

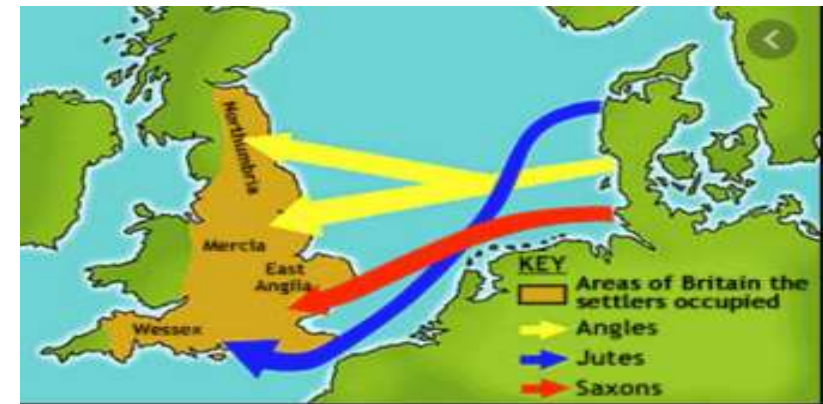
1. Who was William the Conqueror and why was he important?

Key People	
King Alfred	King of Wessex (a Saxon kingdom in south-western England). He prevented England from falling to the Danes and promoted learning and literacy.
William the Conqueror	He was the first Norman King of England, reigning from 1066 until 1087. He was Duke of Normandy from 1035 onward. His hold was secure on Normandy by 1060, following a long struggle to establish his throne, and he launched the Norman conquest of England six years later.
Edward the Confessor	The last but one of the Anglo-Saxon kings of England, Edward was known for his religious faith.
Athelstan	Alfred the Great's grandson. He reigned between 925 AD and 939 AD and was they very first 'King of all England'.
King Cnut	(Also known as King Canute) A fierce Danish warrior king who ruled over England between 1016 and 1035.

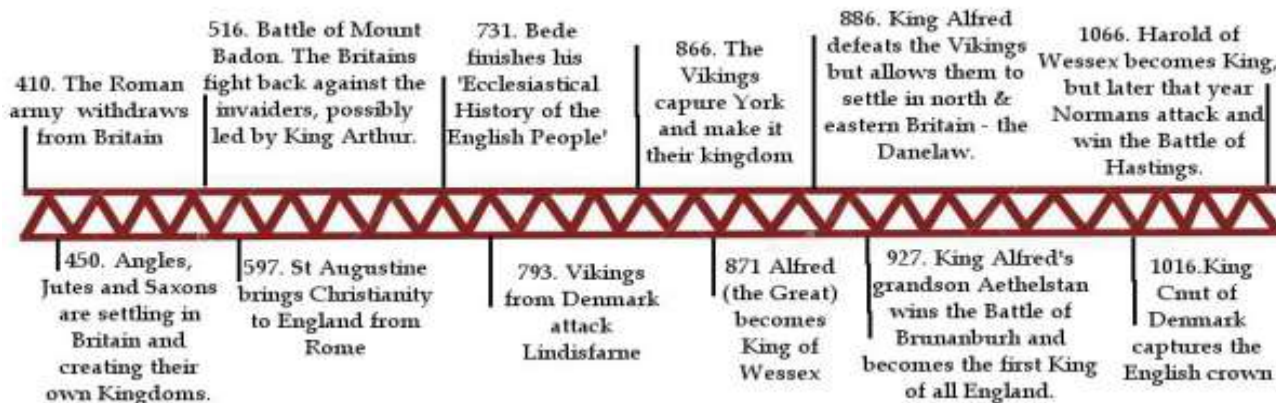
William the Conqueror was one of the most famous kings in England's history because of his invasion of the country, with an invasion being when you bring in an army to take over the country. He built a massive fleet, or group, of ships to bring his army from France to England and won the Battle of Hastings.

The Anglo-Saxons were a people who inhabited Great Britain from the 5th century. They comprised people from Germanic tribes who migrated to the island from continental Europe, their descendants, and indigenous British groups who adopted some aspects of Anglo-Saxon culture and language.

3. Which areas did the Anglo Saxons come from and where did they settle?



2. In which time period did the Anglo Saxons exist?



Key Vocabulary:

Pagan	A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions. Someone who believes in many Gods.
Wergild	Wergild was a payment system used in Anglo-Saxon times to settle disputes between the criminal and the victim or the victim's family.
Danelaw	The name given to parts of the country ruled by the laws of the Danes.
Settle	To live and take up residence.
Runes	The letters used in the Runic alphabet. This is how the Anglo Saxons wrote.
Invade	An armed force enters a country or region in order to occupy it.

Skills	Self	Teacher
	Assessment	Assessment
Describe the social, ethnic, cultural or religious diversity of past society		
Use dates and terms accurately in describing events.		
Give a broad overview of life in Britain from medieval until the Tudor and Stuarts times.		
Select suitable sources of evidence, giving reasons for choices.		

In Roman Britain many people had been Christians. But the early Anglo-Saxons were not Christians, they were **pagans**.

After the Romans left, Christianity continued in places where Anglo-Saxons did not settle, like Wales and the west. The Anglo-Saxons had their own **gods, beliefs** and **superstitions**.

Over time their beliefs changed and many Anglo-Saxons were converted to **Christianity**.

In AD595 **Pope Gregory** sent a mission to Britain led by **St Augustine** to convert the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity.

Augustine arrived in **Kent** and firstly converted the king there called **Ethelbert**.

Anglo Saxon Gods

Woden - chief God

Frigg - wife of Woden. Goddess of childbirth.

Thunor - God of Thunder

Tiw - God of War

Eostre - the goddess who was worshipped during Eostremonath (April). She was the God of rebirth and giving of eggs.

4. Can you describe the Anglo Saxon culture and some of their beliefs?

The Anglo-Saxon people were very superstitious. They believed in good and bad omens, lucky charms, spells and magic as they thought that these things could influence what happened in different aspects of their lives.

There were many festivals throughout the year were Anglo Saxons made sacrifices to their Gods. The name comes from the two biggest invading tribes were the Angles and the Saxons.

William of Normandy was crowned the new king of England on 25th December AD 1066. The Viking age in Britain and Anglo-Saxon rule came to an end. In time, William became known as William the Conqueror.

More and more Anglo-Saxon kings and their people became Christians too. This is because they realised that by converting to one God, they could **unite their people**.

Pagan shrines were turned into **churches**, magic water became holy water, and various pagan gods were gradually turned in Christian **saints**.

Kings went into battle with priests, their armour and weaponry were carved with texts from the **Bible** which we know from the **Staffordshire Hoard**. With God on their side, they could not lose.