



English Lesson Thursday 7th January

VICTORIOUS VIKINGS READING COMPREHENSION

READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS USING FULL SENTENCES

Victorious Vikings

The Vikings came from the present day countries of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. They set out in boats called longships to go travelling around). The Vikings first arrived in Britain around AD 787 and in AD 793 they raided the monastery (church) at Lindisfarne in Northumbria and stole many items.

The Vikings came to Britain looking for land and new items to steal and sell. They liked to steal from monasteries (churches) because they were not very well protected and they had gold, jewels and food. The Vikings also stole manuscripts (handwritten books) and bibles, which they later sold back to the monasteries!

When the Vikings first came to Britain they took what they could get hold of and then went home again but in AD 850 some Vikings stayed in Britain over winter. They liked the weather because it was warmer than at home and they also liked making things out of the land around them.

Later the Vikings started to look for places they could steal and settle in for good. By AD 866 they had captured the city of York, which over time became a great Viking city. King Alfred the Great fought against the Vikings in the South of England but by AD 878 the Vikings had beaten him so King Alfred went into hiding.

Viking Warriors

The Vikings are best known for their fierce (scary) warriors. They were excellent fighters, very organised and brave in battle.

Viking warriors are often shown wearing helmets with horns but these were not used in fighting. The warriors' helmets were actually smooth and close fitting to the head. They were made of leather or metal.

The axe was a Viking warrior's best weapon but they also used spears and swords and carried shields. Swords were very special weapons as they were often given to brave warriors who had done well in many battles.



twinkl

Questions

Record your answers in complete sentences

Read the text carefully and then answer the following questions in as much detail as you can.

1. When did the Vikings first arrive in Britain?

2. Why did the Vikings choose to come to Britain?

3. Which monastery (church) did the Vikings raid first?

4. Which city did the Vikings take over in AD 866?

5. Who was King Alfred the Great and what did he do?

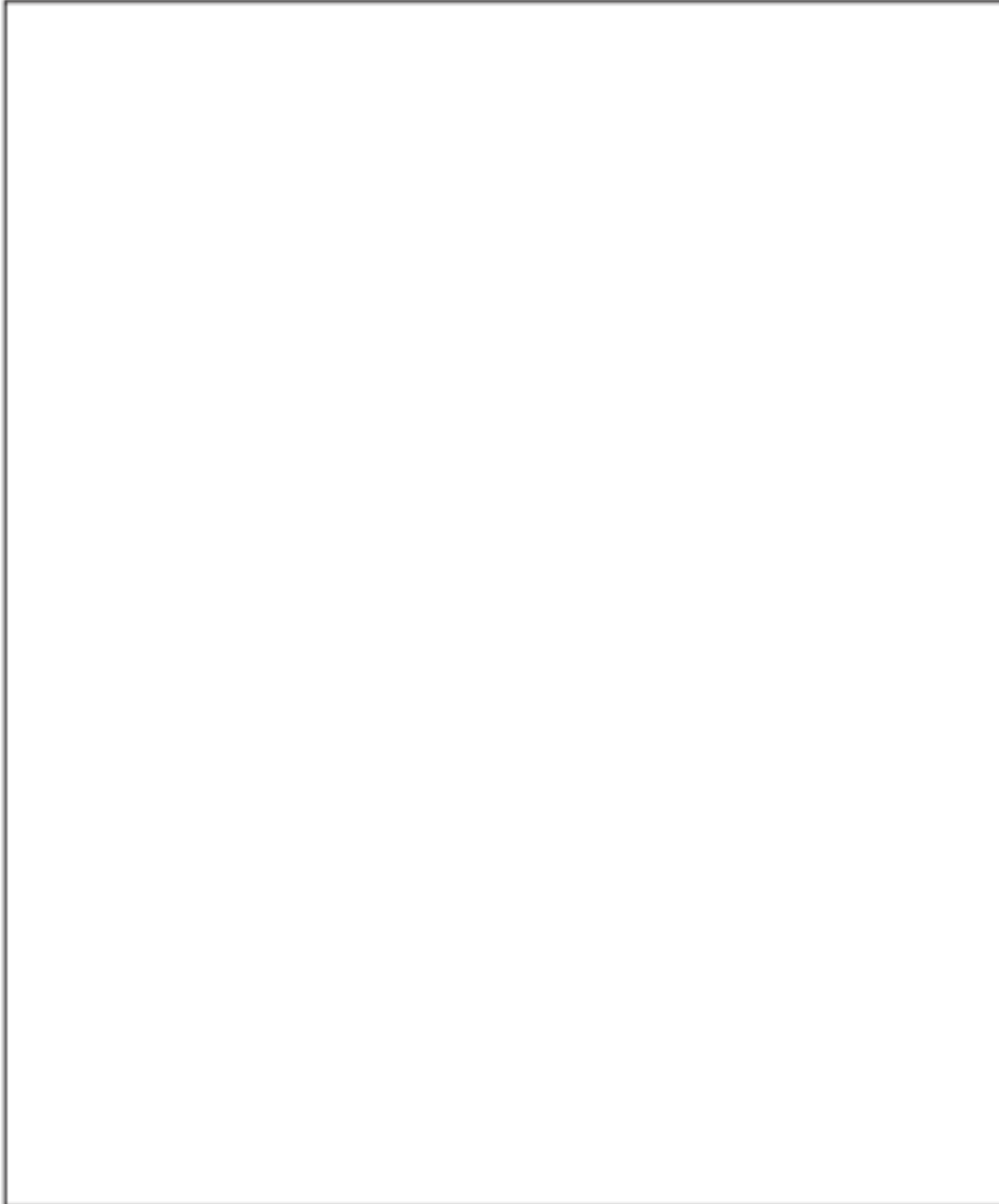
6. Give a reason why the Vikings made good warriors.

7. Draw and label a Viking helmet or sword.

8. Where did Viking warriors believe they went if they died in battle?

Challenge:

Can you draw or label what you think a Viking warrior might have looked like.



Answers

1. When did the Vikings first arrive in Britain?

The Vikings first arrived in Britain in AD787.

2. Why did the Vikings choose to come to Britain?

The Vikings chose to come to Britain for the land and new things to steal and sell.

3. Which monastery (church) did the Vikings raid first?

The Vikings first raided Lindisfarne in Northumberland.

4. Which city did the Vikings take over in AD 866?

The Vikings took over York in AD 866.

5. Who was King Alfred the Great and what did he do?

King Alfred the Great was King of Wessex. He was beaten in battle by the Vikings and he went into hiding.

6. Give a reason why the Vikings made good warriors.

The Vikings made good warriors because they were excellent fighters/ very organised/ were brave in battle

7. Draw and label a Viking helmet or sword.

8. Where did Viking warriors believe they went if they died in battle?

Viking warriors believed they went to their idea of heaven, called Valhalla.

Challenge

Can you draw or label what you think a Viking warrior might have looked like.

