

Year 7) Term 1A: The Romans, Vikings and Saxons

Saxons

Learning objective: To understand who contributed the most in shaping society in England

Assessment Skill focus:

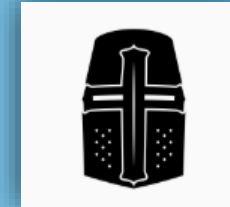
How do you know interpretation = confirming a belief using your knowledge.
Describe = Giving a brief description of an event/period.



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What do I need to know about the Romans?

- The causes of the Roman invasion.
- The consequences of the Roman invasion.



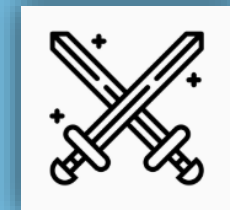
What do I need to know about the Saxons?

- The causes of the Saxon invasion.
- The consequences of the Saxon invasion.



What do I need to know about the Vikings?

- The causes of the Viking Invasion.
- The consequences of the Viking invasion.



KEYWORDS:

Chronology = events put in the order that they happened.
Sources = evidence from the past.

Interpretations = a persons opinion on a historical event.

Key events/people:

The Dark Ages

Primary Sources

Secondary Sources

The Staffordshire Hoard

The Anglo-Saxons

The Kingdom of Mercia

3000 BC – 1200 BC



The Bronze Age in Britain

753 BC – 500 AD



The Roman Empire spans across Europe

500 AD – 600 AD



Seven Saxon Kingdoms emerge in Britain

Roughly 600-699 AD



The Staffordshire Hoard is buried by the Anglo Saxons during a time of war

What first-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A first-order concept is a word historians use to describe facts related to events.

➤ Facts on the Romans:

- The first Roman invasion was unsuccessful under Julius Caesar in 55BC.
- Caesar attempted an invasion by transporting an army on boats to the southern coast of England.
- Caesar returned later and eventually created a peace agreement with a British tribal leader called Cassivellaunus. This opened up trade between the two countries.
- Some Britons helped resist Roman rule – often leading to rebellions from key figures like Boudicca.
- The Romans contributed greatly to English society – such as developing our roads and language.

➤ Facts on the Anglo-Saxons and the Staffordshire Hoard:

- The Anglo-Saxons lived in this period in 600AD. On a chronological timeline, this is 1400 years ago!
- Life for Anglo-Saxons was hard. Most towns were small, and built around farms. In each town there was a Jarl, who would be in charge. Houses were like mud huts. Poor people were called peasants.
- Anglo-Saxons often told myths and fables to pass the time, like the legendary tale of Beowulf!
- There were many kingdoms in Anglo-Saxon England – and Burntwood was in the Kingdom of Mercia.
- The Anglo-Saxon Hoard was a set of treasures buried in Hammerwich, which was in Mercia.
- Nobody knows why the set of treasures was buried, but it was laid to rest on the old Roman road – now called the A5, or Watling Street! The treasures may have been dumped there after being stolen by the Mercian's.

Facts on the Vikings:

- The most significant king to deal with the Viking threat from overseas was Alfred the Great.
- Alfred the Great allowed the Vikings to establish a 'Danelaw' in the North-Eastern part of England, from the city of Jorvik – or York. This pact became known as the Treaty of Wedmore.
- Infamous cases such as Lindisfarne – in which Vikings slaughtered monks – have led to their negative reputation.
- Their influence began to spread throughout England though. They were not just violent raiders of popular media – they improved healthcare, the economy and changed the English ruling system too.



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Look to the past:

Below is a primary source:
a photograph of the
Staffordshire Hoard – which
was a set of artefacts dug out
of the ground in
Hammerwich, Staffordshire. It
is now held and curated in
Lichfield Museum.

