

The Vikings: Life, Trade and Exploration

Learning objective: To assess understanding of Viking settlement, trade, and daily life in Britain during the Anglo-Saxon period.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of the Vikings to write your answers in the spaces provided. Ensure your spelling and grammar are clear.

Ellie the elephant has been reading ancient scrolls about history. She discovered that in the year 793 AD, a group of people from Scandinavia arrived at the monastery of Lindisfarne. While many Vikings are remembered as raiders, they were also farmers, skilled craftspeople, and master navigators who travelled across the seas to settle and trade in Britain.

Word bank: Longship · Danelaw · Longhouse · Trade · Raiders · Settlers · Scandinavia · Lindisfarne

1. Identify the three countries that make up Scandinavia, the original home of the Vikings. (3 marks)

2. Explain why the Viking 'longship' was so important for their success as explorers. (3 marks)

3. What was the 'Danelaw' and how did it change the map of Britain? (4 marks)

4. Name two items that Vikings might have traded when they arrived in British markets. (2 marks)

5. Describe one feature of a Viking 'longhouse'. Why was it built this way? (3 marks)

6. If you were a Viking settler, would you prefer to be a farmer or a trader? Explain your reasons using historical evidence about Viking life. (5 marks)

7. Why do historians believe that Vikings were not just raiders? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a Viking longship at sea. Label the sail, the oars, and the carved dragon head on the prow.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: Find out one specific Viking god or goddess and write two sentences about what they were the 'god' of.