

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

Some of these sentences about Anglo-Saxons are true and some are false.
Read each sentence, decide if it is true or false and then tick a box.

- | | | | | |
|---|------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 1. Anglo-Saxons lived in villas. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Anglo-Saxons lived in huts. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Churches were built in Anglo-Saxon times. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Anglo-Saxons wore togas. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Anglo-Saxons wore helmets with horns | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Anglo-Saxons made beautiful brooches
with gold and silver. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Anglo-Saxons were farmers. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Anglo-Saxons made straight roads
across the countryside. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Anglo-Saxons made pots from clay. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Anglo-Saxons travelled to Iceland and Greenland. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Anglo-Saxons used runes for writing. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Anglo-Saxons used ordinary letters for writing. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Anglo-Saxons fought the Romans. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Anglo-Saxons fought the British. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Anglo-Saxons fought the Vikings. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Anglo-Saxons divided up England into kingdoms. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Anglo-Saxons were ruled by an emperor. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. Boudicca was an Anglo-Saxon. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. Some kings of England were Anglo-Saxon | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. Anglo-Saxon times ended in 1066. | True | <input type="checkbox"/> | False | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Resources

Copies of the worksheet.

Using the worksheet

If you have studied Romans and Vikings before studying Anglo-Saxons you may like to use this activity as a brief form of revision of Romans and Vikings as well as an introduction to the Anglo-Saxons. If you are beginning your study of settlers with Anglo-Saxons you may still use the activity as the students may already know a little about Romans and Vikings from other areas of study. The aim of the activity is to build up some information about Anglo-Saxons and perhaps dispel any stereotypes such as them being crude, unintelligent people. You may like to use the activity either before or after reading the spread in the student book.

Younger students

You may like to use this activity before opening the student book and see who is an 'expert' on Anglo-Saxons. When the students have had their answers checked they can decide how much they know about Anglo-Saxons which can then lead them to find out more in the introductory spread.

Answers

1. False (Romans).
2. True.
3. True.
4. False (Romans).
5. False (Vikings did not wear them either).
6. True.
7. True.
8. False (Romans).
9. True.
10. False (Vikings).
11. True.
12. True.
13. True.
14. True.
15. True.
16. True.
17. False (Romans).
18. False (British – Celt).
19. True.
20. True.

Outcomes

The students:

- Can distinguish facts about Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings.

Older students

You may like to explore the idea of stereotyping people from history. If the students have already studied the Romans and the Vikings you may like to ask them for five facts about each. Depending on the students' studies and interpretations they may characterise the Romans as being very civilised (but they put thousands to death in 'entertainments' in amphitheatres) and the Vikings as being violent (but they were also farmers and fishermen). You may begin by asking the students for their ideas about the Anglo-Saxons then move to the worksheet to firm up the facts.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Explore stereotypes.
- Distinguish facts about Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings.