



Who were the Anglo Saxons?

Skill: Organisation and communication-

Recall, select and organise historical information

Vocabulary List:

BC/AD, Tribe, Warrior, Settle, Hoard -Items buried and left, possibly for safekeeping.

Invade - To enter as an enemy, by force, in order to conquer or plunder.

Monastery - Christian community of monks, living religious lives.

Pagan - A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions.

Someone who believes in many Gods.

Runes - The letters used in the Runic ^[L]_[SEP]alphabet. This is how the Anglo Saxons wrote.

Settle - To live and take up residence.

Thane - After kings, the most powerful ^[L]_[SEP]Anglo-Saxons were the thanes. A thane was in charge of a village.

Weregild -Weregild was a payment system used in Anglo-Saxon times to settle ^[L]_[SEP]disputes between the criminal and the victim or the victim's family.

Timeline of Anglo-Saxon period (From 3000BC – present include Stone Age, Romans, WWII & Vikings)

459 AD - Anglo-Saxon invaders arrive in Britain.

597 AD - St Augustine comes to Britain to spread Christianity.

600 AD - Anglo-Saxons gradually take over. The country is split into Northumbria, Mercia, East Anglia and Wessex.

793 AD - Vikings attack from Norway. They attack the Monastery of Lindisfarne in Northumbria.

827 AD - Egbert becomes the first king to establish stable rule over all of Anglo-Saxon England and so is often called the first King of England.

871 AD - Alfred the Great becomes king of Wessex. He drives the invading Vikings from the south, but they stay in the north and east.

924 AD - Athelstan (grandson of Alfred) conquers the last Viking kingdom, York, and becomes the first king of all England.

939 AD - Athelstan dies and the Vikings invade England and take back the North.

1066 AD - King Harold is killed in the battle of Hastings. End of Anglo-Saxon rule.

Anglo-Saxon facts: Who were they?

The **Anglo-Saxons** were a group of farmer-warriors who lived in **Britain** over a thousand years ago.

Made up of three **tribes** who came over from **Europe**, they were called the **Angle**, **Saxon**, and **Jute** tribes. The two largest were the Angle and Saxon, which is how we've come to know them as the Anglo-Saxons today.

They were fierce people, who fought many battles during their rule of Britain – often fighting each other! Each tribe was ruled by its own strong warrior who settled their people in different parts of the country.

Each group of Anglo-Saxon settlers had a leader or war-chief. A strong and successful leader became 'cyning', the Anglo-Saxon word for 'king'. Each king ruled a kingdom and led a small army. From time to time, the strongest king would claim to be 'bretwalda', which meant ruler of all Britain.

Watch the short clip to learn more about where the Anglo-Saxons came from...



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/zq2m6sg>

Why did they invade?

Some Anglo-Saxons were warriors who enjoyed fighting. They thought the Britons were weak and easy to beat without the Romans around.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm/articles/z23br82>

Write a paragraph about who the Anglo-Saxon people were.

Skills – use the writing frame below.

Who were the Anglo- Saxons?

The **Anglo-Saxons were** a group of -----who lived in -----over a thousand years ago. Made up of -----tribes who came over from-----, they **were** called the Angle, -----, and Jute tribes. The two largest **were** the Angle and **Saxon**, which is how we've come to know them as the -----
----- today.

Anglo-Saxons	farmer-warriors	Britain	three
	Saxon	Europe	