Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Saxons**

The land we know today as England used to be called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ after the people who lived there – the BRITS.

Over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years many people invaded Britain and stayed or left their influence. The first invaders were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who stayed for almost 400 years! After the Romans left, there was no one left to protect the Brits. Barbarians from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ called Picts and Scots invaded and killed and destroyed everywhere they went! To stop the Picts and Scots, the Brits looked around for some really good warriors who could help them. They decided to invite the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from Germany to help them. About 300 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ came over and completely defeated the Picts and Scots, making them return to Scotland.

The Brits said “Thank you” and paid them, and then asked them to go back home to Germany. But they didn’t!

Instead they carved out a chunk of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for themselves and then invited all their relatives and friends from Germany to come over too! Eventually the Saxons took over the southern part of Britain and called it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

But a new group now invaded. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! The Danes liked Britain too and they stayed. They carved out a chunk of Britain for themselves north of the Saxons. And then another group of invaders came to Britain! These were from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and we usually call them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! These Vikings liked Britain too! So they stayed and carved out a chunk of Britain for themselves north of the Danes.

So these different people all had a major effect on the growth of England. Let’s take a minute, and focus on the development of the English language.

The Roman Britons spoke \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or local \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ languages. The newcomers spoke their own languages, which in time became a language now known as Anglo-Saxon or Old English. The Anglo-Saxons themselves called it 'Englisc'. The country taken over by the new settlers became 'England'.

Some Britons settled down with the newcomers. Others moved west and north, taking their Latin-Celtic culture with them. Place names give clues to where the new 'English' lived. A place-name ending in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, for instance, shows it was once a Saxon settlement. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Anglo-Saxon English meant 'village'.

Can you think of any around us? Hit pause and see if you can think of any. What did you come up with?

The **Saxons** had divided their area into 7 kingdoms:

1. **Mercia (Viking)**
2. **East Anglia (Viking)**
3. **Kent (Kent)**
4. **Northumbria (Viking)**
5. **West Saxonland**
6. **South Saxonland (Viking)**
7. **East Saxonland**

These names were then shortened to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and Essex.

The Vikings destroy monasteries and schools that the priests ran in England.

When \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ became king the Danes had conquered all the Anglo-Saxon lands, but his **Kingdom of Wessex.**  In 878, after beating the Danes in battle, Alfred agreed to a peace settlement with the Danish leader, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Alfred was given most of Mercia as his and land in Northumbria. In the treaty, the Danes become Christian and get a part of England called the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.** This is where the Danes’ laws applied and not Anglo-Saxon laws. This treaty allows Alfred time to work on improving his kingdom. He would try to unite all the Anglo-Saxons as one people and to protect them by creating:

[**1)**](http://www.usar.army.mil/ourstory/Pages/default.aspx) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**were working men who were called up to fight for Anglo-Saxon kings in times of danger

**2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** were forts to protect the coast from invaders; it means “defended place” and can be still found in city names like Pittsburgh

**3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the first attempt at a navy to help protect the coast. Alfred also created a warning system for people to gather inside the burghs when ships were sighted

**Alfred also ordered the creation of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chronicle,** a work by priests telling the history of the Anglo-Saxons and their conquest of England. It would be continued from the 800’s til 1154. From 871-899, [Alfred the Great](file:///%5C%5Cnoc-sdrives%5Crms%5CFaculty%5CFitzpatrick%5CQuarter%203%20Dark%20Ages%5CQuarter%203%20of%202015%5CGermanic%20Tribes%5CMy%20Royal%20Cup%5CMy%20Royal%20Cup.m4a) served as the first King of England and he was responsible for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, religion, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.The impact of the Viking onslaught on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and learning was disastrous. It was Alfred who restored ruined monasteries and churches, established new ones, this did much to promote learning for England. He pushed for the people to use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instead of Latin as their language. For fighting the Vikings for 30 years and bringing back peace and learning to England he is the only King of England to be called “the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”