

# ARE YOU A HISTORY BUFF OR A HISTORY BUFFOON?

Take this tricky QUIZ to find out how much YOU know about the Vikings and the Anglo-Saxons!

**1.** When the Vikings first attacked Britain, what did monks tell the Anglo-Saxons the reason for the attack was?

- A.** They had sinned and the Vikings were a direct punishment from the gods.
- B.** The Vikings liked to attack and kill for the fun of it.
- C.** It was so the Vikings could steal the Anglo-Saxons' wealth.

**2.** Vikings travelled in large boats across the North Sea, then upriver as far as they could. What would they do if the river became too shallow for their boat?

- A.** Build a canal or channel so they could keep going inland.
- B.** Carry their boat over the shallows, then put it back in the water.
- C.** Stop and carry out their attacks where they had access to waterways.

**3.** Kings were buried in elaborate graves, with weapons and their valuables. One of the most famous burial grounds in the UK is at Sutton Hoo. What was the king buried with?

- A.** A boat.
- B.** A chariot.
- C.** An early version of a helicopter.

**4.** In *Killing Ground* Nadiya talks about the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicles*, a history of the UK from 400 to 1066. How much of this book is true?

- A.** All of it.
- B.** None of it.
- C.** Most of it (probably).

**5.** Archaeologists have found the remains or ashes of animals like wolves and horses in the graves of Anglo-Saxon people. Why were animals buried with people?

- A.** So the animal's spirit could protect the grave.
- B.** To give the person the powers of that animal in the afterlife.
- C.** We don't really know.



**6.** Many Anglo-Saxons were kept as slaves by Vikings. But Anglo-Saxons kept slaves too. Why might you be a slave in Anglo-Saxon times?

- A.** You chose to become a slave because you were so poor.
- B.** You had been captured by another tribe and forced into slavery.
- C.** You had no mum or dad and people could enslave children who had no one to look after them.

**7.** 'Blood Eagle' was a Viking method of killing Anglo-Saxon leaders. What was it?

- A.** You were set free and an eagle was released to hunt you down and kill you.
  - B.** Your ribs were torn open and your insides stretched out on the ground in front of all your people.
  - C.** You were put on a tower at the height of an eagle's flight and bled to death.
- 8.** When a Viking was killed in battle he would keep his sword in his hand even in death. Why?

- A.** Because with a sword in the hand Vikings believed they would go to Valhalla, their heaven. Without a sword, they wouldn't.

- B.** To trick people into thinking they were dead, then they could jump up and take part in the battle again.

- C.** Because the sword handles represented their mothers' hands, which meant they could die holding them.

**9.** According to the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicles*, where was the first place the Vikings attacked in the UK?

- A.** London, along the wide banks of the river Thames.
- B.** A small island off the north east coast.
- C.** York, the largest city in the north of England.

**10.** Lots of people in the UK today originate from the Vikings, Anglo-Saxons and Celts (all from mainland Europe). But what percentage of people in the UK today are entirely from the islands of the UK?

- A.** 40%
- B.** 4%
- C.** 0%

Answers on the next page ➡



## ANSWERS

### 1: A

Monks told the Anglo-Saxons the Vikings had been sent by God to punish them. They did this to make them behave better and worship God more.

### 2: B

Vikings would carry their boats upstream until there was enough water to use them again.

### 3: A

The king was buried in a boat with lots of other possessions.

### 4: C

Most of it is thought to be true, but the people who wrote it missed out history they didn't like, or

exaggerated other bits to make their masters look good. A bit like the media does today.

### 5: C

Lots of people have come up with ideas that sound like they could be true. But we just don't know for sure.

### 6: A

Most slaves chose to be slaves. Slaves had to do work in return for food and a safe place to live. It was that or starve!

### 7: B

The Vikings did this to humiliate the leaders and so that anyone else who might want to be a leader would be scared too.

### 8: A

Vikings believed they would only go to Valhalla if they died bravely, sword in hand. It was a good way of making sure they kept fighting and didn't run away.

### 9: B

A small island called Lindisfarne off Northumberland. There was a monastery there with lots of gold and other valuables the Vikings wanted to steal.

### 10: C

None of the people who live in the UK are 100% from these islands. We are all made up of a mix of peoples because, in fact, many thousands of years ago, nobody lived in what is now the UK.

## BUFF OR BUFFOON?

### If you scored 10/10

You're a top-class history buff. Seth and Nadiya will be glad to have you on their side as Defenders!

### If you scored 5-9

You have more research to do before the Defenders will add you to their team!

### If you scored 4 or under

Seth and Nadiya won't mind. They are history whizz-kids and will gladly give you a lesson!

