

Challenge 1: Anglo-Saxon England

Anglo-Saxon England is part of the early medieval period and lasted from the Romans leaving Britain in around 410 all the way through to 1066! After the Romans left Britain, new people came in ships across the North Sea – the Anglo-Saxons: a mix of tribes from Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands.

The three biggest tribes were the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes. The land they settled in was 'Angle-land', or England.

The Vikings (people from Scandinavia – Norway, Denmark and Sweden) raided England regularly from 793, but in 865, a massive Viking army invaded to conquer.

After a long period of conflict, the King of Wessex, Alfred the Great, negotiated peace with the Viking leader Guthrum on the condition that he become a Christian. The Danes ruled large parts of central and eastern England according to their own laws (known as the Danelaw).

In Yorkshire, where Viking settlement was high, many place names reflect their influence. Places ending in 'by', e.g. Whitby and Selby, were Viking settlements, as well as places ending in 'Thorpe' - there are 155 places ending in 'Thorpe' in Yorkshire, e.g. Scunthorpe.

England was one of the wealthiest kingdoms in Europe. This was due to successful farming and trade in the towns and villages. The king, his earls and the Church all profited from this through taxes. The Anglo-Saxon community in England was basically a rural one - most people lived in the countryside and worked on farms. Most people depended on the land for survival.

There were periods of peace and periods of conflict; at times, the Anglo-Saxons controlled England, but between 1016 and 1042 it was completely controlled by the Vikings. Eventually, in 1042, an Anglo-Saxon named Edward the Confessor became king of all England.

Read the text, then answer the questions on the form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0VteuAAfPE2Vg0EaO-D3ZzsGkS2o6V9Bk1B-D61OgS5UNIBBM1IGUKlyWk1WV1U4SIExTIEzQTRCNi4u>