

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: ROMANS, ANGLO SAXONS AND VIKINGS



WHY DID THE ROMANS WANT TO INVADE BRITAIN?



August 55 BC:

Julius Caesar attempted to invade Britain for the first time. They had an advantage but the weather meant they had to leave.

July-August 54 BC:

Julius Caesar attempted to invade Britain for the second time. The Romans this time successfully conquered Britain, but Caesar was forced to leave to deal with problems in France (Gaul).

54 BC - 43 AD:

Rome kept a tight hold over Britain through strong trading links. This increased the Roman influence in Britain.

May 43 AD:

A Roman army led by Plautius invaded Britain.

43 AD - 50 AD:

The Romans continued their conquest and took the South of Britain. London was founded and roads were built.

60-61 AD:

Boudicca led her rebellion. She was eventually defeated.

75 AD - 77 AD:

The Romans have now conquered ALL of Britain.

77 AD - 410 AD:

Roman life was adopted in Britain. Romans built roads and towns. The last Romans left Britain in 410 AD.

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NUMERALS

1 = I	6 = VI
2 = II	7 = VII
3 = III	8 = VIII
4 = IV	9 = IX
5 = V	10 = X



What have the Romans ever done for us?

The Celtic tribes living in Britain would not have welcomed the Roman invasion and fought against them, for example Boudicca's revolt. However, Roman occupation of Britain brought plenty of advantages, as they introduced various aspects of their civilisation which did not exist here previously:

- Sanitation: aqueducts, water fountains, public baths, medical knowledge, sewers, central heating systems
- Government: law & order,
- Architecture: roads, flats, villas, towns
- Education: Latin language, numerals, writing
- Food: carrots, grapes, apples, leeks, radishes, peas, celery, turnips etc.



ALL RIGHT. BUT APART FROM THE SANITATION, MEDICINE, EDUCATION, WINE, PUBLIC ORDER, IRRIGATION, ROADS, THE FRESH WATER SYSTEM AND PUBLIC HEALTH.....

WHAT HAVE THE ROMANS EVER DONE FOR US?

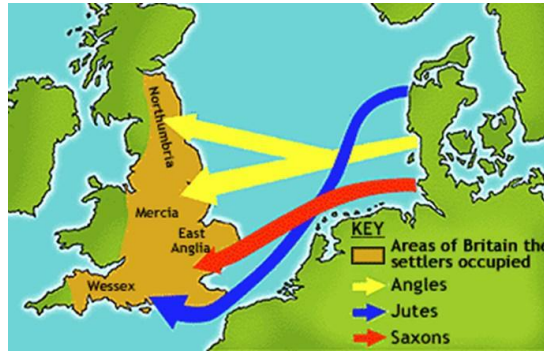


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2. THE ANGLO-SAXONS

After the last Roman soldiers left Britain in AD410 some new invaders came across the North Sea.

Historians refer to these people as the Anglo-Saxons. They were a mixture of people from (modern day) Holland, Germany and Denmark. The new settlers were mainly Angles from Southern Denmark, Jutes from Northern Denmark and Saxons from Germany/Holland.



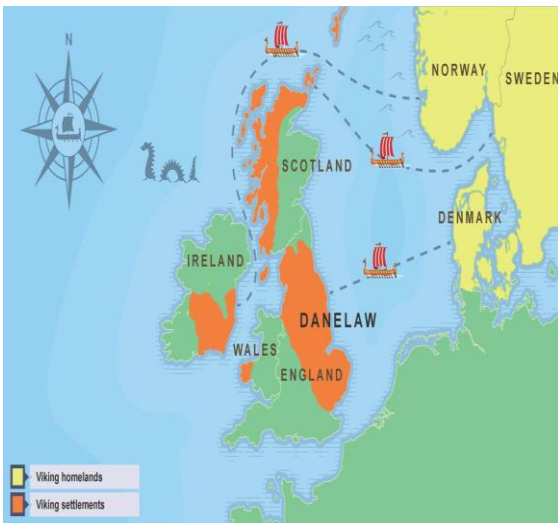
- The language spoken by the new arrivals became known as Old English & forms the basis modern English.
- Christianity spread in England during the Anglo-Saxon period
- They were farmers & preferred to live in the countryside than towns

Different groups set up different kingdoms — Saxons in for instance. There was also Northumbria & Mercia to the north trate the western parts, such as Cornwall, where Celtic people guage. The name England comes from land of the Angles.



Wessex, Essex etc. & Angles in East Anglia, & the midlands. Anglo-Saxons did not pene-continued to live, speaking their own lan-

3. THE VIKINGS



The name 'Viking' comes from a language called 'Old Norse' and means 'a pirate raid'. People who went off raiding in ships were said to be 'going Viking'. But not all the Vikings were blood-thirsty warriors.

Some came to fight, but others came peacefully, to settle. They were farmers, and kept animals and grew crops. They were skilful at crafting, and made beautiful metalwork and wooden carv-ings.

The first Viking raid recorded in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle was around AD787. It was the start of a fierce struggle between the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings. The Vikings were pagans, not Christians like most people living in Britain at the time. They did not think twice about raiding a monastery. Christian monasteries in Britain were easy targets for the Vikings. The monks had no weapons and the buildings were filled with valuable treasures, like gold, jewels and books.


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In AD865 an army of Vikings sailed across the North Sea. This time they wanted to conquer land rather than just raid it. Over several years they battled through northern England, taking control of the kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia & most of Mercia. By AD 874, almost all of the kingdoms had fallen to the Vikings, except for Wessex, which was ruled by King Alfred.

Although Alfred defeated the Vikings, he was not able to remove them and eventually signed an agreement with them, drawing a line across England from London to Chester. The Anglo-Saxons continued to control the lands west of this line, but to the east the Vikings ruled. This was called the Danelaw.

Viking families came to settle on these lands. The farmland was better than their homelands. They did not come to rob & pillage, but to live peacefully. The most important city in the Danelaw was Jorvik (now called York). Over 10,000 people lived there & it was an important place to trade. Many towns & villages were founded by the Vikings, often ending in -by or -thorpe. Formby was a Viking settlement.

There are many myths about the Vikings, such as their use of the 'blood eagle' or the horns on their helmets, which were made up during Victorian times.

Viking Timeline			
AD 794: First raids on Scotland and Ireland.	AD 865: Great Viking army from Denmark invades England	AD 866: Danes capture York (which the Viking called Jorvik) and make it their kingdom (land ruled by a king)	AD 876: Vikings from Denmark, Norway and Sweden settle permanently in England.
AD 954: Eric Bloodaxe, the last king of Jorvik, is thrown out of York.	AD 1001: Vikings land in America and establish a settlement.	AD 1014: King Canute (Cnut) of Denmark becomes King of England.	AD 1066: Battle of Hastings occurred: William I (the Conqueror) crowned King of England.
			AD 700: The Viking age begins.
			AD 793: First invasion by the Vikings. They raided monasteries on the coast including Lindisfarne, off the coast of Northumbria.
			AD 886: King Alfred the Great defeats the Vikings but allows them to settle in Eastern England.
			AD 1100: End of the Viking age.



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What do I need to know?

1. Where did the Romans, Anglo-Saxons & Vikings come from?
2. Why did they come to Britain?
3. What were the benefits of being part of the Roman Empire?
4. How did the Anglo-Saxons change the country?
5. Were the Vikings really all vicious?

Key Terms

Anglo-Saxons	People from Northern Germany who migrated to Britain following the end of Roman rule.
aqueduct	A channel made for carrying water, often using a bridge with many arches to support it. This allowed Roman towns a fresh water supply
Danelaw	The part of the country ruled over by Vikings following peace with King Alfred
empire	Land & people ruled over by different groups of people
hygiene	A healthy environment through cleanliness
monasteries	Christian community of monks, living religious lives
numerals	Letters used by the Romans to denote numbers (I, V, X, L, C, D, M)
Vikings	Raiders and settlers from modern-day Denmark, Sweden & Norway