

# Briefing report for General Hannibal of Carthage

## Recap of recent events

- For the past two years, our forces have been raiding in southern Italy
- Our capture of the grain depot at Cannae has alarmed Rome
- Rome has raised a massive army, commanded by Consuls Varro and Paullus
- This army is has marched to meet us at Cannae

## Battlefield conditions

- The Apulian plain is bordered by the Aufidus river to the Southwest, low hills to the Northeast. The plain itself is wide and open
- Weather is hot and dry, with a north-blowing wind
- Crop fields on the Apulian plane have provided excellent forage for our troops. The critical source of water for the armies is the river

## Forces and disposition

	Roman army	Carthaginian army
<b>Size</b>	86,400 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 40,000 Roman heavy infantry</li><li>- 40,000+ allied heavy infantry</li><li>- 6,400 cavalry</li></ul>	40,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 20,000 Celtic + Gallic infantry (mercenaries)</li><li>- 10,000 Libyan heavy infantry</li><li>- 6,000 Spanish heavy cavalry</li><li>- 4,000 Numidian skirmishing calvary</li></ul>
<b>Leadership</b>	Lucius Aemilius Paullus Gaius Terentius Varro	Hannibal, Son of Hamilcar
<b>Typical battlefield strategy</b>	Heavy infantry move forward in phalanx formation; overlapping shields and spears form impenetrable wall Cavalry (horse-mounted soldiers) protect flanks	Light skirmishes followed by pitched head-to-head battle Heavy infantry form the middle of a phalanx, with weaker light infantry and cavalry protecting flanks
<b>Other notes</b>	Varro and Paullus are known to be prideful leaders Command split is between Varro & Paullus, alternating days The forces raised comprise one of the largest armies ever Troops have been on the march for two days but are largely rested and well-equipped Multiple Roman Senators have accompanied the army Roman people are eager for a quick end to the war	Bulk of Celtic and Gallic mercenaries are lightly armed and armored North African forces are experienced veterans Spanish heavy cavalry considered superior to Roman cavalry After two years of campaigning throughout Italy, troops are tired Lowlands to the South allow clear passage out General Hannibal held in very high esteem by his troops

## Battle Plan

Goal:

Diagnosis of the situation:

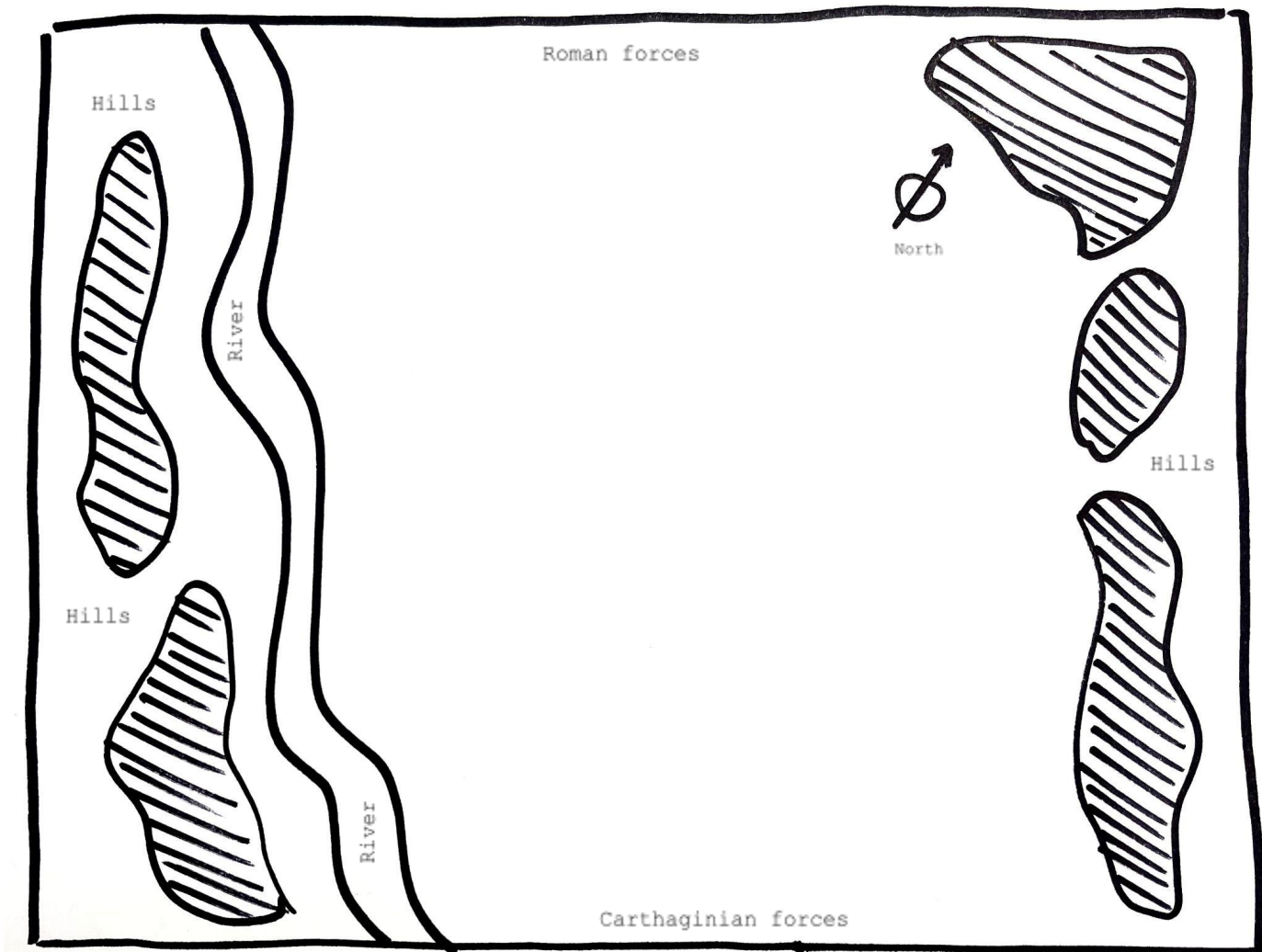
Guiding policy:

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Expected outcome:

### Troop deployment



Notes: