Brains in Gear

Quick 6!

1. Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from?

2. What race of people did the Anglo-Saxons push out of England?

3. What was the name that describes the seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of England?

4. What other names do we give to the Vikings?

5. What name did the Vikings call America? **BONUS POINT:** Who discovered it?

6. What were the three classes of Viking society?
Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from?

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Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this lesson you will:
- **Investigate** the causes, events and consequences of the Viking raid on Lindisfarne in 793 AD
- **Assess** how people on the island would view the Viking raiders.

Key Words:
- **Monastery** = a building occupied by religious monks
- **Raid** = a quick surprise attack by an armed force.
We call people from this time “Vikings”, but that was not their name. The word actually described an activity -To “go viking” actually meant to go raiding.

In 793 AD a Norse raiding party attacked Lindisfarne, a Catholic monastery on Holy Island on the North East coast of England. This was the first time the Vikings had attacked England.

Today we are going to learn about this raid and examine why there were Viking raids against Britain.
What happened at Lindisfarne in 793 AD

- Option 1:  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0QnGvl3rJo

- Option 2:  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0QnGvl3rJo

- Option 3:  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRNBvID8PhQ&t=220s
The Viking Raid on Lindisfarne – 793 AD

Read the information sheet then answer these questions in your book:

1. Were the Vikings just after gold and slaves or did they have any other objectives in mind?
2. Were the monks naive to think that they were safe from attack, given that they had such valuable holy treasures?
3. Why did the Vikings kill the monks when they clearly were no threat?
4. Why did the Vikings burn down the monastery?
5. Was this a carefully planned attack or do you think it was more opportunistic?

Key Word:

Naive = showing a lack of experience, wisdom, or judgement.
1. Were the Vikings just after gold and slaves or did they have any other objectives in mind?
2. Were the monks naive to think that they were safe from attack, given that they had such valuable holy treasures?
3. Why did the Vikings kill the monks when they clearly were no threat?
4. Why did the Vikings burn down the monastery?
5. Was this a carefully planned attack or do you think it was more opportunistic?

**Start the discussion:**
- I believe that ___ because...
- In my opinion ___ because...
- One argument may be that ___ because...
- I’d like to make the point that...

**Agree:**
- I support your point that ___ because of...
- Your opinion is reasonable because...
- I agree with your statement because...
- Your argument is a valid one because...

**Build:**
- Building on what... said...
- In addition to ...’s statement...
- I agree with your point, but should add that...
- Your argument is a good one, however it needs...

**Challenge:**
- This opinion could be questioned because...
- My own view is contrasting with yours because...
- I would like to challenge your argument because...
- I disagree with your statement for a number of reasons...
The Viking Raid on Lindisfarne – 793 AD

When?
• The year 793 AD
• Most sources agree it was June 8th

Where
• Lindisfarne monastery on Holy Island, off the coast of Northumberland

Who?
• Viking raiders from Scandinavia, maybe around 20 warriors
• People living at the Lindisfarne Monastery, probably 30-40 monks

Why
• Anglo-Saxons were very religious and wanted to show God how much they loved him
• They donated lots of valuable and expensive items to the church.
• Anglo-Saxon kings agreed that religious buildings were “off-limits” in wartime and didn’t attack places like Lindisfarne
• This means that Lindisfarne didn’t need any defences or protection.

What?
• Vikings attacked the monastery looking for treasures they could steal
• They plundered the monastery, taking gold and precious jewels.
• They massacred the monks, killing many and kidnapping others into slavery.
• They burned the monastery down, taking their loot back to Scandinavia.

How?
• They arrived in new longboats that could cross the sea much easier
• The Vikings were armed with swords, spears and axes
• The monks had never been attacked before, holy places were usually left alone, even during war.
• They were unable to defend themselves against the Viking warriors

What happened next?
• The attacking Vikings were able to easily steal expensive treasures and capture valuable slaves.
• They arrived back in Scandinavia as rich men
• Other warriors heard of their deeds and decided to try raids of their own.
• Viking raids on England became more common, monasteries were often targeted.
• In the following years there were also new Norse raids in Scotland (794 AD), Ireland (795 AD) and France (799 AD).
The Viking Raid on Lindisfarne – 793 AD

Cause 1

Event

Consequence 1

Cause 2

Consequence 2

Cause 3

Consequence 3
The Viking Raid on Lindisfarne – 793 AD

**Cause 1**
New longships could take Vikings further across the sea, making attacks like this possible

**Cause 2**
The monastery was undefended because Anglo-Saxons didn’t attack religious buildings

**Cause 3**
The monastery contained lots of valuable treasures

**Event**
Vikings attacked the Lindisfarne monastery.

**Consequence 1**
The monastery was burned down and the monks were killed

**Consequence 2**
The Viking warriors who conducted the raid gained money and fame

**Consequence 3**
Other Scandinavian warriors heard of the attack and decided to set out on more raids of their own

Vikings captured or killed the monks and priests.
They stole all the valuable treasures.
They returned to Scandinavia.
Tell the tale of the Lindisfarne Raid

One of the most important historical sources from this period is the **Anglo-Saxon Chronicle**. It is a record of all the events from the Anglo-Saxon period and was written by monks in England at the time.

Imagine you are an Anglo-Saxon monk writing about this event in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle.

**Write an account of the attack on Lindisfarne.** Be creative with your writing and use descriptive, emotive language.

**EXTENSION:** In another colour, write a short account from the Vikings point of view – think of it like a Norse saga that tells the heroic tale of the attack.
THE ANGLO-SAXON CHRONICLE

Your finest source for Early Medieval current events

9th June 789 AD
<table>
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