

Vikings: Raiders, Traders and Settlers Assessment

Learning objective: To assess knowledge and understanding of Viking life, their arrival in Britain, and their lasting influence on British society.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide clear and accurate answers. Ensure you use the provided word bank where appropriate. Total marks: 25.

In 793 AD, a significant event occurred at the monastery on the island of Lindisfarne. This marked the beginning of the Viking Age in Britain. For many years, these seafaring people from Scandinavia travelled across the North Sea to raid, trade, and eventually settle in lands across England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Word bank: Danelaw · Longship · Lindisfarne · Pagans · Runes · Settlement · Alfred the Great

1. Name the specific island where the Vikings first launched a major raid in 793 AD. (1 mark)

2. Explain two reasons why the Viking 'longship' was so effective for their raiding and exploration missions. (2 marks)

3. Identify one way in which Viking religious beliefs differed from the Christian beliefs held by many people in Britain at the time. (2 marks)

4. Define the 'Danelaw' and explain which part of England it covered. (3 marks)

5. Who was the Anglo-Saxon king famous for defending his kingdom against the Vikings and eventually agreeing to a peace treaty? (2 marks)

6. Describe two ways in which Viking life was not just about raiding, but also about farming, trade, and craft. (4 marks)

7. Explain how the arrival of the Vikings changed Britain. Consider their language, place names, and law. (Extended writing task) (5 marks)

8. Using your knowledge of archaeology, explain why the discovery of Viking jewellery and tools helps historians understand how they lived. (4 marks)

9. What does the use of 'runes' tell us about Viking communication? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a Viking longship. Label at least three features, such as the dragon head prow, the striped sail, or the steering oar.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a trader arriving in a Viking settlement. Write a short diary entry describing three items you have brought to trade and what you hope to receive in return. Total: /25