



THE ANGLO-SAXONS

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Vocabulary

Artefact	A historical object.
Primary Source	An immediate, first-hand account of a topic/event from someone who had a direct connection with it.
Secondary Source	Evidence created by other people based on primary evidence.
Historian	A historian is a person who specialises in the study of history, and who writes books and articles about it.
Archaeologist	A person who studies history and investigates places and objects left behind.
Century	A hundred years.
Invasion	An attack to try to take land
Settler	A place where people make their homes.
Angles	Tribes from modern day Denmark.
Saxons	German Dutch tribes who settled in Britain from around 450 AD.
Jutes	A member of a Germanic people that joined the Angles and Saxons in invading Britain.
Mead	An alcoholic drink of fermented honey and water
Rune	A letter of an ancient Germanic alphabet, related to the Roman alphabet.
Thatch	A roof covering of straw, reeds, palm leaves or a similar material.
Monk	A man who has devoted his life to his religion and lives in a religious community
Manuscript	An old document written by hand.
Lindisfarne	Holy Island.

The collapse of the Roman Empire.

There were many contributing factors that led to the collapse of the British Empire.

This included:

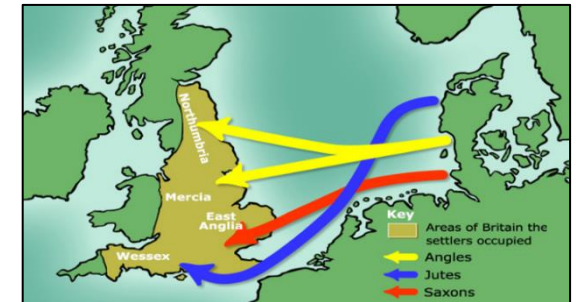
1. The Empire was too big that they struggled to manage it.
2. Christianity became the main religion, which caused its people to loose enthusiasm with its Empire.
3. Rome was consistently being attacked.
4. The Romans did not have enough enslaved people.
5. The Huns invaded Europe making people flee into the Empire.

The Sutton Hoo discovery.

In 1939, archaeologists discovered an Anglo-Saxon ship burial at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk. Various artefacts were discovered, but the identity of the person buried there is unknown. Archeologists. Historians believe that is the grave of East Anglian King Raedwald.



After the Romans left Britain, it became more open to invasion. The Anglo-Saxons were made up of people who rowed across the North Sea from an area that is now northern Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. These people were from three tribes: the Angles, the Saxons, and the Jutes. The Angles settled in northern England and East Anglia. The Saxons settled in large sections of southern England. The Jutes, meanwhile, adopted areas of Hampshire, Kent, and the Isle of Wight.



Religion during Anglo Saxon times

Most Anglo-Saxons were pagans, believing in lots of different gods, until the Pope in Rome sent over Augustine as a missionary, in 597AD. Slowly, the country became Christian.





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Daily Life

Houses

The British forests had all that the Anglo-Saxons needed to build their houses. They were small wooden huts with straw roofs, and one room in which the whole family lived.

How? A hole was placed in the rood to allow smoke from cooking and fire to escape.

Key Fact - The biggest house in each village was reserved for the chief of the village.



Food

Anglo-Saxons enjoyed huge feasts. They ate bread, meats such as pork and lamb, vegetables such as carrots and parsnips, and drank milk and beer!

How - Anglo - Saxons grew wheat to make bread and porridge.

Key fact - Extra animal fat was used to fuel oil lamps.



Clothes

Men wore long-sleeved tunics made of wool or linen, and these were often decorated with patterns. Women would wear an underdress of linen, and an outer pinafore-like dress called a 'peplos.' Shoes were made of leather.

How - Anglo - Saxons made their clothes from natural resources.

Key fact - Belts were used to hang tools and small weapons from.



Anglo-Saxon Timeline

410 AD - The Romans leave Britain unguarded.	455 AD - The Kingdom of Kent is established (primarily by the Jutes).	477-495 AD - The Kingdoms of Wessex and Essex are formed.	547-586 AD - The Kingdoms of Northumberland, East Anglia, and Mercia are formed.	597 AD - St. Augustine arrives in Britain and introduces people to Christianity.	802 AD - Egbert becomes the first King of England.	871-899 AD - Alfred the Great rules.	1016-1035 AD - Canute the Great - the first Viking king - rules.	1066 AD - At the Battle of Hastings, the Normans defeat the Anglo-Saxons.
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Beowulf

Beowulf is the longest epic poem in Old English, the language spoken in Anglo-Saxon England before the Norman Conquest. More than 3,000 lines long, *Beowulf* relates the exploits of its eponymous hero, and his successive battles with a monster named Grendel, with Grendel's revengeful mother and with a dragon which was guarding a hoard of treasure.



Anglo Saxon kings – King Alfred the Great

Alfred the Great was an Anglo-Saxon king of Wessex, who was famous for his victories against the Vikings. Alfred, a great military mind, made strategical changes to ensure that Wessex stood strong, where other kingdoms fell to the Vikings. He eventually established Danelaw to keep Vikings in the east. He was also deeply interested in learning – he translated texts from Latin to English and began to develop law across the land.

