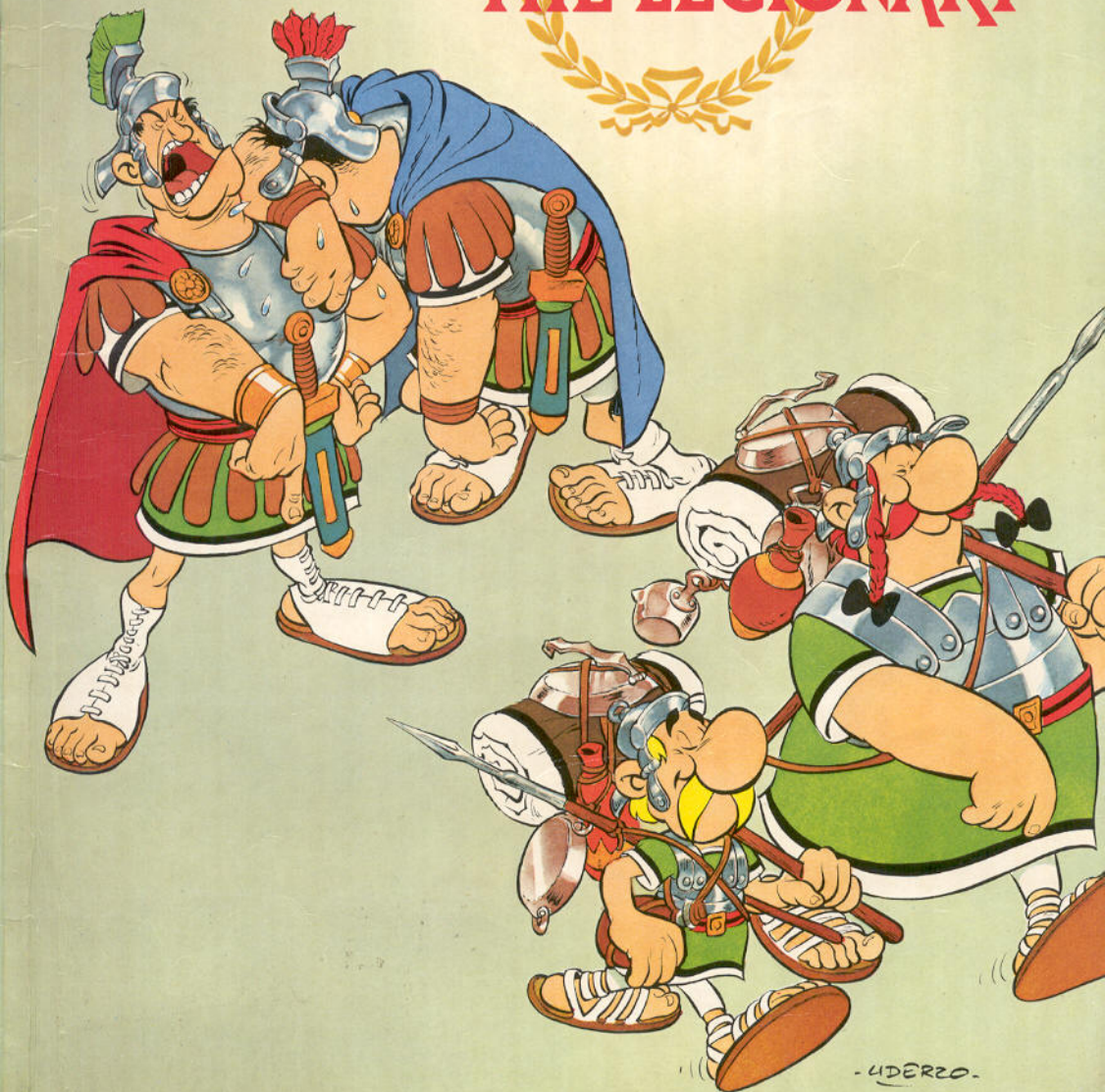


BOOK 7

TEXT: GOSCINNY
DRAWINGS: UDERZO

Asterix

THE LEGIONARY



-UDERZO-

BOOK 7

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Asterix

the Legionary



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ASTERIX THE LEGIONARY

TEXT BY GOSCINNY

DRAWINGS BY UDERZO

TRANSLATED BY ANTHEA BELL AND DEREK HOCKRIDGE



HODDER AND STOUGHTON

LONDON

SYDNEY

AUCKLAND



GAUL
(ROMAN CONQUEST)
50 B.C.

CELTICA

PROVINCIA

AQUITANIA

BELGICA

ARMORICA

GAULISH VILLAGE

COMPENDIUM

LAUDANUM

TOTORUM

AQUARIUM

LUTETIA

ISPOR

The year is 50 B.C. Gaul is entirely occupied by the Romans. Well, not entirely... One small village of indomitable Gauls still holds out against the invaders. And life is not easy for the Roman legionaries who garrison the fortified camps of Totorum, Aquarium, Laudanum and Compendium...



a few of the Gauls

Asterix, the hero of these adventures. A shrewd, cunning little warrior; all perilous missions are immediately entrusted to him. Asterix gets his superhuman strength from the magic potion brewed by the druid Getafix...



Obelix, Asterix's inseparable friend. A menhir delivery-man by trade; addicted to wild boar. Obelix is always ready to drop everything and go off on a new adventure with Asterix – so long as there's wild boar to eat, and plenty of fighting.



Getafix, the venerable village druid. Gathers mistletoe and brews magic potions. His speciality is the potion which gives the drinker superhuman strength. But Getafix also has other recipes up his sleeve...



Finally, Vitalstatistix, the chief of the tribe. Majestic, brave and hot-tempered, the old warrior is respected by his men and feared by his enemies. Vitalstatistix himself has only one fear; he is afraid the sky may fall on his head tomorrow. But as he always says, 'Tomorrow never comes.'



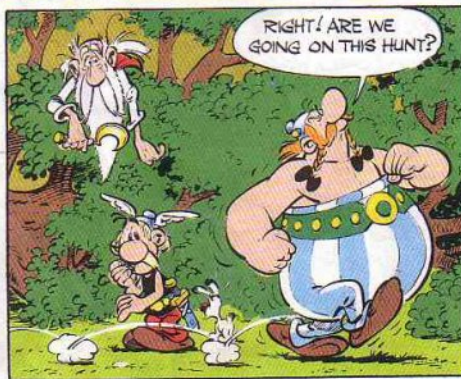
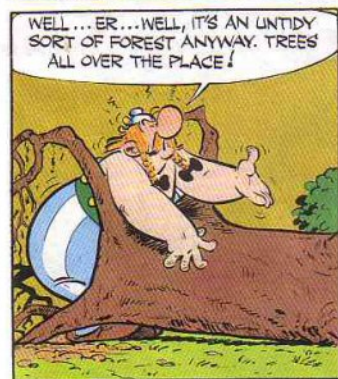
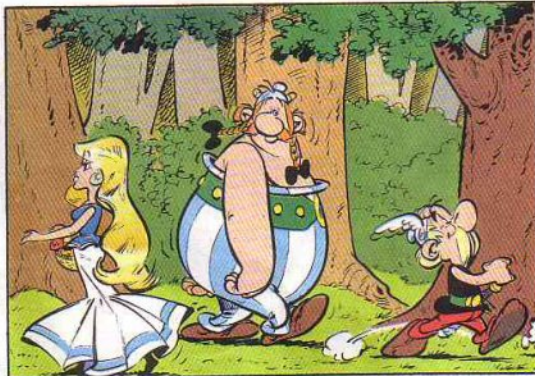
Cacofonix, the bard. Opinion is divided as to his musical gifts. Cacofonix thinks he's a genius. Everyone else thinks he's unspeakable. But so long as he doesn't speak, let alone sing, everybody likes him...

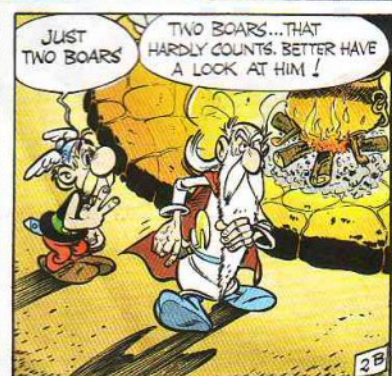
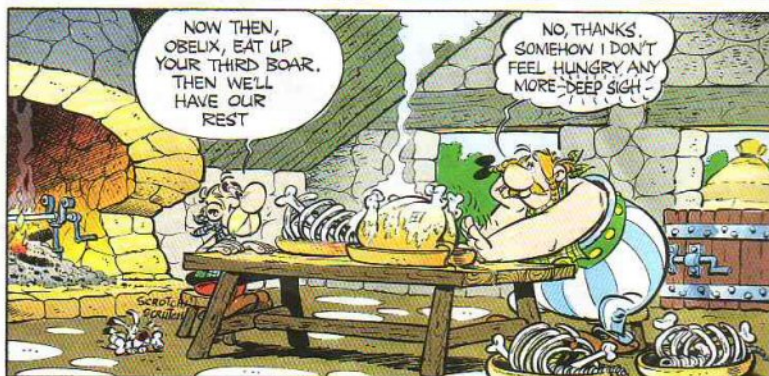
THE SUN IS SHINING, AND ALL IS
QUIET IN THE LITTLE GAULISH VILLAGE
WE KNOW SO WELL...

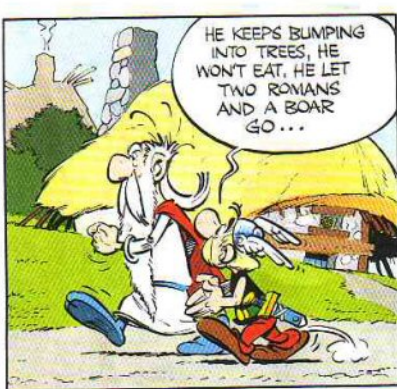
NICE DAY, OBELIX!
LET'S MAKE THE MOST
OF IT! HOW ABOUT
A BOAR HUNT?

GOOD IDEA
ASTERIX!

WOOF!







HE KEEPS BUMPING INTO TREES, HE WON'T EAT, HE LET TWO ROMANS AND A BOAR GO...



GOOD AFTERNOON, O DRUID GETAFIX!

AFTERNOON...



NOW SPEAKING OF BOARS...



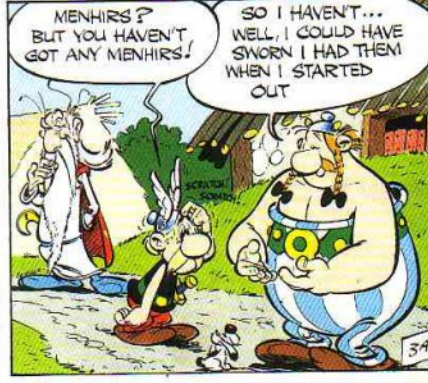
!?



WHERE ARE YOU GOING, OBELIX?

CLICK!

EH? ME? I'M DELIVERING MENHIRS!



MENHIRS? BUT YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY MENHIRS!

SO I HAVEN'T... WELL, I COULD HAVE SWORN I HAD THEM WHEN I STARTED OUT

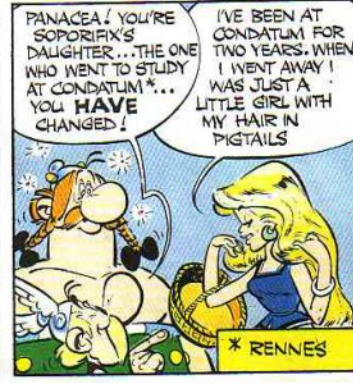


PANACEA! COME HERE A MINUTE!



YES, O DRUID?

PANACEA, HAVE YOU MET ASTERIX AND OBELIX?



PANACEA! YOU'RE SOPORIFIX'S DAUGHTER... THE ONE WHO WENT TO STUDY AT CONDATUM*... YOU HAVE CHANGED!

I'VE BEEN AT CONDATUM FOR TWO YEARS. WHEN I WENT AWAY I WAS JUST A LITTLE GIRL WITH MY HAIR IN PIGTAILS

* RENNES



YOU REMEMBER OBELIX?

OF COURSE I DO! THE ONE WHO FELL IN THE POTION WHEN HE WAS A BABY! HOW ARE YOU, OBELIX?

WKRSTKSFT



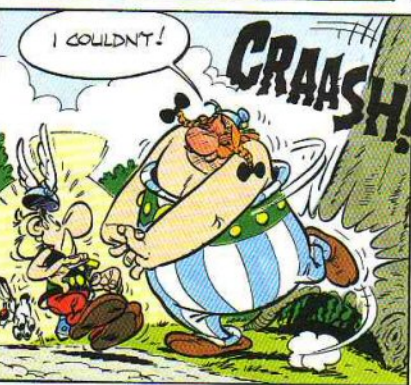
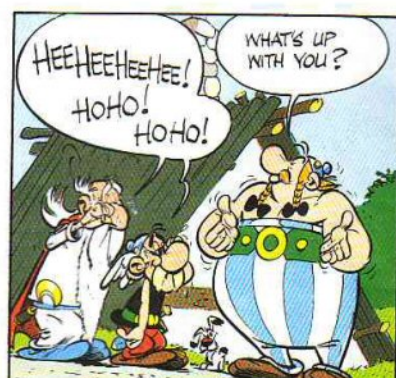
AND THIS IS DOGMATIX

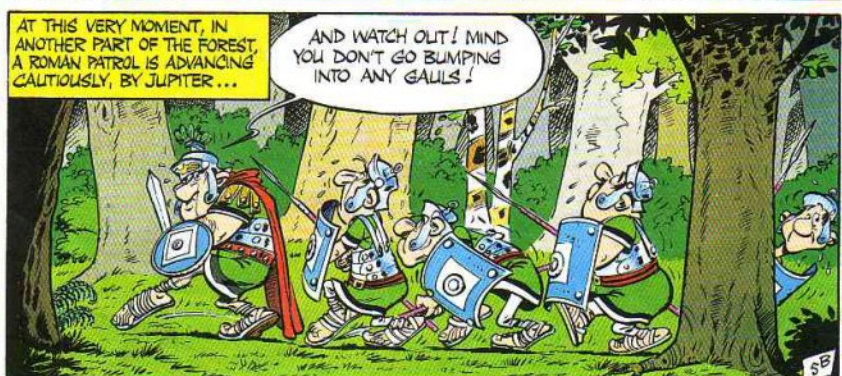
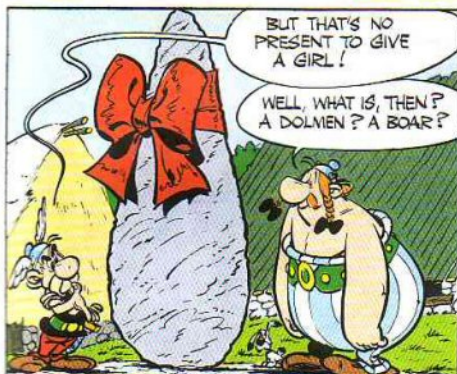
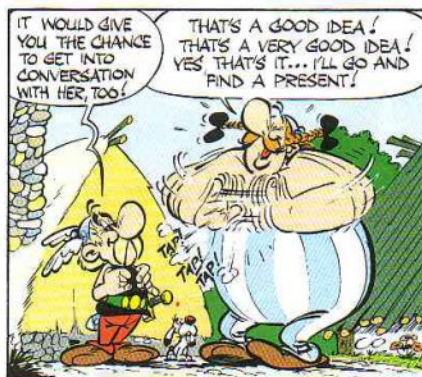
ISN'T HE SWEET!

GRRRR!



GOODBYE!





I KNOW A SPOT NEAR THE BIG OAK WHERE THERE ARE LOTS OF PRETTY FLOWERS. DELICATE POETIC BLUE FLOWERS

THERE'S SOMEONE COMING, BY MERCURY! IT MAY BE THE GAULS! LET'S TRY AND GET BY WITHOUT BEING NOTICED!

OVER THERE! BY THAT BIG OAK!

I... I THINK THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!

ER...QUOMODO VALES?

AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES, TREADING ON MY PRETTY BLUE FLOWERS?

WE'RE TERRIBLY SORRY... WE DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD TO KEEP OFF THE...

WHAM!

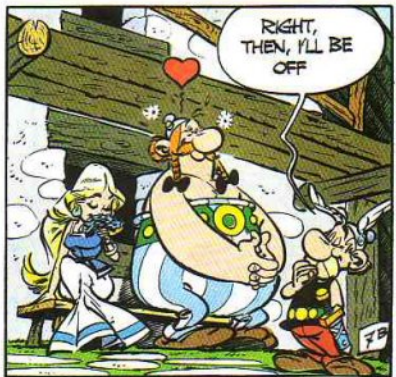
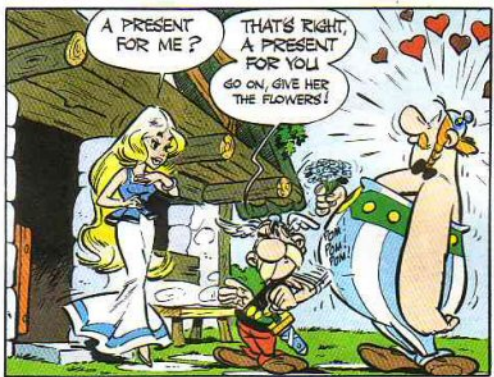
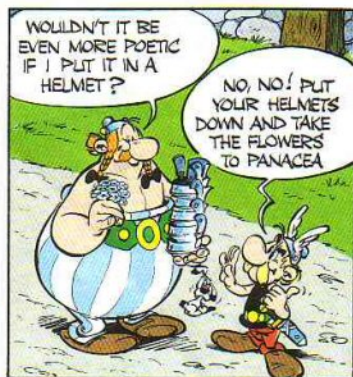
AND HAVING GOT RID OF THE INTRUDERS...

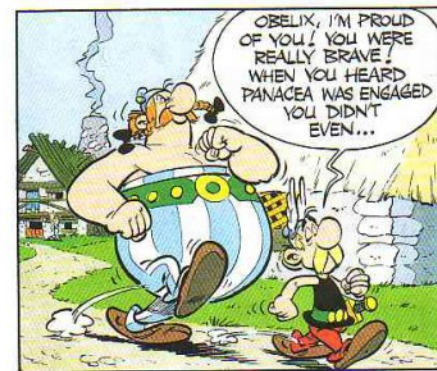
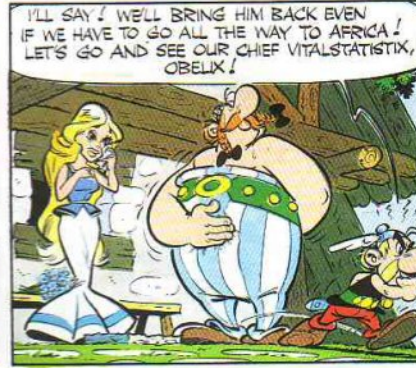
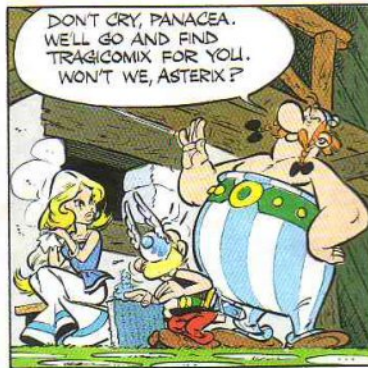
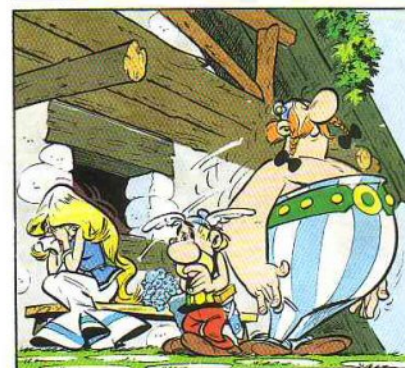
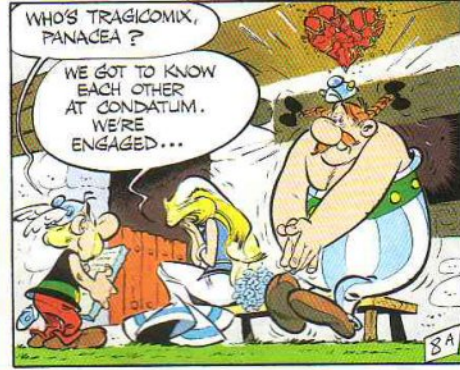
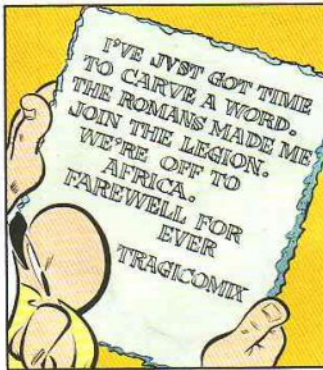
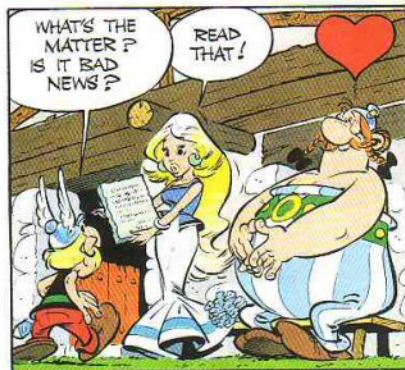
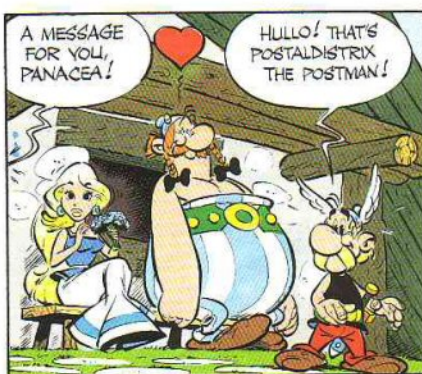
THE TROUBLE WITH YOU ROMANS IS, YOU AREN'T DELICATE OR POETIC...

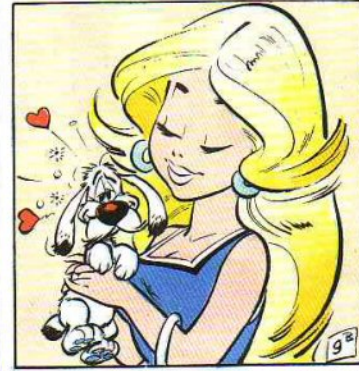
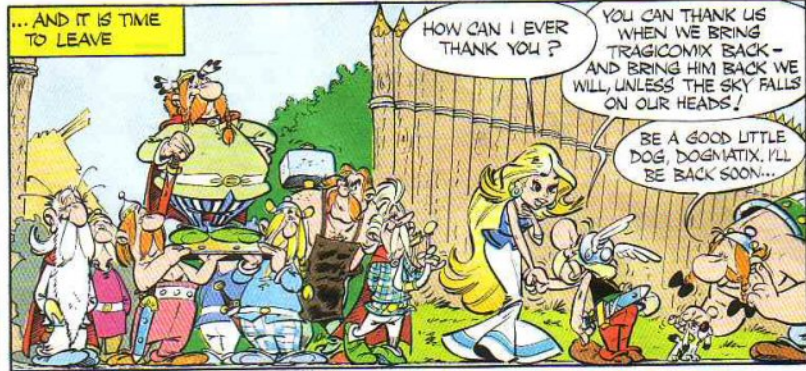
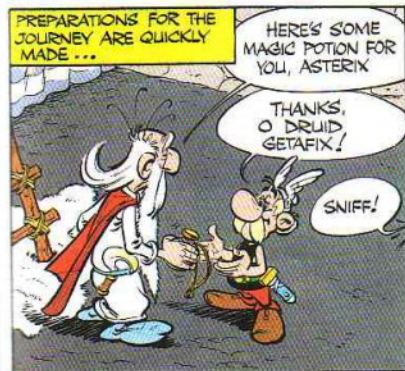
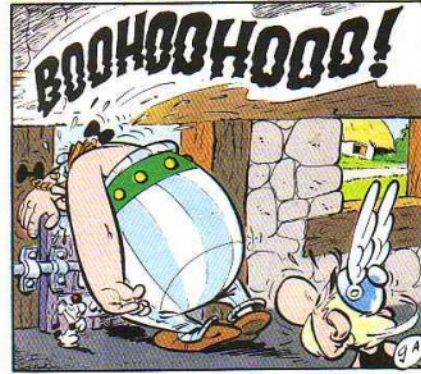
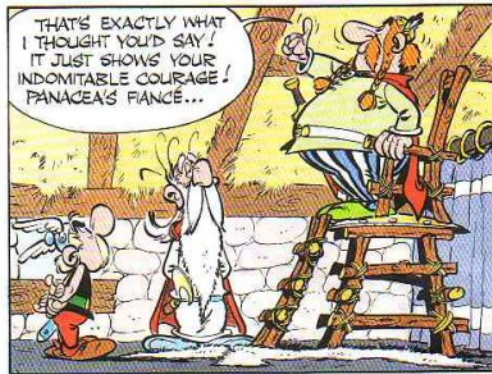
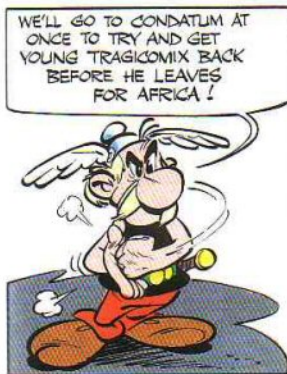
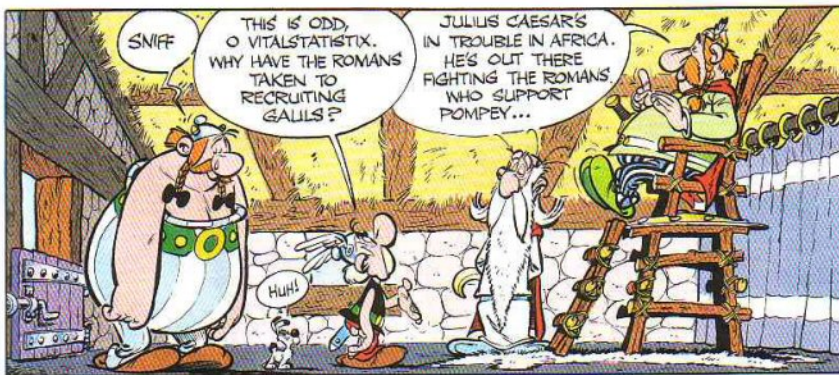
AND THE TROUBLE WITH ME IS, I'M SO SHY AND RETIRING!

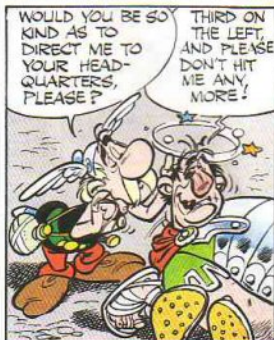
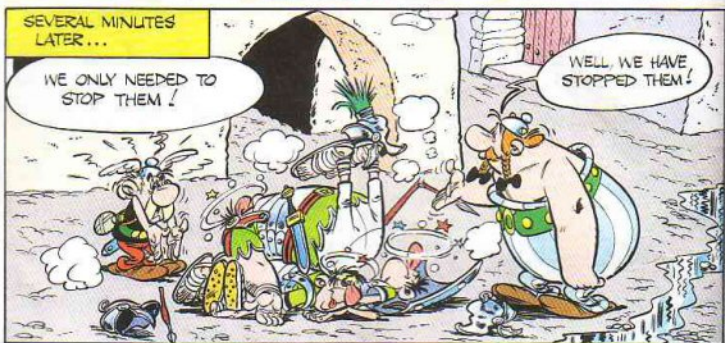
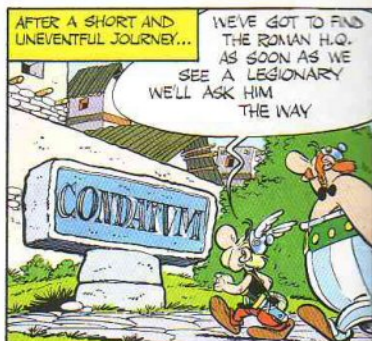
HEAR WHAT THAT NASTODON SAID?

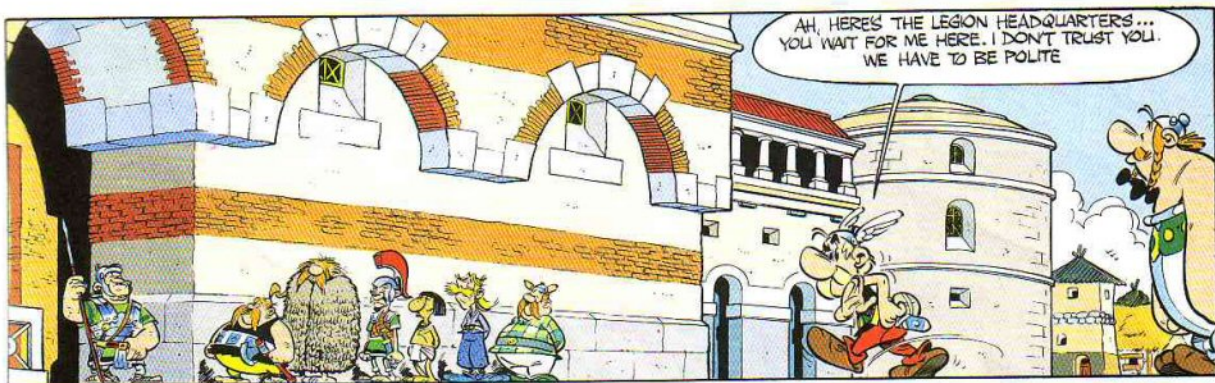
IF YOU ASK ME, THESE GAULS ARE CRAZY!









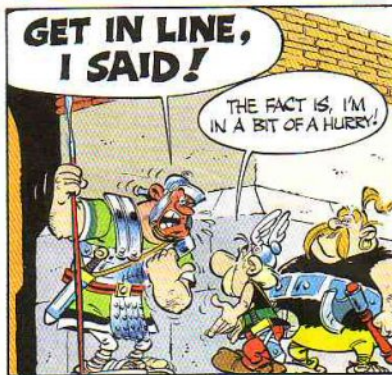


AH, HERE'S THE LEGION HEADQUARTERS...
YOU WAIT FOR ME HERE. I DON'T TRUST YOU.
WE HAVE TO BE POLITE



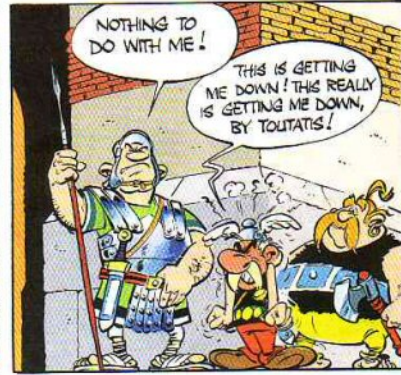
NO ENTRY! IF YOU
WANT TO JOIN UP GAUL,
WAIT IN LINE LIKE
EVERYONE ELSE

I'M
TERRIBLY SORRY...
...I ONLY WANTED
SOME INFORMATION



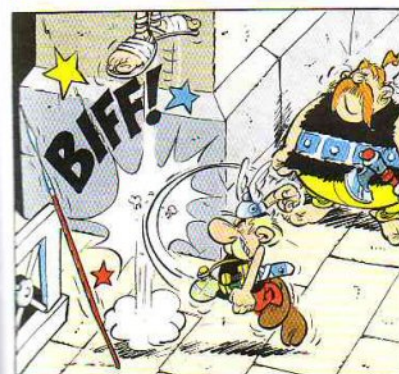
**GET IN LINE,
I SAID!**

THE FACT IS, I'M
IN A BIT OF A HURRY!



NOTHING TO
DO WITH ME!

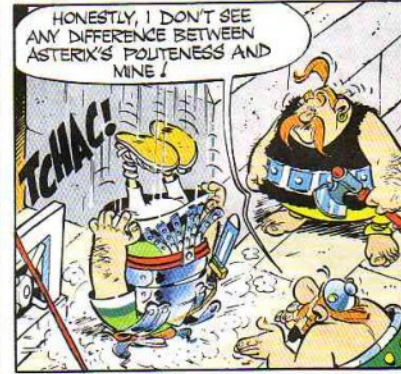
THIS IS GETTING
ME DOWN! THIS REALLY
IS GETTING ME DOWN,
BY TOUTATIS!



BIFF!

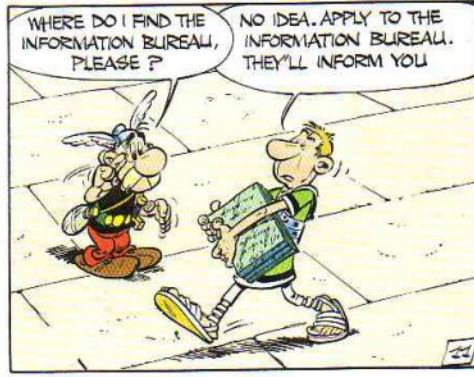
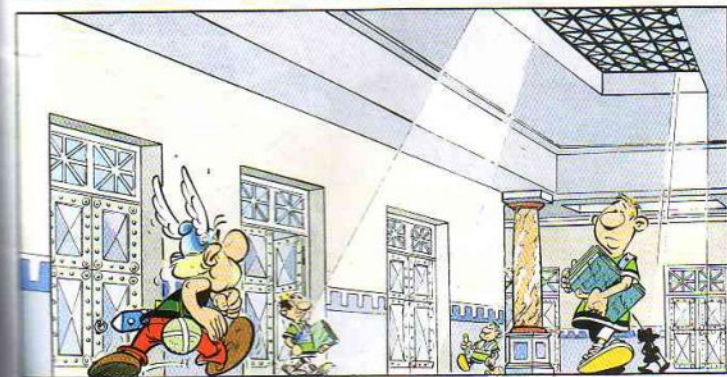


REALLY!



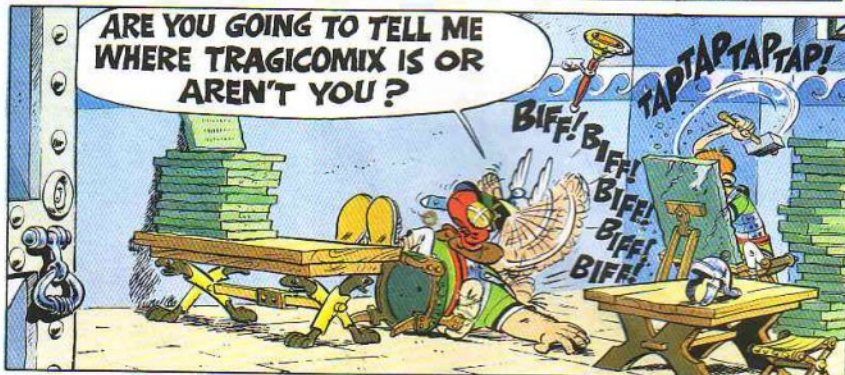
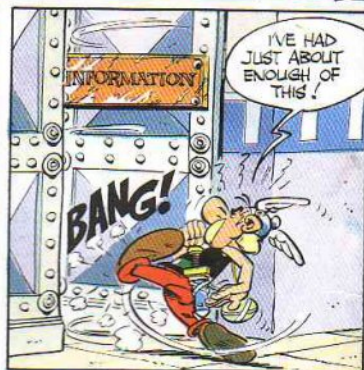
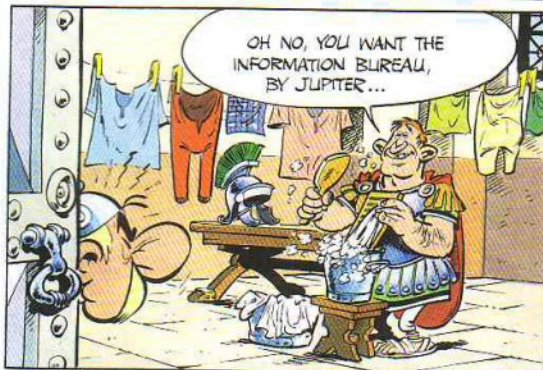
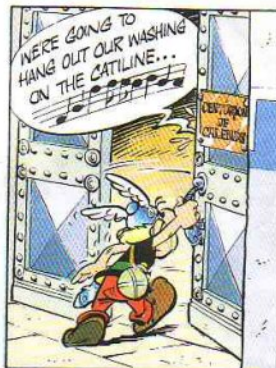
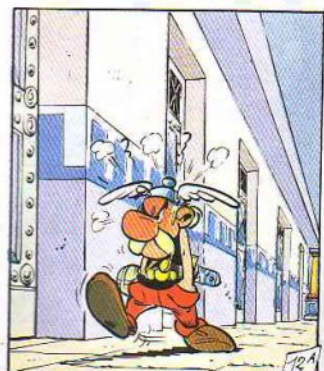
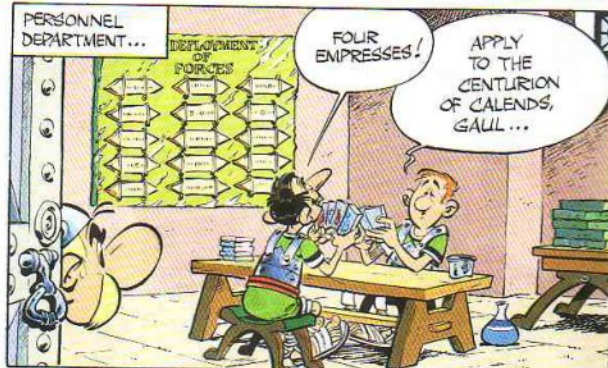
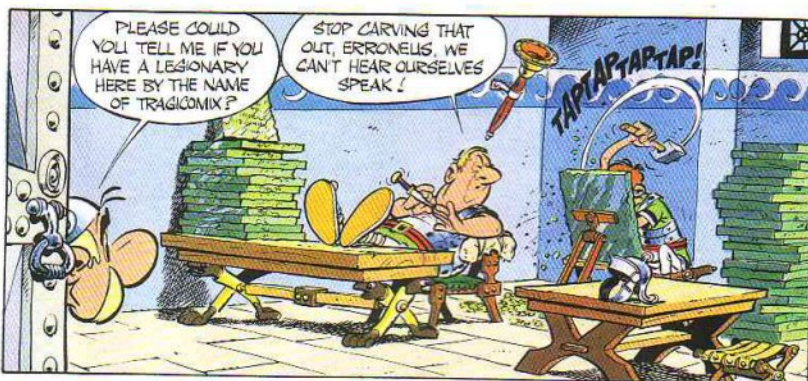
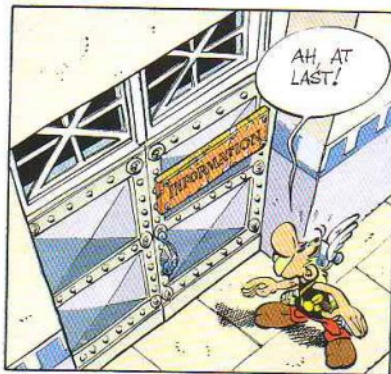
HONESTLY, I DON'T SEE
ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
ASTERIX'S POLITENESS AND
MINE!

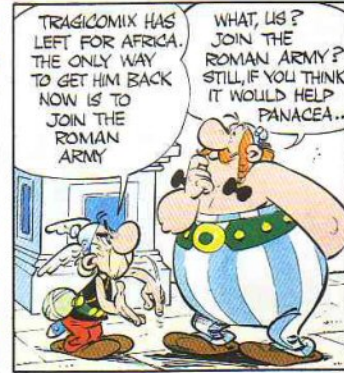
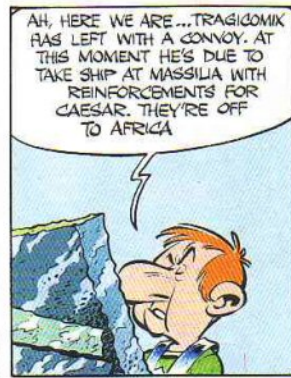
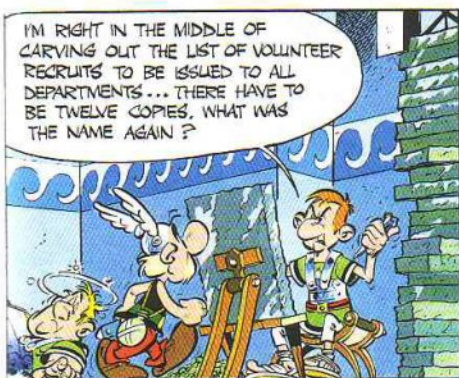
TCHAC!

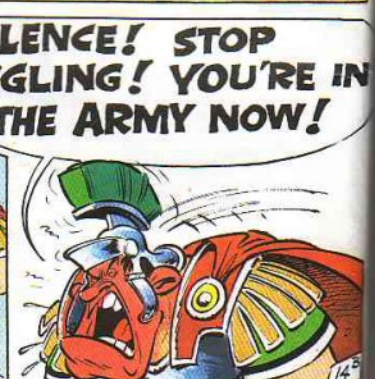
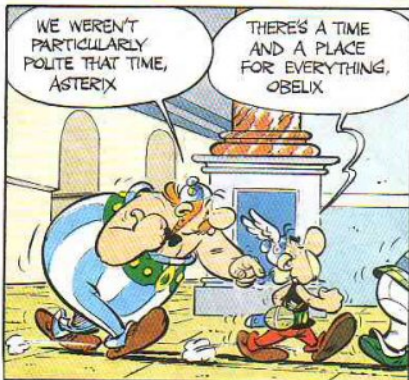
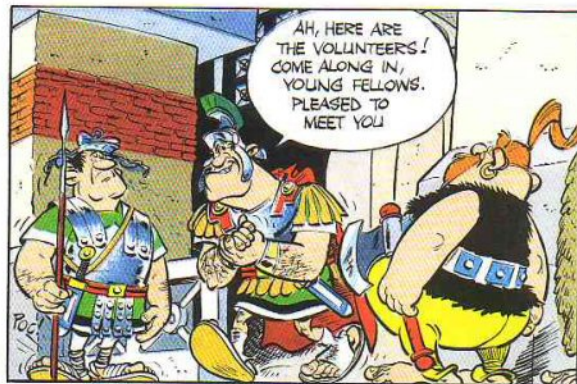


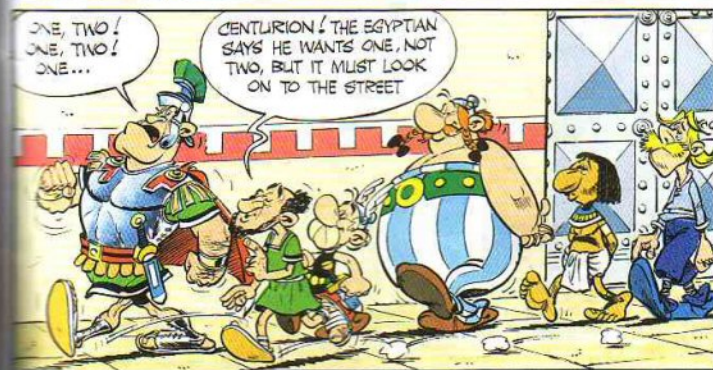
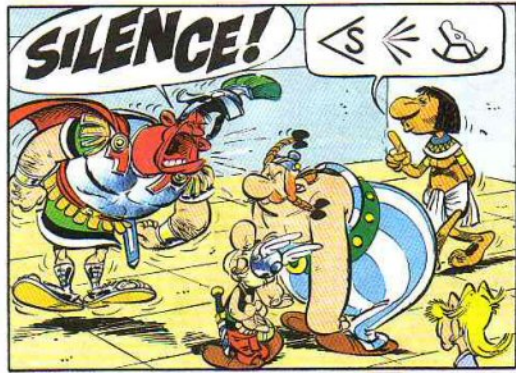
WHERE DO I FIND THE
INFORMATION BUREAU,
PLEASE?

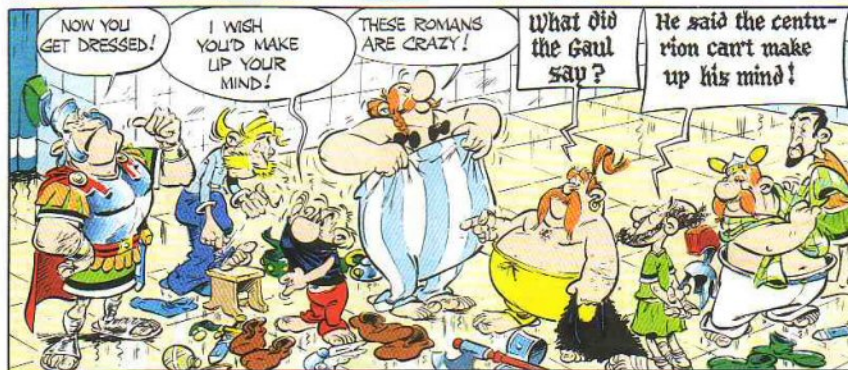
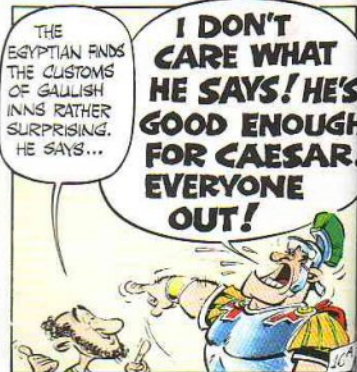
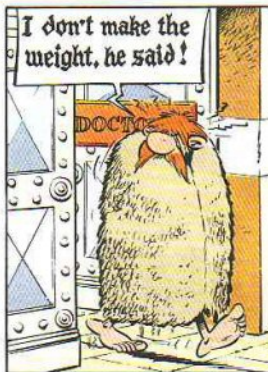
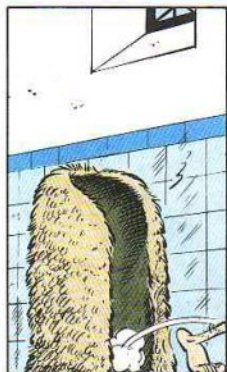
NO IDEA. APPLY TO THE
INFORMATION BUREAU.
THEY'LL INFORM YOU

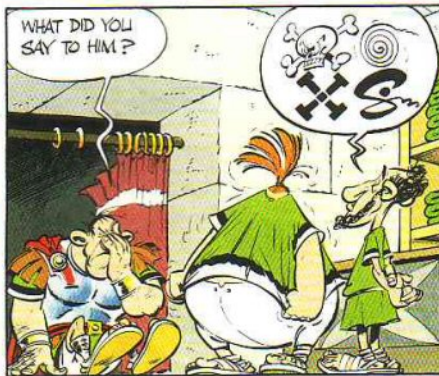
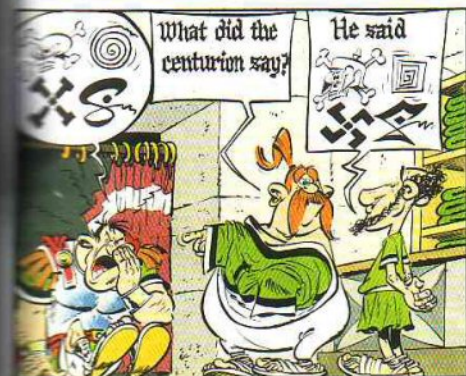
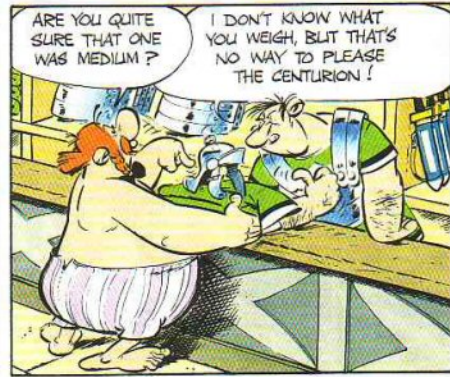
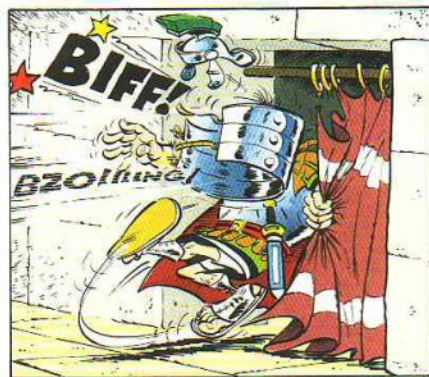
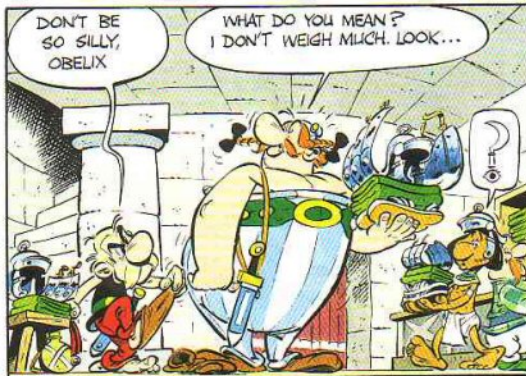
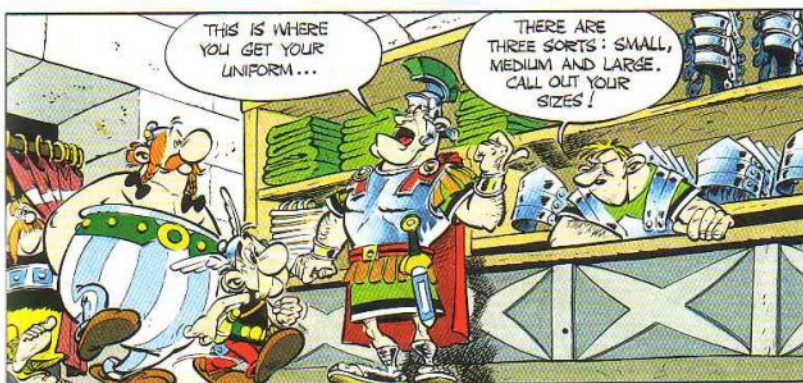


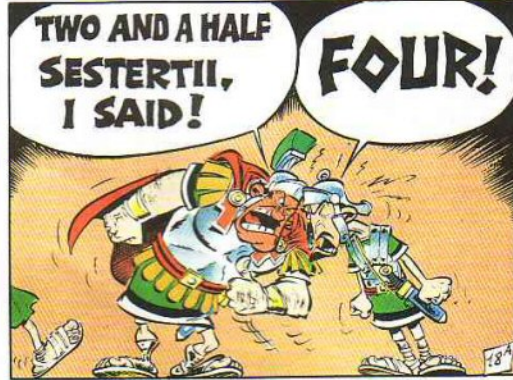


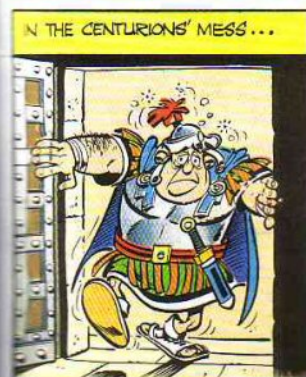
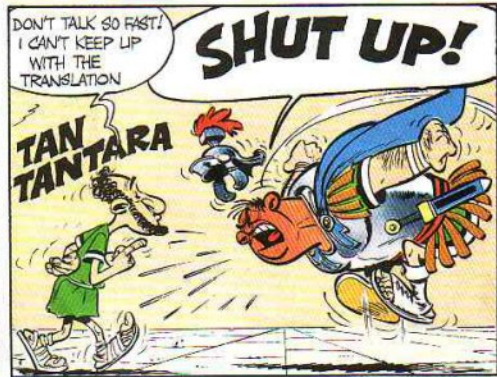
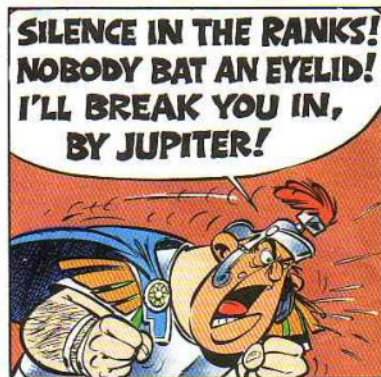
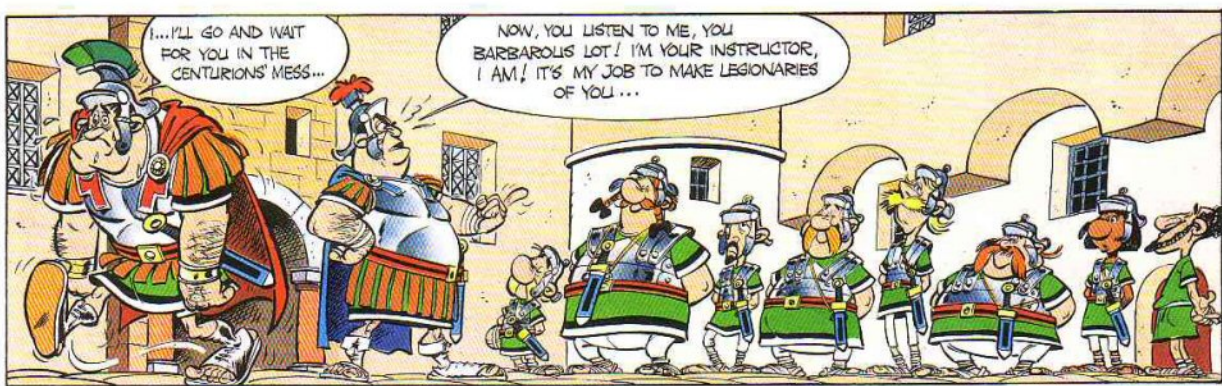


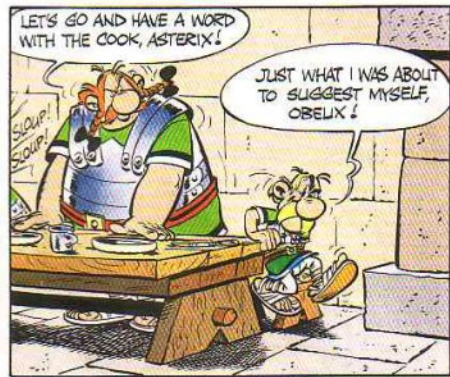
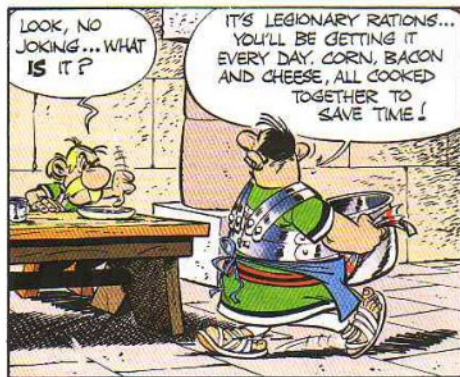
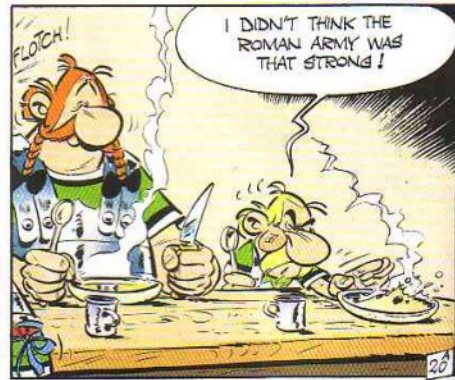
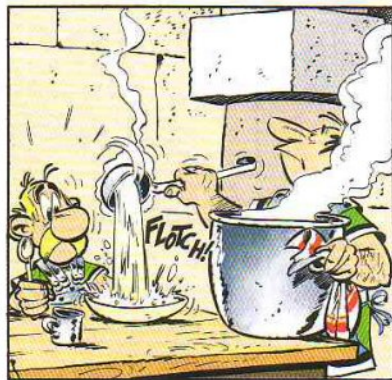
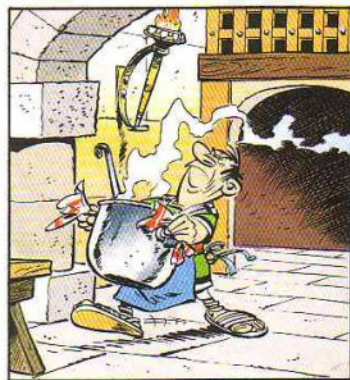


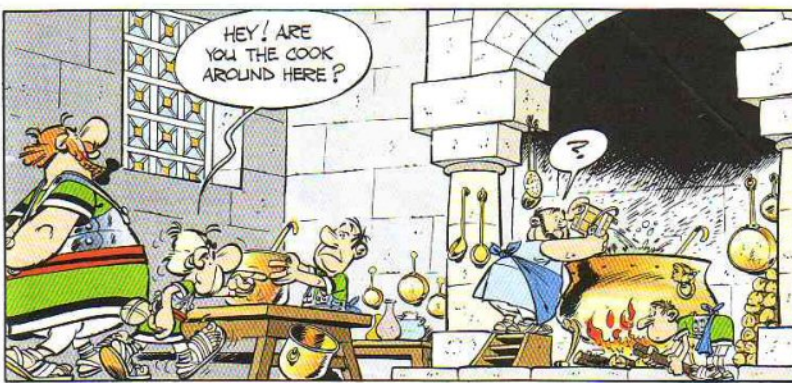




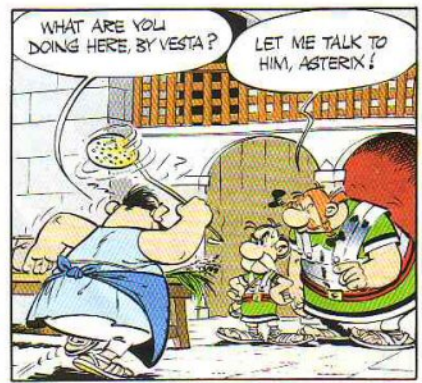






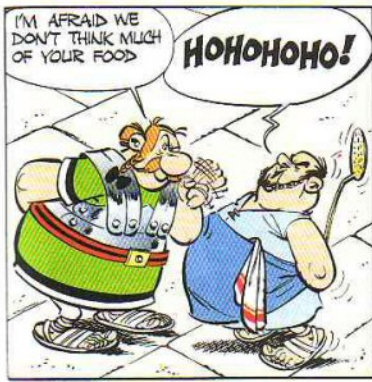


HEY! ARE YOU THE COOK AROUND HERE?



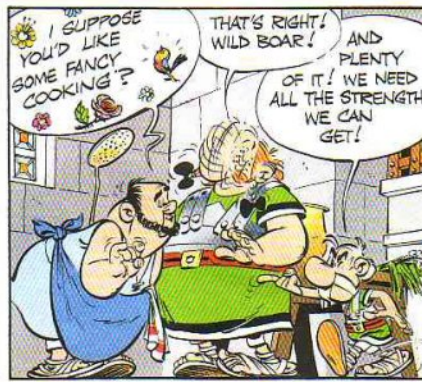
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, SY VESTA?

LET ME TALK TO HIM, ASTERIX!



I'M AFRAID WE DON'T THINK MUCH OF YOUR FOOD

HOHOHOHO!



I SUPPOSE YOU'D LIKE SOME FANCY COOKING?

THAT'S RIGHT! WILD BOAR!

AND PLENTY OF IT! WE NEED ALL THE STRENGTH WE CAN GET!



FANCY CAKES TOO? I BET YOU LIKE FANCY CAKES?

HM... WHAT DO YOU THINK, OBELIX? HOW ABOUT A FEW CAKES?

YES! OH, YES!



YOU GET OUT, OR I'LL HAVE YOU IN THE COOLER!



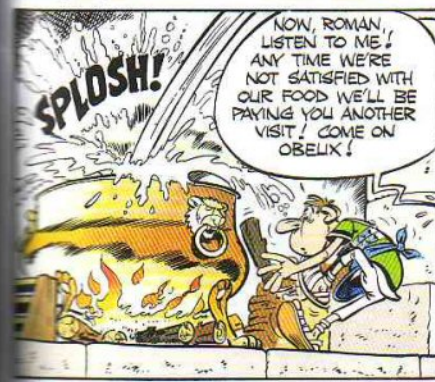
CAN I BE POLITE TO HIM, ASTERIX?

GO RIGHT AHEAD, OBELIX!



BAFFF!

TERRIBLY SORRY



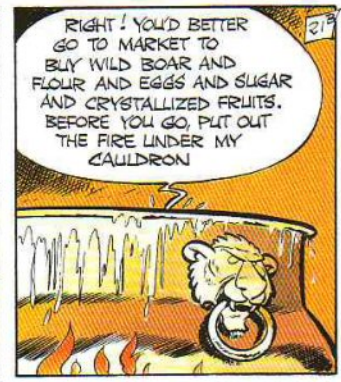
SPLOSH!

NOW, ROMAN, LISTEN TO ME! ANY TIME WE'RE NOT SATISFIED WITH OUR FOOD WE'LL BE PAYING YOU ANOTHER VISIT! COME ON OBELIX!

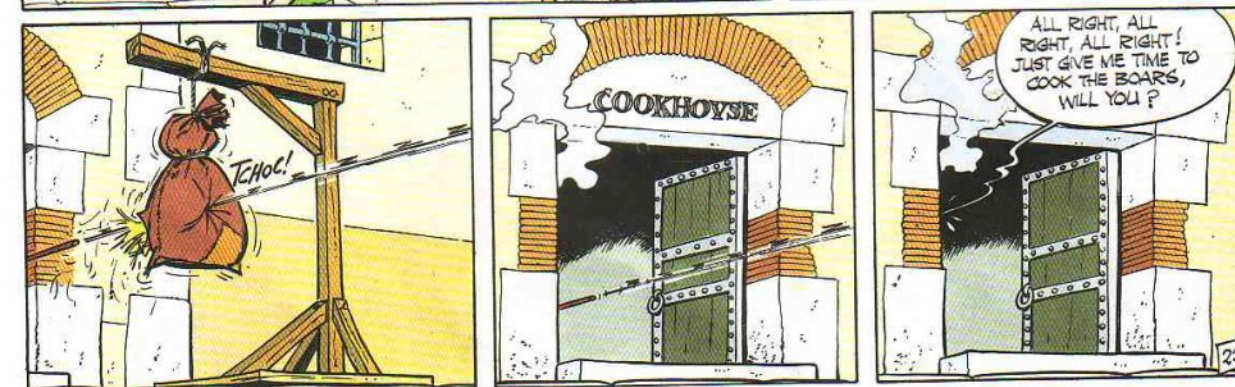
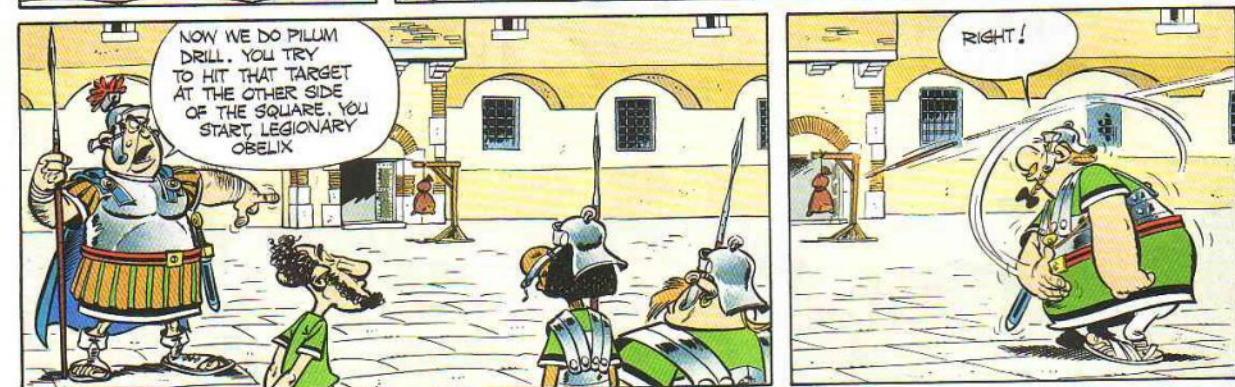
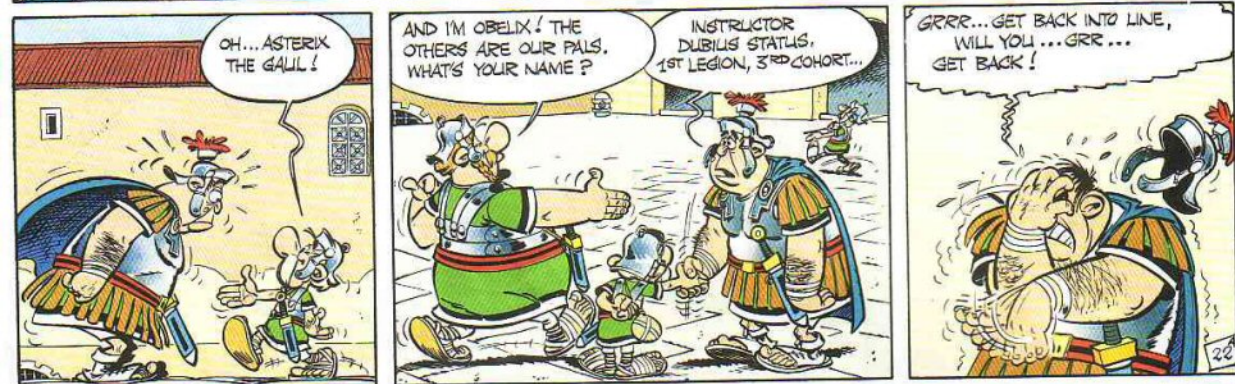
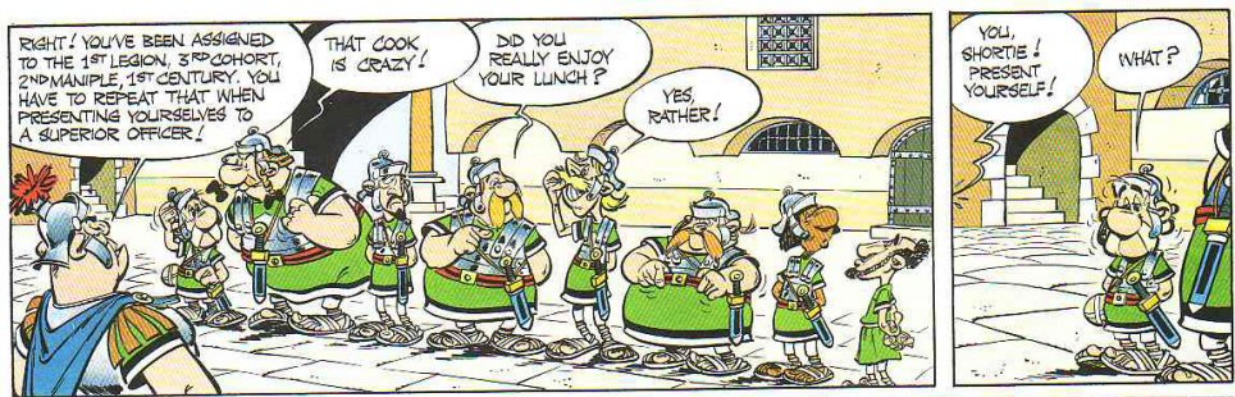


HAVE THEY GONE?

YES



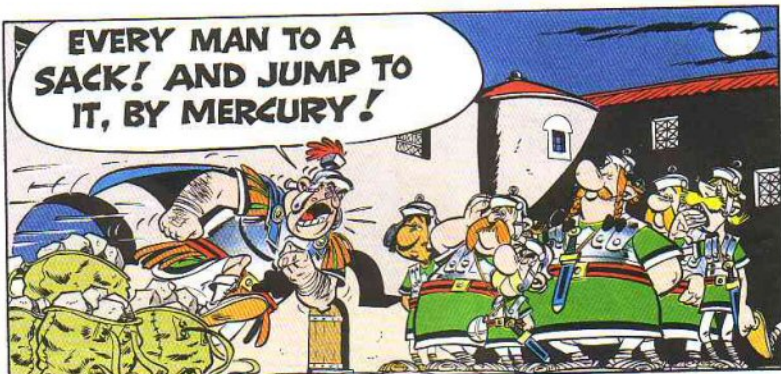
RIGHT! YOU'D BETTER GO TO MARKET TO BUY WILD BOAR AND FLOUR AND EGGS AND SUGAR AND CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS. BEFORE YOU GO, PUT OUT THE FIRE UNDER MY CAULDRON







SO THOSE BARBARIANS
ARE IN A HURRY?
THEY'LL SOON CHANGE
THEIR TUNE, BY
JUPITER!



EVERY MAN TO A
SACK! AND JUMP TO
IT, BY MERCURY!

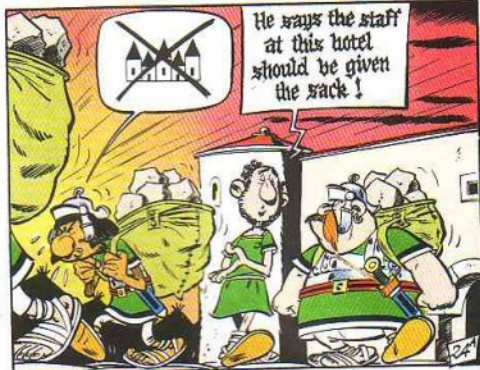


WHO'S HE CALLING?

A PORTER



THAT'S
ENOUGH
OF THAT!
GET
MOVING!



He says the staff
at this hotel
should be given
the sack!

BELENOS, APOLLO AND RA
ARE NOT KIND, AND THE SUN
BEATS DOWN ON THE NEW
LEGIONARIES...



WE CAN'T GO
ON LIKE
THIS!

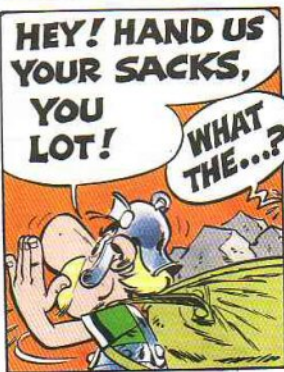
WE
CERTAINLY
CAN'T!

AHA! LESS FOOLING
AROUND NOW, EH?
DRAGGING OUR FEET NOW,
ARE WE? LOST OUR VIS
COMICA, HMM?



DON'T YOU
WORRY, WE'LL FIX
IT FOR
YOU!

OR IT'LL
TAKE
ALL DAY!



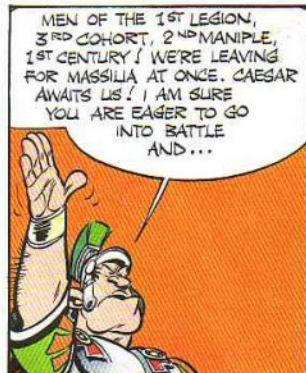
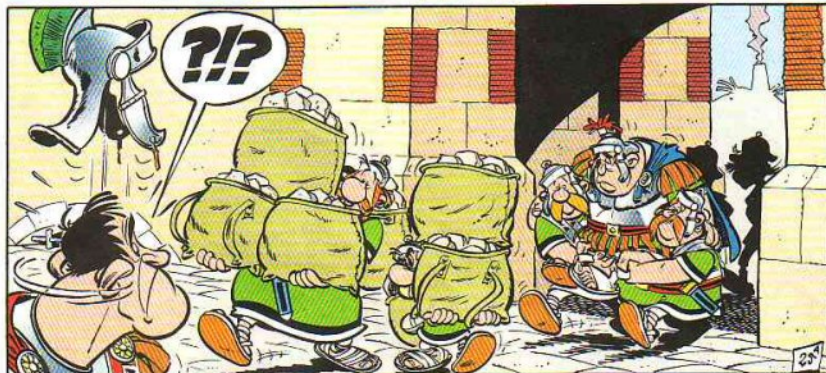
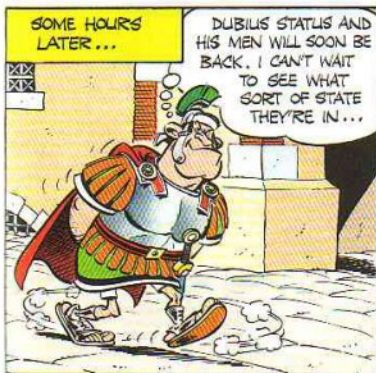
HEY! HAND US
YOUR SACKS,
YOU
LOT!

WHAT
THE...?

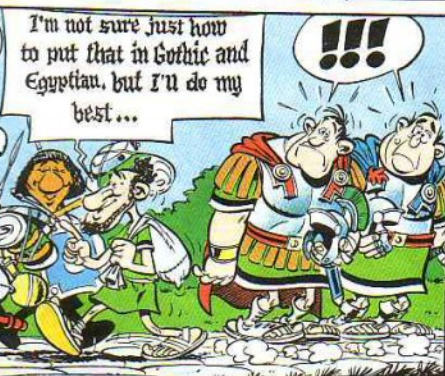
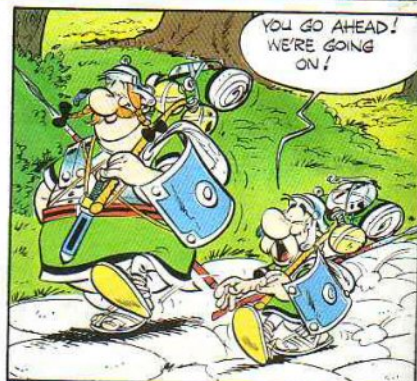
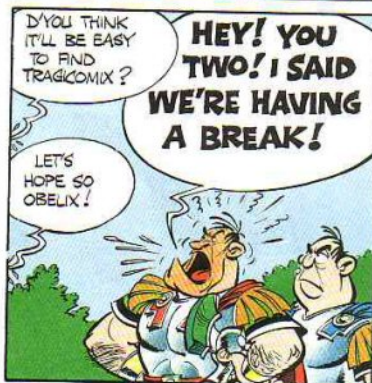
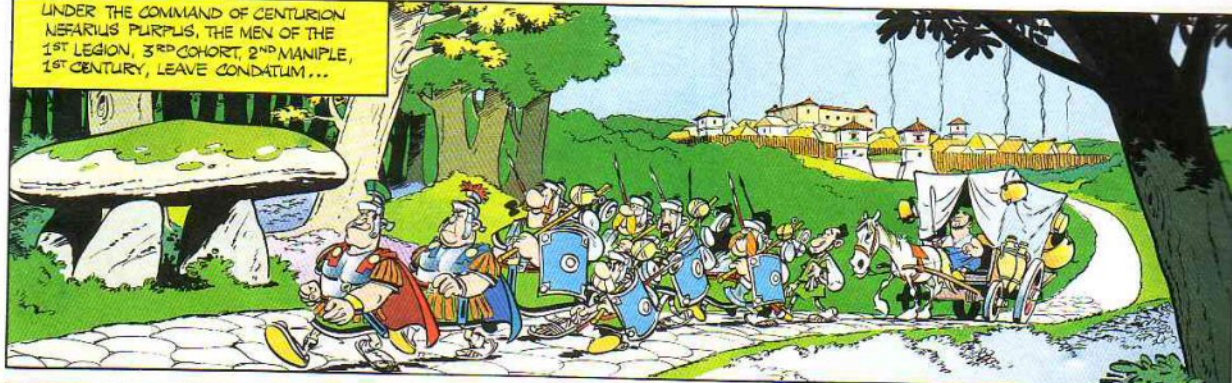


AT THE DOUBLE
NOW... WE'RE
WANTED IN
AFRICA, WE
ARE!

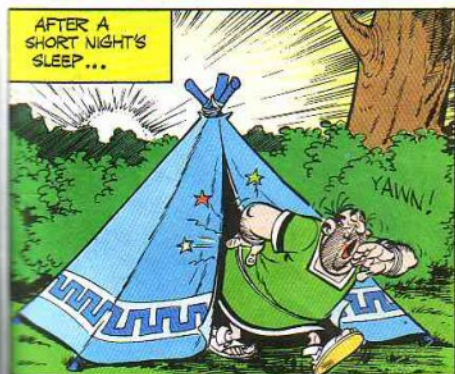
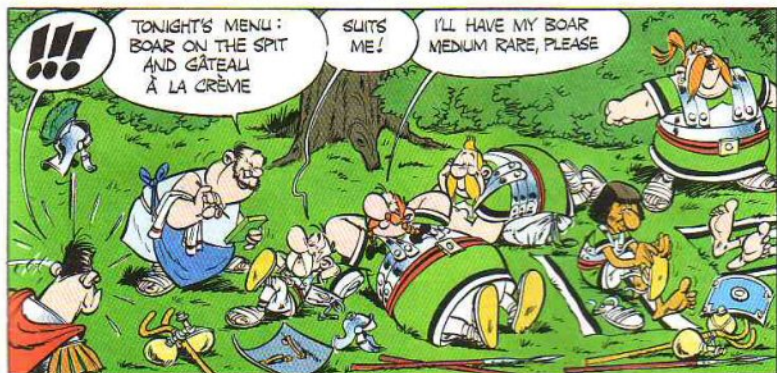
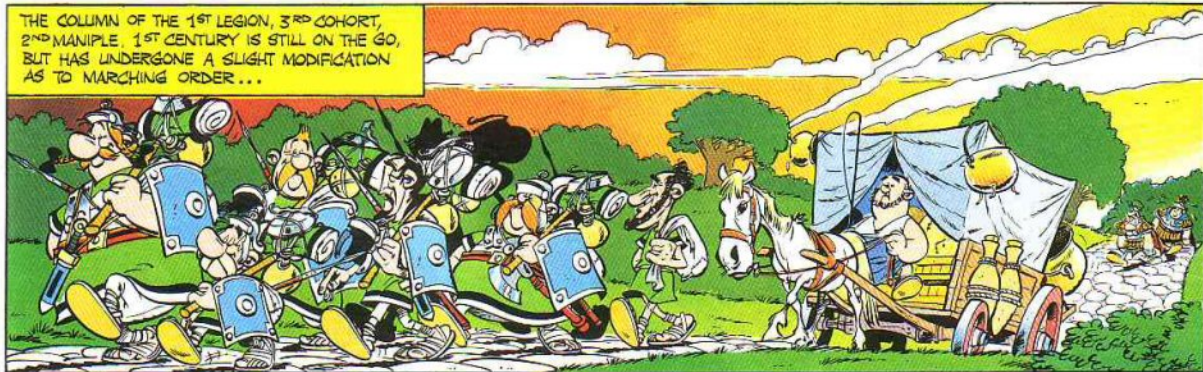
SO THE SOONER WE'RE
THROUGH WITH THESE
SILLY EXERCISES THE
BETTER!

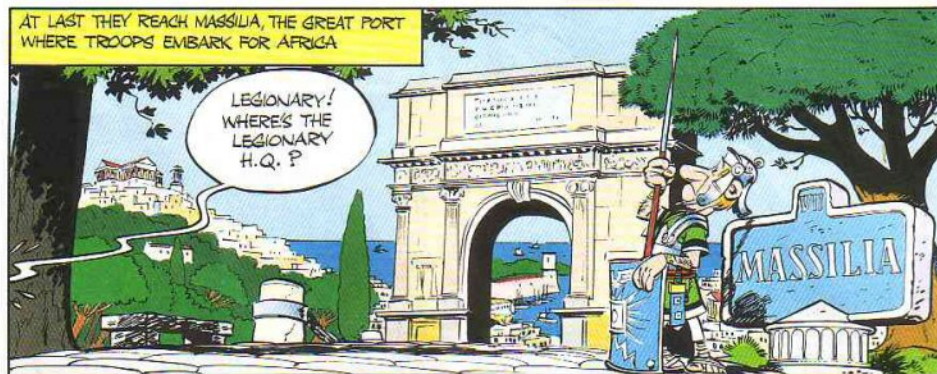
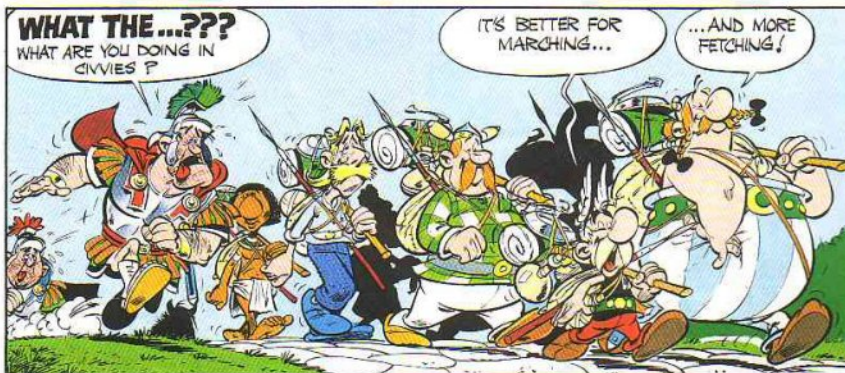
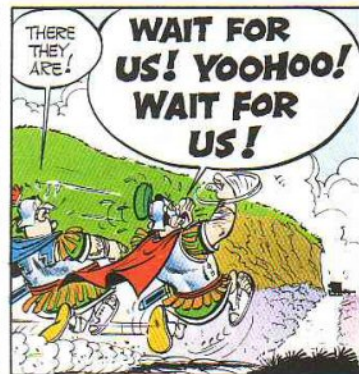


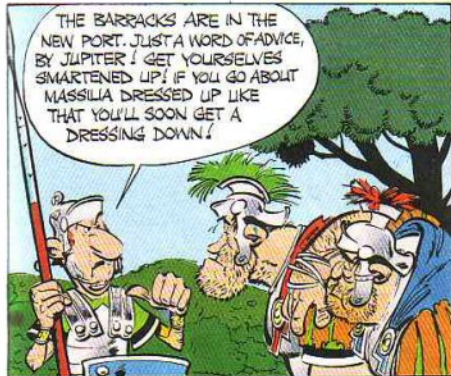
UNDER THE COMMAND OF CENTURION
NEFARIUS PURPLUS, THE MEN OF THE
1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE,
1ST CENTURY, LEAVE CONDATUM...



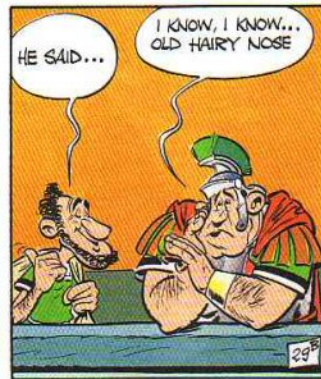
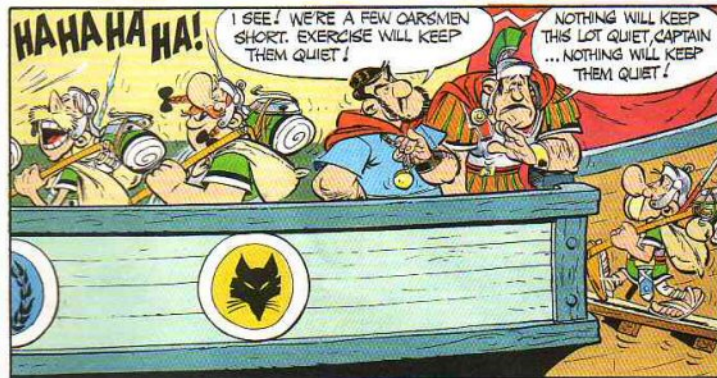
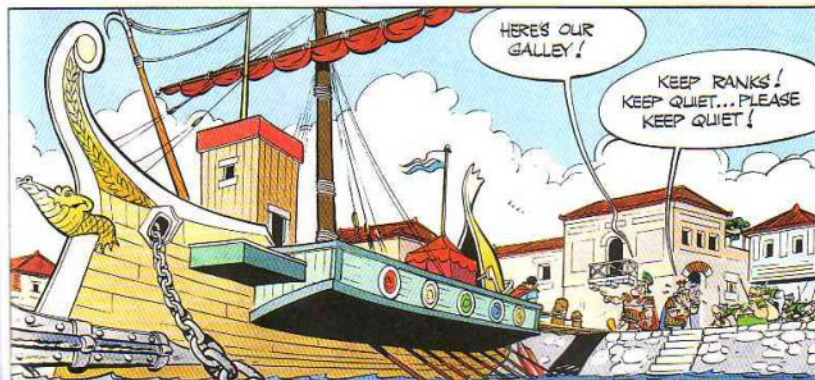
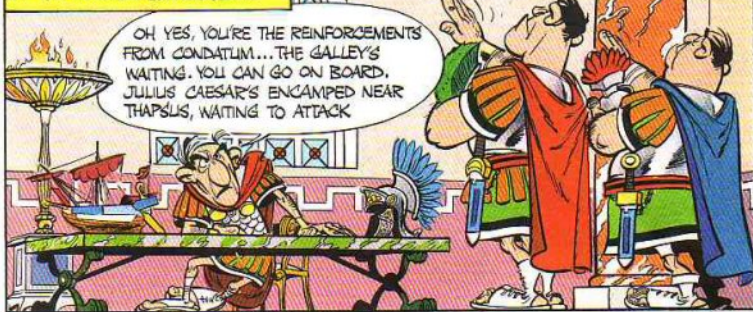
THE COLUMN OF THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT,
2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY IS STILL ON THE GO,
BUT HAS UNDERGONE A SLIGHT MODIFICATION
AS TO MARCHING ORDER...

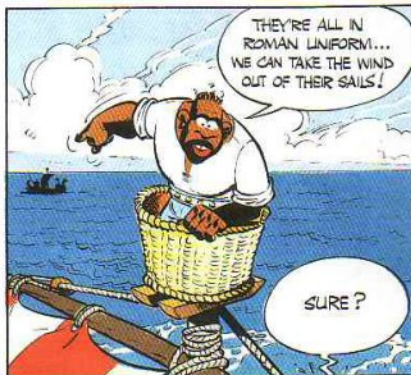
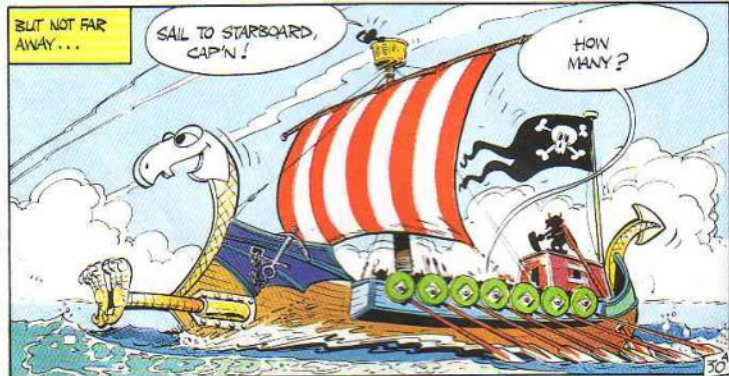
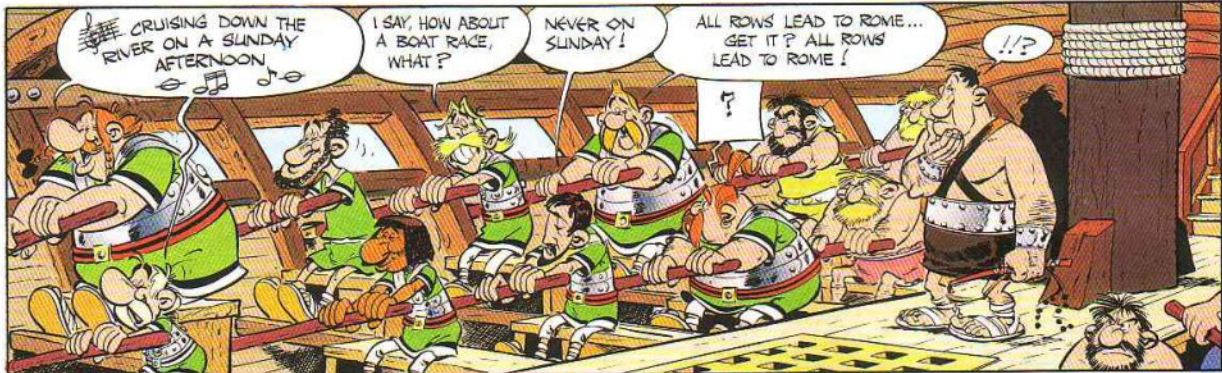


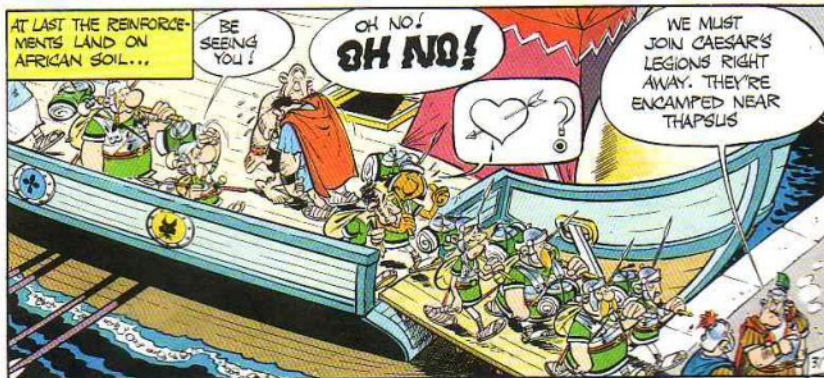
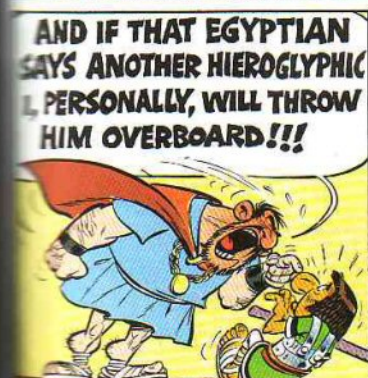
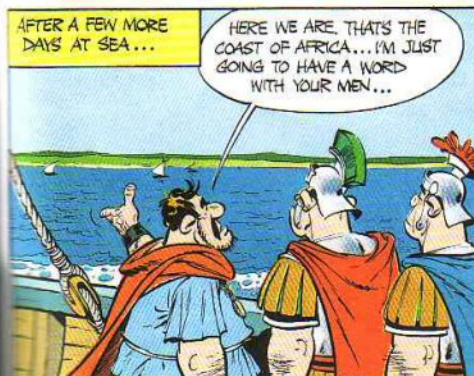
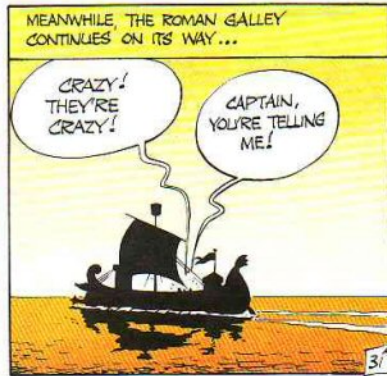
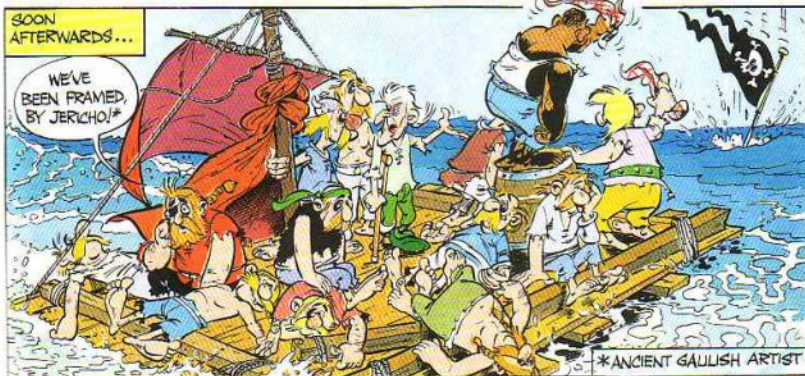
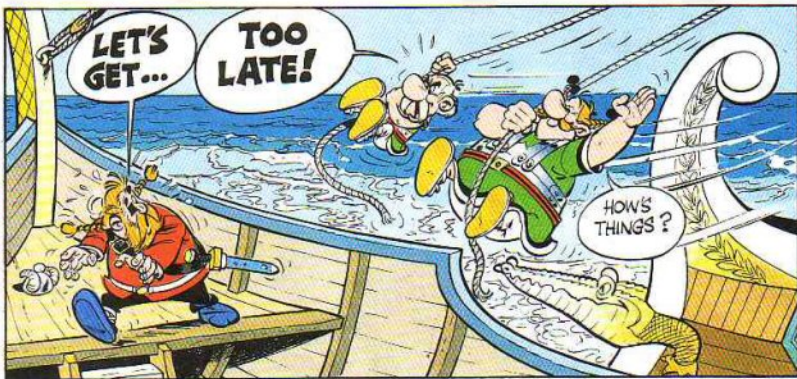


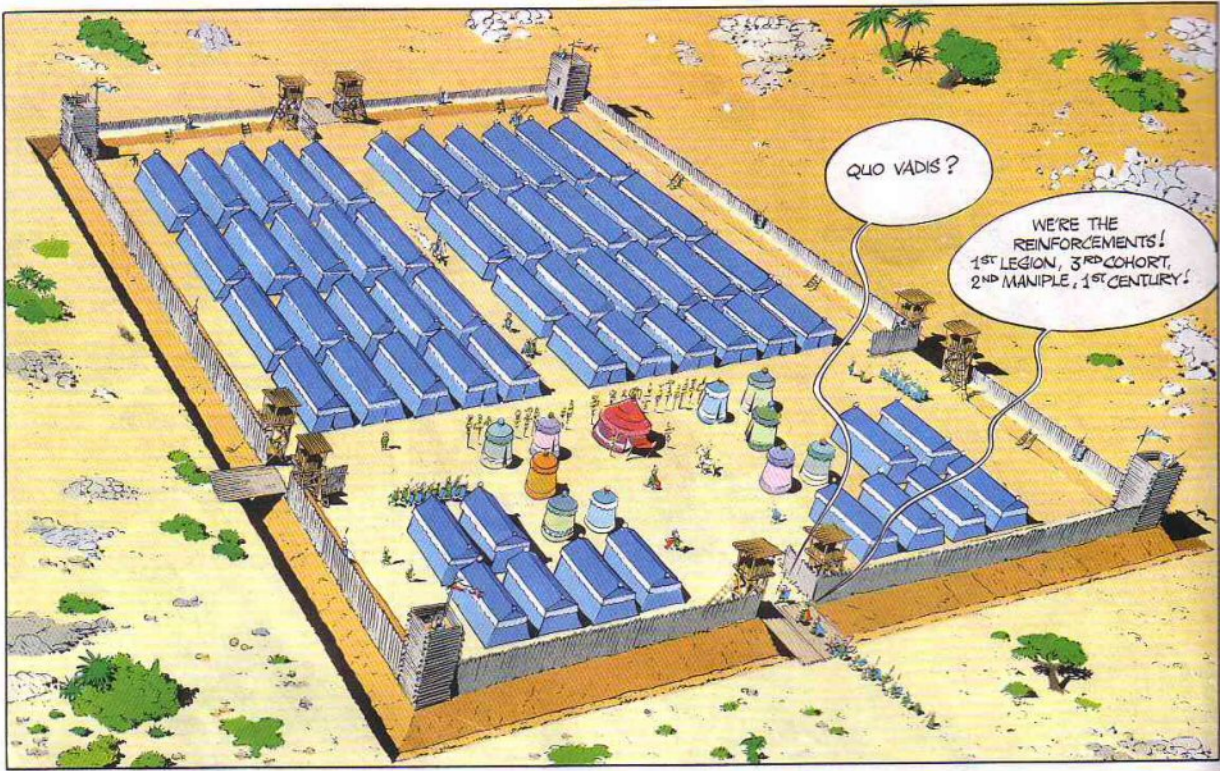


SOON AFTERWARDS, IN THE OFFICES OF THE COMMANDING TRIBUNE OF THE MASSILIA BARRACKS...









QUO VADIS?

WE'RE THE REINFORCEMENTS!
1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT,
2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY!



THE CENTURION
OF THE WATCH
WILL SHOW YOU
TO YOUR
QUARTERS

WE'LL GO AND
LOOK FOR TRAGICOMIX
AT ONCE, SO WE CAN
GET HOME TO GAUL
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE

YES, LET'S!
THE SOONER
WE SCARAB
OFF THE
BETTER!



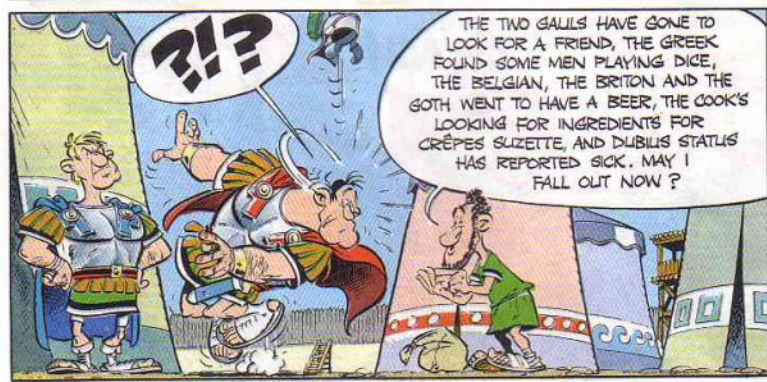
He says it's a
very nice
holiday camp

* THESE DAYS WE
SHOULD SAY 'BEETLE'



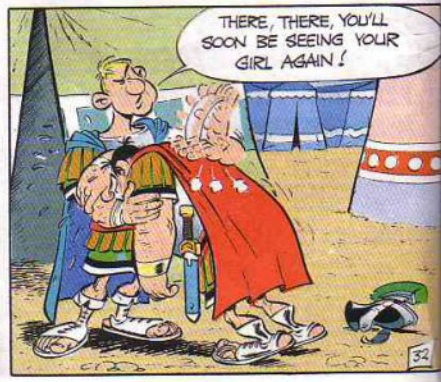
1ST LEGION,
3RD COHORT,
2ND MANIPLE,
1ST CENTURY,
TAKING UP ITS
QUARTERS!

REALLY? WHERE
IS THE 1ST LEGION,
3RD COHORT,
2ND MANIPLE,
1ST CENTURY, THEN?

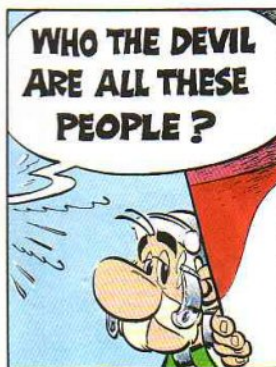
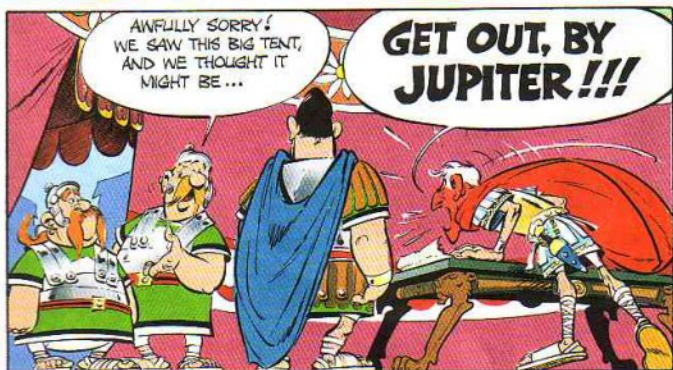
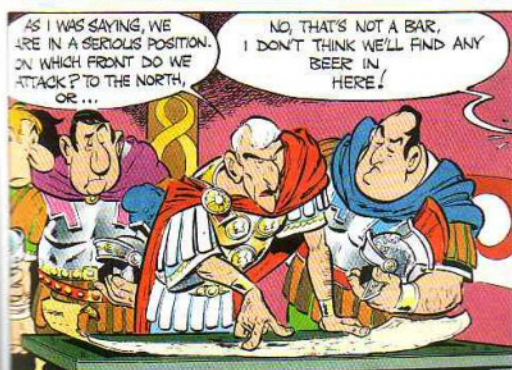
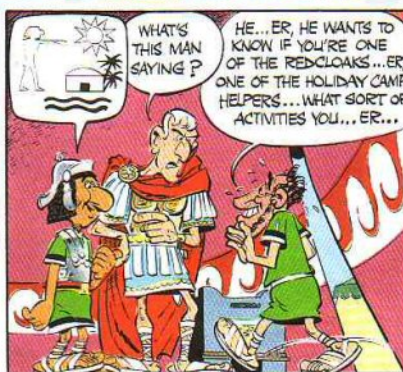
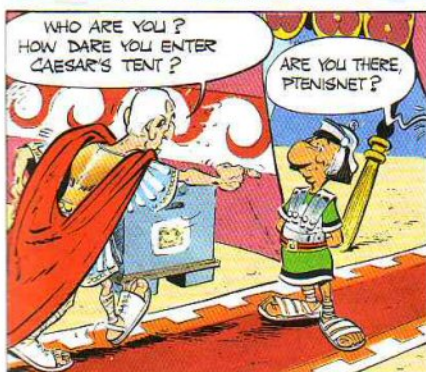
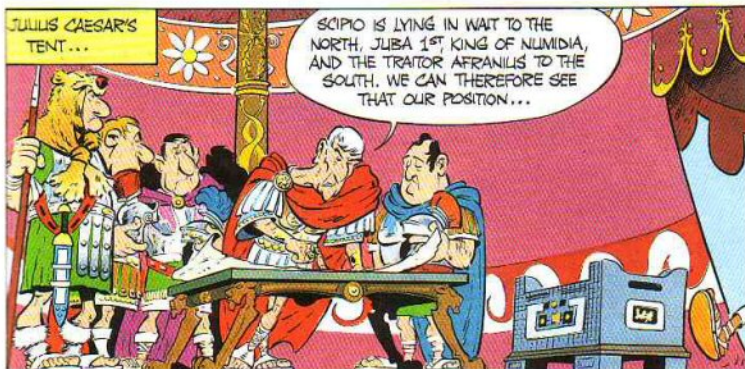


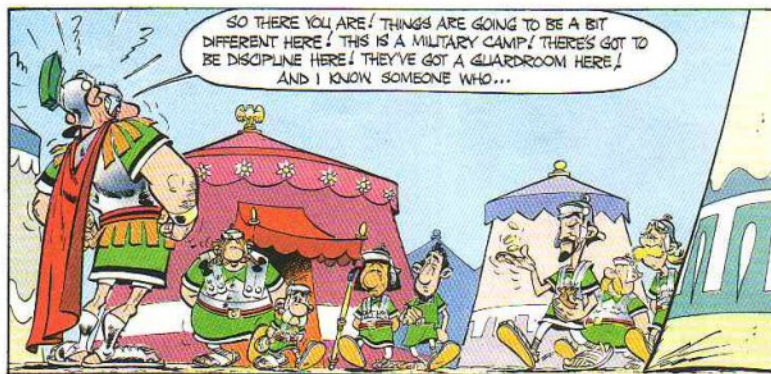
?!?

THE TWO GAULS HAVE GONE TO
LOOK FOR A FRIEND, THE GREEK
FOUND SOME MEN PLAYING DICE,
THE BELGIAN, THE BRITON AND THE
GOTH WENT TO HAVE A BEER, THE COOK'S
LOOKING FOR INGREDIENTS FOR
CRÊPES SUZETTE, AND DUBILUS STATUS
HAS REPORTED SICK. MAY I
FALL OUT NOW?

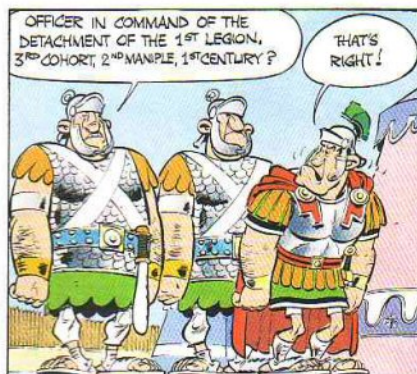


THERE, THERE, YOU'LL
SOON BE SEEING YOUR
GIRL AGAIN!



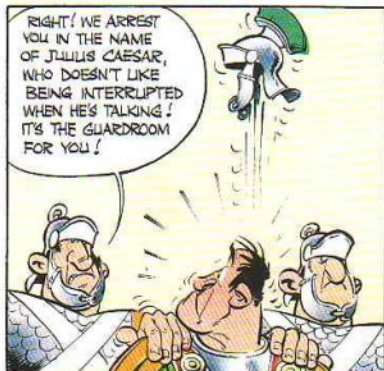


SO THERE YOU ARE! THINGS ARE GOING TO BE A BIT DIFFERENT HERE! THIS IS A MILITARY CAMP! THERE'S GOT TO BE DISCIPLINE HERE! THEY'VE GOT A GUARDROOM HERE! AND I KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

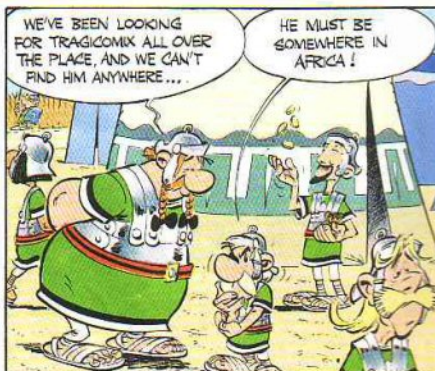


OFFICER IN COMMAND OF THE DETACHMENT OF THE 1ST LEGION, 3RD COHORT, 2ND MANIPLE, 1ST CENTURY?

THAT'S RIGHT!

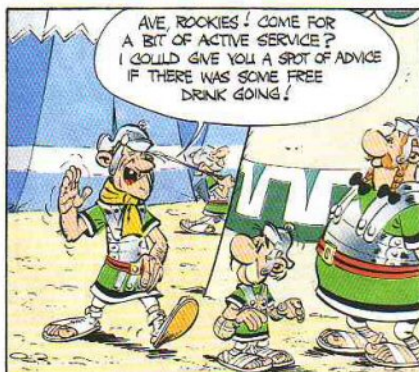


RIGHT! WE ARREST YOU IN THE NAME OF JULIUS CAESAR, WHO DOESN'T LIKE BEING INTERRUPTED WHEN HE'S TALKING! IT'S THE GUARDROOM FOR YOU!



WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR TRAGICOMIX ALL OVER THE PLACE, AND WE CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE...

HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA!



AVE, ROCKIES! COME FOR A BIT OF ACTIVE SERVICE? I COULD GIVE YOU A SPOT OF ADVICE IF THERE WAS SOME FREE DRINK GOING!

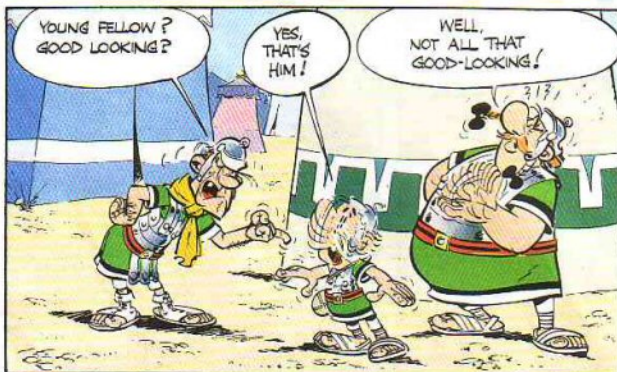


I'M AN OLD HAND OUT HERE. I KNOW MY WAY AROUND! I KNOW EVERYBODY, I DO!

DO YOU KNOW A LEGIONARY CALLED TRAGICOMIX?



TRAGICOMIX... TRAGICOMIX WITH A T, AS IN TIMEO DANAOS ET DONA FERENTES?



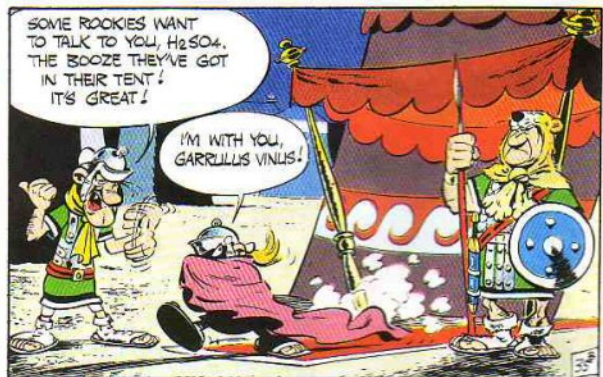
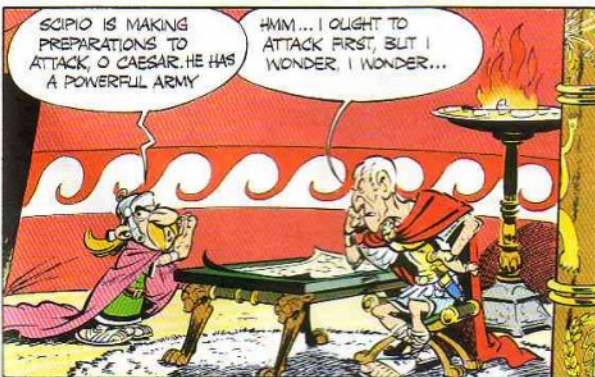
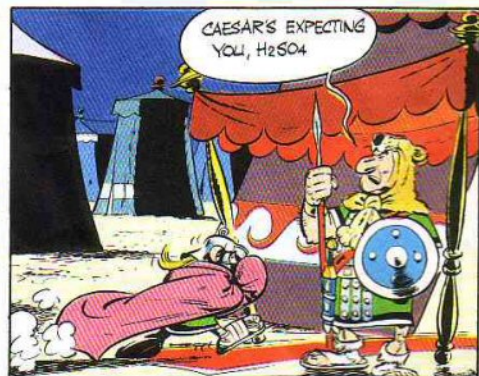
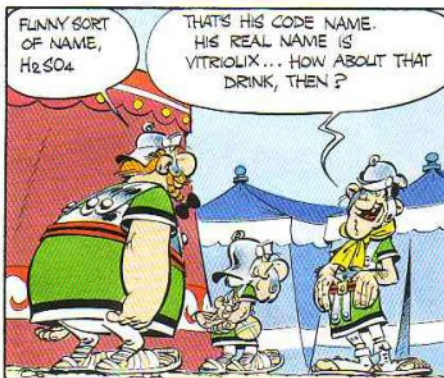
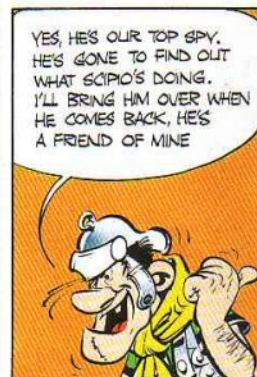
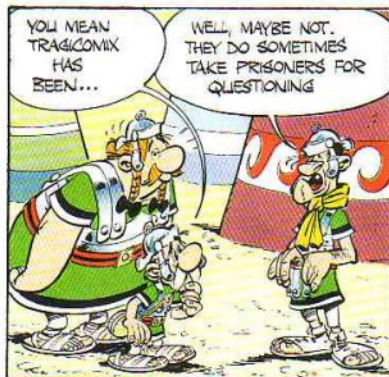
YOUNG FELLOW? GOOD LOOKING?

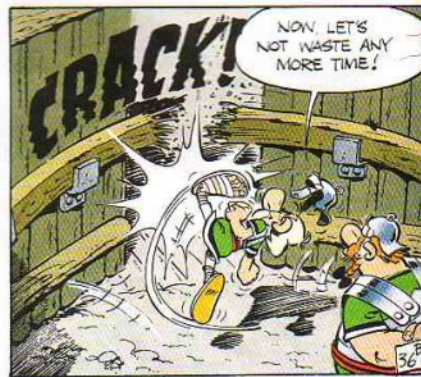
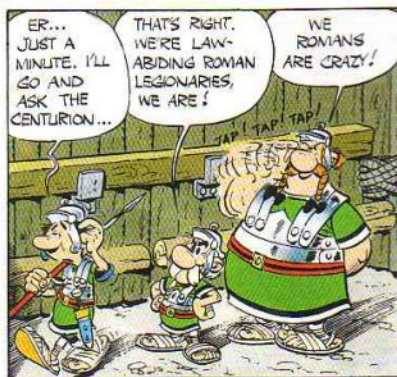
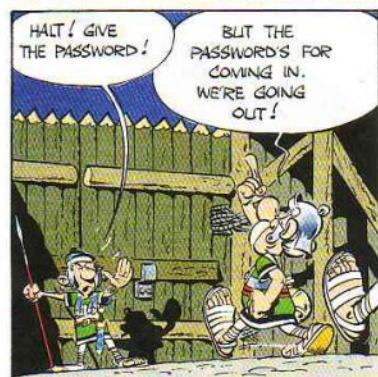
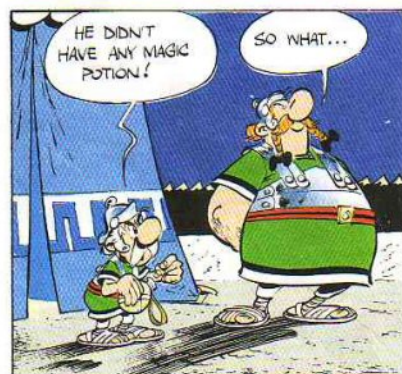
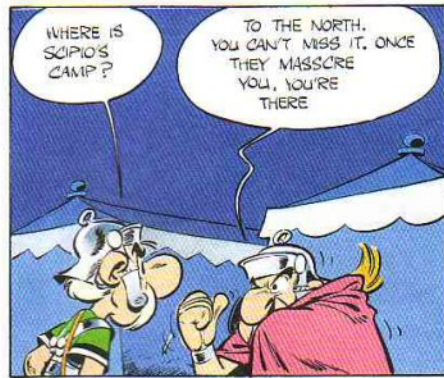
YES, THAT'S HIM!

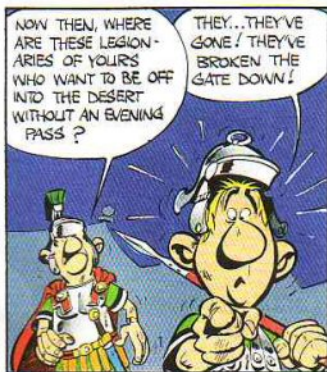
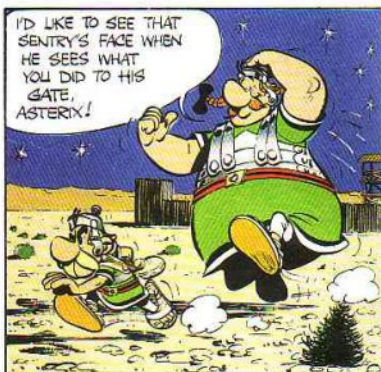
WELL, NOT ALL THAT GOOD-LOOKING!



POOR CHAP! HE'D ONLY JUST GOT HERE WHEN HE WAS LOST IN A SKIRMISH WITH SCIPIO'S MEN...







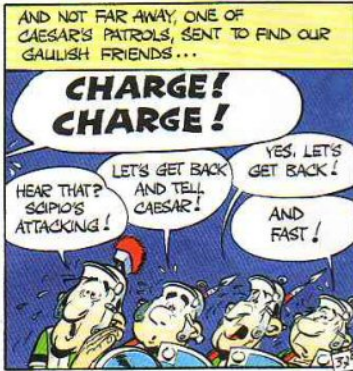
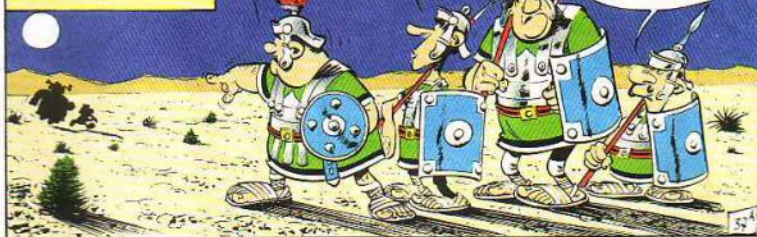
BUT OUR FRIENDS ARE ALREADY ABOUT TO CONTACT THE ENEMY... TO BE PRECISE, ONE OF SCAPIO'S PATROLS...

TWO ROMANS!

SO WHAT? THAT DOESN'T MEAN A THING; WE'RE ROMANS TOO

THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH THESE CIVIL WARS

NOT GOING TO START CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, ARE YOU?



AND NOT FAR AWAY, ONE OF CAESAR'S PATROLS, SENT TO FIND OUR GAULISH FRIENDS...

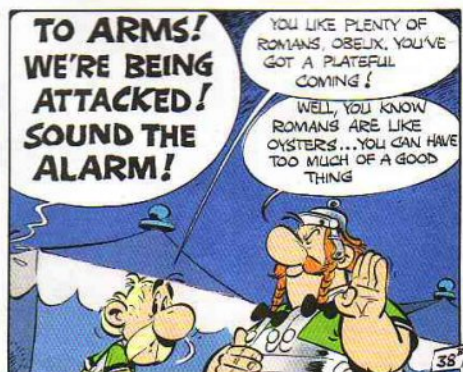
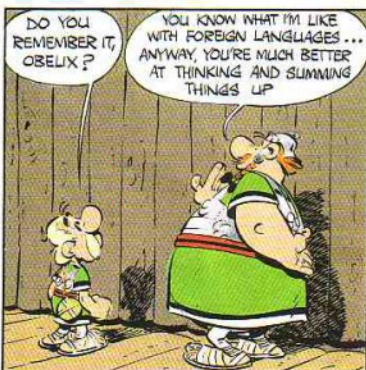
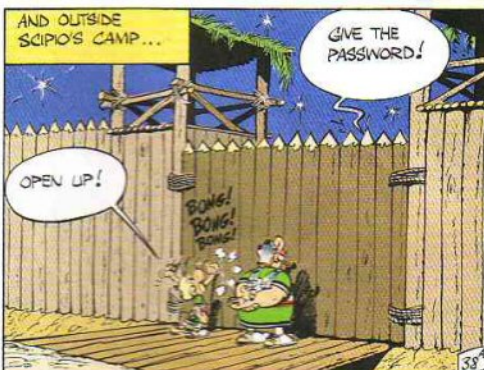
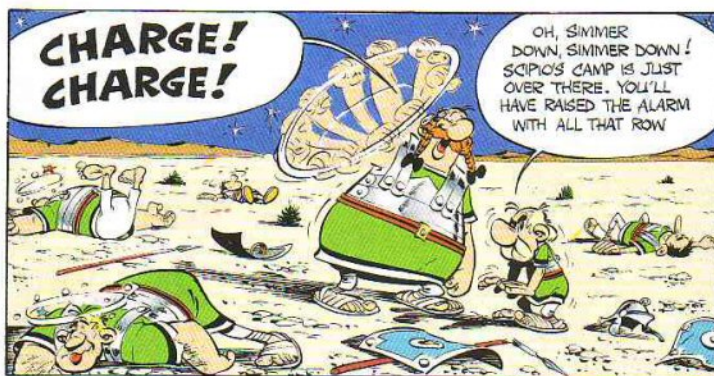
CHARGE! CHARGE!

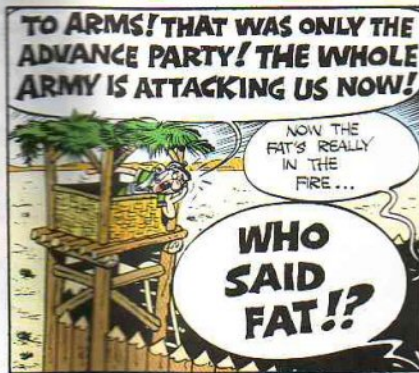
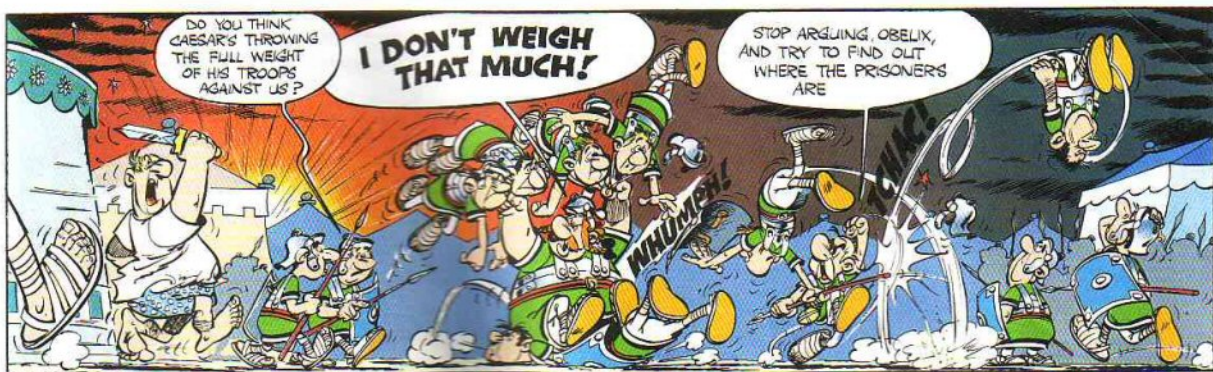
HEAR THAT? SCAPIO'S ATTACKING!

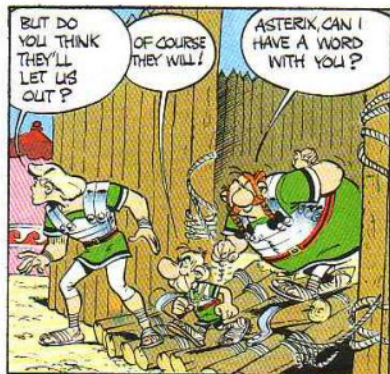
LET'S GET BACK AND TELL CAESAR!

YES, LET'S GET BACK!

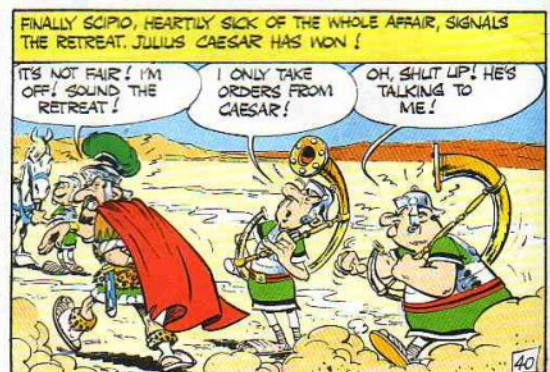
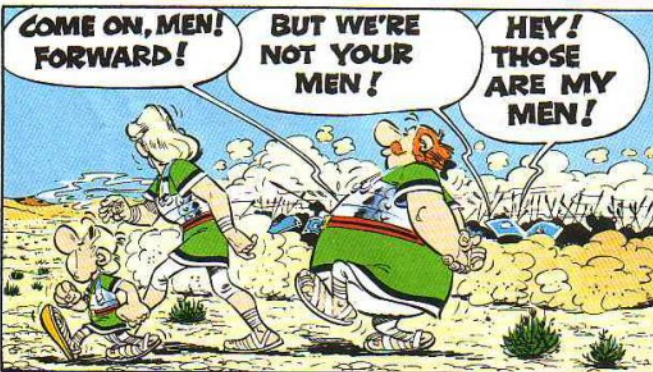
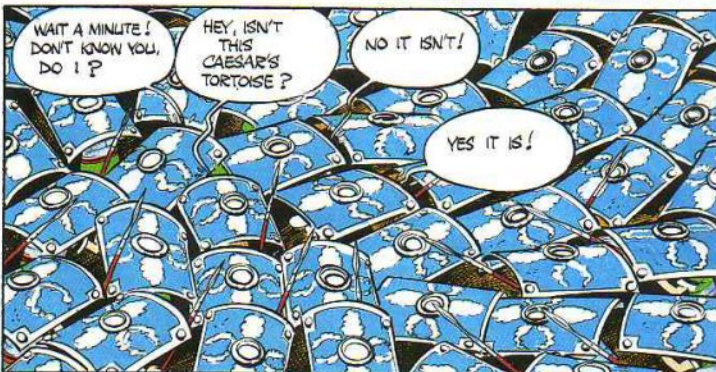
AND FAST!

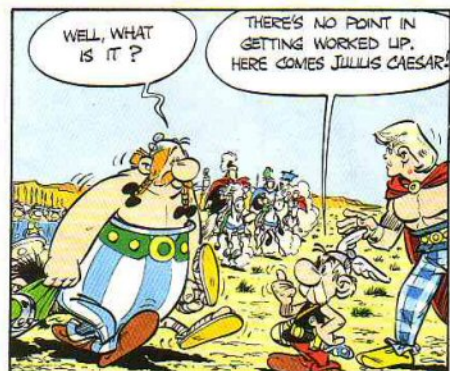
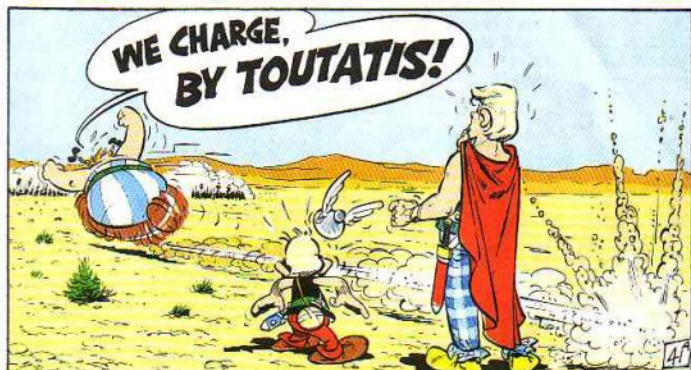
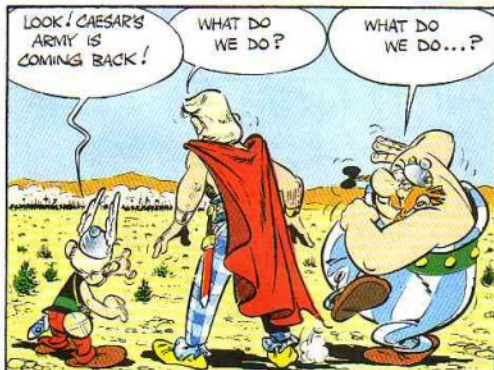
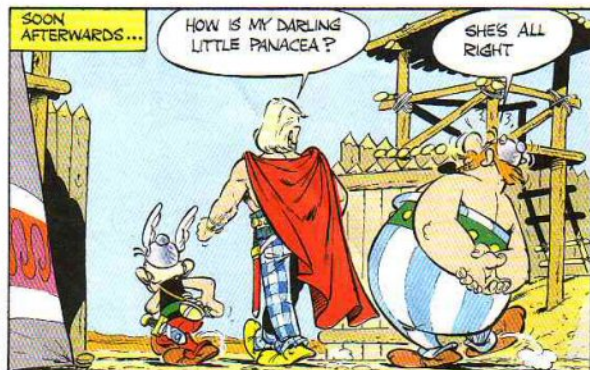
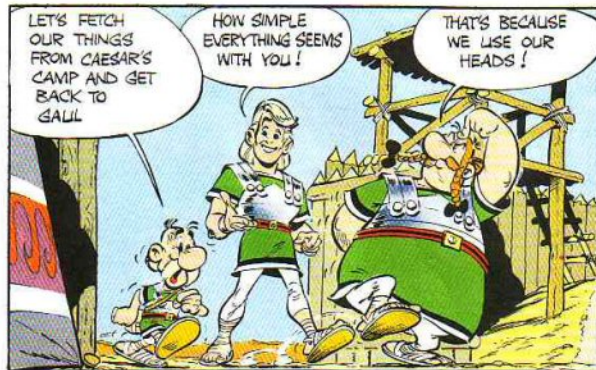


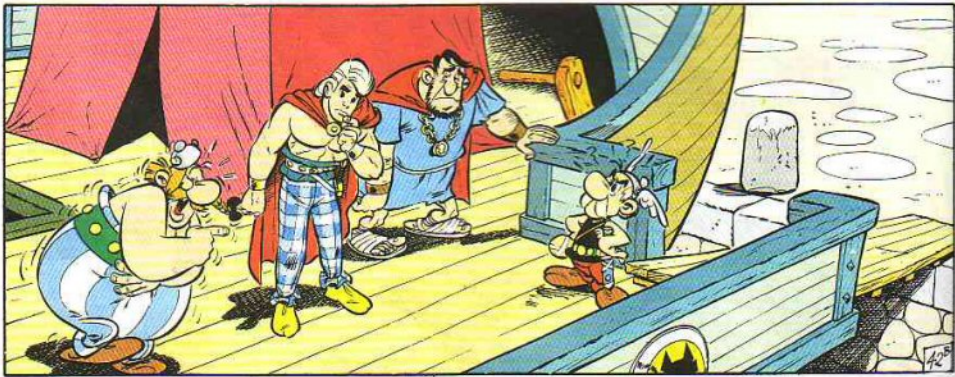
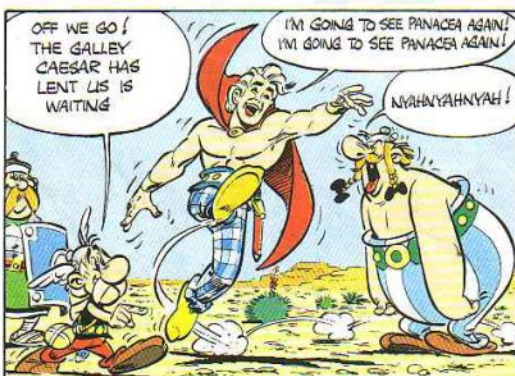
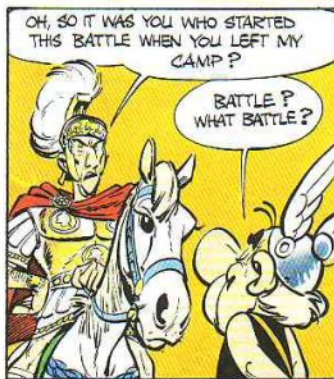




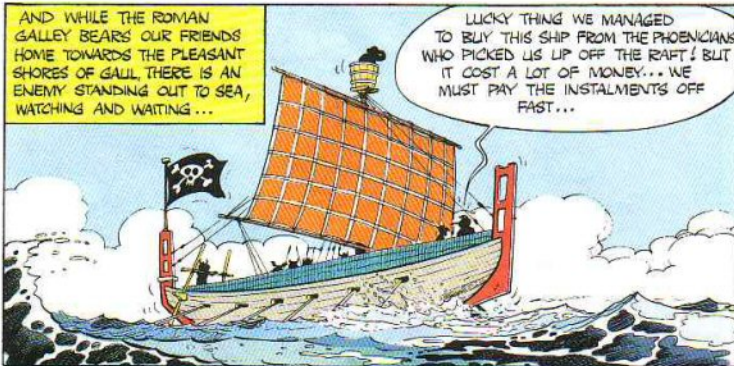
WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SHOW YOU ROMAN LEGIONARIES ENGAGED IN MANOEUVRES. WE NOW HAVE THE ADDITIONAL PLEASURE OF PRESENTING ROMAN LEGIONARIES ENGAGED IN MANOEUVRES AGAINST ROMAN LEGIONARIES...





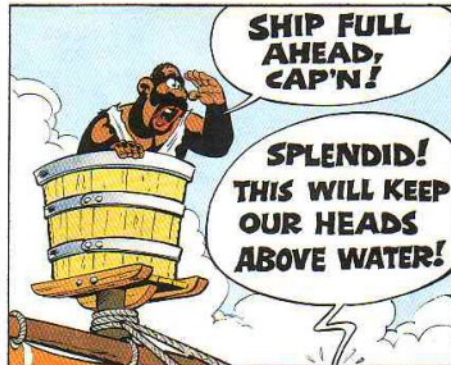


AND WHILE THE ROMAN GALLEY BEARS OUR FRIENDS HOME TOWARDS THE PLEASANT SHORES OF GAUL, THERE IS AN ENEMY STANDING OUT TO SEA, WATCHING AND WAITING...



LUCKY THING WE MANAGED TO BUY THIS SHIP FROM THE PHOENICIANS WHO PICKED US UP OFF THE RAFT! BUT IT COST A LOT OF MONEY... WE MUST PAY THE INSTALMENTS OFF FAST...

SHIP FULL AHEAD, CAP'N!



SPLENDID! THIS WILL KEEP OUR HEADS ABOVE WATER!

FOLLOW ME, ME HEARTIES! HIP HIP...



HURRAY!



AT LAST, AFTER AN ALMOST UNEVENTFUL VOYAGE, WE RETURN IN TRIUMPH TO THE GAULISH VILLAGE...



PANACEA!

DOGMATIX!



OH, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?

IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY...



NOTHING? YOU MUST BE JOKING! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEM, PANACEA! THEY WERE GREAT! FANTASTIC! OBELIX ATTACKED CAESAR'S ARMY ALL BY HIMSELF!

OH, WELL, IT WAS JUST A LITTLE ARMY YOU KNOW...

