

How does the climate help to explain the changing fortunes of the Vikings?

Multiple choice questions: /5

1: In what part of modern-day America did the Vikings establish a settlement called L'Anse aux Meadows?

- A) Canada
- B) Mexico
- C) Texas

2: What valuable material can be made from the resin of pine trees?

- A) Glass
- B) Amber
- C) Iron

3: What kind of house did many Viking families build and live in?

- A) Roundhouse
- B) Longhouse
- C) Longboat

4: Who was Thorfinn Karlsefni?

- A) A Viking leader who travelled to Newfoundland.
- B) A Viking who plundered Lindisfarne Island.
- C) A Viking trader who established a trading hub in Novgorod.

5: Which of these statements helps to explain the disappearance of the Viking settlement on Greenland?

- A) The Vikings all left Greenland in one go, because they wanted to settle in North America.
- B) A volcanic eruption of 1257 brought about cooler temperatures in Greenland (and elsewhere), making it harder to survive.
- C) Rising temperatures led to rising sea levels in Greenland.

Put the key events in chronological order: /5

The Viking settlement on Greenland disappears.

The Vikings first settle in Newfoundland.

The Vikings raid Lindisfarne monastery.

Erik the Red heads for Greenland.

The Rök runestone is carved.

Match up the key terms with their definitions: /5

Climate	Movement from one place to another.
Settlement	Someone who studies human history, through excavations.
Migration	The typical weather conditions in an area.
Geologist	A place where a group of people establish a community.
Archaeologist	Someone who studies the history of the earth.

Answer these questions in brief sentences: /5

1: Describe some of the challenges the Vikings faced at home in Scandinavia:

2: Describe some of the opportunities that living in Scandinavia provided for the Vikings:

3: Explain one way in which the climate helped the Vikings to migrate:

4: How was the Rök runestone linked to the Little Ice Age?

5: Describe some of the reasons that have been suggested for the disappearance of the Greenland settlement:

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The Viking settlement on Greenland disappears.	5 (1400s)
The Vikings first settle in Newfoundland.	4 (1000s)
The Vikings raid Lindisfarne monastery.	1 (793)
Erik the Red heads for Greenland.	3 (985)
The Rök runestone is carved.	2 (c.800)

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Answer these questions in brief sentences: /5

1: Describe some of the <u>challenges</u> the Vikings faced at home in Scandinavia:	<i>The climate was cold, and the population was growing - there were not enough resources to go round, and land was not always good for farming.</i>
2: Describe some of the <u>opportunities</u> that living in Scandinavia provided for the Vikings:	<i>Valuable products could be made from amber (made from the resin of pine trees), which could be traded abroad. Furs could be made from the coats of animals like beavers and bears. Some parts of Norway had good farming land.</i>
3: Explain one way in which the <u>climate</u> helped the Vikings to migrate:	<i>The 'Medieval Warm Period' meant that ice melted, and the Vikings were able to navigate their longboats to new destinations, in search of opportunities for trade.</i>
4: How was the <u>Rök runestone</u> linked to the Little Ice Age?	<i>Some historians think that the creator of the runestone was describing his anxiety that a previous 'ice age' would repeat itself.</i>
5: Describe some of the <u>reasons</u> that have been suggested for the disappearance of the Greenland settlement:	<i>Rising sea levels (caused by cooling temperatures) led to flooding and the loss of farm land, which made it harder for Viking families to live there. The Vikings did not always adapt well to hunting sea mammals (unlike the Inuits).</i>